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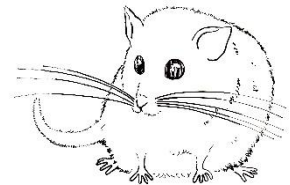
Winter 2021/22

A bumper Winter Issue to entertain you during the long nights. Or at least keep you warm as it burns briefly. There are two, long articles. No apologies – if you want to understand what is going on, all the info is there.

Once again, please let me know if there are any errors.

Happy New Year!

Sean



## The Community Building/Village Hall Saga

This is the most important thing that the Parish Council (PC) is doing at the moment. Your Parish Council that you pay for. With money.

Some may be interested in where we are with it and how we got here...

A very long time ago the old village hall next to the playing field was sold as housing by its owners, the Church of England. At the time, there was a large hut with a bar at the football pitch (which is now under the tarmac of the bypass). I have heard that good times and fragile mornings involved this venue. The village school served for more sober functions such as voting and parish council meetings.

In 2010 the pupils of the village school were enrolled into the new Cranbrook school (St Martin's C of E Primary School) and the empty building had to be disposed of by the church. By May 2011, a community association had been set up to try and buy the school or find something else to act as a village hall. Looking back, the PC at that time did not really have the capacity for a large community project such as this.

The Church Commissioners run the finances of the Church of England and have a legal duty to sell assets at the best price they can. The Commissioners could not just accept a nominal sum from the PC or Association in return for the school building. There was also an issue about whether a Victorian building with no double glazing, the original roof and little in the way of insulation or disabled access was really affordable at any price or very practical. The old school was auctioned off and the Association considered alternatives, including a small building on the recently acquired playing field.

Meanwhile...

On the 8th March 2013 the first Neighbourhood Plan (NP) was adopted in Cumbria. A NP allows a community to decide what development it wants – an acceptance that private developers and the Local Authority may not always get it right between them. If a community votes for a NP, planning requirements, restrictions and areas are then legally enforceable. This means that PC (for example), instead of commenting on planning applications and then watching with horror, could ensure any future development was already agreed to. No surprises and no possibility of a developer bullying a Local Authority in court. Bear with me, we are getting there...

Clyst Honiton is so small (and now has very little in the way of facilities) that East Devon will not consider allowing anything much to be added to it. However, Cranbrook was looming and roads were popping up and so the PC decided it would be a good idea to use the new NP legislation to at least protect what we had. After starting the NP process, the PC was told it could not have any say on anything to do with the Sky Park, the airport or the land that Amazon and Lidl sits on. These were of strategic importance to the local economy and so a mere PC should not have any input. At all. Just because they were here first. And represent local people. But the land next to the bypass is part of the NP. This is church-owned. It could not be built on because (remember) East Devon did not want anything added to the village.

Consultations and questionnaires carried out by the PC showed that some people wanted to stay in the village and could not. They might be villagers' children or people wanting to downsize and stay in the area. So the PC could demonstrate to East Devon that the community wanted more housing. In the planning game, this trumps the 'there is no development here' card. Apparently... Nearly there.

So now the PC could approach the Church Commissioners (who have a legal duty to sell assets at the best price they can) and say that the unfarmable island of fields between the bypass and the village could have more worth than pony paddocks – it could be sold to a developer for housing. Agricultural land value is £9,200 an acre, residential land value is £1,000,000 an acre (both Government 2019 prices) - Yes, I know!

But we don't just want houses. We want a community facility of some sort. Another document is being worked on (a Neighbourhood Development Order, NDO) that nails down exactly what can go on the bypass site. If the Church Commissioners want to sell the land at residential value, they need the PC to tell East Devon that's what we want, and the developer has to abide by

the NDO attached to that land and a requirement to give us a community facility before any houses are built.

In summary, the Neighbourhood Plan says we'd like more houses and they could go on the bypass site. The Neighbourhood Development Order makes sure that the developer cannot wiggle out of the deal requiring a community facility is built before the houses they can sell are built.

And that, dear reader, is why the community facility has to be on that bit of land, **is free**, and has taken so blimmin' long. The legal work and justifications/quibbling move at a different pace to ordinary life. Janvrin Edbrooke has been leading the process since that start. I don't know if she needs a medal or some kind of intervention. Locality is an organisation that helps with this sort of thing and have been invaluable. In recognition of all of this work, and due to Lynne Askew's insistence, East Devon give the PC £9k a year to pay for a well-qualified Parish Clerk who we rely on heavily to do the due diligence.

East Devon are the current stumbling block (a disagreement about their own traffic data), but then the Church Commissioners will have to find a developer to buy the land knowing its requirement for our free building. It is hoped that plans will be firmed up by April 2022. When complete, the building will not cost the parish anything. It needs to be profit-making. Community support in the shape of volunteering or just buying a coffee there will help ensure we have something warm, dry and modern to meet in, but it will also have to use its space to generate income. If it is not successful, it will be sold and the village will have lost its only realistic opportunity to have anything village hall-like.

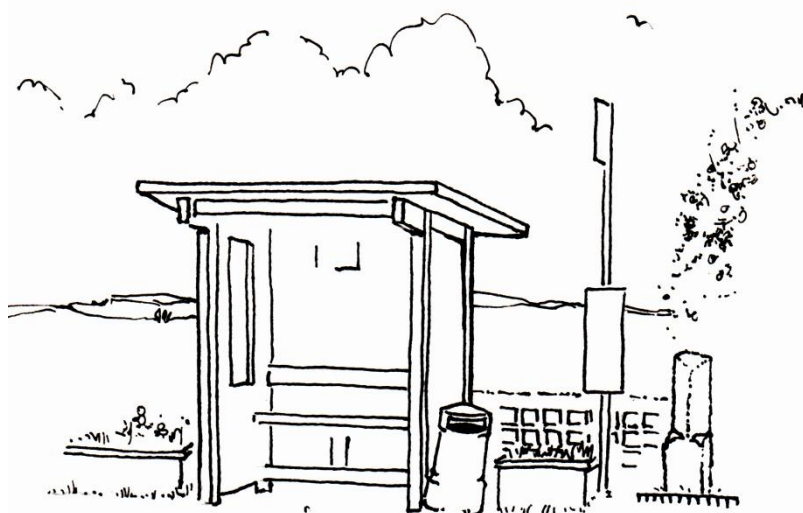
## Parish Council News

**Suzanne Hales - Chair of Parish Council**

Hopefully by the time you are reading this you will have recovered from Christmas. I hope it was better than last year when restrictions made things difficult.

Please remember elderly and vulnerable neighbours. Ask if they need help with shopping if they are alone.

We have been meeting at the Black Horse for our Parish Council meetings every other month.



Many Thanks to Heather Nash who has officially retired from keeping the bus shelters clean and tidy.

Recent discussions have been about the rubbish left in the lay-bys and roundabouts around Clyst Honiton and the vans parking in the lay-by. I am hoping to meet

with the Amazon and DPD Community officials shortly to see how we can work together to come up with a solution.

Contact was made with the local police about the cars racing on the bypass. A police car did come to investigate on Saturday November 6th after three hours of burning tyres, driving on the wrong side of the road, going around the roundabouts the wrong way and throwing fireworks into the path of oncoming traffic. However, it is now mid-December and there has been no change. Please phone 999 if you see any unsafe behaviour.

Devon Highways are being very slow about installation of the double yellow lines opposite ship lane, we hope to get this completed as soon as we can.

The Clyst river has been high at times, and we have raised concerns over the amount of sewage now coming from all the new developments around us. It is clear that they regularly discharge into the river. We are writing to the Environment Agency to ask for Data on when and how often this happens. It is not good enough that SWW are allowed to do this. You can contact your local MP to lobby government to stop this practice that happens all over the country in our rivers and seas.

The rubbish collection has been poor in the village, please email on the East Devon District Council or phone Street Scene every time your rubbish is not collected. PBlyth@eastdevon.gov.uk or 07734 568866

We are trying to arrange a village BBQ Day next year for the celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Saturday May 14th where we hope to have a few

things going on in the Parish Field. All ideas and volunteers to organise it welcome. We haven't celebrated our new play park yet so a combination of both to get us all together will be really nice.

I would like to thank the Parish Council, and Janvrin Edbrooke for their continued support and hard work, as we are all volunteers and spend many hours trying to make Clyst Honiton a better place to live, supported by Rob, our Clerk.

Thanks to Mike for his work keeping the village tidy.

Thanks to Keith in Home Farm for picking up the rubbish that the vans leave.

See Clyst Honiton Facebook page for local updates and News

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year.

Suzanne Hales

## Clyst Clatter



Chinook Helicopter – can carry 10 tonnes and can reach 200 mph. The body is 15 metres long, holds 4,000 litres of fuel, and two turbines generate about 5,000 horse power. It uses 1.2 tonnes of fuel an hour.

The rotors spin in opposite directions so no tail rotor is needed.

## The Church Fate

I asked the Rev Marc Kerslake for any news of the church – the building, not activities – and he has spent some time putting his thoughts down.

Marc is the rector of the East Clyst Churches, so the priest in over-all charge of all eight parishes and the ten churches they contain. As part of that role, he is a member of each of the Parochial Church Councils, so shares in their decision making and responsibilities, including for the building. However, with so many church buildings and his actual job to carry out, he is spread too thinly.

The heathens amongst us have to separate the history of the Church of England and its finances from what Marc explains is a straightforward problem requiring decisions to be made by us all about how we feel about the church building. It is urgent.

Marc writes -

The Church of England has a dilemma: it has too many churches, Devon alone has around 600!

Contrary to what many folk believe small rural churches are not topped up with cash from some mythical national church bank account when they head into the red - it is the centuries-old generosity of local folk which has kept those ancient stones and slates in our parishes weatherproof.

As attendance shrinks the model of a church in every parish supported by its congregation is not sustainable. We need to be clear, there is no national plan to shut churches, no schedule or scheme for this, it is not a Church of England policy, it could not be; individual churches are vested in their Parochial Church Councils (PPCs) who make the decisions on what happens in and to them. Rather, many, many churches are just running out of steam and options.

Conversations once unthinkable are now beginning tentatively in diocese across the country and in meetings of PPCs; 'Will our church shut? Should our church shut?'

For now, Clyst Honiton's church has a small but dedicated congregation who have kept the church in good order. However, the church officers are few and no one is stepping forward to take up the increasingly large burden they bear. Their amazing and continued efforts keep pace with costs, but often only on a month-by-month basis.

The church is in constant risk of a large, unexpected, bill or loss of one key officer.

Some churches have opportunities to diversify through partnerships with a community shop or local school or foodbank or something else.

Some will become so called 'festival churches' - open only for limited events such as weddings and funerals and occasional festival services.



Some, if frank conversations are had, could benefit from those in the community who were unaware of the seriousness of the situation and return to take a seat on a Sunday and help carry the load.

The rest? Well, they will probably shut.

It might be slowly as they fizzle out of energy and money, or they might choose to. These buildings, where possible, are likely to be auctioned off for other uses or leased out for peppercorn rents to a group. But selling or leasing churches in an immensely complex and time-consuming business, not a straightforward option.

Churches are often architecturally and historically significant buildings whose worth lies far beyond pounds, shillings, and pence. And that is before we begin to consider what they represent in the psyche of villages and towns as symbols of something greater; a fingerpost pointing to the possibility of the divine, resting place of a collective memory of baptisms, weddings and funerals of those loved and now lost, repository of hopes and fears, laughter and tears. For many, even those who hardly ever go to church, its presence in their community gives comfort - an indicator of possibilities. So here is the puzzle: how do you keep a church open when most of the folk who claim to value it don't contribute to keeping it open?

We cannot expect small groups to keep the show on the road for reasons of architectural, historic significance or for any other reason, while others pop in when they feel like it or have their children baptised, married, or loved one buried or even enjoy the reassurance of the divine signpost. The load must now be more widely spread, and the need is urgent.

**Do you want to keep your church?** The cold, hard, truth of where we find ourselves is a one-time offer: step in and help, or lose it forever.

We need to stop saying some churches will shut and, in many cases, say: your church is going to shut, if not today, sometime soon, and the truth is a church closed and sold will never be bought back.

This is not a matter of having faith in God, this is belief in the value of these beautiful buildings regardless of faith. It was said that the church was a club which should exist primarily for benefit of those who do not come, now our churches will only continue to exist if those who love them and do not come see their benefit.

There exists the possibility for everyone to contribute financially either regularly or as a one off for major projects, or through a legacy in a will (all of which can



be given with stipulations it must only be used to maintain the building and not for religious purposes).

You can help with basic maintenance: grass cutting, cleaning, locking and unlocking of the church to keep it open to the public, in some cases to volunteer as fabric officers who oversee maintenance and repairs, and even to agree to set up 'Friends Groups' - committees which help with the material running of the church as a beautiful building outside of any faith connotation. Others might choose to use the church outside of Sundays for a book club meeting, art show, flower festive and contribute to church funds that way. There really are a host of options.

When this issue is raised there are also fiery statements about how much money the national church has or money the church has wasted or scandals the church has been involved in, all of which are fascinating but totally irrelevant. We are where we are, the national church will not be stepping in to bail out thousands of small churches. The key is a change of thinking, and the clue is in the term: 'Parish Church'.

The church belongs to the parish and, if the parish wants to keep it, an effort by the parish, not just a few is required. It is your choice.

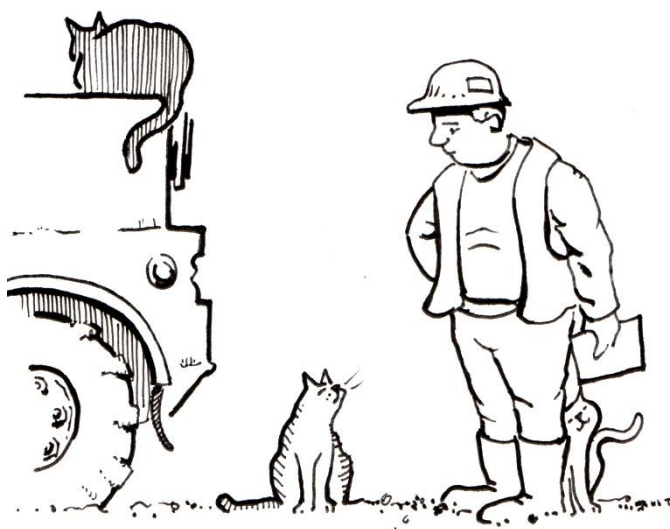
## News from South of the A30

Janvrin Edbrooke

Despite being the rural area of the Parish, it is also an economically vibrant area.

### **Business Update**

1. Cats Protection New Centre update: Footings are in, but the cats are not helping





2. Just down the road is **Axe Hayes Farm.**

This is a collection of residential properties and the Yeo Business Park, which has 10 bespoke units for small businesses (see a unit in the photo below)

Businesses based at Axe Farm are:

- Barbara Rouse Design (Soft Furnishings and Upholstery)
- Home Instead (home care provider)
- GJR Architects
- Sandle Nash Limited (Financial services)
- Heart Ireson (Chartered building surveyors)
- CJH Land (adding value to land and properties)
- Grapevine Connect (connectivity and phone systems)



3. Close by is Hill Pond Business Development and a new hotel these will be covered in the next edition.

### **Houses at Axe Hayes**

The Axe Hayes' redundant farm barns have been redeveloped to provide 3 new residential properties. **Pickles Barn 1, 2 and 3.**

We extend a warm welcome to our latest parishioners. We wish them well and hope that they enjoy their first Christmas in Clyst Honiton Parish. The Clyst Chatter will be dropping on their doormats from now on.

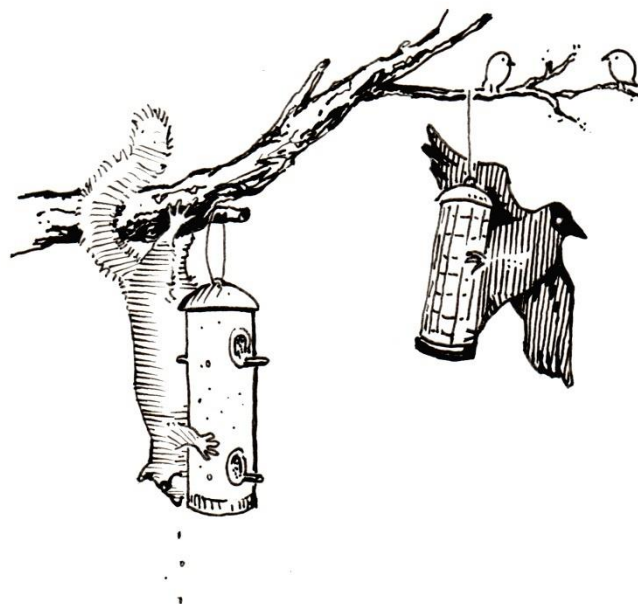
## **Neighbourhood Plan Update**

If you were paying attention, you'd notice that East Devon are quibbling about their own traffic data and the works are currently gummed up. Page 3.

# Clyst Naturalist Watch

It is now officially winter and so remember to feed the birds and keep fresh water available.

Dormice, hedgehogs and bats should be hibernating. If you find a wandering hedgehog, it has probably woken up hungry. They like cat food, as we found out last summer when we left the back door open.



## Diary Dates

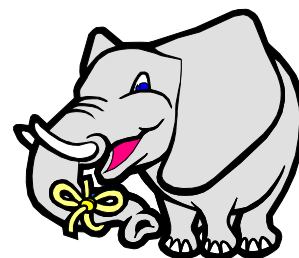
### St Martin's C of E School Cranbrook dates

February 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Half Term

April 11<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> Easter Holidays

### Parish Council Meetings

Jan 13th	7.00 pm	venue to be arranged
10th March	7.00 pm	tba
12th May	Annual Parish and Annual Council Meeting tba	



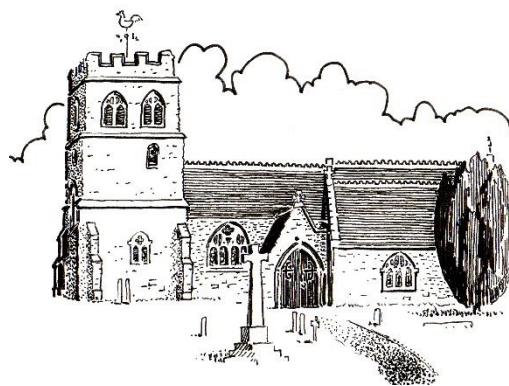
Additional Planning meetings may be called and advised on the Parish Notice Board and will be announced on the website [clystthoniton.org.uk](http://clystthoniton.org.uk)

## Church Chatter

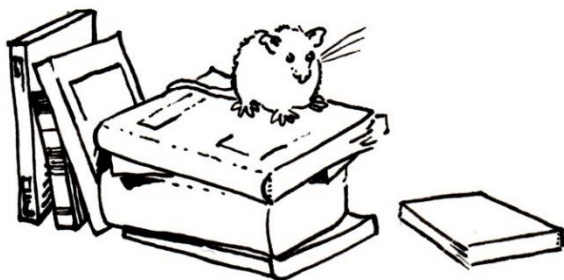
Sheila Watson (Churchwarden)

This was written in early December so...  
I would hope to be able to say that we had a super Carol Service and that the Midnight Communion was well attended, but who knows at this stage.....?

Numbers at regular services are gradually growing again, but have not reached the pre-Covid numbers as yet.



The regular Wednesday Coffee Morning is still thriving and just managing to pay the sponsor money for the boy (now 15 – we sponsor until he is 18) in the Philippines.



And don't forget, in the porch at church there are books. Please feel free to borrow, swap or buy for a small donation. The porch is open during Wednesday coffee mornings, Sunday services and usually the Friday morning before a service or if

you see Martin in the churchyard he will have a key to let you in.

We are also building up quite a collection of jigsaw puzzles which are kept in the belfry at the moment. Again, these are for you to borrow or swap.

## Clyst Matters -

### **Clyst Honiton Parish Council**

Parish website [www.clysthoniton.org.uk](http://www.clysthoniton.org.uk)  
 Gary Collier  
 Suzanne Hales (Chairman)  
 Grant Harrison  
 Mike Muir  
 Sean Wheeldon

### **East Devon District Council**

Council Offices  
 Sarah Chamberlain (Councillor for CH)  
[schamberlain@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:schamberlain@eastdevon.gov.uk)

Chris Pepper Councillor for CH)  
[cpepper@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:cpepper@eastdevon.gov.uk)

Elanor Rylance (Councillor for CH)  
[erylance@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:erylance@eastdevon.gov.uk)

### **Devon County Council**

Council Offices

Sara Randall-Johnson (Councillor for CH)  
[sara.randalljohnson@devon.gov.uk](mailto:sara.randalljohnson@devon.gov.uk)

Please contact via Parish Clerk  
 07444 780437  
 or email Rob Martin (Parish Clerk)  
[clerk@clysthoniton.org.uk](mailto:clerk@clysthoniton.org.uk)

01395 516551  
 07980 587794

01392 464879  
 07879 441556

07595 926250

0845 1551015  
 01404 515246

01404 822524  
 07970 455244

**Other services**

Environmental Agency	0800 80 70 60
CH Comm Assoc. (Stephan Bouloux))	01392 986844
St Martin's C of E Primary School	01404 515409
Ring and Ride (Exeter)	01392 494001
Pinhoe Surgery (appointments)	01392 469668
Clyst Caring Friends	01392 464940
RD&E Hospital	01392 411611
NHS Non-emergency advice	111
National Rail enquiries	08457 484950
Exeter Bus Station enquiries (Stagecoach)	01392 427711
Exeter Airport	01392 367433
Post Office (customer help line)	03457 223344
Police (Non-emergency Calls)	101
CrimeStoppers	0800 555111
Electricity (emergencies and power failures)	0800 365900
Gas (emergencies, gas escapes)	0800 111999
Water (Customer help-line)	0345 776677
Floodline	0845 9881188
BT	0800 800 151

## The Lions Club

Stephan Bouloux (Fund Raising Chairman)

The Lions Club of Exeter was started over 50 years ago to help the community in various ways - by direct acts of service or by fund raising (usually for major projects).

The Lions' motto is, simply, "We Serve". Since the Club began, some hundreds of thousands of pounds have been raised to help local people and institutions.

We recently raised money to pay for the outside play area at the Bramble Children and Young People's Unit RD&E Hospital. We have also supported local food banks in Exeter which, sadly, are more used now. Locally, monies had been given to Broadclyst League of Friends who run the community centre for the elderly. Earlier this year a coffee club was started in Cranbrook but due to Covid it had to close.

Another initiative is the 'message in a bottle' which are distributed to medical surgeries and pharmacies in Exeter and district. It is a record of personal and medical details on a standard form kept in the fridge - paramedics, police and fire fighters know to check there in a medical emergency.



The Lions Club of Exeter is always looking for help in manpower or outlets from where we can collect paper or books, hearing aids or spectacles for recycling which we can turn into income.

Should you wish to help or find out more please contact Stephan Bouloux on 01392 986844.

Thank you.

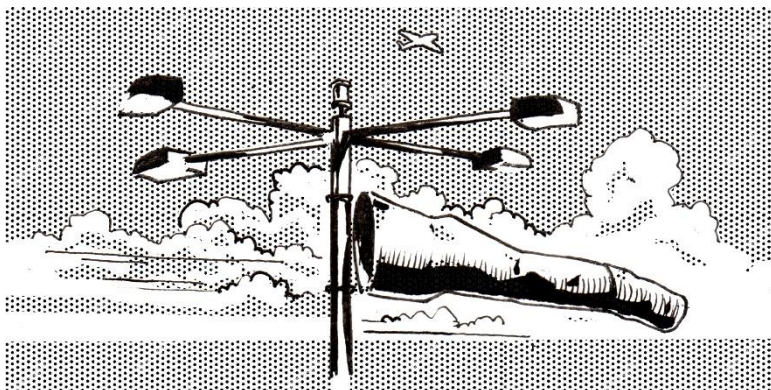
## Airport News

Exeter Airport has announced the appointment as Stephen Wiltshire as Managing Director. Stephen, 47, has been Operations Director at Exeter for the last 12 years.

Commenting on his appointment, Stephen said:

"Exeter Airport plays a vital role in our regional economy and despite the difficulties the industry has faced through the pandemic we are confident of a strong recovery, evidenced by the 28 domestic and international destinations currently scheduled from Exeter."

There are new flights to Dublin in Ireland from April next year, creating hassle-free onward connections to the USA.



## Bill Coles RIP

Sadly, one of our long-term residents and a former Parish Councillor has passed away. Bill tended his allotment gladioli in shirt and tie and was well known in the village.

Our condolences to his wife and family.

# Keith's Wordsearch

**Archaic words – these are words we no longer use, or their meanings have changed**

Can you guess what they originally meant? The original meaning of each word is shown at the bottom of the page with a number which indicates its position in the alphabetical word list below.

As usual, words run up, down, diagonally and in both directions. Letters may be used more than once. There are FIVE letters not used in the names listed and these make a word which today means to teach – totally the opposite of what it once meant!

Bibliopole

Indite

Pest

Rede

Bootless

Latchet

Picaroon

Silly

Buss

Laver

Piepowder

Spence

Crumpet

Leech

Pismire

Trig

Cutpurse

Lief

Plight

Turnkey

Fell

Love Apple

Popinjay

Very

Froward

Nigh

Receipt

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

advice 22; animal skin 6; an ant 18; buyer/seller of books 1; the (Bubonic) plague 15; a doctor 11; a shoe fastener 9; as happily 12; your head 4; jailer 26; a kiss 3; larder 24; near 14; neat 25; a parrot 20; a pickpocket 5; a person difficult to deal with 7; make a solemn promise 19; real 27; recipe 21; a scoundrel 16; simple 23; tomato 13; an itinerant trader 17; useless 2; a wash-basin 10; to write 8.

## Thanks

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue and who have helped to distribute it. Our special thanks to Exeter Airport for the printing.

The next edition will be ready in April and all contributions should be received by March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The editor is Sean Wheeldon, Chippenham, Clyst Honiton EX5 2NG

You can email your corrections, contributions and complaints to the editor at [seanwheeldon@clysthoniton.org.uk](mailto:seanwheeldon@clysthoniton.org.uk)

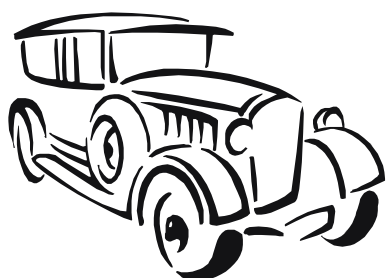
The Clyst Chatter is published by the Clyst Honiton Parish Council.

**Next issue** – why does 'Clyst' mean clear stream? And what's all this about a new town in our parish?

**For all your motoring needs**

**Phone 367235 and ask for**

**Nick**



MOT - Servicing -

Repairs

**Clyst Garage      Honiton Road**





New Hair salon in Clyst Honiton - just up from the Play Park.  
I have many years' experience in all aspects of hairdressing  
previously working at Exeter College teaching hairdressing.  
My new venture is working from home in my self-contained salon,  
welcoming men, women and children

**Please call me for a chat about your requirements  
01392 366755 – leave a message and I will get back to you  
or search Hairport Hair Studio on Facebook.**

£3.00 off your first appointment with this advert

Lady's Cut and Finish £25.00

Men's clipper or scissor cut £12.00

Full price list on salon door.

