

# CLAWTON CLARION



## August 2024

Welcome to the August edition. I am currently 'out of the office' and therefore unable to remark on the dismal or delightful weather you may be experiencing.

I'm told that Hercule (see above) continues to visit the river daily for a fish supper. If anyone has a photograph of the Clawton owl who provides a spectacular aerial display each evening before turning in for an early night, I'd love to publish it here. He or she is a true beauty.

From feathered friends to mans best friend—a reminder please to pick up after your dog. And just in case your pooch is thirsty on its walk, there is now a handy water bowl by the tap at the church.

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 the 20th of each month, to [clawtonclarion@gmail.com](mailto: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 7th August	Clawton Parish Hall
Coffee Morning	10:30 — 12:00	Friday 9th August	Clawton Parish Hall
Railway Club	7:00pm	Friday 9th August	Clawton Parish Hall
Holy Communion with Rev'd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick	11:00am	Sunday 11th August	St Leonard's Church
Whist	7:30pm	Wednesday 14th August	Clawton Parish Hall
Skittles Social	8:00pm	Friday 16th August	Clawton Parish Hall
United Service - Café Church with Lorna Bowden	11:00am	Sunday 25th August	St Leonard's Church
Village Fundraiser	5:30pm	Saturday 31st August	The Brewery

# HOLSWORTHY WALK AND TALK

## BY GILLIAN ASTON

We had some good turnouts on our walks last month. One week we had 17 walkers on each of our Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 walks.

We often refer to the benefits of walking to both physical and psychological health and were interested to read of a new study from the European Society of Cardiovascular health. The study showed that the risk of dying from disease of the heart and blood vessels are reduced even by taking a short daily walk of one mile. The researchers went on to say that 'In a world where we have more and more advanced drugs to target specific conditions such as cardiovascular disease, we should always emphasise that life-style changes like walking are at least as, or even more effective in reducing cardiovascular risk and prolonging lives'.

It is always satisfying to be able to prove theory in every day life and to that effect we are proud to have two regular nonagenarian walkers in our Monday Walk in the Park group. Pam celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday last month and Marion, our Walk Leader, notched up 91 years. The kitchen ladies at The Coffee Room very generously made a cake for Pam which we all enjoyed. We had a very sociable morning with lots of laughter and congratulations and put into practice other research that socialising and being part of a group have far reaching benefits to overall health. The Coffee Room ladies were particularly pleased to be able to provide for and share Pam's special birthday as their ethos is to provide a welcoming space to promote and support emotional well being. 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.

[holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com](mailto:holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com)

<https://holsworthywalkandtalk.co.uk>

Gillian Aston 07584677784



# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS BY PAUL GRAFTON

**Speeding:** Councillor Graham Hames is still working on our project to provide speed warning signs on the main road at either end of the village, and is currently engaging in ongoing discussions with Highways at Devon County Council.

**Next Parish Council Meeting:** This will be held on Wednesday 18th September 2024.

**Superfast Internet:** A recent email from Connecting Devon and Somerset said;

*“Airband is under contract with Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) to provide gigabit-capable broadband to this area. It is therefore deeply disappointing that the company has put the work on hold and completion has been so delayed.*

*CDS is not alone in experiencing this and Airband is not the only company with delays to its network build. There are well-evidenced challenges affecting local and central Government contracts showing that costs of delivery in predominantly rural areas have escalated with the result that many alt-net providers and their investors are refocusing efforts on increasing take-up on their existing networks rather than network expansion.*

*In the case of Airband, the company is responding to these conditions with a re-structuring of the business and seeking to maximise its sales income. CDS is in communication with Airband about the factual position regarding the company and investor’s plans in relation to the CDS Programme and contractual obligations. We are also seeking clarity from Building Digital UK regarding the scale, scope and final number of Project Gigabit contracts covering Devon and Somerset. Please keep an eye on the [CDS website](#) for all updates on the CDS programme. “*

A more detailed explanation of the current situation taken from trade publication ISP Review is on the parish website.



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# EVELYN'S WALK

Whilst writing this, it's pouring with rain. I'm so pleased that it didn't rain for our walk on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

We met at Crinacott Farm in Pyworthy with kind permission of Mike Godfrey and his family. Knowing how busy a person he is, we were very fortunate that Mike was available to lead the way initially. He showed us his vegetables growing in his poly-tunnel. It was reassuring to learn that he has also found it a challenging year with every conceivable pest trying their best to thwart his best efforts. In spite of them, his runner beans were looking very impressive. He then introduced us to his two female Emus. They obviously consider Mike to be a very dear friend and nestled up to him and chattered away in a very guttural tone. Mike was very informative telling us the differences between Emus, Ostriches and Rheas. From what he told us, out of the three types of Ratite, I would opt for Emus BUT whatever would I do with all those eggs that they produce between January and March? They are a very beautiful blue/green colour BUT enormous! Mike then encouraged us to walk through his woodland that he planted a few years ago. It's not the route of the footpath so we were very appreciative as it gave us the opportunity to see how the trees had grown since our last visit. He had mown a path so we couldn't lose our way and it brought us out by the footbridge at Derril Water.

The route wasn't immediately obvious but by keeping the pylon on our left and walking straight across a little grassy field, we saw the wooden pedestrian gate hiding in the hedge opposite. By following the path between the paddocks, we emerged onto the lane by Northmoor and Southmoor Farms. We turned left and walked along the lane towards North Tamerton. We then turned left again and walked up quite a steep hill towards Yeamadon. It was noticeable how the way-markers have become hidden by the vegetation at this time of year but having walked this route previously, we knew which galvanised gate we needed to go through in order to follow the footpath across the lush green fields back towards Crinacott Farm. It made a lovely circular walk for everybody and made a great start to the week.

The next walk will be on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August. We will be setting off from Tetcott Village Hall at 10am. You are very welcome to ring for directions if you would like to join us. Tel: 01409 259 848

Email: [evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com](mailto:evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com)



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# CLAWTON PARISH HALL BY MARALYN BAILEY

The hall has just hosted another successful Craft/Plant/Food sale. We will be taking a break in August as the last Sunday falls on Bank Holiday weekend, but we'll be back again in September.

We serve bacon baps, along with teas and coffees and cakes!

It's a great place for a chat and catch up. We are there between 10 and 1pm.

It has been a quieter time for us during July, but now we are gearing up for the Village Fundraiser at the brewery on **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August**.

Serving from **5.30pm**.

We will be serving local burgers and sausages.  
We are proud to support J&J at North Tamerton.

BBQ burgers with loads of salads

£10 per person,

Please do come along enjoy a beer and burger.

## Women on Wednesday

The next meeting is in Clawton Village Hall

on

Wednesday 7th August 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

when

members will enjoy

a

Summer Supper and Social Evening.

## CHURCH NOTICES

### Services at St Leonards:

Sunday 11th August- Holy Communion 11 am with Rev'd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick.

Sunday 25th August - United Service –Café Church 11 am with Lorna Bowden.

### Church Contacts

**Rector:** Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick 01409 254 667 [vicar-rubycountry@outlook.com](mailto:vicar-rubycountry@outlook.com)

**Baptism, Wedding or Funerals:** [rubycountry.beneficeadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:rubycountry.beneficeadmin@btinternet.com)

**Joint Churchwardens:** Irene Ellis – 01409 [254572](tel:01409254572), Lorna Bowden – 01409 271384

**Secretary/Treasurer** - Paul Grafton - 01409 271456 [paul@devonholidays.org](mailto:paul@devonholidays.org)

# COMMUNITY NEWS

**Our parish hall is able to be booked and used for private functions. Here, Kerry shares her story of just how versatile it can be as she hosted a very Grand Day Out.**

I held a private fundraising event on Thursday 20th June in aid of Prostate Cancer UK.



I own the Hat Shop, which is now located at Mum and John's house in West Clawton and each year I organise a coach trip to Royal Ascot. However, for the second year running, I have done something different. With the help and support of my Mum Maralyn, Carol Palmer, Linda Goodman, Karen Dodd from Weddings and Events by Karen and many wonderful helpers and customers, I hosted a second Royal Ascot ladies day event.

Our local parish hall at Clawton was decorated to look like the bandstand which takes centre stage at the end of the day at Royal Ascot. Along with seating for the guests, all co-ordinated in blue and featuring a home made gin bar, winners table and gold floral hoop for photo opportunities, it was the perfect setting.

I encouraged everyone to dress in Ascot style outfits and hats and greeted them with fizz and Pimms. A light lunch was then provided with desserts donated by all the guests, followed by a 'Gold Cup' cream tea, with scones, jam and cream.

The live racing was shown on a big screen and there was betting for each race. Each race had a winners rosette and gold cup and the major race of the day had a gold cup to keep. This was presented in memory of Fanny Cole, one of our 'Ascot gang' who won it when we held a garden party after lockdown and then very sadly passed away. We also awarded rosettes to the 'best dressed' filly (lady) and 'colt' (gentleman) of the day. The winning lady was Pennie Channing wearing a striking floral dress and matching blue hatinator and the winning gentleman was Iain Nunn, who wore a stunning kilt.

After all the races had finished and the prizes had been awarded, we 'sang around the bandstand' and waved our flags, a tradition that brings everyone together at the end of the racing day.

There was a draw with lots of prizes kindly donated by guests, friends and family. An incredible £850 for raised Prostate Cancer UK and I cannot thank everyone enough for this. The kind donations and generosity towards the day was amazing. Last year we raised £625 for Breast Cancer Now.

I chose Prostate Cancer UK as close family members have had it and received treatment and many men and their families are affected by it. It is such a worthwhile cause. We truly hope our fundraising has made a difference.





# MUM'S THE WORD BY ANN GOODSPEED

It would appear that slugs are causing major problems all over the country this year. So much so that action is being taken by a university in Shropshire.

I was very tempted to put several hundred into an envelope and send them off, but felt it may be cruel to put them through a franking machine, or at the very least, be rubber stamped. I realise that those in my catch are also inebriated on real ale which they absolutely love so any tests would be null and void.

Enclosed is the article shared by the BBC. I can only hope the students come up with something to change their behaviour and make them chomp through weeds instead of prized crops and beautiful blooms.



## Chloe Hughes

BBC News, West Midlands

**Academics in need of 1,000 slugs for research purposes have appealed to the public to catch the gastropods and send them via post.**

The project, run by Harper Adams University in Shropshire, aims to reduce reliance on pellet usage by studying slug behaviour.

Researchers now need more of them, in order to test out slug-resistant wheat.

"The slugs get a really good life. It's fine to send them through the post, as long as you don't do so on a Thursday or Friday," said Prof Keith Walters from the university.

"Once they arrive at the lab, then they're treated to the most delicious organic lettuce while they're waiting to take part in the scientific tests," he told BBC Radio Shropshire.

## 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 16th August and Friday 27th September

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



# Saturday 31st August

## Village Fundraiser BBQ

@ The Brewery (Holsworthy Ales)  
“With shanties from the Barrel Seagals”



Local J&J Beef Burgers  
*Vegetarian option available*



Assorted green, pasta, potato and rice salads  
Couscous, coleslaw, tomatoes and cucumber.

**£10 per person**



Homemade desserts

**£4 each**



**All proceeds for Clawton Parish Hall**