

Milton Damerel Newsletter

September 2004 (13th Edition)

Correspondence to: - Chapel View, Milton Damerel, EX22 7PB or E-mail to mdnews@freeuk.com

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU...



The parish owes a massive thank you to Edna and Sarah for their magnificent efforts in starting the Newsletter in 1999 and continuing to produce regular editions until May this year. After such sterling service for 5 years, they both wished to hand over their tasks to other volunteers, and deserve a well-earned rest. Also, our thanks from the new group for your guidance and patience. You have set us a very high standard and will be a hard act to follow, Edna and Sarah.

.....AND FOR THE FUTURE..

As is usual practice, two indispensable individuals, have now turned into six keen novices (!), who have joined together to become the new Newsletter Group to carry on the traditions, and add some different ideas. We are:

Member:	Tel: no:/ E-mail:	Key area:
Sheila Daniel	261466 sheilamdaniel@hotmail.com	Children & Youth News
Tracey Dunmore	261501 dunmorehom@aol.uk.co	Regular Contributor and features
Rose Haynes	261577 rosehaynes@ntlworld.com	Regular Contributor and features
Liz Kirby	261440 ilett@freeuk.com	Editorials, layout and printing
Grace Millman	261251 grace.millman@btinternet.com	Treasurer & Fund-raising
Margaret Stannard	261486	Advertising

Letters, comments, news and articles, etc., can be e-mailed to mdnews@freeuk.com or to any of us individually. Our correspondence address is Chapel View, Milton Damerel, EX22 7PB.

We want to hear from you with letters for inclusion - topical issues, features you like and also changes to improve the content and style for future editions. We also need every-one to let us know special birthdays, births, anniversaries, and other congratulations. Also tributes on parish residents.

**Please help us to make the Newsletter a
real success for the whole community.**

Milton Damerel Parish Council

Clerk- Anne Binns
Little Derworthy
Milton Damerel EX22 7LH
Chairperson- David Poole 01409 261282
Councillors Charles Bellew 01409 261214
Sarah Harper 01409 261473

Tel 01409 261381
E-mail Anne-John@22hundred.freeseerve.co.uk

David Dyer 01409261412 Janet Elliott 01409 2614
Gareth Piper 01409 261616

The council has continued to attend to a steady stream of issues that have needed to be dealt with. In June they met for the first time after the death of David Kirby. The meeting was a sombre event but advertising for a replacement councillor had to be discussed. The Annual General Meeting took place at the same time and was a brief and purposeful occasion. Councillor Shadrick attended and gave us some interesting facts and figures about the falling number of children in Devon's schools and the rising number of cars on the roads. It was decided that a meeting in July was not necessary due to the fact that there was very little business or correspondence received. At August's meeting an application for the Councillor vacancy was discussed and members are hoping that Grace Millman will accept the position.

Planning applications and applications for agricultural determinations throughout this period have been received for the following:

Ley Farm	The Beeches	Gidcott	Batery Bungalow	Rossmay
Venn Farm	Glovers Cottage	Town Farm	Wonford Park Farm	

A few roads around the parish have been identified as in need of repair. To date all pot holes reported have been repaired quickly. If anyone is aware of any places that do need attention then do not hesitate to report the situation to the County Council or you can inform one of the above council members. Road subsidence, Derworthy side of Matcott Bridge, has been reported and a site visit has been carried out. Work will hopefully be started soon. It is possible that the Torridge District Council's Manor Office, in Holsworthy, may be closed. This will mean the loss of a local access to TDC and result in parishioners having to make the round trip to Bideford. Anyone who feels strongly about this issue should feel free to write to TDC directly or make your views known to a parish council member. A visit from the internal auditor went smoothly and the parish accounts have now been sent for district audit. A public notice will be put up when the accounts have been returned and are available for inspection. The next Parish Council Meeting will be on the third Thursday of September if there is business that needs to be attended to. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Anne Binns
Clerk

TRIBUTES

Two of our long-term residents have died recently in Deer Park Nursing Home.

ELON CLARKE died suddenly but peacefully on 9th July 2004 aged 83 years. Elon was born on 7th July 1921 at Home Farm, West Chilla. After his marriage to Vera in 1944 they lived at Northlew and then, in 1950, moved to "Pipers Gidcott", where they farmed until 1979, when they moved to "Verlon", Venn Green. Regrettably, Vera died in 1989, but Elon continued to live there until 2000, when due to failing sight he decided to move to Holsworthy. In November 2003, after frequent hospital stays he moved into Deer Park. Elon had been active in the life of the village, including being a member and holding office for the Methodist Church, and was a regular member of the Over 60's Club. Elon retained an active interest in the parish and with an alert mind and good memory enjoyed the company of his many visitors. He is survived by his daughter, Margaret Quance, of Shebbear, and his son, Colin, who now lives in Holsworthy.

EMILY DANIEL died peacefully on 19th August 2004, aged 85 years. Emily was born on 11th November 1918 (hence, her first name of Armistice) at Burrow Farm, Beacon. Upon marriage to the late William Daniel she moved to Woodford Farm and they "retired" to Rouse Villa in 1981, where they lived until William's death in May 2003 and her serious stroke in June 2003. After being in hospital she was moved to Deer Park. Emily was also a member of the Methodist Church, one of the organists, and a supporter of the Circuit Network, concerned with overseas and home missions. She had devoted much of her life to caring for members of her family and most latterly for her husband. She loved gardening and indoor plants, and over the years, helped to "stock" many gardens with cuttings and shrubs. She is survived by her brother, Austin, who continues to live at Burrow, her daughter, Grace Millman, and son, Roger of Woodford Farm.

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CONGRATULATIONS



CONGRATULATIONS!

To *Lesley Johns & David Whitworth* on their wedding at Milton Damerel Methodist Church on 31st July. Lesley is the daughter of Arthur & Gwenneth Johns, of Anzac. The happy couple live in Tonbridge, Kent. Belated 40th Birthday Greetings to *Jim Woodhouse*. "You thought you'd get away with it!"
To *Rose Haynes* of Higher Grawley on her success with her Hampshire Downs sheep at Holsworthy Show.



To *Rosemary Daniel* of Woodford Farm, on gaining BA Hons 2:1 in Textile Design from the Winchester Faculty of the University of Southampton.

To *Marie Sanders* of Chapel Cottage on passing her NVQ Level 2 in Care at North Devon College. She plans to move on to Level 3 and a nursing degree.

To *Heather Daniel* of Woodford Farm on passing her BTEC Diploma with Distinction in Foundation Studies in Art & Design and an A grade in 3D Design at A Level at North Devon College.

AND to every-one who has successfully completed their studies and exams in GCSEs, A and AS levels, BTECs, NVQs and degree courses. Also best wishes for the new term to all young people moving up to new classes, new schools, new colleges and universities. We wish you every success!

GOOD-BYE & WELCOME

Good-Bye to *John & Jo Neale* of North Town who have moved to Instow (not too far away for return visits!) and *Bob & Elaine Chittock* of Lorocrest, Strawberry Bank, who are moving to Cyprus.

Welcome to *Jason Mogford & Marie Newton and Little Molly*, who have moved into Lorocrest, and *John, Nic & Jasmine Price* who have moved into North Town, soon to be joined by *Bill, Hilary & Kath Wrighton*

AND to the new neighbours at Shipshape and Brook View.

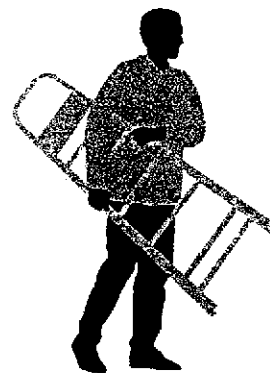
Letters to the Newsletter

The letters published in this newsletter are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of the newsletter members. All letters must be signed by the writer and the **full name and postal address** (even with e-mailed correspondence) must be given which will be printed unless the writers request otherwise. The members reserve the right to edit or withhold any letters for publication at their discretion but without the full name, address and signature they will not be considered. We welcome letters on all subjects provided the content is legal and decent.

Please write and tell us your views and opinions about any topic from Village life to World affairs. Send your letters by e-mail to mdnews@freeuk.com or by post to "Letters", Chapel View, Milton Damerel, EX22 7PB.

Milton Damerel Newsletter is published bi-monthly (normally) by a small group of residents, which operates under an agreed constitution that can be obtained by contacting any of the group or by request to the e-mail account (see front page). The newsletter is delivered free of charge to each household in the Parish. Postal subscriptions are available at a cost of £5 per annum. All contributors please note the next copy due date is 12th November. Items for inclusion can be handed to any member of the group.

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SUMMER WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words - Just for fun!	
Ant	Bat and Ball
Beach	Bees
Birdsong	Breeze
Butterfly	Flower
Hay	Holiday
Hot	Ice Cream
Play	Rain
Sand	Sea
Sunny Days	Thunder
Walking	Waves

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Club re-starts on

FRIDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER IN THE SCHOOLROOM From 7pm till 9pm.

"Mums in Charge" Tracey Dunmore and Jackie Pett



This will be a craft evening.

Club is open to all local Young People 9 years upwards.

50p subs and money needed for refreshments

So just come along!!

FRIDAY, 24th SEPTEMBER T & J organising possible trip to

Torrington Sports Hall. Details to follow.

FRIDAY 8th OCTOBER & 22nd OCTOBER

"Mums in Charge" Sarah Harper and Tracey Woodhouse.

Sure they will organise something exciting!!

FRIDAY, 12th NOVEMBER Our Annual Bonfire at Woodford Farm.



This is an open event for all

ages, from 7pm. Undercover area with bonfire, a few fireworks, soup and baked potatoes.

Any profit to help our Club. Why not come along?!

FRIDAY, 26th NOVEMBER Back in the Schoolroom

with Sheila Daniel, Diane Quance and Sally Jago.

Sunday Club

Free to all local kids

Meets Sunday at 11am in the Methodist Church Schoolroom

First 20 mins in church as part of Church family; then into Schoolroom

For various activities - crafts, cooking, stories and songs.

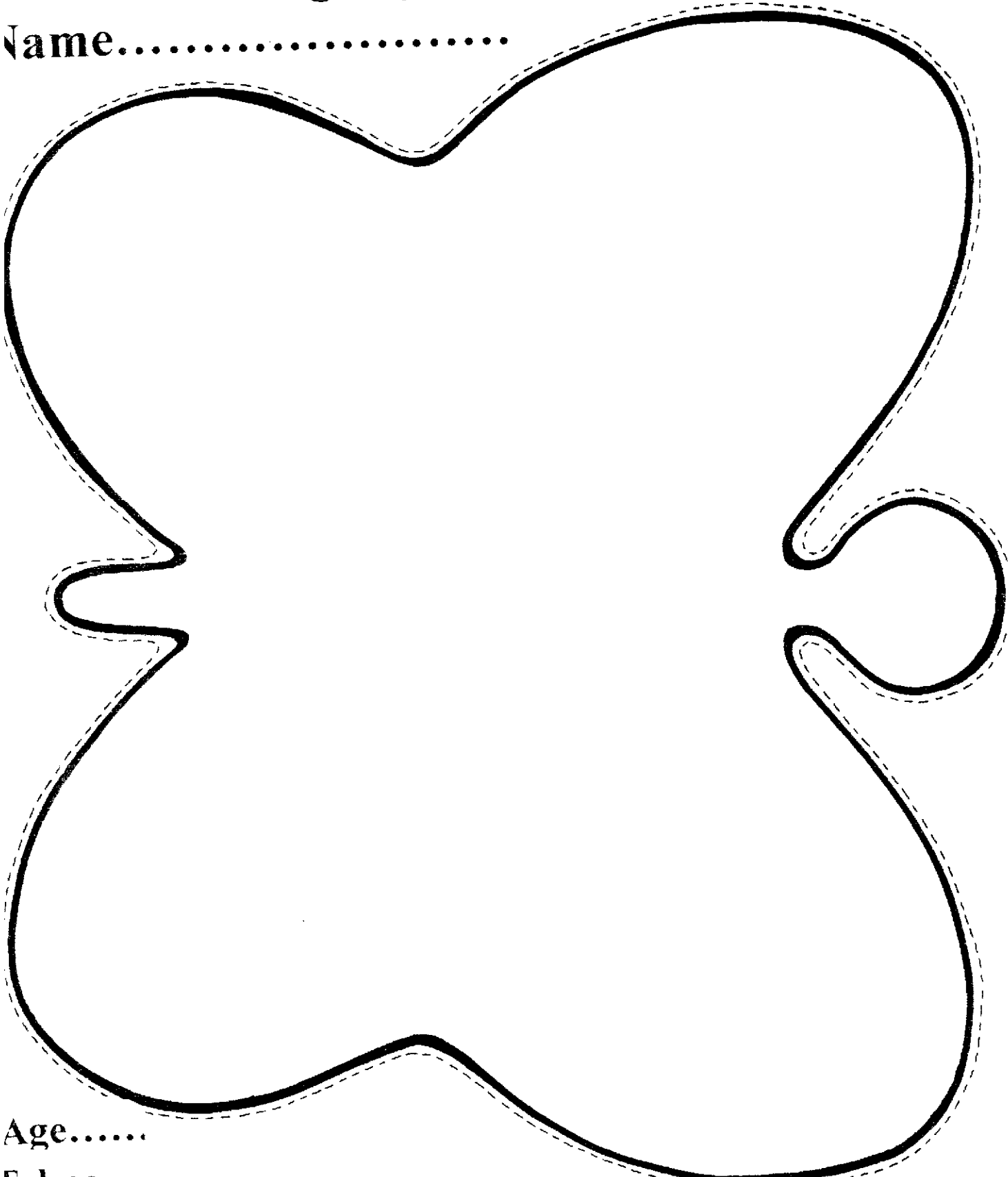
We would love to have more children!! Phone Sheila 261466.

(No Club on last Sunday of month because its Family Service;

All ages welcome to this.)

**Design and colour this butterfly,
for all children up to and
including 11yrs.**

Name.....



Age.....

Tel no.....

**Hand in to horrelsford garage by Thursday
30th September. You could win a prize!**

D & I BRIDGMAN & SON

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BRADWORTHY YFC *news from James Poole*

The "summer recess" is now over in the YFC calendar, with clubs holding their summer parties. Clawton YFC held their summer ball at the Arscott hall, Tetcott and on Fri 27th our own foam disco took place at Sutcombe by kind permission of W.H.Ley and family. This was also a great success, although the weather did force us to move the marquees in a last minute panic to find the driest spot. But all our hard work paid off and everybody enjoyed a brilliant night. We had members attending from all over the county including Alverdiscott, Witheridge, Culm Valley and Totnes YFC to name but a few.

In other competitions Bradworthy represented Tarka Group at the county final of 7 -a-side netball. Well done to all those who took part and got a well deserved 6th place (out of 6, but never mind). We also had 3 teams from Bradworthy competing in the Tarka group final of "Call My Bluff". Clawton YFC won overall and 1 Bradworthy team came 2nd. We had a lot of young members take part, which was brilliant to see, and they all did very well. Bradworthy has some excellent members and with more experience will be winning competitions in the future.

WELL DONE TO: Roland Ley, Geoff Heywood, Matt Davey, Phil Merret, Oliver Boughton, Rob Feather, Dave Buckpitt, Todd Riggs and Emma Knight for taking part and for Chris Heard for helping with the training. Also good luck to Roland, Matt, Geoff and Todd, who were selected to represent Tarka at the county final.

This year is the 70th anniversary of Bradworthy Young Farmers Club and to mark the occasion the club is holding a ball at Bradworthy Memorial Hall on 16th October. The evening will commence at 7.30pm and will cost £ 15 per head. This event is open to all past and present members of Bradworthy YFC and tickets are available on a first come first served basis. Please promote this event to ensure a good turn out and a brilliant evening.

For enquiries and tickets call James Poole on 077866 322696/01409 261282 /261380 work.

We are now busy, getting ready for the above and for our joint disco with Shebbear YFC held at Down View, Newton St. Petrock on 3rd Sept.



Finally, don't forget
Bradworthy's ploughing match is only
just around the corner on Fri 17th Sept.

Abbots Bickington Fun Ride

news from Catherine Bellew

What a great day

Lovely weather was enjoyed by the 286 horses that took part in the Abbots Bickington fun ride on Easter Sunday, April 11th, much to the relief of the organisers!! As usual many hours had gone into preparing the route, utilising any fallen trees, for example the trekener (I felt was much more inviting with the chunkier tree trunk across it and there was still 14ft left to make another jump!!). Beside the River Torridge, hopefully we have secured the double well enough to withstand the winter floods, we sometimes get, making good use of another fallen tree. Those of you that rode around will have hopefully noticed our 2004 main improvement (and biggest cost! A days work with a swingshovel, 20 sleepers and 3 lengths of ridgydrain later) which was the little and large ditches or alternative of flat stone rather than previous years of boggy wet bit that you had to leap over.

Thanks

I am very grateful to the 6 Holsworthy Club riding members that offered to help with the preparations before the event and also to members and friends that helped on the day. But in particular, other than my husband Adrian, I would like to thank Fernley Luxton, a local farming friend, who has no connection to any of the charities, for finding time on many evenings and for several weekends prior to the event and without whose support we would have been struggling.

We have given Putford School and Abbots Bickington Church £600 each as a donation and the riding club £300. We now have an account for route improvements, which contains £500.

3rd CIDER AND PASTY WALK

news from Elizabeth Bellew

The walk was held on Sat 21st August 2004.

The walk began at approx 4pm from Court Barton. The weather stayed fine and after 2 1/2 - 3 miles over fields and through woods the walkers were rewarded with homemade pasties and other refreshments on the green at Haytown. A good time was had by all and £400 was raised for Abbots Bickington church funds.

NEWTON ST. PETROCK MALE VOICE CHOIR

Practice for the choir starts again on 22nd Sept at 7.30pm at the Lake schoolroom in Shebbear.

New members always welcome.

Please contact David Ley on 01805 601247 for more information.

ABBOTS BICKINGTON CHURCH

The Church will be holding their Harvest festival service on Sunday 3rd Oct at 3pm

ALL WELCOME!



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**JANEY KIRBY
01409 261314**

Milton Damerel Memories.

Do you have memories or anecdotes of Milton Damerel life, past and present? If so we would like to hear from you. Stories about the school, the post office, the smithy, the ever-changing landscape, the football team, the village green, local characters or any other memories you have. Send them by e-mail or post to "Memories" at the address on the front of the newsletter.

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261439**

Know your number. Every year the blood pressure association runs a high profile national blood pressure testing week as part of its ongoing "know your number" campaign. This year the event runs from September 13th to 19th. There will be specially set-up 'pressure stations' in public locations offering information and blood pressure checks. As well as knowing your number there are five simple steps to 'beat the pressure': cut down on salt, eat more fruit and veg, take regular exercise, stick to a healthy weight, keep alcohol intake to recommended limit. To find your nearest pressure station log 0208 772 4994 or log onto www.bpassoc.org.uk (Sorry - info for Holsworthy area was not available at time of going to press)

Hat trick of wins for Milton Damerel sheep.

A Milton Damerel resident has been celebrating recently following a hat trick of wins with her Hampshire Down sheep at this year's Holsworthy and Stratton Agricultural Show. Rose Haynes entered three classes with her sheep in the "any other breed" section of the sheep classes at this year's show, in its new location at Killatree (near Pyworthy) on July 29th. To her delight she succeeded in gaining first place in all three classes and was awarded the reserve championship in the same category. She commented "I really enjoyed the show and the new show ground is much better, the livestock were integrated in to the rest of the show instead of being hidden away as we felt we were at the old show ground (at Trewyn Road, Holsworthy)."



September in the Garden

September is the month when the garden seems to glow with colour. Apples ready to be picked, berries on trees and shrubs have ripened, leaves are beginning to take on their autumn tints, herbaceous perennials are still flowering. It is, perhaps, the most rewarding month. It is also the main month for planting spring flowering bulbs (with the exception of tulips) to ensure a good display. Bulbs planted now in the greenhouse should flower for Christmas.

Flower arrangers will be gathering seed heads and foliage for perpetual arrangements. They can be preserved by standing their stem ends in a solution of glycerine and water.

Vegetable growers will be rewarded for their hard work and be gathering their produce before it is touched by frost. Fruit growers will be harvesting their apples, pears, plums etc and will complete the planting of summer fruiting strawberries. Blackberries in the hedgerows are in abundance.

Winter and Spring flowering pot plants should be bought into a slightly heated greenhouse and you should gradually start to reduce watering and feeding rates of your houseplants.

Complete annual trimming of mature hedges and plant evergreen hedging, shrubs and conifers and trees towards the end of the month.

Begin to raise mower blades and rake the lawn to remove excess fibre and runners of creeping weeds. Top dress with a slow-acting organic fertiliser.

Pot up any half hardy bedding perennials before the first frosts. Remove all small rose buds that are unlikely to open and shorten extra long shoots that may be damaged by autumn gales.

September is a good time to introduce food to a bird table. It is also the month when adders give birth to their brood of vipers.

The Tree Council

The Tree Council, the UK's leading tree campaigning charity, promotes the planting and conservation of trees. It works towards-

- Making trees matter to everyone
- More trees of the right kind, in the right places
- Better care for all trees, of all ages
- Inspiring effective action for trees

The Tree Council is a partnership of over 150 organisations working together for trees -- planting, caring for and enjoying them -- and a forum for tackling issues relating to trees and woods. Members range from professional, non-governmental, specialist and trade organisations, including other conservation charities, to local authorities and government bodies.

Trees Matter – Enjoy Them

Dates in the Tree Council calendar are:

Trees Love care

Trees matter – Cherish Them

Focusing on the essential aftercare of newly planted trees March – September.

Seed Gathering Sunday

Trees matter – Grow Them

Collecting seeds to grow the trees of the future. On and around 10th October 2004

National Tree Week

Trees Matter – Plant Them

Celebrating the launch of the tree planting season 24th November to 5th December 2004

For more information contact: -

The Tree Council, 71 Newcomen Street, London SE1 1YT

Tel 0207 407 9992 Fax 0207 407 9908

www.treecouncil.org.uk

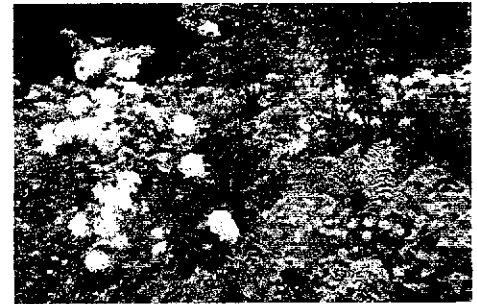
Open Gardens at Karldavian



Despite dreadful weather predictions, at precisely the right moment, the clouds moved aside and the sun began to shine when Anne Boyes opened her garden for

the second time for charity. The garden as ever was a picture and great credit to her and her late husband Keith's hard work and dedication. After a leisurely stroll around the garden there were cakes and cream teas available and over £300 was raised for St Launcells Parish Church. Anne would like to thank all those who helped and supported her on the day.

Anne will have high quality woodbark for sale from October. Tel 01409 261298



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or 07792079584



Chapel News - September 2004 Newsletter Number Thirty-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.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our harvest thanksgiving week-end will be held on **10th & 11th October**. On Friday 8th October the chapel will be open all day for the receipt of fruit, vegetables, groceries, flowers, etc., and for decorating. Families taking responsibility for decorating an area, such as a window, corner or choir area has proven to be very successful and we look forward to "family" offers again this year, and then for volunteers to assist with "finishing off" in the evening. The Sunday morning service will be led by **Mr Ray Sambles of Lapford**, our guest preacher and we look forward to welcoming all families and friends for a service of celebration at 11 am. A family "**come and share**" **buffet tea/supper** will commence at 6.30pm on Monday, 11th October. We all bring along some "buffet" style savouries – quiches, flans, sausage rolls, sandwiches, rolls, etc. - and something "sweet" – flans, trifles, jellies, fruit salad, etc, and join together for the meal, to which every-one is invited – there is always plenty!! We then have a short time of thanksgiving led by our Minister, Rev David Wheeler, followed by auction of the produce, conducted by Mr Keith Sanders of Kivells. Please come along and join in any or all of the week-end's events.

SUNDAY CLUB & FAMILY SERVICES

Sunday Club meets on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month and Family Services are held on the 4th Sunday. Family Services are planned for:

Sunday, 26th September Sunday, 24th October Sunday, 28th November

And family means not just children or whole families, but all-age, encompassing every-one into the family of the church. We look forward to seeing every-one there.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB UPDATE

The Friendship Club meets on the last Monday each month from 2.30 till approx. 3.30pm in the Schoolroom, and "friends" attend from Milton and other parishes. There is no charge. We have a cup of tea, chance to chat together and usually a speaker. Sometimes we have a stall for the benefit of Children's Hospice SW.

The last two meetings were very interesting. Mandy Wright, Anglican Support Worker for the deanery area came as our June guest. She kept every-one entertained as she explained how she moved from being a CID Detective Sergeant in London to being a Church Army worker in rural Devon! In July Brenda from the Ark Angel Bookshop, Bude, came and brought a good selection of items, books, greeting cards and souvenirs from the shop. She gave a short history of the shop, which started off as a canal boat and had been a vision of Rev. Dennis Burton. He had searched the country for the boat, on which he had a clear mental picture from his vision, and found the exact boat in Birmingham. Now the canal boat is no more but the shop has re-located to Lansdown Terrace. We also had a small stall with plants and produce which helped raise a little money towards the Sudan Appeal. Along with the Sunday morning collection just over £66 was raised. Future meetings, for which speakers will be announced:

Monday, 27th September Monday, 25th October Monday, 26th November

Please feel free to come along and join in with our friendly group. Age – young or not so young – is no barrier.

PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY – Normally meets every Monday evening at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom; open to all Christians of any denomination. We completed the study of II Corinthians and have followed on with a challenging study on the purpose of prayer and how we should pray, reminding us on the greatness of God and our thankfulness to Him and for all his people, and how we should claim, through prayer and petition, the many blessings and comforts He wants to give us. Prayer in all its forms is the cornerstone of our lives. Each session concludes with a time of prayers – of thanks and of concerns in this area. If any-one wishes for us to pray for them or about local concerns, please feel able to contact one of the Stewards...or even better, come along on a Monday evening.

CHAPEL FLOWER PLAN for the months of September, October & November					
SEPT		OCT		NOV	
5 th	Mrs Tracey Dunmore	3 rd	Mrs Phyllis Piper	7 th	Mrs Gladys Palmer
12 th	Mrs Joanne Carter	10 th	Harvest Festival	14 th	Mrs Eunice Hearn
19 th	Mrs Petula Sanders	17 th	Mrs Valerie Carter	21 st	Mrs Valerie Harris
26 th	Mrs Sheila Daniel	24 th	Mrs Niggy Southey	28 th	Mrs Margaret Fishleigh
		31 st	Mrs Grace Millman		

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

(including events around the Shebbear Circuit to which you are invited)

Thursday, 2nd September at 7.30pm Bradford Village Hall, "new season" for informal weekday service every Thursday for praise, prayer and bible study, open to all, whether of any or no denomination

Sunday, 5th September at 7.30pm at Pufford Methodist Church, Concert by "Reflections"

Sunday, 12th September at 3.00pm at Black Torrington, Open Air Songs of Praise

Week-end 17th-19th September at Langtree – Centenary Celebrations & Harvest Festival incl. Exhibition of Photos, Service of Thanksgiving followed by lunch in Village Hall (Sunday)

Week-end 26th & 27th September Harvest Festival at Beacon Methodist Church

Sunday & Monday 10th & 11th October Harvest Festival at Milton Chapel (see separate notice)

Sunday, 5th December at 7.30pm at Milton Damerel, Gospel Special with the Stowford Meadow Singers.

CIRCUIT NEWS - Did you know the Shebbear Methodist Circuit publishes a quarterly Magazine and Plan (MAP)? Included are many articles about what is happening around the Circuit, thought provoking and amusing contributions by the Minister, members of the circuit, and others. It also lists planned preachers for each Sunday and diary dates. Lots of material for a good read and for keeping in touch. Highly recommended. If you would like to receive one, next copy due at end of September, please contact a steward.

For further information contact:

Marjorie Colwill (Tel: 281214); Sheila Daniel (Tel: 261466); Lillian Luxton (Tel: 261355); David Poole (Tel: 261282)

Rev David Wheeler (our Minister) can be contacted on Tel. No: 281262 (or through the stewards).

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

Roger Daniel, our local visitor, will call on any-one who is lonely or ill, or would just appreciate a visit. Tel No: 261466

Holy Trinity Parish Church

Milton Damerel

Rector – Father Michael Reynolds 01409 253435

Services

Mattins taken by the reader Mrs Mary Ihelor on 2nd Sunday every month at 11.30am

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

Everyone is welcome.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Harvest Festival will be held at the church on 26th September 2004 at 3pm. The church will be open over the weekend if anyone would like to bring produce or help to decorate the church. Refreshments will be available after the service followed by an auction of produce. Everyone is welcome.



The Harvest festival is one of the greatest religious festivals and is celebrated throughout the world. There is no more beautiful sight than churches richly decorated with the fruits of the earth. Rousing hymns, swollen congregations and a giant marrow that nobody ever wants! This time of year is for celebrating the gathering of the harvest and for traditions and customs to make sure that next year's harvest will also be good. In olden days threshing was backbreaking work, which started early in the mornings and continued until the end of the day with neighbours and friends all gathering to help out. The machine, and all the activity about it, had a special attraction for children. Its moving belts, the noise from inside and the way it put out straw and oats, was as intriguing back then as the latest computer game is today. The harvest time created a sense of urgency, especially before the arrival of the harvesting machinery. Everybody in the community was called out to help, men and women, young and old, master, workpeople, and neighbours. At other times of the year each group had its own work, the men in the fields, the women in the house, and the children at school. Only at harvest time were they all together engaged in the same work. With fine weather and the promise of abundance, it was only natural that there were jokes, pranks, and general merriment, with the anxious farmer unwilling to dampen the high spirits, but trying to ensure that these did not hold up the work. Work complete and the celebrations could begin with a harvest feast. The last sheaf of corn to be harvested was used to create a corn dolly by plaiting the wheat stalks to create a straw figure. The corn dolly was then kept until Spring. This is because people believed that the corn spirit lived in the wheat and as the wheat was harvested, the spirit fled to the wheat which remained. By creating the corn dolly the spirit is kept alive for the next year and the new crop. Sometimes the corn dolly is hung up in the barn, sometimes in the farmhouse, and sometimes in the church. In Spring the corn dolly would be ploughed back into the soil.

Why not try and make your own corn dolly and take it to the harvest festivals.

A Short Story by Ernie Scott

Tabby lounged on top of the garden wall, eyes almost closed, relaxed, yet ears moving, alert for threat or opportunity, listening to the sounds of the early summer morning growing around him. The family was still in bed, so no breakfast yet. Never mind, he had killed twice in the night and was not hungry. Two kills and one near miss, he purred softly with satisfaction at the thought, the mice that he had eaten, that sparrow that he would catch next time. The early morning sun warmed his fur; he stretched himself, enjoying the moment – life felt good.

Paper boy whistling and banging gate, cramming the newspaper through the letterbox with maximum force and minimum finesse and thundering off to repeat it all again next door wakes Mary from a sound sleep with a start, “Get up John” she calls “Overdone it again”. She totters sleepily downstairs, puts the kettle on the stove, breakfast dishes on the table, following her usual morning ritual before going off to work.

John reluctantly gets out of bed, grumpily shuffles downstairs, pauses on the way to the kitchen to remove the partially shredded newspaper from the letterbox, muttering curses about the paperboy. Mary opens the back door, calls cat who, with just a twitch of his tail, and with his usual disdain, ignores her. She picks up bottle of milk from the step, shuts door and pours milk into jug before placing it on the table in front of John. John pours the milk onto the cereal and hides behind his morning paper.

Before getting her own breakfast, Mary scoops cat food into a bowl and places it with a saucer of milk outside on the step to await the time when ‘His Royal Highness’ should condescend to eat it.

“More of those corn circles in the news again,” John grunted from behind his paper “You would think people would be fed up by now, playing the same joke year after year”. “Might not be a joke,” Mary said with a mouth full of cornflakes. Grunt from John, morning not a good time for flippant remarks. “Perhaps it’s men from Mars coming to Earth for their holidays” Mary was starting to feel more awake now, time to prod John into life. Kettle singing on the stove, tea would help. Mary gets up to make it. John still switched off behind his newspaper. Mary looks out of the window, “It’s a lovely day” she remarked “Good holiday weather”. Another grunt.

The gigantic spacecraft, throbbing with power, moved with incredible speed across deep space. Time had no meaning as all life aboard had been suspended, to be awakened just prior to arrival at its final destination. Its leader had been filled with pride at being chosen to lead such an expedition, for it was the largest vessel of war ever built, heavily armed and filled with tens of thousands of the most aggressive warriors ever known, its objective, to seek new planets, conquer and enslave. The vessels instrumentation had at last detected such a planet, and set in motion the process of awakening its passengers. The leader was the first to wake, confidently looking forward to the coming conflict, sure of his own abilities and that of his soldiers. His red ensign of rank glowed proudly on his body armour as he moved into the ships control room, aware of the growing tension and excitement around him, the noise of heavy body armour being fitted, and weapons being drawn from the ships armoury.

The planet was massive, the largest he had ever seen. Its heavy atmosphere raged in constant motion, fuelled by the heat of an enormous burning star pouring its yellow rays through space. No matter, his race had conquered many planets before, and this one would also fall. Instruments had selected a suitable place to land the massive bulk of the vessel safely, a vast white ocean, similar to those on the home planet. He marvelled at the ease of splashdown and the way the vessel floated just like its builders had predicted.

Surprise is the foundation for success in battle. He ordered the troops to disembark into their landing craft at once, and they all headed for the distant coastline, a vast armada of craft, each filled with heavily armed warriors, sure of their fighting skills and eventual victory.

Immediately, to their horror, the planets defence mechanism sprang into action, the whole sky was filled with a shapeless form. Two burning yellow orbs shone down on their armada, a massive paddle powered by a roaring rumbling unseen engine beat the whole surface of the sea into a frenzy, swamping all the attack vessels in an instant. Heavy body armour dragging the soldiers down to their death within seconds. Their leaders last thought before he drowned was one of regret that he had no time to send a warning back to his home planet about this awful place.

On their way out to the car, Mary, pausing to stroke the cat said “These men from Mars must be friendly” “Why?” asked John “Well if they weren’t, we would have known about it by now”.

John made no answer. They both got into the car and drove off to work.

The cat finished of his breakfast, licked the last few drops of milk from his saucer with great relish and returned to the garden wall to wash himself before settling down in the sun for the rest of the day. He had not even noticed the unusual grittiness of his milk that morning.

**Have you written a short story? We would love to consider it for publication.
Please send it to the Newsletter, either by post or e-mail. We will return all original manuscripts.**

Reg Stevens

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The newsletter team
invite you to join us
for cream teas on the
afternoon of Friday
1st October 2004 to
raise money for the
newsletter.
It will be held in the
Parish Hall from
3.30pm to 6pm.



Please support the newsletter.

Putford WI *news from Lorna Dawe*

Putford WI meet on the 2nd Monday of each month in the chapel hall at 7.30pm. This year our membership has risen from 10 to 17. We have had some interesting speakers over the last 3 months.

In June Mrs Julie Barker bought along a number of items of jewellery from her shop. We had a quiz to see how many different stones we could name and Mrs Jill Jury who was presented with a piece of jewellery won the competition.

In July Mrs Pat Martin gave an interesting talk on physiotherapy. The competition for the best decorated straw hat was won by Mrs K Stevens and Mrs M Martin.

Our August meeting was a time for rejoicing because we had won the cup for best display at Holsworthy Show, coming second in the competition and in addition one of our members Mrs V Talbot won the cup for best exhibit in the WI tent. Our speaker for the evening was Jennie Swan, a homeopath from Torrington who told us she had seen a vet successfully use homeopathic remedies on the farm animals where she lived and it had inspired her to train as a healer. Liz Darling won the competition for a photograph including water.

We have members from all over the locality including Putford, Holsworthy Beacon, and Milton Damerel and always welcome new members so please do come and join us.

Friday Fun Club

If you are at a loose end on a Friday afternoon, don't sit at home twiddling your thumbs, come along to our fun club and enjoy a bit of light exercise. Most of our group engage in either bowls or archery but there are other activities available, darts, table tennis even skittles. All our activities are held indoors in a purpose built sports building which is heated in the winter. We also have the use (when it's fine) of an outdoor archery range up to 100yds as well as the indoor range.

The club starts at 2.30pm finishing at 5pm. Membership is £1 and £1 for a raffle held each week. Tea, biscuits or cakes are provided by the owners Sally and Dave Moss for the princely sum of 20p each.

Everyone is very friendly and new members are very welcome. Equipment and tuition is provided for beginners so there is no excuse not to try something different. So for £2.20 you can enjoy a really nice afternoon, meet new friends, try a new activity and at the same time get some gentle exercise.

The club is situated at Lyne Acres, Dunsland Cross and if you are interested come along one Friday afternoon and take a look. It will cost you nothing and you never know it might be just what you are looking for.

For more details contact Edith or Ernie Scott 01409 261529 and we will be only too pleased to sing the clubs praises.

Chocolate and Chestnut Mould

Serves 8.

250g plain chocolate broken into pieces.

4 tbs water.

125g butter

125g caster sugar

2 x 227 cans unsweetened chestnut puree

2 tbs brandy

150mls double cream, whipped to decorate or if preferred strawberries or equivalently brightly coloured fruit and a jug of cream on the side.

Place chocolate and water in a small pan and heat gently until melted, remove from heat and allow to cool. Cream butter and sugar together until light and fluffy, then gradually add chestnut puree beating well between each addition.

Stir in melted chocolate and the brandy.

Turn into a greased 900ml (1.5 pint) mould. Leave in the refrigerator over night to set.

Turn out onto serving dish, a hot knife slid around the edge helps or plunge the dish into warm water, not hot or it will melt the outside. Decorate with whipped cream or fresh fruit.

This is a deliciously rich sweet, but very simple, one you can do the day before that special dinner party. It is sure to impress. *Rose Haynes*



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Chutney

Tel: - 01409 261440

With an abundance of runner beans at this time of year, why not try this simple but delicious Runner Bean chutney. I am told this is an old local recipe!

8lb Runner Beans 1lb Onions

6lb Demerara Sugar 6Pts Pickling Vinegar

6tbspn Turmeric 6tbspn Mustard Powder 6tbspn Cornflour

Slice Beans and Onions into small pieces. Boil in salted water until tender. Strain well.

(At this stage you can mince or mash with a potato masher if you prefer a smoother chutney.)

Add the Sugar and 5 pts of Vinegar and boil for 15 mins.

Mix the Turmeric, Mustard and Cornflour to a smooth paste with the remaining vinegar then add to the pan and boil for a further 15mins.

Allow to cool slightly before putting into sterilised jars.

Milton Damerel Newsletter

by post.

Do you know anyone that has moved away from Milton Damerel but would still like to receive the Newsletter? We are now able to offer a postal service to past residents and their relatives for an annual subscription of £5.

What's On?

Do you attend a regular group club or society in the locality That might be of interest to residents? We are looking for things to do for all ages so if there is something you enjoy please let us know so that we can publish the details in our **What's on guide.**

Line Dancing

We are a small friendly group that meet at the Parish Hall every Tuesday evening from 7pm to 9pm (afternoons in winter)

Cost £1.50 each

New members are always welcome.

Contact Lesley on 261294
or Mary on 261248.

Milton Damerel 60's club

The club meets in the Parish Hall at 2pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month and new members are always welcome.

For their August trip the club and a number of friends went to Paignton stopping at the Whitehouse service station just outside Okehampton for a coffee break. When they arrived in Paignton the weather was glorious and the sun shone all day and there was a refreshing sea breeze - perfect ice-cream weather! After indulging some went out for a boat trip around the bay, some took a train ride along the seafront whilst others went around the town and shops. Later they had tea then assembled at the coach park where everyone had a chat and a laugh before departing for home. Everyone enjoyed themselves immensely.

Milton Damerel Skittles

There are two skittles teams in Milton Damerel who play from October to March each year. Lesley Self's team is currently looking for new members to play each Thursday evening throughout the season.

If you are interested please contact Lesley on 01409 261294.

Short Mat Bowling

Short mat bowlers meet on the first Monday of each month at 7.30pm at Milton Damerel Parish Hall starting the 1st Monday in September.

If you are interested please contact George Kinsman on 01409 261544.

Useful Contacts

Environment Agency -	Environmental incidents	0800 807060
Floodline -	Advice and warnings	0845 988118
Torrige District Council		01237 428700
Devon County Council		01392 382000
Crimestoppers		0800 555111
National Rail enquiries		0845 748 4950
Exeter Airport		01392 367433
Public Transport traveline		0870 6082608
Carers Helpline		0808 808 7777
Childline		0800 1111
The Samaritans		08457 909090
NHS Direct		0845 46 47
National Missings Persons helpline		0500 700 700
Age Concern		0800 00 99 66

Holsworthy Gym Club

Holsworthy Gym club restarts on 11th September in the Sports Hall. The classes are great fun and open to children from 4 years upwards. The classes start from 10am and if anyone is interested they should go along and meet the organisers.

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 its 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 Description Act 1968 - All traders are reminded of the need 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 detail

The deadline for submissions of articles and advertisements for the next newsletter is Friday 12th November.