

Modern PIRATE

TREASURE, RUM AND SCURVY NEWS FOR OLD SEA DOGS

Ahoy there! Inside this issue:

- Our Top 10 best value cutlasses
- X marks the spot - how to tell if someone has a treasure map tattooed on them

Incorporating Buccaneer Monthly and the Clyst Chatter Summer 2026

Here we go, as welcome as shipworm on a long voyage... more Chatter.

Harbourmaster Mike's Log



As we can see as we leave port, all of the planters are filled with flowers – these were

donations from village residents.

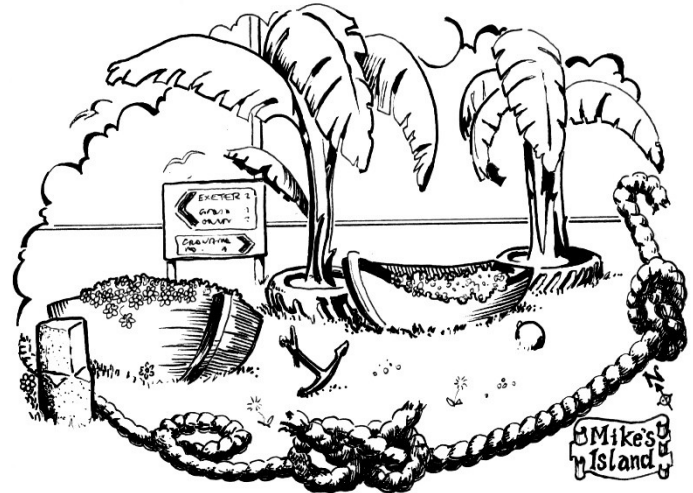
Big thank yous and extra rum for all at

Clyst House (especially Kath who helped me plant them all up).

Thanks also to David, Debbie, Graham, Jackie, Finley and Fred for all their help. There are a few jobs I need help with and if you have a bit of spare time please contact me.

The dry weather is making regular watering a task. Help with this would be appreciated. You could just choose one planter to look after.

Mike



Home Farm and the village gate

Work has finally started at the end of the road! For those of you new to the village, or overloaded with the continuous excitement that planning conditions offer, an explanation:

Turning points are being created so that, when the current barrier is moved further from the roundabout and into the village by a few metres, anyone needing to turn can do so at the front of the new unit and vehicles needing to access the unit itself will have to come off at the roundabout, **not** through the village.



This was all stipulated in the original planning consent for the development of the Home Farm site and ensures that there is no extra traffic in the village caused by the trading activity at whatever Home Farm will be used for.

Good for cats and kids!

Just like worming tablets.

I've Got the Music in Me!

There are two local, regular music evenings.



Sing Together is a friendly community choir that celebrates the joy of singing and the wellbeing that comes from making music with others.

Our sessions are all about fun, connection, and feeling good through song — no experience or music reading skills required!

Thursdays, 7.00–8.30pm Function Room, The Blackhorse Inn

First session free, then £10 a week.

Whether you're a confident singer or a complete beginner, you'll find a warm welcome and a relaxed atmosphere.

We sing a mix of uplifting songs — from well-loved classics to contemporary favourites — and focus on the happiness that comes from singing together.

Contact me for more info: kirstenwordleymusic@gmail.com

AND



The third Wednesday of the month, starting in September, there is an acoustic night at Feniton Social Club. Very supportive and a mix of abilities. Mostly guitar and song, but we have had accordions and bongos – Cat Stevens, Coldplay and Kraftwerk. Never Wonderwall...

Contact Andy at moan@uwclub.net for more details.

News from the South Seas - Janvrin Edbrooke

It's hot!

There has not been much rainwater for the soil and crops. We could see combines harvesting the fields in July which is really unusual.

Congratulations to the Northmore's two daughters who have celebrated their weddings in style this summer in the fields of Wroford Manor.

Editor's note: Since the Parish Council Meeting in April attended by those leading on the new town initiative, it has been silence from East Devon.

We will nudge later in the year when the future of East Devon itself is understood.

Snakes! Cyst Natural Watch

The barred grass snake (Natrix Helvetica) is also known as the water snake as they hunt in ponds for frogs and fish and are good swimmers.



I saw one a few weeks back. Remembering that they are timid creatures, I made a high-pitched squeak to warn it I was near and then ran away waving my arms so that it could see I was not a threat.

There is no need to be scared of grass snakes, and I am definitely not. They can be a metre long, although they were over three feet long in the 70's, I think.

They have a dark grey-green upper body and distinctive black markings in the form of bars running along its sides. Its underside is pale and it has a distinctive yellow and black collar around its neck.

They hibernate underground over winter and will lay eggs in warm compost heaps. So, if you are lucky, you could end up with loads of snakes

everywhere looking for things to eat. Which, obviously, would not worry me.

But I can see other people standing on top of a kitchen unit (a useless 900mm high) asking someone else to check the garden.

They are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It is illegal to kill, harm, take from the wild, keep in captivity or trade them without a valid licence.

ALLOTMENTS - BETTER THAN ALLITLEMENTS

Grow your own rude vegetable.

Recent weather has brought both blessings and challenges. Bumper crops of strawberries have been produced and peas have also fared well. The promise

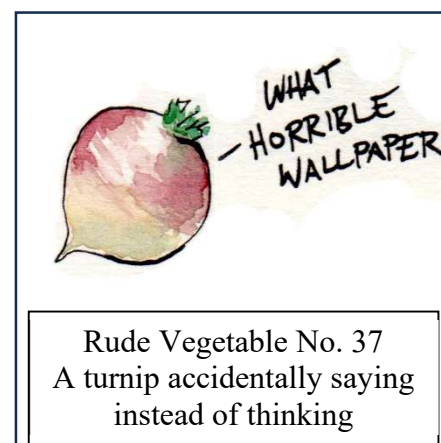
of an abundance of pears and plums is also encouraging – however if the drought persists fruit trees can drop their crops in order to survive.



Water is becoming scarce in the collected rain butts, and the ground is too hard to do any weeding or lift spuds which are (on my plot at least) smaller than usual. I shall be interested to see how those who have grown their spuds in tubs have had more success – my feeling is they probably have.

Wildlife is thriving too – unfortunately the bounty of strawberries, gooseberries (just before I was going to harvest them) brassicas and thornless blackberries (our blackbird's favourite) has no doubt helped various creatures along. However, we are mostly a live and let live community and are looking for kind ways to deter them.

If all the above doesn't put you off, a small plot is becoming vacant with immediate effect. If you live in the village and would like to join our merry band of growers do get in touch and I can arrange a viewing. It will require licking into shape but if the most recently let plot is anything to go by, enthusiasm and hard work produces wonders!



Rude Vegetable No. 37
A turnip accidentally saying
instead of thinking

Debbie debs0106@gmail.com

Church Chatter



On the 26th April, Reverend Gudrun announced that the difficult decision had been taken to suspend future services. The church will still be used for weddings and funerals and there will be bell-ringing.

Over the years, attendance at St Michael's Church for regular services has fallen and there are not enough vicars to go around all the parishes – St

Michael's requirement for a service for fewer than ten worshippers was not sustainable.

Reverend Gudrun thanked Sheila, and Martin for their loyal service and Wynn and Tim who continued to travel from their new home to support the services. Maureen also received a special mention for organising the bingo at The Duke of York to fund-raise for the churchyard mowing. Bingo is 1st Saturday of the month EXCEPT August.

Coffee mornings are still on Wednesday mornings at The Duke of York.

From Sheila:

Does our village church have a future?

There has been some suggestion of a midweek service... is this something you would be able to support?

I would dearly love to see the church come alive again and while it is still open for weddings and funerals there is still hope BUT it needs people who are willing to support their village, not by giving money, but time.

Tell us your views/ideas, email Rev Gudrun at: rector@eastclystchurches.org and let us know what you are thinking.

Parking

The request for residents' parking is with Devon and they will organise a referendum – we will have to vote.

Sheila, who lives up Ship Lane is grateful for people not parking in a way that prevents the regular ambulance visits she needs at the moment.

New Inclusive Roundabout Coming to the Village Field

New councillor Chris writes:

Accessible and enjoyable for all, it allows children of different abilities to play together, including wheelchair users.

The choice of a roundabout followed a village vote, giving residents the opportunity to choose which play park improvement they wanted most. The results were: Roundabout – 46.2% Trampoline – 30.8% Snake Swing – 23.1%.

The Parish Council would like to thank everyone who took part and helped shape this investment in our community.

The roundabout is being paid for using Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding. CIL monies are received from local development and can be used by parish councils to provide or improve community infrastructure and community assets. No precept money was spent.

Investing in a Family-Friendly Village

The Parish Council believes it is important to make the village a welcoming place for children and families. As many residents know, we have limited community facilities, with no village shop and relatively few shared assets that bring people together.

By investing CIL funding into the play park, we are creating a facility that will benefit young families, encourage outdoor activity and provide an inclusive space where children can meet, play and make friends.

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

Gary is stepping down from his role as a Parish Councillor and we will have a vacancy. Thanks for your work over the years, Gary.

If you think you would like to be a councillor, why not come along to the meeting in September and see what we get up to?

What does a Parish Councillor Do?

We comment on local planning applications. East Devon understand all the requirements and legislation, we just comment if we think local knowledge (such as a road being difficult to use) would be useful in the decision-taking.

We employ a Clerk who acts on behalf of the Parish Council. The Clerk checks that all activity is carried out correctly and takes responsibility.

We meet most months and check the bank, that the budget is on target (no unexpected costs) and receive updates from the Clerk, any local councillors from Devon or East Devon, and each other. Members of the public may raise an issue they want the PC to consider.

There is training available, but what Parish Councillors offer is common sense rather than expertise. East Devon have the final say over planning issues and the Clerk ensures the rest is as it should be.

There are emails that need checking during the month and it takes a couple of hours to read and make notes on documents sent out before meetings. About nine hours a month in total, including the two-hour meeting.

If this all sounds possible and you are interested in trying to keep the village tidy and functioning, drop Rob, the Clerk, an email and he'll keep you updated on the next meeting: clerk@clysthonitonparish.gov.uk

We are particularly keen to have a female perspective on things.



To contact Cyst 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

Next is 29th July, 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 October and if you have anything you would like to be considered for sharing with our readers all contributions should be received by **September 30th, 2026**.

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

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

This edition was written using AI and there was some confusion with a small fishing village in Canada which is notorious for smuggling. I think I managed to delete most of the problems this created. Apologies for any errors that have crept through.

Full colour Chatter is online! 'It's almost like real, innit?' – Danny Dyer. Go to the parish website and all the Chatters are there, stretching back over nearly a thousand years. Probably.



Keith's Wordsearch

We were in the middle of a heatwave as I started to create this wordsearch . Perhaps we still are – you will know! Anyway heat, sun and words related to warmth plus the odd reminder of alternatives form the basis of this edition's puzzle.



As usual, words run vertically, horizontally and diagonally and in both directions.

There are just seven letters left which form an anagram of something that you may like in a drink if it's still hot – or even if it isn't!

Ardour	Humid	Shade
Balmy	Lazy	Sizzle
Beach	Muggy	Strawberry
Chilling	Oasis	Steam
Enjoy	Pollen	Sunkissed
Excess	Radiate	Sunlight
Extreme	Sauna	Sunny
Geothermal	Scorching	Torrid
Glowing	Sear	Wilt

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

Extra Chatter!

Readers' Rides



This was outside my house for a while. I hoped people thought it was mine. It is some variation on a Suzuki Intruder – a large V-twin. Sounded wonderful.

If you are asking yourself, “Does it go fast, does it go round corners, what does the back tyre cost?” I am wasting my time. Look at it. Sell everything you own, go on Ebay and buy one.

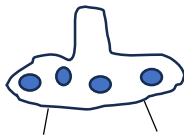
Exeter Inn

It seems that the pub is currently changing ownership, which will slow progress. Last time I looked, East Devon were contemplating the request to convert it from a pub to a residence.

This planning application went in last year (!)

UFO Spotted

The X-Files was a documentary, not a rather silly series that went on too long and stopped making sense. Google Lens claims that this might be an RAF Texan T1 Trainer. But that's AI for you, this is clearly alien technology.



If you have purchased a motorcycle and realised you can't actually ride one (which is fine, lots of middle-aged men do this), the bus timetable is very easy to use –

Next bus

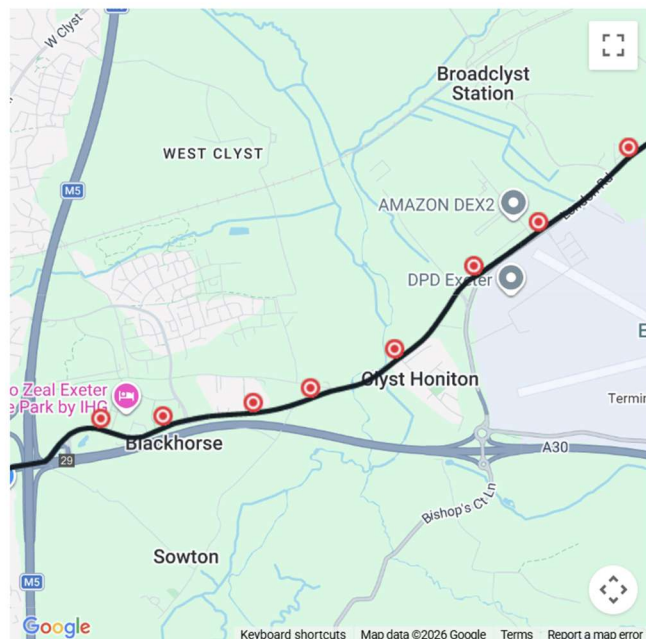
Last refreshed at 14:34

Show all stops

- 14:35 ● University of Exeter, North Park Road
On time
[View all stops](#) ▼
- 14:47 ● St Davids, St Davids Station (Stop B)
Exp: 14:44
[View all stops](#) ▼
- 14:58 ● Exeter City Centre, Cheeke Street (Stop 39)
Exp: 14:57
[View all stops](#) ▼
- 15:19 ● Sowton, Opposite Honiton Road Park & Ride
Exp: 15:11
[View all stops](#) ▼
- 15:22 ● Tithebarn, Exeter Science Park
Exp: 15:21
[View all stops](#) ▼
- 15:34 ● Cranbrook, Court Royal
Exp: 15:33

< Earlier

Later >



The link is:

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/routes/south-west/4/pennsylvania-north-park-road-cranbrook/XDBO004.O>

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.

Any contributor to the next Chatter may be rewarded with Limited Edition Clyst Honiton Key Ring!
Get writing!

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

The End