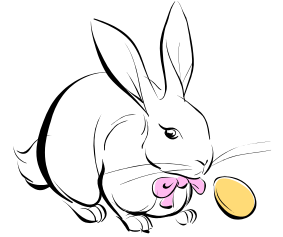


## **Sutcombe Parish Newsletter March 2017**



### **Sutcombe Memorial Hall**

We have had a reasonably active autumn / winter period.

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September, we held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sutcombe Village Produce Show alongside a Nature Trail and photograph competition; this was a great success, with entries from all ages and a wide variety of exhibits. Also the Nature trail was a short but challenging walk collecting a selection of leaves and foliage through the valley below the hall.

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October, we held a "Traditional Pub Night", the plan was simply to get people from the village together so they could spend an evening with old and new friends, whilst playing games, with Darts, Pool, Skittles and a Quiz, There was free entry and a good night was had by all, with plenty of good feedback, we also raised £257.11 profit for hall funds.

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January, we held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sutcombe big breakfast. This year the event was ran jointly between the Hall committee and the Church, it was a huge success, and I would like to thank everyone who helped out both before and on the day, particular thanks to Rosie and Allister Cawsey, for doing all the buying and organising for the day. We raised £979.22 profit which was £489.61 for each organisation.

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February, we held our 2<sup>nd</sup> pub night, which was run along the same theme as the 1<sup>st</sup> pub night in October, again this was a good evening, but attendance was lower than before. It was a fun evening and thanks to all those who helped out.

Overall there has been plenty going on this winter, with the usual club activities running alongside hall events, 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, Hall Chairman. 07855 352 154

dfurse65@hotmail.com

### **Sutcombe Almshouse Trust**

"You may have noticed that the Almshouse Trust has recently been undertaking some work in the 7 acre Millennium Wood they planted back in 2000. This is the wood owned by the Trust in the valley opposite the Village Hall. The-forestry contractor who sourced the trees and undertook the majority of the original planting likes to keep an eye on the trees to see how they are getting on. Last year he inspected the wood with the Trustees and recommended some maintenance work was undertaken. Lower branches have been pruned from what the Trustees hope will become the specimen trees within the wood. The contractor was alarmed to discover that some of the trees (the Field Maples are particularly vulnerable) had suffered severe squirrel damage. The squirrels strip the bark craving the sweetness as the sap rises in the Spring. If a complete ring of bark is removed from a tree, or a limb, it can kill it. The Trustees therefore envisage some control of the squirrel

population before the contractor returns to undertake further maintenance work and pruning amongst the trees.”

## **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 good numbers of people 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 mixed doubles and take in turns to play.

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

**Next year’s season will start again on the 11 September 2017**

New players welcome (especially Ladies!) of any ability including beginners.

## **Sutcombe Parish Council**

**March 2017**

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 web-site, 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 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017 commencing at 7.30pm. Guest Speaker will be James Jarroudi Community Engagement Officer for Torridge District Council**, who was very helpful in obtaining the Grant for the playground equipment. All residents of Sutcombe are cordially invited, as 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.

**15<sup>th</sup> May 2017: Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council**, this is the meeting where the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council are elected.

**Neighbourhood Watch:** A new co-ordinator is required for the Sutcombe area, if you are willing to take on this role please contact P.C.S.I Emma Tomkies at Holsworthy police station. Emma is our new P.C.S.O.

**Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons and District Councillor Ken Carroll:** both Councillors attend most meetings throughout the year and are passionate within their roles and help and support your Parish Councillors on all fronts.

### **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 2016/17** At the meeting held on the on the 7th November 2016 it was agreed that grants would this year be awarded

Only to local organisations as such, grants were awarded to Sutcombe Free Church Cemetery, St Andrews Church, and Sutcombe Memorial Hall

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 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017. 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 2017/2018 was discussed at the November meeting and finalised at the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017

It was the unanimous decision of the Parish Council to request that the precept be increased by 2%, this is to ensure that the Parish Council has enough funds to help local organisations and to run the Parish Council business efficiently. 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:** You might be aware that after the School's closure your Parish Council were, after application declared 'Tenants at will' of the school playing field, this is a temporary arrangement and it is envisaged that the ownership will pass to the Parish Council, although there are still some legalities to overcome. With this in mind Councillors Claire Furse and Barry Galbraith-Marten have worked tirelessly to obtain grants to enable a good play area with equipment to be built. It is hoped that the play area will be open early summer. All residents will be notified of the exact date.

### **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.

### **Website**

At present there is a new website being built, although the old website is still in being the new one will be much easier to keep up to date and be more modern in appearance. Remember, if your organisation is holding an event please let the Clerk know and it will be advertised

### **Planning Matters**

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 Torridge 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 Torridge District Council, send an email to the planning department, or go on to the Torridge 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

Tel: 01409 282956

email:

[sutcombe.pc@btinternet.com](mailto:sutcombe.pc@btinternet.com)

## **St Andrew's Church – Fundraising Committee**

As you may know, the bells have now been taken to Loughborough to be refurbished and a new frame constructed for them. We are not certain when they will be back, but we hope it won't be too long. Meanwhile, we continue fundraising to replenish our coffers ready for the next repairs needed (not to mention the usual running costs for the church).

Our recent **Curry and Quiz** evening was a great success, thanks to Paulette's curries and Di's questions, with 22 teams taking part.

**Our next event** will be serving breakfast to **Land's End Trial** drivers in the early hours of **15 April**, (Easter Saturday). If you fancy a bacon bap or a slice of cake do come and support us and watch the bikes and cars come up Roachdown, from about 3am.

The next **Pudding Club** will be held on **12 May**. Weather permitting we will start with a bluebell walk (optional) before returning to the church for a selection of lovely puds - £5.00 per person to include tea/coffee.

### **Future dates:**

We are planning a **Fun Evening with Barbeque & Bar** on the Village Green on **24 June**

**Harvest Festival (then lunch in the hall) 17 September**

**St Andrew's Day - 25 November**

**Christmas Lunch – 10 December**

**Carol Service – 17 December**

**for details watch out for posters for these events.**

## **St Andrew's Church Bell tower**

After many years of fund raising, work has finally begun on the renovation of the Church bells and rebuilding of the bell frame.

At the beginning of March, Brian Butcher of Taylor's, Loughborough came down and oversaw the mammoth task of dismantling the rusted out bell frame and removal of the six bells.

Ably assisted by a very supportive team of local helpers, the work was completed in less than a week. Refreshments were provided to the workers three times a day by a band of ladies willing to do their bit for the cause.

Much interest was taken in the project, and people came from far and wide to view the progress. Those who physically helped out found the work to be both interesting and rewarding; a once in a lifetime experience.

The last time that the bells were taken down was in 1932. Previous to that date, there were only three bells, their dates being 1611, 1720 and 1732. For many years, only one of these was rung for the services. By hard work and perseverance, and with assistance from willing helpers, the old bells were re-cast, and an additional three bells were added.

The new third bell was inscribed "These Two bells were given by the People of this Parish, 1932. Come when we call."

On the new second bell are the names of the Rector, Rev William Ravenhill, and Churchwardens, S S Walter and my grandfather, F C Daniel.

The new treble, a family memorial bell, bears the inscription "This bell was given in memory of Harold Holmes Ravenhill, who fell in the Great War, March 10, 1917

'Ring in the valiant man and free,

The larger heart, the kindlier hand."

Coincidentally, the bells were loaded up and taken to Loughborough on March 10th 2017, exactly 100 years to the day after Harold Ravenhill died.

Work to re-assemble the frame and re-hang the bells will be done in the autumn.

History has repeated itself, and once again the spirit of the people of Sutcombe has shone through. I am proud to carry on as Captain of the tower, and to teach anyone who is interested in the art of bell ringing. John Daniel

## **Captured by the Crucified**

In the backstreets of Naples until relatively recently gangs of young boys used to run wild. They lived by begging, or by stealing from the tourists; at night they huddled in doorways or over hot-air grilles. Although people wanted to help these street urchins, these 'Scugnizzi' as they were called, no one was successful.

Then a man called Father Borelli came to the conclusion that the only way to reach them was by becoming one of them. So one day he dressed in rags, stuck the butt-end of a cigarette in the corner of his mouth, and leant a greasy shoulder against a wall in an area where gangs were known to roam. Before long he got talking to a member of one of the gangs, and a little later he was accepted by them. He shared their life to the full, even to the extent of joining in their expeditions as look-out.

Then came the crucial moment; the moment when having won their trust as a fellow gang member, he had to reveal his true identity. This he did, and after some anxious minutes found himself welcomed rather than rejected. So Father Borelli began to build up a new life for the boys, turning a ruined church into the beginnings of a home for them.

But suppose that when he revealed his true identity, the boys instead of accepting him, had turned on him, slashed him with razors and left him to bleed slowly to death? What then? If that happened I suppose one of two things might have followed. It is possible that the

whole incident would have been quickly forgotten as just one more backstreet killing. Or on the other hand the boys might have been sorry for what they had done, particularly if they had heard Father Borelli whisper just before he died 'Father, forgive them.' They might have been so sorry that they would have resolved to change their whole way of life, and live in the light of the love suddenly unveiled in the man they had just killed.

The story of Father Borelli is a lived out parable of what God has done for the world. As Father Borelli realised he could only reach, and get through to the 'Scugnizzi' of Naples by becoming one with them even to the extent of being identified in a compromised way with their situation, so God has become one with us; to reveal the His love in human terms; to lead us out of the dark cellar of our pride, cruelty and selfishness.

Through Lent and especially on Good Friday, Christians think about the picture of Christ crucified. They meditate on the fact that Christ died for us. What does this mean? How can the death of a man a long time ago effect you and me? First, the fact that Christ was killed reveals the extent of human blindness and iniquity. The Son of God comes among us, and we kill him. A pretty sorry story. As John put it, 'He came unto his own and his own received him not.' Second, it reveals the extent to which God is prepared to reach out to us. Christ did not come to die - he was not a suicide - he came to invite us to enter the Kingdom of God, to live under the rule of his Father. But when he saw that this message would lead to his rejection and death, he did not give up his mission, and he did not banish anyone from the circle of his concern. 'Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.' So it is that the cross of Christ always has and always will bring about a change in men's understanding of themselves, of life and of God. In it we see the evil of evil; and how God continues to hold mankind in loving relationship with himself despite the hurt we inflict on him.

Why not join us over Lent to reflect on how the action of this one man could change your life – you will be very welcome.

God Bless,

Richard

**Times of Services in St Andrew's Church, Sutcombe**

<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Mothering Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Family Service</b>
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	<b>Fifth of Lent</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	
<b><u>United Benefice Eucharist with Palm Crosses and hopefully, a Donkey to help us</u></b>			
<b>Easter Saturday (15<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>A United Benefice Service in Putford at 7.30pm with the Lighting of the New Fire</b>		
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>SUNG EUCHARIST</b>
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> of Easter</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Family Service</b>
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> of Easter</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>ROGATION SUNDAY</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	
<b><u>United Benefice Service at Richard Boughton's Farm</u></b>			
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> of Easter</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>

## **Sutcombe short mat Bowling Club**

We have had an enjoyable season, all our league matches have been completed, but our position in the divisions is not known as other clubs have not played all their games. We have not been quite as successful as last year, but still managed to reach the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the Tony Stephen's knock out competition where we were beaten by Shebbear.

We are now playing our Club Competitions, and looking forward to winning a few trophies on finals night, followed later in April with our end of season annual dinner.

## **Devon and Cornwall Alert System**

Devon and Cornwall Alert is a free community messaging system which informs members of the public about crimes and incidents affecting their local area.

Recorded messages are sent by telephone (landline only), email or text message to individuals or groups/ businesses.

It is a two-way messaging system which helps us to connect with our communities; it tells people what is happening in their area and allows them to respond directly with any information.

The system is designed to allow people who register to choose the type of information they would like to receive concerning crime and anti-social behaviour, witness appeals, crime prevention, community events and local good news.

To sign up visit [alerts.dc.police.uk](https://alerts.dc.police.uk) or complete the registration form which is available on the Force website, where you can also find more information - [www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/our-services](https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/our-services).





## Contact us

Non-emergency telephone number is **101**.

**999** still applies in Emergencies, but to call in anything other issues or for any enquiries please use **101**.

If you would like to contact your local PCSO directly please call 101 and ask for **PCSO 30538 Emma TOMKIES** or alternatively email [30538@dc.police.uk](mailto:30538@dc.police.uk)

I also now have a mobile phone number that you can use to contact me when I am on duty. This is not to report emergencies, but can be used to contact me directly. **07718575465**

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## Holsworthy Adult & Community Learning

For details:-

Alison Skinner - Administrator  
Holsworthy Adult & Community Learning  
Devon County Council  
The Skills Centre, Well Park,  
Western Rd, Holsworthy EX22 6DH  
01409 254505

Please see web  
[www.learndevon.co.uk](http://www.learndevon.co.uk)



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](http://www.holsworthyarea.childrencentre.org)

Email: [torridgecc@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:torridgecc@actionforchildren.org.uk) Phone: 03300 415 494

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### **Sutcombe Community Playing Field**

Sutcombe Community Playing Field committee are bringing a new park to the village, to be located within the playing field of the school.

The journey so far has taken about 2 years behind the scenes, which started with a discussion at a Parish Council Meeting to improve play facilities within the village. Thank you to everyone who completed a survey a year ago, which helped us identify what type of equipment you would like to see.

We are delighted to have received a grant from the Torridge District Council New Homes Bonus Scheme of £10,000. Grants have also been welcomed from the Balsdon Trust, Barry

Parsons via a Devon County Council Scheme. As well as having donations from friends of Sutcombe school to put towards the play area, and an amount from the Parish Council. The intention is to have the Playing Field open later this year, and we have a wonderful committee representing families from around the village working hard to make this happen. Currently the site is closed for safety reasons, as there will be work taking place in the coming months, and we need to make sure current equipment is safe before access can be given.

We are holding a Easter Hot Cross Bun Coffee Morning at Sutcombe Village Hall on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April between 10am and 12pm to raise funds for the project, please do come along to support and to find out more about our plans for the Playing Field.

**If you are a representative of a local club or activity or have an article about local events or achievements please contact Toni Sluggett ([sluggets@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sluggets@hotmail.co.uk)) with the details by **1st October 2017** in time for the printing of the October 2017 issue.**

**Thank you very much for all your contributions, greatly appreciated.**

**Also a BIG thank you to all of the volunteers who deliver this newsletter to our doors.**