



The Editor wishes to thank those businesses and residents mentioned in The Buzz for their continued support to the Village Newsletter. It would not be possible to get it printed without that support.

Many thanks to Rose for taking the time to paint all our Buzz covers and to those who volunteer to deliver the newsletter regularly. It is much appreciated.

Please remember if you have something you feel others will be interested to read about, forward it to me.

May I wish you all a Happy New Year!

Sheila Cholwill Editor

email: sheilacholwill@btinternet.com telephone: 01288 381350

HONOUR FOR THE CHOLWILL FAMILY

Paul writes:

Last night Mum and Dad were honoured to be invited to the Bude Rotary Club Christmas Dinner, as guests of Rob and Sue Cox. Unbeknown to them they were up for the Eric Chadd Vocational Award, presented to someone local who the Rotary feel deserves recognition for the work they have done to support local Charities. We Won!



CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

Tackbear Hall was the setting for our 2nd wreath making event to raise money for MIND. Despite the terrible weather we had a brilliant turnout and contributions from those that could not make it.

Everyone enjoyed the evening of wreath making, mulled wine and mince pies! The youngest wreath maker this year was Esther, 8 years of age. Thanks is expressed to everyone who braved the weather and those that bought raffle tickets. The evening raised £350.

Kirsty Dunkin and Dian Kirby look forward to seeing you all again in 2023.





BRIDGERULES BUZZING COMMUNITY = facebook page

'If you wish to promote an event in our village... want something ...or maybe have something for sale'

Just let Stacey Hillier Cholwill know and she will upload it on to our face book page'.

Stacey is on 01288 381843 or email her on shillier357@yahoo.co.uk

CAROLS AT THE METHODIST CHAPEL

A well attended Carol service was held at the Methodist Chapel recently. Courtney Drew was Chairman. Organist Sheila Cholwill.

The Tamarside Singers accompanied by Rose Sullivan and conducted by Alan Quilter also sang some Christmas pieces.

After the service mince pies, biscuits and tea/coffee were served to everyone attending. A collection was taken and from that collection $\pounds100$ was donated to The Bude Memory Café. Thank you to everyone who attended.

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Holsworthy and District Foodbank

The Holsworthy Foodbank is part of the Northern Devon Foodbank group in the Trussell Trust. We are here to help people in crisis by providing emergency food supplies for a week of balanced meals. We enjoy mutual support with the



Northern Devon group who have a warehouse in Bideford and are able to make bulk purchases at advantageous prices for the group of items that are low in stock.

We are dependent on donations of dry and tinned goods which can be placed in collection boxes at the Library, Waitrose and some churches. We are very grateful for the support that we receive, especially at harvest Festival time.

For people who need the help of the food bank we ask that you get a voucher from one of the many support agencies such as Citizens Advice, children's centres, schools, welfare officers and health visitors. Clients who receive Universal Credit can contact their Job Coach through their on-line diary. If you need help, have a voucher but cannot travel into Holsworthy then you can give the voucher number to a friend who can come for you. Alternatively a Parish Councillor may be able to offer support by coming for the parcel. A list of useful phone numbers is posted in the window of the Information centre beside the entrance to the Holsworthy memorial hall.

We are open in the Manor Suite at the back of the Holsworthy Memorial Hall between 2pm and 4pm each Wednesday. If you would like to join our wonderful team of volunteers then do pop in to see us. (Preferably at 3pm when it gets a little quieter!)

For more information please visit the website https://northerndevon.foodbank.org.uk/

Our "most wanted" list of items usually include provisions for a main meal – tinned hot or cold meat and tinned vegetables. We are always grateful for cleaning products and toiletries (Toilet paper too).

ZUMBA GOLD – Low Impact Monday Morning 10.00 – 11.00am 11.30- 12.30 pm

Licenced Instructor Sharon Martin ZUMBA – Medium Intensity

Tuesday 6.30 – 7.30pm Tel: 07805026364 /or email shazforty@hotmail.com





ART AND CRAFT CLUB Every other Wednesday afternoon Contact Joan 01288 381002 or or email

jmm@littlebridge.eclipse.co.uk



SHORT MAT BOWLS Friday from 2.00pm Contact Scott on 01288 381459 or email sdwhatmore@gmail.com TABLE TENNIS Tuesday from 2.00pm

Contact Alan on 01288 382988 or email quilts@hotmail.com



DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES Telephone Christine on 01288 381104 or Mutley Crew Dog Club Facebook



How it works: 'Stop, Hang Up, CALL 159'

If you think someone is trying to trick you into handing over money or personal details...

...Stop, hang up and call 159 to speak directly to your bank.

In the first half of 2022 criminal gangs stole over £245m by pretending to be your bank or another service provider.

159 is the memorable, secure number that connects you directly to your bank if you think you might be being scammed.

159 works in the same way as 101 for the police or 111 for the NHS. It's the number you can trust to get you through to your bank, every time.

Since 2014 UK Telecommunications Operators have significantly reduced the 'call clearing delay time' to under two seconds, meaning calling 159 will always be a route back to safety.

159 will **never** call you. **Only a fraudster** will object to you calling 159.

217 BUDE PUBLIC TRANSPORT This is the only service the 217 provides for the village now						
BRIDGERULE - HOLSWORTHY BUS TIMETABLE						
Bude	Holsworthy	BRIDGERULE	Red Post	Bude		
<mark>10.40</mark>	10.54	10.59	11.14	11.40		
12.50	13.15	13.30	13.35	13.50		
Bude	Red Post	BRIDGERULE	Holsworthy	Bude		
10.40	10.54	10.59	11.14	11.40		

The image by Gautum Das

Image matters. Especially, in our frenetic world of low attention spans. An image has the power to represent an age, capture the period, encapsulate events agitating the world. Who can forget the weeping Vietnamese girl fleeing an American napalm attack. That iconic picture has been burned into our collective memories. It instantly recalls the horrors of the Vietnam War.

Very recently, our new monarch shook hands with our newest Prime Minister. That event was consequential, because Rishi Sunak is Britain's first Indian-origin PM, a practising Hindu. What on earth would Churchill have made of it? WSC hated Hindus, describing them as a *beastly* race with a *beastly* religion. Well, never mind, times have moved on. Now, the entire nation applauded, the world took notice. Joe Biden mashed up the PM's name, but captured the moment, when he said, 'It matters. It matters.'

As a Briton of Indian-origin, yes, it *did* matter to me. Though not as diligent a Hindu as our new PM (you couldn't get me to dip my head in the muddy Ganges even if I was promised the Koh-i-Noor), my fingernails suffered as I waited for Sir Graham Brady to make the momentous announcement. And when finally, he did, I felt a surge of Britishness, a planet-sized love for my country.

But as I sat fastened to the TV screen with hurrying shots and sweeping montages of Westminster, of Buckingham Palace, and Downing Street, it was a different image that seized my attention.

As convoys of Range Rovers with blue flashing outriders raced into Downing Street, as ministerial hopefuls showed their passes and waited to be let in, the Sky News cameraman (or woman) panned to a less adrenaline-churning image. That of a cat sauntering up and sitting coolly in front of No 10.

Everyone knows Larry the cat. Possessing of that insouciant confidence of ownership, strolling along Downing Street like a Neapolitan Contessa.

For seconds nothing happened. Larry waited with the dignity and patience of a Chinese philosopher. And then the famous door opened, through which presidents and prime ministers, dignitaries and envoys, have passed. A portal instantly recognised the world over. And that same door was held open with the same courteous welcome for Larry the cat.

Rose gets a thank you from our Queen Consort

Rose Hitchings sent a copy of our present Buzz cover to Clarence House together with some words of admiration to Camilla for her support to Charles and wishing them a long and happy life together as King and Queen of our country. Below is the acknowledgement Rose received from our Queen Consort Camilla.



TORRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Applications granted permission, Information Only,

1/0911/2022/FUL Erection of 1 dwelling, Lodgeworthy Farm, Bridgerule, Devon.

1/0759/2022/FUL Extend the existing garden area and erection of no: 3 outbuildings, Bees Farm, Bridgerule, Devon

Installation of new telegraph pole, Narraton Cottages, Road east from Kiming, Bridgerule. Devon, Airband Community Internet Ltd.

NEW GOVERNMENT HELP ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SOME HOUSEHOLDERS

"a £200 **Alternative Fuel Payment** (AFP) will be made to households in Great Britain that use alternative fuels such as biomass or heating oil, with eligible households receiving payments automatically via their electricity supplier in February 2023"

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/vital-help-with-energy-bills-on-theway-for-millions-more-homes-across-great-britain-and-northern-ireland

Local RAF Airfields with Mr. Robert Palmer M.A Bude,Stratton & District Old Cornwall Society

The most memorable thing about 'Bude, Stratton & District Old Cornwall Society's, Guest Lecturer, Mr. R. Palmer, M.A. is his presence of being in the room. Right from the start of his, 'RAF Airfields of WW II address, the Membership had leaned in closer so as not to miss a word, confident that they were in for a 'proper job' treat. Covering the British RAF Airfields, Cleave, Chivenor, Davidstow and Winkleigh with the emphasis firmly on Cleave. Not far from Bude as the crow fly, past Kilk, over to Morwenstow. The colloquially named 'dishes' situated in Grenville Country, large enough now to be seen everywhere, from time to time, in many an angle, upturned, have become an integral, and most unquestioned piece of our local landscape. Invited, and warmly introduced by Society Recorder and Chairman, Alan McIntosh, Robert Palmer began this 'Talk' through history in earnest. A concise list, of meticulously researched materials allocated therein was shared, up on the screen for all to read. It wasn't long then before the only sound heard in an otherwise pitch black, Old School room, was that of the Speaker's easy voice. War did not come suddenly, it was borne out through a series of gradual events, global trading, rearmament in 1936, and slow conscription. WW II was officially declared in September of 1939, just twenty-one years after the first supposed "War to end all Wars", had, ended.

Evacuees, Home Guard Battalions, Allied aircraft, as housed at Cleave. HMS Bude. Aircraft Losses. American Soldiers (their 'inter-racial' gunfight, outside The White Hart Hotel in Launceston Square) Bude as a Military town, with the bus service to and from base. Just some of the exciting, yet deeply poignant context Mr. Palmer detailed to his captivated audience, in a welcomed, matter-of-fact way. In May 1940, France fell to invasion by Germany. The UK government opted to fight on at any cost and the people so did, with a surge of feminine principal powers felt in the length and breadth of the industrialised Nation. In the factories, out on the farms, women went to work, as many other British Nationals from lands miles away, across whole oceans, fought right there on the front line alongside them. For the Union Jack. For democracy. For freedom. Cornwall's wild terrain was used mostly for training. RAF Cleave played a vital role in operational training of anti-aircraft gunners of the British Army.Heightened threat of U-Boat attack on allied merchant ships saw RAF Chivenor in Barnstaple developed from a training ground into a fully fledged, operational RAF Airfield base, complete with personnel and heavy weapons.Several war time markers round the Bude District can be seen clearly.

Such as a stone memorial placed a top Summerleaze Downs to remember the American Rangers and individual graves, in nearby Churchyards, that tell of fallen service men from both sides. Interviews, held safe in the 'Old Cornwall' archives, recorded with Cornish elders sadly no longer with us, share for posterity their memories of lived WW II experience in 'that their authentic dialect', all but lost to the region. Huge triangular anti-tank stones were once common place across Bude Bay beach fronts serving as an immediate reminder to the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren residing in generations thereafter. As were tourist tales, of wrecked aircraft crashed landing sites and time-worn bones of the 'killed in action' out to sea, eventually returning to shore, at the whim of her formidable nature. Thankfully, a conscientious duty bound Superintendent of Cornwall Constabulary, diligently kept a record of every war incident in the area, this, and further items, such as photos and maps held by the Society, ensure a strong connect to a turbulent and dangerous point in the life of all humanity.

Dedicating this Presentation to his very good friend Martin, Mr. Palmer ended the evening by taking queries, whereby Honorary Secretary, Helen Bartrop Hocking asked him for information, in regards to tracing a loved ones RAF Service Record and was kindly advised that the best place to begin was the <u>www.gov.co.uk</u> website where a link to the War Veterans Agency can be found. Further to that a search of his own webpage <u>www.britishmilitaryhistory.co.uk</u> provides extensive knowledge of what the night's Talk entailed and so much more besides. As a point of reference, documentation of Home Guard in Cornwall is comparatively thin on the ground to this day. It is well known that the popular TV show, 'Dad's Army' is akin to the truth of it all, joking aside.

Society President, Richard Michael Heard, on behalf of Members and Signed-in Visitors alike, thanked Mr. Robert Palmer for this most excellent presentation. Helen Bartrop - Secretary

How Secure Is Microsoft OneDrive?

Many Windows users, especially those using Windows 11, may find their system is being forced to use OneDrive for general storage of data, but can you trust it to be secure with your important files?

OneDrive is a cloud storage service by Microsoft. It offers flexible free and paid for storage, if you need seamless access to your cloud files, One Drive may be the answer. But, is it secure enough?

There are several good points about OneDrive, but it doesn't provide end to end encryption, that is the encryption key is stored on Microsoft's servers and not your computer, therefore Microsoft knows and has access to your private files, whilst other providers who offer end-to-end encryption cannot access your personal data.

Microsoft scans and collects information about your files "to improve the product experience and personalize the products". The data collection process is automated, but Microsoft employees can also manually review your personal data. They also share some of that information with third parties especially when responding to a legal request. The good points are;



Microsoft encourages you to use its app for two-factor authentication and you will get a phone prompt and all you need do is tap on the matching number of your authentication screen.

One drive is an automatically installed software and operates without you having to download or provide additional account details and logins.

If using Microsoft 365, you get ransomware protection and you will be notified if any malicious attack is detected and Microsoft will help you restore your OneDrive files before they were compromised, however this is not the case if your device is compromised and investing in a bit locker vault may be the solution.

Microsoft's Support for Windows 8.1 will end on January 10 2023

Microsoft has sent out a reminder to Windows 8.1 users, software updates will no longer



be provided from 10th January, the software will still work, but 3rd party programmes may not function correctly and further downloads may not occur, especially updates and software fixes and it will become increasingly vulnerable to virus and other malware attacks.

Windows 8 If your device is running Windows 8.1 it will upgrade to Windows 10 and you are advised to do so. If you have such a device, contact me and I will send or provide a link for you to download and install Windows 10, this process will take some time. Please note also; Windows 10 will cease to be supported by Microsoft in October 2023.

For free advice on all computer issues contact Brian Meadows Nofix-Nofee Computer Repair Services Tel: 01288 381061



38 Coffee Club Members and friends travelled by coach from the Village Hall to Trencreek Guest House, home of Richard and Margaret Heard and were served a delicious Christmas Lunch. Before returning home everyone took part in some games of bingo.

> **Torrington Mobile Library visiting Bridgerule** Bridgerule Village Hall 14:00–14:30 Bridgerule Uplands 14:40–15:20



18th January 15th February NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NOTES



Now that the festivities are out the way we have the rest of the year to get on with.

I do hope you did not suffer from scams, phishing, doorstep swindlers or callers, or anything else fishy.

On the better side of life, Torridge District Council have opened a phone number for those seeking help for food, energy, appliances, housing and essentials like clothing. Phone 01271 371 499.

In addition for those needing help for a food bank, 01237 428700 option 9.

Whilst the offices are closed until Tuesday 3rd January you will be answered, but may have to wait a while.

• Why is it that organisations answer the phone giving you all sorts of bumf instead of just saying who they are and "can I help you?".

I also hope, in the good news field, that you are getting the government grants for energy and Winter Fuel Allowance if appropriate.

- All the same the villains are still out there. Cutting the mains electric cables
 with an angle grinder. Copper must be very valuable if the risk of
 electrocution is worth it.
- Online shopping also puts you at risk of losing your money unless very careful. It is said that it is mostly youngsters who gladly buy and lose. Never pay by bank transfer whose bank is it?

The same with callers. Even if it is your bank on Caller ID - is it? Wrong sort of questions asked? Put the phone down.

If you suspect you've been had, call 159 and get through to your bank. Yes just 159 - several banks have signed up for this service to help you from your scam.

As always keep your things locked up and to yourself. Don't let them find a way in or get away with your stuff. Why are so many tools stolen from vans? Because they know.

• However, don't have nightmares and keep 'em peeled.

999 is for emergencies. 101 when not, and

Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

John McDougall Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator



SHEILA'S MENTIONS:

Birthday Wishes to: Gary Abbott for the 14th January Vic Pickett for the 23rd January Joan Marshall for the 24th January Ron Abbott for the 8th February Paul Cholwill for the 13th February Tony Wallis for the 16th February Marie Field for the 21st February Alan Quilter for the 21st February Harry Cholwill for the 24th February Christopher Darwin for the 28/29th February



NEXT BRIDGERULE COFFEE CLUB TUESDAY 16th JANUARY 10.30AM



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To further remember Bridgerule's special lady it was mentioned to Helen Middleton,

Commemorating Elizabeth Macarthur

The picnic bench, commemorating Elizabeth Macarthur, is now in situ and has recently had its official plaque fitted.



a director of RHM Contracts Limited, the developers on Mill Road, if the road these homes will be built on could be named after Elizabeth. She kindly agreed and completed the appropriate application.

We have now had official confirmation from Torridge District Council following the liaison with Royal Mail that the official postal addresses have been registered **1-5 Macarthur Close, Bridgerule Holsworthy Devon EX227FQ**

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HIRE HALL from just £25 Small Kitchen £5

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CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

Parents and Friends of Bridgerule Primary School made their own Christmas wreaths recently in the newly refurbished Methodist Chapel Hall and raised some funds. The results look really good.















A NEW HUB FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE!

As a village, Bridgerule is blessed to have 2 wonderful buildings to worship in. The church is amazing and has family services throughout the month where children can get involved and the chapel has a wonderful cosy feeling to it, and a lovely congregation. But one thing that was apparent is that within both buildings, there has been no where the children can go and be creative and vocal in their worship.

Back in 2019 I had the privilege to work with mother Elizabeth and the school and set up a creative church session as an after-school provision. Unfortunately, due to covid and restrictions with the school we were unable to continue. During this time and frequent visits to the chapel, I enjoyed speaking with members of the congregation of a vision to have a place where children were able to reach the word of God in a relaxed environment.

Present members recalled the chapel hall being a Sunday school where families of those attending the chapel would attend the hall on a Sunday afternoon to learn and discuss various religious topics. It held very fond memories and opened up the idea of creating a hub for the children to come to and hopefully reinstate an opportunity for children to enjoy coming to a place of worship.

Our faith in this vision has now led to the chapel hall being restored with local businesses and my very wonderful husband Rob, working together since September to plaster, paint and carpet the room, turning it into not just a freshly decorated room but a welcoming and comfortable space. From the new year this will hopefully welcome children of the village to a creative/messy church session, and after school groups such as Lego or home skills. It's also opened up the opportunity for the hall to be used for other events and activities and become another space for the school and I know the children will appreciate the area and make it their own.

The chapel were very fortunate and grateful to the Bude and Holsworthy Methodist Circuit, for giving a grant to allow the refurbishment to take place. Members and friends of the chapel are grateful to Gemma and the support of Ann Bunning, head of the school, in this new and exciting venture for our children. Information will follow regarding club and church sessions after Christmas and if anyone would like to use the Hall please contact Sheila. **Gemma Furse**



CHRIS GETS HOLE IN ONE!!

Monday 7th November will be a day that I won't forget in a hurry!! Playing with two of his usual pals, Colin Cholwill and Brian Reynolds at Holsworthy Golf Club, he got a hole in one on the 14th hole which is 155 yds par 3. The three of them teed off and when they reached the green they couldn't find Chris's ball. After much searching and Colin had finished his putting the ball was found in the hole!!!

Chris says "I have been playing golf at Holsworthy over the last 18 years and previously in Gloucester and have never had a hole in one. Unfortunately the main green was not in use, due to the Winter, so

we were playing on a temporary green so it doesn't really count but I was still very pleased" My son made me the attached memento which now takes pride of place in the house

CHRIS HITCHINGS



CHOLWILL'S CHRISTMAS REINDEER WISH COMES TRUE!

In 2001 Colin, Sheila and Paul Cholwill very sadly lost a very dear son and brother, Mark. Mark was born with cerebral palsy and dependent on someone for all his needs every day of his life. At the age of 5, Mark had to receive an education but the nearest facility that could accommodate his complex needs was Trengweath, Plymouth some 50 miles away. This meant Mark had to board Monday to Friday each week. Sending a young child with such complex needs was very traumatic and heart breaking for his family. Thankfully, Mark soon came to love his new carers and surroundings and was a resident of Trengweath for the next twelve years.

The following ten years Mark became a much-loved family member of two small homes, coming home to the family home each weekend and all holidays. In 2001 Colin and Sheila were invited to go on their first holiday abroad. Tragically before they returned home from the holiday Mark suddenly passed away at the age of 29.

A few years later Colin and Sheila on holiday with Angela and the late Terry Brock and during that holiday visited a Garden Centre where they came across a wooden reindeer for sale. Angela being Angela had her camera at the ready and said "Col you can make some of these when you get home" and of course the rest as they say is history.

The first chainsaw actions did not produce the required image, but after a few failures the first appropriate reindeer was completed and given to the lady that started our fundraising journey, Angela. That year the family took their small quantity of reindeers, to the local Table Top and its thanks to those local families that bought one of the first reindeers that began Cholwills Christmas Reindeer Factory!

Sheila was due to retire from her Administration job after 25 years at Bude Infant School. She wanted to start volunteering for a charity but unsure of which one. Little Harbour, the only Children's Hospice in Cornwall was about to be built in St. Austell and form part of Children's Hospice South West. Sheila applied to volunteer and after being successfully accepted she soon discovered that by helping out on what is called 'Careside' she was able to meet the families coming to the hospice and soon Little Harbour became a regular and very favourite place for her.

The Christmas Reindeers were now in full production and the family decided it was Little Harbour the charity that they wanted to raise money for. The whole family being involved, with even the grandchildren helping to get the wood and paint the noses with Grandad spending many hours in the workshop. The family saying that grandad goes into the workshop in late October and he doesn't come out until Christmas. Soon the reindeers were the Christmas gift or the decoration people wanted and each year proving more popular.

The Christmas reindeers now not only go to all parts of the United Kingdom but they have headed for Canada, Italy, France, America and Jersey and each reindeer has its own accessory of a scarf. Local ladies together with knitting groups volunteer to make them. Two local firms, Harpers and Cornwall Tractors have shown their continued support. Two weeks ago we took 86 reindeers to Harpers as part of the birthday celebration and sold the lot and Cornish Tractors donated one of their trailers to take a delivery of 32 reindeers to the staff and friends of Little Harbour. (photo below) The making of the reindeers has seen 3 electric chain saws burn out, 2 Bosch electric drills, 2 angle grinders and 3 chop saws!! Noses being the only amount taken as expenses. The family have also featured on TV twice. **The Cholwill's Christmas wish for 2022 was to reach £50000 since starting their charity. We can happily report that we have exceeded that!** But we could not have done it without the support of all those who have purchased one of our reindeers. We reckon about 3500 to date. Who

would have thought that the photo of that reindeer taken ten years ago is making a difference to the young lives and families who attend Little Harbour.

For Colin, Sheila and family a very fitting tribute of keeping Mark's memory alive.





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ST. BRIDGET'S PA SL	HURCH SERVICES 11.00am		
1st January 2023	9.30	Pancrasweek	
8th January	11.00	Sung Eucharist	
15th January	11.00	Joint Service at Methodist Chapel	
22nd January 11.00		Sung Eucharist with Methodist Chapel	
29th January	10.00	Plough Benefice Eucharist at Pancrasweek	
5th February	11.00	Morning Prayer	
12th February 11.00		Sung Eucharist	
19th February	h February 11.00 Joint Service at Methodist Chapel		
26th February	11.00	Sung Eucharist with Methodist Chapel	





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