

REFLECTING

SHEBBEAR



Covid 19 - As you no doubt realise, as we went to press [or tried to on 20th March], we were not sure where we were heading, and hindsight was not working very well at Magazine Central. I think we can safely state that all current events are cancelled, perhaps with the exception of the Flower Show on 25th July and Shebfest on 4th & 5th September [keep checking online and Facebook - Shebbear Community Board for updates].

We are unable to say which advertisers are still able to work, but if you have an emergency situation by all means ring them. I would also like to take this opportunity to provide an update from our vicar.
Godspeed & Stay Safe. Mike. 28th March 2020

In these days of the coronavirus outbreak, the parish churches have launched an online service. Currently, go to the following website: petrockstowechurch.org.uk and find the 'Church on Line' page. If possible do join at 11am on Sundays. But the service is there through the week.

Rev Martin Warren



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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 - Due to the rapidly changing nature of restrictions and closures, please check by phone or email, to see if any event or service mentioned is still available.

Cover picture:

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

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Short Devon Quiz No. 35

Answers

1. *Malmesbury is the oldest borough in England, with a charter given by Alfred the Great around 880. But which borough in Devon is nearly as old, being chartered c.930?*

Barnstaple, but see Letter To The Editor on page 7.

2. *Which competition did Devon County Wanderers win, at the only time the event has been held?*

Cricket. The team won gold for Britain at the 1900 Olympics, they were part-time cricketers from Devon and Somerset.

3. *Where can you find a Volcano in Devon?*
Posbury Clump, 3 miles from Crediton.

4. *Who wrote The Historie of The World [in 5 bookes], whose printed version became one of the most published and admired books of the 17th century; Oliver Cromwell is known to have read it and recommended it to his son?*

Written during his imprisonment in the Tower of London, the History of the World is Sir Walter Raleigh's most important prose work.

5. *'St James' Church in Haslingden, is the highest church above sea level in the country...', at 260m. That is according to St James' website, except it is not [Ed]! Devon hosts the 4th smallest and highest working parish church, which is 335m above sea level, but where is it?*

St Michael de Rupe, Brentor



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From the Chair

In March 2001 this area of N. Devon was in the grip of Foot & Mouth disease which had a devastating effect on the farming community and anyone whose business depended on them. There were several weeks of fear and anxiety for many of us and at the time we hoped that we would never have to go through anything like that again.

We now find ourselves in a situation with the Coronavirus which affects human beings and that is far more serious. We are anxious for our friends and families as well as the wider public. We have no idea what will happen and that makes us fearful. All we can do is try to look after ourselves and make sure that we keep in contact with other members of our community. I hope that by the time our next issue comes out the news will be better and that we will see life returning to something like normal.

In the meantime stay safe and try not to get too anxious.

Best wishes
Margaret Quance.

Shebbear Football Club

Bonus Ball Winners

January

4th	11	Darren Hayler
11th	14	Audrey Jewell
18th	11	Darren Hayler
25th	21	Wynne Brampton



February

1st	52	Jan Adams
8th	21	Wynne Brampton
15th	18	Wendy Rowe
22nd	17	Mike Edge
29th	09	Terry Hookway

200 Club Winners

January:

002	Tessa Pennington
136	Dave Clark
121	Nigel Brock

February:

066	Kenny Griffen
001	Jak Jenkinson
100	Ian Luxton

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Shebbear Stores

Here is an update of where we are at the shop. Our recent deliveries from suppliers, although not as complete as we'd like, have generally been pretty good. It looks as if there are going to be long term problems getting hold of Paracetamol, hand gel and a few antibacterial cleaning products, but we may yet be surprised next week. We'll keep our fingers crossed. Supplies of bread, fruit & veg, dairy produce and deli items have been fine.

We're in the early days of this and as the weeks go by we're bound to experience problems. My own feeling is that although currently robust, the supply chain will stutter a little as more people disappear from the workplace. There are of course ways to overcome these problems and it could be that we will appeal for help should the need arise (a trip to Plymouth to fetch loo rolls anyone?). At least for now things look ok on the availability front and we've been led to believe that they will remain that way.

We have heard that some convenience stores have suffered from their wholesalers increasing prices and I'm pleased to say that this has not been something we have experienced so far. It should go without saying that we will not be increasing any prices here unless forced to do so.

Thinking ahead, we all know that things are going to change; Anne and I have begun to consider how we will deal the challenges. We need to do whatever we can to safeguard our customers, staff and ourselves, not an easy task in this environment. In the short term we anticipate that little will change, although it would be appreciated if the new protocols in respect of 'social distancing' were followed wherever possible. If you'd prefer not to enter the shop it should be easy enough to attract our attention and we can meet you at the door and gather your shopping for you. Going one step further, you could email your order (shop@sheb.eclipse.co.uk) and we'll have it ready for you when you arrive. If you don't have access to email it's still possible to 'phone us but with things as they are, we might not be lightning fast in answering.

We'll get there, just be patient.

There will inevitably come a time when nobody will want to come into the shop, and to be frank, we won't want anyone in here. When that time arrives, we have a plan to keep going. We'll have a temporary counter across the shop doorway and will serve you from there. Provision has already been made to shift the Paypoint terminal so we will still be able to take card payments. We can also find a way to allow access to the ATM. Once again, pre-ordering is going to help a lot.

In this edition of the magazine you will have found a flyer giving a couple of contact numbers for those who, for whatever reason, might find it difficult to access goods and services during the current crisis. You'll have to forgive me here because the action

plan is not yet fully formulated but the skeleton of an idea is on the table. When you call one of the contacts your details will be passed to a local 'co-ordinator', who will then get in touch with you to discuss your needs or concerns, whether it be organising groceries, collecting prescriptions, or anything else. We've already had a number of people volunteer to help, and if you're one of them, we will be in touch. If anyone else is interested in helping please call one of the numbers or leave your contact details in the shop. In the meantime, if you have any vulnerable neighbours or friends, now might be a good time to see how they're getting on.

These are strange times indeed but we will get through it. We're all floundering around at the moment, so much is changing, but if we can establish a few routines and create a new version of normality, then things should be a little more tolerable.

Keith Horwell

18th March 2020

Covid 19 Caveat to Holsworthy Walk and Talk

I was asked to run this article to inform you about an activity, that could help your health through outdoor exercise, but against the rapidly changing viral environment. This epidemic will run its course, and we need to look to the future, but with caution.

Gillian states that she had received no guidelines as of 16th March. However, Ramblers GB announced that it is suspending the following activities from Wednesday 18 March until at least 31 May 2020 – subject to further developments:

[including] all group led walks and all Ramblers Walking for Health schemes.

I therefore provide this article to endorse past events, and in no way do I suggest that you take part in future events, unless it is clearly safe to do so. Contact Gillian if you are in any doubt. Mike

Our Bradworthy Walk had a very welcome guest – sunshine!! 23 walkers and one dog met in The Square, which is the largest village square in the South West and thought to date from Saxon times.

From The Square there are several circular walk options, but we headed out onto The Common which we circumnavigated, returning to the lane at Crosspark Farm where half the walkers chose to retrace their steps back to the village, making their walk a Level 2 (easier option). The remaining half opted for a slightly longer, more vigorous route across the fields to Berridom Farm, making their walk a Level 3. We are continually looking for routes which can be adapted in this way to accommodate the varying abilities of our growing number of walkers.

If you need any further information please contact **Gillian Aston** on 01409 254642 or email holsworthywalkandtalk@gmail.com.

From the Team Rector

Revd. Martin Warren, tel: 01409-281424

Dear Friends,

I hesitate to write anything about the Coronavirus. By the time you read this it could all have calmed down and it felt like a damp squid – or we could be in the midst of a full-blown epidemic – or still not really sure where it is all going! Who knows what tomorrow will bring?

But whatever is happening by then, it is certainly significant. People are dying, health systems are being put under huge pressure, stock markets are crashing, travel is being restricted and folk are feeling anxious. That is all very real.

Whether it is a virus outbreak on a national – even international – scale, or a sudden matter that rises up just in our own individual lives, we can be faced with things that unsettle us, that threaten us and that even terrify us. It can feel that the rug is pulled from under our feet, and we don't know which way to turn.

Again and again, Jesus says to his friends, 'Don't worry' – or in Dad's Army terms, 'Don't panic'. Maybe most particularly he says it to them just as he has told them of his own impending death. The one they had placed all their hopes in, the one who was to make all the difference, was to be taken away from them – and they weren't to worry! Well, I would have – and I bet you would have too.

But Jesus tells them not to worry. Why? Because God is bigger than all of that. It's not that he doesn't care – he certainly does. Indeed that's the whole point of Jesus – God getting stuck into our world, sharing it with us and walking with us in all its turmoils. And as we discover that, then we discover that he is bigger than Coronavirus; he's bigger than any illness; he's bigger than a relationship breakdown; he's bigger than losing your job. He's even bigger than death itself.

We are approaching Easter. This is the central point of Christian faith. This is the belief that makes all the difference. For here is the promise that with Jesus death cannot win; it is life that will overcome. Nothing is in the end too big for God. And that can give us hope. Even in the face of Coronavirus.

Yours,

Martin Warren.

Services at St. Michael's*

5th Apr	11.00am	Holy Communion
12th Apr	11.00am	Easter Communion
19th Apr	11.00am	Holy Communion
26th Apr Lake Chapel)	11.00pm	United Service (at Lake Chapel)
3rd May	11.00am	Holy Communion

10th May	11.00am	Sm@ll Service
17th May	11.00am	Holy Communion
24th May Farm	11.00am	Farm Service: Wootton
31st Mar	11.00am	Venue still to be decided
7th Jun	11.00am	Holy Communion

Coping with Coronavirus*

Events and Arrangements

Please note that arrangements could well change at very short notice. Please check on the church noticeboard in The Square, or by phoning. We will try to get information on village Facebook pages too. Do check first if in any doubt.

People

This is the most important thing. We can all look out for each other. Even if self-isolating ourselves, we can still ring others who might be isolated too.

Be aware of those we might not have seen for a few days when we normally would have, especially elderly folk and those with health concerns. Offer help where we can. Stay in touch.

And be patient. We could all get a bit frustrated at times, especially if we are cooped up. And some may be suspicious of help, or not need it. A refusal isn't a rejection.

We can all pull together and support each other. We've done it before – we can do it again.

Wine and Wisdom*

Saturday 25th April 7.30pm Shebbear Village Hall

Tickets: £4 per person

Booking: 281686

Teams of 6, or join a team on the night

Organised on behalf of Shebbear Church

Easter at Shebbear Church*

Good Friday: April 10th

11.00am Procession of the Cross
(from Lake Chapel to The Square)

12noon Prayers at the Cross followed by a soup
lunch (Church Room)

Easter Day: April 12th

11.00am Easter Communion
Easter Egg hunt to follow at about 12noon.

Shebbear Church Annual Meeting*

Monday 20th April 7.30pm

Church Room

All are welcome

If you are not on the Church's membership list, and would like to be:

Please contact Janet Nicholas (01409-231297)

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?
Squeezbelly 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?

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District Councillor's Report

At the time of writing my contribution for Reflecting Shebbear many locations in the World are in the grip of the Coronavirus, something for which at present there is no known cure. It maybe that when you read this, anybody over the age of 70 is supposed to be confined to their homes, for up to 4 months, to help contain the spread of the virus. I note that there are several initiatives being proposed in our local villages, whereby volunteers offer help and assistance to those that are housebound or unable to actually get out and about. Community spirit is certainly something to encourage.

I was recently at a Western Power Distribution seminar and it came to my notice that Western Power have what is known as a Priority Service Register. It is aimed at customers who rely on electricity for medical reasons, use a stair lift, hoist or electric bed or, if an unexpected power cut would bring an element of distress. The benefits to registering include receiving a phone call to warn in advance of a planned power outage and a direct number would be given to allow contact with Western Power in the event of a power cut and they would keep the customer updated in the event of an unplanned power cut. To register Western Power can be contacted on 0800 0963080 or register at www.westernpower.co.uk. Alternatively download the WPD app.

Many complaints have been made in recent weeks/months about the condition of the road from Shebbear to Dipper Mill. The road near Worden Corner has come in for some particularly scathing comments ranging from a very poor broken up surface, large potholes and loads of water rushing both across and down the road. I believe that DCC placed a road closure notice on this section to facilitate repairs and, as would be expected, also placed signs stating that the road was closed and cones to prevent access. Whilst perusing the comments on Facebook it would appear that some people had removed the cones and ignored the road closed signs. Two things spring to mind here. By driving over a repaired road surface if it hasn't properly set it may cause further damage to that surface. Secondly, by driving on the road that has a road closure notice placed on it, the driver is committing an offence.

All households will by now have received notification of the Council tax increases. It is unfortunate that the Government now expects local Councils to increase Council Tax each year to help make up the shortfall in Grants given by the Government. When I became a District Councillor over 6 years ago the Torridge share was 9.5p per pound collected. This year it is 8.39p and the same services still have to be provided.

Kind regards
David Hurley

councillor.hurley@torridge.gov.uk or 01805601604

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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Why do you drive with such haste?

It's not as if you're being chased.

Screeching brakes and high speed roar
what on earth is all that for?

Why are you cornering at speed so ballistic,
do you want to become a morbid statistic?
Or perhaps worse maim or kill an other
like an innocent child or a loving mother.

So please slow down for everybody's sake
and stop taking the risks that you take,
the roads are not your racing track
beware, you might meet yourself coming back.

Finn Willow

Shebbear

When we first moved here 10 years ago, whenever we mentioned the word Shebbear, we were politely corrected, as it is pronounced 'Shebbear', so we would say 'Shebbear', patiently we were corrected again, and we found that we were trying to say it with a Devon accent! So, how do you pronounce this sign, dating from the 1970's?



Postal Subscriptions

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April Fool!

It seems a shame to let April 1st go by without a mention in the magazine, but as I have said a number of times before, I cannot match the expertise of past Editors, so I am not going to try. However, to get you thinking, one of the following statements [only one] is a lie, or conversely nine of them are true, but can you spot which one[s]:

1. Add the weight of one specimen of an extinct land animal, to the weight of a living Black Rhinoceros and you get the weight of a Boeing 737 [without fuel or passengers – of course!].
2. Elephant Poo Gin - A South African couple is now bottling gin infused with elephant dung
3. In Green River Wyoming you will find a 1500m long Runway, which [in the 1990's] the City Planners gave the grand name of the Greater Green River Intergalactic Spaceport.
4. Kopi Luwak is the world's rarest and most expensive coffee in the world, having been collected from the faeces of the Asian Palm Civet.
5. In Nottinghamshire there is a speed limit sign for rabbits.
6. In London's Cliffords Inn Passage, jutting out of the wall is a pee deflector, which is angled to deflect it onto the culprit's shoes.
7. In a bar in Dawson City, Northwest Canada, you can order a special cocktail called the Sourtoe Cocktail. It consists of Yukon Gold Whiskey and a mummified human toe.
8. Up until halfway through WW1 moustaches were compulsory for all the UK Armed Forces.
9. You can eat a Boston Butt.
10. St Michael's Mount in Cornwall has its own functional four-foot-six-inch [Scotch] railway.

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Help! I Have Found A Bat

So, you have found a little furry Bat but don't know what to do? Firstly, don't panic we are Mandy and Mark your local Bat rescue and carers working alongside North Devon Bat Care. We cover North Devon and parts of Cornwall.

If you find a bat during the day or in an unusual place grounded or injured it needs help. Please don't assume that it will fly away when it gets dark. Leaving them out during the day makes them an easy target for cats and birds.

Here is some advice on what to do to help them out. Bats are placid and shy little mammals but can bite when injured or stressed. To avoid being bitten pick the bat up with a gloved or covered hand and place it in a secure lidded box with pencil size holes (Bats can escape through very small holes and gaps, pencil size is perfect) place a cloth in the box so the bat has somewhere to hide also put a plastic milk bottle lid with water so it can drink and keep hydrated. Secure the box lid and place in a safe and quiet area and give us a call on 01409 281067 or 07852623759

What else can you do to help our declining bat population? As their natural habits become scarcer, our gardens are an important source of food and water. So why not turn your garden into a bat haven by planting night scented flowers to attract nocturnal insects, build a pond or even put up bat boxes. Also reducing artificial lighting can help.

One of the biggest threats to bats are our pet cats. Unfortunately, cats are the cause for a large number of bat rescues and bat deaths. Cats can hear bat calls and will wait below the roost and catch the bat's as they emerge. Bats that are attacked by cats will require URGENT care as the cats saliva can causes infection and death without treatment. Keeping your cat indoors overnight or at least an hour either side of dusk and dawn especially during early June to the end of August will help bats during baby [pup] season.

So, remember we are here to help.

Mandy and Mark

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Letter to the Editor

From John Bradbeer

I write as one whose school days were spent in Barnstaple, so I rather reluctantly admit that the claim that Barnstaple received a Charter from King Athelstan in 930 is entirely fraudulent. Even when the town celebrated its millenary in 1930, many historians thought that the 'lost' charter of Athelstan was a medieval forgery and clearly the mayor of South Molton was a little suspicious as he wrote in his official letter of congratulation of Barnstaple being the first borough to celebrate its millenary, note not attain!

Barnstaple used to have welcome signs claiming to be the oldest borough but this claim quietly disappeared about thirty years ago. Indeed, Susan Pearce showed in 1969 that Barnstaple's elders had a track record of forging charters, as most of the medieval charters for Barnstaple were almost word for word the same as those genuinely granted to Exeter, save for the substitution of 'Barnstaple/Barumensis' for Exeter/Exoniensis'. So Barnstaple has to congratulate itself not for Athlestan's non-existent charter but as one of the four Domesday boroughs of Devon, along with Exeter, Totnes and Lydford.

Best wishes

John

Note from the Editor:

John writes to refute the answer I provided to question No.1 of the Quiz on page 3, which presents an interesting dilemma.

I try to perform due diligence before printing anything I write, and the "Charter of c. 930" is oft repeated, so much so, that it becomes difficult to pinpoint the original source, or accuracy thereof. This makes it particularly difficult for a non-historian, and it is as such that I wrote the Question.

Amongst many, this is a quote from the Encyclopaedia Britannica 'The town, one of the oldest boroughs in England (chartered c. 930) ...'. www.britannica.com/place/Barnstaple

Perhaps the 'lost' Charter is held somewhere, along with the recipe for Barnstaple Crisp Cake!

Rainfall

Rainfall at Rowden from Ted Lott:

Jan	143 mms	5.6 ins
Feb	267 mms	10.6 ins
Highest daily reading for Rowden was on 16 February at 28mm.		



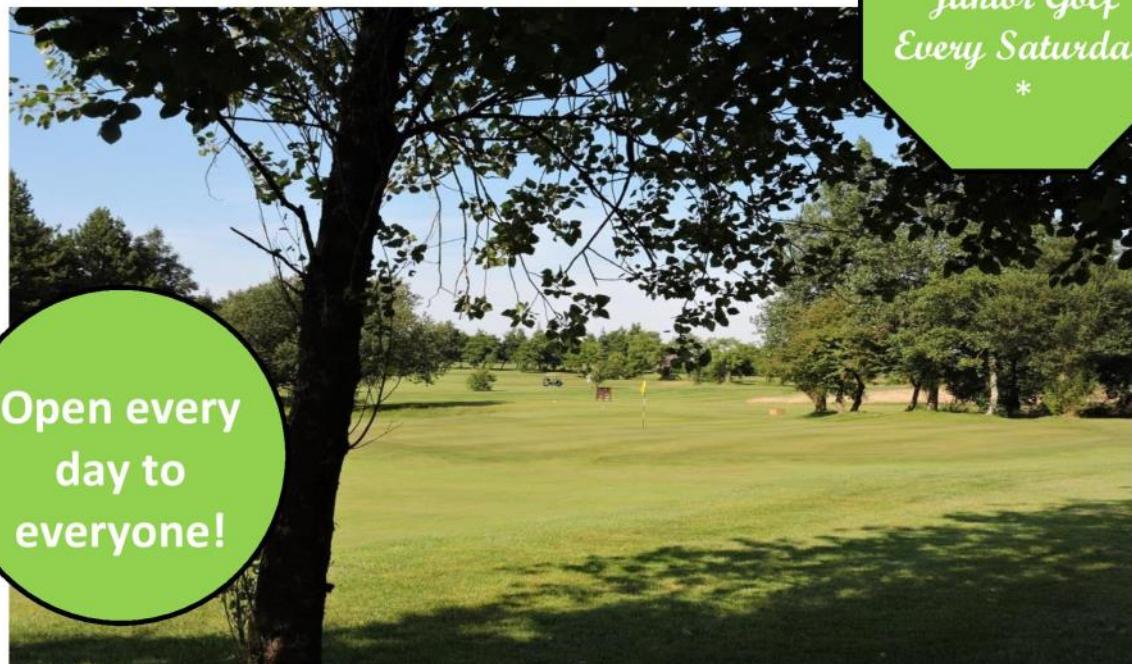
Rainfall at St. Michael's Close from Gordon Slade:

Jan	143.5 mms	5.65 ins
Feb	253 mms	9.96 ins

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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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Short Mat Bowls

At the end of March the winter short mat bowls season comes to an end, the Wednesday afternoon roll ups will also stop.

We will however continue our Monday evening roll ups starting from the 11th May 7pm - 8pm through to the end of August. We also plan to arrange a few friendly matches. So if you would like to try your hand at short mat bowls please call Jenny on 01805 601427 for details.

At the time of writing our evening team the Oaks are looking at finishing the season in second position. If the North Devon North Cornwall League follow their usual pattern we should gain promotion next season.

Our two afternoon teams the Acorns and Stones are both mid table in their respective divisions. The last update we received from the Merton league placed us in second position in the first division.

We have also reached the semi finals in the Alan Wright 10's knockout competition and travel to Winkleigh to compete against Woolsey.

Further information is also available on our club website www.shebbearshortmat.org.uk
New members are always welcome.

Stop Press! Due to the coronavirus all bowls have been suspended until further notice.

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Parish Council

Clerk's Report

As Clerk to the Parish Council I receive details of all planning applications within the Parish and these are discussed at meetings and responded to with our observations and comments as Consultees, to TDC. Residents will be aware that the site of the Meadow Park development, which was granted outline planning permission in 2016, has now been presented for detailed approval, and the community are up in arms at the proposal.

There was a good show of residents at the March Parish Council meeting, where three residents spoke very strongly against the scheme. Whereas the original scheme was revised to include dwellings suitable for an ageing population, many single storey and all with good access, at ground level at least, for those with mobility issues, the plans presented now allow for dwellings as three storey, which are quite out of keeping with the character of our village. Shebbear is a village, not a town. Your Council is writing in the strongest terms to TDC informing them that this 'out of place' scheme is totally unacceptable.

Concerns were also raised about the drainage. A letter was sent to TDC from the Flood and Coastal Risk Management Team at Devon County Council condemning the proposal as it now stands, and the scheme would need to be re-designed and signed off by them.

Any members of the public may attend a Council Meeting and speak on any topic relevant to the Parish of Shebbear, but must have previously registered with the Parish Clerk, stating the intended subject, and they will be allocated a 3 minute slot to speak.

Cllr Styles-Power had attended the Community Health Involvement Group meeting in Holsworthy and reported that Holsworthy Hospital would not

now be opening beds for inpatients due to staffing problems. 3 beds would be made available in a Holsworthy-based care/nursing home for end of life and rehabilitation and 4 beds in Stratton Hospital for more intensive 24/7 nursing care. Holsworthy Hospital has increased the range of health and wellbeing services, including outpatient appointments such as podiatry, diabetes checks, etc. and in the past year the number of people attending has risen from 500 to 2000 per week.

Cllr Quance had attended a meeting with Cllr Parsons, Cllr Hurley, Kieran Stanbury (Neighbourhood Highways Officer) and Andrew Quance (landowner) to discuss the Worden Corner section of road and the erosion at Dipper Mill. Kieran has since reported that they have completed the surveys and alongside the drainage issue at Worden Corner there are works which are needed to repair the retaining wall at the outlet, which are likely to be extensive. A budget has been allocated for these works to be completed in the new financial year. A letter has been sent to the Environment Agency raising the issue of Dipper Mill as erosion has increased dramatically in the past few months.

Mary Whatley

Stop Press: Shebbear Parish Council is working with Rev Martin Warren and his team to provide a support service for those in self isolation, shopping, collecting medication, etc.
Telephone Mary on 01409 281930.

Emergency Contact

Shebbear Community School

The School Out of Hours Emergency Contact (K9) is 0800 84 96 84 93. Now on Contacts page.



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North Devon Hospice

Night Walk Covid-19 Cancellation

For obvious reasons, North Devon Hospice felt it wise to cancel their upcoming Nightwalk event, which was due to take place on May 2nd.

However, I also felt that it is an event worth publicising, as they hope to be able to run the Walk in early September. For detailed updates later in the year, contact the Fundraising Team on 01271 347232 or visit northdevonhospice.org.uk.

Be a hero and take part in Nightwalk 2020

Date to be announced

At this year's event, you can dress like the hero you are, because by taking part in Nightwalk and raising funds for North Devon Hospice, you are helping local people to be cared for in their hour of need. There's not much more heroic than that!

The 'hero' theme for Nightwalk 2020 will be present on the night, as we have plenty of surprises in store for you. This will be a memorable ladies moonlit walk along the Tarka Trail, with fun and entertainment along the route.

This year, we're also delighted to welcome girls aged 11+ to take part in Nightwalk, so you can make it a real family affair and walk together for the hospice cause.

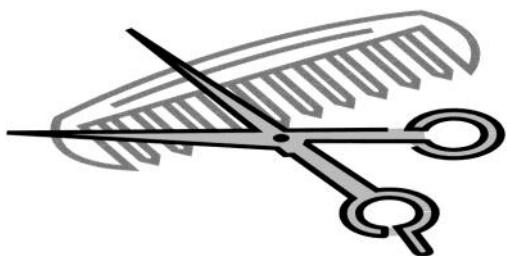
There will also be a host of treats for you to enjoy on the night, including live music, fabulous glow installations, plus big finishes at Barnstaple and Bideford.

There is a route for everyone at Nightwalk 2020, with varying lengths and start points across North Devon, allowing even more women across the area the chance to take part. The routes all take place on the Tarka Trail, with our wonderful marshals offering encouragement.

Transport will be provided back to your starting point once you have finished your walk, courtesy of Stagecoach. So all you have to worry about is your hero outfit for the night!

Sign up at nightwalk.co.uk [when new date announced] call our Fundraising Team on 01271 347232 or visit northdevonhospice.org.uk.

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Little Bears

Dear readers, I hope you are all keeping well and making the most of the wet weather, as I am sure the sun is just around the corner.

I really cannot believe we are coming to the end of March already, the pre-school have been busy bees and making the most of spring before our dedicated team start bringing out the sun cream! We have had some fun topics running week to week at the pre-school from pancake making to building fire engines!

The pre-school had a wonderful day trip out to the RNLI in Appledore, the kids had a great time climbing in and out the rescue boats, searching for treats around the rescue centre and finally having a little giggle at Vicky our pre-school deputy dressing up as a real life guard! Thank you to the RNLI team for having us.

We look forward to even more exciting events coming up including having our raised flower beds fitted outside the pre-school, and a trip out to RHS Rosemoor. Not to mention all the fun topics that Mrs Elston and the team have been busy planning through the winter.

We still have space for 2, 3 and 4 year olds, so please do contact the pre-school if you are interested in enrolling your child. We welcome parents and carers along to meet with our friendly team and visit our wonderful village setting.

Our Valentines disco was a hit!!! The hot dog and ice cream sales were a success and the kids enjoyed various games around the hall not to mention a good old fashioned game of musical statues! The aim was to raise enough to buy the pre-school a wheelbarrow – and we did exactly that! The pre-school now have a shiny new wheel barrow so they can cart sand to and from their shed to the sand pit with ease. So a big thank you to all of those who volunteered on the night and to those who showed up and supported the event. Thank you!

Finally – you may have seen that we are collecting ‘Bags for Schools’ again in April. These bags can be dropped off at the pre-school earlier than the collection date. Alternatively bags will be collected from your home on Saturday 18th April.

Thanks again to the team at Little Bears, our fundraising and CIO volunteers and most of all the children that make Little Bears a great place to play learn and discover. If you are interested in joining the team please get in touch.

Regards
Victoria Tonkin
(Chairperson/CIO Little Bears Pre-School)
Victoria.tonkin@eastfieldestate.co.uk /
07964742928

Shebfest 2020

We are really excited that we have managed to secure Ella Henderson to headline this year's festival, she will close proceedings on our first ever Friday night. Ella is one of the hottest artists in the UK today. Known for her soulful song writing, Ella enjoyed massive success with her international hit single Ghost and debut album Chapter One.

Last year Ella released her new EP Glorious, along with the collaborations We Got Love with Sigala and This is Real with Jax Jones – which became her fourth UK top 10 single. We're absolutely delighted to bring an artist of Ella's calibre to Sheb Fest - she's got a great voice and repertoire of songs, and her music has been all over the radio this year. Judging by the way ticket sales are going people seem to be very enthusiastic, earlybird tickets have sold out in record time.

On Facebook and our website we have already announced other artists such as The Velvet Hands, Pattern Pusher, Clara Bond, The Blue Highways, The Garden Club and many more. Headline performers for the Saturday night will be announced shortly, along with further lineup additions. New for this year we will also have a bigger stage, more covered area, and showers available to people who are camping.

Tickets and festival information can be found on our website www.shebfest.com and tickets are also available from the village shop.



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Can We Save The Plough?

Many of us in Shebbear have visited The Plough Arts Centre in Great Torrington, for its varied events and café. But as Covid-19 approaches they are in even greater danger of being forced to close as funding streams are cut to the bone.

At a recent Torridge District Council community and resources committee meeting, the Lead member for culture, leisure and tourism and Great Torrington Council member Cllr Cheryl Cottle-Hunkin said: 'The Plough is a cultural and creative centre recognised across Devon and far beyond its boundaries. It is part of the very essence of Great Torrington and its surrounding area, and offers a special service as a multi-functioning arts hub, loved by all ages and all walks of life.'

'The Plough is the least-funded arts centre in the country, and has survived for so long only with the generosity of their 100 volunteers. The recent success of their Crowdfunder appeal really shows the high level of support that exists in the local community. They need a modest amount of regular funding for the value it brings in a variety of ways — education, wellbeing and the economy to name a few. If this funding is not forthcoming, they will be forced to close, and we cannot afford to lose this special and much-loved facility.'

As part of a fundraising appeal The Plough's Director Richard Wolfenden-Brown recently stated: 'Despite a thriving arts and community programme, excellent customer feedback, and audiences for films and live events that have grown by 55% over the last five years, The Plough has experienced a recent dramatic rise in overheads coupled with a reduction in core funding which has created the perfect storm in our delicate finances.'

'We are tightening our belts and seeking ways to save money, including reducing staff hours in order to try to stabilise finances. But to survive the short

term we need your help.'

Torr ridge District Council are investigating ways in which they may be able to offer some funding, but we can also help by joining their Supporters Club, either by visiting The Plough Box Office or online at www.theploughartscentre.org.uk/plough-supporters-club. Two of my grandchildren are part of the Plough Youth Theatre, we also watch shows and cinema viewings, and we are all members of the PSC. How about you?

Mike

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Shebbear Community School

Despite it being a very short term, it has been a very busy one. Children have been working hard in class with topics across the school including crime and punishment though the ages, the history of transport and a weather study linked to the seasons (you can imagine that the children are very fluent in writing the word rain!).

Our football and netball teams have done well this year with some great performances and plenty of wins to report. The respective highlights were an exciting 3-2 win over our local rivals Shebbear College and our netball team had an incredible 18-0 win over St Helen's School. The team also won the 'Fair Play' award from the GTS netball league which was a great achievement. Our quiz team took part in the Rotary Club inter school quiz at North Tawton Primary. We could not quite repeat the success of our win last year but performed admirably against some tough opponents.

One of the highlights of the term was a whole school trip to Exeter which included a variety of activities and locations. Koala class visited the Crown Court where they had the chance to meet one of the Judges (Judge Johnson) who talked to the children about what happens in court. The children were able to sit in the court room (there was no trial on) having the chance to experience the witness stand, the jurors' box and even the judge's bench itself – he even allowed the children to try on his wig!

Meanwhile, children in Teddy and Panda classes had a guided tour of Exeter Cathedral and had the chance to explore this beautiful building admiring the architecture and learning about its long history. They learnt more about the Easter story and saw some of the artwork on display around the cathedral. They used this as inspiration to design and make a keyring to take home.

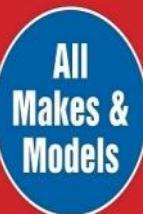
All of the children walked to the mosque in Exeter and, after taking our shoes off, the Imam spoke to the children about the faith and they listened to a recitation in Arabic. We were able to look at the different features of the mosque including the dome and minaret.

After lunch the older children visited the Synagogue in Exeter and learnt about its long history (it's over two hundred years old) and some of the traditions of the Jewish faith including the boys all having to wear hat. It was a fascinating day and full of experiences which are not ordinarily available to members of the public. Hopefully the children will remember the experience and it supports their learning not least in religious education. It's so important that the children have an understanding of different cultures and this trip certainly helped. The visit to the court also supported another key aspect of provision in school which is around promoting British Value – the concept of justice in particular. The children's behaviour and the level of respect shown was exemplary and it was commented on at all the venues we attended.

Best wishes. **Nick Alford** Headteacher



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Shebbear WI

At the February Meeting we welcomed

Michael Harrison from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. He described the role of the PCC which is to be the voice of the people in policing, and to hold the Chief Constable to account for how he/she discharges their functions.

The aim of all PCCs is to ensure the delivery of an effective and efficient police service within their force area. He explained how the PCC is supported by a team of staff employed by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and how it is funded and the funds allocated.

The OPCC is a non-political, impartial organisation and its head of paid service is the chief executive officer. The OPCC is a separate organisation to Devon and Cornwall Police and its role generally fits into six categories:

Strategy, policy and performance

Communications and community engagement

Criminal justice, commissioning and partnerships

Complaints against the Chief Constable and business support

Treasury and estates

Collaborations and national activity

Members found the talk interesting and kept Michael busy with questions which he addressed with as much information as possible. He concluded with a reminder that the 2020 elections for Police and Crime Commissioner would be on 7th May.

The March meeting was our Birthday, 84 years old, how things have changed since 1936 when those local ladies started a WI in Shebbear. We still have the record books from those early days and they make fascinating reading, an insight into the social life and people of that time.

Our speaker Caroline Bramwell arrived with her bike and clutching toilet rolls, lycra and medals. She amused and inspired us with her journey when faced with a life changing disease.

A wife and mother whose life was going downhill when she was diagnosed with Ulcerative Colitis - an inflammatory bowel disease - Caroline turned to sport after major surgery to have her large intestine removed and a permanent ileostomy formed.

The decision she made then, and those she's made since, have brought her face-to-face with some tough obstacles and hard decisions to make. No-one truly realises their own resilience until they are put in difficult situations.

Caroline has turned her life around from being a self confessed 'couch potato' who was petrified of being under water and couldn't swim, to a tough 'can do'

individual who competes in some of the world's toughest events – Ironman triathlons.

A motivated individual, and a businesswoman for many years, Caroline applies what she's learned on her journey and in her training, into the education and business arenas and inspires others to aim high. She promotes the work of the Ileostomy and Internal Pouch Society who were there for her when she started her journey.

Caroline's book makes fascinating and amusing reading, even motivational to meet what ever challenges face us head on!

Loo Rolls to Lycra: The Ironman Dreams of an IBD Sufferer is the inspirational and insightful autobiography of Caroline Bramwell. With an encyclopaedic knowledge of every public toilet, bush or tree to dive behind, and after numerous extreme dietary regimes, Caroline elected to have her large intestine removed, and to live with a permanent ileostomy.

Members continue to support various county events and the Ladies who Lunch, Garden Club and Skittles continue to flourish. Visitors are always welcome

8th April, Easter Cake Decoration with Jax, 13th May Annual Meeting

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Youth Club Chat

AGM Report

It's been a fantastic year for Shebbear Youth Club. We have an enthusiastic team of volunteers from all walks of life, not just mums and dads of kids that go, but people whose kiddies have all grown up or who just love to be part of the community... everyone giving up their time for the children of the village.

The Youth club is thriving often having 15+ children regularly attending! They enjoy the freedom to run about, shout, laugh, chat with friends and listen to music, or just sit quietly and do some arts and crafts, play pool, table tennis or table football. We can create an environment for every child's needs.

Several times a year we whisk everyone off in the Shebbear College mini bus (which is kindly lent to us free of charge) and go to Air Extreme in Barnstaple for trampolining or Wake Park in Bideford where everyone donned wet suits and swam to an activity centre on a lake! Or we pop to Ruby Oak Park for a fun swim.

We were also lucky enough to have some marvellous in-house activities, when several outside groups/businesses come along to demonstrate their expertise! These included Taekwondo, Skittles, biscuit decorating, card making, Short mat bowls and Pigeon keeping! All of which were thoroughly enjoyed by the children. Thank you to those groups and businesses for taking the time to do this. Last year we were overjoyed to receive a £650 grant from the Parish Council, it meant such a lot to us as we were able to purchase some much-needed equipment to use inside and out and buy some arts and crafts bits which our younger members really enjoy doing. We've also been doing a bit of fundraising ourselves! You may have seen us at The Turning of the Stone and at the Xmas Fayre last year? With the village getting a regular supply of new families moving in, we are always delighted to have new members join us (from their 8th Birthday onwards) the first session is free! 50p entry for one hour sessions in term time and £1 for longer sessions during school holidays.

We would also welcome some 16-17 year olds to be youth leaders! Come along and interact with the children, help new members settle in, sit with

younger ones and do arts and crafts or organise some games. Whatever your strengths are we can put them to good use and give you a reference for your volunteer work, it will look great on your C.V. too!

Our current committee positions are held by the following:

Chair...Karajan Pavier, Treasurer...Paul Watts
Secretary...Lisa James

A special mention to Val Merritt for being our minute taker, Sadie Humphreys for organising the tuck shop and to Tim Cartwright for kindly auditing the accounts each year.

If you are interested in becoming a youth club volunteer, which is just once a month, or a youth leader, or you'd like more information then please call Lisa James on 281126. Once you are a member we can add you to our Facebook Page where you will see our upcoming events and activities.

A final big thank you to all our current volunteers, we're lucky to have you! Thanks for making our youth club so great.

John Dungate

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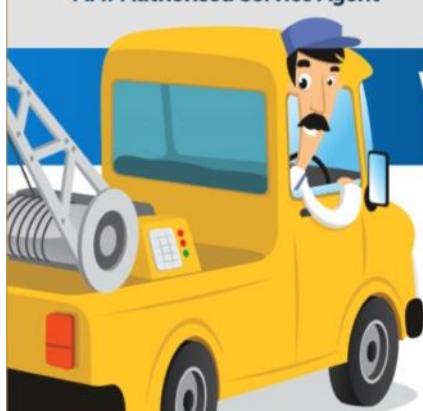
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Busbys Brief

Dumbing Down

My wife and I met at Durham University. I was studying English. She studied Anthropology – which is probably why she had an interest in me! When it came to doing our finals, it was no surprise to see that in our two subjects combined there were only two people awarded first class degrees. First class degrees were highly exceptional and throughout all of the University subjects, the total of students getting first class degrees was probably under 5%.

Recent official figures have revealed that more than a quarter of students now graduate with first class honours degrees. That figure is a staggering 44% higher than a mere five years ago. In addition, far more students are also being awarded a next-best 2:1 degree. This meant that last year three in four graduates gained one of the top two grades.

It would appear that the same dumbing down exercise is now prevalent in the profession. Lisa Dixon is Deputy Head of the Kent Law School. She has gone on record as saying that her 15 year old daughter managed to score almost 50% in the initial section of the solicitors' qualifying exam. This was despite doing absolutely no preparation, and even worse, having no knowledge of the law! It seems that the girl scored 48% in the first 25 questions of a practice paper which tests "functioning legal knowledge". Mrs. Dixon said that her daughter was able to answer the questions by using "logic, common sense and understanding multiple-choice formats". Her daughter scored 48% by spending no more than 30 minutes answering the question. The Solicitors Regulation Authority has confirmed that the pass mark for the paper would likely be between 55% to 60%.

Speaking to solicitors involved in choosing candidates for trainee contracts, one can see how dumbing down helps. Applicants who have not got a first class degree or 2:1 degree are simply not considered – their application forms are discarded at the very start. But if 75% of graduates achieve these grades, one must assume that anyone not reaching these levels is likely to struggle in such a demanding profession.

The problem for recruiters is far from straightforward. If three in four students get these top grades, how do you distinguish the best from the ones who simply scraped through? How do you really spot a high-achiever? It seems to me that whatever grades you leave University with, climbing up the greasy pole remains as difficult as it ever has been.

John Busby
Busbys Solicitors
Bude
01288 35 9000

Shebbear College

Charity Work in Uganda

A two week charity work and cultural exchange to Uganda.

Sixth-form pupils, together with members of staff from Shebbear College undertake a two week cultural exchange to Uganda every couple of years. Each pupil has to apply for the opportunity to participate in the trip, attend an interview with a panel to justify their place on the team and fundraise to cover the cost of their trip and a contribution towards the charities they would be visiting in the country. This expedition provides a truly life-changing experience.

The team visited three primary schools on the outskirts of Kampala, and experienced first-hand the impact of the Millennium Development Goal of achieving Universal Primary Education. Uganda has embraced this aim and all children now receive free education at primary school level.

Although there has been a huge increase in the number of children attending the schools, this has not been matched by resources or recruitment of more teaching staff, some of the classes had up to 100 pupils. The team found the high value the pupils place on education despite limited resources quite overwhelming. Many of the pupils they spoke to had ambitions to be teachers, doctors or lawyers. During previous trips the team also visited Kira Farm, which is run by Amigos, the Barnstaple-based charity founded by Old Shebbearian Phil Pugsley. Kira Farm is responsible for the vocational education of approximately 40 students aged between 14-24 who spend a year there learning catering, tailoring, carpentry and agricultural skills.

The team also spent some time with charities supported by Shebbear College on the previous exchanges, including VAD (Voluntary Action for Development) and Katosi Women Development Trust. They were involved in some fieldwork organised by these worthwhile community projects, and were able to see evidence of good use of the money raised by the school.

If you wish to find out more about local charities helping young people in far flung places, to improve their life chances, you can contact:

Amigos, Barnstaple based. Amigos.org.uk
They empower Ugandans to bring about sustainable and lasting change through education, vocational training, conservation, farming and clean water.

Edukid, Bideford based. Edukid.org.uk
They provide education and support of children through projects in Cambodia, Uganda and Palestine.

Bideford Gazette

March / April 1960

Shebbear Football Club gave a fine display to win at Merton 2-0. George Dymond scored both goals. Later that month, Luxton gave Shebbear the lead but their goalkeeper slipped and Hartland drew 1-1.

Shebbear Parish Council supported a request by the local school managers for the re-routing of the school bus to collect about 14 children from the New Cross area. At the same meeting, Mr A Q Vanstone expressed surprise that improvements to the Battledown Cross-Dipper Mill road had fallen from 13th to 38th in the county priority list and that it was unlikely work would be carried out in this financial year.

The final of the drama competition organised by the Devon Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs was won by Shebbear with a production of 'Non Nobis'. This was the first occasion on which the members had entered the competitions.

A concert was held in the Village Hall with Margaret Trible, Graham Lock, Barrie Nancekivell, Denys Nethacott, Pat Nethacott, Michael Moast and Tony Sanders taking part. The Shebbear YFC presented their award winning play with Grace Quance, Cynthia Quance, Julia Griffiths, Jennifer Sharp and Raymond Quance participating.

Millicent Ruby Vanstone, whose parents lived at Northcote, Shebbear, received an inscribed Bible and a silver spoon because she was born the same day as the Royal Prince.

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

Useless Fact: I sometimes have odd spaces to fill, obviously too small to share the wonders of Shebbear or Devon. But large enough for one of the the wonders of the USA, called Ryan.

Lake Superior is the largest lake in North America. Its largest island is called Isle Royale, and there are lakes on the island. The largest of which is called Siskiwit Lake, and there are lakes on the island. The largest of which is called Ryan. So Ryan Island is the largest island in the largest lake in the largest island in the largest lake in North America!

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Shunters News

The Shunters Club held their AGM in February when Nick Whatley was re-elected as Chairman, Mary Whatley as Secretary, and Steve Pearce took on the role of Treasurer from Ken Perry, who had held the position since the formation of the Club.

Once the formal business had been concluded, Rich Clark recited a few anecdotes from 'The Galloping Sausage and Other Train Curiosities' by Geoff and Ian Body. This made light and humorous entertainment.

'The contest between railway and those passengers intent on not paying a proper fare has gone on since railways began. Apparently, fare dodging is not a new phenomenon. For a short time the Stockton & Darlington had a problem with people paying for a short distance, but intent on going further. To counter this, the railway put them all in the same coach and uncoupled it when it had covered the distance they had paid for. This put a stop to the problem'.

NOT AMUSED.

In an overly dramatic journalistic piece, a North Norfolk newspaper looked back at local railway history and to 1862 when the Prince of Wales acquired Sandringham House. According to the article, the Prince contacted Mr John Valentine, the engineer of the Lynn & Hunstanton Railway and told him:

'We are of course very glad to have a station at Wolverton, but it is rather hard on my mother (Queen Victoria) as we haven't got a waiting room. She has to sit on her luggage on the platform.'

This is not an easy scene to visualise but a waiting room was eventually provided to resolve the royal problem. As the Prince paid for it he apparently felt entitled to use it as a lunch venue when shooting on the estate.

Remember these were the days when some wealthy landowners did not want the railways running across their estates and spoiling the view, and would insist on the line running through a tunnel.

Covid-19 stops normal services!

The Shunters Club are always looking for new members. We usually meet on the third Thursday of the month in the Church Room, Shebbear, at 7.30pm.

However, in view of the Coronavirus, meetings have been cancelled for the foreseeable future, and we will let you know when the trains start to run again.

Mary Whatley
Shunters Secretary

News from Lake Chapel

Ted Lott

Well to sum up, stormy and wet!

February storms arrived with gusting winds and gales coinciding with the Together in Prayer and Praise (TRIPP) worship at Hope Chapel, Black Torrington. Ciara was closely followed by Dennis, and heavy rain with stormy winds flooded the boiler house at the Chapel, resulting in no Central Heating. Fortunately, the electricity supply returned with a couple of drier days to cheer us up.

Thankfully, we have been able to meet in Worship and Fellowship enabling our congregation to say farewell to our friend Mo, Mrs Maureen McNab.

It came as quite a shock to us as a congregation, when we received the news some months ago that Mo would be leaving us and moving up country to be nearer her family. She has been such a valuable member of Lake, and we will miss her presence with us, when she has on many occasions led our Worship with her Gospel Readings. It was fitting that at the end of Holy Communion led by our Minister, Rev. Lynne, that a Book Token was presented to Mo, and we bless her as she has left us with the words, 'Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love'.

Every Blessing to you Mo, and your family, in your new home.

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Newton St. Petrock

Male Voice and Ladies Choirs

Ted Lott

The Annual Newton St. Petrock Male Voice and Ladies Choir Lunch, at Holsworthy Golf Club at the beginning of February was a wonderfully enjoyable occasion.

There was a full attendance, which included family members of those of the Male Voice Choir who had, sadly, recently passed away.

It was a time to say thank you to those who help the Choir throughout the year, and this year in particular, to mark the retirement of the Choir's long serving Musical Director Norman Turner, with a retirement gift for him and Lorna to enjoy. Norman has given the Choir so much music, for the enjoyment of both singers and listeners alike.

The Annual Lunch was also the appropriate time to welcome the Choir's new Musical Director the Rev. Susanna Metz, and it wasn't long before the regular Wednesday evening practices, in Lake Chapel Schoolroom, resumed in full swing with (considering the weather) wonderfully full attendances.

Susanna has taken the choir along some unfamiliar paths (musically speaking), and now, just before Reflecting Shebbear goes to print, Susanna has taken the Choirs (Male Voices and Ladies) to the 'Big Sing at the Big Sheep', organised by the Diocese of Exeter. Both the Choirs sung together, in the presence of a Bishop or two, and had the unusual experience of sharing the stage with school and other young people's choirs.

At the end of the afternoon, when all the choirs had sung, Susanna was called to the front, where she received a small glass ornament, inscribed Joy 2020, with congratulations and thanks from Bishop Nick McKinnell.



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The Aims Of Reflecting Shebbear Magazine

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.

Editor / Publisher **Mike Darby**
salamanderservices@gmail.com

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SHEBBEAR
and
BUCKLAND FILLEIGH
2020
67th Annual Flower Show.
25th July.
Shebbear Village Hall – Doors open 2pm.
Lots to entertain you: the usual and more. If you grow your own fruit/veg/flowers, enjoy baking or enjoy handicraft of most categories etc, then please enter our show competition. Entry forms are in the schedule which can be obtained from Shebbear Shop or from Geraldine at 6, St Michaels View.
Events planned for the day.
Exhibition Hall. Dog Show. Ice creams and snacks. (school)
Face painting. Wellie Wang. Tombola. Car boot. Raffle.
Skittles. W.I.Tea. Burger stand. Bar.
Please come along and support this longstanding village tradition.
Admission on the gate: Adults £1 Children under 16 free.



Community Contacts

Police/Emergency

Police	Non emergency	101
Crime Stoppers		0800 555111
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		
Stratton Hospital	01288 287713	
Open 24 hours		
Holsworthy Medical Centre	01409 253692	
Open weekdays 8.30am – 5.45pm		
Bideford Hospital	01237 420205	
Open 8am – 8.pm		

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	
Torridge 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	
PC Vice Chair / Acting Chair: Nick Whatley	281930	

Recycling Centres

Devon County Council Waste Management	0845 1551010	
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

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 selinawoollacott123@btinternet.com
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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 Kwon-do	Tom Douglas 01409281920

Reflecting Shebbear

Chair	Margaret Quance 01409 281838
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

