

CLAWTON CLARION



Happy Easter - April 2025

It's never smart to be smug, particularly when writing publicly on just how quiet and easy everything is at home. Wallop, a day later I was hit with the norovirus which wiped out several days of work and tested the 'in sickness and in health' element of our marriage!

However, all better now and back on track. Some glorious sunshine over the last week has been very welcome. I've been ordered not to cut the grass yet (not that I would) as we are due a few more frosty mornings to come, but it feels as though spring is here.

If you would like to see your items published in the next edition, please send them in by midday on the 20th to clawtonclarion@gmail.com. Views expressed by our contributors are their own, and not those of the Parish Council. Wishing you all a very happy Easter. *Alison*

Event	Time	Date	Place
Women on Wednesday	4:45pm	Wednesday 2nd April	Okehampton
St Leonard's Wine and	7:30pm	Friday 4th April	Clawton Parish Hall
Whist	7:30pm	Wednesday 9th April	Clawton Parish Hall
Clawton Ladies' Skittle Team Open Evening	8:00pm	Thursday 10th April	Clawton Parish Hall
Coffee Morning	10:30—12:00	Friday 11th April	Clawton Parish Hall
Railway Club	7:00pm	Friday 11th April	Clawton Parish Hall
United Holy Communion with Rev Paul Fitzpatrick	11:00am	Sunday 13th April	St Leonard's Church
Easter Service with Lorna Bowden	11:00am	Sunday 20th April	St Leonard's Church
Craft/Plant Fair	10:00 - 1:00pm	Sunday 27th April	Clawton Parish Hall

HOLSWORTHY WALK AND TALK

BY GILLIAN ASTON



We had some beautiful sunny mornings for our walks last month. Both Level 2 and Level 3 groups visited Dunsdon Nature Reserve. The route across the Culm Grassland was too soggy for us to attempt but no doubt the orchids and other wild flowers will soon be coming out in all their splendour. We noted that this section of the Bude Canal had also been cleared of vegetation. We remarked the previous month that works had been carried out along the Lower Tamar section. The tow paths along the entire route are beautifully kept making walking very pleasant in peace and tranquillity.

Our Level 3 walk from Bradworthy Square took us through Berridon Farm. This section of the footpath has recently been re-routed with a 'Permissive Path' to avoid the farmyard. The new path is very well signed, maintained and took us into a field where we found some very friendly donkeys who seemed to find us as interesting and we found them.

In February we ran a Walk Leader Training course. Thank you to all who attended and congratulations to John Weighell and Richard Cook who have now progressed to be Walk Leaders. Three other walkers are in the process of completing the process. Walk Leaders and Back Markers are an essential part of the Walking Group and we thank all those who are willing to give up their time and effort to support our ever increasing numbers.

As we move into spring, with the weather hopefully getting warmer and drier, our walks will be heading out and about to the likes of Bude, Germansweek and even the Meldon Valley, where we usually greeted by a magnificent display of bluebells, which tends to lift ones spirits due to the blanket of colour and heady fragrance.

If you would like to join us at any time 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 07584677784



A green advertisement for Sadie Moyse, a chiropodist/podiatrist. At the top is a white cross with a red footprint in the center. Below this is the name 'SADIE MOYSE BSc (Hons)' in white text. Underneath is a red banner with 'CHIROPODIST / PODIATRIST' in white. The text continues: 'Over 10 year NHS and private experience', 'NAIL CARE - CORNS - CALLUS - ORTHOTICS - FOOT PAIN', 'FUNGAL NAILS - VERRUCA', and three dots. Below this is 'ASHWATER CLINIC AND HOME VISITS AVAILABLE' and the phone number '07815862436'. At the bottom left is the 'hpcp registered' logo with the website 'www.hpcp-uk.org'. At the bottom right is the 'ROYAL COLLEGE of PODIATRY' logo. The email address 'Podsadie@gmail.com' is at the bottom center.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Clawton ladies' Skittles team is desperately looking to enrol more players for the upcoming season, so if you enjoy 10 pin bowling, then please give Skittles a try.

Let me tell you a little about the Clawton ladies' Skittles team. We are part of the Holsworthy and district skittle league, the league is celebrating their 60th Anniversary, and Clawton is one of the few founder members to still be in the league. This is why we are desperately seeking new members so we can keep this legacy and keep the tradition alive. We play every Thursday night from the end of September through to Christmas break, then the new year to the middle of March.

We are a friendly team who enjoy spending an evening together and playing skittles and most importantly having fun and a laugh together and out of season we enjoy meeting up socialising with walks and picnics, which we decide when and where as a team.

Clawton ladies are holding a series of social evenings and a game of skittles open to everyone. These will be at Clawton village hall at 8 pm, free entry with light refreshments provided and a raffle.

The following evening are

Thursday, 10th April 2025,

Thursday 22nd May 2025,

Thursday, 12th JUNE 2025

So please just come along, meet the teams and try your hand at skittles and have some fun.

If you are interested and for further information please contact

Tracey Edwards 07989378129

Lisa Cornish 07891749819

Veronica Ayers 01409 259055



HOLSWORTHY ALES

North Devon CAMRA Brewery of the Year 2024

Open Evenings 2025 5.30pm - 9.30pm

At our open evenings, we'll have a range of beers on draught, cider, wine and soft drinks available, and will be joined by some great local caterers. Come and join us for a relaxed evening - no need to book!

Saturday 26th April 2025
The Whiddon Wagon

Saturday 31st May 2025
Serendip Street Kitchen


Saturday 28th June 2025
Fresh Fries

Saturday 26th July 2025
Fresh Fries

Saturday 30th August 2025
Village fundraiser BBQ

Saturday 27th September 2025
The Whiddon Wagon

Saturday 25th October 2025
Serendip Street Kitchen

 Check our website for latest opening times and event info



Sri Lankan Cuisine



Fish and Chips



Loaded Fries



BBQ

Bar & Shop 3.30 - 6.30pm

Our open evenings run from 5.30pm to 9.30pm.

On all other Saturdays, from April until October, we're open from 3.30pm to 6.30pm.

Unit 5 Circuit Business Park
Clawton, Holsworthy
Devon EX22 6RR



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web: www.holsworthyales.co.uk
e-mail: info@holsworthyales.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The following is a brief summary of the recent meeting of the Council.

- **War Memorial:** Inspection shows it requires a clean and some repointing. The lettering may need to be repainted over as it has been in the past. Iain Nunn and Graham Hames kindly offered to do the work rather than have the Council pay for it to be done.
- **Crime Report:** The Council no longer gets visits from our local police community officer and no longer receives local crime reports. The Clerk found the only crime report data available is online and covers the 136 postcodes in the Torridge District.
- **Planning Permission granted:** Rural workers' dwelling (self-build) adjacent Little Blagdon (Torridge Planning ref 1/1007/2024/FUL).
- **VAS Speed Signs:** The attempt to get one or (ideally) 2 illuminated speed signs (like St. Giles) is being doggedly pursued by Graham Hames but the bureaucracy he is meeting is mind-numbing.
- **'Meet the Councillors' social event:** This will be held on 19th May, where everyone will be welcome but especially those who have moved into the Parish over the last two or three years. It will start at 7pm, before the 8pm Annual General Meeting so that attendees can if they wish stay for the short meeting where Chair and Vice Chair are elected and the various village activity groups report on the past year. A normal Parish Council Meeting will follow at 8:30pm.
- **Grant for Churchyard:** A grant of £1500 was approved to contribute towards the upkeep of St Leonard's churchyard. The graveyard is a village facility open for interment of residents of any religion or none.
- **Grass cutting:** A new contractor has begun grass cutting in the village.
- **Building site to the rear of Riverside Cottage:** Cllr Nunn provided a brief update on the housing development. The administration of transferring ownership of an area of land to the Parish Council to make a bigger car park is ongoing. There is no firm date for the commencement of building work.
- **VE Day Event:** A grant of £300 towards the cost of this event was agreed.
- **Potholes:** The deterioration of some village roads such as the bottom of Horslett Hill was discussed – several ideas about how to put pressure on Devon Highways to prioritise our roads were debated including the possibility of finding an angle which might lead to a story on BBC Spotlight.

Paul Grafton - Chair, Clawton Parish Council

Wine & Wisdom

Friday 4th April

7.30pm start, Clawton Parish Hall

**Book your team's table now –
call or text Paul on 07794 913757**

There is now a limit on the numbers we can accept to avoid overcrowding the hall so

booking is essential!

CLAWTON PARISH HALL

April beckons with the thoughts of longer days and those endless tasks in the garden. I have just returned from our monthly craft fayre, maybe one Sunday you would like to sample a bacon bap or a piece of cake along with a coffee and meet up with friends? Our crafters and food suppliers love Clawton and its community atmosphere. The next one is on April 27th between 10 and 1pm and our lovely plant lady Kim will be back in attendance. No charge for entry!!

For our VE Day commemorations (with the financial support of the Parish Council funds) we are organising an afternoon tea on the Bank Holiday Monday, May 5th - a few days before the official date. The event will run from 3.30pm. We would love to be able to compile a Grandma's recipe book for the village as a reminder of days gone by, so if you have any special recipes, please bring them along.

As always, we have many plans to enhance and improve the hall. Some are in the early stages, so watch the Clarion for updates.

Our brewery weekends will soon come to an end as Dave is opening again on the Easter weekend.

It's time for us all to take a little rest from hall events, although our team of committee members are always on hand to achieve the tasks we "dream up".

Did you know there is a local bus which serves our village on Tuesdays (for Barnstaple) 9.45ish and returns at 2.45? It also runs on a Wednesday as the market day bus which leaves the village about 10.30. Shawn, our cheerful bus driver, would love to have more passengers, as we would hate to lose this facility. John uses the Wednesday bus to meet up with friends in the Social Club, he appreciates the service but sadly it is not used to its full potential. The bus stops in Clawton village at the main bus stop. Bus passes accepted. Ding Ding!

Maralyn

'Women on Wednesday'

The next meeting is on
Wednesday 2nd April 2025

Members to leave Clawton at
4.45 p.m.

for the Spring Outing
to Okehampton

for a Screening of Billy Elliot



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THE HEDGE FAIRY

I have a black board in the kitchen, a calendar on my iPad, reminders on my phone, a spreadsheet for my medications, a Clarion with extra dates in , and also a diary which I add extra reminders to at the bottom the page . . . - yet I still manage to forget things that I am supposed to do

It wasn't this bad before I retired - Working life was simple - sleep/ work/ eat/ and occasional spur of the moment random activities if there was any energy left.

Retirement seems to be all about interfering with one's environment e.g. historically if there were workmen in the road, I may have checked later or the next day to see what had changed, but now I feel obliged to go out and ask them what they are up to. Poor men from the water company the other day who were fixing a 'dropped drain cover' - Their Supervisor was kidnapped by me and forced to watch videos of the Beer Hill River and its course down the tarmac in last January's rains. He has told me where to send copies of the videos (Devon Report website) and how to speed up the complaint (tell them that it was nearly at the point of entering the property), so that they can send the jet wash team down to do a proper job. I would suggest that the properties at the actual crossroads do the same if they have not done so already, as I understand that the flooding was much worse down there. Maybe I should retire properly and go back to hiding in my hedge and try to behave a bit less badly in retirement but then again I would be moaning about being bored.

Hedge Fairy

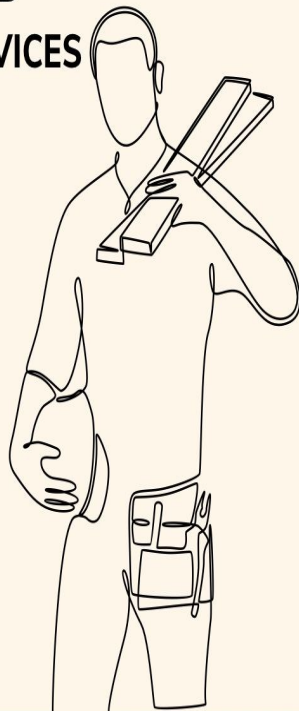
Constant nagging/reporting paid off - we finally saw this storm drain cleared and fixed too- Alison



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Billy Unwin
07555651494
billy707@hotmail.co.uk

MUM'S THE WORD

We're almost at the end of our stay in Gran Canaria and are beginning to look forward to coming home. Unless the weather is still bad! If so I will take the opportunity of applying for the job that I saw advertised last week here in Mogán. They need someone to monitor, feed and report on the welfare of the indigenous feral cats that mostly live in the rocks in the bay.

As long as it doesn't involve catching fish, I'm qualified.

Ann



ST LEONARDS CHURCH

Our deepest sympathy goes to the Sleeman family on the recent passing of Jennifer, aged 90, a former resident of the parish.

The usual service of Holy Communion will be held on 13th April with Dr Reverend Paul Fitzpatrick.

There will be a service at the Church on Easter Sunday, 20th April at 11am.

If you can, please bring a small posy of flowers to put on the cross. Lorna Bowden will lead the service

There will be no service on the 27th April.

Church Contacts

Rector: Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick 01409 254 667 vicar-rubycountry@outlook.com

Baptism, Wedding or Funerals: rubycountry.beneficeadmin@btinternet.com

Joint Churchwardens: Irene Ellis – 01409 254572, Lorna Bowden – 01409 271384

Secretary/Treasurer - Paul Grafton - 01409 271456 paul@devonholidays.org

EVELYN'S WALK

On Monday 10th March, nine of us met at Thornbury Holiday Park with kind permission of Lisa, Paul & young Albert. We turned left out of their gate & when we reached Woodacott Cross (I call it Five Ways) we turned left. When we reached Branches Cross, we could have stayed on the lane but we all



opted for the footpath which took us across a couple of fields & cut off two sides of the triangle. We turned right along Thorn Lane which enabled us to enjoy far reaching views towards Dartmoor on our right. When we reached the T-junction, we studied the young Wild Service tree that was planted a few years ago. It seemed to be doing well. We turned right & then followed the footpath immediately on the left. This took us through Meg & Paul's woodland. It's a bit too early for bluebells but there was evidence of Ramsons & we were thrilled to hear a woodpecker. With their kind permission, we took a detour across their field as the next part of the footpath looked very wet & muddy. We headed towards St. Peter's Church & passed what was the original Village School. The building is looking quite sad now but when we emerged from the shade of the trees, there wasn't a breath of wind at Windy Cross. In fact it was a glorious spring morning & we had all warmed up considerably during our circular walk of approx. 3.75 miles. Our next walk will be on Monday 14th April. We'll be setting off from the Village Hall in Tetcott, EX22 6QX at 10am. You are welcome to contact me if you would like any more information.

EvelynSharman Tel:01409 259848

Email: evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Andrea Sleeman is running the Brighton Marathon on Sunday 6th April in memory of her nephew Archie Harris. Archie, sadly passed away in a car accident last year. He was always the life and soul of family parties and made everyone chuckle. His passing has left a massive hole in the family.



Andrea wanted to do something to give back to the charity Brake, which has helped her family in their time of need.

Brake is a charity which helps and supports people bereaved and seriously injured by road crashes as well as supporting communities across the UK in preventing road deaths and injuries.

Andrea's running buddies who will also be running the marathon are:

Tim and Sam Sleeman, Heather Stacey, Graham Dalton-Ginn, Kerry, Stuart and Daniel Seymour - Smith and Emily Shepherd

Thank you to everyone who donates and helps to prevent any more families having to go through this tragedy.




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We have been busy training three to four times a week since Christmas and running along local roads and footpaths.

Our training has taken us to The Tarka Trail, Tamar Lakes, Roadford Lake, The Pegasus Trail, The Granite Way, Drake's Trail and the Camel Trail. Many have recently completed up to 20 miles.

With less than two weeks to go now, we feel we are ready as we can be for the marathon, Thank you for your support.

<https://gofund.me/7fb4665a>