

CLAWTON CLARION May 2020



Welcome to the May 2020 edition of the Clawton Clarion.

As we enter the fifth week of coronavirus restrictions, I hope that everyone is keeping safe and well. Clawton is a community that looks after each other and so please contact the various organisations mentioned by Paul if you have any requirements or concerns.

As you are aware all events, including church services, are currently cancelled until further notice.

Please send contributions for the next edition by midday on **Wednesday 20th May 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

Birthday Wishes: We would like to wish Colin Ayre a very Happy 80th Birthday

St Leonard's Church

In accordance with Coronavirus restrictions, all churches will remain closed. For any church related concerns or queries please contact Rev Stephen Skinner (Priest in charge) Tel No 07554 142264 - email - sjmskinners@btinternet.com

Message from the Chair of Clawton Parish Council, Paul Grafton

The last edition of the Clarion was printed just as the lockdown restrictions were announced so, apart from some in Southcott Garage and a few Irene normally posts, all other copies were put in the bus shelter opposite the former village shop. Very few seem to have been taken but hopefully many have been able to pick it up from our village website www.clawton.org.uk. The remaining copies will be left in the bus shelter for a couple of weeks.

We have decided to post this edition of the Clarion to avoid our distributors having to visit your house.

The Parish Council is responsible for disaster planning for the village – our plan covers a major epidemic and is published on the website. The council's role is to communicate and co-ordinate. We know of at least two families in the village who seem to have contracted the virus and two people who have been hospitalised, one of whom thankfully we know is recovered and back home. It would be helpful if anyone who is showing symptoms – whether needing to be hospitalised or not – could let Paul Grafton know so that the Parish Council has some idea of what is the situation in the village. No names will be passed on to anyone without express permission. We are particularly anxious to know of anyone living alone who might need our support if they contract the virus.

Hopefully, everyone who needs assistance with shopping etc has neighbours or family who are able to help. If anyone does need help please contact any one of the following Parish Councillors:

- Mr Paul Grafton (Chair) 01409 271456 (email: 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

The contact for Tetcott and Luffincott parishes is Julie Smith 01409 271329 should anyone need any shopping or medication/prescriptions picking up.

Assistance with Groceries and other shopping:

- Southcott Stores have kindly offered to take and deliver telephone orders – call 01409 255508.
- 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 older residents 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 MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE!). The delivery orders will be on a designated day such as a Mon/Tue and then their orders will be delivered to them within 24 hours. D&D TAXIS are fully DBS checked by the local authority
- Pat Osborne has offered help, whether it is getting shopping or just messages of support. Pat's contact details are patbramblefarm@gmail.com or mobile number 07788 710098.
- 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
- 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
- Holsworthy Brewery will deliver beer for orders over £20 within 25 miles of the brewery. Orders should be received by Sunday and will be delivered the following Tuesday. For details and prices see www.holsworthyales.co.uk or call 07879 401073.

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

STAY HOME

STAY SAFE


STAY SCAM AWARE

Devon, Somerset and Torbay Trading Standards Service
Commissioned by Devon, Somerset and Torbay Councils

Devon County Council
SOMERSET County Council
TORBAY Council


The outbreak of COVID-19 has seen an increase in scams and doorstep traders who are trying to exploit fear and uncertainty during this difficult time. As individuals and communities, we urge you to keep safe and vigilant in the current environment and look out for scams in your neighbourhood, which often target elderly and vulnerable people.

Types Of Scams




Testing Kits and Cures

There is currently no cure for COVID-19 and limited access to testing kits outside the NHS. When these kits are available, always ensure you are purchasing from a reputable supplier.




Doorstep Crime

There are many genuine community groups and charities that are assisting the most vulnerable, however, be alert for individuals who may be taking money under the false pretence of helping.




Donation Scams

There have been reports of thieves extorting money from consumers by claiming they are collecting donations for a COVID-19 'vaccine'.



Refund Scams

Some companies are offering fake holiday refunds for individuals who have been forced to cancel their trips. People seeking refunds should also be wary of fake websites set up to claim holiday refunds.



Financial Scams

Criminals are seeking to take advantage of the financial uncertainty many people are facing. These include calls/emails pretending to be from your bank, mortgage or internet provider, as well as increases in loan shark activity.

How To Stay Safe

- If you need help, try and use people you know and trust. If you cannot do this, always ask the person for ID, preferably in the form of a driving licence and make a note of their details
- Don't assume everyone is genuine. It is okay to say no and refuse an offer
- Don't open links or attachments from suspicious emails or text messages
- Never give out your personal bank details, pin, passwords to anyone over the phone, online or on your doorstep
- Don't ring the number the caller has given you to check it's genuine. Always try to look the number up for yourself
- If buying online, only make payments if there is a padlock symbol in the browser window frame and you have carefully checked the site and website address for inconsistencies
- If you are unsure, please seek advice from someone you know and trust

We are calling on communities to look out for each other. If you see or hear anything suspicious contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on **0808 223 1133**
For more advice visit our website: www.devonsomersettradingstandards.gov.uk

Guess the parish through a walk by Evelyn Sharman (answer after the poem)

My route starts at Stanbury Cross. It takes me down a very pretty lane which does not have a name & is marked as unclassified on the map. In recent weeks it has been so pretty with primroses. They have definitely brightened up my day. Now that they are starting to fade, they are quickly being replaced by a mass of other flowers including celandines, blue bells, pink campions & violets. I have to admit that there are lots of other much smaller flowers in the hedgerow that I haven't identified. Silly really because I have had plenty of time on my hands to do so!! At the bottom of the hill, a stream passes under the road at what I believe is known locally as Lamerton Bridge. I have learned that it's best not to mention the name Lamerton when giving directions for fear that any visitors go heading in the direction of Tavistock. Postcodes are a wonderful thing! The lane then goes up hill with Devon banks on both sides which offer pedestrians & cyclists some protection from the prevailing south westerly wind. Along my route there is an unadopted road/track on my left which leads down to a collection of six properties. Until a couple of years ago, there were only five properties. One of the original stone buildings that was possibly associated with the Holsworthy branch of the Bude canal has been converted into a private residence. Two of the original stone piers have been kept as relics from the past. Looking to the right from the road, I can see house boats through the trees. They won't be visible for much longer once the leaves adorn the trees. They provide accommodation for anybody looking for a tranquil holiday in close proximity to wildlife. It's a real haven for water birds. From this point, it's a steady uphill climb on a much straighter bit of road for about half a mile. Towards the top, there has been a magnificent Magnolia tree in blossom in a property adjacent to the road. I could smell the scent from the verge. Before long there will be a carpet of petals making it look as though it has been snowing. My route ends at Blagdonmoor Cross having covered a distance of approximately two miles.

A poem from solitary confinement (from Les Johnson)

Oh! what a beautiful day 08 April.

All the blackthorn blossom
Is bursting on the bough,
Bespangling the hedgerows
With frothy white flowers now.

All the searching curlew
Are larking in the mud,
Prodding for the lugworms
Stranded from the flood.

All the doggies wagging
Walks along the strand,
Sniffing, marking, barking,
And strutting rather grand.

All the rays of sunshine
Fall upon my back,
Filling me with gladness
As I stroll along the track.

All the world is waiting
As the virus spreads,
Caught in trepidation
apprehension fills out heads.

But get out into the sunshine
Do not wait in fear,
Spring is here this moment
Grasp it whilst it's here.

Answer to walk parish – Holsworthy Hamlets

A Thought from Rev Stephen

Thomas is someone with whom I feel a great deal of empathy – not least because he is often misunderstood. People often describe him as “Thomas the Doubter” – and mean this in negative terms. He was not present when Jesus first appears to the ten disciples, and he got ‘ragged’ for missing out on the amazing experience of seeing their hero alive again in the flesh. I think Thomas was rather grumpy about their critical attitude, and quite understandably said that he would not believe what they were saying unless he could also see Jesus physically alive ‘in the flesh’. Jesus knew, in his spirit, that Thomas was upset and wanted to meet him too – which is why he so graciously reappeared a week later in the very same venue. Thomas was invited by Jesus to touch his blood-stained wounds, and then cried out those immortal words: “My Lord and my God!” St John records this acclamation as the climatic confession of his Gospel – above and beyond any other disciple. It is clear to me that we are invited to make an identical response to the wonderful story of Jesus’ resurrection – to believe for ourselves that Jesus is our Lord and Saviour too.

Thus Thomas sets before us a brilliant example of how we can bring our questions, doubts and uncertainties to God, in a spirit of enquiry, rather than cynicism. God welcomes open and honest questioning about the things that trouble us in life – not least the havoc being wrought through the ravages of Covid19. I suggest that like Thomas, you don’t bottle up your upset at the state of our world in this pandemic, but bring your struggles of faith to God, and then seek for some answers. These will come as you spend time in deepening your encounter with Jesus, who loves you and really does seek your welfare. He will grant to you and those you love life-giving spiritual energy for these tough days.

I’ll end with part of a Sonnet for Thomas, by Malcolm Guite:

“We do not know . . . how can we know the way?
Courageous master of the awkward question,
You spoke the words the others dared not say
And cut through their evasion and abstraction.
Because he loved your awkward counterpoint,
The Word has heard and granted you your wish.
O place my hands with yours, help me divine
The wounded God whose wounds are healing mine.”

USEFUL CONTACTS

There is a very comprehensive list of useful contacts compiled by the Ruby Country Medical Group. It is not only contact details for various medical services but also the various social services, utilities such as electricity and water, commercial organisations who are offering to deliver and individual offers of help.

At 23 pages long it’s too big to even summarise here but you can find it in the Coronavirus section of the village website or on the Ruby Country Medical Group website <https://www.rubycountrymedicalgroup.co.uk/>