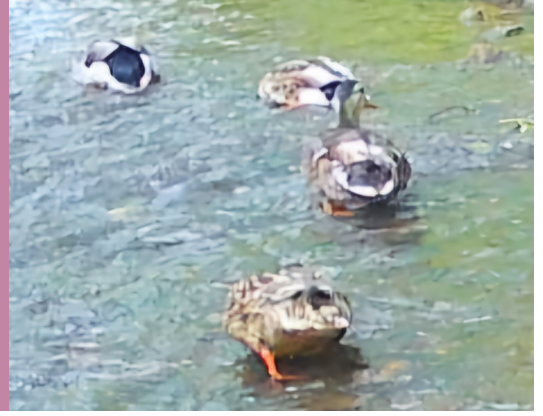


CLAWTON CLARION



July2024

Welcome July!

The least said about the weather over the last few weeks, the better. This month's photo captured on my nature camera sums it up really. Even the ducks are unimpressed!

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email or have a contribution for the next edition, please get in touch by midday on 20th to clawtonclarion@gmail.com

Views expressed by our contributors are their own, and not those of the Parish Council.

Alison

Event	Time	Date	Place
Women on Wednesday	7:30pm	Wednesday 3rd July	Clawton Parish Hall
Whist	7:30pm	Wednesday 10th July	Clawton Parish Hall
Coffee Morning	10:30 —12:00	Friday 12th July	Clawton Parish Hall
Railway Club	7:00pm	Friday 12th July	Clawton Parish Hall
Holy Communion with Rev'd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick	11:00am	Sunday 14th July	St Leonard's Church
Skittles Social	8:00pm	Friday 19th July	Clawton Parish Hall
United Service with Lorna Bowden	11:00am	Sunday 28th July	St Leonard's Church

HOLSWORTHY WALK AND TALK BY GILLIAN ASTON



Last month we introduced a short Level 2 walk at Buckland Filleigh which gave some of our walkers the opportunity to admire the beautiful house, grounds and parkland of Buckland House without the need to negotiate a number of stiles which have always been a feature of our walks from that location. One or two of the stiles along our Level 3 route have now been replaced with pedestrian gates but there are still a number of different challenges to be met ranging from the need of a chivalrous helping hand of a fellow walker to an inelegant scramble! Recently we were delighted to discover that the stile between the churchyard and the parkland has been replaced with a beautifully crafted wooden gate which, we understand, has been made from one of the fallen trees following recent storms.

Due to commercial changes at the Sports Pavilion in Stanhope Park our Monday Walk has moved its meeting place to the Youth Centre, just off Sanders Lane. Following our walk we are now visiting The Coffee Room, situated within the Youth Centre, for our refreshments. The Coffee Room is actually more than just a cafe and offers a variety of activities, arts and crafts, card games, board games, gardening, IT. Volunteers are available to provide a 'listening ear' to share life's challenges and also offer sign-posting to various professionals, social services, debt management agencies, social prescribers or assist with any specific issues where people might need support. Refreshments are free (although donations are appreciated) and there is plenty of car parking. The Coffee Room is open Mondays and Thursdays from 1000hrs – 12.30hrs. On the last Thursday of the month they open earlier at 0845hrs, and try to have a speaker on local topics.

If you would like to join us, we walk on Mondays and Fridays starting at 10.30 am and all walks 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



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS BY PAUL GRAFTON

Clawford Lakes

There are a number of objections now on the planning website as well as that from the Parish Council. It is interesting that Ashwater Parish Council have submitted a statement in full support, albeit with a caveat about road access. Their main reason is provision of local jobs, which is certainly a significant consideration. However, it may not be realised by the planners that the site is less than 2.25km from the centre of Clawton but 5.25km from the centre of Ashwater and, being on the Ashwater parish boundary, it is Clawton residents who are more affected than Ashwater residents.

There is still time to make a comment on the Torridge Planning website: <https://www.torridge.gov.uk/residents> -the volume of comments does give the planners an indication of public opinion and makes it more likely it will go for full examination rather than be passed as being uncontroversial.

CLAWTON PARISH HALL BY MARALYN BAILEY

After a couple of events at the hall during June, i.e. the second Sunday Craft/Food/Plant sale, and the music evening with Crazy Mama it is time for the committee to take a little rest. A tremendous amount of their free time is given up by our committee and I thank them for all their efforts.

There will be of course all the usual weekly/monthly meetings held by different organisations. Our next fundraiser will be in August at the brewery, when Dave invites us to have the last Saturday to put on our food evening. Further details in next month's Clarion.

A reminder that the puzzle/book swap can be accessed on a Monday afternoon, but I can be available to open up the hall at other times if this does not suit.

I am still doing the collection for Macmillan cancer research, details were in last month's edition. So please do look to see if any of the items are lurking in that one drawer we all have in our homes, so we could help this very worthy cause.

On a personal point I would very much like to wish Bill & Brenda Chantler a very happy diamond wedding anniversary for 27th June, they are great supporters of all our events, and are a joy to spend time with. Have a wonderful celebration with family and friends.

CHURCH NOTICES

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

Services at St Leonards:

Sunday 14th July - Holy Communion 11 am

with Rev'd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick.

Sunday 28th July - United Church 11 am with Lorna Bowden.

Sunday July 7th Enjoy a 2 church's walk

A service will be held at 5.30pm at Luffincott church

then you are invited to walk the Ruby footpath

to Tetcott church

where coffee and cakes will be available for a donation towards Tetcott's Sink and Toilet fund.



COMMUNITY NEWS

With sadness, to announce the death of Mrs Elsie Pearce of Paignton, formally from Clawton, on Sunday 9th June. Elsie was the wife of the late Keith Pearce, who together ran Clawton Post Office before moving to Paignton to run a guest house.

Elsie took an active part in Clawton School, playing the piano for assembly and Christmas concerts.

Elsie is also elderly cousin to Susan Westlake. As I write this we are awaiting details of funeral, but any messages of condolences etc can be passed to Sue Westlake on 01409 253758 and she can forward to Margaret Harding (sister of late Elsie)

Anita Fisher

Women on Wednesday

The next meeting is in Clawton Village Hall

On Wednesday 3rd July 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

The speaker is Tony Rea from the

Great British Sewing Bee..

Visitors welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Birthday Wishes

Happy Birthday to Bradley Fisher

for 19th July

With love from

Anita, Nathan, Shaun, Sue &

Henry



Clawton Skittles Socials

Clawton skittles teams (men's and women's) are holding a series of social evenings over the summer open to everyone.

These will be at Clawton village hall at 8 pm, free entry with light refreshments provided and a raffle.

Friday 19th July, Friday 16th August, Friday 27th September

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

MUM'S THE WORD

BY ANN GOODSPEED

Since our gardening expert has now moved out, I have sole responsibility of planting, nurturing and talking to my newly found, or should I say 'forced upon' hobby.

Initially, I was enthusiastically sowing seeds and planting the things that I'd ordered from Farmer Gracy (other seed companies are available) and had lost the packaging for. I was filled with enormous pride at the first sighting of the tiniest shoot. The greenhouse became my domain and my audio books were invaluable.



As my plants became sturdy and the weather improved enormously, I transferred them outside and onto the raised beds where I felt they could enjoy the natural world at last. **The following lines have been edited greatly so as not to offend.**



When I
went to
greet what
by now
have be-

come my 'children' they
seem to have been replaced
with sticks. "*****"
what thieving **** has done
that.

Everything that had ever
had a leaf now resembled a
toothpick.

"*****" greedy "*****"
slugs.

I will however, not be beat-
en!!!



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EVELYN'S WALK

On Monday 10th June, nine of us met in the Village Hall car park at Bratton Clovelly. There was an air of excitement as we had never started a walk from there but Irene had suggested that she knew a lovely walk & was prepared to lead the way. We were all impressed by the Village Hall. It has



plenty of parking & there is a children's play area & a sport's field at the rear with spectacular far-reaching views. We set off down the hill, identifying what would have been the School & turned right at the junction opposite the Clovelly Inn. We then turned left along the lane which took us down a steep hill. Needless to say, once we crossed the river bridge, it was equally steep going up the other side. We then turned left onto a bridleway which was also the entrance to Lower Voaden. The bridleway took us between lush green fields that were being cut for silage. There was an abundance of beautiful Foxgloves growing along the verge. It seems to be a good year for them. We followed the bridleway through the farm yard & then joined the footpath on the left. This took us across more lush green fields that had just been cut & along what would have been the original packhorse trail. Irene pointed out a couple of wooden plaques reminding walkers of the original nature of the route. DCC have made an excellent job of providing galvanised gates & there was a wooden footbridge across a stream. The footpath was absolutely clear & accessible. Credit for this probably needs to be given to the P3 volunteer on the Parish Council. We emerged onto the lane & in turning left returned to the village. Before returning to our cars, we made a detour into the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin which dates back to medieval times. I can only describe this as a little gem & well worth a visit. There are beautiful albeit faded wall paintings from the 17th century. The stained glass windows are magnificent & there is a very ornate alabaster carving. There is plenty of interesting information if you have a look at the web site for Bratton Clovelly but better still, I would consider making a visit. This circular walk of approx. 2.75 miles was much enjoyed & the timing was such that the Clovelly Inn was open.

The next walk will be on Monday 8th July. We have been given permission to park at Crinacott Farm in Pyworthy. Parking is limited so please share transport if possible. If you would like further information, you are welcome to contact me.

Tel: 01409 259 848

Email: evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com



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CONTACT NOW

07977500770
orbitalelectricalservices@gmail.com

£19 billion of benefits go unclaimed each year

This is mainly because people don't realise they are entitled to claim them. As we get older, we begin to need more support and help. I still find it difficult to believe I'm the wrong side of 70, although when I first wake up in the morning, reality strikes. There is a lot of financial help designed to make life easier, which I have outlined below – and much of it is not means-tested.



I started my Lent project just a few weeks ago – to make people aware of their entitlements and help them claim them. I am astounded that in this short space of time just a handful of people have claimed about £9000 between them - so £19 billion is not an unrealistic figure. Some examples:

- Attendance Allowance: worth between £72.65 - £108.55 per week tax free
- Disabled person's Council Tax reduction: reduces Council Tax by one band
- Marriage Allowance transfer: saves on average £220 per year
- Blue Badge
- Devon Carer registration: help and support, free entry to attractions, carer's grant etc.
- Severe Mental Impairment: disregarded for Council Tax, can save 25% for a couple, where one person has dementia.

Several of the people I have helped did not realise they were eligible for these benefits, or even that they existed. Some purely fictitious examples:

- Mr and Mrs Example are married and both are of pension age. Mr Example pays income tax on his private pension. Mrs Example doesn't pay tax, because she only has a State pension. Mrs Example transfers 10% of her personal tax allowance to Mr Example, which saves them about £220 a year. This can be backdated for four tax years.
- Mr and Mrs Example have a house with a bathroom and a shower room. Mr Example is unsteady on his feet. He uses the shower room, because he can sit on a shower chair. Their Council Tax Band is reduced by one band, from E to D, because *'the property has an additional bathroom used predominantly by and for meeting the needs of the person with the disability.'* Saving of £250 - £500 per year, depending on village/town and Council Tax Band.
- Mr Example also qualified for a blue Badge, due to his mobility issues.
- Mr Example has gradually needed more help with personal care, financial matters, taking his medication, being taken to church etc. He successfully claimed attendance allowance at the lower rate of £72.65 per week – tax free.
- Mrs Example registered as a carer with Devon Carers. In addition to free advice and access to the website, she took Mr Example for a day out to RHS Rosemoor and only had to pay for Mr Example to go in. She also applied for a carer's break grant and was awarded £200 towards the purchase of a tablet, so she could download a daily newspaper. She loves to read a newspaper, but lives too remote for deliveries.
- Mr Example was diagnosed with dementia. This made him exempt from Council Tax, so they were awarded a 25% discount, because Mrs Example was regarded as a single occupier.

My examples are by no means exhaustive. You may well be eligible for some of the above. Some of them can only be completed online but it really is worth applying.

I've written help sheets with a brief summary of each benefit and how to apply, but mostly I've sat down with people and either filled out paper forms or filled out the forms online. I'm very happy to have a chat on the phone, or come round for a cup of tea. If you know of anyone who might benefit from a little help, please pass on my details. Confidentiality guaranteed and - of course - no charge!

Christine March (christine.march@btopenworld.com) [tel 01409 211340](tel:01409211340)