

CLAWTON CLARION August 2020



Welcome to the August 2020 edition of the Clawton Clarion.

This is a very different summer this year, but hopefully the start of the school holidays has brought a break from home schooling for parents and children! While there are few events planned in Clawton for this month we are lucky to be able to enjoy the beautiful countryside around us.

Information in this edition is correct at the time of going to print, but we await announcements throughout August regarding further loosening of restrictions and hope that everyone remains safe and well.

Please send contributions for the next edition by midday on **Thursday 20th August 2020** 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

St Leonard's Church



St Leonard's church will be open from 1st August for private prayer and visitors. It is not yet known when services will be able to start.

Can visitors please respect social distancing and maintain appropriate hygiene during their visits.

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

From Paul Grafton

Litter in Clawton



It is apparent that much of the wayside litter in our lanes comes from recycling bins on breezy nights. It would be great if everyone could find a way of covering the plastics bin (with the glass bin maybe, or a piece of wood). It would also be helpful if when picking up the empty recycling bins you could also pick up anything which has blown out. Many thanks.



Welcome New Neighbours

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Clawton's new residents, Matt and Alison Myers. We wish them many years of happiness in their new home at 2, Memorial Cottages.

Parish Hall report by Maralyn Bailey

Our report for the month of July is that the work being carried out is making great progress, thanks to Anthony, Ken and Graham the drainage issues are being addressed, the whole project has been like a scene from WW1.

My friend Lyn has carried out sterling work inside the hall, giving all areas a fresh look. For this I am really grateful. We will look smart when we are able to re-open.

We have been storing a full size pool table for the Social Club, which is no longer needed, it has a slate base, full set of balls, plus over head lights, the main cloth may need attention, and comes with a chipboard protector. It will need to be collected from the hall, and will probably need four people as it is quite heavy. If you are interested we would like £65 for it.



There are also 4 oval shaped tables (approx. 6ft long) and up to 30 plastic chairs **free and available** to new homes – collection required.

Also, if anyone has 500 piece jigsaws that they no longer need, I have friend that would be most grateful for them.

Please contact Maralyn on 271315 **by August 7th** for more details on any of the above items.

Holsworthy Ales - from Dave Slocombe

The Saturday afternoon opening at the brewery has been a great success in the good weather as we have a large open space in front of the brewery to allow safe socially distant drinking. However, there isn't enough space inside the brewery to cope with significantly more numbers and keep it within the rules prescribed by government so we have decided to cancel the remaining evening events for 2020.

For members you can still claim free drinks on two occasions but just at the brewery shop afternoons rather than evenings. We will also look into potential early evening food options. The afternoons will continue every Saturday until October and I hope to see you at the brewery over the summer



Thanks to Roger Mitchell for the picture

A walk in Holsworthy Hamlets – from Evelyn Sharman

Once the Government advice changed, we could drive somewhere in order to go for a walk. That made a massive difference to our lives as we started to come out of lockdown!! Furthermore, friends can now meet for a walk as long as they travel separately & there should be a maximum of six people. We must also remember to adhere to the current advice about social distancing. It currently stands at one metre plus. On the strength of all that, I arranged to meet a friend at East Vognacott Farm. Ordinarily, it would have been our monthly Inter Parish Walk on Monday 13th July but given the number of people who usually attend, it wouldn't have been feasible to abide by the current advice.

With kind permission of the landowner, we parked in the farm yard. It was a busy day for him as some new concrete was being laid & we were keen not to get in the way. Just as the first lorry load of concrete arrived, we set off & followed the track up towards ScorPhill prepared to do some trimming with our secateurs. We were both delighted to discover that a local contractor engaged by DCC had done the annual cut of the undergrowth. FANTASTIC. It was good to know that their work seems to be going ahead as normal. We followed the footpath



towards Honeycroft Cross just snipping off the occasional bramble as we went through the various gates. I remembered what it used to be like when we had to negotiate the stiles. It was a pleasure to walk through the grassy fields that hadn't been cut so far this year as there were masses of moths & butterflies. We were surprised at one point at how much the undergrowth had grown but with two of us, it didn't take long to create a path through the brambles. The footpath met the lane & we turned right heading towards Holsworthy Beacon. When we got to the entrance to Gearns Farm, we followed the concrete road leading down into the farm yard. Then we joined the footpath that brought us back to ScorPhill. I bet you are wondering how we managed to avoid tramping through the freshly laid concrete. The land owner had very kindly given us permission to walk through his pasture on the way back to our cars. The timing was such that we returned just as the second lorry load of concrete arrived. I will look forward to returning to see the result. I'm sure it will pay dividends over the winter months as it is notoriously wet along that section.

Confirming that the monthly Inter Parish walks are still not taking place for the time being but I hope that we will be able to resume the programme before too much more time elapses. I will update you in the next newsletter.

Agricultural Plant and Vehicle Theft – Devon and Cornwall police rural affairs team

Latest figures show that the theft of agricultural plant and vehicles continues to increase, with a surge in the theft of smaller vehicles such as quad bikes, tractors and navigations systems. This has a financial and emotional impact on rural businesses and their families, impacting on animal welfare and food production.

What do you need to do?

Farmers and members of the public should be vigilant in the countryside reporting any suspicious activity to the police noting vehicle details and descriptions.

How can you prevent this?

- Enjoy the countryside and help protect farmers by following the countryside code.
- Keep a record of serial numbers, photograph equipment showing identity & unique features.
- Immobilise vehicles and machinery in a lockable building with the keys removed and secured.
- Utilise property marking and fit trackers. Remove tractor GPS systems when not in use.
- Anyone able to offer information is asked to email 101@dc.police.uk, call 101 or Call crimestoppers anonymously 08007 830 137.
- Join Devon & Cornwall Alert and farm watch so that we can tell you what is happening in your area.



Fond Memories from Him up at Town Farm - Written with tears in my eyes from self-containment, Les Johnson.

The Britain of my childhood
I see through rosy eyes,
For us children in the Fifties
Our limits were the skies.

People seemed much kinder then,
Less hurried, more keen to smile,
And everyone was so polite
They queued in single file.

It's true there were wet summers
And often heavy fogs,
But in the cold, damp winters
Open fires burnt fragrant logs.

Children's television programmes
Were broadcast just once a day,

But we youngsters never minded –
We went outside to play.

In cinemas they played the Anthem
As soon as films had ended,
And we each stood to attention,
All our realms defended.

That was my Britain way back then
Like a distant fairy tale,
A pleasantly recalled dream
That is not Great Britain now.

I suppose each generation
Will look back on years gone by
And they will, too, be full of praise,
"It was all so wonderful", they'll cry.