

REFLECTING SHEBBEAR



VOLUME 23, ISSUE 5. OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2020

The Cover Story

By Rupert Stockwin

Waking up at Dipper Mill with the windows open you instantly know when Dipper is "out" from the roar of water crossing the causeway and road. We opened the curtains and saw a white van and driver stuck in the deepest part. Once the emergency services had rescued the driver, the van sat there till the waters receded enough to recover it. He was delivering newspapers to the local shops, so several, including Shebbear, had no newspapers on Saturday the 29th of February.

It wasn't the worst flood we have seen since we have been here but with the van in the water from 6.30 am till 3pm there was no way any vehicle could get through, so we had a very quiet traffic free day tidying up the garden.

Once the van was recovered, the braver 4x4s started to venture through and I noticed the late afternoon light being caught in the spray from the water being thrown up by the occasional vehicle. My photographer's eye immediately spotted an opportunity for a very interesting shot so I grabbed a camera and went down to the causeway. I got chatting to a Land Rover driver who had trundled gently through the by now couple of inches of water and I jokingly said that I was after a much more spectacular plume of water from his Land Rover to photograph! His response to this was "well in the name of art I will turn around and drive back through again"! So he did, and to great effect.

I took a series of photos as he went off into the sun then lined myself up for his return. The sun was lined up perfectly down the causeway making everything glisten. But still high enough in the sky to be not too much of a problem for the camera. As he came towards me billowing water either side of the land rover, there was a moment - a couple of metres, where the vehicle created a shadow in front of itself which reduced the glare and accentuated the water spray. And that was the magical moment that created the best shot. I shot in aperture priority mode at iso 400, an aperture of f4.5 and because the camera was pointing nearly straight into the sun the shutter went off at 8000th of a second. I didn't get the name of the driver but many thanks to him.

You can see the original version online in much better detail at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/rupertstockwin/>

COVID 19 - April and August editions were only published as pdf files on the Village website, and due to the limited circulation some articles are repeated for all readers.

Cover picture:

When I heard the photograph's back story, I asked Rupert if he would write an article for us. Photograph © Rupert Stockwin

Christmas is Coming!

Sorry to remind you, but we had our first Christmas Card catalogue in August!

As you read this, we are starting to prepare for the December edition, and having the covers designed by children of primary school age - up to year 6.

We are looking for colourful, festive drawings, on A4 paper, but 210mm square [that is the width of the paper, and the same high], with name and age on the back. They need to arrive at Devonport House [close to the Shop] by the 13th November at the latest.

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From the Chair

When I wrote for the magazine in March I could not have envisaged that, within a few days, we would be in lockdown and so in order to keep all our volunteers safe we would have to make a decision to stop the printing process and put that issue on line.

In June there was no point in trying to print a magazine as everything was still in lockdown. We did do a slimmed down version in August which also went on line and now we are able to send out an issue which I hope you will find interesting. It will not have the usual reports from organisations in the village as a lot of them are still not able to meet but with the children back at school and some things happening on line there will hopefully be some interesting content. I must say a huge thank you to Mike, our editor, who will have been sourcing things to fill in the blanks.

I would also like to thank all the advertisers who have again made it possible to have information regarding local trades which I hope you will find useful.

This is a very strange time and things that we have taken for granted for so long have been denied us, a meal out with friends, a trip to the cinema or theatre as well as not being able to see family as we would normally be able to. As I write this on a glorious sunny afternoon in mid September it is hard to believe that something out there poses a threat to everyone.

I think that here in Shebbear and the surrounding area we are so lucky to have the beautiful countryside right outside our door with plenty of space to help keep our spirits up. Some of you will have returned to work and others who are key workers will have been busy ever since those dark days in March. We are so grateful to everyone who has made this time easier to bear. Let's hope that the virus will be able to be contained and that we shall all be able to meet up again in the near future.

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Margaret Quance



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Mobile Libraries Return

Julie and Torrington Mobile Library will next be in the Village on 29th October 2020.

To make sure that customers and staff are safe, we will only be offering a new type of contactless service for the time being. It's called Choose & Collect.

If you opt for a Choose & Collect delivery library staff will ask you about your reading likes and dislikes and select up to 5 books for you based on your preferences. The books will be issued to your library card, placed in a bag, and you simply collect them from your regular stop.

We are currently working through our records and calling as many customers as we can to offer this service. If you have not heard from us a week before your timetabled visit and would like a Choose & Collect delivery, please contact Torrington Library by email torrington.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk or calling 01805 622107 during their normal opening hours.

Remember to tell library staff you are a customer of the mobile library and which stop you use when you get in touch.

New customers are also welcome. Please contact Torrington Library to set up a new mobile library membership, and we will endeavour to deliver to you too. You do need a mobile library card even if you are already a member of a library without wheels. You can find an A-Z of where we visit and our timetable on our webpage devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/mobilelibraries

Mobile Library Assistant Julie is very glad to be out on the road again serving her customers. She hopes to be able to allow readers safely back on the mobile library to choose for themselves in the not too distant future. In the meantime, please bear with library staff while we get used to this new way of working and follow the instructions when you arrive at your stop.

You can find out more about services and reopening plans at other libraries visit devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/coronavirus-updates



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Shebbear Helps Fund PPE Production

Annie Sparrow from Great Torrington School

At the onset of the Corona virus pandemic it quickly became apparent that there was a desperate shortage of PPE equipment for keyworkers across the country. Schools with DT facilities were approached to see if they could help and the indomitable Fay Fisher from Great Torrington School stepped forward.

As a school we are lucky enough to have both a 3D printer and a laser cutter and we therefore knew that we would be able to produce the patented NHS approved design, providing we could get a regular supply of appropriate materials and people power. This is where I stepped in, setting up a go fund me page to enable us to buy the plastic that we needed. I was flabbergasted to discover that within two days we had raised almost £2300 and that I had to beg people to stop giving as we did not have capacity for more than a certain amount. An Amazon wish list was also created and such was the wonderful response of the people of the Great Torrington area that within a few days we were able to establish production.

[News that GTS was attempting to raise funds reached Shebbear in April, and the Reflecting Shebbear committee decided that we had to help, and donated £500 on your behalf. Mike]



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Thence began the manufacturing process! With true GTS spirit there was certainly no shortage of volunteers, and we are particularly indebted to our DT technician, Nick Naylor, and teaching assistant Tom Heath, who were involved in the entire process with us. At times it was a fraught and frustrating process, but with determination and creativity we succeeded in making over 2700 clear plastic visors.

Once it became known that we had free PPE available the floodgates opened and we were inundated with requests from key workers in a variety of fields. This was quite a stressful time as we were also adapting to the strange new world of virtual teaching, which believe it or not is far less satisfying and more stressful for some of us than being in a classroom with thirty teenagers!

Just as we were about to hang up our aprons and strip off our face masks Fay received a desperate plea from the Pelican Ward at Great Ormond Street Hospital, who specialise in working with children who have compromised immunity. Our last two days were spent producing and packing over 250 visors for GOSH before sending Fay off to the bright lights of the city to deliver them in her little silver car. It was a very emotional and rewarding moment. Even once the official manufacturing ceased Fay continued production for our local feeder primary schools, enabling fourteen schools to feel more confident about safer opening and taking our grand total to over three thousand visors made.

Amongst the many groups that we supplied to were North Devon, South Molton and Exeter RD & E hospitals, Stratton Minor Injuries Unit, all of the care homes in Great Torrington, and many others from across North Devon and beyond. We also provided for Ilfracombe and North Devon Community nurses, a GP from Ilminster, many individual carers (who really struggled to get PPE in small quantities), Tavistock Carers, First Responders and a colleague who was teaching on the Isle of Wight. Where necessary we also provided a delivery service to people who were unable to collect.

We are very proud to have provided the help that we could for those who have worked so selflessly at this difficult time. We could not have done this without the support of our local community and I would especially like to thank the people of Shebbear for your very generous donation via your Village magazine. We are now very much looking forward to getting back to our normal day job in September, working with the wonderful staff and young people of GTS.

The staff have been working very hard and they are now back, with precautions in place, full time. Our grandchildren were a bit concerned beforehand, but once they got stuck in, they quickly adapted to the new conditions. Mike

The Best Laid Plans ...

Six or seven years ago, when the Torridge and North Devon Local Plan was being created, Shebbear was told it had to prepare for about 20 new dwellings in roughly a decade. The people of this parish were consulted widely and the clear favourite location of the four possible sites was to relocate the concrete works elsewhere and redevelop the site with houses.

That was written into the plan, and remains so.

WCCP have tried to find alternative sites that would be suitable and would meet with the planners' approval, at the same time keeping their key employees within travelling distance and also remaining within the Torridge catchment area for business rates, which was something TDC really wanted. However despite having focussed on at least three possible sites, for one reason or another these have not come to maturity. The search goes on.

Meantime, because Torridge and North Devon could not collectively demonstrate that they had a five year supply of housing land waiting to be developed, national regulations mean that they are basically powerless to refuse planning applications for areas outside the old development boundaries and on basically green fields.

Developers know this of course, and have been quite open in challenging Torridge by saying, you know you can't refuse us, if you do then we shall go to appeal where we have a very good chance of winning, and not only that, we will charge TDC for all of our legal costs. One only has to look at some recent applications to see examples of that approach.

Two dwellings by Lake Farmhouse, five for the College near to The Manse, seven or eight for the Hastes near Battledown, twenty at Meadow Park East and roughly 30 adjacent to Church Farm have all been given outline permission, when those sites were not included in the Local Plan.

That's over sixty compared to the twenty we were told to cater for.

Of course, it's true that they may not all be built, and even if they are built they won't be built at the same time. Even in today's allegedly burgeoning housing market with the stamp duty holiday, one wonders if there are that many buyers for new homes here.

Nevertheless this only risks further undermining the viability of a WCCP relocation. That needs to have the income from the sale of houses to pay for the move. And this relocation is what the village wanted.

At Meadow Park East the developer put forward a design with three storey dwellings of significant size,

clearly not in keeping with local styles and local architecture. I can only think of one other house in this parish that has three storeys. There was considerable local objection and the scheme was withdrawn. More recently the developer has come back with a revised layout incorporating four bungalows, nine 4-bed houses and a terrace of affordable dwellings including two flats. Personally I don't like the way the affordable homes are depicted as such; up against 4-bed houses and substantial bungalows, they look like they are low-cost inclusions for the 'poor' people. That's not necessary; if one looks at Ackland Close for example, the architecture of the rented homes and the owner occupied homes is seamless across the estate.

Meadow Park East has also hit the buffers (as I write, 9th September) as Devon County Council Flood Protection team are unhappy with the provisions made for the handling of run-off water. Three out of four trial borings show that the ground is largely impermeable. That was common knowledge really as the land lower down the hill is often waterlogged through run-off. They have placed an objection which they will only remove once an acceptable drainage plan is in place. Back to the drawing board.

Meantime for Meadow Park East, the clock is ticking, ever so slowly. Outline permission was given in January 2018 with a clause that says application for approval of reserved matters must be lodged within three years. The application that was put in some months ago ticks that box even though it was withdrawn before being fully considered. The work must be started within two years from the approval of the last reserved matters. That approval seems a long way off, yet.

In the outline approval the planners gave a clear hint that they weren't going to accept a layout that had back gardens at the front, by the verge. They said it was important to have what they call active frontages, in other words you see the front of the house from the road. But this latest scheme seems to have overlooked that advice as plots 8, 9 and 10 have their back gardens at the front.

Despite the fact that most residents in this locality rely on oil for their central heating, there is no provision for oil tanks. There are regulations that govern how close an oil tank can be to a house and it's possible that some of these houses are going to struggle to comply. I guess that will mean the ubiquitous air source heat pump will be the only option, which seems a shame as with so much ground water to be got rid of, there's plenty of scope for a proper integrated ground source heat pump supplemented by Solar PV driving a communal district heating system. An energy solution fit for purpose.

However that's unlikely to happen as the individual plots are now being marketed for sale, even though there is no full planning consent yet. If that leads to many different interpretations by individual architects and umpteen styles of construction which the planners will struggle to control, the place will look like a dog's breakfast and a good opportunity to create a mini-estate the village can be proud of, lost.

The TDC website is still open for comments on this scheme. 1/0445/2020 is the reference. You can also make your views known by letter.

Via our County Councillor Barry Parsons I ran these thoughts by Dave Black (Head of Planning at Devon County Council). Dave has said that he has " .. some sympathy with the issues raised but there is no legislation that compels the applicant to do all the things that you have identified".

Rich Clark

Bonfires

Once or twice recently I've been asked by residents of the village if they are allowed to have a bonfire, is there any law against one, are we in a smokeless zone, etc.

With Guy Fawkes Night not too far away, and no doubt plenty of hedge trimmings to be got rid of, now is a convenient time to remind ourselves about the law and perhaps also about our social obligations to each other.

It is a common misconception that there are specific byelaws prohibiting garden bonfires or specifying times they can be lit - there aren't. However, this is not a licence for indiscriminate burning! Occasionally a bonfire is the best practicable way to dispose of woody or diseased waste that cannot be composted. And bonfires are used to mark traditional celebrations -especially November 5th. Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (as amended) it is an offence for people to dispose of their domestic waste in a way likely to cause pollution of the environment or harm to human health. In practice you should not burn waste that is likely to create excessive smoke or noxious fumes. If only dry garden waste is burnt, your bonfire should not cause a problem.

Most bonfire problems are addressed under nuisance legislation. Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, a statutory nuisance includes "smoke, fumes or gases emitted from premises so as to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance." In practice a fire would have to be a recurrent persistent problem, interfering substantially with neighbours' well-being, comfort or enjoyment of their property.

If a bonfire of industrial or commercial waste is emitting black smoke it is dealt with under the Clean Air Act 1993 -this includes the burning of such material in your garden! Under section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 it is illegal to dispose of waste that is not from your property - for example from your workplace or from a neighbour. For example, small tradesmen must not burn waste from site at home.

If you do have a bonfire to dispose of garden waste, or on Bonfire Night, warn your neighbours - they are much less likely to complain. And follow our good bonfire guidelines.

Only burn dry material, never burn household rubbish, rubber tyres or anything containing plastic, foam or paint.

Avoid lighting a fire in unsuitable weather conditions - smoke hangs in the air on damp, still days. If it is too windy, smoke blows into neighbours' gardens and windows and across roads.

Keep your fire away from trees, fences and buildings. Never use oil, petrol or methylated spirits to light a fire - you could damage yourself as well as the environment.

Never leave a fire unattended or leave it to smoulder - put it out.

Rich Clark



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Dog Poo Is Our Problem!

Did you know that UK's 9 million dogs produce over 1,000 tonnes of waste each day?! That weighs as much as 200 elephants or 100 double decker buses!

It is very sad that in this day and age, and in our community in particular, there are **irresponsible people** that are allowing their dogs to foul public areas. It is doubly irresponsible to allow your dog to foul the village playing field, where our young children play football and other games, yet I hear that this is allowed to happen on a regular basis. [Please note that the Village Hall playing field is private land controlled by a charity, it is not owned by the council/school. The Village Hall & Playing Field Committee maintain this green area & **NO DOGS** are allowed on the playing field or in the play park area.] Please report any instances you see to the VH Committee, or for public areas report to Torridge District Council using the link below.

In case you think that it is OK as long as you think no one is watching, or that it is dark, or that it is on a patch of grass; **IT IS ACTUALLY ILLEGAL.** It is an offence for any person to allow a dog to foul public areas within the Torridge District area, the maximum fine being £1,000.

Should the Council have knowledge that a dog owner has not cleaned up any mess left by his or her dog, a fixed penalty notice of £75 may be issued or a fine of up to £1,000 be imposed by a Magistrates Court.

Dog fouling is not something we should ignore or pretend we haven't seen, not just because of the mess it causes, but because it can be a health risk. Dogs may deposit roundworm eggs (*toxocara canis*) in their faeces, which become infectious after about three weeks, and can remain so for up to two years. Anyone, but particularly children playing near to the ground, can run the risk of picking up and swallowing the eggs. The eggs then hatch in the intestine, burrow through the intestine wall into the blood stream and pass into the body.

Possible symptoms of toxocaral infection range from aches, dizziness and nausea to asthma and pneumonia, but as these symptoms can all be caused by other things, infections often go undiagnosed. In the UK there are around 100 cases of toxocariasis diagnosed each year. In rare cases eye disease and loss of vision can be caused when the toxocara larva passes through the eye.

As new dog owners, when we retired to Shebbear from London, we did not realise that farmers are also affected. Dog fouling on open fields and footpaths, not only causes problems for other users, it can cost farmers a lot of money, in damage to their

livestock. Cows can pick up Neospora, with definitive hosts being dogs and foxes, through contaminated grass feed, which can lead to infected cows' aborted pregnancies, with few clinical signs to warn farmers that the infection is present.

To report instances of dog fouling [anonymously if necessary] use the following link:
<https://www.torridge.gov.uk/forms/environmental/dogfouling/dogfouling.html>

For general information use the following link:
<https://www.torridge.gov.uk/article/10718/Dogs-and-fouling>



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District Councillor's Report

Since lockdown was announced on 23rd March TDC Councillors were informed that the Council offices were off limits for the foreseeable future. As such all Council meetings have been by a program called Zoom. Incidentally, if anybody wishes to watch a meeting at a later time or whilst it is in progress, then it is easy to do so by entering Torridge District Council in the search box on YouTube.

During this lockdown period some projects have stalled whilst others, such as the improved slipway at Westward Ho! to allow access to the beach for everyone, have taken place. It's also pleasing to see that the road to Dipper Mill has been improved and I believe that those that use this road are pleased with the outcome.

Recently I was informed that Shebbear Community School were raising funds to buy Chromebooks to assist with schoolwork and remote learning. When I was asked if I was willing to contribute I was more than happy to do so. My Councillor Grant Fund this year, because of money being diverted elsewhere due to Covid, has been reduced by 50%. However projects such as this one are well worth investing in and I was pleased to see that Shebbear Parish Council thought so too and made a substantial grant.

Councillors who virtually attended, and those members of the public who watched the C&R meeting in early September live via Youtube, were informed that the financial position of Torridge is not as precarious as was at one time feared that it would be. This is principally due to Central Gov't Funding and also fees and charges earned by Planning and building control when this sector held up well during the lockdown period. Car parking income, whilst down on the previous year, regained some ground due to the staycation that has taken place. Whilst the Council's financial position at this time is not as bad as had been feared, going forward the situation is expected to worsen due to a number of factors, not withstanding the extra costs associated with the Covid crisis.

Following an investigation carried out by Torridge District Council a man admitted that he had been paid to collect waste and failed to dispose of it in an approved manner. It was admitted in an interview that he had collected the waste and that he did not have a Waste Carriers Licence or any permits issued by the Environment Agency. At Court he was found guilty and was ordered to pay a total of £1,340. Please remember that if third parties are used to dispose of waste that it is important to check that the third party is licensed or the residents waste can end up fly tipped, and householders run the risk of action being taken against them as a result. You may have read in the local press or heard about a proposal for TDC to allow free parking for two hours at car parks in Holsworthy, Torrington and

Bideford. This has been debated on several occasions now and recently at an Scrutiny meeting it was proposed that motorists pay for one hour and get the second hour free, for a period of two months. This proposal will eventually return to Full Council to be debated and hopefully will be implemented when you read this.

Kind regards

David Hurley

councillor.hurley@torridge.gov.uk 01805601604

Short Devon Quiz No. 36

1. You are only allowed to snigger if you watched the film 'Carry On Nurse', and thought that the closing scene with the actor Wilfred Hyde-White, lying face down on a hospital bed, with a daffodil sticking out of his backside, was funny! Are any of these place names made up or not in Devon?
Squeezebelly Lane, Knick Knack Lane, Pennycomequick, The Street With No Name, Sandy Balls, Slaparse Lane, Cocktree Throat, Longdogs Lane, Lickham Bottom, Peter's Finger, Cockwood.
2. Where in Exeter can you find the front door to a building, that never opens?
3. A square metre of Exe estuary mud is said to carry as much energy, for wildlife, as [how many?] Mars Bars. I don't think that a Slavonian Grebe would actually eat a Mars Bar, so we're talking in equivalent human terms!
4. The tallest Menhir on Dartmoor, may not be the tallest, but where is it?
5. Where can you find a stream whose name is a single letter of the alphabet, and which letter is it known by?

Bideford Gazette

September/October 1960

The funeral of Mrs E M Parish, a former inhabitant of Shebbear, took place at Lake Methodist Church, conducted by the Rev Alfred Olds with Mr J Quance on the organ. Mrs Parish had lived at Shortlands, Shebbear, and farmed a smallholding.

Mr Alfred Ralph Davey, of The Square, Shebbear, was commissioned as a pilot officer in the technical engineering branch of the RAF. Mr Davey was educated at Shebbear College.

Shebbear football team beat Pyworthy 3-1 at home with Donald Hatherley scoring all their goals. Dymond, as goal-keeper, made several fine saves. Later in September, Shebbear suffered its first defeat of the season losing 4-0 to Clovelly.

At Shebbear WI, members were interested in talk and film on the Pestalozzi Villages given by Mr and Mrs Young. Mrs Wallington won the competition for the best piece of polished brass, and tea hostesses were Mrs Sluggett, Mrs Sutton, Mrs Quance and Miss P Stapleton.

Mrs Greta Ivy Knapman's funeral service was held at Lake Methodist Church. She was the youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs F W Osborne, of Eastfield, Shebbear.

There are more items of local interest to view at the Bideford and District Community Archive based in the Council Offices, Windmill Lane, Northam. Open Monday-Wednesday 9.30-1pm. 01237 471714. Visit our website at www.bidefordarchive.org.uk



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Shunters News

There have been no trains running since March, all engines being 'on shed' since that time. Thoughts are turning to a Gala Reopening some time next year.

Rainfall

Rainfall at Rowden from Ted Lott:

July	95 mm
August	162 mm

Rainfall at St. Michael's Close from Gordon Slade:

July	114.5 mm
August	211 mm

Shebbear Community School

I don't think any of us could have anticipated the events that have unfolded since the last edition of Reflecting Shebbear back in February. Little did we know that we were about to embark on such a significant challenge not least for schools and the children who attend.

Although we were all monitoring the situation closely, the shift from the school operating normally to a complete lock down happened in a matter of days. We had a number of events and visitors booked for the period before Easter as part of a school safety week. Sadly these all had to be cancelled along with our planned grandparents' day – hopefully we will be able to rearrange at some point next year.

Luckily our whole school trip to Exeter was able to go ahead the week before lockdown started. The trip was linked to our Religious Education learning but also included a visit for our older pupils to Exeter Crown Court as part of their 'Crime and Punishment' history topic. It was a fascinating visit and we were incredibly lucky that one of the court judges, along with his clerk and usher, were very giving of their time and allowed the children an insight in to how the court system works including a pretend trial which they all enjoyed. The visit ended with the chance to see inside the secure vehicle which transports prisoners to and from the court. As you can imagine, the children loved this and asked lots of questions!

While they were here, the rest of the school had a tour of Exeter Cathedral and learnt more about religious artefacts and their significance. We then all walked to Exeter Mosque and enjoyed a tour and a talk. From there we walked back to the cathedral having a look at the Roman Wall on the way. After lunch we split again so that the younger children undertook an activity at the cathedral while the older ones visited Exeter Synagogue. Again we were privileged to have a fascinating talk about the Jewish faith and its history in the south west. We also had the chance to view one of the scrolls containing a handwritten copy of the Torah.

It was a fantastic day and an opportunity to enrich the children's learning. It was also a mighty feat of logistical planning to book the various places, at the various time and still be home by 4.30pm. Thanks to Mrs Wood and Mrs Gough for achieving this.

As noted above, 10 days later the school was closing for all but a few key worker children and it was only in early June that we were able to reopen to more pupils. Home learning provided many challenges but staff, pupils and parents worked hard to ensure the learning continued. Aside from the Easter holidays, the school remained open for key worker children in April and May and in June we welcomed back children from reception, Year 1 and Year 6. The numbers grew steadily so by the end of

term we virtually had a full complement of these year groups as well as many more key workers. We were also able to offer re-integration sessions to all pupils before the summer holidays. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for their hard work in ensuring we were able to provide home learning and also get the school reopened both partially in June and fully in September. It is amazing, as I am sure we have all found, how quickly you adapt and learn new skills not least teaching lessons via Zoom, making videos to go on our newly set up Facebook page and uploading work for the children to access. It was a huge team effort by the whole school community and one everyone should be proud of.

In the background to all of this we were also planning further improvements to the school. One which will impact positively on the village as a whole is the awarding of a Government grant to the school to install Gigabit broadband connectivity. We successfully applied to the DfE for funding for which will allow much faster broadband speeds in school with the added bonus that the connection will all be in place for local community to access. We were hopeful that it may be in place this autumn, but has been delayed until later next year as a result of Coronavirus. I will keep you posted. We have managed to purchase some additional Chrome Books for use in school. They are fantastic devices which allow pupils to fully access the computing curriculum including the development of their coding skills. Many thanks to the Parish Councils of Shebbear and Buckland Filleigh along with Cllr Hurley, for generously donating some money to the school for their purchase.

The school was busy over the summer holiday with the building of a new outside learning space for our youngest children – and has been very well received by our new reception children who joined us this September. Similarly, we were also able to complete our reading garden which will provide a quiet place for the children to go at break times. Both of these have hard surfaces so should mean the Shebbear weather doesn't make them out of bounds as we move through the year! Again these projects have been possible due to the generosity of various people and organisations – The Shebbear School Support Group have worked tirelessly to raise funds over the last couple of years with various fund raising events. This has been further helped by various donations and grants from Shebbear and Buckland Filleigh Parish Councils, Hannah James generously donated money from food sales at the last couple of Christmas Fairs, we had a very kind anonymous donation and a gift from the Lunch Club. We thank you all for helping us to make our school an even better place for the children.

Nick Alford
Headteacher

Shebbear College

Shebbear College has announced plans to continue with its virtual learning provision, alongside lessons taking place as normal on the school site. The College has been installing web-cams in each classroom, which will enable the teachers to record their lessons and transmit them live to any pupils who cannot physically be at school.

“We want to be fully prepared for anything that Covid-19 throws at us in the Autumn Term”, reported Head Teacher Caroline Kirby. “Some of our boarding pupils may need to quarantine when they return to the UK, whilst other children may be isolating in their household, not to mention the possibility of a second wave of the virus. Filming the lessons and transmitting them live through our virtual learning platform will mean that all of our pupils will have full access to their timetable and support system remotely and do not need to worry about falling behind.”

Matt Newitt, Deputy Head (Academic) added, “During lockdown, we offered a remote learning platform that was extremely well-received by both parents and pupils alike. Pupils continued to follow their usual timetable, registering with their tutor in the morning and taking part in live lessons with all their subject teachers. Our Wellbeing and Pastoral Care was more important than ever and even our extra-curricular activities programme continued, with students enjoying a huge range of creative and sporting challenges. If we need to move back to remote learning this term, Shebbear will be ready [and able] to do this seamlessly”

Shebbear College received a great deal of praise from parents for its academic and co-curricular provision during lockdown. Some teachers arranged 1-to-1 lessons or (socially distanced) home visits for any pupils that were struggling, either academically or emotionally, and the school’s parent body certainly appreciated this effort.

“Our son’s remote learning provision was a privilege to watch.” said Carol Shephard-Blandy, a Shebbear parent. “We saw and heard him at school – part of his day that, ordinarily, we would not have experienced. Creative, sensitive and always with their usual sense of humour – the Staff found inspiring ways to structure, engage, teach and entertain. Sensitively thought through and wonderfully imaginative, the children worked hard and played hard – business as usual, in unusual times”

Similarly, Bridget Down who has two children at the school, commented “We are so thankful to the staff of Shebbear College, who provided a fully enriched and engagingly academic remote classroom experience which has kept our children mentally and physically healthy. The sounds of Shebbear life have flooded through our house each day as the children

settled to their lessons and I love that we have had the privilege of seeing inside the classroom.”

She continued, “The children are encouraged to learn through a host of creative and inspiring activities; equally, there are moments when head down concentration or conversation with a skilled teacher is needed. We hear glimpses of content from the hugely knowledgeable and passionate teaching staff as well as the responses from the children, including the moments of giggles – which warms my heart. These members of staff have gone above and beyond to make the learning experience as deep and engaging as they can”

The Aims Of Reflecting Shebbear Magazine

The Management Committee
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We actively seek interesting factual stories, news items, reports etc. as well as more subjective material such as short stories, poetry, book reviews, recipes and local gardening tips, or other suggestions for new material suitable for publication.

Items for inclusion in Reflecting Shebbear should declare the source and or author of the original work, which may be withheld from print if requested. They should be word processed as .doc, docx or odt files and sent to salamanderservices@gmail.com before the 15th of the month prior to publication. Should access to a computer be a problem, we can consider hand written or typed items given more notice.

Publication of any statement or opinion in letters or articles, should not thereby be considered as representing the views of the editorial team, or the Reflecting Shebbear Magazine Committee.

The Aims of Reflecting Shebbear are:

- To produce a non – political magazine serving the people of the parish of Shebbear;
- Provide them with local parish and Devon based articles of interest;
- Provide information on activities in the parish and surrounding area;
- To strive to produce a magazine that villagers take an interest in, and are proud of;
- To promote local businesses through the provision of advertising space;
- To be self-sustaining through the generation of income, with any surplus profit being used to support projects and village organisations, for the benefit of Shebbear residents.

Little Bears

As I sit here on the 7th September the first day back to Pre-School for the new 2020/2021 school year, I would like to firstly thank Jane and the team who were busy last week setting up the Pre-School to welcome 13 children this week. The children are starting the term with a topic "all about me". With a good number of new starters this is a great topic for the staff and children to get to know each other. I received a little update from Jane and the team and all children new and old have settled in exceptionally well for the first day.

Later in the term the topics will involve, Farming, Autumn, Halloween, Bonfire Night, and Christmas. Ah ho, I just mentioned the C word which means summer must nearly be over. Our raised beds sadly didn't get planted this year, however the beds are ready and waiting for Spring to arrive. You never know we might just get a little winter crop before the end of the year.

We had a Bags2School collection on the 14th July which raised us £380, thank you to everyone who donated. We plan to run the Bags2School again before the end of the year, so please continue to donate your items. The fundraising team are currently discussing ideas of fund-raising events we can hold during the Autumn term. Please keep an eye on the Little Bears Pre School Facebook page, as a charity run business your support with our events really are vital to the pre-school. Alternatively, if you have any ideas that you would like to put forward or would like to join the fundraising team please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Little Bears Pre School is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am – 3.30pm, Wednesday 9am – 1pm. If you

would like to arrange a visit to discuss your child starting at Little Bears please ring 01409 282856. We have plenty of space at present so please don't hesitate to get in touch, we can take children from age 2 and accept those who are eligible for the 30/15hour funding.

It certainly has been a very interesting year for everyone at Little Bears Pre-School but the team have truly shone and the children have been a pleasure to have. We look forward to getting back into the swing of pre-school and bring the best out of your child during their time with us. I would just like to finish with a take care and stay safe from us on the CIO and at the pre-school.

Dates for your diary:
Half Term – Monday 21st October – Friday 25th October 2020
Term ends – Thursday 19th December 2020

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Mayflower 400

Well, she's still there on Torrington Commons – the Mayflower. She should have gone up in smoke at the end of August, but that like so much has been delayed until 28th August 2021.

But we couldn't let it all go. I planned a Pilgrimage walk to arrive in Plymouth on the exact 400th anniversary – 16th September. Starting from Dartmouth – the other Devon port the Mayflower stopped at – we walked the south coast path to Devon. It's an interesting adventure in itself, with all the river estuaries to cross. Will there be a ferry? In two cases, the answer was 'no'.

But finally we arrived at the Pilgrim Steps on the Barbican in Plymouth, crossing over on the ferry from Mount Batten. The Bishop of Plymouth was there to greet the pilgrimage. We had arrived. And 400 years ago, the Pilgrims arrived in America.

The crossing was appalling with storms. Miraculously only one person died. But then they had to face the winter – and many didn't survive that. Only as they learnt to work with the local native tribe, did they find hope of survival – a survival they celebrated with those native Americans in what we now know as Thanksgiving.

As we walked, we reflected on the vision of God's Kingdom here on earth that spurred them on and of their tenacity in the face of so much adversity. We thought too of how things didn't always go to plan in the years ahead, especially in the treatment of the native Americans. There is so much to celebrate; there is much to repent of. It was a good walk. Maybe we do it as intended for the 401st anniversary. By which time, the Cavaliers will have burnt the replica in Torrington. We'll see.

Martin Warren.

Lake Chapel Fellowship

Ted Lott

It seems a long time ago now that plans were made, Preachers appointed and we went to Chapel and then with Covid 19, it all came to a halt. Has Covid 19 provided us with the opportunity to stop and think?

Lockdown has seemed, at times, to be somewhat boring, and not being easy to arrange family occasions both glad and sad. Thankfully though, it appears that our isolation has been effective. As this is being written for the October edition of Reflecting Shebbear our Minister, Rev. Lynne Burgon, has retired from her active Ministry, we will certainly miss her. Our Fellowship at Lake Chapel joins with the other tributes to Lynne remembering her Pastoral Support on so many occasions. At Shebbear we have a special reason to be grateful to Rev. Lynne Burgon. When Shebbear Coffee Mornings were in the process of being arranged Lynne gave practical help in making it happen. Thank you, Lynne. And of course, we look forward to the day when Shebbear Coffee Mornings can happen again.

In the meantime the more technically efficient of our fellowship are able to join the Zoom Services, and we thank Rev. Martin Warren for Worship Services arranged in the Parish Churches of the Torridge Team.

As Harvest Festivals open air celebrations may have already taken place at the end of September. As a fellowship we send Greetings and Blessings to Dr. Matthew Quance and, also to Spencer the son of Andrew and Shirley Quance of Dipper Farm. Dr. Matt is with the N.H.S. at Truro Hospital, attending to the medical requirements of the Cornish. Whilst Spencer Quance will be joining the Welsh as he returns to Cardiff University for his third year.



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The Shooters Bulletin

Rich Clark

It's been a very difficult time for the last few months. Our field remained deserted for weeks on end in Spring and early Summer, along with almost every other activity we were immobilised by the lockdown.

Even the material we had bought to repair the roof that was damaged in the winter storms remained in a neat pile, waiting to be fitted, and everything in the roofless shed got very wet.

Then, when the government gave clearance for golf and fishing to restart in a limited way, every shooter up and down the country thought our sport would be treated the same way. And apart from here in Devon and Cornwall, that's pretty much what happened.

But down here things were different. D & C Police decided that there was to be no shooting yet, that meant no target shooting either indoor or outdoor, no clay pigeon shooting, and certainly no shooting of real pigeons or pests. So we were still wondering how long we would be banned. Then the situation here was referred to the police team in the north of England who are in charge of firearms licensing. They spoke with the ministers concerned, and it was made clear that there was no intention of preventing a re-start. The licensing department put out a directive to all police forces saying that shooting must be allowed to start up again, and warned forces not to hinder this in any way.

So, we were at last allowed to re-open on a very limited basis. All the by-now standard anti CV19 measures to be adopted, and no more than six people to be on site at any one time. Nobody was allowed just to turn up, everyone had to book in by phone or text or email the day before.

A crew set about fixing the roof, and another crew

took on the task of grass cutting. Fortunately it had been a dry spring and the grass was nowhere near as high as it might have been.

With the village hall closed we had to make arrangements to shoot outdoors. Sadly it has been our members with limited mobility who have borne the brunt of this; whereas they can manage the ramp at the village hall, manoeuvring a walking frame or using crutches becomes quite hazardous on soft ground and wet grass. We have in the last few weeks managed to get things set up for one disabled member and it's hoped others will want to follow.

Then restrictions were further eased and we could increase the number on site but not take on any new members and not accept any guests. That was a shame as there are a number of shooters who live miles away but are friends of the club and always drop in to see us when they are down here on holiday. They are not actually members and so they can't look in.

Just when we thought we were heading for some kind of normality, as I write (9th September) it's just been announced that there is another clamp down from next Monday and it appears the numbers will be limited to six again.

Outdoor competitions are totally out of the question. But we still have indoor competitions that we can shoot at the field, under cover, and we've got teams taking part in bench rest competitions run by post. Any time now the Lightweight Sport Rifle (LSR) postal competitions for the coming winter will be starting up. We have entered two teams this winter, following last season's successes when we won several cups and medals.

Two members who had never shot LSR before tried it and got so hooked they have been allocated places in the B team to represent the club in the Devon league.

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From the Team Rector

Rev. Martin Warren, tel: 01409-281424

Dear Friends,

Normally at this time of year, we would be celebrating the Harvest; harvest services, harvest suppers, harvest assemblies in school, etc, etc. It gives something of a feel good factor before the plunge into winter weather and dark nights. Of course, we can't do that this year in the same way. We have been trying to work out some ways of marking the time and drawing some of us together, but even that is up in the air now with the new restrictions of gathering.

And actually there is not so much to celebrate this year. Not just in disease terms – the Covid risk is still there, even if we are still on the edge of it here in north Devon. But the harvest on the farm is not that good either. Grass cuts seem to have gone well, but the crops are not good. A wet autumn last year, followed by a very dry spring has hugely reduced yields.

But there are bright spots. Our tomatoes are the best ever, and apples seem abundant again. As with life, there are good bits, and there are the bits that are not so good. While there is always something to regret, there is always something to be thankful for too.

So take some time – maybe specially this year – and express your thanks for what has grown well this year. Be thankful that we do have food. Express that thanks to God, if you do, and show your gratitude in sharing what we do have with those in need. Give something to a food bank – if you can, do it regularly. Yours in thankfulness,

Martin Warren.

Services in our Church Buildings.

There are services now in our church buildings, and they are one place we can still gather. The next here are:

Sunday 18th October 11.00am
St, Michael's, Shebbear Holy Communion
Sunday 25th October
4.00pm St. Mary's, Buckland Filleigh
(Evening Prayer)

Please see the Church notice board, or ring to check for services elsewhere on other Sundays.

In the meantime, and continuing:
Online Church Sundays at 11am (or any time to suit)
www.torridgeteamchurches.org.uk

Special Harvest Service: Sunday October 4th, speaker: David Ursell

Service by Phone Sundays at 4pm
Ring 0330-606-0403. (You will be asked for an access code: 251417)

From the Registers

Funerals: Our prayers are for the bereaved

29th August Mike Barker (at Petrockstowe)

3rd September Donald Broad

Looking to the months to come, there's.....

Turning The Stone

How do we turn that stone in 2020?

Remembrance

How do we remember this year?

Christmas

It could really be a 'silent night' this year!

Get your creative juices flowing. We can do it – this is Shebbear. It'll be different. Of course, it will be – this is Shebbear. But we can still do it.

Martin Warren

Shebbear W I

Shebbear W I celebrated their 84th Birthday in March with a meeting in the village hall and since then we have not met. I don't suppose that during those 84 years there has been a time when their meetings have had to be cancelled as they have this year. Although we have not been able to meet we have kept in touch with members by phone and email and we are hoping that it won't be too long before we are able to meet in the usual way. Meanwhile you may have seen us on a couple of occasions having a socially distanced catch-up by the oak tree in the square. We have come armed with our own chairs and some cake in true W I fashion.

As some of our members were not able to join us because of shielding we would like them to know that we are thinking of them and would like to hear from you if you have anything specific that we can help you with. Hope we can all be back together soon.

Margaret Quance

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Busbys Brief

Legal Update

Emergency workers are very often unsung heroes. They go about their job diligently, protect us, and often save lives. It is therefore staggering how often Police, Prison Officers, Custody Officers, Fire Fighters and frontline health workers suffer abuse and physical assault. Currently the maximum penalty for assaulting emergency workers is one year. Sentencing reforms have now been announced to increase the maximum penalty to two years. The Ministry of Justice says the new law will offer greater protection to these frontline emergency workers – but I personally have my doubts that it will do much to stop such attacks, but time will tell.

Reporting Neighbours

The Policing Minister has been extensively quoted for encouraging people to report neighbours flouting the new “rule of six” Coronavirus restriction. They can do this by using the non-emergency number 101. People now face fines of up to £3,200 if they do not abide by the measures in both indoor and outdoor settings. Apparently Snow White has given notice to two of her small friends to take a hike!

Boost to Care Staff

Ten home care workers employed by the Contractors Diligent Care Services and Premier Carewaiting, both commissioned by Haringey Council in London, have won their claim in the employment tribunal. Judgement has just been given saying that travelling and waiting time of up to 60 minutes between appointments should be treated as work time, and therefore they should be paid for it. Unison said the decision has implications for thousands of care workers across the UK who care for vulnerable people in their own homes. The successful carers will receive an average settlement of around £10,000 each following the favourable court ruling.

Virus Scams

An analysis by UK Finance shows that bank scams have increased by an alarming 84% during the lockdown. Cases of impersonation fraud have nearly doubled in the first six months of the year. The banking trade body said there had been 15,000 reports of such scams, with these resulting in losses of £58 million – a 3% year-on-year increase. Of the 15,000 reported impersonation scams, over 8,200 cases involved criminals impersonating the Police or a bank, whilst 6,700 cases involved fraudsters pretending to be from organisations like utilities companies, telecoms providers or government departments. I am sure the vast majority of us have been victims of such attempted scams – maximum alert is required at all times.

Action

If you need help on any legal matters do get in touch with us here at Busbys. You can contact us on 01288 359000 and see Busby's advert in this magazine.

John Busby,

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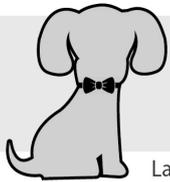
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Parish Council News

As it is some months since the magazine appeared in print, I thought it would be a good idea to update the community on some of the work your Council has been involved with during the interim.

With the onslaught of the Covid -19 restrictions and lockdown, members of the Council helped Reverend Martin Warren's team in delivering medications and groceries, etc. There has been a wonderful community spirit during this lockdown and the community owes a great deal of gratitude to Keith and Ann at our shop in the village, who have worked tirelessly to help the supply of groceries to the parish.

The schools have of course been closed. Nick Alford, Head Teacher of the Community School, explained that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, equipment within the school could no longer be shared between pupils. Some of the existing equipment was put to vital use during the lockdown to provide technological support to families so that children could continue their education from home. Nick approached the Parish Council to see if we could help with a donation towards purchasing some additional equipment. The Parish Council responded with a donation of £3,000 to assist the school in purchasing some additional Chromebooks to allow for one per child within the school.

Meanwhile, the administrative work of the Council continued. Monthly meetings were held via video link, Zoom, and this in itself created a few problems, both in internet connections and also a few problems for those with hearing difficulties.

The biggest issue during the last few months has been, as ever, the matter of planning. Your Parish Council only has the status as Consultee in these matters, and Torrington District Council is not bound to take our views into consideration when deliberating a decision.

With the three acre site east of Meadow Park, having been granted outline planning permission for 20 units, the developer has now proceeded to apply for detailed planning consent. The first planning application was so badly flawed on two points 1) the scale of the proposed units was not in keeping with the village architecture of traditional 2-storey properties and bungalows. Shebbear is a village, not a town. 3-storey 'town houses' would be out of place and intrusive. 2) the surface water drainage. We are fortunate in having a qualified Architect living in our village, who is able to examine the proposals in minute detail, and found there were inconsistencies and inaccuracies and also lack of vital information, which should have been provided on a development of this nature. The Council and members of the community so thoroughly objected to this that the applicant withdrew the first application. >>>>>

A second application has now been put forward which is, in our opinion, a slightly better attempt both in physical appearance and presentation. However, we do have issues with the aspect and design of the affordable housing units. Every development of this size has to allow for a certain number of affordable houses, and there is absolutely no reason whatever why these should be of inferior design and different in appearance to the main development. Secondly, the applicant has not addressed the problem of surface water drainage. It is a known fact locally that the site has always been poorly drained. Your Parish Council has together with members of the community, once again raised its concerns in the strongest terms with this re-application.

Shebbear Parish Council recognises the importance of supporting local groups and organisations that benefit the local community, and making grants available is a valuable means of support. People running these groups put in much unpaid work to make these organisations a success and your Council tries to give them every encouragement possible.

These organisations should be constituted groups that demonstrate local residents benefit from their activities. Once again, it is the time of year to invite applications for grants, which are awarded at the discretion of the Council. Closing date is 27th November 2020. These applications are then considered by the full Council at the December meeting, and paid in May the following year. Application forms available from the Clerk.

Much of the work the Council is involved with is of a mundane nature. Those walking around the village will have noticed that the seat under the beech tree in the Square needs severe attention, and again the seat towards New Inn also needs a bar replaced. By the time you read this, hopefully these jobs will have been attended to.

Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Nick Whatley, met with an Arboriculturist to carry out a routine inspection of our famous oak tree in the Square to determine its condition and risk assessment. This is an over-mature oak tree of age 300-500 years, and size to be known as a veteran tree, and is listed on the Ancient Tree Forums website where it is to be given the local name of 'The Devil's Stone Oak'. Since surveyed in 2016, the tree has continued to put on new growth showing approximately 75mm new growth. He could find no undue concerns for a tree of this age at this time.

Cllr John Franklin has taken on the role of Footpath Warden, and has now walked all the footpaths in the Parish checking on access, gates, styles, overgrowth, etc. One of the biggest problems he has come across is that of dog waste. Yes, we are out in the country but dog owners are being asked to pick

up after their pets amid fears that cows might lose unborn calves to infections from dog mess. Neospora Canium is a parasite which can be carried by dogs. Please take heed of the red signs on all the footpaths!! Dog fouling within the village itself has also become a problem and we would urge all dog owners to pick up after their pets. There is an adequate supply of bins to receive dog waste within our community. Cllr Franklin can be reached on 01409 281835.

Finally, have you seen our new dedicated Parish Council Website?

www.shebbearparishcouncil.org.uk Take a look and tell us what think. [It looks good - Mike]

Mary Whatley
Parish Clerk

October 14, 1920

The Treaty of Tartu (also called the Treaty of Dorpat) was signed between Soviet Russia and Finland at the neutral Estonian capital at Tartu as an agreement on the Russian-Finnish border, but more importantly, on this day Betty Garman was born.

We would like to wish Betty Garman, a Shebbear resident for many years, a Very Happy 100th Birthday on 14th October, with Best Wishes from all her friends, and neighbours.



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Viral Load

Comments from Mark Henley BAPRAS

I recently heard the phrase 'Viral Load', but with no real explanation, so I Googled it and found this article. Having read it, the spreading of Covid -19 suddenly made sense, and I then got angry, as Mark says 'the Govt should have explained this at the outset'. I am sharing this with you in the hope that it helps to spread a warning, and not the Virus. Mike

Viral load is the key to how coronavirus affects each person. This explanation is clear and helpful as to why as little social contact as possible is now crucial, gives a clue how to manage it the Govt should have explained this at the outset.

Why do we need to shut places where people group?

Remember this: VIRAL LOAD

There will be a lot about this. Why is it important? With this virus, the amount of virus in your blood at first infection directly relates to the severity of the illness you will suffer. This isn't unusual - HIV management is all about reducing viral load to keep people alive longer. BUT it's very important in COVID-19.

So if you are in, say, a pub or religious building or entertainment venue with 200 people and a large number don't have symptoms but are shedding, you are breathing in lots of droplets per minute and absorbing a high load of the virus. In a crowded space. They become ill over the next 48 hours. You then three days later wonder why you can't breathe and end up in hospital. You'd decided because you were young and healthy it wasn't going to be a problem. Wrong.

Fortunately but unfortunately because the elderly are isolating quite well, the initial UK data suggests that all age groups above 20 are almost equally represented in ICUs in England. Most of the cases are in London but the wave is moving outwards. This means that being under 60 and fit and well doesn't seem to be as protective as we thought. Why? Viral load.

This may be skewed simply by the fact that too many Londoners didn't do as asked and congregated in large groups in confined spaces and got a large initial viral load. They then went home and infected their wider families. Which is why, as London is overwhelmed, we need to shut everything down to save the rest of the UK. We are a week at most behind London.

Our sympathies go out to the families affected in London and the critical care teams battling right now to save as many as they can.

If I sit with one person and catch this virus, I get a small viral load. My immune system will start to fight it and by the time the virus starts replicating, I'm ready to kill it. VIRAL LOAD

No medicines will help this process meaningfully hence there is no "cure" for this virus. All we can do is support you with a ventilator and hope your immune system can catch up fast enough.

If I sit in the same room with six people, all shedding I get six times the initial dose. The rise in viral load is faster than my immune system can cope with and it is overrun. I then become critically ill and need me (or someone of my specialty) to fix it instead of just being at home and being ok in the end.

THIS BIT IS IMPORTANT:

If you are a large family group, remember that by being ill and in the same room, you will make each other ill or "more ill". If you get sick, isolate just yourself to one room and stay there. Don't all sit in one room coughing. You will increase the viral load for all of you, reducing your survival rate.

A family of six people may produce double the droplets of a family of three in the same space. Maths is important.

If one of you is symptomatic, assume you are all shedding and make sure you keep some space. Parents are getting it from their kids because no one is going to stop comforting their child (nor should they) so the parent gets a big hit as well as the child. I don't think that can be helped.

REMEMBER: THINK ABOUT VIRAL LOAD

It could save your life or your child's.

29th March 2020



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Ten year old avid rugby fan Ryan Mahajan is hoping to raise thousands of pounds for frontline healthcare heroes, after coming up with the idea of designing and selling a rainbow coloured rugby shirt and rugby ball, which will see all proceeds donated to charity. Ryan's family run Aramis Rugby, a company based in South Molton which provides clothing and equipment to the rugby world. After sketching his ideas up on a pad at home, the design team brought his creations to life and a specially designed rugby shirt, rugby ball (and face masks) are now available to purchase from their website!

100% of the sale [*not just profit – Mike*] is being kindly donated to North Devon Hospice as well as the charity for North Devon District Hospital, Over & Above with all production costs being absorbed by Aramis.

Ryan realised that he needed to do something to help care for the people who are caring for others during the pandemic. He said "I felt bad that while we are safe inside our homes, the healthcare workers are working to save lives, sometimes risking their

own. I want to raise a lot of money for healthcare workers as they don't sometimes get to see their loved ones because of working in hospitals and hospices. I want to thank them for helping sick people and for helping us during coronavirus."

Our 'official heroes' are held in high regard by Ryan and he is looking forward to raising as much money as possible to show his appreciation for them. The special, limited edition rainbow coloured rugby shirts, balls and face masks are available to purchase **NOW**...please visit www.aramisrugby.co.uk/charity to get your hands on them before they sell out!
[If needed their email address is: sales@aramisrugby.co.uk]

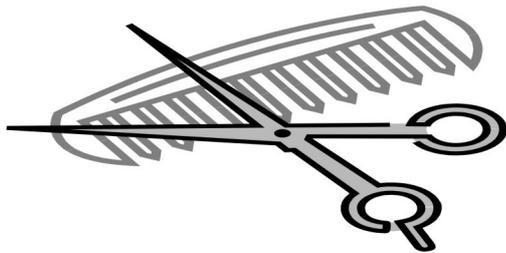
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The frustration of missing our weekly get together with no practising on Wednesday evenings at Lake Schoolroom, is being felt very keenly by both Choirs. No singing, not even when wearing a mask. We hadn't realised until now that singing is more dangerous than Rugby.

However it is a small price to pay if it helps to keep Corvid 19 at bay. Whilst we enjoy our singing and performing at Concerts, the members value above all the sense of belonging to a family, the Choir.

During this recent period of Lockdown we have been saddened to receive news that Raymond Luxton who sings with the second tenors had recently been bereaved, when his wife Jennifer passed away. With the present difficulty with funeral arrangements several members of the Choirs took part in the tribute to Jennifer as the Cortege left Holsworthy's Bodmin Street Chapel.

The Service had recorded music, including some of Ray and Jennifer's favourite choir pieces, such as 'You raise me up' sung by the Male Voice Choir at the Royal Albert Hall with the Cornish Choirs' Festival. We all join in our sympathy to Raymond and their Family during these dark days.

Thankfully our Retired Musical Director, Norman has recovered from his time in hospital and he along with Lorna are both well.

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A Cake To Eat Naked!

Triple Chocolate Brownies

I bet that got your attention, but it is not quite what it seems - sorry. It is taken from the title of a book, which has 30 cake recipes, all matched with an illustration from the paintings of Beryl Cook [1926-2008] who painted older people, usually larger than life in humorous situations.

Serves 20 or 2!

Ingredients

275g plain chocolate (70% cocoa solids)
 275g unsalted butter
 85g pecans, broken into pieces
 85g milk chocolate, cut into large chunks
 85g white chocolate, cut into large chunks
 175g plain flour
 1 tsp baking powder
 4 large eggs, lightly beaten
 1 tsp vanilla essence
 325g caster sugar

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 170°C / 325°F Gas Mark 3. Line a 30x20x3.5 cm / 12x8x1½ inch tin with lightly buttered greaseproof paper or foil.
2. Put the plain chocolate and butter in a large bowl, place over a pan of simmering water and allow to melt.
3. Sieve the flour and baking powder into a bowl and set aside. Remove the melted chocolate from the heat and stir in the sugar. Add the eggs and vanilla essence. Fold in the flour, nuts and chocolate.
4. Pour the chocolate mixture into the prepared cake tin. Place in the oven and bake for 20 - 25 minutes. The top should be firm but the centre should feel soft [slightly gooey] when cooked. Allow to cool in the tin. Remove the brownies from the tin and cut into squares.

Also featured on the BBC Good Food site:
<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/user/520836/recipe/triple-chocolate-brownies>



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Community Contacts

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 Sergeant 16096 Dave Monkton Neighbourhood
 Team Leader or Rural Beat Officer PCSO 30335
 Melissa Baker contact via 101
 Neighbourhood Watch tbc
 Environment Agency Floodline 0845 9881188
 South West Water Emergency 0800 1691133
 General 0800 1691144
 Devon Highways Simon Phillips 0845 1551004
 Western Power Emergency 0800 365900
 Samaritans 116 123
 Child Line 0800 1111

Doctors

Blake House B Torrington 01409 231628 or 335830
 Ex Beech House now Holsworthy 01409 253692
 Out of Hours 111
 NHS Helpline 111

Hospitals

North Devon District Hospital (A&E) Open 24 hrs
 01271 322577

Minor injury units - Please contact first

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 Open 24 hours
 Holsworthy Medical Centre 01409 253692
 Open weekdays 8.30am – 5.45pm
 Bideford Hospital 01237 420205
 Open 8am – 8pm

Churches

St Michael's Martin Warren 01409 281424
 Parish Room Fiona Goode 01409 281686
 Lake Chapel Ted Lott 01409 281242

Councils

MP Geoffrey Cox MP 01237 459001
 Torrington Council 01237 428700
 County Councillor: Barry Parsons 07739 972043
 barry.parsons@devon.gov.uk
 District Councillors: David Hurley 01805 601604
 Richard Wiseman 01837 810404
 Parish Council Clerk: Mary Whatley 01409 281930
 Parish Council Chair: Nick Whatley 01409 281930

Recycling Centres

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 Anvil Corner, Holsworthy & Deepmoor, Torrington



Schools

Shebbear Community Primary 01409 281220
 Headteacher: Nick Alford

Emergency Contact - Out of Hours

K9 on 0800 84 96 84 93

Chair Governors: Mrs C Coward
 Administrator Sue Hawker
 SSSG Chair Leanne Marshall 01409 281626
 leannemarshall03@outlook.com

Secretary

Shebbear College 01409 282000

Headteacher: Mrs Caroline Kirby
 Chair Governors: Mike Saltmarsh
 Director of Admissions and Recruitment
 Naomi Giddy ngiddy@shebbearcollege.co.uk

Little Bears/ Cub Bears & Toddlers

Administrator Selina Wollacott 01409 281280
 selinawollacott123@btinternet.com

Village Hall

Chairman: Lucy Luxton 01409 281790
 Secretary: Katie Ashton 01409 282921
 Treasurer: Marie Guppy (even'g only) 01409 282843

General

WI Pat Kirby 01409 281148
 Youth Club Lisa James 01409 281126
 Lunch Club Lorna Wyard 01409 281465

Special interest

Community Coffee Morning Margaret Quance
 01409 281838

Shunters Secretary Mary Whatley 01409 281930
 Historical Society Ron Ackland 01409 281451
 SLS Allstars, Majorette Troop Lisa 01805601172
 Craft Carole Stairs 01409 281110
 Dance Fitness Yoga at The Studio, Alscott Farm
 Jennie Dodd 07776465236

Zumba / Aqua Zumba with Lucy 01409 281790
 Yoga at the Village Hall Di Sluggett 01409 281637
 1st Holsworthy Scouts,Cubs,Beavers 01409 254803
 Guides 01409 211319
 Brownies 01409 254727
 Ruby Oak Park, Brandis Corner Laura Morrish
 Children's Swimming Instructor 01409 221580

Sport

Football club Mike Edge 01409 281377
 Short Mat Bowls Jenny Gubb 01805 601427
 Skittles Geraldine Slade 01409 281426
 Shebbear Shooters Rich Clark 01409 281660
 Tae Kwondo Tom Douglas 01409281920

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 Editor / Publisher Mike Darby 01409 281716
 Advertising / Distribution / Assistant Editor
 Barry Hunt 01409 281233

For corrections or additions contact the above or Mike at salamanderservices@gmail.com

www.shebbfarmfest.com Sheb Fest at Allacott Farm 3rd & 4th September 2021, check the website regularly for updates

