

# CLAWTON CLARION

## April 2020



Welcome to the April 2020 edition of the Clawton Clarion.

Please send contributions for the next edition by midday on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020** to [graham.jw@btinternet.com](mailto: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

### Coronavirus Update for Clawton

This is a very different edition of the Clawton Clarion from normal as we are living in very different times. I hope that everyone is staying well and healthy and is able to make contact with family, friends and neighbours to get any provisions or just for a chat to keep spirits up. Paul Grafton, Chair of the Parish Council has written an article with information and tips as well as a list of the contact numbers for the parish Councillors. While I have tried to include all the information regarding cancelled events, please contact organisers if you have any doubts or queries.

Clawton is a very supportive community, so don't hesitate to ask if you need any support.

### Church services at St Leonard's Clawton

As you may have seen or heard on the news, public services in all our churches have been suspended until further notice to attempt to contain the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) which is threatening our community, country and wider world.

The Church is open!

Although there are to be no public services, it is the view of the Church of England and Revd. Stephen that our churches be left unlocked for anyone who wishes to visit for prayer or quiet reflection.

St Leonard's will be open from 10.00am to 4.00pm

Obviously, please do not visit if you are supposed to be isolating due to yourself or your family members showing symptoms of Coronavirus, but wait until your 14 day period of isolation is over.



### A Message from Revd. Stephen

I am very aware that I am writing this article in mid March, with the news being dominated by anxiety inducing stories about the rapid increase in the number of Covid19 Coronavirus cases in this country and around the world. The number of cases in our own country is rising sharply, such that our country is heading towards 'lockdown', just as in many other 'western' countries. A climate of fear is developing rapidly amongst a wide range of people, which we need to counter with practical expressions of hope and kindness. We as clergy are thinking and planning with our Bishops on the best possible ways of dealing with this fast-changing situation. I want to assure you that we will take every reasonable precaution to ensure the health and well-being of congregations and communities. It will be very important to be understanding of each other's beliefs and sensitivities, whilst remaining both compassionate and empathetic. We should pray for the protective power of God, whilst making wise and precautionary decisions on our mutual welfare. One thing that helps me greatly at times of stress and crisis is to get out into the natural world and experience its continued beauty and peace. I am trying to go on a shortish walk every day, to enjoy the fresh awakening and coming alive of Springtime in the flowers, trees, birds and new born animals.

I find the prayers and poetry of the Iona Community very inspiring, so I'll conclude with a Meditation by one of their members, from an anthology called "Spring". It's called: "Darkness before Dawn"

Waking in the darkness before dawn, I step out. Birdsong greets my ears.  
I pause, listen, drink in the morning chorus.  
Yet, the silent song of my heart  
Perches precariously on a dry branch. Waiting for spring  
Waiting for freedom  
Waiting for resurrection.



(drawing upon the recent Pastoral Letter of the Archbishops of Canterbury & York).  
Revd. Stephen Skinner

A new page has been set up on Facebook to provide information about events and services in our benefice. You should find it if you search for '**Ashwater with Black Torrington & Highampton Benefice**' – please feel free to 'like' the page if you have a Facebook account. It is hoped that this page will be of particular use over the coming months to keep in touch and show solidarity with other members of our benefice.

## Cancelled Events

The following events and clubs that meet regularly in the Parish Hall have been suspended until further notice:

Parish Council Meeting

Whist

Bowls

Women on Wednesday (also includes the visit in April and possibly in June) – this also includes the walking, theatre and book groups

VE Day afternoon tea on May 8<sup>th</sup>

Other events that are cancelled or postponed include:

Home from Home coffee morning hosted by Rachel and Royston Britton on April 17<sup>th</sup>

Tetcott Quiz on April 3<sup>rd</sup>

HATS performances of "What the Butler Saw" and the May VE celebrations in April and May  
Easter Egg Hunt at Tetcott Church on April 11<sup>th</sup>

All Devon libraries are now shut for the foreseeable future. All books will automatically be renewed for 3 months up to mid June, so do not worry about overdue books or fines. This will be subject to ongoing review.

## Clawton Parish Council News

Please send any matters for the attention to the Parish Council to the parish clerk, Sally Whitehead via [clawtonpcclerk@outlook.com](mailto:clawtonpcclerk@outlook.com)

Minutes and Agenda are available on our village web site: [www.clawton.org.uk](http://www.clawton.org.uk)

## Message from the Chair of Clawton Parish Council, Paul Grafton

The Parish Council recognises the difficulties experienced by all residents at this time. We have a disaster plan which covers a major epidemic and is published on our website [www.clawton.org.uk](http://www.clawton.org.uk) but there's not very much the council can do other than communicate and co-ordinate. Please let us know if there's anything you feel we could be doing.

**Groceries and other shopping:** It is at the moment difficult to get a delivery slot from the major grocery companies and we understand that Ocado is not taking any new customers onto its lists.

**Southcott Stores** have kindly offered to take and deliver telephone orders – call 01409 255508. It would be great if we could support Leanne and her team.

**Steven Wheatley (D&D TAXIS) and Donna** would like to help the local community of Clawton with a delivery service to their door to ensure they have adequate supplies. For the elderly who are worried they will come to you and provide a home service/delivery or do whatever they can. **(THIS WILL BE A FREE SERVICE TO THE ELDERLY AND MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE!).** The delivery orders will be on a designated day such as a Mon/Tue and then there orders will be delivered to them within 24 hours. D&D TAXIS are fully DBS checked by the local authority

There are two other offers in Maralyn Bailey's Parish Hall report below and others in 'Further Sources of Help' on page 5..

**Entertainment:** The Council will be working with the church and the Parish Hall committee to look at whether is possible to provide some form of entertainment outdoors as the weather improves (if it improves!) provided we can ensure it complies with all current government guidelines especially close contact with others.

**Keeping in touch:** If you have a smartphone or a PC we strongly suggest using WhatsApp where you can establish a group – for example, WOW could hold virtual book club meetings. WhatsApp allows free video calls to other users (free if you have a reasonable broadband line or enough data in your phone package) and is brilliant for keeping in touch with relatives.



**Activities:** If there is something compatible with government guidelines that you would like to organise we are happy to support you and publicise it on the village noticeboard (for anyone who is still travelling), the next Clarion and the village website. Please contact any councillor.

**This might be an opportunity:** There could be some positive outcomes from having to spend so much time at home. Having no meals out or people in for supper, unable to go to the pub, it's an ideal time to lose a few pounds if (like me!) that's something you would like to do. And now may be the time to sort out your photo collection. Or learn a new skill (you can learn absolutely everything on YouTube). Or decorate the house. Or de-clutter the attic/shed/garage /spare room. And catch up with all those TV programmes, films and box sets you never got round to watching. Or read those books you were given for Christmas three years ago.

**Village website:** We will be keeping the village website ([www.clawton.org.uk](http://www.clawton.org.uk)) up to date with a front page Coronavirus bulletin board.

## Parish Hall Report from Maralyn Bailey

As I write my report for the April's edition of our Clarion, I am watching the woodpecker enjoying his breakfast of peanuts, and the host of goldfinches that have been our regular visitors over the past few months it brings into perspective that although we are in difficult and challenging times, our natural world still continues.

Thanks to all who helped at or supported our recent Big Breakfast, it was a great success. All activities in the parish hall have been cancelled for the time being, our VE Day commemoration is on hold. To those of you who remember Gordon Cursons, he always maintained that the Second World War did not end until VJ day, (15<sup>th</sup> August) and as a prisoner of war in Japanese hands, a delayed date may be seen as an homage to those who suffered such horrors during their captivity.

Pat Osborne, has offered help during these times of isolation, whether it is getting shopping or just messages of friendship and support. Pat's contact details are [patbramblefarm@gmail.com](mailto:patbramblefarm@gmail.com) or mobile number 07788 710098.

A newer couple to our community, Lisa and Graeme Paskin, have also offered help to older or vulnerable members of our community who cannot get out for supplies. Please e mail Lisa on [lisa\\_paskin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lisa_paskin@yahoo.co.uk)

We have a caring community, this I know will carry us through.



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## Further sources of help

Tetcott and Luffincott Parish Council wish to inform residents in the Tetcott and Luffincott area that if they need help with shopping, prescriptions etc during times of self isolation, they can contact the Parish Clerk Julie Smith and she will organise someone from the Parish Council to help them. 01409 271329

### Help available in the wider community - taken from Ashwater Benefice Newsletter

The Village Inn, Ashwater offers takeaway food and delivery around the village every evening except Tuesdays (01409) 211 200

The Happy Pear, Holsworthy Square offers delivery to Holsworthy and surrounding villages of food boxes of fruit and veg, milk, yogurts, eggs, butter, cakes etc. Boxes starting from £5. 07946 740 257 or 07949 409 298

Evergreen Farm offer a delivery service of their produce (meat etc.) 07963 211 424

Ashwater Village Shop are happy to pick up and drop off your shopping or post office items. They have also received offers of help for those in need of dog walkers or people to pick up prescriptions – please contact (01409) 211 192 if you need help.

Junction Corner News in Halwill Junction are offering local delivery of items (01409) 221 016  
The Junction Inn, Halwill Junction is serves food 12-2pm and 6-8:30pm daily and offers all food as takeaway. They also state that home delivery during these times may be possible so give them a call (01409) 221 239

Halwill Coronavirus Support Network has been set up by members of the community to co-ordinate and provide any help needed for those housebound or self-isolating; local shopping, take-away delivery, prescription collection, online shopping collection from Tesco Launceston, phone buddy support etc. Phone Chris at the pub if you are in need of help (01409) 221 239.

Halwill Church porch has been offered as a place to leave donations for Holsworthy food bank if you wish to help others.

The Black River Inn, Black Torrington are offering bread and takeaway deliveries to those in need (01409) 231 888

Holsworthy COVID-19 Mutual Aid Facebook page. Offers a variety of help for the housebound and isolating, including: arranging deliveries, picking up shopping and medication, a friendly phone call, posting mail, urgent supplies, help topping up electric or gas key, help with pets etc. Call 07340 633 055

The Silver Line helpline for older people – A free number for older people to call if they are in need of (non- local) advice, information or just someone to have a chat to. Run as a charity. Open 24 hours a day. **Although I'm sure this phone line is trustworthy, remember to never give out any personal or bank details to anybody over the phone, or anyone you connect with through this service.** 0800 4 70 80 90

Age UK advice and support line – like the Silver Line; do not sit at home feeling lonely. Another freephone number, open 8am-7pm 365 days a year. 0800 678 1602.

Revd. Stephen Skinner our vicar. Please bear in mind that he does work part-time, so if there is a delay in response, please bear with him! 07554 142 264.



## Inter-parish walk report from Evelyn Sharman

When I arrived at the Church of St. Peter & St. James in Halwill on Monday 9th March, I was early & there were already several cars parked there in eager anticipation of our walk! By 10am there was quite a gathering - twenty nine including two four legged friends. Mike Stone, a resident of Halwill, had kindly agreed to lead the walk. We set off down the hill to Horsebridge. There are two old stone bridges but I'm sure it said Horsebridge as opposed to Horsebridges on the way marker. We watched as a smallish livestock lorry carefully negotiated one of the narrow structures before we started heading up the hill. We didn't follow the footpath on the left as we had explored that route this time last year. Instead we continued along the lane a bit further until we saw a footpath sign on the right. This was completely new territory. We crossed a grassy field causing a bit of excitement amongst the equines of various sizes in the adjacent paddock. At the bottom of the hill, we crossed the route of the old railway & the River Carey. It was quite challenging as it was very muddy before a steep climb up the other side. I am guessing that the galvanised gate at the top has recently replaced a stile. If so, we were most grateful as I think a stile at this point would have beaten some of us. No offence intended. Personally, I had absolutely no idea where we were by this stage but "Blagaton" was on the name plate of a house that we passed. I have since located it on the map. At the end of the track, we joined the lane & by turning right & then left, I recognised where we were. We had last walked this way in March 2016. Some of us must have thought we were in Harry Potter territory. The way marker said "Quoditch". Before anybody rings me up, I was confusing it with Quidditch. We admired the dairy herd enjoying their breakfast in the comfort of their barn at Langaford Farm. We then appreciated our wellies as we needed to negotiate a muddy gateway down in the dip. Once we had done that without mishap, we enjoyed walking across grassy fields towards the beautiful Church tower. We also crossed the route of the old railway line again. It was quite a long walk lasting nearly two & a half hours but I was certainly glad of the opportunity to get out for some much needed fresh air & exercise..... & good company. At this time of year when the weather has been so dreary, it takes a bit of encouragement to get me out of the door.



**I am sorry to announce that there will not be any more walks for the foreseeable future as a result of the latest Government advice relating to the Coronavirus (COVID - 19). You are welcome to contact me for updates.**

Evelyn Sharman Tel: 01409 259 848 Email: [evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com](mailto:evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com)

## Clawton Ladies Skittles

Clawton ladies skittles team are looking to enrol more players so we are organising family social evenings to include a game of skittles on the following dates, subject to coronavirus restrictions:

14<sup>th</sup> may 2020, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Every one welcome at 7.45pm at Clawton parish hall there will be refreshments available.

For further information please contact Tracey Edwards on 07989378129

## Holsworthy Ales

We were hoping to contact you shortly about new shop opening hours and news of the events we've arranged for this year. However, with events changing so rapidly from coronavirus, we are unable to say with complete certainty how this year's events will work out. In the short term, we can offer home delivery of our delicious beers and let you know what events we have planned. But please bear in mind that these may change as the outbreak continues.

We are available to deliver beer for orders over £20 within 25 miles of the brewery. During the coronavirus outbreak, we will be offering special prices on bottled beer and mini kegs; a box of 12 beers for £21 and a 5 litre mini keg for £16. The following beers are available:

**Bottled Beer:** Muck 'n Straw, Hop on the Run, Tamar Black, Heavy Hopper, Chill Out Days, Mine's a Mild, Proper Lager and Okey Smokey.

**Mini kegs:** Sun Shine, Muck 'n Straw, Hop on the Run, Tamar Black, Saint George, Make me Hoppy, Mine's a Mild and Okey Smokey.

All events are subject to postponement due to the Coronavirus restrictions



## HOLSWORTHY ALES

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### Beer Festival 25th July 2020

We're holding our first beer festival on **Saturday 25th July 2020** from **12.00pm to 9.30pm**. Featuring a variety of keg and cask beers from several UK breweries (including our own delicious beers!) there will be a wide range of beer styles to sample. Plus for those looking for something different, we will also have cider, wine and soft drinks available.

Admission will be £3 which will include a festival glass (fully refundable if you don't want to keep the glass). A variety of food will also be available.

### Open Evenings 2020

We're holding six open evenings from **6.00pm - 9.30pm**. At each evening we'll have a range of beers on draught, cider, wine and soft drinks available, and will be joined by some great local caterers offering tasty food. Come and join us for a relaxed evening - no need to book!

#### Saturday 25th April 2020

The Whiddon Wagon fish & chips

#### Saturday 30th May 2020

Alex's wood-fired pizza

#### Saturday 27th June 2020

Devon Caterers' Indian cuisine

#### Saturday 29th August 2020

Village fundraiser

#### Saturday 26th September 2020

The Whiddon Wagon fish & chips

#### Saturday 31st October 2020

Alex's wood-fired pizza



Please check the events page on our website [www.holsworthyales.co.uk](http://www.holsworthyales.co.uk) for the latest updates on our events

Free draught beer via our membership scheme will not be available at the beer festival but may be used at our open evenings from 6.00pm.

Unit 5 Circuit Business Park  
Clawton, Holsworthy  
Devon EX22 6RR



tel: 07879 401073  
web: [www.holsworthyales.co.uk](http://www.holsworthyales.co.uk)  
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## Poem from Les Johnson on the occasion of his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

We wish Les many congratulations on his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday on April 16<sup>th</sup> and look forward to many more years of his poetry.

Now I'll follow my dreams,  
and banish all fears,  
And not dwell on the past for too long;  
I'll look forward instead to  
the upcoming years,  
With a smile, glass of wine,  
and a song.

The past is the past, when  
all's said and done,  
Now I'll cherish each hour  
and each day;  
And travel to places with  
wall-to-wall sun,  
And relax on the beach  
and at play.

My legs feel like lead as I  
roll out of bed,  
And I'm troubled with  
inhalers and pills,  
But we're doing fine, this  
old body of mine,  
So fill up my cup 'till it spills.!

Yes, I still have my dreams,  
but no longer have fears,  
And no longer dwell on  
what's gone;  
I look forward instead  
to long life years,  
With a smile, glass of wine,  
and a song.

### Clawton Parish Councillors

Mr Paul Grafton (Chair) 01409 271456 Email: [paul@devonholidays.org](mailto:paul@devonholidays.org)

Mrs Alison Sharp (Deputy Chair) 01409 259424

Mrs Irene Ellis 01409 271371

Mr Adrian Mitchell 01409 271258

Mr Roger Mitchell 01409 253679

Mrs Maralyn Bailey 01409 271315

Mr Nigel Stacey 01409 222467



