

A BIG 'THANK YOU'

After 8 years of dedicated service, Marilyn has passed on the baton of editing the Marland Messenger. So here's a big 'Thank You' to Marilyn for all her hard work. She will continue to be involved in distribution. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Marland School for kindly printing numerous copies of the Messenger – it is such a big help and a valuable contribution to the Parish.

PETERS MARLAND CHURCH

Coffee Morning

We would like to thank all those who attended an enjoyable coffee morning on Monday 11th March at Hillcrest, Peters Marland hosted by Chris Ley in aid of Church Funds.

Forthcoming Church Services & Events

- Our regular Sunday Services are Holy Communion at 9:30am on the first Sunday in the month and Family Service at 11am on the third Sunday.
- **Easter Sunday on 21st April** is one of the main events in the Church calendar. We will begin the day again this year with a **SUNRISE SERVICE** meeting at 6:30am in the Moore-Stevens Hall before an open air service, and finishing with breakfast in the hall. **Do join us if you can.**
- **The Church AGM** will be on the evening of 29th April at 7:30pm in the Moore-Stevens Hall, everyone welcome.

Any enquiries on Church matters should be made to:

Rev Martin Warren (01409 281424) or PCC secretary Christine Ley (01805 601264).

MY REFLECTIONS OF GEORGE COPP by Mike Lamprey, Parish Chairman.

This winter Peters Marland lost a great character. George Copp died just after Christmas aged 82.

I first met George Copp in the Torrington Rotary Club in early 1990. I had retired from the Royal Navy the year before and George was, among many other things, an ex-Merchant Navy engineer and a keen yachtsman, so with the sea in our blood we got along from the start. He was a warm-hearted, generous chap, blessed with a wicked sense of humour and a superb yacht 'The Pearl of Colne' berthed at the North Devon Yacht Club and which everyone there envied.

In 2000 we moved to Peters Marland, only a half mile from George and Margaret. It was not long before I became a parish councillor with George who had already been a member (and on occasion chairman) for many years. I was thus able to see at first hand why he was held in high esteem and appreciate the reasons for his well-deserved popularity.

Margaret's death, barely two years ago, came as a terrible blow to George. He suffered a mild stroke in 2018 and sold his fine boat, intending to buy something less ambitious. He remained an active member of the Instow Club right until the very end and he never did buy that boat. I fancy somehow that George sails still, running proud before a fair wind with Margaret at his side.

We will miss George.

PARISH COUNCIL

First Aid training

Following on from the success of the First Aid training that took place in the village hall last year, the Parish Council may arrange for another course for beginners. This will be subject to a sufficient number of people being interested and the approved funds being available. If you are interested in attending a course please contact Trish (01805 601245) as early as possible so that the level of interest can be assessed.

For those who attended the course last year, it will be necessary to take a refresher course no later than May 2020 if you wish to renew your certification - more details nearer the time.

Forthcoming council elections

Elections are being held for Torridge District Council and Town and Parish Councils on Thursday 2nd May 2019. In order to vote in elections your name must be included on the Register of Electors. If you are unsure if you are on the Register contact the elections office by e-mail at elections@torridge.gov.uk or by telephone on 01237 428739.

If you are interested in standing for election, you should obtain a nomination pack from Torridge District Council (<https://www.torridge.gov.uk/article/17923/Local-and-Parish-Elections--2-May-2019>).

The closing date for receipt of nomination papers is 4pm on Wednesday 3rd April 2019.

SOCIAL GROUP

We usually meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Moore-Stevens Hall. New members are always welcome and for further information please contact:

Chris (01805 601264), Trish (01805 601245) or Marilyn (01805 601552).

Non-members and guests are always welcome to attend an event for a fee of £4.

The Group held their Christmas Party on December 4th 2018. The hall had been decorated with beautiful bunting and Christmas hangings by Helen Stapleton. We played our usual rounds of Christmas games and enjoyed a bring and share supper. Good fun was had by all.

On 11th December members of the group, along with partners, went to Woodford Bridge for our Christmas Meal. The food was excellent and most folk wore their Christmas hats! It marked a good start to the festive season.

On 8th January 2019 our AGM was followed by the ever popular Games Evening.

Our speaker's topic for the February meeting was a sobering one: dementia. Chris Porter, who has a background in nurse education, gave us very clear explanations of the causes of the disease, its process and why it is so devastating. Chris is among many who are concerned with helping people with dementia make the most of their lives, and it was encouraging to learn that Torrington shops and businesses have been improving their services and premises to ensure that the town becomes 'dementia-friendly'.

Our March meeting to Tarka Springs at Little Comfort Farm provided us with a fascinating insight into this company just a few miles from our Parish. Neil, the managing director, gave us an interesting and informative guide around the plant and told us how the company started from small beginnings in 2001. Using the natural artesian spring water on the farm the business has flourished and expanded over the years.

Forthcoming Social Group Events

- Friday 5th April – Skittles Charity Night.
- Tuesday 7th May – Handbell Ringing.
- Tuesday 4th June – Outing to Arlington Court, details to be arranged.
- Sunday 7th July – Tea On The Green (more details in the next issue of the *Marland Messenger*).

Charity Skittles Evening

In the Moore-Stevens Hall on **Friday April 5th from 7pm.**

£5 per person to include Buffet Supper and entry draw ticket.

Soft drinks provided - bring your own beer and wine.

Cash prizes for winning team and highest individual lady and gent.

Anyone wishing to enter a team or play in a team please contact
Trish Ward (01805 601245).



Coming this summer....

Tea on the Green

3:30pm Sunday 7th July

Cream Tea on the Village Green.

BELLRINGING

We joined with Black Torrington ringers to ring on Remembrance Sunday both here and at Black Torrington, it was much appreciated that residents took the time to listen and tell us how they enjoyed our efforts.

Unfortunately we do not have enough ringers within the Parish to ring for Sunday services, but will always be able to borrow ringers from other churches to fulfil any wishes for a peel to be rung at funerals or weddings. Anyone interested in finding out more or who wants to have a go contact the Team Captain, Graham Ward (01805 601245).

SKITTLES

The season is nearly over, all league matches have been played with the B team coming out as runners up. Congratulations to them. The C team have had an improved year and will not be the holders of the wooden spoon this year!

By the time you read this we will have held our singles and pairs competitions at Petrockstowe, any successes will be reported in the next *Marland Messenger*.

MARLAND READERS

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at members' homes. Throughout the winter months the meeting is held at 3pm, during summer at 7:30pm. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Helen (01805 601331) or Trish (01805 601245).

SHORT MAT BOWLS

We still have the equipment to run Short Mat Sessions but we need a few more players. If you would like to give it a try contact Chris Ley (01805 601264).

YOGA

If anyone is interested in trying Yoga, Arwen runs a beginners' class in the Moore-Stevens Hall on Wednesdays at 9:45am to 10:45am. Contact Arwen (07488 430566) or Helen (01805 601331).

Fee is £5.00 per session.

MOBILE LIBRARY 2019

The mobile library stops at the church car park at 10:05am to 10:25am on the following Thursdays:

4th April, 2nd May, 30th May and 27th June.

These timetables may be subject to change. Contact the library for more information on 0345 155 1001 or on-line <https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/mobilelibraries>.

Please be aware that numbers using this service are assessed regularly so we must all try to use the mobile library as often as we can or we could lose it!

MOORE-STEPHENS HALL

If you wish to hire the hall please contact the Treasurer, Howard Wills (01805 601446).

POT HOLES

Please be proactive in reporting potholes. This is done by going to the following website: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/>.

Note that only potholes that satisfy the criteria given on the website should be reported.

It is important to understand that should you be unfortunate enough to damage your car as a result of hitting a pothole, your claim will only be considered if that pothole has previously been reported and not repaired within a reasonable time.

Other faults such as blocked highway drains and obstructions in the road can be reported via the following website: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>.

So please get reporting – everyone will benefit!

Can you contribute to the *Marland Messenger*?

Do you have a local event to publicise, or an anecdote or tale connected with the parish? Or maybe you would like to write a piece about a subject in which you have an interest and which may be of interest to others? If so, please contact Karen or John (01805 601852) or email k.smith01@btinternet.com.

Copy deadline is Friday 14th June 2019.

Please note that we cannot publish an article that promotes a business or anything for profit.

CONTACTS

Parish Council

Website: <http://www.petersmarland.org.uk/> Parish Clerk: petersmarlandpc@gmail.com

Mike Lamprey (Chair & Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator)	601331	Jim Mann (Roads & Hedges co-ordinator & Snow Warden)	601579
Gill Anstead (Vice chair)	601455	Becky Mills	601965
Peter Rollinson (Parish Clerk)	601868	John Eaton	601852
Trish Ward	601245		

Local Councillors and Member of Parliament

Richard Wiseman	Councillor, Torridge District Council	01837 810404
Andrew Saywell	Councillor, Devon County Council	07886 446560
Geoffrey Cox	Member of Parliament for Torridge & West Devon	01822 612925

Marland School

Gareth Maclver, Head of Pastoral Care and Deputy Principal of Marland School, 01805 601324 or 07969 961416.

Devon and Cornwall Police

Melisa Baker, Community Officer: melissa.baker@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

General: torrington@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Crime Stoppers 0800 555111 / Emergency 999 / Non-Emergency 101

First Aiders

Below are our volunteer trained first-aiders (not listed in any particular order), who have also received training in the use of our defibrillator, which is situated outside the village hall.

Please note that first-aiders are not a substitute for the emergency services or your GP. In certain circumstances however, if available, they may be able to assist until the emergency services arrive.

In an emergency you should still dial 999 (from a mobile 999 or 112).

For a non-emergency medical query you should dial 111.

Karen Smith	01805 601852	Sue Beasley	01805 601952 / 07496 873822
Mike Lamprey	01805 601331	Becky Mills	01805 601965
Helen Bailes	01805 601331	Jason Mills	01805 601965 / 07736 074719
Trish Ward	01805 601245	Jane Ashton	01409 281882 / 07500 341091
John Anstead	01805 601455		