

CLAWTON CLARION January 2022



Welcome to the January 2022 edition of the Clawton Clarion.

Happy New Year to all Clawton residents! Yes, I know this is a bit premature as you will hopefully read this before Christmas, but as this is officially the January edition it is my only opportunity. Thanks for all the support over the last challenging year. We are proud that we have been able to continue with monthly editions to share news, views and events within the community. This would not be possible without the very welcome regular and occasional contributions from all our readers. This really is YOUR voice in the Clawton community. Like many of you, this has been a particularly difficult year for me and my family, so I am taking a break next month. Thanks to Paul Grafton for stepping in to produce the February edition. Please send him your items at the address below.

***PLEASE NOTE*:**

Contributions for the next edition must be received by midday on **Thursday 20th January** To **Paul Grafton** at paul@devonholidays.org or telephone 077949 13757

Dates for your Diary

19th December	Christmas Carols with mulled wine & mince pies	7.00pm	St Leonard's Church
24th December	Tetcott Christmas Carols	5.00pm	Tetcott Church Note change of time
5th January	Women on Wednesday	7.30pm	Clawton Parish Hall – <i>see further details. Members only</i>
8th January and each Saturday	Brewery at the Hall	3.30-6.30pm	Clawton Parish Hall
10th January	Evelyn's walk	10.00	Contact Evelyn for details 01409 259 848
11th January	Café Church	11.00am	St Leonard's Church
14th January	Home from Home Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	Clawton Parish Hall – <i>hosted by Anne and Roger</i>
23rd January	Holy Communion	11.00am	St Leonard's Church with Rev Douglas Adam

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St Leonard's Church

Services for January:

Sunday 11th January at 11.00am - Café Church with Cathy Paddon

Sunday 23rd January at 11.00am – Holy Communion with Rev Douglas Adam



CHURCHYARD GRASS CUTTER WANTED

St. Leonard's Church is looking for someone who is prepared to cut the grass in the churchyard and trim the hedges once a year.

If you would be interested please contact Paul Grafton on 07794913757 or paul@devonholidays.org

For any church related concerns or queries please contact:

Rev Stephen Skinner (Priest in charge) Tel: 07554 142264 email- sjmskinners@btinternet.com

Irene Ellis (Church warden) Tel: 01409 271371

Women on Wednesday

The next meeting is

on **Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 7.30 p.m** in Clawton Parish Hall.

This is a Post Christmas Supper for Members only

Clawton Parish Council News - from Paul Grafton



Thanks once again to Nigel and Edwina Stacey for donating and installing a Christmas Tree at the village crossroads.

Ice and Snow: A reminder that we have access to a snowplough and a gritter trailer with a supply of grit, and the yellow grit bins should be full. A little grit spread with a shovel goes a long way. If you feel we need the gritter (because the ice is severe and likely to last) give me a call on 07794 913757 and, hopefully, I'll get the trailer or arrange for someone to do so.

Visibility: A reminder that if you're walking the lanes please consider wearing something hi-viz. Even in the middle of a dull winter's day there are places where a driver can find it difficult to spot you.

Clarion Distributors

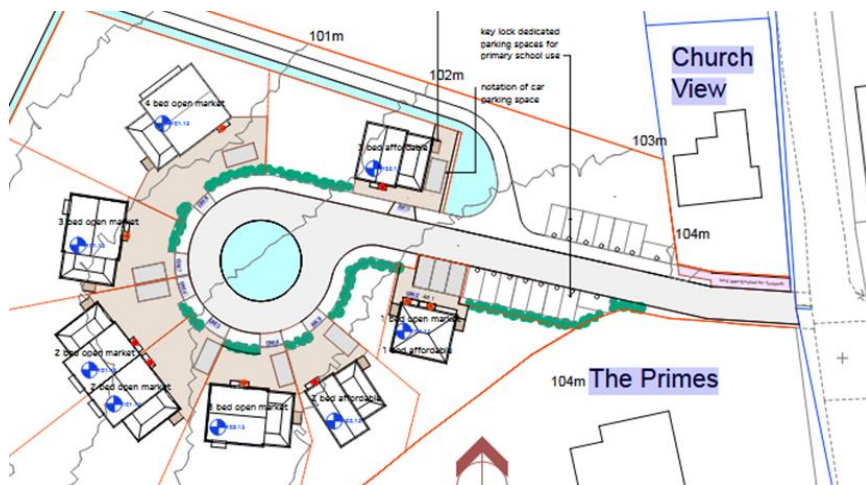
Many thanks once again to our team of distributors who over the past year have delivered a copy of the Clarion every month to those who don't opt to receive it by email.

Application for 9 new-build houses in Clawton.

An architect gave the Parish Council a presentation on the proposal, which is a mixture of affordable and market price housing. The Parish Council could see no reason to oppose the development but had the following concerns regarding the details:

1. The two affordable units built by Mr Dunkin a few years ago (one to buy, one to rent) had not been taken up locally and indeed had to be offered widely before they were occupied. However, times have changed and there certainly seems to be an unmet demand for rental property in the wider area.
2. The offer of 16 parking bays for use by the primary school was much appreciated though it was noted that the planning application to replace the garages opposite the school with 25 parking spaces is currently before the TDC Planning Committee. Were parents to use the bays to pick up and drop off children they would need to cross the road and there is no pavement on the south side and only a very narrow one on the school side. It was felt that DCC Highways would not agree to a pedestrian crossing. A suggestion was made to use the bays for staff parking which would partly avoid this problem. Electric vehicle charging points could be provided.
3. The proposed development is on a flood plain but it was noted that works to improve the flow of the River Claw seem to have been effective so far as there have been no recent floods.
4. It was noted that there is no public transport in the village.

If you would like more information go to the Torridge Planning website and look for "Erection of 9 dwellings". You can make any comments via that website.



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Clawton Parish Hall Report – from Maralyn Bailey

This piece is being compiled before the Christmas festivities overtake us all. 2021 was not especially a great year to recall for so many people, but we look forward with hope for a better 2022. On behalf of the Parish Hall I wish to express my thanks to all those locals who have supported our efforts to get the community back together again. The Quizzers were almost all from our immediate community, the Bingo brought in others from surrounding villages and the town, after we had ensured the ones in Clawton were guaranteed a table. To top this we had so many crafters and producers from the locality to make two wonderful Saturdays Christmas Fayre days.

Carrie our caretaker/booking secretary has a new phone the number is **07919 876210**.

Thanks to Jo from Claw Park who kindly donated an electric wheelchair to the hall for anyone to use, the wheelchair was used to help someone in need last week.

Thanks to the band of helpers for updating the kitchen cupboards by removal of old units and replacement pre-used units, kindly donated. The floor will be in need of new vinyl into the New Year. Plans are afoot for the installation of double doors to replace one window on the left hand side of the building to allow more air circulation and to provide an outside seating area for hall users during the better weather!! This is being encouraged by government agencies to combat viruses like Covid. Grants are being obtained to finance this project.

The Committee has obtained a year round alcohol licence for the hall. This will enable events to be held without the need for a three week application to be made to Torridge. The committee will share the annual cost with any approved organisations who require alcohol sales during an event. Starting on Saturday 8th January from 3.30pm we will be opening the hall for any brewery users to meet in the warmth of the hall, we will only be doing this while the brewery is closed. We will gauge how this should be run, we will have supplies of cider, lager, wine and soft drinks available for sale, and will look towards having a barrel or bottles of Holsworthy Ales beer each week. Bear with us as this is work in progress.



A note from Frances - Bude Croquet Club

There are taster sessions, the club is open to non-members, all the year round Tuesday. Friday. Sunday 10 am onwards.

Monday. Wednesday 2pm onwards.

All welcome. More details 01288 355927

Poppy donation sent on behalf of the village to RBL amounted to £59.

2021 has proved to be challenging in many ways, but we think that our community has responded well to the re-opening of the hall and its activities. The friendship this has offered has been invaluable.



Monthly Walks from Evelyn Sharman

This is the first year that I have arranged a walk in December. Generally, it's such a busy month for everyone & I thought that people would be frantically preparing for Christmas. This year however, I thought that we have missed out on so many things due to COVID that I would organise a walk to try & make up for those that got cancelled.

We met at Higher Larkworthy Farm on Monday 13th December with very kind permission from the Kirk Family. It is very much a working farm & I am most grateful for their hospitality. We followed the footpath signs that took us through Lower Larkworthy Farm & across the grassy fields. Due to the undulating terrain, it was somewhat difficult to work out the route but someone has very cleverly painted a fence post orange which caught our attention. We used the wooden bridge to cross the stream & then walked up hill through the trees. In previous years, this part has always been a bit slippery underfoot



but actually it wasn't too bad. Several people were intrigued where we were going to emerge as it's very easy to lose all sense of direction. We actually joined the lane at Henford & by turning left, we headed towards the village of Ashwater. This involved a particularly steep up hill climb but we enjoyed beautiful rural views along the way. As we approached the brow, we were watched with interest by three horses in the field on the left. They probably heard us before they saw us! We ventured left along a track. It's not a public footpath but the Kirk family had kindly given us permission to return to our cars that way. We admired some very attractive lichen on the trees by the stream. Apparently, this is a good indication of the quality of the air.



Lending with Heart and Mind

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We understand the expense of maintaining your home and we work with you to take the stress out of funding repairs, improvements or adaptations.

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Heatherton Park Studios, Bradford on Tone, Taunton, TA4 1EU

*subject to eligibility

As we approached the farm, we admired the Glamping pods & agreed that it would be a very tranquil place to stay. The views are stunning. Everyone agreed that we had been very fortunate with the weather. It was incredibly mild & we didn't get wet. Not bad for mid December.

I wish everyone a most enjoyable Christmas thinking that there will be fewer restrictions & so it has got to be better than the last one. I am reassured that we live in a most beautiful part of the country with good access to lovely walks. I anticipate a lot of people getting out for fresh air & exercise. Take good care & enjoy yourselves.

I am planning on arranging a walk on Monday 10th January. If you would like to contact me, I'll give you the details & look forward to your company.

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

Holsworthy Walk and Talk from Gill Aston

Happy New Year!

January often brings the resolution to get out and about to improve fitness. Our new programme of walks has something to offer whether you are needing to go slowly, looking for something not too arduous or ready to give yourself a bit of a challenge. The Level 1 Walk in the Park moves off at 10.30 am on Monday mornings and is a gentle walk with friendly chat and coffee at The Pavilion. The Friday Level 2 and Level 3 walks at this time of year are mainly forestry walks on hard tracks so no need to worry about muddy patches and Wellington boots. All walks start at 10.30 am and are FREE.

Walking at any level has many health benefits both for existing conditions such as heart disease, cancer and high blood pressure or can even prevent some conditions. The psychological benefits too cannot be overlooked with good company, lovely scenery and a chance to get the 'feel good' endorphins coursing through the body.

Our new website has lots of up to date information, details below. It can even be accessed by a QR code. Very hi-tec!!

Contact

holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com

<http://holsworthywalkandtalk.co.uk>

Gillian Aston 01409 254642

Mike Jackson 01409 261196

Paul Davies 01409 253250



Poem of reflection from Les Johnson

Town Farm Legacy

We all leave a legacy somehow.
We all leave something behind.
Unique artefacts of a lifetime
With everything numbered and signed

All we've created and crafted
Whatever the length of our years,
Some items shiny and glossy,
Others quite rusted by tears.

Here are things golden and glossy
There they are lacking in sheen,
Born of the times we were gentle and kind
Or the times we were cruel and mean.

But, whether they're diamond- dusted
Or bling from a second-hand stall,
As long as there's love in the leavings
Nothing else matters at all.

