STICKLEPATH VILLAGE DAY 2019

A massive thank you to all who came along in support of our Village Day this year. It proved to be a hugely successful afternoon with sunshine, happy children and happy parents as far as the eye could see. Circus skills, otter hunting, welly wanging, tug o war, egg throwing and eating gorgeous burgers and ice creams was the order of the day and in all raised over **£1500** for the Playing Field Fund.

Together with the money raised last year, we can now replace the currently rotting wooden Basket Swing frame costing £1800 and then with leftover funds, we'll buy some new picnic benches.

Of course none of this can be achieved unless there's a very supportive group of people helping it all happen so a few thankyous are needed. Firstly a big thanks to Paul and Sue Jones of the Taw River for their continued support in providing the BBQ & Beer, Min & Dale at Whitehouse Services for supplying all our catering needs and finally to all those willing villagers who helped to run the stalls and in doing so helped to keep a great tradition going.

VILLAGE WORK DAY

The annual Village Work Day, held in February each year, focusses on Sticklepath Moor. A few smaller jobs are also carried out around the village at the same time. Knowing how much work can be achieved in a single day like this, it is now proposed to hold a second Village Work Day in the summer. This will focus on work within the village such as cleaning of signs, tidying of areas and small maintenance or repair tasks. If you are aware of any non-urgent jobs that need doing please let the Parish Clerk know, and look out for notices nearer the time to join in this community event.

STICKLEPATH PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Alison Cruse (Chair)	chairsticklepathpc@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr Derek Moore (Vice Chair)	derekmoore60@hotmail.com
Cllr Emma Bell	eeb21@tiscali.co.uk
Cllr Val Loader	val.loader@btinternet.com
Cllr Peter Grubb	PGrubb@savills.com
Cllr Hilary Sales	hilarysales@hotmail.com
Cllr Lynn Daniels	lynncdaniel79@gmail.com
Lois Rowlands (Clerk)	clerksticklepathpc@hotmail.com Tel: 840367

STICKLEPATH PARISH COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER— AUTUMN 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Yet another year passes, and it appears as though the village stands still, yet looking around I notice the subtle changes that signal we continue to move forward. I would like to hear whether anyone has noticed a visible reduction in speed through the village since the installation of the Gateways and regular placement of the Vehicle Activated speed system. We have also engaged the services of a lengthsman, to be called upon as required, to keep our drains clear and roads free from flooding. The Parish Council regularly debate on issues relating to climate change, and how we as a small village can do 'our bit'. The management of Billy Green is one example of what can be done.

This year's Village Work Day and Leat Cleaning work day were both very successful, and show what can be achieved when a community works together. But also noted throughout the year are those small tidying jobs around the village which are carried out voluntarily and anonymously by various residents. I'm sure we all appreciate their work.

Following a request to residents of Oaktree Park to consider the impact of their parking on the ability of larger vehicles to pass through, congestion has been reduced. The Parish Council would like to thank residents for responding to this concern.

Defibrillator training took place again this year and, following on from that, a map of the village was produced. This shows the location of every house, making it easier for the Volunteer Emergency Team to find a person in urgent need of assistance. The map is on display in the Defibrillator kiosk opposite the Devonshire Inn, and a copy is also available in the shop.

We have had our full quota of Parish Councillors for some years, which is heart-warming and shows commitment to work for the village. But we would always welcome more interest and participation from residents. Our Parish Council meetings are open for all to attend. Our meetings for the remainder of 2019 will be held on Wednesdays on 9th October, 6th November and 4th December all at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Alison Cruse, Chair





STICKLEPATH ANNUAL SOCIAL

Saturday 14th December from 7pm

The Heritage Group will continue to keep the tradition going. Everyone is invited to the Village Hall for an evening of fun and entertainment, songs and playlets.
Bar, bring and share buffet, and if you want to give a little performance let us know.

Contact: *dbubear@btinternet.com* or Derek on 840316

Don't forget to check out the village website at

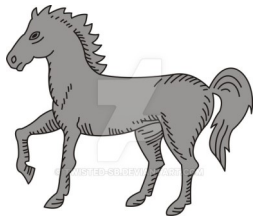
www.sticklepath.org

where you'll find lots more information about what goes on in the village

GREY MARE FESTIVAL—31st OCTOBER (HALLOWEEN)

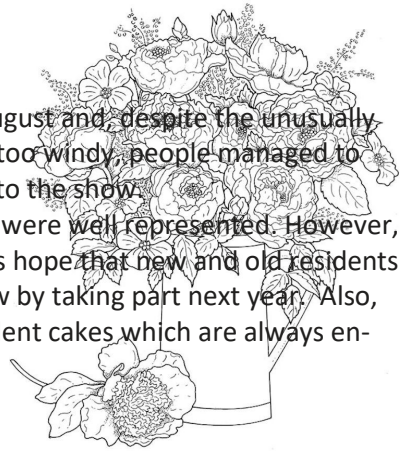
Tom Pearse's Grey Mare came from Sticklepath. Many of the names in the famous song lived locally. So the Grey Mare appears every Halloween "askirtling and groaning" and dancing - to be found by local children. These intrepid Seekers ask at 4 households and they exchange Soul Cakes for information. The 7 ghostly riders, who so abused the Mare, also appear and give directions until she is found. It is thought to be important to learn what she can give and to ensure good fortune and harmony for the coming year (we may need it !) .

The Grey Mare and ghosts (including Uncle Tom Cobbley and all) perform a play in each of the packed pubs where they seek forgiveness for each of the 7 deadly sins that drove their quest to the fair. With all that sorted, the music and songs ring out into the night.



All are welcome to process through the village with the Seekers and musicians and to be amazed by the appearance of the Grey Mare.
The event is a phoenix for the Sticklepath Fireshow which organises it safely alongside the village's Heritage Group (who uphold the truth of the whole story !)
Meet at 6pm in the Playing Field Pavillion with torches and winter wear.
For more details: www.sticklepathfireshow.org.uk.
If you would like to be involved as actors or stewards:
derekmoore60@hotmail.com 840316

STICKLEPATH FLOWER SHOW



The annual flower show was held, as usual, in August and, despite the unusually variable weather which proceeded it:- too hot / too windy, people managed to find plenty of flowers and vegetables to enter into the show.
This year the arts, crafts and produce categories were well represented. However, entries were lower than usual and the organisers hope that new and old residents of the village will enter into the spirit of the show by taking part next year. Also, remember to come and join us for tea and excellent cakes which are always enjoyed by everybody.

Val Loader

BILLY GREEN

This year the parish council have decided to manage Billy Green to promote biodiversity - you may have seen the new sign there. We have left the grasses and wild flowers to grow, which has encouraged insects and bees to the site. The only management has been a light touch hand removal of nettles and brambles.

There are piles of wood left as insect homes and the possibility of hedgehogs this winter. We have had a plethora of wild flowers, beyond our expectation. I have been recording what is there and where they grow. I hope to put the list on the parish website soon, there are still a few unidentified plants. The swishing party in February raised funds for bird and bat boxes and a lovely tawny owl box made for us by 'Men in Sheds' which will be put up this Autumn. The money also funded the new village planters again made by Men in Sheds'. The dead wild cherry tree was felled by STOCS members and the wood used for sign posts, a new wild cherry has been planted further into the green to give it a better site. A volunteer moved the heavy granite sign as well. An oak tree was gifted to the village, which has not survived, and a new oak tree is being planted this Autumn. Billy Green will be strimmed at the end of September, with care taken to protect wildlife and leave some plants for overwintering. Thank you to all who have assisted in this project.

Lynn Daniels

