

CLAWTON CLARION May 2019



Welcome to the May 2019 edition of the Clawton Clarion.

May is named after the Greek Goddess Maia and is a time of traditional celebration and festivals to welcome the sprouting of new life from the land and fertility.

This is the last edition that Rev Jane Lucas will be giving us her “thought for the month” and I would like to take the opportunity to thank her for all her contributions. The whole Clawton community would also like to send Best Wishes to Rev Jane on her retirement.

If you would like to continue with the “thought for the month” section in the Clarion, please let me know. Perhaps a variety of contributors could share their thoughts over the year.

Clawton is a vibrant and welcoming community with lots to celebrate, We would love to hear your good news and family announcements; as well as reports on village events.

Don't forget, the Clawton Clarion is about **YOU and YOUR COMMUNITY** so please send contributions for the next edition by **20th April 2019 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

<i>1st May</i>	<i>Women on Wednesday</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>	<i>Clawton Parish Hall Cinnamon Trust</i>
<i>2nd May</i>	<i>Torridge District Council Elections</i>	<i>7.00am- 10.00pm</i>	<i>Clawton Parish Hall</i>
<i>8th May</i>	<i>Whist</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>	<i>Clawton Parish hall</i>
<i>10th May</i>	<i>Home from Home Coffee Morning</i>	<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Moor Park Barn, Clawton Hosted by Joan and Ray</i>
<i>11th May</i>	<i>Big Breakfast</i>	<i>09.30am</i>	<i>Clawton Parish Hall Proceeds to St Leonard's Church</i>
<i>13th May</i>	<i>Inter Parish walk</i>	<i>10.00am</i>	<i>Milton Damerel village hall</i>
<i>13th May</i>	<i>Parish Council meeting and AGM</i>	<i>7.00pm & 8.00pm</i>	<i>Clawton Parish Hall</i>
<i>25th May</i>	<i>Brewery Night Food by Whiddon Wagon (Fish and Chips)</i>	<i>6.00pm</i>	<i>Holsworthy Ales Brewery (Shop open from 3.30pm)</i>
<i>26th May</i>	<i>Final service and celebration for Reverend Jane Lucas</i>	<i>11.00am</i>	<i>Ashwater Church</i>

Church services (Ashwater Benefice)- May 2019

Wednesday	1st	10.00am	Beaworthy Church	Morning Fellowship
Saturday	4th	7.00pm	Ashwater Church	Celtic Communion
Sunday	5th	10.30am 2.30pm 5.30pm	Beaworthy Baptism Tetcott Church	Holy Communion and Coffee Sienna Elizabeth Rose West Tea and Informal Worship
Saturday	11th	10.00am	Bradford Parish Hall	Saturday church – all ages, fun and activities
Sunday	12th	10.30am 3.00pm	St Leonard's, Clawton Halwill	Holy Communion & Coffee Dedication of Halwill Tower
Wednesday	15th	10.00am	Halwill	Holy Communion
Saturday	18th	6.30pm	Beaworthy Church	Holy Communion
Sunday	19th	10.30am 6.30pm	Ashwater Church Hallwill Church	Holy Communion and Adult Baptism Evening Prayer
Sunday	26th	11.00am	Ashwater Green	Final service and lunch in parish hall
Thursday	30th	10.00am	Halwill	Ascension Day Service



Thought for the month – Rev Jane Lucas

The Blackthorn winter is true to its name, the Spring warmth is a long time in coming, as is the grass for the cows and sheep. The memory of the Cross, crucifixion, death and the joyful Resurrection of Jesus on that first Easter morning still resonates and reminds us there is always redemption, always forgiveness for anyone who will turn to Jesus as Lord and Saviour. It has been a joy to Baptise and Christen infants in our churches recently.

Believing that through it we are “drowned” in the water of baptism and rise to a new life in the company of Holy Spirit, and signed with the cross of Christ which stays with us throughout life. We belong to Jesus and so we believe in him!

This is my final contribution to the Clawton Clarion, but I hope to see you at my final service on Ashwater Green on Sunday 26th of May at 11am followed by lunch in the Parish Hall to which you are invited.

Every Blessing

Jane

Buckhorn Methodist Chapel

Services will be held every Sunday at 11.00 subject to arrangement. For confirmation of services or any queries please contact Rosemary Colwill on 01409 253770 or Rita Stacey on 01409 211201

St. Leonard's Church – An Appeal

Fewer and fewer people go to church regularly – and the church is having to adjust accordingly. As you may have read, our current vicar Rev Jane Lucas is retiring in May, as is Rev Kathy Roberts, the vicar currently in charge of five parishes towards Black Torrington. The plan is to recruit a replacement who will be in charge of all 10 parishes.

Already services have been rearranged and there is no longer a regular service each week in each church. This will inevitably further affect our income.



St Leonard's has been our Parish Church for some 900 years, perhaps more. The oldest parts are the Chancel with its Norman windows on the North side, and the font. The tower and archades (passages separated by columns) of the North and South aisles were built in the 14th Century and the arches of Polyphant stone are 15th Century; the small faces on the capital behind the pulpit may be those of the builders.

The Nave windows, Chancel and side aisle roofs are 15th Century; the Nave roof being formerly thatched was restored in 1893. A local craftsman from Ashwater carved the Altar and Pulpit. The Chalice and Paten used in the Communion Service have been here since 1575; the church register began in 1612. The Royal Arms on the tower wall were put up when Charles II was restored to the throne in 1662.

So whether you are a churchgoer or not, if your family have lived here over generations **they** almost certainly were. They were christened here, married here and in many cases are buried here. In that sense our church is the soul of our village which connects us to our past. But we take for granted having an historic building in our midst, partly no doubt because so many other villages have one as well.

It's up to us to preserve the church so our children can if they wish get married here, have their children christened here and be buried here. We don't get funds to run the church – we have to raise every penny. But the few regular churchgoers cannot by themselves generate the funds needed to keep it all going and in good condition. So please, if you can, help support us in the task of keeping the church and graveyard in good condition.

Last year a number of households kindly signed up to our Parish Giving scheme and this has helped us keep our heads above water financially over the past 12 months. But the number of donors was still less than one household in ten.

This year for those who value our church building and churchyard but don't wish their donation to support the organisation, we are happy to keep donations separate. Since we can't have two separate schemes, if you wish to make a donation but restrict it to use for building and churchyard please complete the form but return it to me. I will then ensure that each of your donations is transferred to our dedicated churchyard account.

The Parish Giving scheme is effectively a bank Standing Order but is administered in such a way as to automatically claim the Gift Aid tax refund on all eligible contributions. This puts every penny donated plus the tax refund directly into our own church bank account.

A donation of £20 per month represents less than £5 a week and would be hugely valued, but of course £10 or even £5 a month would still be a great help to keep our church going. Current contributions range between £40 per month and £100 per year.

If you subscribe to this scheme and attend a service you are of course not expected to make a further donation and tokens are available for you to place in the collection bag.

Attached is a Parish Giving form and you will see it offers a wide range of options. Please if you would like to support our church and you can help, do it now – otherwise if you're like me it is likely to go into a pile of paperwork and get forgotten!

Paul Grafton, Treasurer

(If you would like to restrict use of your donation please send both completed forms to me at Higher Sellick EX22 6PS) and I will forward the Donation Form to the Parish Giving office.

Friends of St. Leonard's

Reverend Jane's final service will be 26th May 11am at Ashwater and will be followed by celebration on Ashwater village green from around noon – hoping Clawton village will be well represented there to thank Jane for all she has done for people in Clawton. There is plenty of parking at Ashwater Village Hall and if the weather is poor, we'll celebrate in there instead.

Wine and Wisdom

We had a good turnout and raised just under £500 for church funds. Many thanks to Ian Parker (questionmaster) and Helen who compiled the questions, to everyone who joined us, everyone who helped with the organisation and all who gave prizes for the draw.

Big Breakfast

A Big Breakfast will be held on Saturday 11th May from 9.30-11.00

Churchyard

Many thanks to those who responded with offers of help. In the end we didn't have enough to manage the maintenance ourselves and luckily Steve Wheadon who has moved into Cholditch Barn has taken on the contract.



Clawton Parish Council News

The next Parish Council Meeting will be at 7pm on Monday 13th May 2019, followed at 8pm by the Annual General Meeting where any local group leaders are welcome to come along and tell the Parish Council about their activities during the year. Invitations will be sent out nearer the time, but if you are a new organisation and would like to attend please do.

The Parish Councillors have been elected for the next four years. Clawton is allocated 7 Councillor positions, 7 people applied and so their nominations went forward uncontested meaning we had no need for an election. There has been 1 change, Anthony Barriball decided to stand down due to other commitments, his place has been taken by Maralyn Bailey.

The councillors are as follows

Paul Grafton

Roger Mitchell

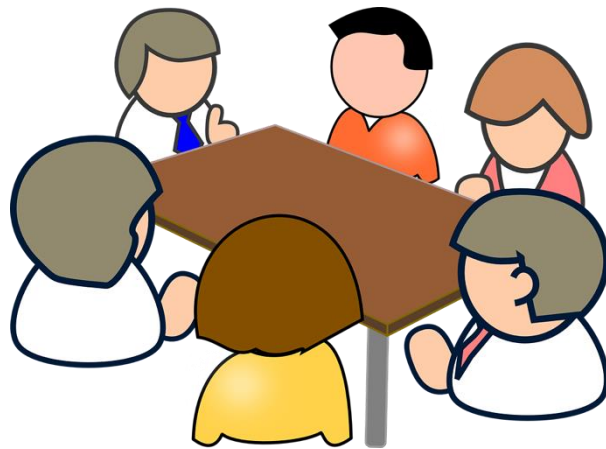
Alison Sharp

Irene Ellis

Nigel Stacey

Adrian Mitchell

Maralyn Bailey



Sally Whitehead will be continuing as Clerk

Please send any matters for the attention to the Parish Council to the parish clerk, Sally Whitehead via clawtonpcclerk@outlook.com

Broadband – at last!

Airband are now connecting properties and businesses in Clawton. To order a connection go to www.airband.co.uk.



VILLAGE WEBSITE – www.clawton.org.uk

The village website is up-to-date in terms of having the latest Clawton Clarion, church services, events (that I've been told about), Parish Council meetings, agendas and minutes. It's not meant to rival the Clarion but once we've (hopefully) got better broadband it might be useful as a way of showing all future events planned over the year by the various village groups. That might help us to avoid each other's planned events.

If you'd like to see anything else on the website, have information to go there or suggestions about how it could be useful please let me know.

Paul Grafton (paul@devonholidays.org)

Clawton Parish Hall news from Maralyn Bailey

We thank everyone who helped to make the Race Night a success, we made a profit of £390-50. Special thanks to Graham & Jan for being our bookie & bookie's mate.

Better weather is on the horizon!

We are hoping to give the Parish Hall a coat of paint on the outside walls.

We believe it will make a great deal of difference to the overall look of the hall. We will then be following up with the first stage of the tarmac project.

We are looking for volunteers to help paint the walls over a weekend in either May or June, are you available??

We will provide the painters with a brunch on the first day and a meal on the second day, menu to be decided!!

Any takers?? Please email if you can help on maralynjohn@hotmail.com then we can confirm the dates etc. - weather permitting of course.

Women on Wednesday



We all enjoyed a wonderful visit to the Farms for City Children charity at Nethercott House in April. We were given a tour of the farm and saw the children working and playing - many of whom never see the wide open spaces or the countryside in their normal lives.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 1st May 2019 at 7.30 p.m in Clawton Parish Hall.

This will be a talk by a representative from The Cinammon Trust..

Visitors are welcome.
We look forward to seeing you there.

Holsworthy Ales Brewery

May's open night at Holsworthy Ales Brewery is on **Saturday 25th May**. Food is by The Whiddon Wagon fish and chip fayre and the fun starts at 6.00pm.

The shop at the brewery will be open each Saturday in May from 3.30-6.00pm

Inter Parish Walk -report from Evelyn

Contrary to the weather forecast, it was really very misty & drizzly (mizzly?) on the morning of our walk on Monday 8th April. Twenty three of us, including Buddy & Fox, decided to meet at the Village Hall in Pyworthy in spite of the weather.

We set off towards the Molesworth Arms & then joined the footpath on the right. The footpath sign isn't easy to see as it's tucked around the corner on the wall of the end cottage which I believe must have been a Post Office in times gone by. The footpath runs behind the cottages back towards the rear of the Village Hall, passes



through the land owned by the MOT Centre & across the fields towards Villavin & Killatree. I often wonder where the name Villavin originates from. Can anyone enlighten me? It was a bit squelchy underfoot but nothing serious. There are various reminders of a bygone era when the railway used to operate between Bude & Holsworthy.

We rejoined the road at Killatree Cross by the entrance to the showground. We turned left towards Derrill & were surprised at how busy the lane was. The timing was such that we met Nick Lock coming towards us & it was a great opportunity to thank him for keeping the footpaths in Pyworthy so clear & accessible. It was a bit of a scramble over the stile into the field on the left especially for our four legged friends. Personally I found it preferable to staying on the road as it was unusually busy. I think everyone ended up with wet knees as we walked through the crop. We did our best to walk in a straight line & in crocodile fashion so that we did not cause too much damage. Hopefully it will be sprayed before too long so that the route of the footpath is more obvious.

It certainly helped by knowing that we needed to head towards the Church in the distance. I wonder how many people have noticed the strange optical illusion? The Church actually looks as though it is surrounded by scaffolding. In reality, it is just set at an angle in relation to an electricity pylon. It certainly caused some amusement when it was pointed out.

We walked towards a cottage in the distance that is called Blackpool & we wondered how that got its name too. This path then brought us back to the road by the old Post Office so we had walked a complete loop. It made a very pleasant walk & thankfully the sun materialised to dry out our wet knees.

Our next walk will be on Monday 13th May. We will set off from the Parish Hall at Milton Damerel at 10am. Anybody is welcome to join us & if you would like more information, you are most welcome to contact me.

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

***The
Big Breakfast***

Saturday

11th May

9.30am

Clawton Parish Hall

£6 per Adult,

£3 per Child

Proceeds to St Leonard's church.