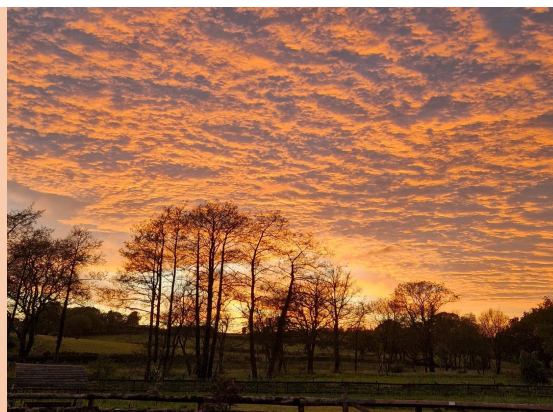


# CLAWTON CLARION



June 2024

Am I the only person not to witness the aurora borealis? With beauty sleep being a necessity at this stage of my life, I slept through the entire thing. I then fell for the social media hype that it would 'return tonight' and pointlessly stayed up until silly o'clock for a week.

However, as you can see from the above image, we have been treated to some staggeringly beautiful sunsets at a completely reasonable time of the day!

We have lots of news and events this month, please enjoy reading this June offering.

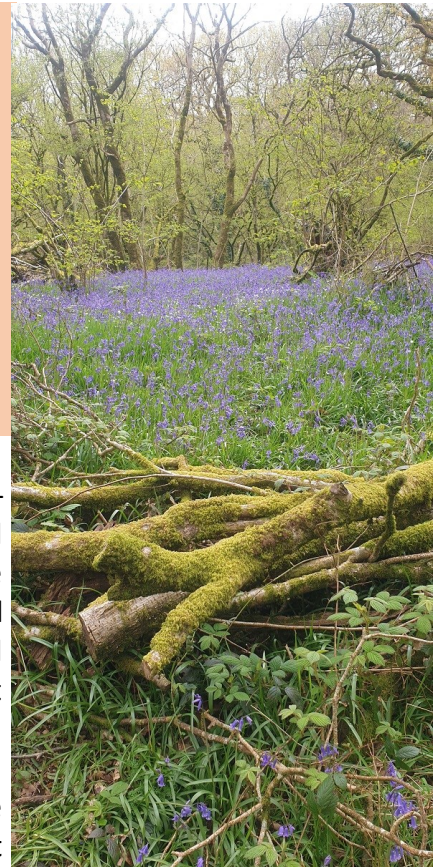
If you would like to receive your newsletter by email or have a contribution for the next edition, please get in touch by midday on 20th to [clawtonclarion@gmail.com](mailto:clawtonclarion@gmail.com)

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

Alison

Event	Time	Date	Place
Women on Wednesday	10:30am	Wednesday 5th June	Clawton Parish Hall Car Park
Skittles Social	8:00pm	Friday 7th June	Clawton Parish Hall
Holy Communion with Rev'd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick	11:00am	Sunday 9th June	St Leonard's Church
Whist	7:30pm	Wednesday 12th June	Clawton Parish Hall
Coffee Morning	10:30 — 12:00	Friday 14th June	Clawton Parish Hall
Railway Club	7:00pm	Friday 14th June	Clawton Parish Hall
Live Music 'Crazy Mama'	7:00pm	Saturday 22nd June	Clawton Parish Hall
Café Church with Lorna Bowden	11:00am	Sunday 23rd June	St Leonard's Church

# HOLSWORTHY WALK AND TALK BY GILLIAN ASTON



As the Meldon bluebells suddenly burst into splendour, we had a last-minute change to our programme to go and admire them. They did not disappoint as can be seen from our photo. On the return to the car park, we stopped for a few moments at David Arney's memorial bench which has an uninterrupted view of the weir. David founded Holsworthy Walking for Health, as it was then known, in 2002 with just six walkers, two of whom are still walking with us as walk leaders.

Those two walk leaders, Marion and Clive, are the lynchpins of the Monday Walk in the Park which celebrated its 10th anniversary last month. Marion celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday last year and still keeps up the pace around The Park. She is looking forward to celebrating another ten years of walking!

We are hoping that June will bring some warmer, drier weather to allow us to venture onto some foot-paths and bridleways which have been too muddy and waterlogged to attempt for many months.

If you would like to explore your local area with walk leaders who know the routes and some of the local history, along with those who know many interesting snippets of interest, then please 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](mailto:holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com)  
<https://holsworthywalkandtalk.co.uk>  
Gillian Aston 07584677784



# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS BY PAUL GRAFTON

## **Clawford Vineyard/Lakes**

The site was sold to a new owner and now an application has been made to extend the property into another field including building more cabins, an indoor swimming pool and an outdoor pool and water slides. After conversations with some residents closely affected as well as others the Parish Council has submitted an objection based on a number of issues.

Fundamentally, the intention seems to be to change from a site providing accommodation with some aimed at fishing holidays but mainly as a base for holidaymakers visiting the area, to a full-blown leisure park along the lines of Centre Parcs where the strategy seems to be to try to provide facilities which will keep guests on site. There may well be a gradual process of incremental planning applications which over time could mean we're living next to a major tourist attraction which had it been proposed from the start would have been refused as out of scale and out of keeping with the surrounding area. It is also without appropriate infrastructure, being accessed solely by narrow single-track lanes.

Already, light pollution is significantly greater than promised by the original developer, and an open-air water slide facility aimed at children is likely to significantly increase the noise generated near local houses.

While the consultation period closed on 19<sup>th</sup> May (the application was submitted too late for the May Clarion and is closing too early for the June Clarion) it should still be possible to submit your comments on the Torridge Planning website, where you can find full details of the application and the Parish Council's objection. When searching use just the term 'Clawford' because various documents are under both 'Clawford Lakes' and 'Clawford Vineyard'.

## **Ruby Country Medical Group**

The group recently invited representatives from councils in the area to a meeting to talk about the service they are offering. They explained how they were organised, some data about the numbers of patients they look after and the funding they receive to do so, and also talked about some of the improvements they are working on.

Some insights gained from the meeting include:

- Currently appointments are approximately 75% face-to-face, 25% by telephone.
- Car parking issues include customers of Boots who are queuing, and even some people who appear to be using it as a free car park when catching the bus.
- In March there were about 100 GP appointments where the patient didn't show – that's around a weeks' worth of appointments for a doctor.
- Long NHS waiting lists (especially since Covid) have a significant knock-on effect on GPs because the illnesses need to be managed until the patient has reached the end of the queue for treatment.
- They now have a new phone system which is better able to manage calls, including a callback facility.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS BY PAUL GRAFTON

One major surprise (to me at least) was that both they and Boots are tenants in a building they rent – they do not control the building, and they have no influence over Boots' service. It was for example Boots, who decided they wanted to keep the roller shutter between them and the surgery waiting room in place.

It seems they cannot recommend other prescription fulfilment services, but I can. I know Boots themselves are offering an online repeat prescription service but I would thoroughly recommend the service I receive from Pharmacy2U. Their app reminds me each month. I click on those medications on the list I wish to receive that month and the rest is taken care of, with a package arriving in the post a few days later. If I get a new prescription, I can ask the surgery to send it to Pharmacy2U rather than to Boots, if I don't need it immediately. No more queuing in the rain 4Me!

Another meeting is planned in the near future, and we may be running a short survey so we can give them robust data on your view of their service.

### New Defibrillator in Clawton

We now have a third defibrillator located next to the brewery – on the wooden building on the left if facing the brewery entrance. As with the others, in an emergency call 999 and give the location number and you will receive the code to access the machine.

The other two defibrillators are to the left of the village hall entrance, and at the school.

## CHURCH NOTICES

### Services at St Leonards:

Sunday 9th June - Holy Communion 11 am

with Rev'd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick.

Sunday 23rd June - 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, Lorna Bowden – 01409 271384

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



# MUM'S THE WORD

BY ANN GOODSPEED



Since returning from Gran Canaria, and whilst the weather was unsettled, I thought a good use of my time would be to learn Spanish in preparation for our return trip in January.

I have two apps that I'm following and a book that bears little resemblance to the order of lessons in the app. I am however, disciplining myself, to allow time every day to move a little further along.

What I wasn't prepared for in my app lessons was how low my marks would be and how I'd have to repeat over and over the same responses that I knew were right.

Predicted text.

Once I had bothered to read my answers it was clear that I wasn't as dim as I was beginning to think I was and my answers were being changed to what my phone thought I meant.

Up to now I can order a drink, but only of milk or water. I can tell someone when their bus is here (in case they can't see it for themselves) and I can read a sign that the museum is closed. Buying a ticket for a train to Madrid is now a breeze for me and I can take a man, woman, girl or boy with me. I could even use the correct terminology if I was late in reaching the train to apologise for rushing past anyone that happened to be in my way.

I'm not intending spending much time on this section because to my knowledge, there are no trains on the island!



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## EVELYN'S WALK

After several consecutive days without rain, it couldn't stay dry any longer. We met in the Village Hall car park in Chilsworthy on Monday 13th May wearing waterproofs. It was only drizzle but quite wetting. In spite of that, we set off in fine spirits towards The Green which had obviously been cut recently.

Quite an achievement given how wet it's been this spring. We followed the BOAT (By-way Open to All Traffic) which reduced the distance that we needed to walk on the road heading towards the Chapel & Quarry Park. We followed the footpath on the left which took us along the edge of grassy fields. We all commented on the self-closing gate that has replaced the stile. It made the route so much easier especially as stiles can be a bit slippery when they get wet. The route was well marked & took us over the stream via a footbridge & through another self-closing gate. We then followed the footpath across more grassy fields towards the road. This can be quite a busy road running between Chilsworthy & Bradworthy but in reality we only saw a couple of cars before we turned left in approx. 100m along the lane towards Burnards House. The hedge must have been shorter than when we walked this route in August last year as the Tumulus was immediately obvious in the adjacent field. If you look on an OS map, it is marked as Ugworthy Barrow. We walked along the lane which was looking very pretty with Bluebells & frothy Cow Parsley. We passed the entrance to Thorne Manor on our right & then joined the footpath on the left. It's actually the drive for Parnacott House which has an interesting history. There is lots of information on their web site. The footpath continues through the courtyard & along a track towards Parnacott Farm. This is notoriously wet given its close proximity to the route of the Bude Canal in times



gone by. We took a wet but drier route along the footpath on the left. This took us across the fields towards School Lane in Chilsworthy. It was a joy to see the most beautiful Copper Beech tree & watch the lambs playing together before we returned to our cars. The route made a very nice circular route of approx. 3.75 miles. We didn't walk particularly fast & were back within two hours.

The next walk will be on Monday 10th June. We will be setting off from the Village Hall car park at Bratton Clovelly at 10am. Everyone is welcome. Let me know if you need any more information.

Tel: 01409 259 848

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



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# CLAWTON PARISH HALL BY MARALYN BAILEY

Many Clawton residents will have learnt of the sad passing of Clive Tidball. Clive enjoyed the country life, bird watching and fishing. Clive was a larger than life character, originally in Holsworthy having the DIY shop and for relaxation, would host many local events. He was involved with the YFC and many community evenings as a quiz master and compare.

We all send our condolences to Margery and the family.

**June brings a new event for the hall, we have Crazy Mama playing on Saturday 22nd. Tickets are £12 per person, which will include a burger and a drink, (beer, wine, cider or a soft drink). Please see the poster on the back page for details. We would ask that tickets are booked in advance to help us with the catering numbers. Come and support our local band, and enjoy a summer's evening with friends.**

Having a sort out recently at home I realised how many old phones we have!! I researched what could be done with these unwanted items, Macmillan Cancer Support will recycle jewellery, coins and currency, mobile phones, cameras and gadgets plus stamps - please see the leaflet I received on the back page. I would like to make the hall a collection point for such items, the hall is always open on a Monday afternoon 1.45 to 4.30 for bowls, and of course the monthly coffee mornings, or get in touch with me (Maralyn 07368 621009) to arrange a time to meet you. Sadly, cancer touches the lives of so many families, hopefully we can help to support this worthy cause.



May time coffee morning brought the delightful two Nippys direct from Lyon's Corner House in Clawton.

With suitable music and prompt service, all the assembled Clawton folks were well impressed, although no tips were left!



## Women on Wednesday

The next meeting is on Wednesday 5th June 2024 and is the members' annual summer outing.

This year the outing is to Trigon Farm and is for members only who are to meet at

Clawton Village Hall Car Park At 10.30 a.m.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Clawton Parish Hall Saturday 22nd June



## “CRAZY MAMA”

Doors open @ 7pm

**Tickets £12**

To include a burger and a drink  
(Beer Cider Wine & Soft drinks available)

Please call 01409271315 after 6pm to book your tickets

Charity number: 268492  
Raising funds for ongoing improvements to the parish hall

## Items we recycle

### Jewellery

Unwanted gold & silver  
Including damaged items  
Costume Jewellery  
Watches



### Coins & Currency

Banknotes & Coins  
Any currency UK or foreign  
of any age/unchangeable  
currency



### Mobile Phones, Cameras & Gadgets

Mobile Phones · Video Cameras  
Old Film Cameras · Digital  
Cameras · Sat Navs  
Game Consoles · Games &  
Accessories · iPods  
MP3 Players · Tablet Computers



### Stamps

Loose / Single Stamps  
First Day Covers  
Presentation Packs



Please place your items into the sack provided at your designated drop off point or pass to your community fundraising representative.

Alternatively call 0800 633 5323 or email [info@recyclingforgoodcauses.org](mailto:info@recyclingforgoodcauses.org) to request your own collection sack.



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The Fundraising Company Ltd  
14 Amber Business Village  
Aminington, Tamworth, B77 4RP  
0800 633 5323  
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CANCER SUPPORT**

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604).

## Clawton Skittles

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.

The first evening is Friday June 7th.

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