

# the phoenix chudleigh

[www.chudleighphoenix.co.uk](http://www.chudleighphoenix.co.uk)

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## Chudleigh Preschool Celebrates '50 YEARS'

On 3rd May, children, staff and committee members came together to celebrate Chudleigh Preschool's 50TH BIRTHDAY. Di Shears and Grace Adams, two of the original mums who founded the group, came into Preschool to lead our celebrations. The ladies were presented with bouquets and we all enjoyed a cake especially made for the celebration.

In 2017, with almost 100 children attending preschool each week, alongside twenty Early Years staff, it was wonderful to hear the ladies' story of how Preschool was originally set up. Di told us three expectant mums sat waiting in a doctor's surgery and started to discuss the idea of having somewhere for the children of our community to come together to play and learn. Despite some opposing voices, who claimed that children should be looked after in the home, the idea became reality when the group started with eight children on 3rd May 1967. Fees were 1s 6d per child, which simply covered the rent of a Town Hall room. The mums raided their toy boxes at home to bring toys in for the children to play with.

Over the years, Preschool has operated in many different buildings around the town, including the Ambulance Hall, the Scout Hut, the White Hart's Anvil Room and the Old House, finally coming to its wonderful, permanent home in the School Room at the Town Hall. Di told us how they held a Garden Party in Kingsley House, opened by Lady Clifford, Lord Tom Clifford's mother, to raise awareness of the Preschool.

In the late 1980s, due to the high number of families wishing to attend Preschool, our second venue was set up; traditionally known as 'Rising 5s', it is located in the Community Room within Chudleigh Primary School.

50 years on, Preschool continues to go from strength to strength. We have been judged as OUTSTANDING by Ofsted, at both of our sites for the last 16 years, with comments such as "Teaching is superb", and "Children thrive in this wonderful and caring environment."



On 16th June we are continuing our celebrations and would like to invite everyone who has been involved with Preschool to join us for a large Community Celebration, with a PICNIC IN THE PARK PARTY, at the Cricket Field between 12.30pm and 3pm. Bring your hampers and picnic blankets; come and join the fun. We will be having our annual children's sponsored walk, cream teas, refreshments, fun activities and stalls; come and celebrate 50 years of a wonderful Preschool in Chudleigh.

Preschool is a strong business with a charity registration; it has always been led by a voluntary committee; the people of Chudleigh for the children of Chudleigh. If you would like to help us, our AGM is on 23rd May, 7.30pm at the Town Hall, and we are particularly looking for someone with a love for numbers to be our treasurer.

If you would like any more information, you can follow us on our Facebook page, find out more on our [website](#), or contact us on 01626 854680 and arrange to pop in and see us. We now take children from 2-5 years and will be taking the new 30-hour funding from September 2017.

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has been part of this wonderful community PRESCHOOL FOR THE LAST 50 YEARS.

*Linda Palmer, Early Years Manager,  
On behalf of Chudleigh Preschool.*



**Chudleigh Pre-School**  
play & learn together

## From the Editor

*Lots of congratulations to be offered this month. Firstly to Chris Evans and Felicity Cornish for receiving the 2017 Citizen's Award. Many people contribute to this wonderful community of ours, some more publicly than others. Both Chris and Felicity work quietly and tirelessly in the background and it is therefore great to see them being recognised. Well done, also, to Lisa Lea-Weston for her nomination. And as the final nominee this year, I feel both grateful and humbled to be included in this group.*

*Congratulations to Richard Keeling, our retiring Mayor, and to Mike Underwood and Clare Lillington on their election as the new Mayor and Deputy respectively. As Mike Moyes said at the AGM, see page 10, we should never forget that our Town Councillors are all*

*volunteers. We may complain about what they do sometimes, but at least they are doing something.*

*Congratulations to Jerry Brook on his re-election to Devon County Council and commiserations to Richard Keeling. A good campaign by both parties. There were two other candidates on the ballot paper, but as neither made any attempt to canvas my support, they're not getting a mention.*

*A big cheer for the Preschool celebrating its 50th birthday. What a lot of children must have gone through the doors in that time.*

*And finally, a huge round of applause to the children of our town for highlighting what's great and not so great about living in Chudleigh, see page 4, and to everyone who took part in the NDP Open Day, see page 10. What a busy, vibrant community we live in.*

Kate

## Friends of Chudleigh Library from Chairman, Douglas Neely



We are going to hold our first meeting of the year in the library on 23rd May, starting at 6.30pm. We will look back at what we have been doing since our AGM last November and welcome any new ideas, particularly spending ideas as we have a healthy bank balance at the moment.

There is a change of date for our annual Coffee Morning which will now be held on Saturday 24th June. As usual we welcome donations to the raffle and of course cakes where we have done so well in the past. We will not have a bric a brac stall this year but will sell our range of second hand books instead.

If you would like more information about Friends of Chudleigh Library, please contact Librarian, Jill Hughes on 01626 852469 or Chairman, Douglas Neely on 01626 853456.

Copy date 31st May for the June issue. Reserve your space in advance: [editors@chudleighphoenix.co.uk](mailto:editors@chudleighphoenix.co.uk) or phone 854611. The editor reserves the right to edit copy for considerations of space. Views expressed in CP are not necessarily those of the editor.

Written by local author, Elizabeth Ducie and published by Chudleigh Phoenix Publications



[www.elizabethducie.co.uk/my-books/](http://www.elizabethducie.co.uk/my-books/)  
01626 854611



# The Children's Voice

## Introduction

We all have hugely busy lives these days, and children are no different to adults on that score. This month, there's been a lot going on at the school, including the Cycling Proficiency training. As a result, we didn't hold the monthly writing workshop during which *The Children's Voice* is produced. Instead, here are some highlights from the children's month.

## School Council Meets Town Council

On Wednesday 10th May, the School Council, accompanied by Head Teacher David Barnett, visited the Town Hall to tell Town Councillors what the children think of the community in which they (and we) live.

All years of the primary school were represented. The School Councillors had canvassed all school children and the responses fell under three headings:

### What they love about Chudleigh

- Variety of shops, especially the sweet shop.
- Open spaces; parks, play parks, skate park, allotments.
- Community Events; Chudfest, Carnival, Fun Run, Christmas Fayre.
- Facilities and clubs; Youth Centre, Library, various clubs and activities.
- Lots going on in a close community; community support for the school.

### What they think could be improved or added

- Facilities for kids: a roller-skating park; a club specifically for young children; play cars, trampoline, ice cream van for the playparks; more places for children to eat in.
- Facilities for everyone: museum to tell people about Chudleigh; cleaner public toilets; more flower beds to make the town look nice; more family sports events
- Improved behaviour: better treatment by teenagers towards young children; more CCTV to monitor behaviour and signage advertising it; less smoking on the streets.
- Transport issues: more car parking to take cars off the streets; more buses to Exeter and Newton Abbot; staggered pick-up and drop-down for school buses to avoid large numbers of children at the same place.

### What they don't like

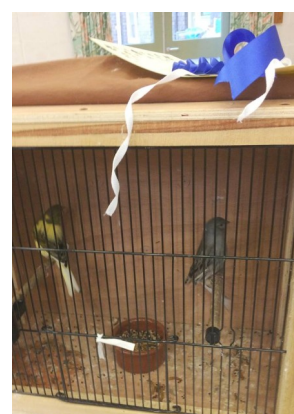
- Dog mess
- Street parking
- Litter
- Behaviour of older children towards young children

The Town Councillors were left with the overwhelming impression of children who love the town they live in. The negatives are all down to thoughtless and selfish behaviour by a small number of people in the town.

## FOCS Pet Show



On Friday 12th May, Friends of Chudleigh School held their annual pet show. There was a wide variety of animals on display: hamsters to degu to guinea pigs to rabbits to tortoise to corn snake to giant snails to birds to bearded dragons! The pictures show just a small selection of the prize winners. Another successful event for FOCS, well-supported by pupils and parents alike.



## Sunflower Reminder!



Don't forget the tallest sunflower competition at this year's Chudfest Garden and Produce Show on 2nd September. All children are invited to enter. Collect a FREE starter kit from the Pet Shop: seeds, pot, compost and growing instructions.



## Amenity Society News

On 21st April, Mark Macnair started his talk *Genetically Modified Crops* with the scientific background to their production. Beneficial genes are inserted into, or alternatively harmful genes are deleted from, the DNA of a plant to produce the desired effect. The licensing of these plants is very closely controlled so that, as a rule, it is only the product of the plant that is harvested and not the plant itself. In all cases, benefits are weighed against risks and only those where there is a clear benefit are marketed.



In this country, we have more than enough to eat so we do not need food from genetically modified plants; there is an irrational fear of the unknown; and it is perceived that all the benefits go the developer and all the risks are taken by the consumer. Hence it is unlikely that genetically modified plants will be licensed any time soon in this country or in the EU. However USA has embraced the technology (e.g. soya beans) and in many third world countries, the benefits (e.g. drought resistant plants) could be life saving.

Attended by thirty-two members and five guests, this was an excellent talk that was both educational and entertaining.

Our next talk, *Who Cares About Food and Farming?* on 19th May will be given by John Wibberley who will be highlighting topical issues about the food that we eat.



During the summer, CADAS will be organising trips for its members. Forthcoming trips are a visit to Buckfast Abbey on 24th May and another to Ugbrooke House on 12th July. In the case of Ugbrooke House, it will be an introduction to a talk on 17th November when Lady Clifford will be telling us about its restoration. The final visit, on 24th August, will be a walk along the Stover Canal, a magical place that has undergone considerable restoration and exploration over the past eighteen years. Trips are open to both members and non-members; priority is given to the former if places are short. Contact Andrew Turnbull: [turnbull19888@btinternet.com](mailto:turnbull19888@btinternet.com) for details.

## Chudleigh WILD Update

The swifts are back after nine months away. They returned *en masse* to Devon on 4th May, local election day and a date that is spot on for these very punctual birds.



None have been seen yet around their traditional breeding site in the Town Hall roof; we hope they will also show interest in the new swift nest boxes (*picture, bottom left*) at the back of the Town Hall and on the side of the Globe hotel. These have been sponsored by individuals, Chudleigh WILD, Chudleigh Town Council and the District Councillors. Thanks must be given to local Builders, Caunter and Son, for erecting them so promptly and neatly.

You may have noticed action in the Bat Garden at the corner of Rock Road. Planting is proceeding and all are looking healthy, but there is more work to be done. We hope it will look a little more like the picture on the notice board by the end of the summer.

Also please note the wonderful orchid walk at Deer Park Farm on 17th May, details on the poster, below, at the Town Hall or on their website.

A wonderful time of year to be out and about.

Tessa Frost

Every year thousands of Green-winged Orchids bloom in our meadows at Deer Park Farm - come and enjoy them with us...

## Orchids Galore!



10.30-1pm Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May  
Or 11-1pm Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May

There will be several different orchid species  
and many other flowers too!

Email me to book a place: [audrey@boveyclimateaction.org.uk](mailto:audrey@boveyclimateaction.org.uk) or ring 01626 852775. We're 2 miles from Chudleigh - car share if you can

This free farm walk will be under a mile, but has some fairly steep bits, so wear strong shoes/boots!



## Carnival Matters



Thank you to everyone who came along to our Easter Egg Hunt on 15th April. Nearly 100 of you took part! We hope you had fun!

Massive congratulations to Shakiera Muttu who has now been crowned as this year's carnival Queen and to Imogen Stygall who will be her attendant.

*Pictured: Shakiera Muttu (left) and Imogen Stygall with Councillor Richard Keeling, Mayor of Chudleigh, who performed the crowning.*

# HELP WANTED

Would you like to be part of what could be the very last Chudleigh Carnival?

If you feel you could help us, even if only for this year, we are looking for Marshalls for:

the **Procession** on Saturday 15th July and  
the **Fun Run** on Sunday 16th July

The more people involved, the less time you will need to marshal

**Please give it some thought**

We are also looking for new committee members as two of our members are standing down, leaving just **three** on the committee (two of whom have families and full time jobs)

**Please again give it some thought**

Thank you for reading this poster  
Chudleigh Carnival Committee

Tel: 01626 852639 Mobile: 07517 673316

## Can Chudleigh Become A Fairtrade Town?



Following the successful Fairtrade Extravaganza Evening in March, a steering group met to discuss the way forward to make Chudleigh a "Fairtrade Town".

On Thursday 25th May, members of the Steering Group will visit businesses in the town to explain the purpose and value of Chudleigh becoming a "Fairtrade Town." Five Goals need to be met (*see chart below*) and we are on our way to achieving them.

There needs to be a minimum of at least 3 shops and 2 cafes using or selling Fairtrade products and for the Fairtrade products to be used in local businesses, churches and workplaces.

The Town Council has agreed its support and it is hoped it will encourage groups and societies using the Town Hall to use "Fairtrade products" e.g. serving Fairtrade tea and coffee.

Our local CO-OP store is fully behind the campaign to make Chudleigh a Fairtrade town and stocks and sells a wide range of Fairtrade goods.

Everybody can get involved by buying Fairtrade products and supporting all business selling and providing them.

*Leah Stirrat*  
Steering Group Secretary  
([leah.stirrat@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:leah.stirrat@hotmail.co.uk))

### CAN CHUDLEIGH BECOME A FAIRTRADE TOWN?

WE NEED TO MEET 5 GOALS.....	PROGRESS SO FAR.....
1 Local Council resolves to support Fairtrade	In hand
2 A range (2+) of Fairtrade products in 3 shops and 2 cafes	2 shops who meet target, and 2 cafes have 1 product each
3 Fairtrade products used by a number of workplaces and organisations	50% of churches and 2 B&B's meet target
4 Attract media coverage and popular support	Ongoing
5 A local Steering Group to ensure continued progress and commitment	In hand

SO CHUDLEIGH IS PART-WAY THERE!

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR UPDATES!

DO WHAT YOU CAN BY BUYING AND TALKING ABOUT FAIRTRADE!



# Dunsford Singers

present the

## Fauré Requiem

and other beautiful music

conducted by Tim Pithers

**Saturday 17 June**

Chudleigh Parish Church 7.30pm

**Saturday 24 June**

Dunsford Church 7.30pm



TICKETS £7 (£3 UNDER 16s)

FROM

DANDELION, FORE ST, CHUDLEIGH & DUNSFORD VILLAGE SHOP  
OR

RING JANE 01647 252519 & JAN 01647 252368

# CABARET SAUVIGNON

at the

## Constitutional Club

Live music & entertainment  
in Chudleigh!

TQ13 0HY

**21st May**

(and every 3rd Sunday of the month)

Doors open 7.00pm

(Kick off 7.30)

Free entry!

MEMBERS & GUESTS WELCOME

DONATIONS FOR CABARET FUNDS APPRECIATED

Artists to include: 5 PIECE JAZZ BAND

Voice Male - Gentlemen's Barbershop

Elizabeth Ducie - Short Stories

Peter Shearn - Loop Master Fantastique

Fingers n Fumbs - Hotpot Pourri

Roger Rower - tasteful guitar

Green Valleys - Ladies' Barbershop

[www.cabaretsauvignon.webs.com](http://www.cabaretsauvignon.webs.com)



A fund-raising evening of singing  
(and dancing) performed by

Newton Community Choir,

Newton Gospel Group, Accabellas

& Harmony Singers and

Barbershop Quartet

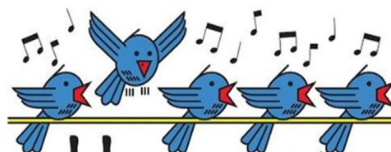


at St. Michael's Church, Kingsteignton

7.00 for 7.30 pm. Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 17

Admission: £5 inc. tea /coffee /free raffle

Newton Community Choir &  
Newton Gospel Group invite you to  
sing with us this Summer!



## Add your voice

Whether you are a shower singer or  
a seasoned one –

your first session is FREE!

For more info visit

[www.communitysinging.co.uk](http://www.communitysinging.co.uk)

Or Call Megan 07865 779977

STARTS BACK THURSDAY

20<sup>th</sup> APRIL, NEWTON ABBOT





## Transport to Medical Appointments



Getting to medical appointments can be really difficult when you live in a rural area like Chudleigh. Did you know that Volunteering in Health has a team of volunteer drivers who can take you to your appointments, whether it's just into town to see the doctor or dentist, or going further afield to Royal Devon & Exeter, Torbay or beyond? The driver will take you door to door and will wait for the duration of your appointment so there's no hanging around afterwards. All drivers are criminal records checked and are kind, patient people who want to support others.

Denzil Pelmear has lived in Chudleigh his whole life. He took early retirement from BT after a course of chemotherapy and was stuck at home, bored, as he recovered. He saw a poster asking for volunteer drivers three years ago and applied straight away. He says, "Becoming a volunteer driver was the best decision I ever made. I enjoy meeting all kinds of people and ensuring that they get to their appointments on time without having to worry about getting home afterwards. I have got to know some of my clients very well and it is a pleasure to be able to support them through some difficult times."

Mrs Doris Challis, 90, used Volunteering in Health's transport service to visit her husband after he had a fall and was in hospital. Sadly, after over 70 years of marriage, he passed away in April 2016. She told us, "Denzil was so helpful and understanding. After my husband's funeral, Volunteering in Health stayed in touch to make sure I was coping. My neighbours were wonderful, but it was nice to know that there was support out there if I needed it. I still use Volunteering in Health now when I have medical appointments."

David Fribbens was diagnosed with bowel cancer last year and had many appointments at Torbay Hospital. Like so many people, David's nearest relatives live 150 miles away, so weren't able to help him as much as they may have liked. Due to his health, he was unable to drive so found himself relying on lifts or taxis which cost £50 return. Now that he is better, he wants to give something back to the community and help others get to their medical appointments, so he has joined Volunteering in Health as a volunteer driver. David says, "I know how hard it can be to deal with a major health problem; the last thing you need is to have the worry of transport on top of everything else. Now that I can, I want to make sure that other people can get to their appointments easily and feel supported by their driver, and so far I certainly feel that I am doing this."

If you need transport to get to a medical appointment, or would like to find out more about becoming a volunteer driver, please contact Volunteering in Health on 01626 774484.



The  
Cridford  
Inn

### The Cridford Inn at Trusham is under new ownership!

Our new team welcomes you to try dining at one of the oldest inns in the country dating back to 825AD. The relaxed pub offers everything including 'pub classics' and a choice of over 100 gins at the cosy bar!

[www.thecridfordinn.co.uk](http://www.thecridfordinn.co.uk)  
(01626) 853694

POTTERY COURT CAFE  
Garden Party  
SAT 27TH MAY FROM 2PM  
OFFICIAL OPENING BY THE  
MAYOR @ 2:00 PM  
Raffle Tickets available at the Cafe  
Old Pottery Court  
Fore Street  
Chudleigh  
TQ13 0HX  
FACE PAINTING  
RAFFLE  
CAKE SALE  
RAISING FUNDS FOR focs Friends of Chudleigh School

## Time To Choose Your New Local Cause



On Wednesday 19th April representatives of three local charities gathered outside the CO-OP Food Store in the centre of Chudleigh to receive their portion of a £9m share-out.

Chudleigh Community Project, Chudleigh Preschool and Chudleigh Youth Centre each received donations in excess of £2000. For the past year, every time a CO-OP member bought own brand products and swiped their loyalty card, 1% of the purchase price went towards a donation fund. Members were able to nominate which of the three local charities their donations went to.

The scheme has been running since September 2016 and the £9m fund amassed since then has been shared between more than 4,000 local causes across the UK.

As of 9th April, the second phase of the scheme has been operating. This time around the local causes nominated here in Chudleigh are:



1st Chudleigh Scout Group



Chudleigh Preschool



Chudleigh Youth Centre



If you have a Co-op loyalty card and haven't made your nomination yet, you can do so by logging in to the website and following the links to Causes. Or ask for details next time you are in the store. Matt or one of his team will be happy to help you.



## Chudleigh Carnival Rowcroft Hospice Sponsored Walk

Saturday 29th July 2017

Exeter Racecourse

Entry Forms and further details from  
Alan Brunton 2 Orchard Close, Chudleigh TQ13 0LR  
Tel: 01626 852714 or Chudleigh Town Hall



## Chudleigh Kitchen Triumph

Ten lucky ladies sat down to tea recently, courtesy of Chudleigh Kitchen, and were treated to three kinds of sandwiches (with the crusts removed, naturally); home-made éclairs, lemon drizzle cake and Victoria sponge; scones, jam and cream (and yes, we had the inevitable discussion about jam/cream first); and fresh strawberries with home-made meringues that were so yummy, we begged for the recipe. Oh yes, and lashings of tea: Indian or Earl Grey.



The tea party was kindly hosted by Margaret Parsons who won it in the raffle at last year's Chudfest Variety Concert.

Chudleigh Kitchen is the brainchild of Mark and Vicky Macnair and delivers local charitable catering, with all profits going to local causes. They cater for all sorts of events.

So next time you are looking for caterers for an event, why not give Mark or Vikki a ring. And if you are looking for references, I can give you the names of ten ladies who will be delighted to oblige.

Chudleigh Kitchen: 01626 853490





# COULD YOU BAKE A DIFFERENCE?

## OUR CAFÉ NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

**The Fire Fighters Charity is opening a new café at Harcombe House, Chudleigh, and we need volunteers to help run it for us.**

Open to the injured firefighters we support, as well as to members of the public and holidaymakers staying with us, the café will serve refreshments and a delicious range of cakes, with all profits helping us to support more beneficiaries with the life enhancing services they need.

Our friendly front of house volunteers will represent the Charity and provide outstanding customer service, ensuring that our customers keep coming back to Harcombe House.

By joining our team you'll be making a life changing difference to members of the fire and rescue community as we rely on our extensive network of dedicated volunteers to support over 5,000 beneficiaries a year.

So, whether you're a serving or retired firefighter looking to support the fire community, or an altruistic member of the public with a penchant for cake, we'd love to hear from you.



**For more information please visit:  
[www.firefighterscharity.org.uk/cafevolunteer](http://www.firefighterscharity.org.uk/cafevolunteer)**

**Or contact Kate Harrison  
on 01256 368 866 or [kharrison@firefighterscharity.org.uk](mailto:kharrison@firefighterscharity.org.uk)**

## Neighbourhood Development Plan Rolls Out

The Town Council is off to a flying start in producing the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). Committees and working groups have been meeting throughout the winter months to define an early outline of the plan's format, studying other community's plans and ensuring that the wheel was not being reinvented!

These early thoughts were put to the test on Saturday 22nd April, when Chudleigh residents were invited to "Have Their Say". And didn't they just!

It is essential that any NDP captures the ideas and notions of residents and the plan is drafted around "defendable" policies. And wow, it seemed like thousands (well hundreds) poured into the Town Hall for the exhibition and free burger, which was the first public airing and consultation session for the NDP. There were times when the Rest Centre was well and truly packed.

Visitors were invited to stick post-its on to prepared posters where folk could express support for the NDP Team's early thoughts, add their own ideas or indeed totally reject them. Team members meeting residents included dedicated volunteers, our own Town Councillors, District Councillors, and Devon Communities Together personnel.

In parliamentary circles we have "robust debate" and so it was in the town hall. Views were being expressed in every corner not only between the NDP team members, but across the room as well; very lively!

The free burgers, cooked by Mark & Vicky Macnair, went down a treat with yet more debate taking place on the forecourt. A terrific day.

The next steps for the NDP team will be to analyse all the comments and convert that data into a questionnaire which will be delivered to all homes in the late spring. A further consultation will take place in the summer.

Producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan is a huge amount of work, particularly considering that the whole team is made up of volunteers. Chudleigh Town Council is grateful for their efforts.

Chudleigh will be the winner, with a better understanding of residents' needs and how the infrastructure and community facilities might develop over the next 20 years or so.



## 2017 Citizen's Award

This award was introduced by the Town Council in 2012 as a way of recognising and saying thank you to those people who contribute to the community of Chudleigh. It is presented by the Mayor at the Annual Town Meeting.

This year, there were four nominations for the award:-

**Chris Evans:** for his years of behind the scenes work supporting Chudleigh Community Project and the swimming pool. He has also worked closely with Villages in Action to bring top class performers to the community hall.

**Felicity Cornish:** for her consistent support to vulnerable members of the community by assisting them with household tasks, providing hospital transport and companionship.

**Lisa Lea-Weston:** for her work as a founder of Scrambled Legs, the women's running group. Also for her tireless fundraising for Cancer Lifeline South West.

**Kate McCormick:** for her work in editing and compiling the Chudleigh Phoenix. She has also organised the annual Christmas Fayre for the last seven years and has been a key member of the Chudfest committee. Also for her work with the Chudleigh Community Choir.

All of the nominations were of high merit and the adjudicating panel found it difficult to select an overall winner. However, they finally decided that the award should be presented jointly to Felicity Cornish and Chris Evans.

Felicity Cornish was unable to attend the Annual Town Meeting so the Mayor, Richard Keeling, presented Chris Evans with his award and also the perpetual shield. The latter remains on display in the Town Hall.



*Chris Evans, left, receives his award from Councillor Richard Keeling, Mayor of Chudleigh*

## Mike Moyes Says Thanks...

During Public Participation at the Town Council AGM on 8th May, Mike Moyes addressed the Council as follows:

"Mr Mayor, speaking on behalf of our community, we should like to thank Richard Keeling and all the Council for their work and achievements, sometimes in difficult circumstances, during the past year, remembering they are all volunteers. Also we wish Mike Underwood, Clare Lillington, and the whole Council the community's very best wishes for their next term."

## Chudleigh's New Mayoral Team

Each year, in May, the Town Council holds its AGM. This is the time when the new Mayor and Deputy are selected. The Mayor for the coming year is Mike Underwood, who will be known to many of you through his work on the Parish Plan and subsequent Community Masterplan.

Mike and his wife Joyce have lived in Chudleigh for over 30 years during which time they have been actively working in the community. Mike has served on the CCP (past Chair), the Primary School Governing Body (past Chair), was a founder member of the History Group and a founder member of Chudfest, was Chair of the Parish and Master Plan teams, instigator of the Chudleigh Market, trustee of the Sports Centre and Director of the newly formed Chudleigh Community Interest Company.

Elected a Town Councillor two years ago, Mike is Chair of the Town Enhancement Committee; a member of both the Planning and the Town Hall and Finance Committees; and served as Deputy Mayor last year, working closely with retiring Mayor and District Councillor, Richard Keeling.

As Chair of the Town Enhancement Committee, Mike has a special responsibility for delivering the Neighbourhood Development Plan and is particularly pleased with the response of residents, not only taking active roles in preparing the plan, but also turning out in droves to view the recent exhibition, adding their thoughts and suggestions (*see page 10*). The NDP is a fairly long and detailed process, but hopes are high to deliver the final plan within the coming year.

Chudleigh now has an emergency night landing site for Devon Air Ambulance and Mike would like to publically thank the Sports Committee, in particular the Football Club, and the Town Council for working with him to make this happen.

Another project to be formally announced shortly is the introduction of a natural burial site in Chudleigh, to be located in a quiet and screened off corner of the cemetery. Ratified in principle by full council, the project is under committee scrutiny, and hopefully will very soon create the provision for sensitive and alternate burials within the parish.

Mike would like to thank his councillor colleagues for the opportunity of serving as Mayor and through this role, he wishes to use his experience to further serve Chudleigh. He is particularly keen to influence the impact of local government for the benefit of residents of all ages. As the town expands and develops into the



*Councillor Mike Underwood (left) is congratulated on his election by retiring Mayor, Councillor Richard Keeling*

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changing world, there is much work to be done to ensure that Chudleigh retains its "Village" or "Market Town" character built up over 1,000 years and we continue to be a sustainable community.

Mike's chosen charities for his mayoral year will be the Devon Air Ambulance and the 1st Chudleigh Scout Group.

The new Deputy Mayor is Clare Lillington, who will be known by many of you through her work for the Parish Church. Clare has lived in Chudleigh for 35 years and is the mother of 4 children, all of whom have attended Chudleigh Primary and Teign Schools. She works in an accountancy practice in Newton Abbot. She and husband David enjoy the outdoor life whether gardening or walking the moors.

She was co-opted to the Town Council in 2012 and elected in 2015. She is currently chair of the Town Hall & Finance committee and believes she has a duty to ensure both the facilities and finances are managed for the benefit of all the residents of Chudleigh.

Clare is currently Churchwarden and member of the Parish Church, is chair of the Twinning Association, a trustee of the Pynsent Trust which offers grants to students, and a director of the Chudleigh Community Interest Company.

Chudleigh is a warm, welcoming, vibrant community and Clare wants to keep it so for the future. "There is much going on and we need to build on that for the next generation."

Clare thanks those who voted for her as Deputy Mayor, and looks forward to the coming year on the council, working together with her fellow councillors.



*Ready for action: Councillor Mike Underwood, Mayor, and Councillor Clare Lillington, Deputy Mayor after their election at the Council's AGM on 8th May*

## What's On In Chudleigh

### MAY

#### Wednesday 17th

**Deer Park Farm:** Orchid Walk, 11am, details page 4.

#### Thursday 18th

**Weekly Produce Market:** Outside Town Hall, 8.30am to 1pm.

#### Friday 19th

**Amenity Society:** John Wibberly with *Who Cares About Food and Farming?*, Woodway Room, 7.30pm.

#### Saturday 20th

**Weekly Produce Market:** Outside Town Hall, 9.30am to 1pm.

**Child Minders Coffee Morning:** Rest Centre, 10am.

**Messy Church:** Life is messy; church can be too. Parish Church, 3.30pm.

#### Sunday 21st

**Cabaret Sauvignon:** Con Club, 7.30pm, details page 6.

#### Tuesday 23rd

**Friends of Chudleigh Library:** Meeting, Library, 6.30pm, details page 2.

**Preschool:** AGM, Town Hall, 7.30pm, details page 1.

#### Wednesday 24th

**Amenity Society:** Visit to Buckfast Abbey, details page 4.

#### Thursday 25th

**Weekly Produce Market:** Outside Town Hall, 8.30am to 1pm.

#### Saturday 27th

**Weekly Produce Market:** Outside Town Hall, 9.30am to 1pm.

**WI Coffee Morning and Lunches:** Rest Centre, 10am.

**Pottery Court Cafe:** Garden Party, 2pm, details page 7.

#### Wednesday 31st

**Chudleigh Phoenix:** copy date for June issue.

### JUNE

#### Thursday 1st

**Weekly Produce Market:** Outside Town Hall, 8.30am to 1pm.

#### Friday 2nd

**Con Club:** Open Mic, 7pm, details page 5.

**History Group:** Alan Brunton with *Anecdotes from Chudleigh's Past*, with refreshments, Woodway Room, 7.30pm.

#### Saturday 3rd

**Weekly Produce Market:** Outside Town Hall, 9.30am to 1pm.

**Coffee Morning:** Rest Centre, 10am.

**Town Council:** Surgery, Town Hall, 10am to noon.

**Chudleigh Rotters:** Monthly working party, 10am, allotments, Cemetery Hill.

#### Monday 5th

**Town Council:** Full Meeting, Town Hall, 7pm.

#### Wednesday 7th

**WI:** Leonie Wilde from Bishopsteignton will tell us about her career in Performing Arts, Rest Centre, 7.30pm.

#### Thursday 8th

**General Election:** Voting, Town Hall, 7am to 10pm.

**Weekly Produce Market:** Outside Town Hall, 8.30am to 1pm.

#### Saturday 10th

**Weekly Produce Market:** Outside Town Hall, 9.30am to 1pm.

**Scouts Coffee Morning:** Rest Centre, 10am.

#### Tuesday 13th

**Diners Club Monthly Dinner:** Contact Phil on 07702418458 for details.

#### Thursday 15th

**Chudleigh Phoenix:** May issue due out.

**Weekly Produce Market:** Outside Town Hall, 8.30am to 1pm.

## Art Classes

**Come on - Unleash your creative talent!  
NEW TO CHUDLEIGH - ALL TERM TIMES**

With Jane Hodgson, SWAc, MA Arts&Ecology, BA (Hons) Fine Art  
Local artist. Friendly, supportive weekly classes, drawing and painting, for beginners and more experienced.

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*Chudleigh based.*

A huge thank you to this month's sponsors:  
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## On The Beat

with PCSO Mark Easton (30315)

There were a total of eight crimes recorded for Chudleigh during the last reporting period, broken down as follows:

**Criminal damage/vehicle (3):** The incidents were in different locations. A child's scooter was thrown through a side window of a vehicle parked secure and unattended. A second vehicle was scratched by unknown means. There are no suspects or witnesses and both crimes have been filed as undetected. The third incident took place during a domestic argument. The offender is an ex-partner. The owner of the vehicle does not want any police action taken.

**Criminal damage to property:** Two wooden picnic benches were removed from their mountings and put in the skate park. There are no suspects or witnesses.

**Contact Details:** [website](#);

**Emergencies: 999; General enquiries: 101**

**Theft from shop:** A male offender was captured on CCTV taking items from a shop. He is a suspect in a series of offences and enquiries are continuing.

**Letter/communication/article conveying a threatening message:** A female received unwanted texts from an ex-partner. The police have been informed for information only at this stage.

**Taking a motor vehicle without consent:** A vehicle was taken by unknown means. The vehicle details have passed onto the police number plate recognition system.

**Arson:** Fire damage was caused to an area of turf in a playpark. There are no suspects or witnesses.