From Yarn Bombing to Blankets for the Homeless

This year members of Chudleigh WI decided to celebrate the fact that Chudleigh is an Ancient Wool Town and have a bit of fun by yarn bombing the play park for the duration of the 2017 Summer Spectacular (run jointly by Chudfest and Chudleigh Carnival).

Local people responded positively to the yarn bombing: one comment from the Chudleigh WI facebook page summed this up: “It’s beautiful, really brightened up the playpark.”

When the yarn bombing was dismantled, members of the WI sewed the squares and strips into blankets. Amazingly there was enough knitting and crochet to make 15 blankets.

These blankets have now been presented to HITS (Homeless In Teignbridge Support). Theresa from HITS said they were great and will be going to local homeless people.
It's ironic at a time when there are more ways than ever of communicating with people, that the complaint is still heard: “I didn’t know that. No-one told me!”

One issue that raised hackles in recent months here in Chudleigh was the proposal to close Oldway to through traffic as part of the Rocklands development. At the time of the outline planning application, some years ago, a publicity campaign was mounted by a small number of residents. Yet the level of formal opposition was low (and certainly nowhere near the volume of dissent expressed against last year’s proposed development in The Square).

The project is now at the stage of detailed planning and the closure is once more under the spotlight.

An alternative proposal is now on the table, involving a one-way system for part of the route. This appears to be a preferable option. However, whether it is or not, if we don’t have our say now, we can’t complain if we don’t like the final outcome.

More details of this and the timetable for discussion and comments can be found on page 15.

And on page 14, there is news about the proposed refurbishment of the play park in The Gardens. Have a look at the plans and, if you have a view, make it known to the Town Council.

And spread the word to your friends...so they can’t say “I didn’t know that. No-one told me.”

Kate

Our Group will be holding its third AGM on Tuesday 7th November, in the library, starting at 6.30pm. It will be great to see as many of our members there as possible. We would also like to invite anybody who has an interest in the library service to join us. Our library is not in any danger of closing at this moment in time but who knows what the future brings and it is therefore important that we have an active Friends Group. At the AGM, we will be looking at what we have achieved in the last year and asking for ideas for the year ahead. Details of the AGM will appear in next months Chudleigh Phoenix.

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.

1917—2017
100 Years since the October Revolution
Russia has seen many changes

Read one man’s story through the eyes of the people whose lives he touched

Gorgito’s Ice Rink
A prize-winning tale of love, loss and broken promises by Chudleigh author, Elizabeth Ducie

ebook just 99p throughout October
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FRIENDS OF CHUDLEIGH LIBRARY
AGM
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7TH 2017
6.30PM IN THE LIBRARY

FIND OUT WHAT OUR GROUP HAS BEEN UP TO IN 2017 AND OUR PLANS FOR 2018

ALL WELCOME

www.friendsofchudleighlibrary.co.uk
Our Epic Holidays by Eliza and Katy-Grace

Wow! How the summer has flown! Now it’s October. Shockingly the weather now is still the same as in August. This year we weren’t so lucky with the heat. But for some, the holidays have been great.

Eliza’s Holiday Diary (Tanzania)

What an amazing holiday! This year we decided to go on an extra special trip. One minute I was in Chudleigh, the next, I was on the way to Tanzania. It was definitely the most amazing two weeks of my life.

When we got to our first hotel, we were tired and just wanted to go to sleep but the tour guides decided it was a good idea to go on a walk around the hotel’s coffee plantation! Even though we were exhausted, we still had a great walk and got to meet some little African girls, like Luciana, who was adorable.

The next day, we went on a long hike to an incredible waterfall. Two days later, we went on three safaris. We saw giraffes, elephants, hippos, lions, warthogs and lots of interesting types of birds.

Finally, for the last four days of the holiday, we went to a tropical island just off the coast of Tanzania, called Zanzibar. This was an amazing place and the sea was very warm. I really enjoyed every minute of it and loved meeting new friends.

Katy’s Holiday Diary (Germany)

It was Monday morning when I woke up to remember that I would soon be leaving to go on holiday. “Yes!” I thought. The day started off well, until just before I left. I ripped my new leggings. I know that doesn’t sound too bad, but the funny thing was four hours later, when I was at my Great grandmother’s, she gave me a needle and thread to sew them together, but charged me 5p! I don’t blame her. After all, she is the same age as the queen!

Three days later I was well settled in at the holiday park in Bostalsee, Germany and I had already swum 400m in a cold murky lake. It was so much fun. There was this massive waterpark and adventure centre. The only problem was, it was so hilly! Later on in the week, it was time to say goodbye to the luxury, green landscape and head home. It really was a holiday to remember.

Getting To Know You by the whole team

As the more experienced reporters move up into Yr 6, we are joined by a new group from Yr 5. In the picture, they are the four seated on the front row. We’ll meet some of them in their own words this month and the rest in November:

- **Jun-Li** likes football and swimming as well as playing the flute. The thing that irritates him the most is that in the fourth Harry Potter film, they skipped the Quidditch World Cup.

- **Jacob** likes mountain biking, tennis and swimming. He watches *The Deep* on CBBC and likes reading action books. He also played the back end of a camel in one of the school’s Christmas plays!

- **Izzy** has two best friends, Hattie and Lily. She likes gymnastics and swimming. She dislikes Jun-Li and she wants to be an architect when she is older. Her favourite animal is a dolphin, but she has a rabbit.

- **Oliver** enjoys rugby, tennis and playing the guitar. His pride and joy is his limited edition Blue Peter Sport Badge, which only few people in the UK have.

- **Hattie’s** favourite subject is English, her favourite TV show is *Friends* and her favourite author is Jennifer Lawrence (from *Hunger Games*). She has two tabby cats. Her hobbies are trampolining, gymnastics, surfing and reading. Her special jobs from Yr 5 were play leader, PE monitor and benches. She has a sister Masie and her mother teaches at Chudleigh School.
In our first talk of the autumn, *Satisfying an itch*, Keith and Janet Choales told us about their trip up the west coast of North America. The main aim of their journey was to follow the Alaska Highway, a road of around 1700 miles built between March and October 1943 by the American Army. It was originally a purely military road, its aim being to connect Alaska with the main part of the USA so that military support could be given if the Japanese invaded Alaska. Janet and Keith accompanied their talk with some truly outstanding audio visual illustrations of the animals and birds in Alaska. Altogether, an inspiring evening.

On 20th October, Jack Knott will be telling us about the construction of the Exeter Canal, one of England’s oldest.

The new mosaics project is going well. Following the meeting between the artist, Monica Shanta Brown, and the children on the 11th September, the workshops with the older children took place towards the end of September. The mosaics will be at the Library, Constitutional Club and in the Woodway Room.

We are keeping a close watch on the discovery of a Bronze Age ceremonial site at Station Hill where building preparations for the new estate revealed a large site spanning two fields. Investigations by the County Archaeologist are at an early stage but it would appear to be an important find.

Our best wishes go to the Baptist Church who have leased the premises at 1, The Square where previously plans to redevelop it were turned down. Volunteers have cleared much of the overgrown vegetation from the site and are creating a new garden. It already looks much better: well done!

On Saturday 4th November we are holding a Coffee Morning at the Rest Centre from 10am to 11.30am. Later in the month, on Saturday 18th November, we are holding a Table Top Sale at the Youth Centre from 10am to noon. Find some early Christmas presents or raise money from unwanted items. Tables cost £8 (£5 for charities). For further details please contact Sue Metcalfe on 853651.

This is an appeal to the residents of Chudleigh and the surrounding area, on behalf of Chudleigh Youth Centre. I need a huge favour. I am looking for donation of a battery-operated mobility scooter that I can convert into something that will delight and thrill the children and people of Chudleigh.

I can’t reveal my plans as yet but the results will be worthwhile. I am also appealing for donations of any rope lights and coloured or flashing lights or lasers that are not required any more. Collection can be arranged, Please contact me if you can help.

Richard Marks
dickmarks@tiscali.co.uk

The total raised at the Parish Church Coffee Morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support is £1125.06. Mo and Richard Pearce would like to thank everyone who helped organise the event and everyone who came along to support it.

A brilliant result! Well done everyone!
Did you know…..

- There are thirteen different species of bats found in the parish of Chudleigh, including the rare Greater Horseshoe Bat (GHB)
- Chudleigh’s population of GHBs is one of the few left in the UK
- The bats use caves close to the town to hibernate in winter and as a summer maternity roost in which to raise their young
- GHBs have declined by over 90% over the last few decades. Of the remaining GHBs in the UK, about a third of them are living in just a few sites across Devon

Chudleigh Wild, with support from Chudleigh Town Council and the Greater Horseshoe Bat Project, has created a public garden at Rock Road, opposite Glenspray. It aims to plant moth friendly plants that will, in turn, provide food for bats. UK bats only eat friendly plants that will, in turn, provide food for bats. UK bats only eat insects, so by planting insect friendly plants we can help not only the bats, but a wide range of wildlife such as bees, butterflies and moths. Night flowering plants are particularly good for bats as they attract night-flying insects.

You can help by planting night fragrant plants in your garden. Examples of these are Honeysuckle, Jasmine, single Roses, Common and Red Valerian, Campions, Evening Primrose, Clematis, Wild Marjoram, Fennel, Honesty, Aubretia, Scabious, Knapweed, Heleniums, Pinks, Ox eye Daisy and Red Clover.

There are over 15 million gardens in the UK, covering an area greater than all the National Nature Reserves combined. This means that the small choices we make in our gardens can make a big difference to wildlife, including bats.

Tessa Frost
01626 852551 rat.frost@gmail.com

Chudleigh Wild
Hedgeucation

Wednesday
25th October
10.00am
till midday
Meet at Garden Spot Lane

A family event,
Come and find out what lives in hedges,
why we need them, look for creepy crawly things and identify plants.
We will walk from Garden Spot Lane to Parkway Mill exploring.

Contact Tessa Frost 01626 852551 rat.frost@gmail.com

Chudleigh Rotters Update

A fantastic Friday evening sunset was followed by a pleasant and dry Saturday morning for our October Rotters session.

We arrived on site to be greeted by a handsome assortment of all types of suitable plant waste material which had been generated since our previous session in September.

After looking at each of the bays in turn and cogitating for a while, we decided that due to the wetness of the compost already produced, we should concentrate on tackling the donation pile. So, we rolled up our sleeves and started to fill the main large receiving bay. This task was completed just in time for a welcome break and a cuppa. Before the end of the session we were also able to move the contents of one of the middle bays, which will help to aerate it and this then in turn made room for the last of the donations. With these two bays now full of fresh green waste and one of the smaller bays well aerated we should generate lots of lovely compost ready to bag up in our November session. Job completed, we tidied up and the four of us headed home.

On Saturday 21st October, from 11am to 1pm, we will be having a free Medieval Hedges Event at Deer Park Farm. There are some steep hills, but it will be suitable for all ages. Well-behaved dogs on leads, please.

On Saturday 11th November we will be having a free Grassland Fungi Day, looking at our wonderful, colourful waxcaps, spindles and corals. Because most pastures have been ploughed/fertilised/ sprayed, our steep land is regionally important for these rare fungi. The morning session is booked up, but there are spaces in the afternoon (2pm to 4pm). This session is mostly for a local Natural History Society, so it will only be suitable for children who are already interested in Natural History. No dogs please.

If you would like to sign up for either of these events, contact Audrey Compton: Audrey@boveyclimateaction.org.uk. Please note: numbers are limited for both events so pre-booking is essential.

Events At Deer Park Farm
3 Daft Monkeys

Chudleigh Community School Hall.
Saturday 4th November;
7.30pm for 8pm
Tickets from Chris and Lynn Evans (01626 852553), or from Andy in Chudleigh DIY shop.
£11 for adults and £7 for children.
Music influenced by space rock, reggae, Yiddish, Eastern European and Celtic traditions

SEARCH is hosting a free Eco-build/Retro-fit evening on 27th October, 6.30pm for 7pm start at the Town Hall. With talk and discussion with experts; plus wine/soft drinks and nibbles. All welcome to come and learn about sustainable living.
Our second foreign language film for this season is Babette’s Feast (1987, Cert U, 102min), which will be screened on Friday 10th November in the Woodway Room of Chudleigh Town Hall (Woodway St entrance). Doors open at approximately 7.15pm for the 8pm screening. This Oscar winning film was directed by Gabriel Axel; it stars Stéphane Audran, Bodil Kjer and Birgitte Federspiel and has been kindly sponsored by Chudleigh/Troarn Twinning Association.

A Danish period drama, with English subtitles, it tells the story of two spinsters, daughters of the late pastor, who continue to lead the religious sect he founded. Subsequently, a French refugee, Babette, enters their lives and becomes their servant. Her gradual influence on this austere community unfolds in this poignant tale, interspersed with humour.

Admission is £6 on the door for non-members; and refreshments are for sale beforehand. Full details of membership/screenings can be obtained on our website or by phoning 01626 852239. Programme leaflets are also available not only in the wall racks just inside Chudleigh Town Hall but also at the local library and the retailer, Dandelion, in the main street.

Organisations Invited To Apply for Community Grants

Chudleigh Town Council would like to give local community groups the opportunity to apply for a grant. The Town Council has allocated funds within its budget under Section 137 of the Local Government Act which allows local councils to incur expenditure which, in their opinion, is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, the town or all or some of its inhabitants.

Who can apply?

Organisation must be based in the Town Council area with a membership of predominantly Chudleigh residents

The organisation will be required to submit a copy of its constitution and their latest accounts. If the organisation does not prepare annual accounts, copies of bank statements covering the previous six months will need to be provided.

Groups making applications will be expected to demonstrate that other sources of funding have been sought prior to application.

How to apply

Application forms can be obtained from the Town Council office. Alternatively, telephone John Carlton on 01626 853140 or email clerk@chudleigh-tc.gov.uk.

Applications should be in by 31st October. The Council will inform applicants of the result of their application by 31st January.

The award of grants is entirely at the discretion of the Town Council, whose decision is final. The Council will not enter into any correspondence regarding any decision made.
The Lunch Club
EAT - CHAT – RELAX

Chudleigh Mayor, Mike Underwood, welcoming a new community project to the town. (top)

Chudleigh folk enjoying a convivial lunch. (left) Marion Thomas & Carole Smart serving the pudding. (below)

Everyone is welcome to join us in the Rest Centre at 12.30pm on Wednesdays. Enjoy a good lunch in a friendly atmosphere. Good value at £6 each. Make your choices from the menus below and remember to book the week before you want it from, carolesmart2@aol.com 01626 853787.

OCTOBER

18th Chicken & Mushroom or Minestrone (v) Treacle Tart

25th Beef Broth or Broccoli & Stilton Soup (v) Bread & Butter Pudding

NOVEMBER

1st Cream of Chicken Soup or Peas & Beans Soup Chocolate Nut Pudding

8th CHARITY LUNCH provided by Chudleigh Kitchens
Minestrone Soup with Bacon or Cream of Mushroom Dutch Apple Pie

15th Oxtail Soup & Dumplings or Curried Parsnip Soup (v) Cherry & Blueberry Sponge

22nd Smoked Haddock Chowder or Cream of Tomato Apricot Tart

29th Oriental Chicken Soup or Butternut Squash Soup Plum Crumble

All puddings are served with cream or custard and alternative choices are available: fruit salad, fresh fruit or cheese & biscuits, followed by filter coffee or tea.
Why start yoga?

Today’s world is all about the strive, the drive and running towards the future. This approach to life makes us drive ourselves harder, work longer hours, and detach from ourselves, ultimately creating stress and making it difficult to let go.

Yoga is an act of self-care, bringing us into the present, reconnecting us to our bodies and calming the mind. The benefits are varied and unique to everyone but commonly it comes in the form of relaxation, better sleep, and calmer demeanour.

Sound good? See Heart House Yoga’s facebook page for more details: www.facebook.com/lovethehouseyoulivein
The International Day of Older Persons is 1st October. So this seems like the perfect time to introduce a new column to Chudleigh Phoenix. Senior Snippets is an advisory column with the older members of our community in mind, brought to you by Andy Goode of Home Instead Senior Care.

We all know the basics of aging well—eating right, exercising regularly, and quitting smoking, but seniors can make other choices that can have an impact beyond personal health to gain an edge on aging gracefully.

Here are some tips on how to age gracefully in the golden years.

**Take Care of Mental Health**

A positive attitude sets the stage for enacting changes that can ease the aging process. Keeping in touch regularly with family and friends is now easier than ever thanks to technology like Skype, Facetime and social media. Keeping busy is also a great way to help prevent loneliness. Consider taking an interesting course, volunteering at a local hospital or animal shelter, or joining a book club.

**Do brain-aerobics**

The more you challenge your brain, the better it will perform. An active brain allows for sharper concentration, enhanced function and focus, and improved problem-solving skills. Try playing brain games, learning a new language or instrument, or taking up a new hobby to keep the brain active and engaged.

**Sleep**

It is considered best practice to try and get between seven and nine hours of sleep at night. Not getting enough sleep puts you at risk for a host of physical and mental problems.

**Limit Vices**

Many habits people have enjoyed for years begin to catch up with them as they get older. Smoking and drinking alcohol and caffeinated beverages have dehydrating effects on the skin as well as your overall health. Now is a good time to quit smoking and limit drinking and you might also see reduced fine lines and wrinkles.

**Protect your skin from the sun:**

Too much time in the sun can cause wrinkles, not to mention cancer. Always make sure to wear sunscreen as it can help prevent your skin’s aging.

Growing older affects all parts of our bodies including hair, skin, heart, muscles, and more, but aging well may be as simple as adopting some easy, everyday habits.

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**Poppy Collection and Wreaths**

The History Group Chairman, Alan Brunton, is the Chudleigh area Poppy Appeal organiser. Once again, he is looking to recruit a few more house-to-house collectors for this year’s appeal, which runs from 29th October. If anyone can help by collecting just in their own street or road, please phone Alan on 852714; your help would be very much appreciated.
Action for Children

Action for Children’s local base, Moors Edge Children Centre, is based at Heathfield, and covers the South Dartmoor and Teign Valley area. We would like to make all parents with children under 5 aware of the services we offer, as we are focused on supporting families and children to reach their full potential.

Like and Follow our Facebook page (Moors Edge Children Centre) for our current programme, which is regularly updated.

Ante-Natal Classes

Ante-Natal classes are back on Tuesday 3rd October. These classes will can help you prepare for your baby’s birth and learn to look after and feed your baby. They can help you to stay healthy during pregnancy, and give you confidence and information. These classes are at Moors Edge Children Centre in Heathfield. 3pm – 5pm. Booking is essential as we get very busy.

Child Health Clinic Baby Group—Chudleigh Scout Headquarters

Come and join us at Chudleigh Scout HQ with other parents and children to interact and play with. It is on every Monday between 1.15 pm and 2.45 pm. We have self-weigh out every week and a health worker comes and joins us every other week. Next dates Health Worker is coming along are 9th and 23rd October. Please pop in and have a chat, we always love new faces! If you would like more information please ring Moors Edge Children Centre—01626 835612.

We are going on a Bear Hunt—Stover Country Park

Wednesday 25th October, from 2pm until 4pm. Please Contact Moors Edge Children’s Centre on 01626 835612 or message us on our Facebook Page to book your space. It is only a small cost of £3 per child. This will secure your child’s space on the activity.

Phoenix Handbell Ringers

Phoenix are looking for new people to join our small, friendly team as one of our members is moving away from the area.

We meet on most Monday evenings at Chudleigh Town Hall from 7.45pm to 10pm. If you would like to have a go why not come along? For more details please contact Ian Dodds on 01626 776646 or Audrey Marshall on 01626 853419.

News from The Square

Change is in the air in Chudleigh town centre, it seems. And not just the change of the seasons. You may well have noticed the garden opposite the memorial has been having a makeover. Unlike BBC’s Ground Force, our progress is slower and less spectacular, however the rubbish and old plants have been cleared, flower beds created, wild flowers and lawn seeded, and spring bulbs planted. Phew!

Many thanks firstly to all those who helped out on our garden working party day in September. It was a glorious, sunny day and we had lots of fun working together and seeing the new garden design take shape. Besides the volunteers who turned up to lend a hand, thanks must also be expressed for those who donated plants (including a huge sack of bulbs from the Chudleigh Amenity Society). Eric Mahy, Chris Cox and Cllr Hellier-Lang were on hand to help us make significant progress that day (and since), and the encouragement of townsfolk also helped speed us along.

The garden is just the start of the wider project that the Baptist Church has embarked on as a result of renting No1 The Square. The purpose behind all the work (both inside and out) is to create a flexible, welcoming space for activities that will enhance the community, fight poverty and combat isolation. The garden will be an extension to the venue itself in which we aim to host services from organisations such as Surestart, Food Banks, Debt Counselling (Christians Against Poverty) and Citizen’s Advice Bureau. Conversations with all these organisations continue as we try to respond to the needs of the community. Our hope is that through the project, “The Square” might be a place where those offering support, advice and help might be able to connect with those of us in the community who need it—right here in Chudleigh.

Funding has been received from different trusts and donors and we continue to seek grants to establish the project. Currently our bid for an access ramp to the garden has been shortlisted by the Aviva Community Fund, and we await the result of the public’s vote, which opens on 21st October: click here if you’d like to support us with your vote (please!).

Activities such as our monthly board games night (6pm to 9pm on the 3rd Sunday) will now have a new home and we are excited to see how the project will develop and grow over the coming months. The Square is a relatively small venue so our Sunday services will continue to take place in the Community Hall at 10.30am each week.

Our opening event, fuelled by tea and cake, will be on 11th November at 3.30. Everyone is warmly invited to come along to see the cutting of the ribbon and find out more about what’s going on.

For more information about the project, find us on Facebook or contact us by email: minister@chudleighbaptistchurch.co.uk.
Doing Business in Teignbridge

The results of the Teignbridge Business Survey 2017 have recently been published and they make for interesting reading, although it has to be remembered that the results came from a very small sample of businesses (only fifty-four responses against 2400 questionnaires emailed to registered businesses).

The majority of businesses have seen turnover and profits either increase or remain constant. Almost a quarter of respondents saw their profits decrease over the last six months, while a fifth saw their turnover decrease.

The results show that micro and small businesses were most prevalent, with only two businesses (4%) employing more than forty-nine people.

67% of participating businesses have either increased their workforce or kept it the same, with only 11% seeing a decrease.

Regarding future plans, the majority of participants intend to keep employment levels constant. It is likely that those who responded ‘No employees’ (the self-employed) would have chosen this option. Only two respondents stated they intend to decrease staff numbers.

On the issue of Brexit, the majority of respondents believe it will have either a negative or no effect on their business. Less than a fifth believe it will have a positive effect. Yet despite this, the picture regarding business confidence is relatively positive. Only nine of the fifty-four respondents (17%) said their business confidence was low, with 52% and 31% stating their general business confidence was medium and high respectively.

For further information regarding this research, contact Tom Winters at tom.winters@teignbridge.gov.uk.

Most businesses would benefit from an injection of extra cash. There are a number of opportunities around at the moment. Here are a couple of them:

THE INVENTOR PRIZE (ENTRIES OPEN)
The Inventor Prize has been launched as part of the Government’s Industrial Strategy. Applications are open for the £50,000 prize which is looking for the UK’s best inventions that help make people’s lives better. The Inventor Prize welcomes applications from innovative and exciting new products that haven’t been on sale before. The prize is being administered through Nesta, an innovation foundation and registered charity. Entries close: 22 October 2017.

SUPPORT FOR RURAL ENTERPRISES
The latest round of Rural Development Programme funding was announced by Lord Gardener on 29th July 2017.

There are a number of strands of grant funding currently available to rural businesses in England through the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE). These include the Growth Programme, Countryside Productivity Scheme and LEADER.

For more details of these schemes and the other activities of the heart of the South West growth Hub, visit the website:

www.heartofswgrowthhub.co.uk
An Update on Nii’s Ghanaian School Project...success and disaster

I take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to all those who have helped us throughout the years and continue to support Akuapem Hills Preparatory School, Ghana financially and in diverse ways. To mention but a few, Chudleigh Parish Church, Chudleigh Primary School and many individuals within Chudleigh and surrounding areas.

I arrived in Ghana on 23rd July for the 99th birthday of my grandmother. Though I arrived very late she waited till midnight to welcome me and for me to wish her happy birthday.

The school had a week to go before summer break, so I was able to observe some lessons and also interviewed some of the pupils to hear their voices and opinions as to how we could make the school and their education better environmentally and experientially for them.

We had our usual end of year celebration with parents and pupils on the theme ‘Praise and Thanking’ and our 3rd Graduation. My speech focused on Peace, Love and Excellence, (the school motto) which are the pinnacles of a just community; we are a people of peace, peace must be taught and practised by both teachers and pupils. No physical violence of any form is permitted in our school.

We completed the building of three classroom blocks, three toilets, two urinals and construction of roads leading to both sites where the schools are located within the month of August.

But, as I waited at the airport to board my flight to the UK, tragedy was unfolding. The Multi-purpose hall, which also contains a classroom, was on fire. This was a human error of gigantic magnitude. We cut down some trees where we built the classrooms and, as we always have to buy charcoal for cooking the school meals, we decided to make some charcoal. The charcoal had been burning for more than two weeks and one inexperienced fellow who knew nothing about the process collected some, bagged it and placed it in the hall where we had oil paints, plastic chairs, dining tables, classroom tables, benches, wood material, etc.

None of our buildings are insured, as hardly any buildings in a small town such as Akropong are insured. We have to learn our lessons. We have not been able to replace our school bus which was written-off in an accident three years ago, and now this.

This second disaster has set us back, at a crucial time when our first cohort (our pioneers) are completing Junior High School 3 (JHS3) and sitting external examinations in May and June next year.

I will have to go back to Ghana this December to supervise the rebuilding of the multi-purpose hall and the classroom.

Our Fundraising Concert of Ghanaian Hymns, Gospel Anthems and Drumming in the aid of AHPS on Saturday 25th November between 4pm and 6pm at Chudleigh Parish Church will be the moment for well-wishers and supporters to help us in the usual way.

Thank you and God Bless Us All!
Nii Yaoboi Tackie-Yaoboi

P6 Graduands of 2017

The summer building project

The damaged Multi-purpose hall and classroom

Fundraising Concert of Ghanaian Hymns, Gospel Anthems and Drumming in aid of

Akuapem Hills Preparatory School (AHPSCO)

Performed by Nii Yaoboi Tackie-Yaoboi (Founder)

Percussionist: Cletus Moisob

Venue: Chudleigh Parish Church
Date: Saturday 25th November 2017
Time: 4pm to 6pm

Activities on the evening:
Hymns, update of AHPSCO development – pictures and video clips, drumming and singing – children & adults special!!!

Some Ghanaian foods will be available to sample

It would be nice to see you all, we hope your contribution will enable AHPSCO to continue building the new permanent classrooms and purchase a new school bus.

[ISO/Charity: AKUAPEM HILLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST FUND – AHPSETфонд]

RSVP: 01826 859069 / 07745 837889

All donations are greatly received!
Regular readers of Town Hall/Community News may recall that the Town Council has wanted to update and upgrade the play park in The Gardens for some time. It is around twenty years old and is looking every day of it. It was only this year that funding was obtained from a mixture of section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy funding. Since then there has been a period for gathering designs and quotations from various contractors.

The Council has now decided that the design submitted by Mant Leisure is their preferred option. They are the contractor who recently constructed the outdoor gym at Millstream Meadow.

The next stage is a consultation period, to gather the views of the public on what is proposed. You can see the design below, but if you want to see a full-sized, paper version, this will be displayed at the Town Hall. Details will also be placed on the Council website and Facebook page. The consultation will run until 30th November.

The Gardens Play Park

The Mayor of Chudleigh, Councillor Mike Underwood requests the pleasure of the People of Chudleigh at the Chudleigh Civic Service Sunday 22nd October 3pm Chudleigh Parish Church of St Martin and St Mary
Rocklands and Oldway

In October 2014 outline planning consent was granted for a mixed development of up to 230 dwellings and employment land at Rocklands, Chudleigh. As part of this outline application, consent was also granted for the closure of Oldway Lane to through traffic. This was considered necessary so that a safe pedestrian and cycle route could be created to link the new development to the town.

This proposed closure was not welcomed by the Town Council but we were aware that a second opportunity to challenge this proposal would come when a developer was identified to carry the planning consent forward. Consequently, when Linden Homes submitted a detailed planning application earlier this year, it was the time to reopen this case. Town Councillors met with officers from the District Council planning team and from the County Council Highways team and were able to persuade them that the closure of Oldway Lane did not best serve the town.

The planning officer responsible for this application persuaded Linden Homes to submit an application to vary the part of the original planning consent that required the closure of Oldway Lane. This application has just been submitted. It proposes that a traffic movement restriction is introduced over a short area of Oldway Lane making it one way. This will allow for traffic from the new and existing developments (Lower Twindle Close, Beechwood Road etc.) to exit the town towards the A38 junction at Chudleigh Bridge. This application is still some way off determination but it seems safe to assume that it will receive consent because all interested parties are in agreement.

In the meantime the detailed application for the development by Linden Homes is still going through the planning process and will require the consent of the District Council’s Development Control Committee to progress.

The revised application will be discussed at the Chudleigh Town Council Planning Committee meeting on Tuesday 17th October.

You can find the details of the application (reference number 17/01099) on the TDC Planning Portal by clicking here. A set of full-size plans is available for viewing at the Town Hall. Comments can be made on the planning portal until 31st October.

Connecting Devon and Somerset

CDS is a local government-led broadband programme, the biggest public funded broadband programme in England. It is supported by funding from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, the EU’s European Regional Development Fund, the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership and local authorities across the region, and includes investment from commercial partners.

Progress to date on the programme can be summarised as follows:

- 327,283 homes and businesses are now able to access faster broadband
- 282,000 have access to superfast speeds (CDS/Govt target achieved March, 2017)
- Take up is 39.7%—129,931 homes and businesses—above national average 31%.
- Over 60,000 additional homes and businesses will be able to access superfast or ultrafast speeds by the end of 2019 under phase 2 of the CDS programme.
- Work has started to connect the first 21 communities in Devon and Somerset to a new ultrafast full fibre network.

Residents and businesses can keep up to date with news and information about the main programme via the CDS website.

Housing Matters

You may have seen mention in the local media of exhibitions being held in Hennock and Chudleigh Knighton on the subject of affordable and social housing. This is a subject that is also a focus of attention for Chudleigh Town Councillors who are examining how best to spend developers’ money for the benefit of the people of Chudleigh.

Teignbridge residents living in newly built homes think they are a good place to live, according to the results of a recent survey.

Results from Teignbridge’s survey of residents living in new homes reports that 82.2% of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with recent developments in the area, which is an increase on last year. You can find more details and a link to the survey results by clicking here.

Local Lowdown

Teignbridge Community and Voluntary Services is trying something new. This month’s Local Lowdown is in email newsletter form. They’d love to hear how you find the new format, and whether it makes it easier to read the bits relevant to you. Let them know what you think!

The newsletter is packed with information on events, news items, funding opportunities and lots more.

If you’d like to go on the mailing list for this monthly service, drop them a line: learning@teigncvs.org.uk
What’s On In Chudleigh

OCTOBER

Sunday 29th
Art Show: Doddiscombsleigh, details page 6.

Tuesday 31st
Chudleigh Phoenix: copy date for November issue.
Town Council: Closing date for Community Grant Applications, details page 7.

November

Wednesday 1st
Lunch Club: Town Hall, 12.30pm, details page 8.
Carnival Coffee Morning: Rest Centre, 10am onwards.

Thursday 9th
Weekly Produce Market: Outside Town Hall, 8.30am to 1pm.

Friday 20th
Pinsent Foundation: closing date for grant applications, details page 4.

Friday 27th
Art Show: Doddiscombsleigh, details page 6.

On The Beat with PCSO Mark Easton (30315)
PC Jon Croft (15661)

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

Burglary: Two offenders entered a shed by forcing the door. Three tyres were taken. The offenders were disturbed and made off.

Assault ABH: A male was assaulted in the street whilst in drink. The male thought there were three offenders but cannot remember any details.

Possession of a controlled drug Class B–Cannabis: A male was found to be in possession of an amount of Cannabis whilst being searched after being stopped by a mobile patrol. The Cannabis was seized and the offender was given Cannabis warnings.

Attempted theft from Motor Vehicle: A fire extinguisher was taken from a commercial vehicle by a group of youths. The offenders were seen and followed but no details were taken.

Criminal damage to property: A door frame on a dwelling has tool marks on it from someone trying to gain entry. There are no lines of enquiry.

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Jon and I have been paying attention to the following issues in Chudleigh over the last month:

Parking on pavements in certain areas of Chudleigh.
Patrolling the play parks.
Patrolling Chudleigh School at drop off and pick up times.

Warning notices have been placed on several vehicles parked on pavements.