

CLAWTON CLARION

June 2022



Welcome to the June 2022 edition of the Clawton Clarion.

This month sees the celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second. We congratulate her on achieving seventy years on the throne. For many of us, she is the only British monarch we have known in our lifetime and Clawton will be joining in with the festivities as indicated in this edition.

Contributions for the next edition must be received by midday on **Monday 20th June 2022** to graham.jw@btinternet.com or call me, Judi Graham: 01409 271265
If you would like to receive the Clarion electronically, send me your e mail address

Dates for your Diary

1st June	Women on Wednesday	9.00am	Visit to Wheal Martyn China Clay museum (members only)
2nd June	Platinum Jubilee Beacon and BBQ	9.45pm	Herdicott Field (<i>see further details</i>)
5th June	Platinum Jubilee Service and tea	2.00pm 3.00pm (tea)	St Leonard's Church Clawton Parish Hall
10th June	Home from home coffee morning	10.30-12.00	Clawton Parish hall
26th June	Holy Communion taken by Stuart Wilson	11.00	St Leonard's Church

Women on Wednesday

The next meeting is on **Wednesday 1st June 2022** and is the members' annual summer outing. This year the outing is to Wheal Martyn China Clay Museum and is for members only who are to meet at Clawton Parish Hall Car Park at 9.00 a.m.

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St Leonard's Church



Services for June:

Sunday June 5th at 2.00pm - Jubilee Service followed by tea at the Parish Hall

Sunday June 26th at 11.00am – Holy Communion taken by Stuart Wilson

Our **Big Breakfast** was held on 21st May and we welcomed over 50 guests to the Parish Hall. Winners of the draw who had left before the draw took place are being contacted and the prizes delivered. Many thanks to all who came and supported us as well as the team of servers, cooks and washer-uppers who worked so hard to make it a success.

For any church related concerns or queries please contact:

Rev Stephen Skinner (Priest in charge) Tel: 07554 142264 email- sjmskinners@btinternet.com or Irene Ellis (Church warden) Tel: 01409 271371



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*subject to eligibility

Clawton Parish Council from Paul Grafton

As Judi explained last month, she will be finishing her long and valiant stint as Editor in late Summer. We therefore need to find someone who is willing and able to take up the baton. Ideally we would find someone with aspirations to become a journalist, perhaps still at school or maybe already studying at college. Or maybe someone who would like to make a contribution to our village which doesn't involve running an event. It doesn't need any skills other than the ability to use either word processing or publishing software at a basic level. It would obviously be preferable if any volunteer were living in Clawton but it's certainly not essential. The one part of the role which Judi (or husband Garry) undertake which needs a local presence is picking up the printed copies and passing them to the various distributors – but we could find a different distribution method if necessary. If you might be interested - or know of someone who might be - please contact Judi or Paul.

See the village survey results later in the Clawton Clarion

Please send any matters for the attention of the Parish Council to the parish clerk, Sally Whitehead via clawtonpcclerk@outlook.com Minutes and Agenda are available on our village web site: www.clawton.org.uk

Platinum Jubilee



A joint group from the Hall Committee, the church and the Parish Council are organising three events – lighting a beacon at 9.45pm on Thursday 2nd June, and on Sunday 5th June a short service in the church at 2.00pm and a Jubilee Tea in the village hall at 3.00pm.

Beacon: On Thursday 2nd June, our community will be lighting a beacon at Herdicott Farm (Adrian & Jackie Mitchell have kindly offered to host this evening). The event will start at 8.30 pm, lifts can be arranged if you are unable to get there. Suitable footwear is recommended – if it has rained the field may be a bit muddy and cows will have been in the area.



Hot dogs and drinks will be provided, weather permitting.

Up and down England beacons will be lit at 9.45pm please do come along to witness the part Clawton will play in the historic evening.

If anyone has any pallets or other dry wood they are able to contribute to the beacon / bonfire please could they let me know and I can collect or co-ordinate if you are able to deliver. Many thanks, Paul Grafton (07794913757 paul@devonholidays.org).

Church Service: A short service of thanks for the life of the Queen will be held in the church at 2pm on Sunday 5th June and will end in time for the start of the Jubilee Tea.

Jubilee Tea: The Parish Hall will be hosting the community afternoon tea at 3.00pm on Sunday 5th June. The committee will be responsible for making all the sandwiches, this will enable us to gauge the response as to the numbers of people attending. We welcome any contributions of savoury items, tray bakes or puddings. This is a free event with all the food is being donated. We intend to have a musical afternoon. In the early evening there will be the local beer plus other drinks available to purchase. Once again lifts can be arranged.

Holsworthy Ales

The shop is open from 3.30-6.30pm every Saturday until the end of October apart from open nights when it is 5.30-9.30pm.

The next open evening will be on Saturday 25th June with food offered by Alex's wood-fired pizzas



Birthday Wishes



Sue, Anita, Bradley, Shaun and Nathan would like to wish

Henry Westlake

a Very Happy 80th birthday for 17th June.

We would love to see any old friends, neighbours etc on or around his birthday. I'm sure he'd be happy to catch up with villagers. Please feel free to pop into West Park or call Sue beforehand on 01409 253758.

Clawton Parish Hall – Maralyn Bailey

As chair of the hall committee I thank those positive comments on the survey the Parish Council produced recently (See results later in this edition) If you have not visited the hall since the lockdowns please do see the great improvements made on behalf of the hall and surrounding areas,

Once again my thanks to all those hours given freely to achieve the overall look of the hall.

Events are being arranged for the rest of 2022, we have another Church big breakfast later in the year along with two Wine and Wisdom quizzes. The hall committee working with Rotary are arranging a Car Treasure Hunt in July starting at the brewery, more details in July's Clarion. Our main village fundraiser being in August at the brewery. Whist evenings will return in the autumn. Tommi & Immy will host more plant sales, dates to be advertised on the village board.

Two other items of assistance to those in Clawton are the loan of an electric wheelchair, suitable for indoor use, please contact if you are in need.

Sadie Piper (nee Kirk) is offering a support system to those who require extra help on a day to day basis, Sadie can help with cleaning, bed changes, domestic jobs and chores, holiday let changeovers, either regular or one off visits. Sadie can be contacted on sadie.pipe@icloud.com or 0786 6341933.

Lastly we are pleased that Ian Parker and Phil Allin have agreed to be our hall trustees, these will oversee the hall and its day to day activities.

Evelyn's Walks

May's walk was held in Milton Damerell ably led by Mike Jackson.

I will take this opportunity to acknowledge the great initiative operated by DCC called P3 (Parish Paths Partnership). The footpaths in Milton Damerell are kept in wonderful order & have become more & more accessible over recent years largely due to the dedication of the P3 coordinator for the Parish. The boardwalk, gates, steps etc have been funded by DCC but the fact that our local PROWs are kept so accessible is primarily due to the diligence of volunteers.

The next walk will be on Monday 13th June. We will set off at 10am from the Village Hall car park in Chilsworthy. If you would like any information, you are very welcome to contact me.

Evelyn Sharman Tel: 01409 259 848 Email: evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com



Poetry Corner

Thoughts – by Ann Goodspeed

This morning when I woke up I hoped the news would say
UKRAINE HAS WON THE BATTLE and peace returns today
Their sleep can be restored again and families reunited
The children can feel safe again and start to feel excited

But this of course is not the case, the pictures show so well
The senseless devastation and scenes depicting hell
Streets are strewn with debris where precious homes had stood
Exposing loved possessions, memories and blood

So many lives just wasted, so many people dead
The victims of such madness from one destructive head
Their lives now changed forever, their network torn apart
It's up to us to help them, to offer a new start

But some are quite reluctant to offer others aid
"How come they're offered so much when we are underpaid.
What about the elderly who've paid throughout their life
The homeless and the veterans, young mothers with their strife?"

"We can't afford the petrol, the phone can't be recharged.
We'll have to turn the heating down, the bills become enlarged!"
But we have means to help us out, the welfare state and more
A cry for help on Facebook will bring people to our door.

We can't even imagine how they feel or where they've been
To live in fear of where to go, atrocities they've seen
Thank goodness there are people who give without a fuss
And don't take things for granted, as they know it could be us ☐

After 58 years married at Town Farm by Les Johnson- Dedicated to Moyra and any other affected Clarion readers who suffer memory loss

Let me hold your hand a little while,
Hold it so our fingers close entwined..
Whilst wandering the lanes of yesteryear,
Wondering what treasures we may find.
And hoping that some
reconstructed scene
Will, like a hidden prompter's timely
cue,
Pierce the cruel, thick, occluding
fog,
So letting gleams of memory shine
through.



But if remembrance lies beyond retrieving,
And I'm becoming a stranger, nothing more..
Lost to you the things we built together.
All the golden harvest laid in store.

If the citadel of your true being
Now stands alone in far-off, foreign
land,
Then I must roam our yesterdays
without you,
But here, in Bittersweet, I'll hold your
hand.



Holsworthy Walk and Talk from Gill Aston

Last month both Level 2 and Level 3 groups had the opportunity to walk at Dunsdon Nature Reserve near Pancrasweek. The Nature Reserve is managed by Devon Wildlife Trust and is home to a rich variety of insects, birds and wild flowers. Various flower species exercised the little grey cells of the 'botanists' amongst us in an effort to identify them.

For a number of years we have been unable to walk across the path through the Culm grassland at Dunsdon due to its natural ability to retain five times the amount of water compared to other pasture. Culm grassland is specific to North Devon and is a type of purple moor grass and rush. Its environmental properties of water retention are being investigated as potential for flood management together with its ability to filter pollution and retain carbon dioxide.

Having traversed the grassland we arrived at the Bude Canal which is beautifully maintained by Bude Canal Trust. The towpath is kept mown making walking very easy. There is also an information board at one point explaining some of the history of the Bude Canal.

The peace and quiet of this unspoilt part of Devon, together with a glimpse into some of the local industrial history is really worth a visit. It certainly fulfils all the requirements of a health-promoting walk both physically and psychologically.

We walk on Mondays and Fridays. All walks start at 10.30 am and are FREE. Membership forms are available from our Volunteer Walk Leader 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.

holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com

<http://holsworthywalkandtalk.co.uk>

Gillian Aston 01409 254642 Mike Jackson 01409 261196 Paul Davies 01409 253250



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VILLAGE SURVEY 2022 – ANALYSIS

There were just 16 responses received - 7 in the collection box, 2 by post and 7 online. In a community of approximately 140 households that is an 11.5% response rate. If everyone on the Parish Hall committee, the PCC and the Parish Council completed a form that would account for all the responses.

The low response rate means we need to be cautious about interpreting the scoring. It would not be unreasonable to assume that the 124 households who did not respond are sufficiently satisfied that they felt there was no need to complete a form.

When viewing the results it is worth bearing in mind that people have different views on what constitutes excellence. They may have experienced better facilities in larger towns elsewhere - if for example they have moved from a town with a centrally heated church with attached kitchens and toilets and plenty of parking they may not rate our church very highly.

The raw scores were as follows:

<i>Please rate the following:</i>	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>OK</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Very Poor</i>	<i>N/A or No view</i>
Village Hall	2	11	3	0	0	0
Clawton Clarion	5	10	1	0	0	0
Parish Council - handling of planning matters	2	4	5	2	2	1
Parish Council - keeping people informed	2	5	9	0	0	0
Parish Council - keeping the village a pleasant place to live	3	6	7	0	0	0
Parish Council - representing the views and wishes of residents	3	3	4	1	2	3
St. Leonard's Church	3	7	5	0	0	1
St. Leonard's Churchyard	5	8	2	0	0	1
Footpaths	0	2	10	0	1	3
Quality of Life in the village	1	13	2	0	0	0

A more useful analysis might be to determine those elements which were highly rated and those which were poorly rated:

Clawton Clarion	81%
St. Leonard's Churchyard	75%
Village Hall	73%
Quality of Life in the village	73%
Parish Council - keeping the village a pleasant place to live	69%
St. Leonard's Church	67%
Parish Council - keeping people informed	64%
Parish Council - handling of planning matters	50%
Parish Council - representing the views and wishes of residents	47%
Footpaths	41%

Footpaths were the weakest issue – but that resulted from 10 scores of ‘OK’, 2 of ‘Good’ and 1 of ‘Very Poor’. A more sophisticated survey would have asked respondents how often each year they have used a footpath but I wanted to keep this survey quick and simple to complete. There aren’t many footpaths in the parish and without regular maintenance by strimming they are unlikely to be rated ‘Good’ by many users. Indeed, it would be difficult

to image 'Excellent' footpaths (tarmacked perhaps, automatically opening gates, seats etc) so this score may not be a major issue. It may though be worth us walking the paths every few months and reporting any issue to Devon CC.

Parish Council - representing the views and wishes of residents was the next weakest issue. This is interesting in light of this being a response to an attempt to understand the views and wishes of residents – and one to which just 11.5% of households responded. The scoring shows 3 ratings of 'Excellent', 3 of 'Good' and 4 of 'OK', with 1 'Poor' and 2 'Very Poor'. So a different way of viewing the data is that 10 of the 13 who answered this question (77%) were at least satisfied (rated 'OK' or better).

Parish Council - handling of planning matters 11 out of 15 respondents scored 'OK' or better (73%). It is arguable that (like the Government) it would not be possible to achieve a very high score on this issue. We need to represent those who need local accommodation, both to buy and rent, as well as those who don't want uncontrolled development. It would probably not be possible to satisfy people who (quite understandably) may object to new houses adjacent to their own property.

If we look at all the measures in terms of those who are at least satisfied ('OK' or better rating) we find the following:

<i>Please rate the following:</i>	<i>OK or better</i>	<i>Poor or Very Poor</i>	<i>Responses</i>	<i>OK or better Score</i>
Village Hall	16	0	16	100%
Clawton Clarion	16	0	16	100%
Parish Council - keeping people informed	16	0	16	100%
Parish Council - keeping the village a pleasant place to live	16	0	16	100%
St. Leonard's Church	15	0	15	100%
St. Leonard's Churchyard	15	0	15	100%
Quality of Life in the village	16	0	16	100%
Footpaths	12	1	13	92%
Parish Council - representing the views and wishes of residents	10	3	13	77%
Parish Council - handling of planning matters	11	4	15	73%

Comments: Many comments were complimentary. There aren't enough comments on any individual issue to be very helpful. When asked 'What one thing would you like to see changed or happen?' there were two comments regarding speed control and safety on the main road. It may be worth commenting on a number of the issues raised in a future edition of the Clarion.

So what should we take from these results? My reading of the above indicates:

- That we are broadly succeeding in what we are doing to manage the village
- That we could communicate better regarding planning matters
- That we should consider making this survey an annual event but maybe with more publicity and perhaps a prize draw to encourage a greater response rate

Paul Grafton

25th April 2022