

## **MARLAND MESSENGER 2015** **AUTUMN EDITION**

### **PETERS MARLAND CHURCH**

Here we are again heading into autumn and the start of the Harvest Festival season. A very special time of year for Rural Churches as we join together to give thanks for the crops that have grown in our fields and gardens through the summer that will enable us to provide food for our country, ourselves and our livestock for the coming winter, this year summer has been very good in many ways although appearing short and cool has provided a bountiful harvest. PETERS MARLAND HARVEST FESTIVAL will be held on Sunday October 4th at 11.30am in the Church. The service led by Rev Martin Warren, afterwards we move to the hall for a 'bring and share' lunch. Please come and join us.

In November we have the customary Remembrance Sunday service at 10.45am on November 8th.

On Saturday November 28th we are again holding our Wine & Wisdom Quiz evening at 7pm for 7.30 start. Becky Mills has again kindly agreed to be quiz mistress, this has become a popular community event so don't miss it, please enter teams of six to Chris Ley on 01805 601264 by Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November @ £6 per person.

Torrige Team Church services are always published on the noticeboard on the village green. To contact anyone regarding the church and its services – ring Rev. Martin Warren 01409 281424 or Church Secretary Christine Ley 601264.

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

Mike Lamprey	01805 601331 - Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator & Torrington Area Advisory Group Representative
Gill Anstead	01805 601455 - Vice Chairman
George Copp	01805 601376 - Torrington Area Advisory Group Representative
Jim Mann	01805 601579 - Roads & Hedges
Trish Ward	01805 601245
John Eaton	01805 601852
Becky Mills	01805 601965
Andrew Peacock	01805 601834 - Parish Clerk

### **Parish Council Web Site**

The Parish Council now has a web site: [www.petersmarland.org.uk](http://www.petersmarland.org.uk) Apart from the contact details of the Parish Councillors and the Parish Clerk, you will also find details of the meetings held and the Council's financial information. The timetables for Bank Holiday bin collection and the Mobile Library are shown and there is a link to enable you to report a problem to Devon Highways. You can also download a copy of the Marland Messenger.

### **Alscott Farm Wind Turbine**

You may be aware that even though the Parish Council recommended to Torrington District Council that planning permission should be refused, the developers agreed to provide a Community Benefit of £2,000 pa for the life of the turbine, which the Parish Council is to administer. The Council have been deliberating on how the money could be used, without the need for separate Trusts and Committees etc. To give it all to charity would not be possible as it would be in breach of the Council's powers. One possibility is that once some funds have accumulated, there would be a sizeable reduction in the Parish Precept. This would result in slightly lower annual Council Tax bills for the Parish. Further details will follow once a final decision is made.

## **Roads & Hedges**

With the current budget cut backs, very little hedge trimming is undertaken by Devon CC, and then, mainly where there are the most serious visibility issues. While individuals may be tempted to do some remedial work themselves and at their own risk, they should be aware of the need to provide a warning sign to motorists that the work was being done, to wear a Hi-Viz jacket, and if possible have a companion to keep a look-out and to help with traffic management.

## **Royal Mail Post Box**

The Parish Council have been trying for some time to have the box currently outside Twigbeare moved to Woollaton. We are advised that the work to complete this move will be done very soon.

If you have any concerns regarding the parish, please e-mail Mike Lamprey at [mikelamprey@gmail.com](mailto:mikelamprey@gmail.com), telephone 01805 601331 or Parish Clerk Andrew Peacock at his new email [petersmarlandpc@gmail.com](mailto:petersmarlandpc@gmail.com) or 01805 601834.

## **SOCIAL GROUP**

In July nearly 50 residents enjoyed a Village BBQ on the Millennium Green. Although the weather could have been kinder we were sheltered from the wind and rain and the food was excellent. Many thanks to all those who helped to make the evening a success.

Our speaker in September was Derek Stratton from North Tawton who presented a large selection of wonderful images photographed in Devon and elsewhere covering a wide range of subjects. Members also found some of his technical tips helpful.

In October we have an Antiques Valuation evening. Members please bring along some items for Philip Walter to talk about and value. November sees a visit from Richard and Judy Proctor who will present a talk, together with slides, on Judy's career as a Dancer.

New members are always welcome or just come along as a visitor and see what we get up to!

Helen Stapleton – Chairman

Tel: 01805 601776.

## **BELLRINGING**

We continue to practise on Thursdays, when we have enough accomplished ringers to help the novices.

Anyone interested in finding out more or wants to have a go contact Graham Ward on 01805 601245.

## **SKITTLES**

We have entered 2 teams again in the Hatherleigh & District League. The season begins on October 5<sup>th</sup>, with our usual Charity night competition. Our charity is the Devon Air Ambulance Trust. We have donated £500 per year for several years – made up from weekly subs & the charity night profit.

## **MARLAND READERS.**

We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. The October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting is at Helen Lamprey's home.

Anyone interested in joining us please contact Helen on 601331 or Trish on 601245

## **MILLENNIUM GREEN**

Thanks to the volunteers who keep the green tidy and the Marland School maintenance staff for running over it with their mower.

## **COFFEE/TEA MORNING – Macmillan Nurses**

These have started again on the second Wednesday of the month from 11am – 12.30pm  
The next one will be on 14<sup>th</sup> October. You can even bring along your laptop etc. and connect up to the

Wi-Fi that is now installed in the hall!

Come along for a cuppa and chat, men are welcome and all we ask is a donation.

Profits will be donated to the Macmillan Nurses.

For more details ring Trish on 601245

## **MOORE-STEPHENS HALL**

The Hall now has a proper notice outside and furthermore has been fitted with superfast, wireless broadband with a download speed of 20Mb/s and an upload of 12 Mb/s. The Wi-Fi pin code is on a notice in the hall on the side of the fuse box. Feel free to use it!

It is planned to add a projector and screen to the Hall's assets soon.

If you wish to hire the Hall please contact Howard Wills (Treasurer) 601446



Have you noticed that the Green has acquired three milk churns? Kindly donated by Graham Ward, John Ley & Jim Mann. The base and churns were put into position by the two lads above. Looking good!

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH & COMMUNITY MESSAGING



**Devon & Cornwall Police**  
Building safer communities together

Email: [melissa.baker@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:melissa.baker@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk) or  
[torrington@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk](mailto:torrington@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk)

Torrington Station                      Crime Stoppers 0800 555111  
Path field                                  Emergency 999  
TORRINGTON                              Non-Emergency 101  
EX38 7BX

Police Text phone 18001 101 for the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired.

Always call 999 in an emergency.

Devon and Cornwall Police aims to serve the communities of Devon and Cornwall and help inspire greater confidence in the Police. For more information please visit our website at [www.devon-cornwall.police.uk](http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk)

### RURAL ROADS

Many people have something to say about the condition of our rural roads, and especially locally through Woollaton. Geoffrey Cox MP is launching a House of Commons petition urging for greater investment and support for local authorities, to improve the upkeep of rural roads. A copy of his letter and form can be found at the back of this edition so that you may join the petition if you wish.

### BEE SCENE

Plant life's hugely successful 'Bee Scene' survey has been rescued by family-owned cereal maker Nature's Path, after its original funding had ended. Over 30,000 children have already taken part in the wild flower survey since its launch in 2010. Now thousands more will have the opportunity to explore the nature on their doorstep and learn about the wild flowers growing there. Families can discover whether their local area is good for bumblebees by looking for bee-friendly wild flowers such as foxgloves, dandelions and clovers in their local green spaces. The results are then uploaded onto a virtual meadow map of the UK.

'Bee Scene' is a simple and effective way to encourage children and their families into their local parks or countryside - to enjoy them together away from the television screen, computer games and other pressures of modern life. By using a simple flower key, they are able to count different flower shapes and colours and look out for bumblebees, so helping children understand how valuable their local green spaces are for wildlife.

**Full details and bee scene resources are available online at**  
[www.plantlife.org.uk/beescene](http://www.plantlife.org.uk/beescene)

## **PLANTLIFE**

Road verges are one of the most important, best loved and frequently viewed habitats in the country. So why are they still being destroyed?

A new Plantlife study shows that Britain's road verges are home to 703 species of wild plants, more than in any other part of our landscape, and 87 of them are either threatened with extinction or heading that way. In addition, 88% of these wild plants provide nectar and pollen for bees and other insects, making road verges essential refuges for insect life; bird's-foot trefoil alone is a food plant for 132 species of insect.

But in much of Britain road verges are still being needlessly cut down in full flower threatening the wildflowers and the wildlife that depend on them. Many councils have already started cutting verges - much too early in the year for flowers to be able set seed, and greatly reducing one of the most important food banks for our ailing bees and other pollinators.

Plantlife has produced new management guidelines and is urging the public to sign a petition asking local councils to adopt them. For more information and for stunning images, please contact:

**Katie Cameron** T 01722 342759 / M 07584 995929 / E [katie.cameron@plantlife.org.uk](mailto:katie.cameron@plantlife.org.uk)

**Trevor Dines** Plantlife Botanical Specialist T 01248 670691 / M 07789 685635 E  
[trevor.dines@plantlife.org.uk](mailto:trevor.dines@plantlife.org.uk)

Visit [www.plantlife.org.uk/roadvergecampaign](http://www.plantlife.org.uk/roadvergecampaign) to sign the petition.

If anyone has information/news they would like included in the Marland Messenger contact Marilyn Hounsome. [hounsome.marland@uwclub.net](mailto:hounsome.marland@uwclub.net). Tel 01805 601552.

## **BIG AL & THE WILD STRAWBERRIES!**

Sat 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Doors open 7.30pm

**BUCKLAND FILLEIGH VILLAGE HALL**

**REFRESHMENTS**

**BAR**

**RAFFLE**

Tickets £10. Book in Advance by calling

01409 281558 or 01409 281535

(price includes pork roll)

GEOFFREY COX QC MP



17 September 2015

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

**IMPROVE OUR RURAL ROADS**

I am writing to inform you that I have launched a Public Petition to the House of Commons calling for the improved maintenance of local roads. The issue has been raised with me time and time again as your local Member of Parliament, and it is plain to see why as I travel down the country lanes between the many small settlements that characterise our communities.

For too long rural roads have been neglected and have been allowed to fall into a state of serious disrepair. I hope that by gathering as much support as possible we will be able to send a strong signal to Government Ministers that action needs to be taken. The last time I organised a similar petition in relation to rural Post Office services, we managed to secure thousands signatures and I have no doubt there is a similar strength of feeling locally on this issue.

I am therefore inviting all Parish Councils, local Councillors and County Councillors, as well as interested groups and organisations to get involved. I am keen to secure as many signatures as possible and I have included a copy of the petition for you to distribute and return as you see fit. A copy of the petition will also be available for download on my website from the beginning of next week. However owing to parliamentary protocol it is still necessary for the form to be filled in by hand and returned to my office.

I hope I can count on your support in this matter and as ever I more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Geoffrey Cox".

**Geoffrey Cox QC MP**  
**Member of Parliament for Torridge and West Devon**

PS Additional paper copies of the petition are available on request by telephoning 02072194719.

*Member of Parliament for Torridge & West Devon*

Telephone: 020 7219 4719 Email: [tellgeoffrey@geoffreycox.co.uk](mailto:tellgeoffrey@geoffreycox.co.uk) Website: [www.geoffreycox.co.uk](http://www.geoffreycox.co.uk)

## Improve Our Rural Roads Petition

**TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.**

The petition of residents of Torridge and West Devon, declares that the petitioners believe that Parliament and the Government have an obligation to ensure that those living in rural areas are not at a disadvantage when it comes to the maintenance of the roads network and that more needs to be done to tackle the problems of poor road surface quality and to make pothole repairs in rural Devon.

The petitioners therefore request that the House of Commons urges the Government to make provision for further investment and support for local authorities to improve the upkeep of rural roads connecting small villages and settlements, specifically in rural Devon. *And the petitioners remain, etc.*

NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL ADDRESS	SIGNATURE

**PLEASE RETURN TO GEOFFREY COX QC MP, HOUSE OF COMMONS, WESTMINSTER SW1A 0AA NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!**