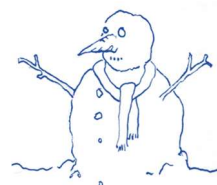


The Winter Chatter



January 2026 – Please consider the environment and recycle before reading.

Here we go, as welcome as a named storm that keeps returning, another edition of the Chatter – Clyst Honiton's oldest parish magazine...

Play Equipment Vote

A technical issue meant the QR code in the previous edition of the Chatter did not work.

Here it is again. We need to replace the zipwire with something exciting but slightly less like something borrowed from Lymington Commando Training Centre.



Vote here!



Residents' Parking (a request received by the Parish Council)

The Parish Council has been asked to look into residents' parking. There will always be an issue of people parking for the airport and taking up space on the road through the village.

If the road from the Exeter Inn to Home Farm had parking restrictions, it would not guarantee a parking space but might reduce numbers in summer.

If the restriction was residents-only from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, it would not be possible for someone to leave their car for a week. Visitors to the village could still park in the evenings and at the weekends.

These schemes are run by Devon County. It looks like it would be about £35 a year for a car to be registered (and avoid a fine) and you can buy extra tickets to put in cars if they are visiting during the week in the daytime.



The issue will always be that illegally parked cars have to be noticed by wardens for anything to happen. If no one ever checks, cars will still be allowed free parking... The Parish Council will not be running this.

There would be official signage, though, and anyone parking in the village to save a few quid to spend on in-flight drinks might consider doing something else.

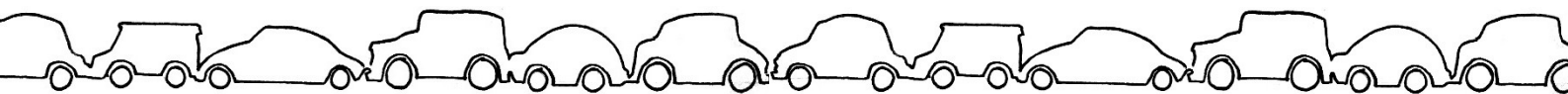
If there was enough support for this, the Parish Council would start the process with Devon County. They might not be in a hurry to do anything, but it would be about trying to do something rather than just putting up with the problem.

It would have to be formally voted on by those affected/living on that road. If you have any thoughts on this, please email Rob, our Clerk.

clerk@clystthonitonparish.gov.uk – note new email address

Casual chats in the street with a councillor won't carry any weight as this is a Big Decision (and not easily reversed) and will need to be demonstrably supported, not just a "good idea everyone wants".

If you are desperate for something to do, you could even attend a Parish Council Meeting. Check on the website for dates. If you do nothing, others will decide for you!



Thanks! to Mike for dressing the (increasingly large) tree at the bottom of St Michael's Hill again.

South of the A30 – Janvrin Edbrooke

New Year's Day the hedgerow daffodils were already out, and on the 3rd Jan a striking supermoon appeared above our hills and valleys, creating a spectacular local scene.

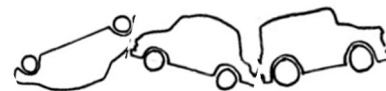


Flood signage

This winter saw our first flood road signs put into place, which was good for the area's intrepid visitors as many of our roads became rivers. The signs remain which is not ideal, but they are still there for next time.

Icy roads

The much-enjoyed cold snap over the festive season also brought black ice, which caught many a driver unaware. The sand and salt box located at the top of the hill was especially appreciated this year by downhill drivers struggling with sliding and uphill vehicles dealing with spinning wheels.



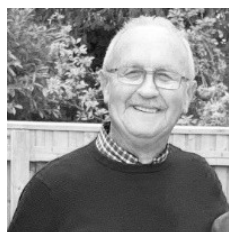
The Marlcombe Town Masterplan Map

This was unveiled during the recent East Devon Local Plan Consultation (concluded Jan 26th) showing how this area will be divided between houses, schools sports pitches etc. This is on the new parish website.

New Solar Farm

Red signs and visible progress show that construction of a solar farm is underway here. Currently, there are no planning applications proposing changes to the use of this land, which has also been designated for the Clyst Valley Regional Park according to the Marlcombe Masterplan (see map). Time will reveal all.

Councillor Mike's To-do List



It is time to reduce the second half of the Playing Field hedge and this is a big job. It does not have to all be done at once. Or at any particular time.

If you are able to help, please get in touch and we can decide what you can do.

More generally, the village is looking tidy and litter-free. Thanks to everyone picking up after the recycling team. Any litter you remove makes a huge difference. Litter attracts litter.

If there is anything around the village you would like to have a go at improving or looking after, let me know.

Thanks and Happy New Year!

Mike

Buzzards! Cyst Natural Watch



There are about 1,600 pairs of buzzards in Devon. They are not fussy about where they live – open countryside or more woody areas and they eat almost anything (as long as it is meat - worms to rabbits, pigeons and carrion).

They are often seen circling high up, kept there by thermals

(updrafts of warm air), wings straight out, soaring with what seems to be no effort.

At this height, they can scan large areas for prey, avoiding using energy. Their eyes are about eight times better than ours (or yours, anyway, my eyesight is terrible). They are excellent at seeing distant detail, but don't work well in poor light. That's the owl's job.

A buzzard's eyes (like many birds) have five different colour receptors; we have three. This does not mean they see more colours, it means the differences between colours are more defined to them. A lot of human colour perception is based on our brain saying, 'It is not this, so it must be

that.' A bit wonky and prone to errors. Buzzards can pick out the correct set of curtains in Dunelm without getting them home and finding the green is 'the wrong green' in a different light.

ALLOTMENTS - BETTER THAN ALITTLEMENTS, A LOT!

Grow your own rude vegetable.

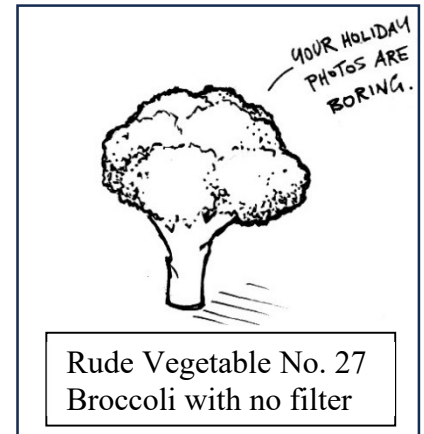
Since the Autumn Chatter, things have quietened down. Most of the produce is harvested, except for organised people who planted winter crops.

Now is the season for tidying and maintenance, dodging the downpours. Our newest plot holder has made good progress with this, clearing the plot of weeds.

Many thanks to Janvrin for supplying well-rotted manure which is being shared between the plot holders as feeding the soil (and the worms and creatures) is essential at this time of year.

It now gets exciting as from February onwards sowing gets underway and the cycle continues, I can't wait to see the variety of crops this year and welcoming a new couple onto one of the plots in April.

Debbie debs0106@gmail.com



Church Chatter

News from St Michael and All Angel Church

Sheila Watson



Happy New Year! After all the excitement of the Christmas festivities, we begin the new year quietly with very little in the way of events.

The Wednesday 'Coffee and Biscuit' gathering still takes place weekly at the Duke of York and you are invited to come along and enjoy company, friendship and warmth from the roaring log fire, as well as your hot drink and biscuit.



Bingo sessions are on the first Saturday of the month, eyes down at 7:30pm. in the Duke of York. There is also a raffle. Proceeds from these evenings help to pay for the maintenance of the churchyard which we try to keep neat and tidy so please come along and support them.

The most **important news** is that services will, until further notice, begin at **9:30am.** on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. As from January the second Sunday is a communion service and the fourth Sunday is Morning worship.

Services for Easter have not been decided yet. Notices will be put in the notice board on the church gate when they are known.

Are you a robot?
Please select images
that contain chocolate

↶
Submit

Clyst Honiton Community Association (CHCA)

The CHCA was set up when the village school closed, removing the last community space in the parish, many people worked hard towards providing somewhere in the village that would replace it.

Options were considered and money was raised but it is a slow, difficult process. This money was held in a Lloyds Bank account and many thanks to

Dave Montgomery for meticulously tracking the money raised and reconciling the bank account for all these years.

Covid put an end to the CHCA meetings and there is currently no clear way to proceed in the short term. Effectively dormant for five years, the account looked abandoned to Lloyds (they did not contact Dave!) and they also wanted to start charging for this type of account and so the decision was made to safeguard the money and move it to a ring-fenced Parish Council account. Thanks to both Dave and Suzanne for their help with this.

We Can't Keep Meeting Like This! – Parish Council Meetings



To contact Clyst Honiton Parish Council

Rob Martin (Parish Clerk)

07444 780437

or NEW email

clerk@clysthonitonparish.gov.uk

NEW Parish website

clysthonitonparish.gov.uk

Meeting dates – all at the Black Horse 7pm

Dates are being decided

Next pencilled in as 18th February 2026

Please check website for updates

Your Parish Council is:

Gary Collier

Chris Jenkins

Grant Harrison

Mike Muir

Sean Wheeldon (Chair)

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue and who have helped to distribute it. The next edition will be ready in April and if you have anything you would like to be considered for sharing with our readers all contributions should be received by **March 31st, 2026.**

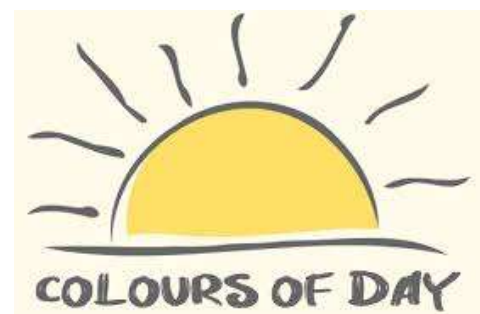
The editor is Sean Wheeldon, Chippenham, Clyst Honiton EX5 2NG.

You can email your corrections, contributions and complaints to the editor at seanwheeldon@clysthoniton.org.uk

This Chatter is also on the Parish website, so you can download old ones as well as the current edition. If you're weird.

Keith's Wordsearch

Our theme this time is colour. Blue is consistently the world's favourite colour, symbolizing trust and calm, followed by green (nature, growth) and red (passion, energy), though preferences are personal and vary by culture, age, and gender, with men favouring blue more than women, and younger people often liking brighter hues like purple, orange, and green.



As usual, words run vertically, horizontally and diagonally and in both directions. There are seven spaces not used for letters in the words listed. These form an anagram of another colour, a tye of red.

* Two sepatate words

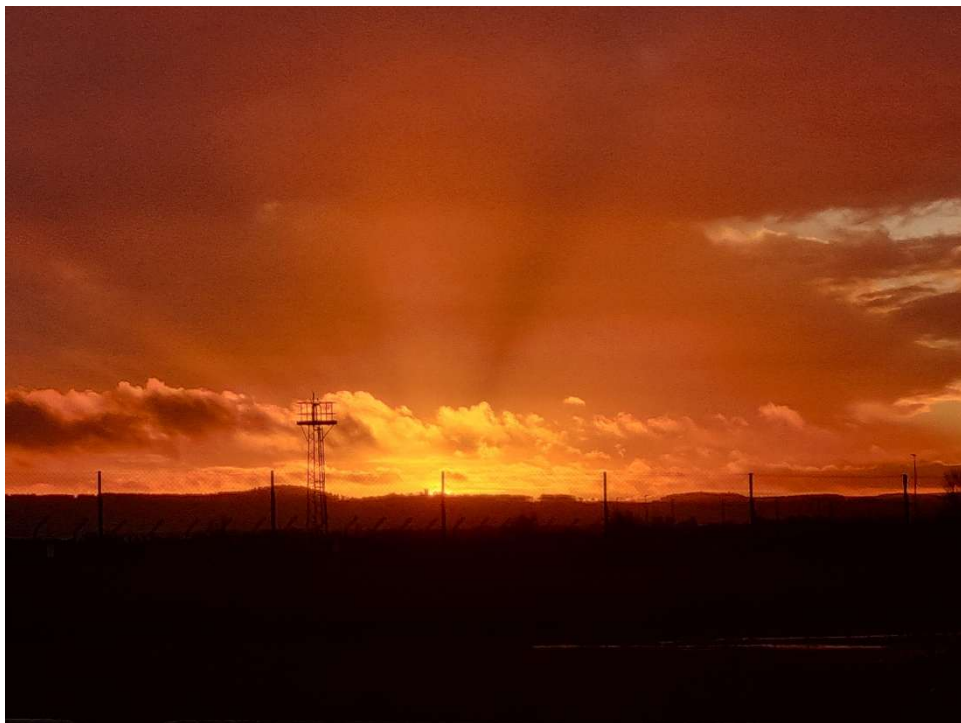
Amber	Indigo	Raw Sienna*
Aquamarine	Ivory	Red Salsa*
Carnelian	Jasmine	Rose Pink*
Cinnamon	Jet	Russet
Clay	Khaki	Sand
Cream	Lava	Sky Blue*
Crimson	Magenta	Tan
Ecu	Maroon	Teal
Gold	Mulberry	Teal
		Violet

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

Extra Chatter!



This is now an unlikely site. The two companies that failed have planes parked together. This is recent, so presumably the Flybe plane is for sale? You wonder who is paying to move it around and park it...



A sunset over Sky Park, showing there is beauty everywhere. Even if it includes a chain link fence.

Don't forget, the new website is up and we are starting to populate it with useful stuff.

Our aim is to have rolling updates so that progress is not announced (sometimes) months after things have happened.

Will it be exciting? Yes! Well, maybe not. But seeing as you all ignore the Parish Council meetings, this should help with understanding where things are at and why.

<https://clysthonitonparish.gov.uk/>

The End