
MILTON DAMEREL

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2026

104th. Edition



Hummingbird Hawk-moth. Photo by Peter Bromley

A Day as an Arboricultural Apprentice at RHS Garden Rosemoor – By Ellie Reed



Every day as an Arb Apprentice at RHS Rosemoor is different. Our team's main responsibility is caring for the 120 acres of woodland and ensuring all the trees in our 65 acres of garden are safe to the public. This involves various tasks. We climb trees for any dismantles, deadwood removals or even installing kit for events happening in the garden. This can be difficult at times as it is incredibly important not to damage any beds underneath and around the tree. We also conduct felling in accordance with our woodland management plan to bring some of our woodlands from conifer plantations back to native species, while also considering what species are likely to cope in the changing climate.

Additionally, we carry out many tree inspections within the garden. Most trees in the garden need to be inspected at least every 1-2 years to ensure visitor safety. This involves thoroughly examining the trees and highlighting any potential risk on our system. These risks could be anything from deadwood over a path, to fungal fruiting bodies present causing decay. Works are then carried out to reduce these risks. For example, I would remove the deadwood over the path and conduct investigative measures to determine extent of decay from the fungal fruiting bodies. A large part of the role is also retaining and managing our veteran and champion trees. These are individual trees which are exceptional examples of their species, of which we are lucky enough to have many. This can be a balancing act of retaining highly valuable trees but also mitigating any health and safety issues as these trees tend to be over-mature and likely have some risk factors. We ensure that all trees are safe within the garden and necessary precautions are taken whilst also keeping to the RHS's sustainability goals and the overall formal garden aesthetic.



The Market Café

Open Tuesday – Friday 9.00am till 2.30 pm

**All-Day Breakfast – Sandwiches – Burgers
Weekly Specials, or pop in for a Tea or Coffee
Eat in or Take Away!**

LJ & VH Harris

Find us at Kivells, Holsworthy Livestock Market,
New Market Road,, Devon, EX22 7FA

The Market Café

On Tor

Mobile catering provided for your event !

Contact Linda; 07800 865 295
themarketcafeholsworthy@gmail.com

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Centenary Photograph Competition win £10

To celebrate newsletter editions reaching the hundreds, 104th now, and continuing success of the newsletter there will be an opportunity to submit photographs for use on the front cover of the newsletter. This editions photograph was submitted by Ben Richardson.

Please send in your photographs which could be used as the front cover of future editions. Anything will be considered, something old or new just with a Milton Damerel or a seasonal theme. Anyone's photograph chosen and printed for the cover will be receive a prize of £10. The only restriction is it must be your photograph and by submitting it you give permission for it to be reproduced as the front cover of the Newsletter.

The next issue will be the Winter edition number 105 and we must receive any photographs by the end of October. Please send to mdnlad@hotmail.co.uk

Winner of competition for front page of this edition is Peter Bromley

Councillors:

Stephen Moyse	07966 671543 (Chairperson)	Richard Piper	01409 261114 (Vice Chairperson)
Jim Richardson	07866 406977	Gareth Piper	07966 558385
Teresa Walters	01409 261871	Peter Bromley	01409 261838
Edgar Pett	01409 261277	Jane Elliott	07773 679559 (Clerk)

May 2026

District Councillor Nigel Kenneally reported that Councillor Ken James has been re-elected as the leader of Torridge District Council; the council has two years left to run until the LGR takes effect. Councillor NK has been elected to the internal/external committee and to the planning committee. He aims to call in Live West Homes regarding their policy of stripping carpets when a tenancy ends. The new Holsworthy Agribusiness Centre is funded through a specific government grant that cannot be used for dentists/potholes etc It is important that good, strong businesses including local farmers/producers are encouraged to occupy the infrastructure. There was no update on the Beacon Solar but another major project has been hinted at. He has been making enquiries about the planning enforcement system to understand how each application is vetted; in future councillors may be able to call in planning matters. New play areas have been approved in Great Torrington and Holsworthy with 75% funding coming from Sports England. These areas will not be exclusively targeted at sports groups and aim to provide a free play area for kids who want to kick a ball around. The market in Holsworthy Square has only two regular pitches and is losing revenue. The loss of the town banks and the decline of the market have had an impact of trade but on a positive note there are only two empty shops in the town centre. Councillor Kenneally offered to assist with the financial implications of the installation of a new dog waste bin near Holy Trinity Church. The Clerk was instructed to contacts TDC & Vicky Feather to move this process forwards.

Cllr. Bromley reported on behalf of Milton Damerel PCC on the temporary removal of slates from the lynch gate at Holy Trinity church. Repairs had failed and a considerable sum of money is required to fulfil the duty of care required by Health and Safety. The PCC have applied for funding.

Cllr. Richardson reported that a new defibrillator has been installed at the parish Hall thanks to the British Heart Foundation.

Planning matters:

No Planning matters this month

AGM May 27th 2026

Councillor Teresa Walters proposed and it was seconded by Councillor Peter Bromley that Councillor Stephen Moyse be elected Chair for the forthcoming year, there being no other contenders the proposal was unanimously carried.

Councillor Gareth Piper proposed and it was seconded by Councillor Jim Richardson that Richard Piper be elected Vice Chair for the forthcoming year, there being no other contenders the proposal was unanimously carried.

June 2026

The car accident at Venn Green was discussed, with the main concern that everyone involved was ok. There is growing concern about the speed at which vehicles are travelling on this road. Councillor Moyse has been in contact with Highways and is waiting for an engineer to visit as the average speed is currently recorded at 40mph which those present agreed was incorrect. Speedwatch crews had been active led by Michael Jackson who had also contacted the Parish Council about the installation of speed signs.

District Councillor Nigel Kenneally reported that he has now allocated his locality budget, retaining £100 to give to youth sport.

He has been added to the planning committee and explained that councillors cannot call in schedule one applications or industrial developments. Planning reform has created Gateway assessments under the Town and Country Planning Regulation 2026. The Government is introducing a new rule on National Infrastructure meaning local councillors will not get a say in large scale developments. Councillor Pett added that this new rule will enable solar farms, such as Beacon Solar, to be pushed through.

A decision on the LGR is expected on 16th July

Beacon Solar is on hold as the national grid has no capacity for the power it will generate and their website is no longer visible.

The annual AGAR was read out agreed and signed. In addition, the new IT Policy was adopted to conform to Assertion 10 regarding digital information.

Cllr. R Piper reported dangerous potholes on the A388 at Wolden Mill What3words Bystander.Shame.Neat

BT Open Reach appear to be adding fibre broadband at Shop Cross, Five Ways, Lower Lodge and Venn Green. When this is installed copper phone lines will no longer exist meaning some older residents may be isolated

Cllr. Moyses asked for the members to agree to making enquiries for a hedge trimming contractor as the previous contractor was no longer available.

Roads and potholes continue to be a major concern.

Planning matters:

1/0359/2026/FULM Straw Storage Building Worden Farm. No objections

1/0373/2026/LBC Convert Garage Milton Mill. No objections

July 2026

No District or County Councillors present this month.

Bank signatories, this is still an ongoing issue with Nat West and the Bank Mandate

Dog waste bin outstanding Clerk to follow this up with TDC

Speeding signs ongoing. Chair S Moyses awaiting contact response from Highways and update from Councillor Nigel Kenneally regarding the recent crash at Comfort Cottage

Pothole raised drain Waldon Hill W262007534 outstanding, resend to Highways

Planning matters:

1/0451/2026/FUL Demolition of existing barns and erection of 5no. dwellings in lieu of Class Q approval

1/0130/2025/AGMB

Agricultural building at 240149 111333 Milton Damerel.

Next meetings 2026 held at the Parish Hall at 19:30

Wednesday 19th August

Wednesday 16th September

Wednesday 21st October

Wednesday 16th November

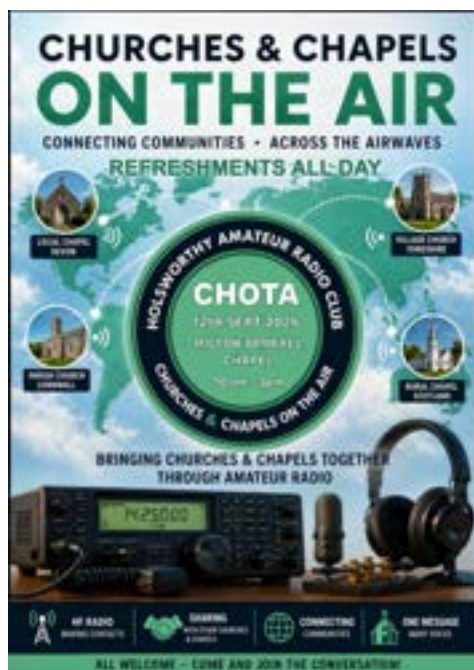
Wednesday 20th December

Members of the public and welcome. There is 15 minutes allocated to public matters, please apply to the Clerk if you wish to make any representation at the next meeting.

clerk@miltondamerelparishcouncil.gov.uk

01409 281724

Chapel News – September 2026



An interesting opportunity

The Newsletter group are looking for a Compiler to take over from David who is getting on a bit.

Some computer knowledge is required and it takes a little time every three months.

If you like puzzles and a bit of a challenge then give it a go, the end result is very satisfying.

Give David a ring on 07434024113 if you would like more information on the process.

HELP TO KEEP THE NEWSLETTER GOING

Chapel News – September 2026

Thought for the Month

Getting Ready for Harvest

“The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, has blessed us.”

Psalm 67:6

Hello! As this is my first contribution to the Milton Damerel Newsletter, I thought I ought to begin by introducing myself. I'm Deacon Debbie, and I serve as a Methodist Deacon within the Torridge Methodist Circuit. You may see me around Milton Damerel from time to time – and hopefully, as the months go by, I will get to know more of you. Being a Deacon means that much of my ministry is about being **out and about amongst people**. Yes, you will find me leading worship and preaching in our Methodist churches, but diaconal ministry is also about being alongside people in everyday life: listening, caring, serving our communities and looking for where God might already be at work beyond the walls of our churches.

And I have a feeling that sometimes God is rather more interested in what is happening *outside* our church buildings than we imagine!

As I write this, we are approaching harvest time. Living and ministering in a rural area means we are surrounded by reminders that food doesn't simply appear on a supermarket shelf. Behind it are months of work, planning and uncertainty. Seed has been sown. Fields have been tended. Animals have been cared for. There have been early mornings and long days. And through it all there has been one thing nobody can completely control – the weather!

Farmers know perhaps better than most that we can do everything possible, but ultimately there are things beyond our control. I know that for many farmers the struggle of bluetongue and TB recently can be devastating, let alone the heat and dry weather we have had so much of. So my prayers for you are ongoing as we go into harvest season.

The Bible is full of images of sowing, growing and harvesting because Jesus spoke to people who understood the land. They knew that between sowing a seed and gathering a harvest there was a lot of waiting, hoping and trusting.

Psalm 67 says: **“The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, has blessed us.”**

Harvest reminds us to be thankful – not only for the food on our tables, but for the people whose work helps put it there. It also reminds us that much of what is precious in life takes time to grow.

Perhaps that is true of communities too.

I am still very new to the Torridge Circuit and to communities such as Milton Damerel. I don't yet know everyone, and I certainly don't know all the stories of this place. Those things take time. Relationships cannot be hurried any more than a field can be told to produce its crop before it is ready.

So, for now, perhaps I am doing a little sowing – saying hello, meeting people, listening, sharing a cup of tea, and discovering what God is already doing here.

My hope as a Deacon isn't simply to bring church to the community. It is to discover with you where God is **already present in the community** – in kindness between neighbours, in friendships, in caring for someone who is struggling, in laughter, in generosity and in those moments when somebody simply takes the time to listen.

As harvest approaches, perhaps we can all stop for a moment and notice what is growing around us.

And maybe ask:

What am I thankful for?

What good things are growing in our community?

And what small seed of kindness, friendship or hope might I sow today?

I look forward to getting to know Milton Damerel in the months ahead.

Every blessing,

Deacon Debbie

Torridge Methodist Circu

Services at Milton Damerel Methodist Church from September to November 2026

Sunday, 13 th September	All Age Worship with Mrs Linda Davis
Sunday, 20 th September	Café Worship
Sunday, 11 th October	Harvest Festival All Age Worship with Mrs Margaret Price
Sunday, 18 th October	Café Worship
Sunday, 8 th November	Remembrance All Age Worship with Mr Michael New Holy Communion
Sunday, 15 th November	Café Worship

Our 2 services per month, normally held in the Schoolroom at 11am, are inclusive of all ages from the youngest to the eldest. Normally the 2nd Sunday service is led by one of our Ministers or Lay Preacher, and an activities table for children is provided. The 3rd Sunday service is in Café Worship style and is inclusive of activities, crafts, songs, readings, etc., for all to contribute and join in. Please come along to any of our services – a warm welcome to you. Tea & Coffee served during Café Worship and following All-Age Worship.

Dates of Services at Lake Methodist Church (Shebbear)

On the 4th Sunday of each month, the churches within the Shebbear Church Council, are meeting for morning worship together – **all at 10.30am and at Lake Methodist Church**. Normally these are United Services with members of St Michael's Parish Church, Shebbear.

Sunday, 27th September	Preacher: Mrs Margaret Price	Harvest
Sunday, 25th October	Preacher: Deacon Debbie Marsh	
Sunday, 22nd November	Preacher: Mr David Ley	Holy Communion

Flower Plan

13th September	11th October	8th November	13th December
Christine Poole	Suzanne Askham	Phyllis Piper	Christmas Flowers
	Harvest		

At Home Worship - Circuit offers Zoom services and Live Stream of Buckland Brewer's services.

Zoom @ 6.30pm –	Sunday 13th September	Revd Andrew Vidamour
	Sunday 11th October	Mr David Watson
	Sunday 8th October	Mrs Elsie Potter

The services can be accessed via a computer/laptop with camera/microphone, iPad/phone or using the normal phone – even if you have a device with camera/microphone and do not wish to be seen, you can join in without the camera on – please contact Sarah Richards, our Circuit Administrator, on 01237 472649 or email her sarahrichards185@gmail.com for details on how to join the 'meeting'.

Live Stream – Buckland Brewer continue to Live Stream Services on the **Buckland Brewer Methodist Church You-Tube Channel** on **3rd & 4th Sundays**

Shebbear Church Councils – Lunch Together – was held at Holsworthy Golf Club on Sunday, 21st June when 17 people from across our Chapels enjoyed a lovely Sunday roast and desserts and had a good time of socialising together.

A busy Autumn ahead:

Churches and Chapels on the Air – Saturday, 12th September – 10am – 3pm. Holsworthy Amateur Radio Group will be linking up across the air waves from Milton Damerel Chapel. See poster below/overleaf. Please drop in at any time during the day and be briefed by HARG and take part. Refreshments served throughout the day. Donations for Chapel funds.

Cake & Chatter Session – Wednesday, 16th September 10am – 12 noon. With Deacon Ruth Richey, District Mission Area Lead, and Deacon Debbie Marsh, of our Circuit, to join together in an opportunity to reflect together on the life of the church in the present moment, be honest about both the joys and the challenges and consider God's direction for the future – both for church and circuit. For those unable to attend there is a questionnaire if you would like to contribute to the review, sessions are being held at every Chapel in the Circuit. Please contact Grace Millman (07970 792557) if you would like to receive a copy. We look forward to you joining in the discussion – please come along.

Farmers Social Evenings – Thursday, 17th September 7 – 9 pm An opportunity for farmers to connect with each other, to build friendships. See poster below/overleaf. 1st session and to be held every Thursday thereafter. All farmers, all ages, are welcome to join in for Cake and Coffee/Tea.

Harvest Festival Week-end – 9th to 11th October – Starting on 9th October, the Chapel will be open during the day for receipt of gifts of produce and flowers, and arranging the displays around the Chapel. All welcome to join in these activities. Gifts of non-perishable foods and household items will be donated to Holsworthy Foodbank. The Celebration service will be led by Mrs Margaret Price, a Circuit Local Preacher, at 11am on Sunday, 11th October, and will be followed by a Pasty and Salads lunch with desserts. All most welcome to join in all the activities/events, and stay for the lunch, for which there will be no charge, but donations for Chapel Funds will be appreciated.

BIBLE Day.....31st October from 2.30 – 5.30pm in the Schoolroom

Remembrance Sunday – 8th November – Arrangements for Remembrance Sunday will be advertised later in the Autumn.

BIBLE STUDY – 10.30am in the Schoolroom at Milton Damerel Chapel, This is an Ecumenical 'venture' and a warm welcome to anyone interested in joining us. We meet monthly and select topics / Bible books for study material. The next Study is on 29th September and will be on the subject of Prayer.

Please contact David & Janet Fisher (Tel: 07858506973) or Grace Millman (Tel: 01409261251) for further information.

CONTACTS – For further information or help please contact: Circuit Minister: Revd Andrew Vidamour (Tel: 01237 478453) Our steward: Jeremy Sharp (Tel: 01409 261548), Property Steward: vacant; Secretary: vacant.

‘CELEBRATE THE BIBLE’
(CELEBRATING THE 500TH Anniversary of
William Tyndales New Testament)
Afternoon Teas Display of Historic Bibles
Bring Along Your Family / Interesting Bibles
Stalls by Good Living Bookshop, Bideford
And Good News for Everyone (formally the Gideons)
Childrens Activities
Profits for Bible Society
Event Organised by Ecumenical Bible Study Group

Holy Trinity Church

How to Tell Autumn Has Reached Milton Damerel

Looking Up: Autumn, Prayer and New Hope

Writing an article about autumn while it is still decidedly hot is one of the stranger challenges of parish magazine life. At the time of writing, the sun is shining, the long-range weather forecast does not even reach the magazine's publication date, and I am reflecting on a season that has not yet arrived. It requires a combination of optimism, guesswork and the sort of confidence normally associated with people who predict the weather by examining seaweed.

I began with the words, "As the autumn rain falls across Milton Damerel," but it seemed unwise to tempt fate. "As the leaves begin to turn" felt safer, although by the time you read this, they may either be glowing gold as some are now, or some may well be still stubbornly green. Perhaps the only reliable forecast is that the weather will be warm, cold, wet, dry or quite possibly all four before lunchtime.

However it arrives, autumn will eventually make itself known. The tractors will appear as the lanes widen through dieback and maintenance. Spiders will move indoors without seeking permission, and the annual competition will begin to discover who can survive longest without switching on the heating. Somewhere, someone will confidently announce that it is "too early for a coat" shortly before spending the rest of the day complaining about being cold.

Yet beyond the familiar humour, autumn is a season of uncertainty as well as beauty. For those who work the land, the weather is not merely a subject for conversation; it shapes livelihoods, animals and the work of each day. A forecast that fails to reach the publication date may be amusing for someone writing a magazine article, but uncertainty is far less amusing when crops, livestock and family incomes depend upon what happens next.

This year, that uncertainty is being deepened by concern about bluetongue. For farmers and farming families, this is not simply another item in the news. It means watching animals closely, awaiting results and worrying about what the coming weeks may bring. Across our rural communities there are people carrying fears that may not always be visible when we meet them in the lane, the shop or the churchyard.

That is why prayer matters. When we gather at Holy Trinity, we do not leave the life of the community outside the door. We bring it in with us. The farmer worried about livestock, the family waiting for news, the person facing illness, the neighbour who is lonely and everyone quietly wondering how they will manage whatever lies ahead. In prayer, the scattered homes and hamlets of Milton Damerel are gathered together and held before God.

Prayer does not give us a reliable long-range forecast for life. It does not promise that every difficulty will disappear or that every answer will arrive when we want it. What prayer does is remind us that we do not face uncertainty alone. It opens our eyes to one another and sometimes turns concern into a telephone call, a conversation, an offer of help or the simple reassurance that somebody cares.

Autumn rain may also cause those entering Holy Trinity to look upwards for another reason. We have now applied for a grant of approximately £360,000 towards the work needed to repair the roof. It is an extraordinary amount of money, although apparently medieval roofs do not become cheaper to maintain with age. We must now wait for the outcome, and we will keep everyone informed as we hear more.

In the meantime, Holy Trinity remains open. The roof needs significant work, but worship, prayer and welcome continue beneath it. The doors have not closed, and the life of the church has not stopped. Details of services and events at Holy Trinity and throughout the benefice can be found at www.bradworthybenefice.org.

Perhaps, then, looking up is not only about checking the weather or inspecting the roof. It is also about refusing to let anxiety have the final word. We cannot yet know exactly what this autumn will bring. The forecast does not reach that far. But we can enter it together. Attentive to the needs of our neighbours, prayerful for our farmers and ready to offer practical kindness wherever it is needed.

So, how will we know when autumn has finally reached Milton Damerel and the hamlets? There may be leaves in the lanes, mud on our shoes and a chill in the air. Or it may still be surprisingly warm. Whatever the weather decides to do, Holy Trinity will be open, the community will be held in prayer, and there will always be room beneath the old roof for new hope.

Mark

Revd Mark James, Rector of Bradworthy Benefice, Tel: 01409 251015

[The New Rectory, St Peterswell Lane, Bradworthy, Devon, EX227TG](#)

I'm sharing a [what3words](#) address to help you find this specific location. Tap to see exactly where it is: [tastes loves leaves](#)

<https://w3w.co/tastes.loves.leaves>



Friends of Holy Trinity Church

Thanks again to the small band of volunteers, who attended the Church Cleaning afternoon in June, to delve into hidden corners that remained to be tackled along with the usual ongoing dusting. As it was decided that a quarterly cleaning session would help to keep the Church cleaner, volunteers are again invited to come to the Church on **Tuesday 8 September 2.00pm to 5.00pm** to help out with cleaning and some gardening to tidy up over grown graves etc. As usual refreshments will be provided.

There will be a Cream Tea in the Church on **Saturday 26 September from 2.30pm to 4.30pm** all are welcome to attend. The Church, which is open daily during daylight hours, offers a cool space during these current heatwaves and visitors are welcome. The free Visitors Guide is also available to provide some brief information regarding the building.

This year the Christmas Tree Festival will be held on **Saturday 12 December & Sunday 13 December**. There is plenty of time to get planning and preparing your displays. We would very much appreciate MORE trees being displayed this year from individuals, local organisations and particularly from businesses who may use it as an advertising opportunity. There is no charge for anyone to display a tree, which can be any representation of a Christmas Tree with battery lights where possible due to limited mains outlets.

Efforts continue to secure grant funding to help pay for the restoration of the Church, in particular the roof and of course the lychgate, which for safety reasons has had to have a few slates removed due to roof spars giving way.

Thanks to all supporters who have join the Friends of Holy Trinity Church. It is free to join, there are no subscriptions and there is no requirement to be a Church goer, just an interest in the old building and support for its restoration. Financial support is of course always appreciated.

There are various ways of making donations whether regular or occasional but, signing on with "Easy Fund Raising" is a simple way of raising funds for the Church at NO COST to the participant and with minimal information required to register. When internet shopping with participating business Holy Trinity Church receives a small commission, and whilst many of these are only a few pence, it builds up over time. Please consider joining the scheme and encourage your friends and family to also join for the benefit of Holy Trinity Church. <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how-it-works/>

Roberta Jackson

Email: friendsofholytrinity.md@gmail.com

Friends of Holy Trinity Church, Milton Damerel
Invite you to enjoy a
Cream Tea

Saturday
26th September
2.30pm – 4.30pm
Donations please towards the Church Restoration

CONGRATULATIONS

To:-



WELCOME

To:-

George Orchard, Jess and Family to Moor View, Milton Damerel.



OUR SYMPATHIES

To



We are sorry if we miss any occasions for this page, our coverage is only as up-to-date as YOU provide information to us. see contacts page for details. Thank you.



Once again, the Midsummer Barbeque was blessed with a beautiful evening. There was live music from "The Low Tides" a mix of their own songs and some covers. Jim was running the barbeque and all were well fed with burgers and sausages. There was lots of fun and games in the field some of them just for fun and some more competitive. Fun activities included Edward with his goal keeping, splat the rat, hula hoops, table football and air hockey. For the more competitive there was welly wanging and the tug of war. Darren aka Daz to most of us was desperate to hold on to the beautiful tug of war trophy that he won last year and once again he nailed it! The winning junior tug of war team was captained by Edward Moyse. The senior welly wanging was won by Alan Poole with an amazing throw of 24.45m. I hope they have a long hall where he takes his wellies off! Then the junior competition was won by Fergus Winter. Thanks to all those who supported the event and hopefully we will see you at next years!

After this we had a few quiet weeks to recover although the regular over sixties meetings and whist drive were held as usual. On 9th August we had a Cider and Pasty walk along some of the parish footpaths with a halfway stop at Trinity Church for a refreshing cider then down by the Methodist church and through some meadows to Withypool and then back to the hall for pastys and more cider of course. The second half of the walk was by permission of John Elliott as it is not a public footpath.

By the time you read this we will have held our Flower and Produce Show. It is always interesting to see how others have fared with their produce growing, particularly this year with the drought conditions. On Sat. 19th September we are holding our next Big Breakfast and on 3rd October the Community Cafe will be raising money for Chemo Heroes.

Keep a lookout for posters and on facebook for other events this year, Bingo, Car Treasure hunt and quiz Night and more. Plus regular Community Cafes on 1st Saturday of every month. Thankyou!

Bucket list!

One of the "to dos" on my bucket list is abseiling! so when I spotted a poster at N.Devon Hospital for a charity abseil for the hospital charity I thought Why Not? How hard can it be? 180ft and downhill all the way and no exhausting training required beforehand.

So, on 1st August Jim and I headed out to Berry, about a mile north of Hartland Quay. Finally, this morning, the butterflies were awake and in my stomach! It was a perfect day, the bluest of seas and Lundy clear on the horizon. We parked up and walked across a couple of fields to the cliff top. After registering I climbed up to the start to get roped up and have a helmet fitted. Jim, along with Lesley and Pete who had come to watch took the perilous path to the base of the cliff for a clear view.

Then the scary bit! Walking backwards off the top of a 180ft drop just holding onto a rope! Then began the descent, feeding the rope through my hands to regulate the speed of descent (apparently, I was going quite fast). At one point I ended up sideways on but managed to regain and soon heard a voice from the base of cliff giving instruction for "landing". Then suddenly it was over! My legs now felt like jelly but what an experience! There was quite a scramble over the rocks to reach the path back and I was glad of five minutes sit down before tackling the rough winding path back to the cliff top where I was presented with my certificate!

There was only one thing left to do. Along with Lesley and Pete we headed to the pub and boy did that beer taste good!

To date I have raised £480 for the Devon Hospitals Charity which funds little extras and extra equipment in our hospitals.





MILTON DAMEREL PARISH HALL

Community Cafe

**Saturday
3rd October**

10.30 to 1.30



Chemottero
Kindness in a box

PROCEEDS GOING TO NORTH DEVON CHARITY
CHEMO HEROES WHO PROVIDE A WONDERFUL
BOX OF KINDNESS GOODIES TO ANYONE
UNDERGOING CHEMOTHERAPY
AT NORTH DEVON HOSPITAL



MILTON DAMEREL PARISH HALL

BIG BREAKFAST

Sat 19th September 9.30 - 12.30

Adults £9
Bacon, sausage, black pudding,
egg, hash brown, beans,
toast with butter & jam/marmalade,
juice and a mug of tea or coffee

Kids £4
Bacon, sausage, egg, beans,
juice/squash



Please pre book if more than 6 in group
Call Tel: 07929 509534 or email: mdparishhall@gmail.com

All profits in aid of Parish Hall Registered Charity No. 581323

Evelyn's Walk (8/6/26)

On Monday 8th June, we met in the car park at Tetcott Village Hall (Arscott Hall). We noticed the sign that advised us that it's a designated landing site for the Air Ambulance & as such there are landing lights to assist them in finding their way. It's reassuring as Tetcott is quite a distance from the nearest main road (A388) & the lanes are VERY pot-hole. Since the heat wave in May, we have had day after day of rain & I was conscious that it would potentially be quite wet underfoot down by the river. It's unusual but I decided to do a "there & back walk" staying on tarmac which would be an easier walk over a distance of four miles. We turned left out of the car park which took us down a steep hill. I wondered whether anyone realised the significance of the sign indicating a 12% incline knowing that we would be coming back up the hill later. Someone pointed out that the little road bridge had been built in 1931. Prior to that, the route was probably along the track through the trees on our left. When we reached the sign at what used to be the smithy, we followed the lane towards Luffincott Barton. It's actually the drive to the property & the owners must be pleased that they don't have to take their recycling to the end of the drive for collection on a Monday! Along the way, one of our group pointed out where the Rectory once stood until it burnt to the ground in 1911. Apparently, the Rev. Thomas Ward Brown took up the appointment as Rector at the turn of the 20th century. A local Historian wrote in 2015 that he had only slept in the Rectory for a couple of nights before he had a fright one night & decided to take lodgings in Clawton, never returning to the cottage. News of a ghostly presence spread & apparently people used to stay the night in the Rectory in the hope of coming face to face with a ghost. It was claimed to be the ghost of the previous Rector, Rev. Frank Parker, who had died in 1883. He was Rector at Luffincott for 45 years. It was said that he had been buried very deep in an attempt to prevent him from reappearing. Apparently, he had become quite eccentric & before his death, he had declared that he would reappear. When we visited the Church of St. James, we found his headstone. The Church is a Grade 1 listed building & maintained by the Churches Conservation Trust. It is well worth a visit in order to admire its simplicity but also its beautiful barrel vaulted roof, a 14th century font & beautiful stained glass windows. From the Church, we retraced our steps back towards the Village Hall car park with much to talk about. Saying that, we needed to conserve our breath whilst plodding up that 12% incline!!



Evelyn's Walk (13.7.26)

Given the recent heatwave, I had wondered how sensible it was to go ahead with the walk on Monday 13th July. However, I decided to leave it to everybody's individual decision bearing in mind that some people deal better with the heat than others. Personally, I don't deal with it particularly well so I was grateful for the breeze that morning. Having checked with the Booking Clerk of Chilsworthy Village Hall, we met in the car park before setting off along The Willows & then along the BOAT (By-way Open to All Traffic) admiring the beautifully kept Village Green along the way. When we reached the road, with a view to turning right towards the Chapel, a resident suggested that we should be aware of the speed that some cars drive through the village. He wasn't wrong! There is a 30 mph limit through the village but it was really quite scary when an oncoming car came around the corner. At this point, there is no pavement & we literally had our backs to a garden wall. Thankfully, the car did slow down but we felt much more at ease when we joined the footpath on the left at Quarry Park. The route took us across a couple of recently grazed grassy fields, through a self-closing gate in the left hand corner of the field, across a wooden footbridge over the stream & through another self-closing gate. How lovely not to have to negotiate stiles. The route was well-marked & took us across a couple of fields that had been cut & baled so it was easy walking. Another field hadn't been cut but a tractor had obviously driven across it recently & effectively marked out a track for us. The grass was full of insects including various moths & butterflies & pesky horseflies. We went through the gate in the far corner & turned right onto the road that goes between Chilsworthy & Bradworthy. It can be quite a busy road but in reality, we only had to walk approx. 100m before turning left along the lane that leads to Burnards House. We stopped a while to look at the Tumuli in the adjacent fields. If you look at an OS map, they are marked as Ugworthy Barrow. We don't normally walk as far along lanes especially on National Speed Limit routes but essentially, this is a country lane & enabled us to connect two footpaths (5 & 10) in the Parish of Holsworthy Hamlets. Most drivers were very courteous & we thanked them for their consideration as it wasn't much fun being backed up against verges full of nettles & brambles wondering whether some drivers were actually going to reduce their speed so that we felt safe. We passed the entrance to Thorne Farm on our right & then entered the drive heading towards Parnacott House. The footpath sign is at the end of the drive but you have to look quite hard amongst the trees. We felt much more relaxed & cool in the shade. Amazingly, it was really quite muddy in places when we branched left & had to pick our way. The route then took us across the fields & we could see Mr Marshall's farm so we knew we weren't far away from our cars. The circular route is approx. 3.75 miles & took a couple of hours.



Evelyn's Walk (10/10/26)

On Monday 10th August we were about to start the fifth heatwave of 2026. Sure enough, it dawned sunny & bright when we met at East Vognacott near Chilsworthy with kind permission of the owners. We admired the nests built by the swifts under the eaves of the house. When I talked about how muddy it used to be there even in the height of summer before the drainage was improved, I could see the look of disbelief on everyone's face given how dry the track was that day. We followed the footpath along the track that services the fields on either side. When we went through the galvanized gate, we enjoyed the shade of the green lane & sang the praises of DCC who had recently cut back the vegetation which they do on an annual basis.



We stopped at the point where the footpath divides & is known as ScorPhill. Back in the early 1900's, there was a cottage there that housed the Hill & then the Ball family. We continued along Holsworthy Hamlet's footpath No. 3 grateful that the original stile was replaced with a galvanized self-closing gate a few years ago. We walked along the edge of a grass field that had obviously been cut for fodder for livestock. We noted that although it looked quite green, it hadn't grown much & the farmer was unlikely to get a second cut unless we have some rain. In the corner of the field, we went through another gate & entered the cool of another green lane. When we emerged into the meadow, the sun was really bright. As we walked along the edge of the field, we noted how many more moths & butterflies there were compared to the field that had been cut. By the time we had walked through the fourth field, we were quite glad to reach the road at Honeycroft Cross. It was easier walking on the level tarmac having walked up hill for quite a way. As we walked along the road towards Holsworthy Beacon, we enjoyed far reaching views to the north & south. When we reached the entrance to Gearn's Farm, we picked up Holsworthy Hamlet's footpath No. 4 which took us past the wind turbine, chicken rearing units & into the farm yard. We noticed the new fence around the pig rearing units which is probably a new requirement for bio-security. We followed the track that went between fields of maize & barley & commented that the crops were very sparse. What we have seen on the News on TV was very much in evidence. We need some rain! We were amazed to see so many blackberries on a south facing hedge & we all agreed that they were lovely & sweet. When we got back to ScorPhill, we turned left & were glad to be nearly back to our cars. It had been a lovely circular walk of approx. 3.7 miles but after two hours, we were ready for a cold drink & some shade.

The next walk will be on Monday 14th September. We will be setting off from Crinacott Farm in Pyworthy at 10am with kind permission of the owner. If you would like any information about the walk, you are very welcome to contact me.

Evelyn Sharman Tel: 01409 259 848 E mail: evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com

Eating Out

We recently enjoyed a Sunday lunch at The Union Inn in Stibb Cross. It is a regular treat we enjoy either eating there or having a takeaway. For takeaway, you simply phone up and order then set a time for collection. You can bring your own plates or as we do, some plastic containers and take your Sunday lunch home to enjoy.

They have an interesting menu as well as a Specials Board with traditional pub grub which is all beautifully prepared and presented by Matthew, one of the owners. My favourite when available is the Chilli Jumbo Prawns. When they are not on the menu, I have tried several other dishes and all have been well cooked and delicious. The Sweet Board has a good selection of desserts as well as ice creams and sorbets. We also had the pleasure of meeting Matthew's wife Claire described as "The Boss". We had finished our meal and were chatting for quite a while. Even though it was after closing time there was no rush for us to leave. It was not until Claire's Sunday lunch appeared, that we decided it was time to say cheerio. There is a great atmosphere in the pub. Apart from the efficient Beth, Christy and Brad who quietly and efficiently wait the tables there is Chloe and Nigel serving behind the bar. Chloe is cheerful and welcoming as she serves your drinks and Nigel is quite a character who makes you feel as though you are an old friend and nothing is too much trouble. He is always busy making sure everyone has what they want. It is so nice to visit a pub with "locals" standing and chatting around the bar whilst enjoying a drink and which also serves good food. I believe their meat is sourced locally and it is certainly tasty and tender. The Bar is well stocked including real ales and Hawkstone Lager. All in all, the Union Inn is a good place for good food, friendly staff and that welcoming pub atmosphere that makes you want to return

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WHAT'S ON

HATS Theatre, Holsworthy

www.holsworthytheatre.co.uk

Arts & Entertainment in our area

HATS is an amateur theatrical society in Holsworthy, having their own 250-seat theatre and produce plays and pantomines for the local community. Also the theatre is a venue for other entertainment.

The Railway Children

Thursday, 3rd – Saturday, 5th September

Thursday, 10th – Saturday, 12th September

Doors Open from 7pm for 7.30pm performance



The Plough, Torrington.

At the start of May the gallery was re-opened after extensive repairs to the roof and will now be hosting regular art exhibitions. In the auditorium we have a packed season of live events and films mainly showing on Fridays and Saturdays. For June there is a Summer Ceilidh and a dance festival plus a rolling film programme. In July Black Umfolosi, then Harry Baker followed by two great cover bands, Beatles Complete and The Jamd. Later this Summer there is Forever Clapton, Ultimate Coldplay. Plus, in sept Alistair McGowan.

Outside the auditorium the Open Air Theatre programme is now underway. With performances locally at Blackberry Farm and Badock Gardens then further afield at Clovelly Court, Tapeley Park, Castle Hill & Rosemoor to mention a few of the 13 venues with 44 performances and 17 theatre companies involved.

For further details WWW.theploughartscentre.org.uk.

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Bude Police Station is open 10 am to 3 pm Monday to Saturday
Okehampton Police Station is open 10 am to 3 pm Monday to Thursday
Barnstaple Police Station is open 9.30 am to 4.00 pm Monday to Saturday

Some useful contact details to cut out and keep

Crimestoppers: - An independent charity that lets you report crime and criminal information in a completely anonymous manner.

0800 555 111

<https://crimestoppers-uk.org>

Report Fraud – formerly ActionFraud: This is the UK's National Reporting Service for directly reporting fraud and cyber crime.

0300 123 2024

<https://www.reportfraud.police.uk>

Police Neighbourhood Team:

Team Leader: Sgt. 18490 Donna Gutteridge – Holsworthy Police Station via 101

Devon and Cornwall Community Watch Association: <https://daccwa.org>

National NHW: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk>

Report SMS Texts or phone calls: Free Tel. 7726 or report@phishing.gov.uk

“Alert” Messaging System: alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk



Police Community Messaging: community-messaging.dc.police.uk

PS: If somebody would like to take on the vacant co-ordinator position at Venn Green, please contact Mike Jackson on tel: 01409 261196.

Local Priority Issues.

Devon and Cornwall Police and your Neighbourhood Teams are working hard to deal with important crimes and threats.

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
Organised Drug Supply.
Serious and Organised Crime
Child Sexual Abuse
Serious Violence and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
Road Safety

MILTON DAMEREL AND DISTRICT 60's CLUB

Our Coach Trip on Tuesday May 19th we went to Blackdown Garden Centre for Coffee, then onto CHEDDAR GORGE. It was a pleasant day for just walking and browsing the few shops. A few people went into the caves. The day finished at Burnham-on-sea for fish and chips.

Tuesday June 16th we stopped at Bernaville Nurseries for Coffee, then onto TOPSHAM. A few had not been to Topsham before and found it to be a pretty little town with a very large and interesting Antiques Warehouse. We then went onto EXMOUTH, a larger town with plenty of eating places.

Tuesday July 21st our first stop was Trelawney Garden Centre for Coffee, we then went onto NEWQUAY. It was a lovely warm day for sitting on or near the beach, just people watching. There were several shops and eating places in the precinct, although some did close early.

Tuesday August 18th, We stopped for coffee at Whitehouse Services, Okehampton and went on to Dartmouth. It was a lovely hot day and plenty to see and do. Some just sat by the river and watched the boats coming and going, while others walked around the town and found the pleasant path to the Castle.

FUTURE COACH TRIPS

September 15th, Tavistock for Coffee, PRINCETOWN, to eat at the Old Police Station. We may have to pre-order, as they close at 5pm, also a trip over the Moors.

October 20th, Cornwall Services for Coffee, TRURO, eat before leaving.

Coach for the coach trips leaves Holsworthy Memorial Hall car park at 9am. Then normally picks up at, the Football Field, Venn Green and Holsworthy Beacon. This depends on what direction we will be travelling in.

Please book with Iris Fry on 01409 261322 or 07968 326462.

Although we call ourselves '60's Club', you do not have to be over 60 years of age to become a member. All ages are welcomed to join us for a social afternoon and any Coach Trip. Once members have booked a coach trip, any remaining seats are available for friends of the group. We do use Milton Damerel Community Page to say if any seats are available.

Our regular meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month, from 2.30 to 4.30 at Milton Damerel Parish Hall. Membership is now £5 and monthly subs £2. This does include a raffle ticket, tea/coffee and Biscuits. Our Coach Trips are £11 for members, who attended that month meeting and £13 for Non Members. These are on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

New Members always welcome.

Chair: Linda Gifford.
Secretary: Colin Boucher.
Vice Treasure: Dora Reed.

Vice Chair: Margaret Walters.
Treasurer: Iris Fry.

Regular Events

Milton Damerel 60's Club – Parish Hall

Parish Council Meeting - Parish Hall

Whist Drive – Parish Hall

Chapel Sunday Worship

Chapel Café Worship

Holsworthy Walk & Talk

Holy Trinity Church services monthly.

1st Tuesday every month 2.30pm

3rd Wednesday every month

3rd Saturday every month 7pm for 7.30pm

2nd Sunday every month 11 am

3rd Sunday every month 11 am

Every Monday & Friday 10.30am.

For dates and times see the church notice board
or search **bradworthybenefice.org**

Holsworthy Walk and Talk

In July both our level 2 & 3 groups found themselves together at Meldon Reservoir near Okehampton, although for separate walk routes. Meldon has a certain sentiment to our older members because it was a favourite walking area of David Arney, who founded our Group. When we lost him to cancer in 2019 we, in conjunction with Okehampton Walk & Talk and West Devon Walkers, combined forces to install a memorial bench in David's memory and this is sited on the quarry side of the valley, looking across to the dam. The Meldon valley area has a rich industrial history going back into the 18th century. There were several copper mines whose shafts have now been capped off for safety reasons, but historic remains, including an adit and parts of a tramway are still visible. The large limestone quarry now lies unused and is flooded to provide habitat for nature. If you look carefully there are the remains of the old weigh bridge near the quarry and the weighbridge building has recently been restored to preserve it. You will also be able to spot the remains of two lime kilns, which remain largely intact and we understand that there were 5 kilns working at the peak of output. Whilst no longer remaining, we understand that there was a small glassworks operating in about 1920. The local black rocks lying about are aplite, a very hard form of granite made from very fine grains and ideal for glassmaking. Unfortunately there were other impurities in the rock which gave the glass a green colour and the technology of the day didn't allow for these to be taken out. The glass was mainly used for producing the fluted green medicine bottles which were extensively used at that time and which you may have seen in museums.



Meldon dam itself was completed in 1972 and supplies drinking water to the North Devon area. The impressive viaduct which we walked over and under was opened in 1874 and is one of only two wrought iron truss girder bridges in the country. The other is the Bennerley Viaduct over the Erewash valley in Nottinghamshire. That one is currently being refurbished and will we understand be used as a multi-use trail in due course. Meldon is 540 feet long and 120 feet tall. It was originally built as a single track railway but the line was so busy that the second trestle had to be put up and hence the reason for the legs being intermingled.

Other recent walks have taken us to Bude, Upper Tamar Reservoir and Bradworthy. These places along with most locations where we walk tend to have some points of interest which helps to add to the walks.

If you would like to join us on any of our walks to visit local places, meet new people and enjoy the benefits of walking, our current programme of walks is available and published on our website. All our walks start at 10.30 and are **FREE**. Membership forms are available from our Volunteer Walk Leaders prior to the start of the walk or via the website.

Our website has a lot of up to date information, together with our current programme of walks, with the details and contact points below.

Contacts:

holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com
<https://holsworthywalkandtalk.co.uk>
Gillian Aston 07584 677 784



THE GARDENER'S GROUP

Our Members are still 17 and we still correspond using Whatsapp. 2 members receive emails.

We have not had any get to gethers as yet and the year has been very quite. If any of our group is interested in a visit or a social, please can you post on our Whatsapp page.

The Flower and Produced Show is well approaching, date Saturday 5th September. Please can all prize winners ring Mel or Lesley to arrange to return their trophies, ready for this years prize giving.

Hope everyone has picked up a programme (from Sanders Garage) and been thinking about their entries. We would like lots of entries from young and old.

Hopefully we will continue to host the Show in future years. Help in putting it on is always required on the Friday evening and getting organised on the day. So please contact Mel or Lesley if you are available.

Melanie Richardson 261 353
Lesley Self 261 294

THE NEWSLETTER GROUP and GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS

The Newsletter Group has reviewed the guidance on how we should comply with the new requirements which came into force in May 2018. We have compiled 3 documents:

- Milton Damerel Newsletter GDPR Statement Privacy Notice
- Milton Damerel Newsletter Data Protection Policy
- Milton Damerel Newsletter Data Protection Procedures

Which set out the data we collect about individuals and organisations, our policy in collecting data, and the procedures we follow to protect the data we hold. All of these documents are available on request.

In summary we hold personal data as openly published in the Newsletter and for the purposes of administration in liaising with our advertisers and subscribers to the Newsletter. Regular readers will note the level of detail included on Page 10, about celebratory occasions and residential ‘comings and goings’, has been amended to comply with our data protection statements, and most importantly to achieve good protection of personal data, minimising the risk of inappropriate use of the data.

If there are any concerns about the data we hold or publish please contact any member of the Group to request changes to the data. Group members and contact information is listed over the page.

If you would like to receive, or stop receiving, a digital copy of the Milton Damerel News Letter by email, please drop a line to the Compiler.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in any article are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Milton Damerel News Letter Team.

Advertisements

Conditions of acceptance. Orders for insertion of advertisements in this newsletter are subject to the approval of the members who may refuse or alter any copy. The newsletter and the members:- a) accept no liability for any loss or damage caused by an error or inaccuracy in the printing of any advertisement. b) Shall not be liable for any loss caused by the failure of the advertisement to appear on any particular day, in any specified position or page or by its failure to appear at all, and they reserve the right to refuse to continue its publication regardless of terms and conditions of any order or contract. Trades Descriptions Act 1968-All traders are reminded of the needs to ensure that goods offered for sale by advertisements comply with all relevant provisions of the above mentioned act.

SUDOKU By KrazyDad

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Difficulty: Intermediate © 2018 KrazyDad.com

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 9. Use logic and solve the puzzle without guesswork. For puzzle solving tips, and more puzzles, visit KrazyDad.com.

Word Search

N	E	C	T	A	R	I	N	E	L	L	H	E	I	X	B	H	X
O	P	K	C	S	X	X	T	K	C	I	G	D	V	Z	F	Y	I
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G	A	X	P	U	X	Y	X	J	F	Y	R	R	E	H	C	I	K
D	P	L	L	D	S	T	R	A	W	B	E	R	R	Y	D	P	Y
R	F	B	W	H	I	R	U	M	O	U	I	X	X	E	S	G	L

Apple	Gooseberry	Plum	Peach
Apricot	Grapes	Raspberry	Pear
Banana	Kiwifruit	Strawberry	Cherry
Blackberry	Loganberry	Tangerine	Blueberry
Blackcurrant	Nectarine	Damson	Orange

Useful Contact details:

Parish Councillors:

Stephen Moyse (Chair) Tel. 07966 671543
 Richard Piper (Vice Chair) Tel. 01409 261114
 Jim Richardson Tel. 07866 406977
 Gareth Piper Tel. 07966 558385
 Teresa Walters Tel. 01409 261871
 Peter Bromley Tel. 01409 261838
 Edgar Pett Tel. 01409 261277
 Jane Elliott (Clerk) Tel. 07773679559

Chapel:

Revd Andrew Vidamour Tel: 01237 478453.
 Steward Jeremy Sharp Tel. 01409 261548.
 Property Steward (vacant)
 Secretary (vacant)

Church:

Revd Mark James Tel 01409 251015
 Church warden
 vacant

Parish Hall:

Booking Secretary Hayley Garner 07515770641
 or Melanie Richardson 07929 509534 .

Walks:

Gillian Aston Tel. 01409 254642
 email: holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com
 Evelyn Sharman Tel. 01409 259848
 email: evelyn.sharman@btinternet.com

Milton Damerel 60's Club:

Chair: Linda Gifford
 Vice Chair: Margaret Walters
 Treasurer: Iris Tel. 261 322
 Vice Treasurer: Dora Reed
 Secretary: Colin Boucher

Holsworthy Rural Police:

Urgent 999
 Non-Urgent 101
 holsworthy@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Neighbourhood Watch:

Edwina Hale Tel. 261263
 Edgar Pett Tel. 261277
 Mike Jackson Tel. 261196

The Gardener's Group:

Melanie Richardson Tel. 261353
 Lesley Self Tel. 261294

Newsletter:

Chair

Peter Bromley
 email: pgbromleyuk@yahoo.co.uk

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SUDOKU Answer

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5	4	1	7	6	9	8	3	2
7	9	8	2	3	5	4	6	1
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