

The News Letter, December 2013 & January 2014

Well here we are again. It's the end of another year and the beginning of a new one. What a busy one it has been and the next couple of months appear to be continuing in the same trend, judging by the very full Diary Dates page and the bulging covers of this edition. We begin, of course, with...

...Christmas!

December looks to be filled with festivities as we approach Christmas Day. This year the first and probably the cutest show of all is the Playgroup Nativity performance, which will be in the atmospheric setting of the Parish Church and promises to be alive with angelic angels, tea-towel adorned shepherds and the odd lamb or two. Please see Page 6a for details and prepare to be enchanted.

Castle Drogo is now making a regular contribution to these pages and on page 21 provides a welcome opportunity to get away from any hurry and worry of the pre-Christmas weeks with their welcome into the castle and gardens.

The primary school is encouraging everyone to join in their round-the-village carol singing. These gatherings have proved very seasonal in recent years with frost and snow abounding almost as though especially ordered to provide the right atmosphere. See page 7a for the details (and ask the Met Office what weather conditions will be like this time!)

(Incidentally please be warned that the folk group will be making their annual trek into the depths of the local countryside, particularly in the Woodbrooke area, on the evening of Wednesday 18th December. They don't make a collection - they're just happy to have someone prepared to listen to them – but if you would particularly like them to call and spread a bit of olde yuletide cheer, please let them (Jenny 281110) know beforehand and they'll try and visit you. Hopefully they won't distress too many home-alone dogs this year...).

One of the lovely ways of getting into the Christmas spirit is to help with the decorating of the Church. This is a very friendly gathering and there's even coffee and mince-pies on offer! Please see page 14 for details.

And then of course there's the real business of Christmas with details of services on pages 8, 9, 10, and 12.

A Parish-wide View

This is very much a 'results' issue, with a preview of the results of this year's Parish Plan questionnaire

from Gill and the PP team. It makes fascinating reading and hopefully you will make use of the newsletter letters-page to air your comments. To see these results please turn to page 16, and see further thoughts concerning the Cheriton Bishop Website on page 18.

Results of a different kind come from the Best Kept Village Competition with the Judge's Reporting Sheet on pages 14a and 14b. Interestingly our native wild plants are referred to as weeds in some parts and as "attractive wild flowers" in others ... it brings to mind the old adage of "what is a weed?"...

Church cleaning

The parish church interior appears to have been well thought of by the BKVC judges and this is probably down to the hard-working and rarely-mentioned band of cleaners who dust, polish, vacuum and generally spruce up the church every week of the year. Now they are looking for a few more willing hands to lighten the load so, if you were one of the 193 people who said they "valued the church as a historic building", here is your chance to do your bit towards its conservation! Please see page 8 for details of how you can help.

Winter pastimes

There is so much of interest to do locally during the coming winter: enjoy a warm welcome at the Cheese & Wine evening (page 6); use your spare time to create entries for the handicraft section of the Village Show (page 15); get fit and have fun by walking (also page 15); learn the satisfying craft of embroidery (page 17); or spend your winter reading and then pass on all your books at the Book Fair in early spring (page 7)! Hopefully there's something for everyone to look forward to... Have a good winter!

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from Jenny and the News-letter team.

DON'T FORGET THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE! Friday 24th January at 6PM.
Copy should be left in the newsletter box at South Orchard, Woodbrooke Rd, or sent by email (word .doc please) to: jennygrist@talktalk.net
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Regular Meeting dates

Parish Council Contact: Derek Madge 01392 833969	<i>every second Monday evening in the month</i>
Coffee Mornings at Crockernwell Contact: Mrs A MacDonald 24446	<i>every second Saturday in the month</i>
Playgroup Contact: Christine Grist 281205	<i>Mon, Tue, Wed, 9.00 – 11.30, Thurs 9 – 3.20 “Lunch Club” until 12.50 pm on Wednesdays. All during term time only</i>
Scouts Contact: Ollie Milverton 07706 695928	<i>every Monday evening during term time</i>
Cubs Contact: Karen Morris 01647 252375	<i>every Thursday during term time</i>
Pilates Contact Adele 07976 427941	<i>every Friday morning, 9.25 am and 10.30 am, during term time</i>
West Down Bible Study & Prayer Contact: Derek Coren 24264	<i>every Monday evening from Oct – May</i>
Horticultural Society Contact: Persis Bower 24303	<i>usually the third Monday evening in the month during the Autumn and Winter</i>
West Country Embroiderers Contact: Janet Grist 281637	<i>every first Tuesday afternoon in the month</i>
Short Mat Bowling Contact Nos: Pat Hill 24201 or David Tripp 24582	<i>every Wednesday, Sept – May</i>
Baby Clinic The Surgery 24272	<i>every Thursday 2 – 3 pm (Clinics held in Tedburn Methodist Chapel)</i>
Young Farmers Contact: Dan Grist 07792 518439	<i>every 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings</i>
Art at Caribarn Studio, Pitton Barton Contact: Sue Bloomfield 01647 24840	<i>usually every last Thursday and/or Friday of month 9.30 – 12.30</i>

***Has your organisation been left out? Please let us know so that it can be included on this regular page.
Has someone just moved in next door? Why not pop round with this newsletter and let them know what goes on in Cheriton Bishop and Crockernwell?***

The Mobile Library

Crockernwell: Fortnightly, on Tuesdays

Stanbury's Orchard	Arrives 15.05	Departs:	15.25
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Cheriton Bishop: Fortnightly, on Tuesdays

Glebelands	Arrives: 15.35	Departs:	16.05
Hescane Park	16.10		16.40

Diary Dates for December

Tuesday 3 rd	West Country Embroiderers	Village Hall	12.30 pm
Wednesday 4 th	Trip to Sainsbury's		
Thursday 5 th	YFC Whist Drive	Village Hall	8 pm
Sunday 8 th	Playgroup Nativity	Parish Church	11 am
Monday 9 th	Horticultural Society meeting	Village Hall	7.30 pm
Monday 9 th	Parish Council Meeting	Spalding Hall	7.30 pm
Sunday 15 th	Quiz Night	Old Thatch Inn	8 pm
Wednesday 18 th	Trip to Sainsbury's		
Thursday 19 th	YFC Bingo	T st M V Hall	7.45 pm
Friday 20 th	Decorating the Church	Parish Church	10.30 am
Friday 20 th	Community Carol Singing	Meet at Stone Cross	6.30 pm
Sunday 22 nd	Carol Service	West Down Chapel	3 pm
Sunday 22 nd	Candle-lit Carol Service	Parish Church	6 pm
Christmas Day	Christingle Service	Parish Church	10 am

Diary Dates for January 2014

Saturday 4 th	Cheese & Wine Evening	1 Crockernwell Court	7.30 pm
Tuesday 7 th	West Country Embroiderers	Village Hall	2 pm
Saturday 11 th	Hort Soc Seed Collection	1 Woodpecker Way	10 – 12 noon
Monday 13 th	Parish Council Meeting	Spalding Hall	7.30 pm
Wednesday 15 th	Trip to Sainsbury's		
Monday 20 th	Horticultural Society Quiz	Spalding Hall	8 pm
Sunday 26 th	Open Mic Night	Old Thatch Inn	7.30 pm

Forthcoming Events for 2014

Saturday 15 th February	Valentine's Ball	Fingle Glen Golf Hotel
Fri 7 th – Sat 8 th March	Book Fair	Village Hall
Saturday 29 th March	Spring Show	Village Hall
Thursday 3 rd April	"The Old Dance School"	Village Hall
Sat & Sun 12 th /13 th April	Embroidery Event	Village Hall
Saturday 17 th May	Spring Plant Sale	Village Hall
Saturday 28 th June	Midsummer Show	Village Hall
Saturday 16 th August	Village Show	Village Hall
Saturday 4 th October	Harvest Supper	Village Hall
Saturday 15 th November	Annual Hort Soc Dinner	Village Hall

If your organisation has a one-off event planned for next year why not let other organisations know in advance so that dates don't clash?

For much more information about Cheriton Bishop, Crockernwell and the surrounding area please visit the Cheriton Bishop Web Site: www.cheritonbishop.org.uk
Contact for Website: Tony Bott email: anthonydbott@aol.com

CHERITON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Council, which took place on Monday 11th November 2013 in the Spalding Hall Church Lane at 7.30 pm.

172/13 Present: Councillor Tim Vooght Chairman, Councillor Gill Westcott Vice Chairman
Councillors Phil Dicker, Sasha Metters, Kim McDonald
District Councillors Peter Heal, Derek Coren
The Clerk Derek Madge and 1 member of the public (MOP).

173/13 Public Open Session

MOP asked if the local authority has any control over the emissions from the Tellams incinerator; he had noticed some strange smells. Chairman confirmed it was monitored and it was agreed to ask DCC for some information on the monitoring. It was also confirmed that SW Water by-products have been stored at the site.

174/13 Apologies:

Councillors Peter Endacott, Leigh Rix

175/13 Declaration of Interest

None

176/13 Dispensation Requests

None

177/13 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting on Monday 14th October 2013 had been circulated and it was resolved they be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

178/13 Matters Arising

Parish Plan: Councillor Westcott reported the steering group wants to move forward with the report. The group would like comments from the Parish Council on the survey. A dog walking area had been suggested and a dog bin on the Yeoford Road. It was noted that dog bins are not usually located near residential areas. There was a request for allotments in the survey. Efforts have been made in the past to find local land which had been unsuccessful. There was no access into Glebelands play area for wheelchairs or pushchairs. Councillor Heal would speak to the MDDC Grants Officer to see if there are any funds available to provide a ramp. There were comments in the survey about making the council meetings more accessible, although it was not clear why they were thought to be not accessible. It is not possible to put the agenda in the newsletter due to the timing; the agenda is prepared and finalised one week before each meeting. It was suggested that a shortened version of the minutes is put in the newsletter. The use of social media was discussed.

Councillor Metters is following up information on the bus shelters.

179/13 Chairman's & Councillors' reports

Chairman reported he had purchased and planted a copper leafed flowering plum tree and the new bench was in place at Jubilee corner. Councillor McDonald reported a blocked drain at Glebelands. Councillor Dicker reported the drain across the road at Venbridge was still blocked - agreed to pass to Councillor Way as he had dealt with it previously. The road surface at Four Cross Ways was very poor. Councillor Westcott said the Community Land Trust was re-evaluating the project as Moor Park has raised the number of affordable houses provided so the project might not be practicable as originally planned. The housing needs survey was being updated.

180/13 District and County Councillors' reports

Councillor Heal said social media is being used by MDDC, especially by the Housing Dept. The Enforcement Officer had reported that Argermay appeared to be deserted and abandoned. Southcombe Hill is still ongoing. Councillor Heal passed on information on bus shelters and was able to confirm that S106 money could be used to replace but not repair a bus shelter. He reported that the MDDC rent arrears was the lowest for three years. The CIL charging system should start next year replacing S106. Councillor Coren said there was no problem with fitting a handrail on the steps from Hescane Park except that it was not clear at the moment who owned the steps. The Clerk advised that there may be some risks in fitting handrails to property not owned by the council - agreed to investigate further. MDDC are consulting on the provision of public toilets. MDDC are now licensing scrap metal dealers. Councillor

Coren responded to criticisms of the MDDC planning department at the last meeting. He quoted a recent review which placed the department as the 2nd highest in the South West for its speed and quality of decision making, the review had been circulated to councillors.

181/13 Clerk's report and questions for the Clerk

The newsletter working group had met and reviewed the advertising rates which had not been increased for some years. It was recommended that the quarter page rate is increased to £40 and the half page to £80. Resolved to approve the recommendation. The group had also looked at the number of hours it used the Spalding Hall and recommended an increase in the rent paid to the Hall. Agreed that the Council would look favourably on a request to increase the rent from the hall committee. Copies of the community Right to Bid application forms had been circulated to councillors with the information required to make a bid.

182/13 Planning applications

Consultation by Teignbridge District Council

13/03046/MAJ Moor Park Cheriton Bishop construction of 18 dwellings with associated roads and parking. The Parish Council welcomes the application and supports it, the council would like to suggest an S106 agreement to provide traffic calming on the C50 to control speeding on the main road. The council has some concerns about the lack of a pavement on the Dunsford Road which have already been brought to the attention of the Planning Officer by a local resident.

13/01336/CLU Land and Buildings at NGR 275327 93819 (Southcombe Hill Farm) Cheriton Bishop Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of toilet block, office and general purpose agricultural use as granted under planning approval 09/01347/FULL together with former mobile home site as a single dwelling house. Application noted - agreed no further comment was needed but to re-emphasise all the comments already made.

183/13 Planning decisions

13/01254/FULL Croft House Cheriton Bishop single storey extension Approved.

13/99940/FULL The Coach House and Cottage Cheriton Bishop erection of conservatory and two garages Approved.

184/13 Correspondence

Consultation on changes to the mobile library service.

MDDC consultation on amount and distribution of development. MDDC was asking if communities wanted any development or did not want any specific housing allocation. The Council discussed possible sites for housing. It was suggested that first homes with some 1 and 2 bedrooms are required as indicated in the survey for the Parish Plan. The land below Hescane Park was suggested. The Chairman would make enquiries.

Highway safety awareness training.

Highways travelling in winter leaflet.

Register of Heritage assets local list. Any comments by the 10th January.

MDDC and supplementary planning document on provision of parking in new developments.

Healthwatch newsletter.

185/13 Accounts for payment

a. Clerk's salary	£ 367.99
b. Clerk's expenses mileage phone calls	£ 27.80
c. Postage	£ 13.20
d. Mr P Mitchell travelling expenses to Tiverton	£ 30.60
e. Donation to Royal British Legion for wreath	£ 30 00
f. Smiths Gore Glebe rent	£ 254.00
g. Murodigital printer repairs and ink	£ 328.64

Resolved to approve payments

186/13 Public open Session

None

District Councillor's Comments

Peter has been and still is very busy with the Planning Committee at Tiverton. He has also spent time visiting people in the home or on site helping and advising with their applications.

At the end of September the Regulatory Committee of which I am a member, met to implement the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013. This introduces a new licensing regime for those dealing in scrap metal. A scrap metal dealer's site licence costs £250 and a scrap metal dealer's collector's licence costs £180. There is now no transaction allowed with cash - every transaction has to be by cheque or bankers draft. Farmers, garages and small engineering firms are exempt from any charges as they are deemed to be selling something that is at the end of its useful life.

There are other issues as well that we are reviewing at Tiverton. A car parking committee, of which I am a member, is looking at how things can be improved right across Mid Devon. This has been prompted by the very successful new tariff that was introduced at St Saviours Way car park Crediton, where prices were reduced to £1.00 for 5 hours. Since then that car park has shown a substantial rise in income.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful 2014.

Derek Coren, Peter Heal – Councillors, Yeo Ward MDDC.

Church Cheese and Wine Evening, Sat. 4th January 2014

You are invited to the annual church Cheese and Wine Evening at 1, Crockernwell Court, on January 4th from 7.30pm – 10pm, courtesy of Jennie Cornwall-Walker. Tickets cost £5 and we promise to have alternatives for those who do not drink wine nor eat cheese! It would help the catering if you could ring to let us know you are coming but we can also cater for a few who just turn up. Please note – parking is limited so please could you fill your car, or contact Jean or myself if you would like a lift – the bus service finishes rather early! Start the New Year off by meeting up with new and old friends for a convivial evening.

Janet Jeffery 24414 Jean Martin 24586

Bus Service additional information

Monday to Saturday (except public holidays)

The Stagecoach X9 bus service during the late evening also stops at Ide. This is not currently on the X9 timetable.

The Exeter to Okehampton evening service via St Davids Station, Ide, Pathfinder Village, Tedburn St Mary, Cheriton Cross, Crockernwell, Whiddon Down and Sticklepath departs from stand 13 of Exeter Bus Station at: 19.50 and 21.45.

Cheriton Bishop & Teign Valley
Patient Participation Group.

A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE

*Please can we help our dispensary to help us by having our
Repeat Medication requests in by
13th December 2013.*

Carers Rights Day
Friday November 29th 2013
Come and Join us between
2 - 4pm in
Witheridge Parish Hall,
EX16 8AG

Know your rights to financial and practical support.
Get the right advice about your finances.
Make the most of support from technology.
Carers Rights day is about getting the information and advice they need to claim benefits.
Access practical support and find out how technology can help take the pressure off.

INFORMATION, TEA COFFEE & MINCE PIES.

Contact details Christina Dymond 0845 6434435

**Cheriton Bishop's
BOOK SALE 2014**

Thanks to the kindness of one of our fellow villagers, this will take place on
Fri March 7th from 6.00 to 8.00 p.m.
and Sat March 8th from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

Books may be left with:
ELISSA Wilkinson
at 8 WOODPECKER WAY
any EVENING after 6.30 p.m. or at the WEEKENDS **from FEB 1ST 2014 onwards.**

PLEASE, this year, could books be bagged/boxed in separate piles of fiction and non-fiction?
The entry fee will be 50p. Paperbacks will cost 30p each. Hardbacks will cost 50p to £1, depending on condition. Proceeds from the Book Sale will, once again, go to Acorn Community Support Group, whose assistance throughout our area is invaluable. Their staff/volunteers will provide refreshments on the Sat morning. Any unsold books will be collected by Force, another supportive local charity group, for sale in their shop.

Anyone who could spare time to help on either occasion should *contact Jane on 24843* - thank you in advance!

Remembrance Day Collection

The amount raised for Help for Heroes was £237. Many thanks to all who contributed.

Annual Horticultural Society Dinner

Just by chance?

Was it just a happy accident that the draw prizes of cyclamen, the table decorations of autumnally-coloured foliage and flowers, and the curtaining in the Village Hall, were all colour co-ordinated for the Annual Dinner of the Horticultural Society?

Anyway they provided a cheerful background to a sumptuous feast celebrating another year of gardening and growing. After a repast of chicken, or beef, or baked ham, or salmon, (or all four!), guests surprisingly declared they had "room" for another course! What is the collective noun to describe a groaning table? - A deluge of desserts, a plethora of puddings, a sensation of sweets, or an avalanche of afters? Displayed was everything made, with the richness of chocolate and cream to the simplicity of fruit jelly and junket! Empty serving dishes littered the tables as coffee, tea and homemade sweets were served.

If consumption was the highest form of compliment, the cooks of this feast were showered with compliments. Special thanks to the unsung heroes who man the kitchen sinks, at home and in the Village Hall; they are as essential to a good feast as the guests!

Persis Bower

Churchwarden's Notes

Firstly, a 'thank you' to all who helped with the churchyard tidy up or the catering. The number of helpers was smaller than usual but they worked hard and the southern end of the churchyard is much neater. A very overgrown 'miniature conifer' planted on a grave was removed plus the hedge thinned and we have rediscovered the graves hidden underneath. Sadly some of them seem to have kerbstones.....!

Many thanks too to everybody involved in the Singing Day. I was one of the audience who turned up to listen to a 'rehearsed sing through' of Mozart's Requiem and it was magnificent. Our church is very sympathetic to music and the voices of the choir of 60 rang through it with this most glorious work.

Yet more thanks, this time to Jenny Grist who sold church Recipe Books at the Craft Fair. These make good Christmas presents being at a bargain price (£5 for one or three for £10) and very light to post to friends around the world. Please contact Jenny, (who edits this newsletter) or Sally Sellick (272794) if you would like some.

The Harvest service was a happy occasion and the collection of £99.50 has been sent to 'Send-a-Cow', while the food items were given to Age Concern in Exeter. Thank you letters from both organisations have been pinned up in the porch.

Now a plea for new members for the church cleaning rota. We work in pairs, being responsible for a fortnight's cleaning every 5-6months. If you can help, please contact either Alan or me and we will forward your name.

We now look forward to the Christmas Services. The mulled wine has been purchased and will be served with mince pies after the Carol Service. The midnight communion will be at Tedburn but transport can be arranged for anybody who would like to go, just let one of us know. The Christmas morning Christingle and Communion service will no doubt be full of excited, bubbling children and a very joyful occasion because of that. Please join us to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

Janet Jeffery 24414 Alan Greenslade 24002.

SERVICES AT ST MARY'S CHERITON BISHOP
AND OTHER CHURCHES IN THE NORTH KENN MISSION COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 2013

SUNDAY 1st

9am	Whitestone	<i>Advent 1</i> Holy Communion	Canon John Tutton
9.30	Holcombe Burnell	Holy Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe
11am	Tedburn St Mary	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
6pm	Cheriton Bishop	Evening prayer	Revd Martin Wood

SUNDAY 8th

9.30	Holcombe Burnell	<i>Advent 2</i> Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
9.30	Whitestone	Parish Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe
11am	Cheriton Bishop	Playgroup Nativity	
3pm	Pathfinder	Prayer and Fellowship	
3pm	Tedburn St Mary	Evening Prayer	Lay Led

SUNDAY 15th

8am	Tedburn St Mary	<i>Advent 3</i> Holy Communion	Canon John Tutton
9.30	Cheriton Bishop	Parish Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe
3pm	Oldridge	Carols	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	Evensong	Lay Led
6pm	Holcombe Burnell	Christingle	Revd Martin Wood

SUNDAY 22nd

11am	Whitestone	<i>Advent 4</i> Christingle Carol	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	United Carols	
4pm	Tedburn St Mary	Carols	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe
6pm	Cheriton Bishop	Carols	Revd Martin Wood

TUESDAY 24th

4pm	Tedburn St Mary	<i>Christmas Eve</i> Crib Service	Revd Martin Wood
11pm	Tedburn St Mary	Midnight Communion	Revd Martin Wood
11.15	Whitestone	Midnight Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe

WEDNESDAY 25th

10am	Cheriton Bishop	<i>Christmas Day</i> Christingle Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe
10am	Holcombe Burnell	Family Communion	Revd Martin Wood

SUNDAY 29th

10.30	Pathfinder	<i>Christmas 1</i> Team Communion	Revd Martin Wood
4pm	Holcombe Burnell	Carols	Revd Martin Wood

EACH THURSDAY (Not 26th)

10.30	Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
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SERVICES AT ST MARY'S CHERITON BISHOP
AND OTHER CHURCHES IN THE NORTH KENN MISSION COMMUNITY

JANUARY 2014

SUNDAY 5th

9am	Whitestone	<i>Epiphany</i> Holy Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe
9.30	Holcombe Burnell	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
11am	Tedburn St Mary	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
6pm	Cheriton Bishop	Evening Prayer	Lay Led

SUNDAY 12th

8am	Tedburn St Mary	<i>Baptism of Christ</i> Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood
9.30	Holcombe Burnell	Holy Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe
9.30	Whitestone	Parish Communion	Canon John Tutton
11am	Cheriton Bishop	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	Prayer and Fellowship	

SATURDAY 18th

6pm	Whitestone	Saturday Surprise	Revd Martin Wood
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SUNDAY 19th

9.30	Cheriton Bishop	<i>Epiphany 2</i> Parish Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe
11am	Tedburn Methodists	Christian Unity	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	Evensong	Revd Martin Wood
6pm	Holcombe Burnell	Evensong	Lay Led

SUNDAY 26th

8am	Cheriton Bishop	<i>Epiphany 3</i> Holy Communion	Revd Prof Tim Gorringe
9.30	Tedburn St Mary	Parish Communion	Canon John Tutton
9.30	Whitestone	Christian unity	Revd Martin Wood
11am	Holcombe Burnell	Family Service	Revd Martin Wood
3pm	Pathfinder	United service	

SUNDAY 29th

10.30am	Whitestone	<i>Michael and All Angels</i> Team Communion	Revd Martin Wood
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EACH THURSDAY

10.30	Pathfinder	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Wood/ Canon Geoffrey Moore
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A warm welcome to all who attend our services. Please note that the Spalding Hall is open for the use of the toilets during service times.

From the Rector

Tales of two Christmases

The words 'Bah Humbug' and 'Scrooge' immediately remind us of a famous Christmas story. They come from the Charles Dickens novel 'A Christmas Carol'. Many of us are aware of the story but may have never actually read the book by Charles Dickens. We have probably seen the film versions or TV drama based on the story. It is almost an annual event to have some new adaptation or a repeat of a favourite version. It has become part of the Christmas television package.

Sadly, I remember the Muppet version with most affection! It is interesting that the main character Ebenezer Scrooge has had his surname adopted into our English language and is associated with meanness and a lack of Christmas spirit. The book was written at the height of the industrial revolution and asks profound questions about the plight of the poor and the responsibilities of both society and the wealthy towards them.

There is a parallel idea that there are probably many people who have never read the story of Mary and Joseph in the bible. Yet they already know the story through nativity plays and television dramas. The context of the nativity story is very important; it is at the time of the Roman occupation and the need for a census to ensure that the right taxes are paid to the Romans. The Jewish nation is looking for freedom from occupation and oppression.

Returning to one of the central characters in Dickens story, the lasting legacy of Ebenezer Scrooge appears to be the meanness he characterizes. He is remembered most for his poor qualities of over working his employees, their poor working conditions, low pay, his hostility to worthy causes and the scorning of good times. We are given a glimpse that in his youth his affections were scorned and he became bitter and insular. The story was not meant to dwell on his short comings, but rather upon his transformation and redemption. Scrooge should be about turning a negative attitude into a transformed spirit of generosity. Yet the word 'scrooge' remains frozen in his past life and not in his liberated life.

I often feel the Christmas story is also locked in the past. It was a good thing that Jesus was born and that he did some good deeds. But like Ebenezer Scrooge the transformation in Jesus and his significance is largely lost and seems more like an idle tale. The Christmas story is about a human beginning but it also has an ending on Good Friday when Jesus dies on a cross. If that really was all there was to it, then it would just be ordinary. But Easter day replaces death with new life and hope. It speaks of God's love for each one of us. What is really extraordinary is that God choses the humble birth of Jesus to change the world. So, is the point of Scrooge to warn us about meanness, or that we can be transformed? So, is the point of Christmas about a baby being born, or that God works to forgive and restore us?

Rev. Martin Wood. The Rectory, Church Lane, Cheriton Bishop EX6 6HY 01647 24119 (Tuesday to Sunday)

WEST DOWN EVANGELICAL CHAPEL

Yeoford Road, Cheriton Bishop. Telephone 01647 24660/24264

Services for December 2013

Sunday 1st December

11.am Morning Worship

3.pm Family Service with
Rev David Ursell

Sunday 8th December

11.am Morning Worship

3.pm Family Service with
Mr John Hawkins

Sunday 15th December

11.am Morning Worship

3.pm Family Service with
Mr Gerald Downs

Sunday 22nd December

11.am Morning Worship

3.pm **CAROL SERVICE** with
Rev David Cole

Sunday 29th December

11.am Morning Worship

No Afternoon Service

Prayer Meetings Monday evening at 7.30pm
2nd Home prayer fellowship, 9th 16th, David Hayman

Services for January 2014

Sunday 5th January

11.am Morning Worship

3.pm **Start the Year with
Praise**

Sunday 12th January

11.am Morning Worship

3.pm Family Service with
Dr Ken Kite

Sunday 19th January

11.am Morning Worship

3.pm Family Service with
Rev David Cole

Sunday 26th January

11.am Morning Worship

3.pm Family Service
Mr Denis Hayes

Prayer Meetings Monday evenings at 7.30pm
6th Home Prayer Fellowship, 13th 20th, Reg Cade, 27th Mission Focus

Bible Study and Prayer Meeting on Monday evenings at 7.30pm

If there are any families in the village who need more information regarding the meetings or transport, please contact one of the above telephone numbers.

A Blessed Christmas and Peaceful New Year to everyone.

A Christmas message

Recently, a few friends and I were comparing the Christmas presents we received as children (50+ years ago!) and what our grandchildren receive today. There is no comparison. One of the presents I most enjoyed was constructing with Meccano, although that was a rare treat.

However, I still recall clearly a joint present given to myself and my brothers to share. It consisted of a box-like stage with a metal bar across the open side with 4 plastic birds, about 3" high, perched on the bar. There was a double barrelled Cork gun about 18" long, the corks were put into the end of the barrels and the idea was to fire the corks and knock the birds off the perch. I vividly remember this gift and how we played happily with that shared present for the rest of the day.

For all the presents we give and receive this Christmas, one gift that will stand above everything else is the gift of God's Son to us. I don't know what happened to the game we enjoyed, or how long it lasted, but I do know that we still celebrate and remember God's gift to us, 2000 years later, at this time of the year.

We read from Luke Chapter 2, how the shepherds went to see Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus lying in the manger, and then returned to their sheep, glorifying and praising God for the things they had heard and seen.

Let each one of us enter into the true spirit of Christmas this year, go carol singing, go to one of the many carol services, or join with the school children in their festive celebrations.

Wherever you are or whatever you are doing, I wish you and very Blessed and Happy Christmas.

Derek Coren. West Down Chapel

Holy Trinity Yeoford

We are preparing for Christmas in Yeoford this year with a slightly different format to our Carol Service. We are having our Service in the Village Hall (hopefully the new hall) to include the Chapel and the wider members of our community. This will take place on 15th December at 3-00pm. We hope many families will join us to sing carols, hear the Christmas message and have spiced apple juice and mince pies. The café continues on Mondays from 9 till 12 mid day, look out for special Christmas activities. The crib will, as last year, be hosted by families in the village as it travels towards the church for the crib service on Christmas Eve at 4-00pm in church. If you know any families who would like to host the crib for a day during Advent please let me know (01647 24468). We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and hope to see you at one or all of our Christmas services (in Church unless otherwise stated).

8th December 9-30 Holy Communion

15th December Community Carol Service in the Village Hall 3-00pm

24th December Crib Service 4-00pm

24th December Midnight Mass 9-00pm

Services for January:

12th January Holy Communion 9-30

26th January Holy Communion 9-30

Welcome to all
Carol Price

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

On **Saturday 30th November** (yes, that's **NOVEMBER!**) there will be Mulled Wine and Mince Pies from 10am - 12 noon, in the Spalding Hall.

Cakes and raffle.

Entry £1.50 to include your first drink and mince pie.

Do join us if you haven't already missed it!!!!!!

Quiz night at the Old Thatch

The Fun Quiz returns with an extra special Festive edition on Sunday December 15th starting at 8pm at the Old Thatch Inn. As usual, entry is £1 per player with prizes not only for the top teams, but also others too! There's an extra special reason to attend the Christmas Quiz as one lucky ticket holder will win the snowball jackpot which is likely to be close to £200 – a fantastic early Christmas present!

New for 2014: A Walking Group

The Parish Council are looking to form a walking group. We have secured funding to facilitate the formation of a village group. Jane Hancock has very kindly agreed to co-ordinate the group and the next step is to identify who would be interested in joining the group. If you are interested please contact Jane Hancock on 24092 or jane@dudshall.co.uk or me on 24580.

We intend that the group will cater for all abilities with a number of programmed walks throughout the year.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Peter Endacott

Preparations for the Village show 2014

The Horticultural Society is delighted to receive as a gift, a trophy in the form of a salver for the section related to the arts and crafts at the Annual Village Show. This section was previously the only one not to have its own trophy or cup. So who is going to be the first prizewinner to be engraved on this salver? In order that everyone has plenty of time to create in the widest possible way, the committee has decided on the following classes for the show.

Photography & Art

Photograph: 'The Horizon' (Unframed and no bigger than A5 including mount, if used)

Photograph: 'New Life' (Unframed and no bigger than A5 including mount, if used)

Three photographs 'Seasons' (Unframed but to be mounted on one piece of card, no bigger than A3)

A Cartoon: 'If only I had known beforehand.....' (Joker's Cup)

A picture: 'Countryside' (any medium)

A drawing: (any medium) (no bigger than A3 including mount, if used)

Handicrafts & Literary Aspirations

Something made from no more than 100gms of yarn, any kind or mixture of oddments. (Weight does not include any embellishments or haberdashery that you might like to add)

Something made from approximately half a metre of fabric, a single piece or a piece made up of remnants. (Length applies to base fabric, other than any embellishments or haberdashery)

Something made from A4 sheet of card or paper, any kind

Something new made from reclaimed or recycled materials

A poem on any subject

An original Limerick

A modern tongue twister (Joker's Cup)

'Men Only' - something made by the male of the species since last year's show

Teenagers are invited to enter these classes to compete on equal terms with the adults! Each exhibitor is allowed to enter two exhibits for each class. You have nearly nine months to ensure the show committee has problems displaying the enormous numbers of entry! (But the Society was forward thinking and did buy the marquee for that purpose; remember the tomato display of August 2013?!)

Remember that the points awarded to the prizewinners in these classes are counted towards the Challenge Cup. There is the possibility that should a person score highly in this section, the floral art, and the cookery with a few points in the flower and vegetable classes, they could win the Challenge Cup. Reading down the list of past winners all had the reputation for vegetable and flower growers but that could change with a future winner gaining the majority of points from different sections!

Persis Bower, Secretary

Parish Plan Questionnaire: Some Results

Thanks to all of you that took the trouble & interest in filling out the questionnaire for the Parish Plan. We are currently putting the plan together in response to your answers but in the meantime here is some feedback to give you a flavour of what came back to us. The response rate was 42%, which is pretty good, with information for 286 people.

Of all the phrases that described what was desirable for the village, the largest number of people (178) ticked “a community that looks after all its inhabitants”. Perhaps we should give more thought to how this could become increasingly true. The second most frequent choice was “a balanced spectrum of ages” (157 people), followed by “modest, low impact development” (123). There was also support for “some expansion to support current services” (103).

The village hall, Spalding Hall, Pub, Surgery, Shop and school were all highly valued facilities. Also the church, as a place of worship (73) and as a historic building for (193).

Community safety

80% of respondents (192 people) were concerned about speeding in the village and wanted the 20 mph zone extended to the main road and Yeoford Rd. 68% (164) wanted more police speed checks. Majorities also wanted more/better pavements, and more parking restrictions. 72% (172) wanted traffic calming measures in the village and offered many suggestions. A speed monitoring partnership with the police and local volunteers is already being investigated.

Transport

12 people said they had difficulty getting to hospital and 7 to the surgery. It's hard to know what can be done about this apart from better advertising for Acorn. There was discontent with the evening and weekend bus service and there were concerns about reliability. Only a quarter thought the cost was reasonable. Perhaps that's why 100 respondents (40%) never used the buses.

Housing

Answers to the structured questions and the free comments showed clearly that many people want more smaller houses in the village, and numerous comments asked for no more large houses. 98(53%) wanted more 1-2 bedroom units for young people and downsizing adults, 97(52%) wanted more housing for young families (3-4 bedrooms) and 121(65%) wanted social/affordable housing. 25 people said they would need new accommodation in the next 5 years and 10 of these specified social rented housing. 6 wanted self-build, and 1 wanted assisted living. 171 people (83%) wanted any new houses to generate some of the energy they use renewably.

Play area

31% used the play area and there were many suggestions for improvement: more facilities for older children, wheelchair access so a wheelchair bound adult doesn't have to wait outside while a child plays; basketball net too high, a slide etc. Sadly 106 money available so far has been inadequate to buy even a slide with the high safety credentials the district council requires, but we hope this fund will grow.

Growing food

49 people (29%) said that they did not have enough garden or land for growing food. But only two people put their names in the volunteer sheet as wanting more. Is this correct, or do we still have a need in Cheriton Bishop for allotments or for a community garden? If you have a view, about any of this, please write to the newsletter, or contact me at the number below.

Social events

The questionnaire revealed that people were inhibited from going to activities by 'access problems' (4), having no-one to go with (13) and not being able to find a babysitter (7). Better publicity on the website and social media was also recommended. Some people thought that the village could do with a Committee to put on more social events and to help enable people to attend who might need help or support. There were a number of requests for an evening keep fit activity. A Local Directory of activities in Cheriton Bishop and neighbouring village is being co-ordinated by Persis Bower, so that people can see what is already available locally; and then gaps can be more readily identified.

Local environment

146 people (65%) wanted a dedicated dog walking area in the village. (This must include some of the 59% of people who have no dogs). Maps are being prepared to make footpaths better known. There were several requests for more trees to be planted in the village – possibly fruiting trees.

There were many more ideas than it's possible to list here. But perhaps the correspondence page of the newsletter will be a place to help clarify what is needed. And some actions have already started!

Comments can also be made or sent to the Parish Plan steering group: David Tripp, Dave Stickland, John Scanes, Persis Bower, Brian Bryon-Edmond and myself, Gill Westcott (24789, gillwestcott@gmail.com). Once again, thank you for taking the trouble and time, and we aim to have a draft Plan (and post it on the website) available for comment in the spring, before finalizing and publishing the Plan.

West Country Embroiderers

Our Cheriton Bishop group of WCE meets on the first Tuesday in the month at 1.30pm and members come from a wide area – though it is nice that the membership from the village has increased recently.

Most months we have a visiting tutor, or one of our members takes on the role. We are of mixed abilities but have the common factor of enjoying stitching and the company of like-minded people.

On December 3rd we shall have our Christmas get-together starting at 12.30pm with a Bring-and Share lunch followed by a sociable afternoon and a Quiz. When members pay their subscription (at this meeting) they receive our programme for the coming year and the WCE organization's official programme card and discount card. For those that do not know, the WCE covers Dorset, Devon and Cornwall and there are groups throughout these counties.

So if you would like to join us please come at 12.30pm and bring a plate of food to share- and a little wrapped gift to put in a tub for 'secret santa' – not to cost much and something for stitchers! If you would rather wait and join on the first Tuesday in January (7th) we shall be learning how to make a 'Lotus fold book' with Nina Fenner.

Our new Group Rep. is Teresa Bowen of Hittesleigh 01647 24061.

Janet Grist 01647 281637

January Open Mic Night

Sunday 26th January at the Old Thatch Inn, 7.30pm onwards

Village Website

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Parish Plan - it's nice for me to get feedback about the village web site and ideas on how it can be improved. The points raised are very interesting and I will try to give a response to them all.

New information and 'Notices Page'

The idea of putting car share advertisements on the site is a good one. It would probably tie in with some of the other comments so perhaps we could have a 'Notices' page on which we could place car share offers and requests?

Items for sale/disposal could be included in the 'Notices' page.

Advertisers and societies

All the businesses that advertise in the magazine are included on the web site. If businesses want to advertise on the web site they should contact the Newsletter Committee.

Local restaurants advertising in the newsletter are included on the website. All the societies included in the magazine are posted on the web site.

Activities and Events

The info on the site about local activities is taken directly from the newsletter and is updated as soon as the newsletter is published. We are keen that the website should not replace the newsletter, but the survey has shown that this does not appear to be the case so we will consider how best to ensure information is provided in a timely way. However, it is possible that the Village Diary could be improved and 'Reminders' mailed to people about events. If anyone wants to try that, if they send me their email I will add them to the list of reminders.

The Calendar will send reminders of all events listed two days before the event is scheduled.

Events that have happened are deleted from the diary. If anyone sends me information post event, or pictures, these are posted on the Gallery pages as a record of past events. **Please do send me photos of village events to share.**

Information

The bus timetables are on the website but perhaps I should make them more accessible. I will undertake that improvement.

I have no details of walks and it is a good idea that I will include before next year, perhaps with some pictures. If anyone has any pictures already and recommended walks, that would be a great help.

Forum

A Village Forum page would be difficult to maintain. Most people use these forums in a responsible way however some people do use them for personal or inappropriate platforms. This means the content would have to be checked continually for appropriate content. I don't feel that I have the time to undertake that role at the moment.

I hope I have addressed most of the points raised. I will revise the layout of the site because some comments request content already on the site, so I may need to make certain things more 'up front' as they say. Any other changes will have to be approved by the Village Newsletter Committee and I have forwarded a copy of these suggestions to them for consideration at their next meeting.

Once again thank you for taking the trouble to reply and the helpful information.

Tony Bott, Website Manager *anthonydbott@aol.com*

ACORN COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Cheriton Bishop Lunch Club – Are now having two lunches a month, if you would like to come along please phone Jean Martin 01647 24586 for more details. January lunches are uncertain due to possible weather difficulties so please keep in contact with Jean for details of these.

Minibus trips to Sainsbury's from Cheriton – Dates are Wednesday 4th, 18th December and 15th January. Please phone Sylvia on 01647 24267 or Jackie on 01647 252701. Help is provided in store and a wheelchair service is also available. The fare is now £4 return.

Teign Valley Memory Café - This month it will be 12th December. Please call Margaret on 01647 252622 for more details. Meetings are held at Strawberry Hill, Dunsford on the B3212 – look out for the sign.

Acorn Coffee Morning at The Bowden Room, Teign Valley Community Hall 10.30 - 12. This month it will be Tuesday 3rd, 17th December and 14th January. Please do pop in for a coffee and meet up with friends, everyone welcome. Please ring Jackie on 01647 252701 if you need a lift.

Acorn Services - Should you need transport to an appointment, a prescription delivered or any other Acorn service, please phone Sylvia Tripp on 01647 24267. Please leave a message on her answering machine if she is not at home and she will call you back. If you have not heard back within 24 hours please call Jean Martin on 01647 24586.

Waitrose Charity Event – We have been advised that £466 will be heading our way shortly. We were one of three nominated Charities for October and many of you showed your support by donating your green token in the Acorn box. A huge thank-you to all that supported us through this campaign.

Acorn needs your help – Have you recently retired and have a few hours to spare each week? Are you bored at home now that the children have started school? Perhaps you are just between jobs? If you have ever considered using some of your spare time to help someone else, we'd like to hear from you. You only need to commit as much time as YOU want. If you'd like to get involved and really make a difference to someone's life in your local community, please call us on 01647 252701.

Please check out our website www.acorncommunitysupport.co.uk

Thank you to our wonderful team of volunteers, our Friends of Acorn and all of you who support Acorn, without you Acorn would not exist. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Graves with kerbs

The last group of graves in the top left hand corner of the churchyard with kerbstones is as follows:

Sammuel Blackmore, died 1947 and Emma Blackmore, died 1949, of Fulford Cottages Crockernwell.

Laura Osborn, died 1936, of Cheriton Bishop, in the same grave as Myrtle Briscoe, of Springfield, Aylesbeare, died 1958.

Timothy Garrett, died 1943, The Nursing Home, Exeter.

A grave with two raised plaques as well as kerbstones, for Kate Sainsbury, burial of ashes in 1943, of 3, Bystock Terraces, Exeter, Thomas Sainsbury, burial of ashes in 1956, last address Red Hills Hospital, Exeter, and Katherine Nicholson, 1947, of Thatched Cottage, Cheriton Bishop.

Elizabeth Small and James Small, died 1933 and 1941 respectively, both of Cheriton Bishop.

Mary Jane Searle, died 1949, of the Royal Hotel, Crockernwell.

If anybody can help me trace the families of the above please contact me, Janet Jeffery, 01647 24414

Cheriton and Tedburn YFC update.

Firstly, I would like to confirm the amount of money our club has raised for charity over the past year – the total reaching £4,429.29. This is an amazing achievement, which will be gratefully received by the Motor Neurone Association and Spring Intensive Care, as well as £900 being sent to the Papworth Hospital Charity Trust from the clay pigeon shoot. Thank you to every one who has supported us and to the members for all their hard work.



Our fundraising has already got off to a good start this year with our recent log sale; £1,392.50 was raised with half of the money going to this year's charity – the Farming Community Network. A massive thank you goes to the Retters for donating the logs. I would also like to thank everyone who supported our annual bonfire night, which was held for the first time on the Yeoford road opposite Coxland farm. Thanks needs to go to the Retters again for the use of their field.

We have taken part in Okehampton, South Zeal and Hatherleigh carnivals with our float entitled 'school of rock' – even though the electrics cut out during the pouring rain at South Zeal it didn't dampen our enthusiasm for the occasion! We have also had more success in public speaking competitions with the Haldon Senior debating team coming 2nd at the county final, which included our very own Becky Grist, who was awarded best female speaker and was chosen to go through to be a part of the county team at the South West Area round. Our attention is now moving towards the entertainments competition and several of us will be taking part in the group choir.

Finally, I would like to remind you that we have our Whist drive at Cheriton Bishop Village hall on the 5th of December at 8pm. We also have our annual Christmas Bingo at Tedburn hall on the 19th of December.

If you want to find out any more information about what our club is up to or you're aged between 10 and 26 and want to become a member, then don't hesitate to contact me on 07792 518439.

Dan Grist – Secretary

Cheriton & Tedburn YFC

Present their annual

WHIST DRIVE

Thursday 5th December

8 pm start

Cheriton Bishop Village Hall

Plus the Grand Christmas Draw

All Welcome!

Cheriton & Tedburn YFC's

**Christmas
BINGO**

Thursday 19th December

Eyes down at 7.45 pm

Tedburn Village Hall

*Lots of fantastic prizes to be won
Including a duck dinner in the flyer round!*

All Welcome – this could be your lucky night!

Valentine's Ball

(Re-scheduled Christmas Ball 2013)

Saturday 15th February 2014

Fingle Glen Golf Hotel

Tickets £25

To include dinner and disco

Auction and Raffle

Look out for posters in the New Year!

Raising money for Cheriton Bishop and Tedburn St Mary Primary Schools

Please contact Amanda Vooght on 24593 for tickets

And don't forget to save the date!

Castle Drogo – Inside Out

The scaffold is now completed and the viewing tower opened in time for October half term. It is definitely only for those with a head for heights but, for those brave enough, the views and the chance to look down onto the roof are well worth it. Weather permitting, it will be open weekends in December and every day next season.

Speaking of winter, the castle will be open for guided tours at weekends in December and Father Christmas will be hiding in the garden on 14, 15, 21 and 22 December. Don't forget that the garden, café and shop are open all year round except Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day. The added bonus is that, Monday through to Friday, entry is free so please pop up for a walk and a spot of something yummy in the café.

Building work is rapidly picking up pace. The masonry team is rapidly expanding and already almost 100 of the 913 windows have been taken out for repair, including those in the old offices and family flat. Large areas of the parapet walls have had their pointing removed ready to take the walls down and the lantern light over the secondary staircase have already been taken down. The contractors have also been trialling cleaning the limescale off the granite, which has been working well.

On a final note, I have just finished a lovely project with students from Exeter College. They spent six weeks learning the stories of Drogo before taking over the castle for the day. They did a brilliant job and, to top it all off, they raised £175 towards the project too.

So, it's all busy, busy, busy. By the way, don't forget to book your place for the Drogo quiz night on Friday 13 December.

As always, I hope that many of you will get chance to pop up and see how things are going.

Paula, Community Engagement Officer, Castle Drogo, 01647 434130, paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk

Cheriton Bishop & Crockernwell

BE BRIGHT! BE SEEN!! Unless you want to end up in hospital!

Car drivers will be the first to admit that it is difficult to see pedestrians wearing dark clothing at night – and particularly just before sunset and sunrise when it is “dimpsey” (dim to non-Devonians!!). So they need to take greater care on our unlit/partially lit roads. BUT, pedestrians have a big responsibility too - “**brighten up**”!

School children are particularly vulnerable because most school uniforms are dark in colour. Villagers have told us how “invisible” they can be on Church Lane and other accesses to the main road/school. Some simple rules/ideas on how to be safer on our lanes – and this of course applies to adults as well.

1. Wear high visibility clothing – this can just be arm bands and/or high visibility strips on back-packs.
2. Take out earphones – so you can hear traffic approaching from both directions.
3. Walk on the side of the road facing the traffic where there is no pavement, especially where the road is two-vehicle width, but cross to the other side, if it is safe to do so, when approaching a right hand bend where you would otherwise be unsighted to oncoming traffic.
4. Carry a torch if possible and shine it when traffic approaches you.

CRIME IS CHANGING

The good news is that, despite Police budget cuts, crime rates are falling nationally and here in Devon and Cornwall, where total crime is down 4% (year to October 2013), burglary down 14.2%; robbery down 12.8%; and vehicle offences down 10.5%. **But beware** – criminals appear to be abandoning these crimes and resorting to identity theft and on-line fraud, where there is less risk of being caught!

More than 230,000 frauds were recorded nationally in the year to June – a 20% increase on the previous year. Many of these were “purchase frauds” – on-line shopping scams, and then there were computer frauds – hacking or spy-ware. And these figures do not include ‘phone scams. Who hasn’t had a call – “we understand you have had an accident” or “you have been mis-sold a policy” and inevitably you are asked to press a number on your key pad, and even the one that says you can unsubscribe, will cost an arm and a leg!

Be vigilant – if the offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is; don’t give away any personal details and certainly not pin numbers or bank account numbers and when closing down your on-line bank site, always use the bank’s “log-off” procedure. With Christmas approaching, cyber and traditional criminals will be hard at work, so take care – no rich pickings left on view in your unattended car or even in the window of your home.

Have a Safe and Happy Christmas, from the Neighbourhood Watch Team.

Brian W Bryon-Edmond - Deputy Co-ordinator, Neighbourhood Watch 01647 24586

Cheriton Bishop Horticultural Society Meetings

The Horticultural Society Meeting in the Spalding Hall on Monday 18th November was an innovation. With seed catalogues at the ready, starting with A for artichokes and aubergines through to T for tomatoes and turnips, varieties were discussed. Some gardeners had found a variety that suited their gardens and had grown for decades while others were more fickle, changing as the mood took them. Success and failures were in equal measure. Hopefully everyone found something of interest.

The tomato challenge for the Village Show 2014 will be to grow the bush variety of tomato "The Cream Sausage". Plants will be available at the Plant Sale in May 2014. To anyone who has never grown a yellow variety, be brave and bold, and try something new!

The last meeting of 2013 will be on Monday 9th December in the Village hall 7.30pm for 8pm; everyone welcome. There will be seasonal refreshments and greenery foliage available to start the festive season. Ideas for decorations will abound. If you have a base for a wreath or garland and wish to "re-clothe" it, this is the ideal opportunity. The cup winners of the Village show 2013 are invited to join the fun and collect their newly engraved cups.

The January Meeting is the Annual Quiz on Monday 20th January in the Spalding Hall when, weather permitting, Drewsteignton will be joining in the fun.

But before that, you are asked to mark your new diaries and calendars clearly and come at the appointed hour and appointed day to collect your seeds if you have ordered any from DT Brown. Jean Martin has offered to act as the collection point on Saturday 11th January. **DO NOT FORGET.** Thank you Jean, and to Janet for doing all the ordering etc.

Persis Bower

THERE WILL BE NO 'CHAT AND CUPPA' IN DECEMBER DUE TO RATHER A LOT OF OTHER ENGAGEMENTS THIS MONTH FOR MOST OF US BUT

DO



**pop in for a chat and a drink
on Monday 20th January 2014**



Come and hear what everyone has been up to over the Christmas and New Year holiday time

at the Spalding Hall any time between 2pm and 4pm

Open to absolutely everyone – even well-behaved dogs!

There is no charge but we do now put out a pot for any no-obligation donations towards costs
A good assortment of drinks, hot and cold, plus biscuits.

Need a lift from your home? ring Jean on 24586 or Paul on 24405 beforehand and we'll arrange to come and fetch you whenever you are ready to come and go

If that day is icy or even snowy then please ring one of us before setting out, to check we are still going ahead.

Letters to the Editor

Village Clean Up

I'm sure all the residents of Cheriton Bishop will join me in thanking all those who participated in the village clean-up on Saturday the 21st September. The next day walking round the village, wherever you went, there was evidence of smartness and caring.

Thank-you once again.

Mike Beckett

(Apologies to Mike for the delay in putting this letter in – it arrived in time for the last newsletter but went astray in the 'inbox')

Horticultural Society Dinner

Although being a member for many years, this was my first Hort Soc Dinner. What a treat I had been missing. We had a superb meal expertly presented, followed by delicious desserts. Well-done, Ladies and Gents.

Thank you all for an enjoyable evening.

Kath Eley

NHS Changes at Moretonhampstead

Dear Residents

As a resident of Moretonhampstead and surrounding parishes, we would like to invite

you to a meeting at **Moretonhampstead Sports Hall** on **Monday 9 December** at **6.30pm**.

The Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust and the Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group have launched a public involvement exercise with local residents to help shape the future of healthcare provision in the area.

The purpose of the meeting is twofold; firstly to describe the current situation and the reasons behind recent changes; secondly to start the process of exploring ways to ensure sustainable future provision of healthcare services in Moretonhampstead.

We would greatly appreciate your involvement in this meeting and ongoing engagement process because it is important that we capture the views of the whole community.

We look forward to seeing you at our public meeting on **Monday 9 December**.

We request that attendance is by appointment, so please contact Stacey Avery on staceyavery@nhs.net or 01392 356102 to RSVP.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Alex Degan, vice-chair,

Mid Devon sub-locality, NEW Devon CCG

Dr John Coop, Associate Medical Director of Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust

News from Elsewhere

Longdown Pantomime 2014

SLEEPING BEAUTY

Friday 24th and Saturday 25th January

Evening performances at 7.30pm. Saturday, matinee at 2pm.

Tickets £4, available on 01392 811315

Poor Melinda, an evil spell cast by the wicked Darkini could ruin her 16th birthday celebrations. 'Who' will help Nanny and Gozunda save the day? Come along for an evening of hilarity and find out.....