

CLAWTON CLARION



November 2023

Darker muggy mornings are with us and the smell of woodsmoke is in the air. This time of the year can be a shock to the system after the recent burst of autumn sunshine, but fortunately, Clawton continues to offer opportunities to meet with company. I was able to pop along to the coffee morning and check out the newly refurbished kitchen in the village hall last month. What a spread! Who knew? It was a lovely social morning and I was made very welcome. Would definitely recommend. See below for events this month.

Alison

Event	Time	Date	Place
Women on Wednesday	7:30pm	Wednesday 1st November	Clawton Parish Hall
Whist	7:30pm	Wednesday 8th November	Clawton Parish Hall
Coffee Morning	10:30—12:00pm	Friday 10th November	Clawton Parish Hall
Railway Club	7:00pm	Friday 10th November	Clawton Parish Hall
United Remembrance and Church Service	2:30pm	Sunday 12th November	War Memorial then onto St Leonard's Church
Parish Council	7:30pm	Monday 13th November	Clawton Parish Hall
Wine and Wisdom	7:30pm	Friday 17th November	Clawton Parish Hall
Craft Fayre	10:00—2:00pm	Sunday 26th November	Clawton Parish Hall
United Café Church	11:00am	Sunday 26th November	St Leonard's Church

HOLSWORTHY WALK AND TALK BY GILLIAN ASTON



After having good turnouts at both Meeth and Halwill Junction recently, with members making the most of the unseasonably warm autumn sunshine, our trip to Bude on 13th still had 7 participants despite heavy rain showers forecast.

We were rewarded with a pleasant walk across Efford Down before descending County Road to Rodd's Bridge and then following the canal back to Bude with the rain showers only appearing as we reached the car park at the end of the walk.

As this was our level 2 walk, we did not pass the Bude "Watch Tower," also known as The Pepperpot, which is currently being rebuilt at a new site away from the eroding cliff edge. The Tower was originally built in the late 19th century with 8 sides that map the points of a compass.. Its initial purpose is unclear and some say it was built as a Folly based upon the Tower of the Winds in Athens. In 1881 it was moved as frost had eroded the cliff and the tower and then subsequently used by the Coastguard during high tides and storms. A tide-waiter would have used a nearby flagpole to alert ships as they navigated the stormy areas of treacherous waters. The Tower has now been dismantled again, stone by stone, and is approximately half way to being rebuilt. The contractors seem to be confident that all the works will be completed before Christmas.

As the days shorten and temperatures drop it can be tempting to put away thoughts of outdoor exercise. However, a bracing walk in good company with lots of local sights and history can do wonders for both physical and psychological health. All you need is a pair of suitable shoes, a warm coat and maybe a woolly hat and you are all set to go.

Level 1 walks are for those with limited mobility for whatever reason and offer a gentle stroll, coffee and a chance to socialise. Level 2 walks are approximately 2.5 miles with no stiles and taken at a steady pace. Level 3 walks are approximately 3 miles and all terrain.

If you would like to join us we walk on Mondays and Fridays. All walks start at 10.30 am and are **FREE**. Membership forms are available from our Volunteer Walk Leaders prior to the start of the walk.

Our website has lots of up to date information, together with our current programme of walks, details below.

Contacts:

holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com
<https://holsworthywalkandtalk.co.uk>

Gillian Aston 07854677784





EVELYN'S WALK

Evelyn Sharman Tel: 01409 259 848

Email: evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com

On Monday 9th October, eight of us met in Halwill Junction Village Hall car park. It was a lovely autumnal morning & there was a clear view of Dartmoor. Pennie Channing very kindly agreed to lead the walk. She lives in Halwill & is the P3 (Parish Paths Partnership) volunteer who checks the PROWs in the Parish on behalf of DCC. We turned right at the exit of the car park & walked along Dreybury Lane which took us between The Junction Inn & Winsford Cottage Hospital. This is such a beautiful Grade II listed building originally designed by Charles Voysey in 1899. It was re-stored by the Landmark Trust in recent years. Most of the rooms are holiday accommodation but there is also a room available for hire by community groups. There are open days on 11th & 12th November. Details & photos can be found online. We were all amazed at how much development was taking place in Dreybury Lane but in reality, this is happening all over the country & not just in rural Devon. We joined the bridle way on the right hand side. It was obviously a popular route for horse riders but easily walked without wellies. Part way along the path, we crossed a little stream by going over a sturdy wooden bridge. We were all grateful to DCC as it meant that we didn't get wet feet. When we rejoined the lane, we turned right which took us towards the junction with the A3079. We commented on the abundance of acorns & berries. I would have missed it but Pennie took us through a gate on the right hand side before we joined the main road. This

path would have been the route of the railway in years gone by. It brought us back to the car park. This is a lovely circular route of approx. 3.5 miles. It's a very level walk & no stiles to negotiate.

The next walk will be on Monday 13th November. We will be setting off at 10am from Higher Larkworthy Farm in Ashwater by kind permission of the Kirk family. The parking is limited so if you would like to come, please share transport if possible. If you would like any more information, please let me know.

Clawton Parent and Toddler Group

Clawton parent and toddler group have been busy this half term with autumnal activities: picking apples from the apple tree, making apple crumble, scavenger hunts and planting acorns and conkers ready for the spring. After half term we will be busy doing lots of lovely activities, in preparation for Christmas. With our end of term Christmas party.

The group meets at Clawton Primary School on Friday mornings from 9am - 11am everyone welcome from New Born to reception age. For more information contact Ads on 0797 440 7276 or check out our Facebook page.

CLAWTON PARISH HALL

BY MARALYN BAILEY

November is here again. Countdown to Christmas!

We had a very successful quiz a few days ago, with the ever entertaining Ian Parker as our QM. Thanks to all who supported this event.

We have another Craft fayre planned for **Sunday 26th November**, 10-2pm. We have plenty of gift ideas from our local talented crafters along with home baked cakes, pies, and quiches. Refreshments will be available.

Plans for 2024 forthcoming events are being discussed at our next meeting—watch this space.

With Christmas in mind, thinking of the ever rising cost of postage charges for Christmas card delivery, we want to offer a simple system of card collection via the hall. Your cards can be posted in the external postbox. Then we will collate the cards and have them avail-



Our refurbished kitchen— all ready for functions and fundraisers

able for collection from the hall on the last coffee morning of the year, (8th December) 10.30 to 12 noon, or one of the brewery afternoons - Saturdays 3.30 pm to 6.30 ish.

As an alternative we will set up a facebook page, where anyone can post Christmas greetings. This will be titled Clawton at Christmas-time.



SADIE MOYSE BSc (Hons)

CHIROPODIST / PODIATRIST

Over 10 year NHS and private experience
NAIL CARE – CORNS – CALLUS – ORTHOTICS – FOOT PAIN
FUNGAL NAILS – VERRUCA

...

ASHWATER CLINIC AND HOME
VISITS AVAILABLE

07815862436

Podsadie@gmail.com



POETRY

BY LES AT TOWN

Swatting at Town Farm

I am a little fly
Upon a window pane,
I flew into Town Farm house
But can't get out again
Moyra tries to swat me,
To her it's just a caper.
A swish and swipe and swat away
With rolled up daily paper.
Please do not attack me,
As I have a tiny brain
Just open up the window
And I'll fly out again.

Ode to a lost friend (Clawton Wilko)

Please spare a thought for a trusty old fiend
Who served us so well from beginning to end.
With picture frames, duvets, emulsion and mints
Or spanners, fan heaters, cushions and prints.
I once bought a jug in the shape of a swan,
I'll miss all that now our Wilko has gone.
I've been to the outlet to see what they've got;
Too pricey up there - whilst at Wilko it's not.
The storage, the outdoor, and stationary aisles;
The liniment, mirrors, and rustic oak tiles.
It's now I suggest that's a time to move on,
But where is the pleasure if Wilko has gone?
I'll take a last look at the warm cherry red
That beckoned me in for the savings ahead.
The kettles, detergents, the cat food and screws,
The lip balm, the pillows, a thirteen amp fuse.
Perhaps a last natter with Cheryl and John?
I'll miss more than bargains now that Wilko has gone.

'Women on Wednesday'

The next meeting is in Clawton Village Hall on Wednesday 1st November 2023
at 7.30 p.m.

Members will hear a presentation from The North Devon Hospice.

Visitors welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

BY PAUL GRAFTON



Salt and Grit

I'll soon be placing bags of salt and grit on hills where the grit bins are too far away. PLEASE do not remove them – they are public property and for everyone's use. If you would like a small supply maybe because you live halfway up a hill and are prepared to help by spreading grit on icy mornings, or are a farm needing to get the milk tanker up a hill, just let me know.

Plastic flowers and wreaths in the churchyard

It's not well-known but decaying plastic (caused by sunlight) releases chemicals harmful to insects in particular. Please if you do lay plastic flowers or a wreath with plastic content in the churchyard, remember to remove them before they start to disintegrate. We hope you'll understand if we remove any remaining wreaths at the end of January, and during the rest of the year remove any plastic flowers we find which are starting to decay.

Another issue is the green floral foam (oasis) often used for cut flowers and greenery. Unfortunately, floral foam contains the same amount of plastic as 10 plastic shopping bags, is non-biodegradable, non-recyclable and toxic for both humans and animals. It's such an issue that the RHS has banned the water-absorbing block from all of its garden and horticultural shows. Alternatives include chicken wire but nothing as convenient or water-retaining so if you do use it please dispose of it in the landfill bin, not the compost bin. Thank you.

Wine and Wisdom

Friday 17th November
starting 7.30pm

Clawton Parish Hall

Book your team's table now –
call Paul on 01409 271456

£8 per person (proceeds to St Leonard's church)

MUM'S THE WORD

BY ANN GOODSPEED

At a recent WOW meeting in the village hall we were treated to a talk on Droll Tellers. These were people who travelled from village to village telling stories to those who'd listen in the days when few people could read or write. There was also a mention of imaginary friends and I remembered that as a child I had an imaginary friend. Her name was Josie, was a girl guide and always wore her uniform. She seemed to me to be very sensible and would always tell me how to do things the right way. She could swing on the gate faster than me and ride a bike with no hands. She liked the same things as me especially biscuits and cake so I'd always have to get some for her too. I was always envious of her knee length white socks. My mum always bought me beige ones that I didn't like. Josie, being sensible, suggested I put my toe through the ends of them to indicate that they didn't wear very well. She hadn't taken into account my mother's darning skills.

When I was about 11 Josie emigrated to Australia. I never heard from her after that.

Sad, but that's growing up for you.



Stacey's Christmas Tree Farm

Open

18th November- 24th December 9am-
5.30pm everyday.

All sizes of Christmas and pot grown
trees from 2ft-6ft available.

Christmas shop selling lights and dec-
orations.

Father Christmas visiting:
w/e's November 25th/26th
and December 2nd/3rd
Saturdays 10.30am - 4pm
Sunday 11am - 3.30pm.
No charge and a small gift.

Holsworthy Town band will be playing
some festive tunes on Saturday 2nd
December 11am - 1pm
(weather permitting)

We look forward to
seeing you.
Tel: 07780497778 and
07530284507.



Children's 'Christmas crafts morning at Telcott church

children can make decorations to take home
and help decorate the Church
Saturday November 25th
10am - 12pm
all welcome



MEET MONTY

Everyone that knows Monty, can vouch that he is well-behaved when out on a walk and sits to wait for passing cars; he knows to make room by moving to a grass area if he can. He likes to make friends with people he meets. We encounter many drivers who appreciate our high viz clothing, slow down, give a wide berth and often smile, wave and say thanks including cyclists and tractors. A man even stopped especially to compliment Monty saying he is "such a lovely well behaved dog". We were also stopped by two fire engines who commended our road walking as they deal with severe and fatal accidents caused by invisible cyclists & walkers or loose dogs.

Sadly, on Monty's walks, it is noticeable that there has been an increase in dog fouling in Western Side again; approx 10 deposits this week in easily accessible places. We are not expecting people to rummage in the hedgerow, but it's being left on the side of the road and grassy areas where we litter pick. This week we found 4 plastic drink bottles, 3 pop tins, pasty wrappers, coffee cups, sweet wrappers, 2 broken glass bottles, 2 large screws that would flatten a tyre along with the usual fly away recycling.

Monty and I would request the residents and visitors to Clawton to drive with care around our village, consider the possibility that wildlife and walkers could be just around the next bend and keep the village clean and clear. This would be very much appreciated.

Claire at Wits End



**Orbital
Electrical Services**

NICEIC APPROVED

ELECTRICIAN

OWEN RAVENSCROFT

- ▶ DOMESTIC
- ▶ INDUSTRIAL
- ▶ COMMERCIAL
- ▶ AGRICULTURAL
- ▶ MEICA
- ▶ NEW - BUILD

CONTACT NOW

07977500770
orbitalelectricalservices@gmail.com

CompEx  **EIC**
APPROVED
CONTRACTOR

