

THE HARTLAND POST

First published in 2015, in the footsteps of Thomas Cory Burrow's "Hartland Chronicle" (1896-1940)
and Tony Manley's "Hartland Times" (1981-2014)



Issue No. 1 Winter 2015 £1



'A Prevailing Wind' by Merlyn Chesterman



THE HARTLAND POST

A quarterly news magazine for Hartland and surrounding area

Issue No. 1 Winter 2015/16

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Dear Readers,

The last edition of the sorely missed Hartland Times was in September 2014. Since then, many of us in Hartland have regretted its passing on an almost daily basis. Whether it was to have a quick look at the ads to find that elusive telephone number, or to consult one or other of the calendars or diaries, the Hartland Times had all the answers.

So welcome to the first edition of The Hartland Post! Tony Manley M.B.E., former editor of the Hartland Times, has left us with a precious legacy and I hope that I am going to be up to the challenge of following in his footsteps.

I first came to Hartland in 1992 when I stayed with my family in Higher Clovelly. That summer our friends came from far and wide to visit us. In spite of spectacularly bad weather - wind, rain, gales, sea mist - we were all enthralled by the beauty of the breathtaking scenery along the North Devon coast, perfect for the keen walkers and the ocean lovers that we are. So enchanting was Hartland, that the following year we rented a cottage in the village at number 102 West Street. The cottage was Mary Norton's (author of "The Borrowers") last home and became our home from home for the next 22 years, first renting and finally buying it in 1997. And then, after living in France for 35 years, we sold up and moved permanently to Hartland in June of this year.

It seemed inevitable that someone would eventually come forward to take over the Hartland Times and I am thrilled to be the one to take on this adventure. Printing has gone through many radical changes since Thomas Cory Burrow's Hartland Chronicle, and today publishing is done almost entirely over the internet, with editors and printers only meeting in cyberspace. I am, however, very pleased to report that after researching the feasibility and financing of internet printing, we are able to continue the collaboration with Jamaica Press who will print our magazine. Their help and guidance have been indispensable for producing this first issue; it would have been a very hard task indeed over the internet.

My thanks go to the AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and the Hartland Parish Council who have given us grants as "seed money" which have enabled us to publish this first issue. Grateful thanks also to those who have made donations and to the advertisers who have permitted us to get up and running fairly quickly. Very many thanks also to Clive Brocklehurst who has so kindly designed and drawn our cover, and to Merlyn Chesterman for her woodcut "A Prevailing Wind", used here as a banner. I am immensely grateful to all those valiant and patient people who have helped with the layout and contributed articles and illustrations.

The Hartland Post is being run on an entirely voluntary basis and will be financed by revenue from advertising, donations, sales, grants and sponsors. It will come out every three months - Winter, Spring, Summer, Autumn - and will be on sale in the local shops. There will be an online version available free of charge, particularly for our overseas readers.

Although we won't be making any charge for the online version of the Post we would be grateful for small donations for this service, as we are unable to deal with the administration generated by managing subscriptions.

Your contribution to The Hartland Post is vital! Please send all information that you would like to see in print in the Post to the editor; particularly for the births, deaths and announcements section. You will notice that I have only been able to report the deaths with their dates for this first issue. Please remember to send me obituaries to publish and if you can only provide the information in note form, I am happy to write up the article. And don't forget photos!

For all articles, announcements or advertisements to appear in the next issue the **DEADLINE IS MID FEBRUARY 2016**; issue number 2 will be out around mid March.

With very best wishes from the editorial team for a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

The Editor

If you would like to join the Friends of Hartland Post and make a donation to secure the financial future of our publication, please send contributions to The Hartland Post, 102 West Street, Hartland. Cheques payable to The Hartland Post.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



Grace Heywood wishes all her friends and neighbours a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

The Davey family from Stoke Barton farm have decided to make a donation to the North Devon Hospice this year instead of sending Christmas cards. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and best wishes for a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Barbara Davey will not be sending local cards this year so would like to wish all her family and friends a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and all good wishes for the New Year.

Rob and Christina Woodroffe send heartfelt thanks for all the kindness and support given to them as they faced challenging health issues this year. We send you all very warm wishes for a very Happy, Peaceful and Healthy Christmas and New Year.

HARTLAND TOWN BAND CHRISTMAS CAROL TOUR DECEMBER 2015

Band A

Tues 15th	Pattard, Mount Pleasant, Norton, Hescott, Highdown, The Retreat
Wed 16th	Hartland Town & The Fire Station
Fri 18th	Wargery, Trellick, Lymbridge, Elmscott
Sat 19th	Hartland Quay 7pm
Sun 20th	Methodist Carol Service 6pm Ford, Sutherland, Greenhill Fosfell Philham Leigh Farm
Tues 22nd	Rosedown, Mettaford Farm The Old Post Office The Milky Way
Thurs 24th	Carols in the Square at 7.30pm

Band B

Tue 15th	The Mill, Downe, Cheristow, Dillington, Pitt, Gawlish, Titchberry
Wed 16th	Hartland Town (starting at Well Spring)
Fri 18th	Welsford, Tosberry, Summerswell, Wembworthy, Edystone
Sat 19th	Royal British Legion 9pm
Sun 20th	Methodist Carol Service 6pm Greenlake, Galsham, Stoke, Hartwell
Tues 22nd	Harton Cross, Natcott, Pen Y Bryn
Thurs 24th	Carols in the Square at 7.30pm

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**An e-copy of the Hartland Post will
be made available shortly on Dropbox**

CHRISTMYTH

An American magazine asked a number of authors to write an article about the person who had impressed them most. The French author Jean Giono submitted one about Elzéard Bouffier, a shepherd. The story was called “The Man Who Planted Trees”.

It tells of the shepherd’s long and successful single-handed effort to re-forest a desolate valley. This is in Provence in the foothills of the Alps during the first half of the 20th century. The writer stays with Bouffier and watches him sort and plant hundreds of acorns. Ten years later, after the war, he visits him again. A new forest is spreading slowly over the valley. Eventually these trees bring rain, the land becomes habitable and villages thrive. Over a period of forty years the valley is turned into a kind of Garden of Eden.

This account of one man’s selfless dedication has inspired many people to plant trees. I have told the story several times. Afterwards I let the audience into a secret: there was no one called Elzéard Bouffier. The story is fiction. For that reason the US publisher refused to print it.

As you might expect there are two reactions to this. Some listeners and readers are very disappointed. They want the story to be true. Others enjoy it as a parable, a story that says something important. They are not concerned that it is not “history”. It remains true for them on a different level. They remain inspired by his example.

I write this as we are coming up to Christmas because the story about the birth of Jesus divides people in a similar way. Like the story “The Man Who Planted Trees” the Nativity stories are not history. They are stories invented to illustrate some important truths. They are stories for adults.

Let me give some examples to back up this claim that this is not history. Two of the four Gospels, those of Matthew and Luke, tell birth stories. Mark and John do not – they are not important to them. Matthew and Luke present family trees for Jesus, but they contain different ancestors. Interestingly, both trace it through Joseph, not Mary. Luke tells the story of the shepherds. Matthew does not. He recounts the story of the wise men. Luke does not.

Luke tells of shepherds to make the point that Jesus came to poor people, for shepherds were almost outcasts in that society. Matthew’s Wise Men journey from distant lands to make the point that Jesus comes, not just for the Jews, but for the whole of mankind.

We think there were three wise men: Balthasar, a king of Arabia, Melchior a king of Persia, and Gaspar a king of India. These names appear in a Greek manuscript written about 500 years after the birth of Jesus. Over time the story grows and the two accounts of Matthew and Luke are combined and built on.

Those who believe that only a scientific approach can tell us what we can label as “true” will probably write off the Nativity stories as childish fantasy. Those of a more poetic nature will hopefully realise that we can live within these stories.

Ernesto Cardenal, a priest in Nicaragua, discussed the Gospels with his poor and dispossessed parishioners. Here are some of their observations.

FELIX: The liberator had to be born among the oppressed.

OLIVIA: The rich and the poor will be liberated. Us poor people are going to be liberated from the rich. The rich are going to be liberated from themselves, that is, from their wealth. Because they are more slaves than we are.

NATALIA: [Mary] was a woman of the people like us.

FELIPE: The angel is any idea, any inspiration that you get in the woods when you’re there cutting wood, any idea about doing something for other people, for the community. It’s the Holy Spirit because the Spirit is the spirit of love for others, right?

ALEJANDRO: And as I see it that Jesus who was being born in a manger, like a child is born here in the mountains, in a farmhouse or in a boat, is the liberation that is also being born here, in a humble form. And even in those kids who are still so young, who are playing there, and who have been born like this, inside them, even though they don’t know it, something is being born: freedom.

FERNANDO: I don’t understand how you can read the Gospels and get spiritual lessons for your life out of it and not get involved in the Revolution. This book has a very clear political position for anyone who reads it simply. But there are people in Managua who read this Book, and they are friends of Herod; and they don’t realize that this Book is their enemy.

JOSE: His [Jesus’] nickname meant that he was a man of the people, and he was a man of the people, including even that his parents hadn’t been married, were engaged to be married and she was pregnant, as often happens with the poor; with that problem of the poor, then, the Messiah was born, son of an unwed mother.

WILLIAM (smiling): And they didn’t know who the father was...

MARITA: But he married her because he loved her.

These are just a few of the responses made to the story of Jesus’ birth. Can we get inside the story in the way that these Nicaraguan peasants did and learn from it? Or will we content ourselves with mince pies and Downton Abbey?

Have a meaningful Christmas!

Colin of Cheristow



HARTLAND 'CHURCHES TOGETHER' DIARY

December 2nd	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
December 6th	11am	Christingle - St. Nectan's Stoke No service at Methodist Church
December 9th	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
December 13th	11am	Sung Eucharist - St. Nectan's Stoke
	11am	Morning Worship - Methodist Church
December 16th	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
December 20th	11am	Carol Service - St. Nectan's Stoke
	6pm	Carol Service - Methodist Church with Hartland Town Band
December 24th	3pm	Crib Service - St. Nectan's Stoke
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion - St. Nectan's Stoke
December 25th	10am	Holy Communion by Extension - St. Nectan's Stoke
Family Worship	10.30am	Methodist Church - Revd. John Peak
December 27th	11am	Sung Eucharist - St. Nectan's Stoke
January 3rd	11am	Covenant Service - Methodist Church No service at St. Nectan's
January 6th	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
January 10th	11am	Sung Eucharist - St. Nectan's Stoke
	11am	Morning Worship - Methodist Church
January 13th	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
January 17th	11am	Morning Worship - St. Nectan's Stoke
	11am	Morning Worship - Methodist Church
January 20th	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
January 24th	11am	Sung Eucharist - St. Nectan's Stoke
	11am	Morning Worship - Methodist Church
January 27th	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
January 31st	11am	Group Service - All Saints Clovelly
	11am	Morning Worship - Methodist Church
February 3rd	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
February 7th	11am	United Service - St. Nectan's Stoke No service at the Methodist Church
February 10th	10am	ASH WEDNESDAY Holy Communion - Church Rooms
February 14th	11am	Sung Eucharist - St. Nectan's Stoke
	11am	Morning Worship - Methodist Church
February 17th	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
February 21st	11am	Morning Worship - St. Nectan's Stoke
	11am	Morning Worship - Methodist Church
February 24th	10am	Holy Communion - Church Rooms
February 28th	11am	Sung Eucharist - St. Nectan's Stoke
	11am	Morning Worship - Methodist Church

Dates for your diary

Study Group in the Church Rooms 11am
December 2, 9, 16, January 6, 13, 20, 27, February 3 and 10

Community Lunch in the Church Rooms 12.15pm
December 2, 9 (Christmas Dinner), 16, January 6, 13, 20, 27,
February 3, 10. Please book with Kay Greenish (441091) by
Monday each week.

Carol Suppers December 12 & 13 - 7 for 7.30pm.
Contact Nancy Johns (441303) or Mary Heard (441264)

Christmas Tea and Musical Afternoon
in the Methodist Church Hall. Thursday January 7 at 3pm.

Shrove Tuesday – February 9th – Pancakes in the Church
Rooms. A Lent Course will be run as usual at 11am on
Wednesdays in the Church Rooms. Details in the forthcoming
“Hartland Together”, Issue 6.



Sandra Margaret Lewis passed away on 24 July

Grace (Aggie) Moxon on 1 August

Peter Lewis Heard on 7 September

Ada Louise Heady on 16 September

Rodney Edward March on 1 October

Nancy Squires on 1 October

Colin Edward Tape on 16 October

Doreen Joyce Heard on 9 November

John Valentine Jeffery on 11 November

Dave Phillips on 21 November

Lew Webber funeral held on 9 December



*Apologies for lack of obituaries and other announcements.
Please send what you would like to see in print
to The Hartland Post for publication.*

326 (HARTLAND) SQUADRON AIR TRAINING CORPS



Hartland ATC is pleased to be given the chance to inform the community of our activities through the new Hartland Post. We continue to recruit new members and Staff. Over the summer FS (ATC) Zoe Hill has returned to the Squadron after ten years and we now have eight staff members.

We have had a very busy year so far. In April we returned to Pier Cellars in Plymouth for an activity week which was enjoyed by all. Also in April many of Cadets were invited to fly in a Chinook helicopter at RAF Odiham. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity and all the Cadets were completely blown away by the experience. We have helped out at several community events including a very busy day car parking at the Woolery Show in July. Our Cadets attended the Clovelly Maritime Festival and two teams pulled the field gun up the cobbles, both teams achieving this in under 5 minutes.... amazing! Several of our Cadets attended various Wing camps during the summer the most recent being the Wing Adventure Camp – Phoenix Griffin in the half term holidays. At the end of August Cadets completed their Bronze and Silver D of E qualifying expeditions. We attended the Battle of Britain Parade in Kilkhampton with sixteen Cadets. Seven Cadets represented our Squadron at the Poppy Parade to launch the poppy appeal in Exeter, the most Cadets from any Squadron in the Wing! Three of our Cadets attended extra ceremonial training to enable them to carry the banner proficiently. This stood them in good stead for the Remembrance Service at Clovelly Church where we had fourteen Cadets in attendance and the RBL Parade in the Square on Remembrance Sunday in which twenty three Cadets attended.

In addition to all this Cadets have represented the Squadron at the Wing Sports trials and two of our Cadets have been selected to represent the Wing at the Region level in Netball and Hockey.



We have enjoyed many nights shooting at the Quarry by kind permission of the Two Rivers Shooting Club and spent many evenings perfecting field craft skills and carrying out leadership exercises.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Hartland residents for generously donating £180 for our 'Penny for the Guy'. It is very much appreciated!

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Cadets for all their dedication, commitment and enthusiasm. We have a very good Squadron with dedicated Staff and great Cadets. If you would like to be part of this and have something to offer, please contact us. Email hartlandatc@btinternet.com or 01237 440233 on Mon/Thurs evenings.



OUT & ABOUT IN HARTLAND

HALLOWEEN PARTY AT THE OLD BAKERY

There were spooky goings on in the Coffee Shop on Saturday 31st October as our first Halloween Party took place! 25 children aged 7 and under attended in fancy dress and enjoyed activities including: Freaky Face painting (kindly done by Kim Thorne) Creepy Crafts, Biscuit decorating and a small buffet. There were also three scary boxes where children had to be brave enough to put their hands in without knowing what horrors were inside!

All the children looked fantastic, but the overall winner of the fancy dress competition was William Olde.



Rita Tsai, William and Henry Olde



Rhys Cornish, Reubyn Arkless, Harry Dart, Aaron Cornish



Samantha & Elsa Downie



Sophia Jarvis

HARTLAND ART AND CRAFT CLUB

This group was formed by Susan Gooda after she had a conversation with some fellow artists who were finding whole day sessions just too long, and having been paid for up front, too expensive if missed. The concept of meeting for half a day and only paying for sessions attended was agreed and an inaugural meeting was held in March 2006, to which 16 people came.

The group is thriving and now has almost 30 members. We meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month in the Methodist hall from 10am – 1pm. We have a tutorial once a month, the other meeting being an open session where members bring anything along they want to work on.

We aim to provide a relaxed atmosphere where you can pursue a hobby, have a chat, and of course a cup of tea or coffee. You don't have to join in the tutorials if they don't appeal and they are mostly 'taster' sessions.

The cost is £2.50 per session attended and an annual membership fee of £10, due in March. Some tutors also charge for materials.

We have held an annual exhibition, or latterly a coffee morning, where we display and sell items we have made or

painted during the past year. This is a charity fund raiser, and last month's one raised £250 for ShelterBox; an amazing sum as there were fewer visitors than in previous years.

If you are interested in coming along, please get in touch with Kay on 441091 or Danielle on 441603. You can come and see if this group is for you, before joining.

If there is anyone who feels they could lead a tutorial in either art or a craft, we would also love to hear from you.

Kay Greenish

FRIENDS OF ST NECTAN'S COFFEE MORNING

Thank you to all who came out on a wet and windy Saturday morning and so generously supported our Christmas Coffee Morning.

All our stalls did well, and the event was a great success.

Our new range of merchandise was very well received. We now have Christmas and Countryside tea towels, fridge magnets, and calico shopping bags. These items make lovely gifts and are on sale at the St Nectan's coffee shop on Tuesday and Friday Mornings.

Finally a special thank you to those who sent us donations, they are very much appreciated.

Sue Macdonald

OUT & ABOUT IN HARTLAND

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN A LUNCH CLUB?

We meet every Wednesday in term time to enjoy a lunch prepared by the primary school cooks. We gather in the church rooms, off the car park, from 12 noon to be ready to serve at 12.15pm. The cost is only £4 for pensioners, (£4.80 if younger).

You will have a delicious roast meal – meat, roast potatoes, two or three vegetables and gravy followed by a pudding, then tea or coffee. There is always a vegetarian option should you prefer.

This you can enjoy in company and have a chat. At the moment 15-20 people attend each week and we could seat more, so why not give it a try?

I need to know if you want to come by Monday evening so I can order a meal for you. If you are interested, please give me a ring to find out more.

Kay Greenish 441091

HARTLAND ABBEY CALENDAR

2016 at Hartland Abbey starts with Mothering Sunday, Primroses, Spring Flowering Bulbs and Camellias on March 6th 11-4pm. Lots of lovely walks around the gardens and parkland to the sea. Delicious refreshments in the Old Kitchen Cafe. Dogs really welcome!

The 2016 season starts properly with the House and Garden opening on Good Friday 25th March with Easter Egg Hunts on Easter Sunday and Monday. Thereafter we are open Sunday to Thursday inclusive, 11.30 until 5pm. All details on www.hartlandabbey.com.

THE GARDEN SOCIETY

The Garden Society thanks all who supported our events this past year and these continue with our monthly winter meetings. (not in December) The next one will be on Monday 25th January when our “experts” will give a short talk and we have a quiz to test our brain cells, followed on Monday 22nd February with another talk by Nigel Alford on ericaceous soil and acid loving plants. Both meetings held in the Church Room (via the car park) at 7.30pm.

No meeting in March but on 18th April a visit to Merry Harriers in the afternoon for a hanging baskets demonstration. All welcome to attend these meetings.

Elizabeth Hodges (Secretary)

THE HARTLAND PLAYERS

MURDERED TO DEATH by Peter Gordon :
A Hartland Players Production

A hilarious spoof on Agatha Christie traditions set in a country manor house. Performances on 4th to 6th February 2016 in the Parish Hall and to include a matinee. Refreshments will be available. A fun night out not to be missed! Tickets and full contact details will be available in the New Year at the Pop-In and from posters in the village and surrounding area.

WINTER BALL

Naila Rana and her team organised an amazing winter ball on Saturday 14 November and raised just under £2000 for the Hartland netball team. Well done girls!



Naila Rana and her team

HARTLAND WILDLIFE RESCUE

The Hartland Wildlife Rescue charity shop in Bideford has now closed due to a rent increase. Beth Tyler-King's wildlife sanctuary was supported by this shop and is now facing financial difficulties. Beth has been rescuing wildlife and other animals for thirty years and would be grateful for any old, clean, unwanted towels, duvets and sheets for animal bedding. She also needs hay, straw, sawdust and animal feed. If you can help, please contact the sanctuary:

bethtylerking@hotmail.com



HARTLAND QUAY CHRISTMAS PRIZE DRAW

Saturday 19 December

In aid of Barnstaple Chemotherapy Unit

Accompanied by Hartland Town Band

The draw will be held at 6pm

****STAR PRIZE ANDROID TABLET****

Ticket drawn will win a bottle of champagne

Lots of other prizes!

Hartland Town Band will play at 7pm

There will be Mulled Cider and Mulled Wine to purchase on the night!

ST JOHN'S SWIFTS

It wasn't a great summer for swifts, cool and showery, but they arrived as always during the first week of May. We spotted the first one on May 7th then a day later looked up to see nine of them circling above St. John's. The visiting sparrows had left the webcam nest in a bit of a mess but our returning pair was unconcerned. They arrived separately and had not seen each other since leaving the nest in August 2014, nine months earlier; it was touching to watch them preen and nuzzle each other in greeting.

The first egg did not appear until a month later, on June 10th, the delay in laying probably down to the cool weather. Then a curious thing happened; a second egg was laid a few days later, which is normal practice, but our pair pushed it out of the nest and on to the floor of the swift box where it remained, ignored by both parents. There are various theories about this behaviour but my feeling is that our swifts could see that it was a cool summer with fewer insects about so perhaps felt they would not be able to feed two young ones.

The incubation period is normally about three weeks and our single egg hatched just about on schedule, on July 2nd.

It was interesting to observe the differences with just one chick in the nest instead of the usual two. A parent bird stayed in the nest with the chick all the time until it was quite large. This was probably for warmth. And the chick seemed to be less active than when there are two. No jockeying for the position nearest the door when a parent arrives with food. Less adventurous too, not leaving the nest to peer at the world outside until much later than last year's pair. Even Hartland Carnival didn't rouse it!

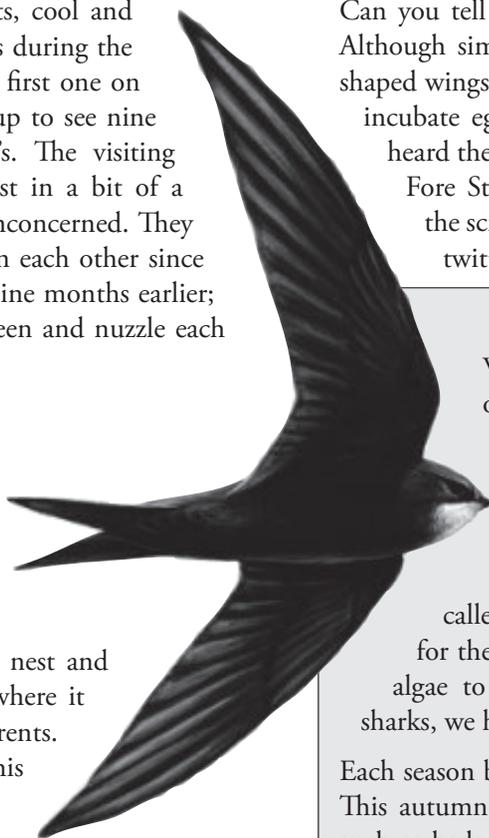
I've discovered that a good place to count screaming swifts on a summer's eve is from the beer garden of the King's Arms. It's a difficult job but someone has got to do it! The most we counted was about thirty. That was in late July. From the beginning of August the numbers started to diminish and when our chick finally launched itself on August 15th there were only two other swifts still about.

Our fledgling will be soaring over Central Africa now and will return to Hartland in a couple of years when it's ready to breed.

Meanwhile we must do a bit of winter maintenance; clean out the nest box and get rid of that rejected egg, then put up a few more boxes for our growing population.

Frannie Leach

Can you tell the difference between a swift and a swallow? Although similar, the swift has narrower and longer sickle-shaped wings and they rarely come to land, except to lay and incubate eggs or to feed their chicks. You have probably heard their "screaming" pairs as they swoop up and down Fore Street during the summer months.. Contrary to the scream of the swift, the swallow has a high-pitched twittering vit-vit-vit song.



NATURE COUNTS

We are very fortunate to be situated in the heart of North Devon's UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and an AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) which covers 171 km² of nationally protected coastal landscape. It is one of the best places in the UK to observe a wide diversity of animal and plant species. This is called "biodiversity", bio meaning life and diversity for the variety and richness of species. From primitive algae to ancient trees, from birdlife to giant basking sharks, we have the lot!

Each season brings it own special treats in the natural world. This autumn has been very mild so hibernating mammals, such as hedgehogs and bats delayed their big sleep. There is plenty of wild food around in the woods with beech, oak, chestnut and hazel dropping their nuts, seeds and acorns for the squirrels to collect and bury for the colder months. They are unwittingly planting new woodlands when they forget where they have buried their winter larder. Birds, insects and small animals feast on windfall apples and pears. Any leftover windfalls can be stored in the freezer, to scatter on the lawn later in the winter. This could be a lifesaver for redwings and thrushes should the weather turn frosty and cold in the new year. From early autumn wild mushrooms abound, mysteriously appearing overnight in the cliff-top fields or shaded woodland. Sometimes arranged in "fairy" circles, folklore has it that mushrooms scattered over the fields at night are a gift from the spirits to provide food for the hungry. Look out for parasol mushrooms, shaggy inkcaps (also known as lawyer's wig) and the giant puff ball which can grow to the size of a small football!

The Winter solstice on 22 December is the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. However, in the Southern Hemisphere it is known as the Summer Solstice! People at the South Pole will see the midnight sun and have 24 hours of daylight, whereas there is no direct sunlight at all at the North Pole. The December solstice happens when the North Pole is tilted furthest away from the sun (23.5 degrees).

The full moon in December falls on Christmas day and is accompanied by the usual very high tides. This is the time, weather permitting, to get down to the beach at low tide to see all those rocks, caves, seaweed and crustaceans that are normally covered by the sea. If the weather is stormy, high tide will bring ferocious waves crashing over the wall at Hartland Quay, which is never to be missed!

HARTLAND PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council meets on the last Thursday of the month in the Parish Hall; the meetings usually begin at 7.45pm

All are welcome to attend and there is a public comment session at the start of each meeting if anyone wishes to bring an issue to the attention of the Council

Parish Council contact details, dates of meetings, agendas and minutes are on the website: www.hartlandpc.org.uk agendas and contact details are also posted on the notice boards in Hartland, Meddon and Stoke

Your Parish Council:
Chair Cllr Robert Parsons;
Vice-Chair Cllr Fred Poole; Cllr Joy Cooper;
Cllr Anna Dart; Cllr Viv Gale; Cllr John George;
Cllr Victor Goaman; Cllr Robin Julian; Cllr Grahame Mather; Cllr James Morley;
Cllr Sarah Stafford; Cllr Terry Winchcombe

The Parish Council budget or precept is collected as part of the Council Tax; this is a small percentage of the amount paid to Torridge District Council by Hartland residents each year. For 2015-16 the precept for Hartland was set at £21,920, a band D parish rate of £30.45. The Council has also received grants this year from the North Devon AONB and our Devon County Councillor to help with specific projects

Over the past year the Parish Council budget has paid for:

Maintenance of the car park, paying car park business rates
New Bude road sign and car park sign
Street cleaning, new street cleaning equipment and hut
Maintenance of benches, notice boards & bus shelters
Insurance and annual maintenance of Clock and Clock Tower
Christmas tree and donation to Christmas lights
Grass cutting & weed clearance
Community Group grants
Floral baskets in Fore Street

The Parish Council has paid for a number of new dog waste bins in Hartland, most recently by the top of the Observatory path and in Fore Street by the King's Arms car park wall. Another bin will be added at the entrance to the car park by the new cycle parking area. The councillors believe that there is now a comprehensive network of bins in Hartland and hope that this will bring an end to the fouling of pavements which is unpleasant for everyone as well as a potential health risk.

New projects:

The Parish Council is working to provide secure cycle parking in a number of locations throughout the Parish.

The installation work will start soon and the new stands and wall brackets should be in place by the end of January. The parking equipment has been provided by Devon County Council and the work is being partly funded by a grant from the AONB. Cllr James Morley, who has been leading this project, hopes to work with other agencies to provide mapped cycle routes in Hartland Parish that could be linked to national and regional routes

Traditional finger post direction signs are no longer maintained by the County Council. The Parish Council is investigating possible funding sources to set up a maintenance programme so these distinctive and useful additions to our landscape can be retained

Hartland Snow Warden Scheme:

This scheme is run by volunteers, led by Cllr Joy Cooper. The scheme is promoted by Devon County Council as a way of encouraging community self-help to manage the use and distribution of salt and grit during times of bad weather. The salt and grit should be used on highways not covered by the county salting network as well as footpaths and pavements; it is not for use on private driveways.

Note for snow wardens from Cllr Cooper. Winter is arriving and DCC Highways have contacted me to say it could be a severe winter! I hope you are all still willing to be part of the scheme; if you need more supplies of salt and grit please contact me on 441500.

If you would like to know more about this scheme please contact Cllr Cooper

Clerk: Mrs Chris Hannington; www.hartlandpc.org.uk ; hartlandpc@googlemail.com ; 01237 441438.



HARTLAND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Hartland WI celebrated its ninetieth anniversary in 2015 and finished the year with an increase in membership. As usual, our programme for 2016 is lively and varied.

Our January meeting will be an afternoon tea provided by The Old Bakery Café with a video presentation of the highlights of the WI centenary celebration at the Albert Hall.

In February our speaker will be Helen Potter from Woolsery. The title of her talk is The Unexpected Chaplain.

In March, Tony Manley will be speaking on the story of the Hartland Times.

On 26th March we will have a group outing to the matinée performance of Agatha Christie's A Murder is Announced at the Queen's Theatre Barnstaple. N.b. there are a limited number of tickets, and priority will be given to WI members.

There will be no meeting in April, but members will be attending the Atlantic group meeting hosted by Clovelly WI.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Unless otherwise advertised, the meetings are on the first Thursday of the month at 2.30 p.m. in the Church Rooms.

Our full programme for 2016 will be available from the Post Office from December 2015, and is also on our website: <https://www.thewi.org.uk/become-a-member/structure-of-the-wi/england/devon/find-a-wi/hartland>. Or, you can contact the WI secretary, Jane, on 441578.

Non-members can attend up to three meetings for £1.50 each time. An annual subscription is £37.50. Hartland WI welcomes new members.

COOK'S CORNER

Every year the Garden Society prints recipes of cakes to be made and entered into the Garden Show. Many of you undoubtedly collect these recipes and this surely must be a foolproof favourite. If any of you wonderful bakers have a special recipe, please send it in to the Hartland Post for publication.

Banana Cake

2 ripe bananas
6oz castor sugar
4oz soft butter or margarine
2 large eggs
8oz self raising flour
1 level tsp baking powder
2 tbs milk



Mash or liquidise the bananas. Add all the other ingredients and mix well (a food processor is ideal for this). Place mixture which is very soft into a greased loaf tin and bake. Oven temperature 350°F or 175°C for about one hour or until golden brown.

HARTLAND WEATHER

(As recorded at Gawlish Cottages,
Hartland by Airlie Needham)



September: Rainfall was 83.1mm (3 ½ inches).

First week north westerly winds, windy with showers, five dry days. Second week wind went to south east and dropped, with three dry days. Then the wind went south westerly which brought showers and rain. On the 14th rain, showers and thunder with a westerly gale. Third week, showers, rain, wind from the north west. The wind went back to south easterly with six dry days.

October: Total rain 68.3 mm (2 ¾ inches).

A much drier month with showers and five dry days (4th - 8th) and dry again 9th - 19th but windy, northeasterly. On 20th wind went back to southwesterly and very windy with rain and drizzle.

November: Total rain 133.1 mm (5 ½ inches).

Terrible month of gales, rain and showers. Atlantic storms came one after the other with winds westerly all month.

Our grateful thanks to Airlie Needham for continuing to contribute this information to The Hartland Post.



After weeks of gales and storms the sun finally came out again on 4 December!

HARTLAND PARISH HALL

BOOKINGS: *Jacquie Cotter 01237 441382 (day)
01237 441019 (evenings)*

Email: *derek.goaman@virgin.net*

Website: *hartlandparishhall.co.uk/bookings*

HALL FEES: £4.50 PER HOUR

WHAT'S ON

WEEKLY EVENTS IN THE PARISH HALL

*Information, hire rates & booking availability website:
hartlandparishhall.co.uk/bookings*

MONDAY

PILATES

2 pm – 4pm Pilates is suitable for all ages. Pilates is an exercise system that focuses on stretching and strengthening the whole body to improve balance, muscle-strength, flexibility and posture. Pilates is taught by Wendy.

PLAYERS

4.30pm – 6.30pm The players welcome anyone who is interested in taking part in performance. The sessions are held on a regular basis when rehearsing for the yearly Pantomime and Entertainment evenings. To find out more ring Carol Martin 441790.

TUESDAY

PAINTING

10am – 12pm Brian & Fran Austin have been teaching painting for a number of years. They have encouraged many villagers to develop their painting skills & welcome new members. If you are interested in taking part in learning to paint in a friendly & relaxed group, look no further. Cost per session: £10

KARATE

6.30pm – 8.30pm Pete Furse, Black belt instructor, has been running karate lessons in the village for 30+ years. From a fitness perspective, the techniques practiced involves the use of every muscle and bone in the body making it an excellent all-over body workout. Involving the entire body also serves to develop balance, agility, coordination and flexibility. Pete welcomes all ages.

WEDNESDAY

YOGA

7-8.30pm with Grizel Luttman-Johnson. A general class to help develop strength, flexibility, balance and focus. All welcome. It's fine to drop in and try a class. £6 drop in, £5 in advance, £3 students. Other concessions available. Enquiries to Grizel on 01237 441 761.

THURSDAY

ATC

Air Training Corp, hire the hall once a month during the winter months, but the main ATC is at their Squadron headquarters, East Down.

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HARTLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Meet on the last Thursday of every month at 7.45pm. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

FRIDAY

DANCING

"Lets Dance"! Cross-cultural fusion to improve flexibility, stamina, mobility, morale & wellbeing!

10 – 11am - Fun chair-based sessions for people with limited mobility who wish to have gentle, creative exercise.

11am – 12pm - For the more mobile.

*Call or text 07788475173 or email:
andigwa@btinternet.com to book.*

*Cost: £5 per class; concessions £3.50
or see Becky for block bookings.*

SATURDAY

YOGA

9.30am – 11.30am Rita Heard holds Yoga lessons on Saturday mornings, which is proving to be popular with the ladies who work during the week.

FRIDAY 27th November, FRIDAY 18th December,
FRIDAY 22nd January, FRIDAY 19 February

Tina Fay is providing affordable beauty treatments in the Parish hall. Please look at her website www.tinastreatments.co.uk for more information or ring to book an appointment on 07552 676076

If you are interested in any of the above, pop into the hall to meet the instructor at the beginning of any session.

We are always interested to hear from any instructors who would like to hold sessions in the hall, likewise we would be interested to hear from any member of the public who would like to see other lessons available.

The hall is available for hire for parties etc., we will have hall linings and seat covers available to hire to make your party/event special.

Please telephone Jacquie Cotter 441019 or email:
Derek.goaman@virgin.net

The information, hire rates & booking availability is on website: Hartlandparishhall.co.uk/bookings

CHI GUNG

Free sessions of Chi Gung are led by June Mitchell on Mondays and Thursdays from 8-9am in the sports field or Hartland Parish Hall if the weather is wet. Just come along with a bamboo pole, approximately your height!

No. 1 Winter 2015-2016

WHAT'S ON IN AND AROUND HARTLAND

HARTLAND METHODIST CHURCH

Fore Street, Hartland

CARETAKER/BOOKINGS:

Tina Morgan, mobile: 07799057022

HALL FEES: £7 per hour

WHAT'S ON:

There are no well-being classes in the Methodist Church Hall

THE HARTLAND PAVILION

CARETAKER/BOOKINGS: Colin Jeffery Tel 01237 441 673

HALL FEES: £5 PER HOUR

WHAT'S ON:

BOWLS PRACTICE

Mondays and Tuesdays from 7.30 - 9.30pm

To join, go to a practice night or contact Nancy Johns

Tel 01237 441 303

AFTERNOON MARCHES

TIME & DATES: 2pm

5TH, 11TH, & 19TH JANUARY,

22ND FEBRUARY & 1ST MARCH 2016

EVENING MARCHES

TIME & DATES:

(Call Colin for time) 13th & 22nd January 2016

EMMA LEACH FITNESS: CIRCUIT TRAINING

TIME & DATES: Thursday 6.30 - 7.30pm (come to class if you want to join). Contact Emma for the 2016 programme: emmafleach@hotmail.co.uk

FOOTBALL

TIMES & DATES: SATURDAYS

Matches start at 2.30pm or 3pm.

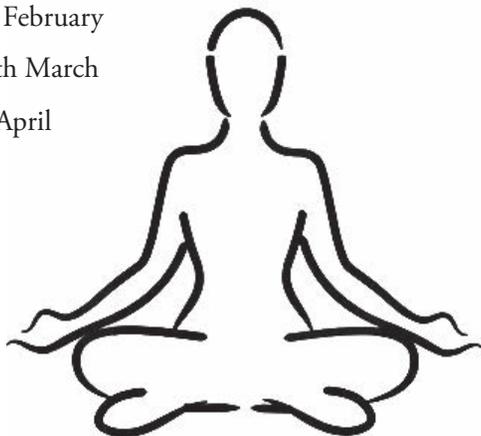
DATES:

2nd, 9th & 23rd January

6th, 13th & 27th February

12th, 19th, & 26th March

2nd, 9th & 23rd April



WELCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

BOOKINGS: Kirstie Rosser Tel: 01288 331 796 Email kirstiemrosser@btinternet.com Website: www.welcombe.org

HALL FEES: Please contact Kirstie for hall fees.

WHAT'S ON

Latest news and events from the Village Hall. If you would like to book the Village Hall please call Kirsty and see the website:

Yoga with Rita on Thursdays, 7.00pm in the village hall: contact Rita. Email: breezeyogabude@gmail.com or phone: 07539270792 to check her programme for January 2016 onwards.

MEDDON VILLAGE HALL

BOOKINGS:

Jacqueline Haughton, Email: jacquelinehaughton58@gmail.com or text to mobile (patchy reception!) 07414 552 81

Website for more info: www.meddonvillagehall.btck.co.uk

HALL FEES: £8 PER HOUR

WHAT'S ON:

Pilates with Sally Parker

Sally runs two Pilates classes per week. Cost - £8 per session (or block book for a reduction - see Sally for this arrangement)

<http://www.firmfriends.org.uk/timetable.html> is the link to Sally's website.

Wednesdays 11.30am

CHECK WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR TERM DATES

Thursdays 1.15pm

CHECK WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR TERM DATES

First term of 2016 dates are

6th January - 11th February (6 weeks)

Please check Sally's own website for additional details (see above)

Let us know what events you would like to see at the Hall or to book a game of table-tennis (£5 per hour):

Email: rogalexheasman@gmail.com Tel: 01288 331847

CLOVELLY PARISH HALL

BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES:

Elaine Russell Tel 01237 431943

Hall fees - £5 per hour

WOOLSEY COMMUNITY SPORTS HALL

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES: Naila Rana. Hall fees: £12 for a minimum of 2 hours.

Email: woolseryhallbookings@gmail.com

Website: For what's on go to: www.woolsey.net

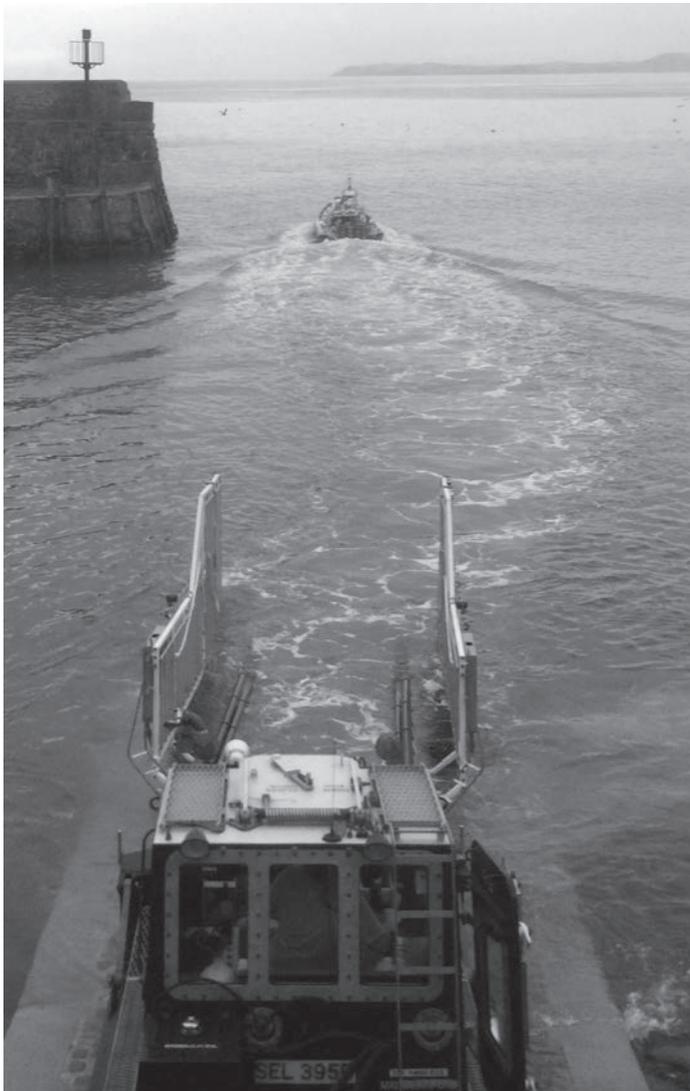


CLOVELLY RNLI REPORT FROM THE STATION



2015 has once again kept our volunteer RNLI crew and our Atlantic 85 Inshore Lifeboat 'Toby Rundle' busy in Saving Lives at Sea. Most of the emergency "shouts" have been to rescue people on the coastline from Hartland to Peppercombe. These shouts were team work search and rescue operations with the Hartland Coast Guard and the Chivenor Helicopter and all had positive results. On two occasions, 'Toby' was launched to rescue boats with failed engines in the bay and brought them safely to harbour.

The latest shout happened on September the 14th. The Coastguard requested 'Toby' to be launched to assist the Hartland Coast Guard and the Chivenor Helicopter to search for a missing person in the region of Blegberry Beach. After an hour of searching the worsening storm meant that 'Toby' was stood down and returned to the Lifeboat Station safely. Fortunately, the missing person was found the following day safe and well by a member of the public and the Hartland Coastguard alerted. The picture shows 'Toby' being launched for this shout.



The Clovelly RNLI Lifeboat Station is always looking for new volunteers. Our complement is sometimes stretched to the limit, and new recruits will always be welcomed. You will get full training and the skills acquired will be excellent for your CV!

Whatever you do



You can be Crew!

The Station was saddened at the passing away of John Dunn. He will be greatly missed and he had been a lifelong supporter of our Station and he was for some time a Deputy Launch Authority. This meant he made the decision, when there was a shout, whether the Lifeboat could be launched. This requires great knowledge of the sea and weather to ensure there will be no danger to crew. When he retired, John continued to be a great fundraiser and managed many of the static RNLI collection boxes in Hartland and Woolsey business premises. At his funeral on 21st of October, the coffin bearers were Clovelly RNLI crew members Sam Gist, Luke Gist, Neil Wonnacott and Chris Braund. It made a fitting tribute to John after his long support of the station. The collection at the ceremony was in aid of the RNLI and a fantastic £596.94 was donated. We all wish Marion Dunn the best for the future and it is great to see her actively involved with the Clovelly RNLI Fundraising Branch again.

The Clovelly RNLI Fundraising branch has also been busy and to date in 2015 has raised over £12,000 for the RNLI. This was raised at events such as Lifeboat weekend and the national Mayday initiative. Also, providing refreshments at Clovelly Festivals generates funds and another major source has been the static collection boxes in the various businesses in the local surroundings. We are grateful to all who donate so generously.

The most recent event was the Annual Hartland Concert which took place in the Hartland Parish Hall on October 18th. It was a wonderful evening of music and song from the Hartland Town Band and the Torridge Male Voice Choir. The event was well attended and raised over £300 for the RNLI. Thanks go to Vivian Foster for organising the event.

The new RNLI Shop by the Clovelly Visitors centre was officially opened on November the 15th by the Clovelly RNLI President Aubrey Loze. The shop has been operating since August and has seen a brisk trade. During the ceremony Aubrey commended Jim Anthony's efforts in setting the shop up and the volunteers who make it run. We all hope the shop will be a success and with a turnover of around £10,000 since opening it has started well. The picture shows Aubrey Loze accompanied by Vivian Foster and Christine Loze

EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

January 1st - New Year's day Whist Drive. Clovelly Memorial and Parish Hall, at 7pm.

More information on all this and up to date news is available on the FaceBook Page "Clovelly Lifeboat Station"



NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS



The Small School started a new Autumn term after a full Summer of fund raising (the Farmer's Market and hosting the Weird Weekend) to celebrate the success of our year 11s with their GCSE results. 80% achieved A* - C grades and one of our students was offered a place at the Exeter Specialist Maths College. We are all looking forward to another busy year of activities following last year's fantastic trip to London, and our amazing science week event organized by Lauren and all the staff.

Route39 ACADEMY

The start of our third year

Route 39 Academy is a growing community. This term we were delighted to welcome our new cohort of 39 Year 7 students and six new teachers. The Academy now has 123 students ranging from Year 7 to Year 10. In September we received an encouraging letter from Sir Michael Wilshaw, head of Ofsted which stated, "Improvements are visible in many aspects of Academy life. Of particular note are the strong team which you have forged and your focus on creating a culture of high expectations." In addition, the academy has been successful in securing funding to support our Academy improvement. Two organisations have started to work with us to drive forward our development: South Dartmoor Community College, and Truro and Penwith Academy Trust.

The Planning Inquiry

As this goes to print the Academy is still awaiting a decision from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government regarding the planning appeal for our permanent premises. Despite a deadline been given of 29th October, no decision has been forthcoming. This is very disappointing and we have written directly to the Prime Minister asking when we can expect a decision.

Singing for Christmas

Since our new music specialist, Miss Keri-Anne Pentecost, has arrived at Route 39 Academy music has blossomed! Lunch times are filled with band practices, jazz clubs and choir. The Route 39 choir will be performing to the public over December: Clovelly Lights (6th Dec), The Milky Way and The Big Sheep (12th Dec), Atlantic Village (17th Dec).

Year 6 Open Days

This term there were two Open Days for prospective Year 6s. These were well attended, energetic and hands on. There were plenty of activities designed to stretch and challenge prospective students, including flying teabags in STEM, mathematical language puzzles, tying up parents and guiding them to freedom in PE, building Spanish sentences using Lego, and an impromptu band performance. If you are a prospective parent with a Year 6 child who would like to see the school in action, please contact Michelle Carter on 01237 431 969.

If you want to find out more news about Route 39 Academy and what our students have been up to, please visit the news section of our website: www.route39.org.uk/news-2 and check out Facebook: www.facebook.com/Route39EP.

*We hope to have news from
Hartland Primary School
for the next issue.*

THE HARTLAND CINEMA CLUB!

Watch out for information about the new cinema club in Hartland which is getting underway! Hopefully there will be one film a month projected in the Parish Hall, Pavilion or the Church rooms starting in January 2016. Keep an eye open for posters in the village. If you are interested in helping organise this event please email The Hartland Post: thehartlandpost@btinternet.com

HARTLAND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



The Christmas lights, currently stored in St John's Music & Arts Centre, are looking for a new home. If you have any suggestions please contact Brian Redwood on 07734 333542 or brianredwood@hotmail.com

THE HART INN

Welcome to the new owners John and Nicki, together with sons Josh (16) and Steve (21) from Hull. Nicki will be the resident cook and has previous experience of pub cooking while John comes from a retail background but also worked in pubs. As we go to print their opening hours are 6pm - 11.30pm Monday to Friday, 6pm - 1am on Saturdays and 6pm - 10.30pm on Sundays. They are in the process of organising their menus but we are promised home-cooked pub dishes, such as hunter's chicken, made from scratch and using local produce. Plans are also afoot for Sunday roasts. Watch their board for more information and updated opening hours.

The Hart Inn: 01237 441102.

NEW OWNERS AT CHERISTOW HOLIDAY COTTAGES



Vicky and Ian Irving, Annie Shillito and Quentin Craven, five year old twins Kate and Eddie moved into Cheristow last August. Originally from Monmouthshire and the Bristol area, they will continue to let out the five holiday cottages which are open year round with flexible arrangements possible for winter stays.

HARTLAND IN THE ARTS

HARTON MANOR WORKSHOP

David Charlesworth (Harton Manor Workshop) is very pleased with his latest DVD which has come out just in time for Christmas.

The subject is 'drawer making and fitting'. David shows the making and fitting of a first class, English Arts and Crafts drawer.

This is David's 8th furniture making DVD. The first six were made at the Lie-Neilsen Toolworks in Maine, the last two in David's workshop in Hartland. They have sold very well in the States, Europe and UK.



Short courses and sharpening weekends are now available year-round, see the website for dates www.davidcharlesworth.co.uk

THE WHITE HARE AT CHRISTMAS

After a busy summer season Clive and Caroline Brocklehurst at the White Hare Studio Gallery in The Square are all keyed up for Christmas. "It was our fourth summer here and as well as the great support from local people we were delighted to get a lot of visitors coming back knowing that they will always get something original here as we make everything that we sell." says Clive "but Christmas for us started back in August with us preparing new items for the festive season... we've got lots of new handmade gifts and tree decorations, jewellery, unique mirrors, paintings, prints and a new 2016 White Hare of Hartland Calendar as well as Hartland scenes Christmas cards.



Clive paints a lot to commission with people from all over the country emailing photos of animals and views for him to paint. His most unusual recent commission was to paint portraits of seven chickens for an owner... it sounds like a lot of work, hope he didn't do it too cheap-ly.

White Hare Studio-Gallery is open 10.30-4pm Mon to Fri (closed Tues) and on Sat 10.30-1pm.

PINE FERODA

Pine Feroda is the collective name used by five artists working together in St John's Music and Arts Centre, Hartland, to make large scale, dramatic woodblock prints. Pine was formed in November 2013 as a four day experimental workshop in the making of collaborative prints. The stimulus and energy of this collaboration has resulted in the creation of a new identity - Pine Feroda.

So far, we have made six large prints inspired by the extraordinary coast of North Devon. The innovative nature of our work makes it imperative that we have consistency in scale, in subject matter and in palette.

All creative decisions are taken collectively, and this requires a great deal of coordination, discussion time and tact. One benefit of this way of working is that, with five artists collaboratively engaged, a tremendous creative energy is unleashed. Pine Feroda is able to make work that only Pine can do.

Merlyn brought together the best woodblock printmakers that she knew personally:

Ian Phillips, from North Wales, Rod Nelson, from Gloucestershire, Julia Manning, from Somerset, and Judith Westcott, from South Molton.



This year one of our big prints, Looking South, was selected for the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, and the edition sold out on the day the show opened to the public. Merlyn's own woodcut, Atlantic roller, was also chosen. This is the third year running that Merlyn has had a piece in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition.

In 2016 Pine Feroda, alongside its individual members, will have exhibitions at both the Devon Guild of Craftsmen, and also at the Rebecca Hossack Gallery, Conway Street, London, and Pine's work will be on show at the London Original Print Fair at the RA.

ARTS & CRAFTS MURAL

There are four 6' x 4' panels which form a mural painted by former Hartland artist, Carl Jennings. Does anyone have any ideas what could be done with them or where they could be displayed? Please contact the Hartland Post with your ideas.



Hartland RBL News

How good it is to have this publication to keep you up to date with what is happening at the Royal British Legion and we wish the team every success with it.

By the time you read this several events will have already happened, one of these being the Poppy Appeal. Willing volunteers wait anxiously to see if the results of their efforts are “up” on last year and whether they did “better” than so and so. Whatever the outcome, the Branch Committee would like to thank everyone, collector and contributor alike for their efforts and generosity.

The morning Remembrance Day Service at Stoke on 8th November saw Gordon Mills, the Branch President reading the Roll of Honour of those who had died in the service of their country and in the afternoon we had our Service and Parade in The Square.

On Armistice Day, Wednesday 11th November, the beginning and end of the two minutes silence was marked by the firing of rocket maroons and was observed by ex-Service personnel, RBL members and local schoolchildren. Afterwards, refreshments were had in the RBL Club and those assembled were addressed by two ex-RAF personnel on the meaning of Armistice and were also able to handle a real (de-activated!) Lee Enfield .303 rifle which would be the weapon used by many soldiers in World Wars One and Two.

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing away of Colin Tape. He was a staunch supporter of the RBL, a respected Branch Committee member for many years and will be sadly missed. Colin always made sure that a Remembrance Cross was placed at the grave of everyone on the Roll of Honour and then that the Wreaths laid at the Remembrance Service were secured against the Hartland winds.

We will have had our commemoration on 21st November, which we have called Pickle Night. HMS Pickle was a fast schooner that brought news of Nelson’s victory at Trafalgar to Great Britain back in 1805. Two hundred years ago, the Battle of Waterloo ended the Napoleonic Wars, seventy- five years ago the Battle of Britain gave this country breathing-space to finally overcome the Nazi threat and that of Japan seventy years ago. The entertainment on the night was by a band which includes a veteran of the Falklands War. There are many to thank for their service and sacrifice in these and other areas of conflict and the Royal British Legion is there to support them when needed.

By the time you get to read this, the Branch AGM will have taken place and whoever forms the next Committee hopefully they will continue to receive your support.



WELCOMBE JOTTINGS

Welcombe diary dates

Weekly Events :

Mondays	Bell-ringing Clovelly Church from 7.30-9pm Men’s Skittles at the Village Hall in the evening
Tuesdays	Short Mat Bowls at Morwenstow Village Hall 7.30pm
Wednesdays	Stitch and Sew group at Village Hall 10am-12noon
Wednesday	Welcombe Bridge Club 7 -9.30pm Village Hall
Thursdays	9.30-1130 am Childrens’ Playgroup
Thursday	Evening Yoga in the Village Hall

December 2015

5th	Christmas Salamagundi, Village Hall 7pm
5th /6th	Open Studios Welcombe
8th	WI Lunch
8th	Mobile Library Meddon 1410, Welcombe. Smithy 1445
12th	Meddon Village Hall Xmas Evening 7pm
13th	Nine Lessons and Carols 7pm Welcombe Church
15th	Welcombe Film Club, Village Hall 7.30pm
20th	Christingle Service 9.30am Welcombe Church
24th	‘Midnight Mass’ 10pm Welcombe Church
29th	Welcombe Film Club Children’s Show 3pm Cartoons and Feature

January 2016

11th	Lunch Club Village Hall
12th	Meddon & Welcombe WI 2pm Welcombe Village Hall
12th	Mobile Library Meddon 1410, Welcombe. Smithy 1445
23rd	Film Club Village Hall 7.30pm
25th	Lunch Club Village Hall
29th	Wine & Wisdom Meddon Village Hall 7.30pm
30th	Games & Skittles Evening 7-9pm Village Hall (date tbc)

February 2016

2nd	Mobile Library Meddon 1410, Welcombe. Smithy 1445
8th	Lunch Club Village Hall
9th	Meddon & Welcombe WI 2pm Welcombe Village Hall
19th	7pm Film Club Food & Film, see inside for details
22nd	Lunch Club Village Hall
26th	Wine & Wisdom 7.30pm Meddon Village Hall
27th	Games & Skittles Evening 7-9pm Village Hall (date tbc)

Further details/links to events may be found on the Village website. Final Copy date for December edition is Monday 23rd November. Please forward contributions to Richard on: richardwillows@doctors.org.uk or paper copy to Mead Corner, Welcombe EX39 6HH (tel 331568)

Cover picture courtesy of Richard Cole, Moons House, Sand Lane, Welcombe.

An “e-copy” is available, please contact the editor if you wish to receive a copy by email, and a copy is placed on the village website.

Welcombe Film Club



The film club started this year as a means to bring films and entertainment to local residents who otherwise find it difficult to get to a cinema because of time and transport difficulties. It operates under the British Film Institute Public Service Video Licence which enables showings of most films with a few restrictions. The main conditions are that there must be no entry charge, or advertising beyond the venue. Depending on the programme, the club will provide refreshments, but film-goers often bring their own beer, wine and nibbles. Equipment has just been purchased through a generous grant from the Bideford Bridge Trust and projections are excellent quality in wide screen onto the main hall wall with good quality sound using the hall sound system. The programmes so far have started with a film short of 1950s films visiting parts of Britain, followed by a main feature, which have included 'The Theory of Everything', 'A Hard Days Night', 'Some Like It Hot' and '12 Years a Slave'. It is intended to continue a mix of old classic Oscar winning films as well as well received new films when they are released on DVD. December dates are Tuesday 15th (7.30pm) and a children's showing on Tuesday afternoon December 29th (3pm cartoons and feature). January and February dates provisionally are Saturday 23rd and Friday 19th. All are welcome, the programme is posted on village notice boards and the community shop, and is circulated on the 'What's on in Welcombe' and 'Welcombe Chatter', but the best way to know what is happening is through contacting the organiser on richardwillows@doctors.org.uk or 01288 331568, and he will add you the film club mailing list.

Welcombe Bells

Those of our readers who live in Welcombe will be aware that the bells of Welcombe Church have not been rung since the end of August. The reason for this is that the ravages of the south-westerly winds and rain, combined with the exposed position of the Church tower, have caused prolonged damage and raised concerns about ringing the bells.

In preparation for repainting of the bell frame we had the whole frame wire brushed and cleaned to get rid of the rust, and found to our dismay that underneath that rust, the girders supporting the bells have suffered serious corrosion, which has in turn caused cracks in the walls of the tower. This has been exacerbated by the ingress of water through the tower walls, which is the reason the Church has been asking for support towards the cost of re-pointing the tower. The present steel girders, installed with little rust protection except coats of paint, were fitted over eighty years ago and have done well. Galvanized beams would last twice as long. In the course of investigating the damage to the frame, we discovered that the 5th bell is in danger of further cracking due to worsening corrosion in a cast staple, and various other relatively minor items need some attention as well.

The Church dates from before the conquest (confirmed by Royal Charter in 1189), and was rebuilt in 1508 when the north & south transepts and a tower were added. In 1731 a new or improved tower was built and the existing three bells complemented by a new tenor bell. This is proved by the original inscription on the tenor (largest) bell then newly erected to make the ring of four. "A Gooding cast us fower for this new builded tower 1731." The second bell was re-cast by Pennington in 1790, and the tenor at the restoration of the church in 1883-4. All the bells except the 5th, which still displays the 1731 casting date, were again recast by Taylors in 1934 and two more added to make our present ring of six in the new iron and steel frame.

The Welcombe Bells have a reputation, built on by many competitions held here over the years, as "having a very sweet peal", and they are also much easier to learn to ring than some tall towers as our tower is relatively short in height which gives a more responsive feel to the ropes. The Welcombe ringers are continuing to ring on Monday nights at Clovelly, which are slightly heavier bells than at Welcombe, but pleasant to ring and we would be keen to add to our enthusiastic band. Anyone wishing to have a go on the bells to see what it's like on Monday evenings will be more than welcome. It's interesting and enjoyable to ring bells but it has also fallen to us to take the responsibility of keeping the Welcombe bells in good order for future generations very seriously. We are now faced with a very large bill to repair the frame and get the bells ringing again, and we ask for your support in three ways:

Firstly, if you are one of the many people who have expressed disappointment that the bells are no longer ringing, could you please put that in writing or email to me as below, as local support for getting the bells ringing again will aid us in our efforts to gain grant funding for the work.

Secondly, if you are of a mind to get involved, please contact Mick Dollimore (331700) or myself (331273) to ask what you can do to help with the fundraising effort, or if you just have an idea to pass on. Some of the companies quoting for the work will give a substantial discount if local able-bodied labour can assist them with removing and re-hanging the bells which could be a very interesting one off experience.

Thirdly, we will be embarking on our main fundraising effort in the New Year, so if you feel you would like to support the project financially please contact one of the Churchwardens or myself with offers of donations however large or small. Donations can be gift aided if you wish, and are likely to be match-funded, so what we receive will be quite a lot more than your original donation. Thank you very much for your support. The Welcombe Ringers.

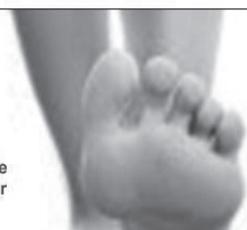
Howard Pankhurst, Tower Captain, Upcott Barn, Welcombe, Bideford, EX39 6HE.

howard@welcombe.net 01288 331273,

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From the hall it is a beautiful 20 minute walk to the beach at Welcombe Mouth, and the stunning southwest coast path.

The hall is an ideal venue for weddings, family celebrations, meetings, concerts, classes, dances, and community events. It is also a popular exhibition space for local artists, and as a workshop venue for yoga, aikido and tai chi.

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North Devon Coast Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty – A Personal View

The new AONB Manager Jenny Carey-Wood gives her first impressions.

“What’s an Ayon bee?” asked my daughter when I told her I had a new job. “It’s like the National Park, but without the ponies and all about the beautiful North Devon coast. And it’s an AONB – an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, not a small buzzy, honey-making thing,” I replied. A lot of people have trouble with our acronym, but it’s not going to go away and a lot is being done nationally to raise awareness of the AONB designation as a protected landscape.

During my first weeks in the job, the AONB Project Officer Dave Edgcombe took me on some briefing walks to understand more about the outstanding qualities of the landscape, to meet key local partners and to visit some of the hidden gems of the coast. Dave shared some of the experience and knowledge gained from over 30 years of working along this coast, including maritime history, geological features, planning issues, historic monuments from Mesolithic times to WW2 and the location of key coastal pubs!

Early memories that stand out from my first few months include travelling by boat along the dramatic Hartland coast with Doug Walls sharing his stories and knowledge with the Seascope consultants, seeing the rainbow colours from different rocks and plants illustrating geology in action as the coast bucks and folds; seeing a lizard and an adder for the first time since my childhood in the Chilterns, as we scrambled up dunes on Braunton Burrows; watching a peregrine falcon swoop around Hartland Point and remembering my inspiring geography teacher as the wave-cut platforms of Welcombe Mouth were revealed at low tide.

Although I have worked around North Devon and Torridge for nearly ten years, there is much of the coast still to discover and a steep learning curve on the technical sides of our work. A major challenge is all the acronyms bandied about in the office and at meetings. Do you know these?

- GHB – a Greater Horseshoe Bat not GBH as I initially read it!
- SAMs – a Scheduled Ancient Monument not a Surface to Air Missile
- DWT – Devon Wildlife Trust not Driving Whilst Texting
- ANOB – the frequent mis-spelling of our AONB
- HLF – Heritage Lottery Fund not a heffalump, although ...



This project has been supported by the North Devon AONB Sustainable Development Fund

So what’s going on in the AONB?

We’ve been developing a Seascope Character Assessment, working with partners all along the coast from Cornwall to Minehead including the National Trust, the two district councils, Exmoor National Park Authority and Natural England. This will provide a basis for planning and management along the protected coastline, as well as informing decisions on any offshore developments in the future (e.g. renewable energy activities).

The Clean Marine project ably led by Natalie Gibb has drawn to a close, but left a legacy of cleaner beaches, a beach care group at Westward Ho!, 300 trained volunteers, our fishing communities committed to removing floating litter from the sea and increased awareness of the impact of litter not just on us and our visitors, but also on the wildlife along our shores. We will continue to support beach cleans as and when we can so look out for the publicity.

Engaging people with the AONB to increase their understanding, respect and enjoyment of our outstanding coast is a key task for me. We are developing two new areas of work to do this, one on wildlife (Coastal Creatures) and another on geology (trails and interpretation), working with other local partners. In these projects, we plan to do more work related to education and science, working with local schools, colleges, community groups, businesses and visitors. So if you have a passion for our coast, and all it has to offer, get in touch and we look forward to working with you. Jenny Carey-Wood 01271 388758 or Jenny.carey-wood@devon.gov.uk.

See our website at www.northdevon-aonb.org.uk

