

HUNTSHAM VILLAGE HALL

COMMUNITY CENTRE, TROYTE HALL, HUNTSHAM

NEWSLETTER 79 – August/September 2014

Editor: Marian Webster ☎ 01398 361655 email: huntshamnewsletter@outlook.com

The Village Hall

Village Hall Committee Chairman,
Derwyn Pierce ☎ 361419

To book the hall,
please contact **Lorraine Woodward**
☎ 361716 or lorraine@clemwoodward.co.uk

Over 60's Club

Wed 6th August, Visit to Lower Ebear Gardens & Museum. £10 per member (includes entry and full tea)

Wed 3rd September, Talk by David Wall of the Huntsham Society, entitled "*Victorian Huntsham*"
Contact Doris Hayes (Secretary) ☎ 332040

Book Club

August book: **Animal Farm** by George Orwell.
Book Club meetings take place assorted homes in and around the village.
Please contact Neenie Cope for more details ☎ 361578

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

In Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

Huntsham Saturday Club

The Saturday clubs is open every Saturday in Village Hall. Fully licensed bar open from 8pm, In-house games include pool, darts and table tennis. This is a great value family night out.

Mens Skittles

Play on Wednesday Contact John Sady ☎ 361452

Mixed Skittles

Play on Mondays Contact Shirley Hutter ☎ 351498

Short Mat Bowls

Regular playing sessions; Fridays 7.30 to 10.30pm. Coaching by arrangement, Friday 2.30-4.30pm Membership fee £10. Playing fees £2 a session. We would welcome new recruits to the club, including any children over 10.
Contact John Buckle ☎ 323708

Huntsham Society

Next meeting on Thursday 28th August, at 7:30pm.
Contact David & Lindsay Wall ☎ 361310

VILLAGE EVENTS

In Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

To celebrate the Village Hall's "New Cooker".....



A Mexican Supper!

Saturday 23rd August,
7pm - 11pm
A great evening ahead!

Pre- Book food tickets as numbers are limited
Adults £6 per head & Children £3 per head

Raffle, Cocktails, Music, Fancy Dress Optional!
Lots of fun and laughter

Contact The Woodwards to book
☎ 361716 or email clem@clemwoodward.co.uk

Village Hall Céilidh/Barn Dance

Saturday 20th September 7.00pm



Entertainment for all the family
Live Music by "**Wurlygig**", with Caller
Bread, cheeses, pickles.
Bar till 11.00pm.

Tickets £7 Adults, £5 Children

Contact Tim for tickets ☎361329

Friday 26th September

Harvest Festival

Church Service at 6.30pm



Followed by Harvest Supper 7.30 for 8pm
Supper tickets £6.00

After the meal there will be an auction of
Huntsham 'produce'
(Vegetables, fruit, pickles, cakes, pies etc)

All Auction donations very welcomed

Contact Joyce for tickets ☎361328

THE VILLAGE PUMP

A warm welcome to ...

- Stuart Burnett and Bianca-Jayne Coles who have moved into Huntsham Barton Cottage.
- And a farewell to Samuel Nicholson who is moving from Shellbrook Cottages in the near future.

Huntsham Oil Buying Group

If you would like to be included in the Huntsham Oil buying group, please contact;
Village co-ordinators Mike & Maxine Winning ☎361372
or Farm co-ordinator Maggie Goddard ☎361246

Rubbish collection dates

All collections scheduled for Wednesday mornings, with one exception being Thursday 28th August.

New Church Gates for All Saints

The Troyte Ringing Centre has now been operating for ten years and during this time has raised more than £25,000 from donations received from those who like to hear the bells rung. Most of this money is given to local charities and these include Huntsham Church, The Farm Community Network for its work in Devon and the Devon Bell Restoration Fund. From time to time we have made small donations to other local charities and these have included Huntsham Village Hall and Bampton Primary School.

For some time now we have been concerned about the condition of the gates to the south porch at Huntsham Church. The porch provides a good background for wedding photographs, especially with the roses in bloom, but the gates had reached a very sad and sorry state of disrepair, so bad in fact that they were beyond repair. So we decided that as part of our ten year celebrations we would fund new English Oak gates as exact replicas of the original. Of course we needed a faculty from the Diocese and work could not start until the necessary permission was issued by the Chancellor. All these hurdles have been overcome and Simon Hunt, furniture maker, of Wiveliscombe is now making the new gates. So within a few weeks we will have new gates using all the original ironwork and looking as good as they did in 1850.

Michael Hatchett, Troyte Ringing Centre

A very big 'Thank You' to the Troyte Ringing Centre for this splendid 'new' addition to our Church Mrs Ed

Report on recent village events

Garden

Fete

Sat 8th
June

With Margaret unable to steer the organisation of the fete, more than ever, everyone behind the scenes seemed to work together, ably directed by Joyce. The weather forecast in the days preceding the annual church fete was for rain, so the decision was taken to hold it in the village hall rather than in the grounds of Huntsham House. The Tiverton band occupied the bar area and the hall was packed with stalls, leaving just enough room for the 'cream teas'. In the event, the rain kept away and the sun came out. This allowed for additional stalls to be set up outside and for the dog show to run in the old play area adjoin the village hall. The crowds turned out in force, making the church fete a resounding success, generating over £1,500 towards church funds.

Thanks to everyone to 'behind the scenes' for all their efforts and to everyone that attended and supported this event.

Huntsham PCC

Clay Shoot

Sat 5th July

This year's Clay Shoot had over 90 entries and the atmosphere was friendly but very competitive. Thank you to everyone who helped, and in particular thanks go to Richard Cross for the use of the field, Dan Adams of Huntsham Shoot for all the cash prizes, Derek Boldrey for loan of clay traps (and for setting them up) and to Paul Stag for the days fishing. Thanks also to Mark Sparrow from Shillingford who came second in the novice class, and kindly donated his winnings back to the fundraising kitty.

After expenses the Clay Shoot made over £600 which was divided between the Village Hall and Church.

John Sady

We would really like to thank John for organising the Clay Shoot and all his fundraising efforts. It is a huge effort and once again he has made a large amount to benefit the village community. Three cheers for John.

Huntsham PCC

Duck Race

Sat 19th
July

Despite the threat of thunderstorms, the sun shone brightly on Huntsham's Annual Duck Race.

The winning duck, owned and trained by **Trisha Bolt**, triumphed over all obstacles to swim through to the finishing line, albeit upside down.

Festivities continued afterwards at the Village Hall with a delicious barbecue, home-made cakes and chilled drinks from the Bar's brand new fridge. We also now have a new cooker!

The Duck Race raised over £500. Thanks to Chris and Gill Bolt for hosting the event on their lovely stretch of river.

Tim Britton

Open letter from Daniel Adams, of the Huntsham Shoot

Dear Huntsham, Thank you very much for a warm welcome to the village and my own personal intro in the newsletter. Living up at Keepers is a delight, even with the millions of potholes to contend with everyday. I am very much looking forward to making a real go of things on the Shoot, but do understand it may not be everyone's cup of tea. This being said we are here to live and work alongside the village and would ask anyone having any issues with the pheasants to contact myself direct so we can deal with the situation. I am sure there might be the odd vegetable grower in the Village who would rather not see their purple sprouting broccoli beheaded!! So we will endeavour to remove any offending birds and relocate them.

I would ask the village to understand that the woods and cover crop areas are kept quiet and where possible, not disturbed. Therefore please stick to the footpaths, and help ensure that the birds are not encouraged to wonder off. If anyone would like to help keep the birds within the shoot area, there will be plenty of boundary walking to do and we would be grateful for any assistance. Please give me a ring so we can arrange a suitable route.

I will also be looking for some local Beaters for the coming season, so if you fancy getting involved, please contact us. Also do not be afraid to ask for a brace of birds in season, we would be happy to drop them off.

Kind regards
Dan and the Team.

☎ 01398 361712 or 07737844339

email danadams23@hotmail.co.uk



HUNTSHAM SOCIETY JOTTINGS

And the wonderful warm summer continues! It seems a long time since we have had such a benign year, the only slight grumble being that a few more well spaced showers of rain would be useful to we gardeners. The farmers, however, are smiling having got a decent cut of grass or two and the barley fields are already being reaped in near optimal conditions.

Last year gave us a bumper crop of berries and I quite thought that this year would be a lean one. Far from it, the Beech, Holly, Sycamore, Hawthorn and Ash are groaning under the weight of fruit so the thrushes, tits and finches will not go short of food until winter at least. It's strange that no sooner was I lamenting the absence of House Martins and Spotted Flycatchers in the last Newsletter than they both turned up! The Flycatcher fledged three young and the House Martin brood of three is on the brink of leaving and ready to join the 20-25 or so that are flying over the village now.

My first report of a Green Woodpecker this year was from Dot Southward who heard and saw one fly over our houses on 15th July. Not to be outdone, however, Tony Cross tells me he has had one feeding on his peanuts daily from about the same date. Could it be the same one? Tony also says he heard a Cuckoo towards Kerswell 21st April, which reminds me that 8-year-old Callum, great grandson of Derek and Doreen Bolt, apparently heard a strange bird call while walking on Exmoor this year - it was his very first Cuckoo!

More good bird sightings from Bob Craig who has seen a Kingfisher pass up and down the river at the end of his garden several times and Tim Britton's second local Red Kite of the year near the golf ball in mid June. I glimpsed a Water Rail at Tony Cross's lake in mid June, a real skulker. Dot Southward was lucky to have a Garden Warbler in her garden. This is a small, really plain 'LBJ' (little brown job) best identified by its song.

Otter spraint is oily and exceedingly smelly. It is also irresistible to Sam, Bob Craig's dog, who evidently found some in their garden and relished rolling in it, much to Bob's annoyance! Dan Adams saw a very unusual sight in June, a tight-knit family of eight Stoat crossing the lane near Westcombe "like a wave".

Villagers and visitors to the church of all persuasions must really appreciate the shared tending of the churchyard between Gerald Foxford (tidy) and Tim Britton (wildlife). In Spring Gerald's lower half of the churchyard is a picture with massed Snowdrops while in Summer Tim's top half becomes a kaleidoscope of meadow flowers that attract many butterflies. The village is very lucky to have two people willing and able to do the work.

We have started printing a series of short Notes relating to the village. The first one is '**After Many Years**' by **Angelina Troyte**, a fascinating personal account of living in the old Huntsham Court with revealing descriptions of her highly principled father, Arthur Acland Troyte. And the second is '**A Missing Church Cross**' by **David Wall**, an attempt to explain the origin of a damaged plinth in the churchyard. Both can be bought (for a song) from Lindsay Wall at Hayes House or The Heritage Centre at St Michael and All Angels, Bampton.

The next Huntsham Society meeting will be on 28th August at 7:30pm at the Village Hall. We are a small group with the interests of Huntsham at heart and new members would be particularly welcome. The bar will be open.

David Wall: ☎ 361310 or david-wall@lineone.net



HUNTSHAM
SOCIETY



[New Committee members sought](#)
Would you like to join a friendly group and contribute to Huntsham village?

If so, please contact Derwyn ☎ 361419

Please note new our email address huntshamnewsletter@outlook.com. If you would like to submit news or highlight a village event, the deadline for next newsletter (covering October and November) is 25th September. Mrs Ed