

**THE BUZZ**

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017**

Dear Buzz Readers,

As you will see from this issue of The Buzz that we are entering into the Festive Season once more! Quite a lot going on in our village which I'm sure you will support if you are able.

We have now had our first 3 course luncheon in the hall prepared for us by Gill and Fran. This will be repeated again on November 23rd at a cost of £7.50. If you are interested in coming along please let me know. If there is anyone in our village that would like to come but cannot get there please contact me and we will arrange transport to make this possible for you.

Best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.

Sheila Cholwill Editor

**E-mail :**

sheilacholwill@btinternet.com

**Telephone:** 01288 381350

**CHRISTMAS GIFT AND CRAFT FAIR**

**Christmas Fair**  
@  
**Hedley Wood Caravan Park - Bridgerule**

Road To Lanchester B3254 Main Road (EX22 7ED)

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov & Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov**

**10.00am - 4.00pm**

Gifts and treats for all ages. Everyone welcome  
Hot food and drinks available

In aid of a great cause ...  
**Chemo Hero**

**Great Prizes on the Tombola**

Stalls and activities listed include:  
Emagination Jewellery, Tikityboo Bathbombs, Soaps etc, Home Made Yummy Cakes, Julia's Holistic Treatments, Hand Crafted Woodwork, Tea Cups Reloaded, Home Made Jams & Chutneys, Eye-Dye Clothing, Hand Knitted Tea Cozies, AlwaysChocolate, Hand Made Note Pads, Hand Made Cards By Lorna Moore, The Sewing Boutique - Hand Made Bags, Decorative Stoneware, Knit For All, Acorn Folk Art. Painting For Every One With Gill Hobbs, Nautical & Nice Buds, Beautiful Wood Carvings, Mystical Emporium, AND SO MUCH MORE ...

**The Parish Council** have received concerns from residents over bad parking in Bridgerule, and would like to take this opportunity to remind residents of the following.

*Under the Highway Code (Rule 243) Vehicles should not park opposite or within 10 metres of a junction, in front of property entrances, on a bend, opposite other parked vehicles, or near a school entrance. Vehicles must also not park partially or wholly blocking a pavement (Rule 244).*

For further information on parking rules please see [www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/waiting-and-parking-238-to-252](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/waiting-and-parking-238-to-252).



**Bridgerule Pamper and Treats Night**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017 from 7.30pm  
At Bridgerule Village Hall

£4.00 Entrance, includes a glass of wine  
Refreshments available

Stalls include:  
Tropic Skin Care  
Nail Treats  
Handmade By Karen  
Soap By The Sea – Natural Soaps  
Lovebird Treats  
Julia's Holistic Treatments  
Norwex Products  
Monarch Liqueurs  
Plus more

All proceeds go to Bridgerule Primary School – Please come and support your local village school



**CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT**  
Bridgerule village hall

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 7.30pm

**BUDE METRIC BRASS**  
And  
**THE TAMARSIDE SINGERS**

Chairman – Chris Hitchings

Tickets £6 - to include a pasty supper  
Obtainable from Sheila 01288 381350 or  
Chris 01288 381129

Proceeds to village hall refurbishment

Please buy tickets in advance  
(we need numbers to cater for!!)

*Some by candle light*

SILENT NIGHT



## CAROL SINGING

We are **carol singing** around the village on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December and rumour has it that Father Christmas may make an appearance in his sleigh!!!! All money raised is given to Church, Chapel and School.

Meet outside the Pub on 14<sup>th</sup> and by the Bus stop at Littlebridge on 21<sup>st</sup>, both times 6.30pm. Singing in main village on 14<sup>th</sup> and Southfields and Littlebridge on 21<sup>st</sup>. For more information please contact Chris Hitchings 01288 381129.

**COACH TRIP**

**EXETER CHRISTMAS MARKET**

**ON**

**CATHEDRAL GREEN**

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>**

**Leaving the Hall**

**9.30am**

**Enquiries to:**  
**Sheila**  
**01288 381350**



## CHILD MINDING SERVICES AVAILABLE

My name is Lou and I moved into the village with my husband and two children in September. As a childminder with 20 years experience working with children and young people, I am pleased to announce that I will be offering care for young children (aged 0-5 years) from January 2018. I am Ofsted registered and graded 'outstanding' in all areas of my provision. I can offer a comfortable 'home from home' environment whilst providing stimulating learning experiences linked to the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. I am also a member of the Forest Childcare Association, and place a strong emphasis on outdoor play for children which includes weekly trips to local beaches, woods, parks and other natural sites.

For further information or to arrange a visit, I can be contacted via email: [loucooper2010@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:loucooper2010@hotmail.co.uk) or telephone: 01288 381813.

Lou Cooper

## MEERKAT ON A MISSION.

On Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup>, Stephen, Exmoor Zoo's School Visiting Staff Member brought along some animals, usually indigenous to the African Continent, for the pupils at Bridgerule C of E (VC) Primary School to learn more about. Along with Stephen is "Simples" the meerkat and with Mrs Joyce Pankhurst, Class 1 Teacher is "Ebenezer" the squeezer, an African Royal Python. The pupils were also introduced to a Tenrec (similar to our hedgehog) and two Giant African Land Snails.



## MONTHLY TABLE TOP SALE

**BRIDGERULE VILLAGE HALL**

**TRADERS £5 A TABLE**

Can set Up from 12.0 Noon - Buyers from 1.30pm

**NEXT TABLE TOP:      SATURDAY      NOVEMBER 4TH**  
**SATURDAY      DECEMBER 2ND**

**PLEASE show your support to this regular sale**  
**Come and browse, stay for a cup of tea/coffee and a piece of cake.**

**Christine can be contacted on 01288 381033 or**  
**Sheila on 01288381350**

### CONGRATULATIONS KIMBERLY



Earlier in the year Kimberley  
 nee Cann successfully gained  
 an upper second class honours  
 degree in Nursing. On 9th

September she celebrated her Marriage to Wesley  
 Smith of Bideford at The Falcon Hotel Bude.

Kimberley is a staff nurse on an acute surgical  
 ward in the Princess of Wales hospital in South  
 Wales. Kimberley's family live on The Green.



**SHEILA'S MENTIONS:**

Congratulations and our Best Wishes to **Kevin Smith and Rachel Cann**, **Kimberley Cann and Wesley Smith, Kayleigh and Adam Toms** and to **Rosalind Honey and Steven John**. Each couple have recently celebrated their marriage.

**Our love and thoughts are with Barbara Bowden and her family** on the recent passing away of John, husband, dad and grandfather. John had lived in Bridgerule all his life and had recently celebrated his 90th birthday. John was well known for his bell ringing skills.

Our thoughts are also with the family and friends of **Dr Leo Eversfield** who too has recently passed away and lived in our village.

Our best wishes are sent to **Marion Abbott and Barry Williams**.

We welcome **Paul and Sabrina and their 2 sons, Isaac and Jaden** who are now residing at 3 Ways Bridgerule. We hope that you have a long and happy stay in our village.

**Happy Birthday:**

**Lyndsey Beadle** for the 3rd November.  
**Pauline Latham** for the 14th November.  
**Winnie Westlake** for the 24th November.  
**Travis Cann** for the 7th December  
**Barry Lucas** for the 8th December.  
**Colin Cholwill** for the 10th December.  
**Kelvin Davey** for the 10th December.  
**Mary Bryant** for the 10th Decenber.  
**Ray Wallace** for the 19th December.  
**Sylvia McDougall** for the 20th December.  
**Katherine Davey** for the 24th December  
**Chris Hitchings** for the 24th December  
**Tanya Peshke** for Christmas Day.  
**Shaun Stenton** for 31st December.

BRIDGERULE VILLAGE HALL  
 A.G.M.  
 TUESDAY 14TH NOVEMBER  
 7.30PM



**Congratulations Alex!** Congratulations to our son/brother Alex Hallett on your great G.C.S.E. results. We are so proud and we wish you luck with you're A Levels xx

Macmillan  
cancer relief



A very successful Coffee Morning was held in The Village Hall recently. This was organised by Marilyn and Vic Pickett and friends. £302 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Relief.



Alex and Pat Johnson's youngest daughter Emily with fiancé Jim Adams on their engagement after completing tandem sky dives. Emily and Jim are due to be married in January 2018 at The Falcon Hotel Bude.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO BRIDGERULE GROMS!

The end of season party for Bude Waveriders was held at Rosie's and several of Bridgerule's Groms (surf lingo for beginners) won trophies. Jess Lewin won most 'Committed', Harvey Cholwill 'most Improved' and Willow Du Plesiss 'Most Stoked'. The Du Plesiss's are a family of surfers and won the most 'Committed Intermediates'. Jess has never surfed until this season but went out every time a session was on and Harvey is now shredding so well he moves up to the intermediate group next year. Willow is following in the footsteps of her older brother and sisters and brings a smile to every session.

I am told that if anyone fancies coming along next year keep an eye on the Waveriders Facebook page or pop into Zuma Jays it's a great sport to get into.



### Talented saxophonist comes to North Cornwall

Saxophone and piano duo, Philip Attard and Christine Zerafa, will play works by de Falla, Saint-Saens, and Takashi Yoshimatsu on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 3 pm, at Minstrel's Music Centre, Canworthy Water, PL15 8UB £13 on door or free to students.

**Seven Men, Rose and a Seagull went fishing in the sunshine at Looe.  
A good time was had by all ..... Sadly fish were in short supply!!**



### **RECYCLE YOUR REAL CHRISTMAS TREE!**

After all the festivities were over last year Paul Cholwill collected 10 real Christmas Trees from around our village and transported them to Widemouth Bay where they were used to support the sand dunes. This Christmas Paul and Stacey and Mark and Sam Lewin would like to collect more. They are due to be planted this year at Black Rock to help support the sand dunes there. No date has been set yet but it is expected to be around the 6/7th January 2018. Please contact Stacey on 381843 or Sam on 381074 if you are interested in joining the scheme.

***Phoebe, Ella and Jessica planting last years Christmas trees at Widemouth Bay.***





### Ron and Marion Celebrate Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Family and friends gathered recently at The Falcon Hotel Bude in order to celebrate the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Ron and Marion Abbott. Linda, their daughter travelled from Canada to be with mum and dad for their celebrations.

Ron and Marion received a signed card from HRH Queen Elizabeth. After everyone had enjoyed a lovely meal they watched some slides put together of Ron and Marion and their family throughout their married life.



**BRIDGERULE definitely HAS GOT TALENT and we plan to show it off!!**

**BRIDGERULE VILLAGE HALL  
SATURDAY 10TH and SUNDAY 11TH MARCH 2018**

**WE ARE ASKING YOU TO DISPLAY and  
SELL SOME OF YOUR ARTS AND CRAFTS**

**.....We know you are out there!!**

*Things like glassmaking, pottery, machine embroidery, dolls house furniture, paintings, book illustrations, various models, cake decorating, woodwork and needlework.*

*If you own a Vintage Tractor or Classic Car we would like these to be on display.*

*Maybe our local Jammers and The Tamarside Singers can entertain*

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED CONTACT ROSE ON 381129 OR SHEILA 381350  
ITS TIME WE LET EVERYONE KNOW WHAT TALENT BRIDGERULE HAS.**

### Level 1 Walks -Walk in the Park Every Monday at 10.30am

Meeting at the Scout hut in Holsworthy Leisure Centre Car Park.

Coffee, tea & biscuits Available after the walk

### Level 2 & 3 Walks Every Friday at 10.30am Walk start points as shown

| Date     | Route            | Leaders    | Gr<br>ade | Route details   |
|----------|------------------|------------|-----------|---|
| 3/11/17  | Ruby Way         | KM &<br>GA | 2         | Lay-by near Coles Mill on A3072. Level and easy.  |
| 10/11/17 | Northcombe Woods | DA &<br>MJ | 2         | Woods on right about 4 miles from Halwill Junction towards Okehampton on A3079. Hard tracks with some inclines. |
| 17/11/17 | Halwill Junction | MJ &<br>PD | 3         | Meet in Halwill Village Hall Car Park. Mainly hard surfaces. Some road walking and inclines.                    |
| 24/11/17 | Bude Canal       | MH &<br>GA | 3         | As you come down in to Bude, turn left towards Widemouth. The car park is on your left by the TIC. May be muddy |
| 1/12/17  | Christmas Lunch  |            |           | 12.30 for 1pm. Holsworthy Golf Club   |
| 8/12/17  | Holsworthy Woods | AB &<br>DA | 2/3       | Car park on left on A388, about 1 mile from Holsworthy. Hard tracks.  |
| 15/12/17 | Roadford Lake    | DA &<br>KM | 2         | Roadford Lake main Car Park. Parking fee. Walking mainly on hard tracks.  |
| 22/12/17 | 29/12/17         |            |           | <b>NO WALKS</b>   |

#### CHARITY EVENT

**HELD BY KAREN  
AND BRIAN**

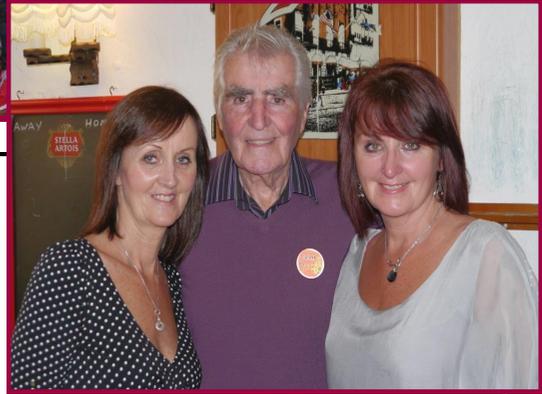
Karen and Brian Richardson of 46 Southfields raised £500 for Macmillan at their recent Coffee Morning. On the morning of the event they were helped by Mary Ann Macauley from Poughill and Christine Gee.





**GRANDAD'S 80TH  
BIRTHDAY  
CELEBRATIONS**

Terry Brock celebrated his 80th Birthday recently amongst family and friends at his favourite pub, The Bridge Inn. Everyone invited enjoyed a wonderful buffet lunch and Karen and Alison, Terry and



Angela's daughters, both spoke of their wonderful mum and dad and their happy and lasting memories they hold of their family life. Members of the local jammin band entertained.

**FRIENDS HOLD DISCO FOR CHARITY**



A group of friends got together once again to raise funds for the Devon Air Ambulance and our Village Hall by holding a 70/80's Disco.

Devon Air Ambulance will receive a £100 and the Hall £87.

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

Mr. Courtney Drew of Holsworthy took the recent service at the Methodist Chapel 's Harvest Festival. He commented on how beautiful the chapel had been decorated . During the evening The Tamarside Singers sang led by



Vic Bickle and Alan Quilter. The organist was Sheila Cholwill. Everyone after the service sat down to a supper prepared by the ladies of the chapel. Colin Cholwill, auctioneer for the evening then sold all the given flowers and produce . Everyone eager with their bids. £433 being raised for Chapel Funds over the weekend.

## CONGRATULATIONS KAYLEE AND ADAM

It was a lovely sunny day for the marriage of Kaylee Louise, daughter of Michael and Linda Moore formerly of The Green, Bridgerule to Adam John Toms son of Reg and Sandra Toms. The ceremony took place at The Buckerell Hotel, Exeter on 23rd September. Given away by her father the bride wore a full length ivory dress with embroidered bodice and matching veil and carried a tear drop bouquet.

The bridesmaids, Catherine Chandler and Jemma Nash wore matching Cadbury Purple full length dresses and carried matching bouquets, The best man was Philip Reynolds and the usher was Tom Strawbridge. The reception was also held at the Buckerell Lodge Hotel.



## **A VERY UNEXPECTED VISITOR AT MOORSIDE!**

We've lived here for 23 years, and have always had a koi pond by the side of the house, at Jewell's Cross. The main road is just a few feet away from the pond, and we live over half a mile as the crow flies (or as the otter runs!) from the Tamar. We had one old goldfish and 10 koi carp, ranging between approximately 14" and 20" in length. The pond has always been netted against heron and other predators, but we never expected an otter.

The first attack was on the night of Saturday 23rd September. We found several half-eaten fish in the morning. Most had just the heads chewed off. As the only thing we believed could squeeze under the cover and into the pond was a mink, we brought in a local pest-controller, re-enforced the pond and set up a mink trap.

The second attack came three nights later. The trap and barriers had been wrenched aside, and three more large koi removed. One had its head chewed off, one was injured but still alive (although my efforts to save it failed), and the third was found about 200 yards away in our woodland area. It was now clear we were dealing with something much bigger and stronger than mink, and an otter became our chief suspect.

I was advised that the otter would not stop until he'd cleared the pond of fish, so we should remove any live fish to a place of safety. We found only three large koi still in the pond, and removed them into a hastily improvised container (an old cold-water tank from the attic).

A night-vision camera was set up and baited with some of the dead koi. None of us could really believe an otter would hunt this far away from the river, so we needed to know what this predator really was. The pictures record two visits that night: the first around 8pm, when we were still shutting up outside, and there was still a fair amount of road traffic passing; the second was his usual visiting time of around 4am.

He continued returning for two more nights, removing more of the dead fish, and then trying to break into the container holding the live koi. Not only was the ground around the tank covered with otter foot-prints, but the sides of the container also, where he had reached up in an attempt to dislodge the cover.

Anyone with a garden pond needs to heed the warning. Otters who have no set territory of their own have taken to raiding garden ponds further and further from the rivers.

It's not as though they just take an odd fish to eat. They seem to have a killing frenzy, and it's hard to describe the sick feeling when you find koi you have nurtured for years just pulled out and left to die. Once an otter finds your pond, he will return again and again until all your fish have gone.

The otter is, of course, a protected species, and cannot be trapped or killed. It's up to fish-keepers to secure their ponds as best they can. The most effective measure is electric fencing, but this is not practical, or safe, for a garden pond. We are raising a low wall around the pond, on which we plan to secure a new, heavy-duty, wood and wire-mesh cover. It won't look very pretty, but should keep our fish safe.

**Diane Green**



### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NOTES

Well Christmas is on its way, and as the same as last time don't let the thieves spoil it for you. Look after your stuff. If you are seeing anything suspicious in your neighbourhood "who you gonna call?"

Your local coordinators are:-

**Alec Johnston Southfields 01288 381054**

**Chris Hitchings Meadows Barn 01288 381129**

**Cliff Seymour-Smith Bevills Hill 01288 381690**

**Ken James Merrifield 01288 381279**

**Paul Murphy Hedley Wood 01288 381404**

**Paul Dymond Borough /Cross 01288 381309**

**Rick Hallett Littlebridge Meadows 01288 381568**

**Shirley Abbott Mill Road 01288 381564**

**Sid Parnell Jewells Cross 01288 381770**

**And last but not least John McDougall Furze/Dux 01288 381237**



**However if its happening now phone 999 or phone Crimestoppers on 0800555111. Have a safe, merry and careful Christmas. John McDougall**

**WE ALL CAME TO CELEBRATE ROSALIND AND STEVEN'S WEDDING**



**THE TANNING DID THE TRICK!  
(BUZZ COVER)  
PROUD MUM AND DAD**



On Friday September 29th Rosalind, only daughter of Rob and Julie Honey of Higherbeer was married at the beautifully decorated for the occasion, St Bridget's Church to Steven John. The bridesmaids were Caroline Stuckey and Molly Griggs. The Flower girl was Jazmin Griggs and the page boys were Kaizer Hudson, Woody Griggs and Theo Andrew. Organist was Connie Wade. Reverend Douglas Adams conducted the service. During the signing of the register The Tamarside Singers led by Vic Bickle and Alan Quilter sang to friends and guests of the wedding. The bride and her dad had arrived at the church on a decorated tractor and link box driven by a friend of the family, Bill Eastcott. Following the wedding guests travelled to The Falcon Hotel Bude for the reception. The bride and groom later travelled to Dubai for their honeymoon and have recently purchased a home in Egloskerry.



**MARY  
BRINGS HER  
COASTAL  
WALKS  
TO COFFEE CLUB**



**Mary Street wife of the Rev. Neal Street visited the Coffee Club recently and presented a slide show of her coastal walks of North Cornwall. Members were treated to some lovely views of our local coastline and one which Mary regular walks, preferring to do it alone. 34 Coffee Club members came together on this occasion.**

**METHODIST CHAPEL SERVICES NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER**

**NOVEMBER 5TH C. Forster**

**12TH R. Ward Smith**

**19TH C. Drew (Sac)**

**26TH C. Parish**

**(Services all 11.00am unless marked)**

**DECEMBER 3RD J. Guy**

**10TH G Street**

**17TH United Service**

**at St. Bridget's 7.00PM**

**24th M Reeves**

Hello, my name is Lisa Paton and I am the New Primary Lead Head Teacher for The Holsworthy Federation incorporating Bridgerule C of E Primary School. I have been a teacher for 17 years and have held leadership positions for the last 10 years. Throughout my career I have always



chosen to work in village schools in Devon as I love working in close knit communities with a family feel. I live in Okehampton and have 2 daughters. My most recent post was with The Dartmoor Federation with whom we are looking to form a Multi Academy Trust so the future is looking exciting for Bridgerule! I spend time in all of the Holsworthy Federation Primaries each week and usually visit Bridgerule on a Friday.

It has been a busy first half term getting to know the children, staff and parents. I haven't quite learnt all the children's names yet as Bridgerule is our biggest school! When I am in school I conduct learning walks, lesson observations and take assemblies. I also visit lunchtimes and playtimes to see how the children are getting on. I have talked to the children a lot about expectations and how we are proud of Bridgerule School and they have responded brilliantly. I have also been impressed with how the children are ready and keen to learn, taking pride in their work and appearance.

All the staff have worked really hard during this first half term not only to provide interesting and high quality lessons but also to enrich the curriculum with engaging and exciting activities. We held a drumming workshop day, had a visit from Exmoor Zoo and the dental hygienist (not at the same time!) and have attended a Cross County Competition at Holsworthy Community College. We have also enjoyed some lovely community events with our Harvest Festival in the Methodist Church and a social lunch for the families of our Reception children. When we come back after half term it will be time to start thinking about the run up to Christmas which is such a wonderful and magical time in school.

Best Wishes Lisa Paton

## REMEMBERING THE LATE JOHN BOWDEN.

The family of John Bowden want to thank the very large number of people who attended the funeral of John Bowden last month. John was remembered and buried in the churchyard of St Bridget's where he had served in several capacities over many decades including the little known role of *thurifer* or alter servant. He took on this role during the time of the Reverend Hawker Kingdom who was particularly fond of the customs of the catholic church, which included the burning of incense.



Wearing a distinctive red cassock, John carried an ornate container known as a *thurible* in which the incense was burned during processions and other occasions. John had to follow a set of instructions which dictated how and when to swing the thurible with the burning incense but the most challenging part of the job was often to look after the young boy who would accompany him carrying a boat of fresh incense. The boat boy was usually only around five years old so John had to make sure his assistant paid attention to what was going on and when they were both needed in the service. Of course, the people of Bridgerule will probably remember John more for his decades of dedication to bell ringing. He was particularly talented at the difficult art of *method* or so-called scientific ringing which is a form of change ringing in which ringers commit to memory the rules for generating each change and multiple pairs of bells are affected. As long ago as 1947 John had rung a full peel at St Morewena's in Marhamchurch. It took 2 hours and 53 minutes and involved 5040 changes. He rang not just in the area around Bridgerule but on ringing outings throughout the west country and beyond. In 2011 he was part of a Bridgerule team of ringers who came first in their class at the annual competition of the Tamar Valley Guild of Ringers. He was particularly proud to receive a certificate from a national bell ringing society which recognized his contribution to bell ringing.

Beyond the church, John's life of 90 years spanned a period of great change. He was born in 1927 when horses were still working farms, corn was still cut with binders and reapers and even scythes would be used if the weather and the ground was particularly wet. Cows were hand milked and poultry laid their eggs in hedges and hideaways all around the farm yard. Churchtown Farm where John grew up and lived his entire life had a wide variety of livestock in prewar- and even postwar times. Cattle were still driven to market, a giant threshing machine turned up to separate the corn from straw, and the threshed corn was taken by horse and cart down to the mill for grinding.

John accepted that farming was becoming specialized, mechanized and then more recently computerized . So farms like Churchtown that had several people working on them when John was young are now specialized and reduced to being worked by only one or two people. Today a herd of cows and a flock of sheep are managed by John's son and grandson, Trevor and Robert Bowden with help from Trevor's wife Sue.

John had relished the fact that at various times of the year, like harvest time and threshing the folks from neighbouring farms would help each other in turn. And he kept the memories of the old ways of doing things alive and had a tale for every occasion. For example he remembered the time when the first tractor, a standard Fordson, arrived on the farm during the second world war. It was fitted with iron spikes or spade logs on the wheels because rubber tyres were not yet available. The spade logs meant the tractor could work in heavy ground but the disadvantage was that every time it was taken out on the road the spade logs tore up the tarmac, which was not a good thing since Churchtown had several fields only accessible by road.

Then the next tractor, a Fordson Major arrives with rubber tyres, which to John seemed like an improvement, until he tried to pull a wagon across a heavy clay field down near the Tamar. The tyres spun until the tractor was firmly stuck in thick mud down to its axles. John thought it a little funny that one of the carthorses that was being replaced was needed to drag the shiny new machine out onto dry ground.

And before horses disappeared from Churchtown John rode a big ginger cob down to the village to help rescue people who were stuck in the bad floods of 1952 that devastated Lynton and Lynmouth and caused extensive land waters at Bridgerule and elsewhere.

He enjoyed farm sales, particularly those where the farm had a herd of the traditional ruby reds Devon cattle . He was fascinated by the old farm buildings and antiquated machinery that he would often see at these sales. He also liked the old Holsworthy market which was part of the town. As the market wound down on a Wednesday he and other farmers would drift up to the town square where they would discuss the latest news and weather. More recently John could be found driving a four-wheeler around Churchtown and on most weeks he was a regular at Holsworthy's new market where he had many friends.

***Randolph travelled from America to speak about John at his funeral service and Sheila wishes to thank him for this further editorial. John was a lovely gentleman and he will be greatly missed.***

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**The Square, Kilkhampton, Bude EX23 9QQ**

**01288 321118 / 07799 393737**

**Email [dfarmer7@outlook.com](mailto:dfarmer7@outlook.com)**

## **NEWS FROM THE OLD ORCHARD INN WEEK ST MARY**

We are pleased to announce the opening of Week St Mary 's first ever snooker club,  
with a full size table

Newly refurbished, warm, comfortable and large room  
with excellent facilities.

All league teams welcome

Regular in-house tournaments

Everyone Welcome. Membership (12 months)

Adults £30

Please phone Jason on

Under 18s £10

07887 614141

Family £40    Visitors £5 (1 week)

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★    ★    ★  
★    ★    ★  
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dows

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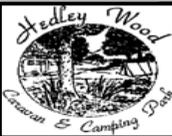
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