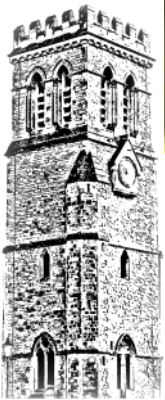
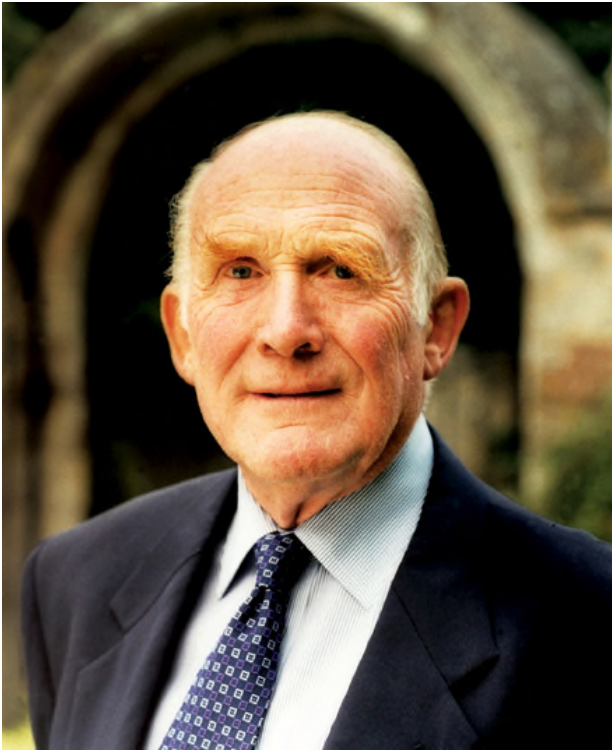


Beer Parish News

2024 May



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St Michael's... ..and Village

CHURCH DIRECTORY

www.coastalchurch.org.uk

PRIEST IN CHARGE Rev Justin Montague coastalvicar@hotmail.com
Parish Administrator Helen Knight seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk 23656
Parish Finance Officer Helen Moulding cmctreasurer@hotmail.com
Local Pioneer Minister Rev Shuna George Pritchard shuna.art@gmail.com

ST MICHAEL'S ...

Churchwarden:	Penny Grant	pennygrant@hotmail.co.uk	24008
Secretary:	Mrs Jean Smith		07412 010245
Sacristan & Head Server:	Mrs L. Bees		21723
Altar Guild:	Mrs P. Bewick		21954
	Mrs Y. Hawker		22191
Choir:	Dr G. Butler (Practice Tuesday 6-7pm)		21375
Organist:	Dr G. Butler, Mullions, New Road, Beer		21375
Children's Society:	vacant		
Families Worker	Linda Joy	lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com	
Children's Team:	Mrs Jean Smith		07412 010245
	Mrs J. Ross		
Worship Team:	Mrs G. Chapple, Ms M. Hirons, Mrs L. Bees		
Pastoral Team:	Mrs G. Chapple (sec)		07794 838219
	Mrs Y. Hawker, Mrs S. Aplin,		
	Mrs P. Bewick, Mrs E. Singleton,		
	Mrs S. Anderson		
ANNA CHAPLAIN.	Mary Casey	email caseymary119@gmail.com	
	Phone: 23656 or 07805 655335		



Beer Parish News Dr Henry Jaggars, Green Bank, 9 Clinton Rise, 20858
Editor: Beer. Email: henryjaggars@btinternet.com

Area code for all phone numbers above is 01297 unless shown otherwise

**In an emergency, parishioners should contact the Churchwarden
(see above for phone number).**

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www.coastalchurch.org.uk



St MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Coastal Mission
Community



[St Michaels Church Beer](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsChurchBeer)

www.coastalchurch.org.uk

MAY 2024

Wed 1st May	10:00am Prayer Group	
Fri 3rd	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers	
Sun 5th	8:00am Holy Communion	<i>Rogation Sunday</i>
	9:30am Rogation Service	<i>beginning in church and processing to beach</i>
Tues 7th	6:00pm Choir Practice	
	7:15pm Bell Ringing	
Wed 8th	8:30am Open the Book at school	
	10:00am Holy Communion at BEER	
Thurs 9th	8:00am Ascension Day Service on Jubilee at BEER	<i>(near RNLI Hut)</i>
Fri 10th	10:00am Mickey's Music Maker	
Sun 12th	9:30am Family Communion	<i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>
	6:00pm Evensong at SEATON	
Tues 14th	2:00pm Play reading group	
	6:00pm Choir Practice	
	7:15pm Bell ringing	
Wed 15th	2:00pm "Anna's Place" at BEER	
	7:00pm Service of Compline at SEATON	
Fri 17th	10am Mickey's Music Makers	
Sat 18th	10~12noon Seriously occasional Singers	
Sun 19th	9:30am United Communion Service at BEER	<i>Pentecost</i>
	10am Beer Blazer	
	12noon~4:00pm BIG CHURCH PICNIC at PECO	
Tues 21st	6:00pm Choir Practice	
	7:15pm Bell Ringing	
Wed 22nd	8:30am Open the Book at school.	
	10:00am Holy Communion at SEATON	
	12:00pm Worship team meeting followed by	
	1:00pm PCC Meeting	
Friday 24th	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers	
Sun 26th	8:00am Holy Communion at SEATON	<i>Trinity Sunday</i>
	9:30am Family Communion	
Tues 28th	6:00pm Choir Practice	
	7:15pm Bell Ringing	
Fri 31st	NO Mickey's Music Makers (Half term)	
Sun 2nd June	8:00am Holy Communion	<i>1st Sunday after Trinity</i>
	9:30am Morning Praise	

Sunday services in Beer are often on Facebook. If you can't come to church, you can watch and hear them there, either live or later at a time convenient to you!

From Justin... Rev's Ramblings -

On Palm Sunday (March 24th) Melissa and I returned home to East Devon from our JOGLE adventure – running the length of Britain. It's now been a few weeks since crossing the finish line at Land's End and I have reflected a great deal on the joy of the journey, the tremendous support we received from so many people and the realisation of completing something that over 10 years ago appeared impossible, due to serious ill-health and injury.



Both Melissa and I would like to take the opportunity to extend a huge thank-you to the many people who supported us on this challenge, near and far, online and offline, in words and cheers. Your kind words, encouragement and inspiring comments have been incredible and deeply heartfelt. Significantly, the tremendous generosity of so many to our supported charities and the work they do, has been beyond measure. Cumulatively between our four chosen charities the total raised is close to £12,000. The charities Melissa and I were supporting were the Royal Marines Charity, St Gregory's Church, St Michael's Church, and Hector's House Cat Rescue. Thank-you.

We both had internal and external motivations for this challenge. Internally, our own long-term personal ambitions to run this iconic route from point to point. Externally, it was to raise vital funds for the great work of our charities. Both these drove us forward, each step, every mile, and through the inevitable ups and downs, highs and lows of pushing our limits to places we had not been before.

We both knew that embarking on a challenge like this, that nothing is guaranteed, no matter how diligent or rigorous your preparations. You can only control the controllables, meaning there are many variables outside of what can be self-managed. Injury, illness, environmental factors, or logistics involving outside sources can each influence and affect

performance and at times be unpredictable. Melissa and I had spoken extensively about this and what we would do in the event of setbacks, how we might adjust, adapt or amend our goals and support one another, and we did just that throughout. The Royal Marine Commando mindset is to 'Be the first to understand; the first to adapt and respond; and the first to overcome'. We both certainly had to embody this throughout our challenge. It is something very special to embark on such an adventure like this with your soul mate.

There are many stories, laughs and tears, including a lamb rescue, adding an extra 10km to a day's total by running back the way I had just come, as well as adjusting and adapting due to injury and sickness. All these things and many more besides, we hope to share together in a presentation and Q and A in the summer months.

Crossing the finish and walking straight into Holy Week and Easter for me to lead our churches was grounding and rather special, after everything that had happened over the previous 17-days. As much as this challenge was a physical and emotional journey, it was also a deeply spiritual experience. I described this run as a 'pilgrimage', a pilgrimage being a spiritual journey, or something undertaken with a spiritual motivation. My sense of this was offering each day of the journey to God and inviting him into that day's experience. Further it was cultivating an inward communion with God as I ran, through listening, speaking or just simply appreciating the silence and solitude and being present in the moment, knowing God was right there with me.

Perhaps, that sounds a bit 'super spiritual'? However, we read again and again in the gospels how Jesus took time away from the crowds and noise into silence and solitude to be present with the Father on many occasions. It was a time to simply pray and be spiritually refreshed. What I am trying to convey is that out from the noise and activity of life, 24-7 news feeds, devices and distractions competing for our attention, silence and solitude can be hard to come by but essential for well-being. It can be deeply soothing for the soul to simply carve out some time, small or large, away

...continued

from noise, devices and distractions, whether for you that can be daily, weekly or monthly.

This year, the French capital of Paris hosts the Olympic games, exactly 100 years since Eric Liddel won Gold in the same city, depicted in the iconic film 'Chariots of Fire'. Eric famously said '...when I run, I feel God's pleasure'. On many levels, I echo those feelings.

Whether you walk or run, enjoy gardening or gazing, mending or meditating, photography or painting, you can develop a close relationship with God and practice an awareness of his presence. First, that starts with a simple invitation to God into our daily experiences. I believe much of this is the direction or posture of our hearts towards Him and an appreciation and understanding, God is present, longing for us to commune with Him.

To the next adventure...

'...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.' (Isaiah 40.31 NIV).

Go well, God bless and forever forwards.

Revd Justin and Melissa



ALTAR GUILD NEWS

No Meeting held in April 2024.

Hoping everyone had a lovely Easter and enjoyed despite the weather!

Lent lunch a joint venture with the Congregational church was really lovely and appreciated by all those who attended. Thank you so much too, Sybil, and the congregation for sharing their hall and all their hard work.

Soup for Souls, a lovely week of folk gathering to share soup / bread and reflections, this was enjoyed by all.

During this period St Michael's had a fundraising weekend with a coffee morning and quiz with both doing really wella big thank you to all those involved with the organisation and everyone who came along to support us.

The church as always looked very pretty with Easter flowers and window displays.



Date of next meeting: May 14th 2024 @10.00am



A small local group who meet regularly in order to grow in the practice of Contemplative Prayer in the Christian tradition. We welcome people of ALL denominations, or none. We usually meet on the second Monday of each month at about 7.20pm. For more information contact: Sue Price, Reader at St Gregory's Seaton, on 01297 22314

Colyford WI hosted a group meeting on April 17th of groups including Seaton, Colyton, Colyford and Beer in the Memorial Hall, Colyford.

We were entertained by Jude Coram, an Exeter based entertainer, who specialised in magic. It was billed as an afternoon of 'mirth and magic' including tricks, tutorials and a bit of history from the world of conjuring and illusion'.

He certainly entertained us with stories interspersed with all sorts of tricks. He enlisted helpers from the audience too.

He made things disappear, reappear and produced a variety of illusions that could not be explained!



The hall was full and everyone was touched by his humour and wit. He was very professional.

This was followed by a quiz, a drop pancake competition and tea with a huge variety of cake. Our thanks to Colyford for a great afternoon and of course, to Jude.

We meet on the 1st Wed evening of the month in the Congregational Hall Beer. The speaker on May 1st is Charlie Portlock speaking about Nepal and the work of Partners for Progress at 7.30pm. You are very welcome

Our walk on April 26th was from Uplyme to Lyme Regis and back. We need numbers for the Beer Blazer walk on May 19th.

ANNA'S PLACE

Special 30 minute
worship for
Older People
Followed by Refreshments
Music and Memories,



ANNA CHAPLAINCY

Do you have a loved one, or someone you visit in one of our Seaton care homes? Would you like to join them and Mary your local Anna Chaplain, for the monthly worship and activity? You would be very welcome.

The dates and times are below. Please check nearer the date **with the care home**, just in case there are any changes.

Wednesday 1st May 11.00 a.m THE SEATON

Monday 6th May (Bank Holiday) 10.45 a.m. NETHERHAYES

Tuesday 7th May 11.00 a.m. LYME BAY

Tuesday 14th May 11.00 a.m. CHECK HOUSE

Wednesday 15th May 2.00 p.m. -

- ANNA'S PLACE (St Michael's Beer)

Monday 3rd June 11.00 a.m. THE MANOR HOUSE

Tuesday 4th June 11.00 a.m. THORNFIELD

Email: caseymary119@gmail.com Mob: 07805 655335

St Gregory's/St Michael's Church office 01297 23656



SEATON BEER AND DISTRICT BRANCH

At the time of writing my report for the May Beer Parish News we were feeling very honoured and looking forward to the Connecting Our Communities Ford E Van and Scroll coming to Beer on Wednesday 24th April. The Scroll was scheduled to arrive at the Shop at 3pm and to be signed by me as secretary, a representative from the Shop and additional Volunteers. The Scroll departed Westminster Abbey on Monday 4th March in celebration of Sir William Hillary founding the RNLI in 1824. The Scroll is travelling around all the RNLI regions and will complete it's journey in October at the Isle of Man where Sir William Hillary lived. Details are available at RNLI.org.uk Connecting Our Communities website. Photographs and my



report of the visit will be in the June Beer Parish News.

It is RNLI Mayday Appeal time again and as in previous years it is from the 1st to the 31st May. This year our Mayday Appeal Welly Walk and Street Collection Day at Seaton is on Saturday 25th May. I am aiming to do the Seaton Parkrun pushing RNLI Ted in his lifeboat. Come and join with our Volunteers who will be starting at Fisherman's Gap and walking up and down the East and West Walks during the day from 10.30am. Mayday Miles can be done throughout May. People can walk a mile a day or more and we have Mayday Miles Record Sheets and Sponsor Forms. Additional walkers and collectors needed and welcome. We will also be

having our Colour-in-a-Wellington Boot Competition and prizes are being donated by Pecorama. Judging will be at Pebbles Coffee House at 1.30pm. Please contact me at wac500@hotmail.co.uk or leave message on 07790861531 to obtain the Mayday Mile forms and plus the posters to colour in. Posters will be available at Pecorama, our Shop at Beer and various locations.



As we proceed through 2024 we will be out and about in our area with our stall selling the RNLI 200 Years gifts and souvenirs plus additional RNLI gifts and souvenirs. At the time of writing my report we will have been to Colyton Grammar Food and Garden Festival in April and looking forward to being at the Seaton Carnival Street Fair on Monday 27th May.

Our Beer Lifeboat Weekend is on Saturday 6th July and Sunday 7th July. On the Saturday we have the Street Collection and Table Top Sale. For table hire contact the above email and phone number. On the Sunday it will be our 17th Annual Duck Race Day with our Duck Related and other stalls, Sea Safety and displays by the Lyme Regis Exmouth Lifeboats. More details nearer the time.

Best wishes to everyone as we look forward to a busy time and hope that the weather is good for all the events.

Wendy Cummins, Secretary, Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI

Fine Foundation Centre

Beer Village Heritage

Reg. Charity No.1087162

Tombstones don't usually come to mind when thinking about history. David Morling certainly gave us food for thought in

his talk "Seeking Beer's Past in Beer Old Cemetery". There were the obvious connections with current village families, showing that generations have lived continuously in Beer. Alongside that was the realisation that individuals commemorated form part of our national history. For instance, one lady had lived with the knowledge that Napoleon was planning to invade; possibly exacerbated by knowing that soldiers were stationed on Beer Head. Most of our history is concentrated on the rich and famous as their lives were commemorated in archives, paintings and folk lore. The cemetery gives us the history of ordinary people and shows how they began to create memorials for their loved ones, starting with simple wooden or iron crosses and becoming more permanent and ornate as time went on.

Whilst on the subject of the old cemetery, it was good to see that EDDC has carried out the annual grass cutting and general clear-up. The area has been part of the Living Churchyards Project for the last 30 years and in 2013 Beer Village Heritage held a "Wildlife Event" when we looked at the wide variety of species which are supported by the site. This is a quiet area in the centre of the village, where people have always spent time in contemplation. As a result of the project, the Parish Council asked all the parishioners for their views on managing the area, as the previous grass-cutting cycle had stifled some wildflowers like the bee and pyramidal orchids. The consultation process encouraged people to think about how lawns and verges are managed, and how to support wildflowers. The council subsequently instituted a regime for cutting the grass which has had the effect of encouraging flowers like the orchids, while being acceptable to people

who visit their family graves or use the churchyard for meditation. We understand from Cllr. Heath that EDDC will be cutting the site twice a year from now.

Following on from the previous paragraph, don't forget "No Mow May"! Do try to keep the mower in the shed during May. Longer grass will increase the number of insects in the garden, as well as encouraging a variety of wildflowers which will attract pollinators. Both of these will also bring more birds and bats into the garden. Making space for nature can mean **not** doing anything sometimes!

Thank you to everyone who came to Beer Village Heritage's Annual Meeting. The Trustees talked about plans for the future as well as reporting on recent activities. If you would like to be involved with running the Fine Foundation Centre and our other activities, please talk to our Chairman, David Morling on 01297 625045.

Last month I said that I was expecting a cold snap – the Blackthorn Winter – and that seems to have arrived and forgotten to move away! The odd fine and sunny days have brought out the hawthorn flowers, which we usually expect to welcome in May, and these are now flowering alongside the blackthorn. Another flower which has become very visible recently is Alexanders, which has become very prolific over the last few years. Although it is useful as a stop-gap vegetable between winter greens and summer salads, it spreads quickly – fine in hedge-rows but not so welcome in gardens! It is one of those plants which perhaps should be eradicated if one were re-wilding an area as it is non-native to Britain, having been introduced here, along with a lot of other plants, from onions to vines, by the Romans.

In May the bat pups will start to learn to fly. Consequently I make my annual plea to keep cats indoors in the evenings and early mornings during May and June to give the bats a better chance of survival. Bat babies are notoriously clumsy when

continues...

...continued

they first set off! Bats only have one baby at a time, with females being at least 2 years old before reaching maturity. The death of every bat pup puts the population in jeopardy. Something else which is an “endangered species” is the fishing industry, especially that part of it which relies on small boats which concentrate on day fishing. The fishermen in Beer, Axmouth and Lyme Regis have recently set up a Community Interest Company (CIC) to support them to have a say in how the industry is run and to ensure that their way of life is maintained. The CIC has released a video “The Last Custodians” about the local fishing industry and you can see it on: <https://lbcic.com/the-last-custodians/>

David Selby gave the last of the Branscombe Project’s winter talks which he illustrated with some delightful photographs and paintings. He concentrated on Weston Combe, discussing the value of making space for nature, featuring Sandy MacFadyan’s wildflower meadow. In the past, Beer Village Heritage members have enjoyed guided visits to the farm not long after the meadow was created.

Our Annual Meeting marks the start of our financial year and annual membership subscriptions are now due. The Trustees have kept the amount at £3 per person. If you don’t see any of the committee, you can put your subscription in an envelope and post it in the diving tank box in the centre or give it in at the post Office. Please make sure that you write your details on the outside of the envelope. Beer Village Heritage is a registered charity, and we rely on donations in order to run the Fine Foundation Centre and the Bomb Shelter. You’ll find the Beer Village Heritage walks and I-Spy online via our website:

www.beervillageheritage.org.uk



Beer Film Society

BLUE

with scenes filmed on location in Beer



Devon Premiere
plus Q&A with director David Smith

Thursday May 16th

Mariners' Hall

Doors open 6.45pm Film starts 7.30pm

FREE ADMISSION! (Donations to RNLI)

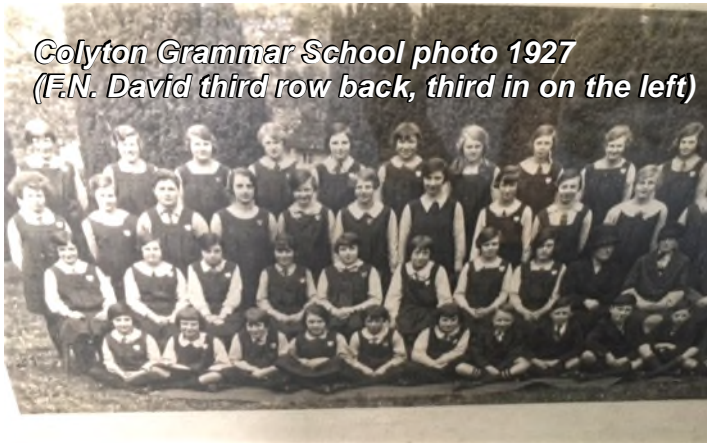
Bring your own cushions!

**See pg. 18 for
more details!**

Who was Florence Nightingale David?

Florence N. David's life story is truly inspiring as she encountered many challenges a century ago. Colyton Grammar School celebrates her achievements.

Florence was born in Herefordshire in 1909 to parents who were elementary school teachers. They named their daughter after their friend, Florence Nightingale the Crimea War nurse. The family moved to Beer, where young Florence was tutored privately by a local parson having shown early signs of her aptitude for mathematics. He tutored her in algebra, Latin and Greek. At the age of ten, she entered formal schooling at Colyton Grammar School, which was still located in Church House, Market Place, and had only begun to educate girls in 1913.



Florence excelled at school and became CGS longest standing Head Girl from 1924-1928, and in 1929 received many awards for her academic success. She was an example of the importance of educating girls. Florence was a strong character, known for being one of the first girls to ride a motorbike to school, the equivalent of arriving by helicopter today!

In 1938 she received her doctorate in Statistics from University College of London (UCL) and continued her work there until 1939, and the outbreak of WW2.

Work in Wartime - In June of that year, David was called upon to be an experimental officer to the Board of Ordnance, where she mainly worked on statistical analysis relating to the effectiveness of various weapons, bombing patterns and analysis of anti-aircraft guns used against German bombers traveling up the Thames River. She was credited with saving many lives during the Blitz based on her statistical work relating to the likely dispersion of bombs released from German planes.

Florence was regarded as a pioneering statistician and the importance of her work took her in 1944 to the USA (flown in an American Bomber) to view the first big digital computer (built to predict trajectories of weapons). In 1967 she returned to University of California, Riverside and established the Department of Biostatistics, followed by Head of Statistics from 1970-77.

Florence retired in 1977 and was named Professor Emeritus and research associate at the University of California, Berkley, where she continued to teach for another decade.

In 1992, shortly before her death the following year, David was awarded the first Elizabeth L Scott Award, partly 'for her efforts in opening the door to women in statistics'. Subsequently, the Florence Nightingale David Award was established and is awarded every two years to a distinguished female statistician.



Florence N. David published 10 books, and over 100 papers, her book 'Games, God and Gambling' is widely recommended as an entertaining account of the history of probability.

Colyton Parish History Society

Where in Beer did Florence and her parents live? Who tutored her before she went to Colyton Grammar? Did her parents teach in Beer?

Editor

BEER FILM SOCIETY

We are delighted to confirm that Beer Film Society will be hosting a very special event in the Mariners' Hall next month.

'Blue' is a film from Somerset director David Smith and was shot extensively on location in Beer featuring dramatic footage of our beautiful beach and coastline – and Beer Fisheries!

The show on Thursday May 16th will be the Devon premiere of the film and we are thrilled that David along with lead actor Paul Breen, who also produced the movie, have agreed to join us for the evening.

David will introduce the film – which runs for just over an hour – and afterwards will take part in a question and answer session to talk the project.

The film centres upon the story of a father and son who are struggling fishermen and focuses on their relationship.

To mark this notable occasion we have agreed to provide **FREE** entry for the evening.


But we will be asking for donations to the Seaton Beer & District Branch of the RNLI to support their good work.

Even if you are not a regular to our monthly film nights please come along to see our wonderful Beer on the big screen and give David a warm, Devon welcome.

It should be a terrific evening.

Doors will open at 6.45pm and the film will start promptly at 7.30. The bar will be open and ice creams from Baboo Gelato will be on sale.

(Poster on pg. 15)



**Beer Blazer 10mile, 5mile, 5k and Fun Run
19 May 2024**

A multi-terrain 10mile, 5mile 5k and Fun Run in Beer.

Organised by members of the Beer Primary School
PTFA. A not-for-profit race raising funds for Beer
Primary School PTFA

Details from www.axevalleyrunners.org.uk

Beer Primary School outdoor Reading Area

Initially, we wanted to create an outdoor reading space for the children. This remains the case but the plans have been further developed to create a reading wonderland. James and Carla have supported with ideas/the drawing of the area and the plans have been extended to develop the whole area to the right of class 4.

The proposal includes creating paths that lead to a reading cabin (which will hopefully be decorated like a huntsman's lodge) as well as a pond area which will be fenced for safety. In between the paths, there will be wildflowers and different plantings to engage the senses and create a sense of peace and wellbeing.

By developing the area further, not only are we making the journey to the reading cabin exciting, but we are then able to create a microhabitat which will be visually pleasing but importantly support learning in other areas of the curriculum e.g. Science. Furthermore, creating a wilding area/habitat will also be good for local insects and bees - we know that creating more natural areas in our gardens and surroundings is a current national priority to bring a boost to much needed nectar for pollinators. We hope the magic created by this will also support engendering a love of reading with children wanting to walk through wonderland to visit the huntsman's lodge.

When the area is created, our children will also be able to learn about the different flowers and plants as well as how they support insects etc. We are hopeful that James may be able to secure some donations from some people who have created gardens at the Chelsea Flower Show which would be exciting to share with the children too!

Rebecca Porter (Beer Primary Headmistress)

LORD CLINTON, OBITUARY

It is with great sadness to announce the death of Lord Clinton aged 89, peacefully at his home in East Devon on 2nd April 2024. Born Gerard Fane in 1934, he became the 22nd Baron Clinton in 1965, taking on responsibility for 25,000 acres across three estates in North and East Devon, known collectively as Clinton Devon Estates.

He leaves his wife, Nicola, always known as Nicky, and three children, the Hon Charles Patrick Rolle Fane Trefusis, who will succeed him, and daughters Caroline and Henrietta.

Lord Clinton made his home for many years at Heanton Satchville at Huish, before moving with his wife to East Devon about five years ago.

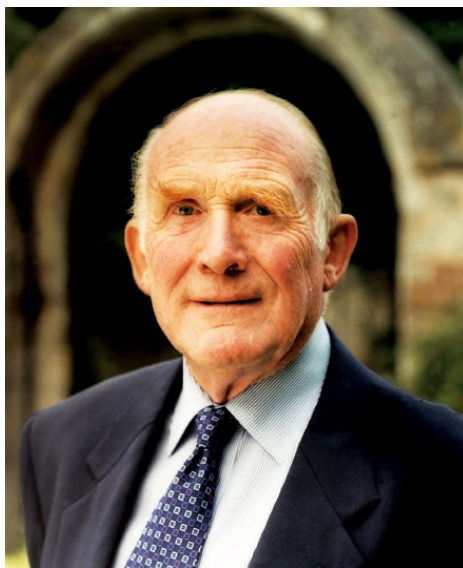
Much of his childhood was spent with his great grandfather, Charles Trefusis, 21st Baron Clinton having lost his father, Charles, who was killed in action in Flanders, shortly before the evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940 when Gerard was five. After National Service with the Royal Scots between 1953 and 1955 he trained as a land agent, inheriting his title as the 22nd Baron Clinton from his great grandfather, who died in 1957. The title was in abeyance for eight years and Lord Clinton took up his seat in the House of Lords in 1965.

During his lifetime Lord Clinton secured the long-term sustainability of the 700-year-old Estates - the largest in family ownership in Devon - turning a traditional landed estate into a leading land management enterprise fit for the 21st century. His, helping the Clinton Devon Estates to win numerous awards under his stewardship. A firm believer in traditional farming and the importance of food production, to the end of his life Gerard Clinton kept an open mind and his modernising efforts reflected changing times. Clinton Devon Estates comprises farmland and forestry in North and East Devon including woodlands of national importance, the 2,800-acre Pebblebed Heaths and Otter Estuary in East Devon - now designated a National Nature Reserve - and Bicton Arena, at East Budleigh, a leading equestrian venue in East Devon.

Knowing a strong economy was essential for rural communities to thrive inspired substantial new investment in business parks and commercial and residential property in East and North Devon, providing jobs and homes for many hundreds of local people. He built on the achievements of his predecessors by providing land for primary schools, sports grounds, allotments and open public access, as well as many miles of permissive paths. He set up a charitable trust which contributed

substantially to local causes over many years.

Although content and grateful to leave the management of day-to-day operations to others, with his wife Nicky's tireless support, Lord Clinton took a detailed and sympathetic interest in everything that went on in North Devon and in the energetic and committed people who made it all happen, whether still active or long retired. Their personal loyalty to the Clintons was correspondingly intense. As Gerard himself remarked, "There are two families really: the family who own the Estate and the family who work there."



Lord Clinton saw himself as a countryman first and foremost and took a close interest in the tenanted and in-hand farming enterprises on the Estate, particularly the Devon Red Cattle. The culling of his herd during the foot and mouth crisis of 2001, caused him enormous distress.

He was also a passionate forester, spending hours inspecting the Estates woodlands, which he saw as both an environmental asset and, when the time came, a crop of sustainable timber to be harvested. In 2019 he unveiled a plaque to mark the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Forestry Commission – in the same North Devon wood where his great grandfather had planted the newly created Commission's first trees.

The family motto is *Tout vient de Dieu* – Everything comes from God. Gerard Clinton never forgot to express his gratitude, for what he had been lucky enough to inherit from his great grandfather and the indispensable contribution of the very many individuals whose hard work over more than six decades had enabled him to be "a trustee for life" of the Clinton Estate so that he, in turn, might pass on a thriving estate to the next generation.

He will be remembered with admiration and great affection throughout Devon and beyond.



SPRING2024

TOWNSEND HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Spring 2024 Townsend House newsletter.

Patient Participation Group

Our Patient Participation Group (PPG) at Townsend House comprises patient representatives as well as members of the Townsend House Team. The PPG acts as a 'critical friend' and maintains a productive working relationship with the practice staff through regular meetings.

The ethos of meetings is about identifying solutions and providing the best possible service to the Townsend House patients and our local community. We welcome and encourage new members who can help us to bring positive changes to the surgery.

Key areas within the PPG remit include;

- Communication of changes and developments in the services that we provide using our quarterly newsletter
- Discussion of issues facing the surgery and our patients and identification of ways in which these can be resolved
- Encouraging the use of modern communication systems designed to enhance the administrative efficiency of the practice and the ease of use for patients. This is done in recognition of the need for a variety of communication methods being used to reflect the needs of different members of our patient community.
- Introducing and supporting schemes that encourage greater health awareness amongst our patients
- Reviewing patient feedback

We are keen to encourage new members so if you are interested please email d-icb.townsendenquiries@nhs.net or give your name to our reception team.



SERVICES AVAILABLE

- * Social Prescribing
- * Midwives
- * Physio
- * Pharmacist
- * Paramedics

JANUARY-MARCH 2024 WEEKLY STATS

On average 1200 Telephone Calls Answered Weekly

On average 1000 Weekly Appointments Available

Over 17,000 prescription items processed per month

PPG

Are you innovative, dynamic and resourceful? We're looking for patients interested in contributing to discussion, innovation and solutions to drive improvement of patient experience.

If you would like to become part of our PPG, please contact us on d-icb.townsendenquiries@nhs.net or give your details to reception.

PHARMACY FIRST

Our local pharmacies in Seaton and Beer are members of the Pharmacy First scheme. This means that they are able to provide you with prescription only medicines, including antibiotics and antivirals where clinically appropriate, for the following conditions:

- Sinusitis
- Sore throat
- Earache
- Infected insect bite
- Impetigo (a bacterial skin infection)
- Shingles
- Uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women.

At Townsend House we can provide you with a referral to speak to a pharmacist privately about these conditions and to receive treatment directly from them without needing to book an appointment at the surgery. This might mean that you are able to receive treatment more quickly for these common conditions.

Did you know that you can also check your blood pressure at the pharmacy too?

OUR NEW OPS MANAGER:

We are pleased to welcome Tony to Townsend House as our new ops manager and look forward to working with him going forward. The ops manager is a vital role, taking responsibility for the smooth day to day running of the Surgery including appointments, IT, staff resource.

ONLINE PATIENT SERVICES

For changes to your contact details, prescription information and queries about services please contact us using our website. Consider downloading the NHS app for quick and easy access to services even when the surgery is closed.



NHS INDEPENDENT PATIENT SURVEY: THE NATIONAL REPORT VS TOWNSEND

...% of patients find it easy to get through to their GP practice by phone?

National: 50%

Townsend: 94%

...% of patients describe their experience of making an appointment as good?

National: 54

Townsend: 83%

...% of patients say the healthcare professional they saw or spoke to was good at treating them with care and concern during their last GP appointment?

National: 84%

Townsend: 93%

...% of patients felt their needs were met during their last GP appointment?

National: 91%

Townsend: 98%

...% of patients describe their overall experience of this GP practice as good?

National: 71%

Townsend: 88%

FEEDBACK

If you'd like to give the surgery any feedback, fill in a form at reception or visit our website. www.townsendhousesurgery.co.uk/feedback

All patient feedback is anonymous.



PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER – MAY

First of all we are pleased to welcome aboard Caroline Thompson who has now joined the Parish Council and, better still, we didn't even have to press gang her into joining us! Caroline now lives permanently in the village and will bring with her another set of skills that will expand our knowledge, which will, in turn, benefit the village greatly. Only one more vacancy left and then it will be Bingo, Full House! This now makes the majority of the Parish Councillors who are working full time and are prepared to make time to still attend to Parish matters. I think it fair to mention that Council meetings are no longer a sombre occasion. Whilst all matters arising are dealt with correctly and efficiently under the control of our amazing Clerk Nicky, they are also conducted with a bit of humour making them most enjoyable to attend! If anyone is interested in joining us please contact the Parish Clerk, Nicky Ingarfield at beerparishcouncil@outlook.com and she will forward the necessary information and then hopefully we will be back to full strength! Having said that, I don't think we've done too badly and with the help of our Parish and District Councillor, John Heath in holding EDDC to account over the last 10 months or so, you have seen there are already many improvements that have been made around the village. Dealing with Devon County Council on the other hand is more akin to herding cats but we won't stop badgering them about our blocked drains, gullies and other areas they are responsible for in an effort to get these problems sorted!

The AGM was rather short and sweet and full minutes of this and the full Council Meeting can be viewed on line or as requested. A report by Beer Primary School was received and read out by the Clerk. They have obtained an outstanding Ofsted report and have created some wonderful surroundings to help enhance the learning experience. We understand there are more plans in the pipeline for the future, and they are all busy fund raising to achieve these goals. I do hope you will

support them if you can. To this end, we were pleased to pass on our congratulations to one of the School Governors who attended the meeting and asked her to relay this back to the School. Well done to all involved, things have certainly moved on from the days of Mr Ashby being headmaster!

Work continues by EDDC at Beer Head Car Park to improve the drainage and the roadway which has been a major concern for many years when we get heavy rainfall, with the road continually washing out. EDDC have also finally repaired the shelter at Charlies Yard and have spruced up the picnic tables and benches. Together with the revamp at Beach Court Car Park, it's lovely to see no red barriers, the village is slowly being restored to it's beautiful self. Whilst the top car park had caused a little disruption over Easter, we should all be grateful that this and many of the other areas already mentioned have or are being addressed as this would have fallen on the Parish Council, which is ultimately you the parishioners, to pay and sort if the original Transfer of Assets had gone ahead!

Regarding the new and affordable Transfer of Assets, the ball is very firmly in the court of EDDC and has been for a while after the Expression of Interest was lodged with them some time ago. Apparently, they now have to conduct their own internal consultation process! Am not really sure why they are taking so long, after all, it's not like they haven't already been discussing it for the last six years or so! However, as soon as a decision has been made by them, you will all be informed.

Before I end boring you to tears, I must mention the Beer Rebels which I'm sure many of you have heard of by now! They are a small group of like minded residents who want nothing else more than the village to look tidy and respectable again. This not only benefits the residents but also our children by giving them safer areas to play free from brambles and weeds especially in the Memorial Playground. It also is a

...continued

great look for our visitors, which in turn, helps our local businesses For the time being, until other avenues are explored, the Rebels remain outside the umbrella of the Parish Council but they are absolutely an amazing group in giving what time they can spare, so I thank each and every one of you who turns up when a call goes out for action. It's no secret though, with an average age of 62, they could do with a few more youngsters who are a tad more agile to help out as it does really benefit our village!

After a brilliant suggestion put forward from Nigel Groves and with the full backing of the PC there will be a string of lights erected on the Jubilee Hard Standing. It is hoped in the summer months that these will help to extend time spent enjoyed on the cliff top. It is also hoped, with the backdrop of the now tidy Jubilee that this may encourage other businesses from outside to hire the hard standing for other events or promotions to be held during the summer months. Remember the more money the BPC can generate from hiring out the hard standing the more revenue we will have to help improve other bits and pieces within the village without having to raise the precept, which we always try to keep as low as possible! Hopefully, these will be installed before too long and in time for when Beer Eats Boutique joins us at the beginning of May. We very much want to move the village forward but whilst still retaining our fabulous history of which we are all very proud!

The Council are very much listening to all your concerns or ideas so please either contact the Parish Clerk (email already supplied) or pop a letter in the Parish Council letterbox outside of the Mariner's Hall or do come along to the Parish Council Meetings or PC Surgeries which are held at the Horticultural Society's Table Top sale/Coffee mornings. However, we are not psychic so you are going to have to approach us one way or the other so that we can try to help!

Cllr Karen Stevens

About Suffering and Acceptance

- Some human beings bring sublime beauty into this world, and others bring anguish and heartbreak. Some people bring light and wisdom; others bring bloodshed and grief. Accept these dimensions of humanity. Acceptance will open your heart and help you to live through your own sorrow.
- There is sorrow in everyone's life; it's woven into your experiences. Loss. Restricted opportunity. Frustration. Disappointment. Grief. Instability. Sorrow drives you deeper into yourself. If you absorb it, then yours is a life well lived.
- Many people fight life; they reject it as unacceptable and so they open themselves to a world of pain. Some suffering is extreme, seems unbearable. Can you accept that it is unbearable? Accept it and see it is the only step to seeing a way through your pain.
- Your sorrow deepens you, it goes to the core of who you are. And on that level it arouses empathy and compassion. Through suffering you step into sensitive enlightened consciousness. Suffering burns up ego. Suffering teaches you to accept.
- The man on the cross is the extreme symbol of acceptance. 'Not my will but thy will, be done.'
- Your path through life has included pain. It has come and gone and come again. Are you able to allow it to be what it is, with an open heart and the acceptance that this is reality? Instead of resisting what is, surrendering and aligning yourself with life is the doorway to the peace that passes all understanding.
- That peace communicates itself to others. In this way you become a gift to the world.

* * *



YOUR “ LOCAL ” CONTACTS

Parish Council

John Heath	John.Heath@eastdevon.gov.uk
Martin Richards	07809 629344
Maureen Westlake	mowestlake.beerpc@gmail.com
Peter Anderson	peteranderson7@sky.com
Martin Shobbrook	m.shobbrook.bpc@gmail.com
Tim Stevens	timstevensbpc1@aol.com
Karen Stevens	karenStevens07@gmail.com
Leona Reeve	leona_reeve@hotmail.com
Simon Reeve	simon_r_reeve@hotmail.com
Caroline Thompson	

Clerk to the Council: Nicky Ingarfield
beerparishcouncil@outlook.com

Internal Auditor: Trudie Jenkins (Blue Chip Accountancy)

East Devon District Councillor

John Heath 07966 089257

Devon County Councillor Marcus Hartnell

Mobile: 07515 285725

Member of Parliament Richard Foord

Parliamentary matters -

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Constituency matters - richard.foord@libdems.org.uk
c/o 118 High Street, Honiton, EX14 1JP

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Beer Parish News

Copy for June to be with the Editor
by **Monday 20th May, at very latest please.**

henryjaggers@btinternet.com
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'Big Thank-You'

Thank you to all for donating / helping/ supporting our 'preloved clothes sale' at Beer sailing club! (Thank you to the club for letting us fill the club for a week for the sale).

We raised over £1,400 for Alzheimers research and Children's Hospice South West !!! Thank you everyone!!

Cheque presentations will be made early in May!!

Annie

Reading this in the black & white printed edition?

Visit www.beerparishcouncil.org.uk and click on "[Latest News](#)" then on "[Parish Newsletter May 2024](#)" to find

BEER PARISH NEWS in full colour !

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