



SUTCOMBE PARISH NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2018

SUTCOMBE MEMORIAL HALL

The village hall has hosted some great events over the Winter months and it has been fantastic to see them so well supported.

The SnowCrow and Santa's Grotto event was the highlight of the festive season held on the 2nd December. We had 16 SnowCrows which made a great route around the village, our thanks to those who entered for their creativity and imagination. The food, mulled wine and mince pies were enjoyed by everyone, and we had a very special Christmas visitor for the Children. We are grateful to Sutcombe Choir for their beautiful festive Carols to get everyone in the Christmas spirit. Special thanks to Tracey Stevens who made a fabulous job of organising and decorating the hall.

In January we jointly held the annual Big Breakfast raising money for the Church and Village Hall funds. I am pleased to say the work to upgrade the electricity supply had been completed to ensure an uninterrupted supply of toast!

This year we are celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the hall with a Silver Village Ball to mark the occasion. The event will be held on Saturday 20th October, please save the date and look out for further details later this year.

We are planning to hold a Bluebell walk with Pie and a Pint at the village hall in the spring as well as a summer event later in the year. Further details to be advertised soon.

28th March Village Hall AGM. We are in need of some new committee members to help us run the hall, keep it up to date and help organise fundraising events, if you are keen and able, please contact me. Old and young, all welcome, Thank you.

Darren Furse

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SUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Members of the Council: Councillors S. Horn (Chairman), C. Quance (Vice Chairman), J. Daniel,

C. Furse, J. Shepherd, B. Galbraith-Marten , M. Wonnacott.

Meetings are held every two months with the addition of the annual Parish meeting in April and the A.G.M in May; the agendas for the meetings are displayed on the notice board and advertised on the web-site three clear working days before the meeting.

Dates for future meetings will be posted on the website, as soon as they are arranged.

If you have any issues or concerns you would like to raise with the Parish Council, residents can do so during a public comment session which takes place at the start of every Parish Council meeting at 7.45pm, alternatively please put them in writing and send to the Clerk at the address below or speak to the Chairman of the Parish Council, Stephen Horn, on 01409 241810.

It must be pointed out that although residents are welcome to all meetings they may not take part in any discussion.

Dates for your Diary

The annual Parish Meeting will be held on 16th April 2018

Commencing at 7.30pm. Guest Speaker will be Matthew Barrow from connecting Devon & Somerset, who will be able to answer questions regarding faster broadband and give advice as to how to get it.

All residents of Sutcombe are cordially invited, if you have any issues you might want to discuss, this is the time. Representatives of local organisations will also be invited to give a short report regarding their successes of the past year.

Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council – 14th May 2018

This is the meeting where the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council are elected. All Sutcombe residents are invited to attend.

Neighbourhood Watch

A new co-ordinator is required for the Sutcombe area, if you are willing to take on this role please contact Emma Tomkies at Holsworthy police station. Emma is our new P.C.S.O., although not always able to attend the Parish Meetings a crime update for the area is sent occasionally.

Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons and District Councillor Ken Carroll

Both Councillors attend most meetings throughout the year and are passionate within their roles, they both help and support your Parish Councillors on all fronts, they have both recently awarded grants, towards the playground equipment and for the repair of the railings that surround the War Memorial.

Projector/Laptop

The Projector, laptop and projector screen purchased in conjunction with Milton Damerel Parish Council is available for local organisations to use in presentations for information, raising funds or any other suitable reason. The equipment can be used at the Memorial Hall or other premises provided that the presentations are for the local community. For example if there was a family celebration and the organiser hires the Memorial Hall the equipment would be available as part of the hall facilities, but an individual could not use it in their own home, nor can it be used by other Parishes (except Milton Damerel who are joint owners). If in doubt, or for any further information, please do not hesitate to contact any Councillor or the Parish Clerk.

T.A.P. Fund

This year's allocation was once again used to cut verges and hedges previously cut by Devon Highways. Since severe cutbacks the work is not being carried out by them, except if the hedges/verges become a danger to road users on the main highways. The safety of all residents and visitors that use our roads is very important, the Parish Council will continue to do what it can to keep the hedges and verges tidy that would otherwise impair the visibility of vehicles.

Annual Grants 2017/18

At the meeting held on the 13th November 2017 grants were awarded to: Sutcombe Free Cemetery, Sutcombe Community Playground, St Andrew's Church and Holsworthy Transport.

The Parish Council have a budget each year to award grants to local organisations. If your organisation missed out last year please send your request in writing to the Parish Clerk for consideration by the 1st November 2018. Requests will then be considered at the Parish Council Meeting in November. Please remember the Parish Council is unable to provide grants to any individuals.

Financial Matters

The budget for 2018/2019 was discussed at the November meeting and finalised at the meeting held on January 8th 2017.

It was the unanimous decision of the Parish Council to request that the precept be increased by £640, this is to ensure that the Parish Council has enough funds to help local organisations and to run the Parish Council business efficiently, it will also cover the extra cost of the insurance and maintenance for the new playground. It is unsure whether the precept will be capped in the future, but with the constant cut backs by the Government the Parish Council has to ensure that it has sufficient funds to meet any unexpected financial burdens in the future.

School Playing Field

The play equipment has now been erected, the members of the 'Playground Committee' led by Councillor Claire Furse have worked extremely hard to get this very worthy project off the ground, they should all be applauded for their hard work. The playground will be officially opened on the 7th April 2018.

Grass Cutting

Tenders/quotes are required for this coming season for cutting the Village Green, the area in front of St. Andrews Close and keeping the War Memorial site tidy. If you are able to commit to this please send your tender/quote to the Parish Clerk or any Councillor as soon as possible. There are no set times when the work has to be done, but it is imperative that the areas are cut often enough through the season to keep the said areas looking neat and tidy.

Highways

Although the road leading up to the Memorial Hall has been resurfaced for which the Parish Council is very grateful there are many roads around the village that are in dire need of repair. Your Parish Council frequently reports these issues and Councillor Barry Parsons supports all complaints. The

more people that complain to Devon Highways the better, it is very easy to report potholes on the Devon County Council website.

Website

The new website is now up and running and from the viewpoint of the Parish clerk it is far easier to keep up-to-date, but remember, I can only advertise events if your organisation notifies me, information in pdf format is better but word is OK as I can convert from most formats.

Planning Matters

There has been only one application over the past three months, which was for an extension to be built at Rose Cottage, this application was withdrawn. Planning applications as received by the Parish Clerk are discussed at Parish Council Meetings; details of the applications are on the agenda displayed in the Parish Council Notice boards at least three working days before the meeting. If any of the Parish Councillors have an interest in any development, for example, if it is a relative's application, the Parish Councillor is barred from making any comment or making any decision regarding that said application. Details for all planning applications are available on Torrington District Council website. Residents are always welcome to attend these meetings to listen to the discussion, but they cannot take part. If residents have any objections or comments to make on the applications they can convey them in writing to Torrington District Council, send an email to the planning department, or go on to the Torrington Planning public access website.

The Freedom of Information Act requires Parish Council to make various documents and records available to the public, if you require copies of any information held by the Parish Council please contact the clerk.

Parish Clerk: Mrs Lorraine Buttery, 3 Sunset Heights, Shebbear, BEAWORTHY, Devon, EX21 5BN

SUTCOMBE BADMINTON CLUB

The Badminton Club is continuing to be held on Monday evenings in the village hall.

The club has had an enjoyable season, with six to nine players attending each week, which has meant some really good competitive games.

The evening is an opportunity to meet and see people in the village while taking part in a sporting activity. We play doubles and take in turns to play.

8.00pm onwards – weekly sub of £2 (no joining fee)

The club will carry on until May then have a summer break. Next year's season will start again on the 10th September 2018.

New players welcome of any ability including beginners.

SUTCOMBE SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

The winter season is nearly over, we still have a few League games to play and hopefully a few more to win! We have had good results in the afternoons but not in the evenings, but there is still HOPE!

We lost the Alan Wright K.O. competition to Holsworthy and the Tony Stephens K.O. to Westward Ho! Obviously we need help if anyone is interested.

Club competitions are being played now and the Singles, Pairs and Triples trophies will be presented by the chairman Mr M. Andrew at our annual dinner in April.

Thanks to all the club members for their help.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Services

4 th	3 rd Sunday of Lent	10.00am	Morning Prayer	
11 th	4 th Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)	10.00am	Family Service	
18 th	5 th Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday)	10.00am	Sung Eucharist	
25 th	Palm Sunday – A United Benefice Service of Communion with the distribution of Palm Crosses and a Procession around the Church – 10.30am			
27 th	Tuesday in Holy Week – Bradworthy Baroque Choir – 7.30pm Stainers's Crucifixion			
29 th	Maundy Thursday	A Christian Passover in Bradworthy Church – 7.30pm (Please call 01409 241315 to book – no charge)		
30 th	Good Friday	Bradworthy	12.00noon	Procession of Witness (Meet in the Square)
		Bradworthy	2.00pm	One Hour Devotion
31 st	Easter Eve	Putford Church	7.30pm	The Easter Liturgies
1 st April	EASTER DAY		9.00am	Holy Communion

Bells

The bells were reassembled at the end of last year, just in time for the Christmas Carol service.

I would like to thank all those who helped in any way. To those who offered man power, equipment, food and drink. I would also like to thank the general public who have raised the many thousands of pounds by supporting our many fundraising events. The general support and interest in the project spurred us on.

We practice on Thursday evenings at 8pm, and we're always looking for new recruits.

If you are interested, please telephone John on 01409 261226

John Daniel

Lent - a time of reconciliation

Lent is a time of reconciliation; a time when we make space in our lives to think about our relationship with our heavenly Father and the ways in which we are responding or failing to respond to his love and care for us.

One of the principle stumbling blocks we face in making a constructive and creative response is that we often have a distorted image of God. Such distortions have their origins in a variety of sources. We may have been given certain impressions of God from our parents or teachers which have remained with us in adult life. We may have had difficulty coping with a crisis and feel that we were abandoned by God at that time. We may have found it difficult to cope with changes in our life and/or in the Church, and feel lost and distanced from the God we thought we knew. We may have had a bad experience with a Vicar, a fellow Christian or a Church organisation which has made us question the God of the Christian Church.

We may in fact, have no feelings of faith at all, perhaps backed up by a barrenness in prayer, which prompts us to question whether there really is a God.

All these reasons are understandable. It's very easy to "lose" the real God in our world and in our life. It's easy to come to feel like a displaced person or a wandering soul in search of a home. Christians are no exception to these feelings. The fact that we do wonder and we do question is a healthy sign. It shows that God and our faith are still of significance to us. The rumour of God is alive and kicking, even if we sometimes feel very unsure of what to do about it. It shows too, that we care enough to be conscious of the existence of "something more" than the surface experiences of life.

Perhaps this Lent may be a time to follow our curiosity and questioning – a time for examining what the Church has to offer – a time to be reconciled to each other and to God.

God of peace, speak words of peace to our hearts, and to our world. Help us to spread your peace this Lent and always. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SUTCOMBE COMMUNITY PLAYING FIELD

The new play equipment has been installed over the winter and it's looking fantastic! It's great to see what your fundraising has helped to achieve and we are extremely grateful to all the organisations that have supported us along the way with grants and donations.

Our official opening will be on Saturday 7th April starting at 2pm, with Easter Themed activities and Cream Tea at the village hall. Please save the date and come along to celebrate.

In the meantime the Playing Field is open. Unfortunately this is with the exception of the wooden trim trail which is in need of repair. We have lots of maintenance to do this spring, including the addition of Football Goals. If you can spare a little time to join us to help with maintenance on the 17th & 18th March (10am to 4pm) we would love to see you there!

Thank you to everyone who supported and enjoyed our Bingo in November, it was an enormous success with over £500 raised towards Goal Posts and purchases this spring.

Please save the dates for the following events this year:

7th April – 2pm. Sutcombe Playing Field opening with Cream Tea at the Village Hall

7th July – Family Football Tournament with BBQ

30th November – Bingo



Your local Children's Centre offers a range of free play sessions, groups and services for children under the age of five and their families.

We have a number of fun stay and play style sessions, as well as some which are focused on specific areas such as parenting and healthy lifestyles. We also offer services for specific age groups, such as Baby Massage for babies over 8 weeks.

You can find out more by visiting our website: www.holsworthyarea.childrencentre.org

Email: hacc@actionforchildren.org.uk Phone: 01409 253508

David Seggons

Window Cleaner

Also carpet cleaning and chimney sweeping

Call 01409 241 702



If you are a representative of a local club or activity or have an article about local events or achievements please contact Fay Fry (fvfry@fryswebserver.co.uk) with the details by middle of September 2018 in time for the printing of the October issue.

Thank you all very much for your contributions.

Also a big thank you to all of the volunteers who deliver this newsletter to our doors. If anyone would like an email copy please contact Fay Fry on the above email.