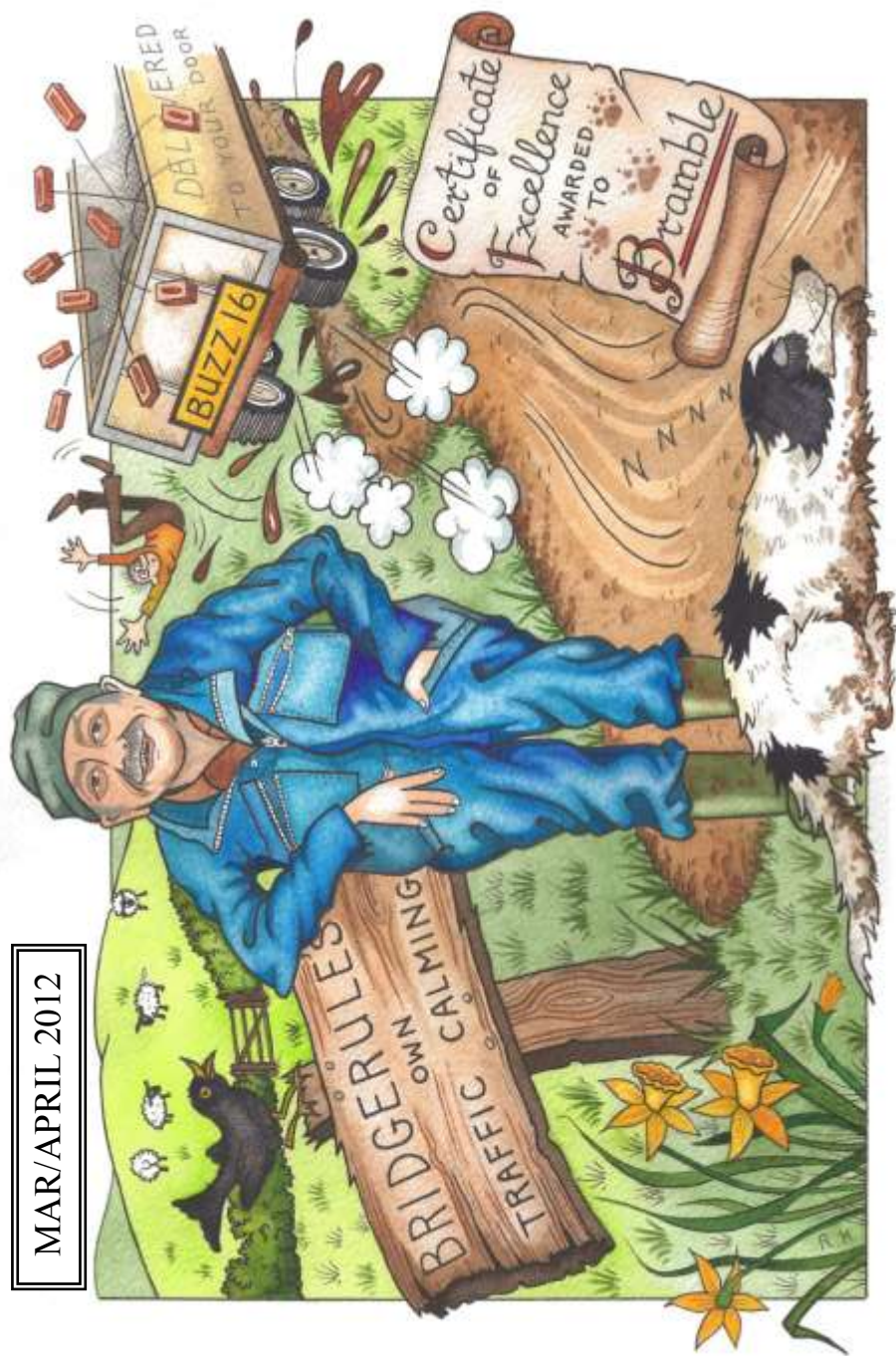


MAR/APRIL 2012



Dear Buzz Readers,

Another packed Buzz with lots of things to interest you all I hope!!

The Parish Hall Committee have now been meeting on a regular basis in conjunction with our village hall refurbishment. The committee want very much to keep everyone informed and so you will see a detailed plan etc printed within this Newsletter of the results of our discussions.

Congratulations to Julia Trayford who is now qualified in Body Massage and has kindly chosen to sponsor The Buzz.

Its good to report that Ross and the weekly Boxing sessions are going from strength to strength and are now about to form with the help of parents an official Bridgerule Boxing Club.

A reminder that if you have items to go in the next issue of The Buzz **please get them to me by the 20th April.**

Yours gratefully,

Sheila Cholwill
Editor

Telephone: 01288 381350
e-mail sheilacholwill@talktalk.net

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Sunday 18th March @ 12.30pm

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This Weekend

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Saturday 3rd March 2012

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Sheila's Mentions:

Happy Birthday to **John McDougall** on the 5th April.

Happy Birthday to **Rose Hitchings** for the 7th April.

Happy 60th Birthday to **Liz James** on the 21st April.

Happy 8th Birthday to **James Davy** on the 22nd April.

Happy 18th Birthday to **Jedd Peschke** also on the 22nd April.

Happy Birthday **Hazel Cann** again for the 22nd April.

Congratulations to **Raymond and Audrey Bewes** on the occasion of their Ruby wedding Anniversary on the 15th April.

Congratulations also to **Ken and Liz James** on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on the 22nd April.

Congratulations to **Ray Bewes** going out on a 149 in a recent league darts match against Bridge B.

WINNER OF THE RECENT CHURCH QUIZ

Mrs. Bayliss The Forge Bridgerule. Thank you to those who took part.

Best of Luck to **Ann-Marie, Kimberley, Shirley, Katharine, Liz and Amanda** who will be representing the village Ladies Skittle Club at Holsworthy in the Five Founders Cup on Saturday 3rd March.

Congratulations also to **Ann-Marie** who will be representing the local Ladies Skittle Teams in the Individual Cup Game in Holsworthy on Friday 9th March.

A welcome is given to **Pete Davis** and his daughter **Beth** and to his partner **Nicola Goodall** and her children **Aaron and Libby** to Dorasfield. We hope that you enjoy living in the village.

Our thoughts are with Mr. Arthur Rowland and his family on the recent death of his wife Naomi. Arthur and Naomi lived for many years in Bridgerule before they moved to Bude.

Sympathy is also extended to Mr and Mrs Latham and family on the recent death of dad and granddad Mr. Latham of Sutcombe.

Remembering Craig and Julia Trayford and their family on the recent death of Craig's dad who had lived in Kilkhampton.

Remembering too Veryan Woods of Bevills Hill and her family on the recent death of husband and dad Roger.

BRIDGERULE GRIME FIGHTERS

This small but enthusiastic band of “litter pickers” lead by organisers Chris and Rose Hitchings are about to set off on another very successful clean up, in Bridgerule. The village “litter pick” was rained off on Saturday 18th but was quickly re-organised and took place on a cold but sunny Sunday instead.

6 bags of discarded rubbish were collected by Shane, Rhys, Dane, Kieran, Eleanor, Kasie and Holly from Bridgerule C of E Primary School and Holworthy Community College who were rewarded with drinks and biscuits at the village hall afterwards.



News from Bridgerule Parish Council

As you may be aware, the Council has taken ownership of a salt gritter provided by County Cllr. Barry Parsons from his Locality Grant. The Council decided that priority would be given to the road up to Borough Cross and a section of Churchtown Road. This is only possible because Cllr. Sam Sharp volunteered to carry out the work and the Council is sure everyone would like to thank Sam for the work he has already put in to enable the project to begin and for the work he has already done to alleviate the danger caused by ice in recent weeks. Sam has a full time job and is doing this out of his wish to help the community.

It is impossible, because of the cost and time element, to grit all roads in and out of Bridgerule and the Council would be grateful if residents understand that no other locations can be considered for gritting.



As most residents will be aware, the street lighting now goes off at approximately 12.30 a.m. and comes back on at approximately 5.00 a.m. As the days get longer, during the summer, the timings will change accordingly. This is the Policy of Devon County Council, throughout Devon. Unfortunately individual Councils cannot challenge this Policy. Devon County Council has pointed out, that as the Highway Authority, it has no statutory obligation to provide street lighting.

Barry Marshall was born in Winchester in 1939, just after the start of the war. At that time his dad, who was a serving warrant officer in the Army was based in Palestine and Barry and his mum were living with his grandparents awaiting to join him. In 1940 their house was bombed which meant a move to Westleigh in Devon onto a farm. There Barry stayed until 1946 and is where he started his education attending the village school. After the war Barry's dad then regiments to the Cheshire Regiment which meant another move for the family to Germany. At the age of 11 Barry was transferred back to attend a boarding school in Portsmouth seeing his immediate family once a year with other holiday's being spent at Westleigh.



Unfortunately when Barry was 13 he contracted pleurisy quite badly and was sent to join his parents in Cyprus to recover before returning to the UK to attend a grammar school. Barry always wanted to join the Navy and so upon leaving school he applied and was accepted to go to Bramcote, a Naval Air Engineering training establishment.

After training, the next 18 months saw him being based at Culdrose and later serving in Malta for 18 months, where he was working in ground maintenance of aircraft. It was after a further move to Lossiemouth in Scotland to a job in the engine repair shop where he met Joan, his wife, who at that time was serving in the W.R.N.S as an aircraft mechanic in Search and Rescue. 846 Squadron at Culdrose was the next port of call for Barry, but now working on helicopters and this was the base he sailed from to the Far East on HMS Albion. During this deployment it had been intended to show off the then new Wessex helicopter to various countries around the world. But it was on an exercise in Kenya the Brunei Revolt erupted and HMS Albion, including Barry's Squadron became involved and ordered to deploy Royal Marines there, and subsequently to join other regiments in Malaysian Borneo during the conflict with Indonesia.

Joan did not see her then fiancée for 18 months, the only communication being by mail. For Barry much of the time in Brunei and subsequently in Malaysian Borneo, was spent under canvas and as a result, nowadays dislikes any form of camping. In 1964 the Squadron personnel flew back to England rejoining HMS Albion at Plymouth and then on to Portsmouth. Here the squadron were presented with the prestigious 'Boyd Trophy' for services given in conflict.

Barry and Joan were married in 1964 in Wellington Shropshire. Barry being promoted to Leading Air Mechanic and transferred to Arbroath. Joan later joined him and their son Sean was born there. After a short spell on Search and Rescue at Culdrose Barry decided to leave the Navy. Quite an unusual thing then happened, he decided to join the Army as an Aircraft Engineer in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in Middle Wallop. Here he worked on helicopters and light aircraft. In 1969 Barry was promoted to sergeant and it was that same year their daughter, Kristina was born but sadly she later died at the age of 2½.

Three years later, following Artificer Training, he was transferred to the Plymouth based Commando Brigade and took charge of the Air Troop of 42 Commando RM. for the next four years. Seeing service in Northern Ireland and around the world. During a tour on HMS Hermes with 42 Commando he found his Air Troop working alongside H.R.H. Prince Charles who was also serving on board with his "Red Dragon" Flight. During 1976 Staff Sergeant Marshall became an Instructor in the Engineering Training School at Middle Wallop, and whilst there promoted to Warrant Officer 2nd Class. During the Silver Jubilee Year of 1977, Warrant Officer Marshall was awarded the B.E.M. for services to Commando Forces in the Queen's Birthday Honours. Following a further promotion to Warrant Officer 1st Class he was sent to Northern Ireland to set up the 1st Resident Army Air Corps Squadron. But after a year it was back to Commando Forces and the Brigade Air Squadron. In 1982 the Barry's Squadron became involved in the Falklands War and he sailed to the conflict on the ill fated RFA Sir Galahad. Whilst the squadron was supporting the parachute regiment during the first assault of the Falklands Invasion 2 aircraft were shot down and a third badly damaged resulting in 3 deaths of aircrew. Another aircraft and pilot were lost during the assault on Goose Green. In all 5000 troops were involved in this conflict and 259 servicemen lost their lives. June 21st saw the surrender in Port Stanley and three days later the Squadron personnel were sailing back to UK on SS Canberra to Southampton and a hero's welcome.

In 1983 Warrant Officer Marshall left the army after serving 25 years joint service. 2004 saw his retirement. Barry & Joan retired to Southern Ireland but as Joan did not settle they returned to Tiverton to begin serious house hunting and eventually moved into Littlebridge Meadows in 2006. Barry is now treasurer of Bude Lifeboat and one day a week visits National Trust Cotehele House where he helps maintain the Tamar Sailing Shamrock. He regularly plays golf and assists as Question Master in The Bridge Inn. Barry and Joan have a son in Bedford and a grandson who lives in Huntingdon and they are looking forward to their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 2014.

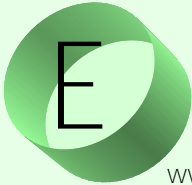
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FAVOURITE RECIPES

Most people have a favourite recipe/s that they like to use. It may be savoury or it may be sweet but when called upon to be host at a dinner party or contribute to a cake stall or a family favourite we can make them successfully and they are greatly appreciated.

With this in mind as a fund raiser for the Refurbishment of our Village Hall I would like to request that some Buzz readers and their family and friends donate a recipe/s together with the method of how you prepare it.

These favourite recipes can then be printed to form a book and hopefully be sold at various local outlets.

To make it more interesting maybe you would like to say why its your favourite or if its a family handed down recipe.

The result will mean that some money can be raised for the hall that we all use and we can each get a recipe printed in a book.

Please send your named recipe/s to:-
Sheila Cholwill Kiming Marhamchurch Bude Cornwall
EX230HH.



Celebrating their Ruby Wedding Anniversary.

Audrey nee Gilbert grew up at Canworthy Water near Launceston and attended Warbstow Primary School. Completing her education at Pennygillam Secondary Modern in Launceston and choosing to stay on an extra year to complete a shorthand and typing course. Her first job was at Dairy Crest, Davidstow, as a shorthand typist. When she started working at Dairy Crest the milk collected from farmers was in churns and she can recall the great change of seeing the first two milk tankers arriving at the milk factory.

It was at a dance at Bridgerule Parish Hall that Audrey met Raymond. Raymond was born at Tile Yard, Red Post and moved to Littlebridge Cross with his family at the age of 4. Raymond attended Bridgerule Primary School and completed his education at Holsworthy Community College. He has always worked in agriculture. Starting at Hamblys of Whitstone as a store man, then with West Devon and North Cornwall Farmers at Holsworthy and at present Raymond works for Robert Cole Agricultural Engineers again in Holsworthy.

Raymond and Audrey were married on the 15th April 1972 at Canworthy Water Methodist Church. Raymond's bestman was friend, Bill Eastcott of Littlebridge Farm and their bridesmaids were Marjorie, Audrey's twin sister, and Raymond's cousin Mary Furse. The reception was held at the Summerleaze Hotel Bude and the honeymoon was spent in Weymouth travelling in a red and white Triumph Herald.

Their first home was at Whitstone but four years later in December 1976 they moved to their present home of 15 The Green Bridgerule. Raymond and Audrey have a son, Julian and a daughter, Helen and their much loved 5 grandchildren. Julian lives with his wife, Lindsey and children Holly, Charlie and Sam in Stratton and Helen lives with her partner, Marcus and children Kenya and Morgan who also live in Stratton.

Both Raymond and Audrey have been and are still actively involved in various organisations in the village. In particular Raymond's passion for the local football club. Raymond enjoys playing in the local darts league and Audrey has been playing for the village ladies skittle team for 36 years. She is also affectionately known as the resident tea lady!

Congratulations Raymond and Audrey.



BRIDGERULE SCHOOL NEWS

A new term at Bridgerule Church of England School has welcomed a new teacher in Class 2. Our previous teachers, Mrs Balsdon and Mrs Taylor, both left school last term, and we would like to thank them for the time they taught at our school. Mrs Louise Hussey joined our school mid January and has since been working extremely hard in planning and providing exciting learning opportunities for the children in class 2 as they learn and find out about Dinosaurs. There is even a large wooden dinosaur model in the classroom. The children are thoroughly enjoying finding out about fossils and the world of the dinosaurs that covers the whole curriculum.

In Class 1, children have been learning about Toys. Both topics have a strong history theme to them but also with many other links to the wider curriculum. Children of class 1 have also recently celebrated Chinese New Year and indulged in some tasty eating activities.

As a church school, we are currently developing stronger links with our local church, St Bridget's. Rev Chris joins us on a weekly basis and meets the children and staff as he delivers his assembly. The Messy Church club that is run as an after school club is extremely popular and we would like to thank Pat, Lesley, Jan and Mary for the time and energy they kindly give to our children. Indeed we run several after school clubs that help us to enrich the children's learning opportunities.

Members from the wider community are welcome to visit our school and have a guided tour by the children and/or myself. Also, if you feel that you could offer to run an after school club with a specialist skill or interest that you have, please do contact me - we welcome the community to work alongside us in providing the best education we possibly can for all of our children.

Kind regards

Jo Dymond

Acting Headteacher Bridgerule Church of England School

01288 381366

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMETABLE BRIDGERULE

Uplands 10:00 Village Hall 10:35

March 13th and March 27th

April 10th and April 24th

WE WAS BRUNG UP PROPER! - Life for a child in the 50's 60's and 70's

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets or shoes.

We drank water from the garden hose and NOT from the bottle.

Take away food was limited to fish and chips, no pizza shops, McDonalds, KFC, Subway or Nandos....

Even though all the shops closed at 6.00pm and didn't open on a Sunday, somehow we didn't starve to death!

We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and NO ONE actually died from this.

We could collect old drink bottles and cash them in at the corner shop and buy Toffees, Gobstoppers, Bubble Gum and some bangers to blow up frogs.

We ate cupcakes, white bread and real butter and drank soft drinks with sugar in it, but we weren't overweight because.....

WE WERE ALWAYS OUTSIDE PLAYING!!!!

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day. And we were OK.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of old prams and then ride them down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. We built tree houses and dens and played in river beds with matchbox cars.

We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents.

We ate worms and mud pies from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever.

You could only buy Easter Eggs and Hot Cross Buns at Easter time....

We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell or just yelled for them!

Our teachers used to hit us with canes and gym shoes and throw the blackboard rubber at us if they thought we weren't concentrating.

The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!

We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned HOW TO DEAL WITH IT ALL!

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BRIDGERULE METHODIST CHAPEL



APPOINTED PREACHERS MARCH / APRIL

4th March	Mrs. M. Aicheler	11.00am
11th March	Rev. J. Henry (Sac)	9.30am
18th March	Mr. P Craig	11.00am
25th March	Mr. J. Guy	11.00am
1st April	Rev. J. Wilson (Sac)	11.00am
8th April	Mr. B. Bryne	11.00am
15th April	Mr. M. Shepherd	9.30am
22nd April	Rev. N. Street (Sac)	11.00am
29th April	At Whitstone	11.00am

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Having run the Bridgerule Over 50s coffee mornings for 7 years, Gwynneth and Ron Cameron will be stepping down this year. The coffee mornings are an important source of companionship to many of Bridgerule's more mature residents, who would be very sad to see them end. If anyone would like to volunteer to take over from Gwynneth and Ron, please come along to look around and meet people. The dates of the coffee mornings are published in The Buzz.



All profits from the Coffee mornings go to local charities. The 2011 profits went to:

Parish Hall	£750.00
St Bridget's Church	£100.00
Methodist Chapel	£100.00

Bridgerule Village Hall, Community Centre, Shop and Post Office!

As it has been a while since the Bridgerule Parish Plan was published you could be forgiven for thinking nothing much was happening. This would be far from the truth! The one single item that attracted most interest was the Village Hall and because of this most of the Parish Plan steering group joined the hall committee to try to help them with developing a modern hall that would better serve the needs of the Village and this has taken up most of our time. Other things are slowly happening and there will be news of these in later Buzzes. And remember the Buzz itself came about through the Parish Plan and a LOT of work by Sheila, the editor!

This has been a very busy time for the hall committee and we have been holding regular hall meetings for the last 2 years. Experts have been invited along to advise us on all aspects of building a new hall and we have attended several meetings to see what grant funding is available and to get as much information as we can on the grant application process.

We have also been advised on additional uses that could be made of a new hall such as health workers holding surgeries in the hall to save people travelling miles to health centres and many other good new ideas. We hope it will provide the village with not only a hall but a fully functioning community centre. We have also visited several other halls to try to pick up ideas that we could use in the design of our hall and at last we have a plan!

We have been talking to Tony and Dawn at the shop for some time and they advise us that as things stand we may unfortunately be losing our shop and Post Office later this year. The shop lease ends on 19th December and as you will probably know the properties are for sale.

We have for some time thought a new hall would be the ideal location for the village shop. The village has changed in recent years and the hall is in a more central location bearing in mind that since Littlebridge Meadows and Southfields were built the majority of people in Bridgerule live to the East of the village. It also has much better parking facilities which could be available to the shop during shop opening hours. Tony and Dawn completely agree and our plans therefore include providing a Shop and Post Office in the hall.

This has forced us to make the building slightly bigger as we will also need quite a bit of additional storage space for the hall. Obviously we are not going to get the hall finished by 19th December but we are assured by Barry Parsons, Head of Torridge District Council that a temporary portacabin to ensure continuation of the business pending completion of the hall would be looked upon very favourably.

Please use the shop as much as you can, even for small purchases. The last thing anyone wants is for our local shop and Post Office to close and the old saying "Use it or Lose it" is becoming true in too many other villages!

Please remember none of this is definite! We are completely relying on grant funding and we will soon be starting to make grant applications. Before we can apply for any grants we have to obtain planning permission and thanks to our fundraisers efforts and everyone's support we have already raised enough money to pay for this. You can't have missed all the events that have been held in aid of the new hall fund. The Buzz itself is supporting the hall with any excess funds being put into the hall project. The Buzz has no costs apart from paper and ink so a good way to support the hall is to sponsor or advertise in the Buzz.

We know the Parish Plan questionnaire backed up our idea and that most of the people that filled in the questionnaire think the hall should be rebuilt or refurbished on the present site. Most of the hall will be a complete rebuild with a new front and side walls but with refurbished back and inside walls. If our architects advise that it will be less expensive to also rebuild the small remaining parts we can grind up these walls and use them as hardcore so we are still making use of the present building in the rebuild. The asbestos roof obviously has to be taken away and disposed of safely and there will be a new insulated roof with solar panels facing towards the river side. We are attending a meeting this week on sustainable energy and the latest "green" heating methods.

On the river side there will be a hatch and sliding doors so the hall can be opened to the outside for outdoor events and the idea is that the foyer and disabled toilet will be open during the day for shop customers and hall visitors (the main toilets will be open for hall events) and to encourage passers by to use the shop.

The rooms on the river side can be divided into 1, 2 or 3 separate rooms, all of which can be opened to the outside for parties, wedding receptions or any other small functions and the upstairs room at the front will be a permanent meeting room which could be used without opening the main hall. It will have a balcony overlooking the main hall which would be ideal for stage lighting or perhaps a projector for films.

At the moment we are obtaining quotes from architects and we want to apply for planning permission within the next few weeks. We will then start the grant application process as soon as planning permission is granted. If successful we hope to be offered a first injection of grant funding to pay for the expensive next stages such as building regulations, calculations, detailed design, heating design etc etc,

And at the same time we are trying to keep the old hall going and thanks very much to everyone helping with this, whether it is with cleaning, painting, mending drains and gutters or whatever.

We would like to take this opportunity to ask EVERYONE to give this project all the support they can. If anyone is prepared to help in any small way, either with sprucing up the old hall or helping with the new hall project it would be greatly appreciated. More details on the website www.bridgerule.co.uk Click the hall tab.

Bridgerule Folklore

..the following story [was] taken down by me (Sabine Baring-Gould) verbatim from an old woman in the parish of Luffincott in North Devon.

I will give it in her own words:-

"There was an old woman lived in Bridgerule parish, and she had a very handsome daughter. One evening a carriage and four drove to the door, and a gentleman stepped out. He was a fine-looking man, and he made some excuse to stay in the cottage talking, and he made love to the maiden, and she was rather taken with him. Then he drove away, but next evening he came again, and it was just the same thing; and he axed the maid if on the third night she would go in the coach with him, and be married. She said Yes; and he made her swear that she would.

"Well, the old mother did not think that all was quite right, so she went to the pars'n of Bridgerule and axed he about it. 'My dear,' said he, 'I reckon it's the Old Un (the devil). Now look y' here. Take this 'ere candle, and ax that gen'leman next time he comes to let your Polly alone till this 'ere candle be burnt out. Then take it, blow it out, and rin along on all your legs to me.'

"So the old woman took the candle "Next night the gen'leman came in his carriage and four, and he went into the cottage and axed the maid to come wi' he, as she'd sworn and promised. She said, 'I will, but you must give me a bit o' time to dress myself.' He said, 'I'll give you till thickey candle be burnt out.'

"Now, when he had said this, the old woman blew the candle out and rinned away as fast as she could, right on end to Bridgerule, and the pars'n he tooked the can'l and walled it up in the side o' the church; you can see where it be to this day (it is the rood loft staircase upper door, now walled up). Well, when the gen'leman saw he was done, he got into his carriage and drove away, and he drove till he comed to Affaland Moor, and then all to wance down went the carriage and horses and all into a sort o bog there, and blue flames came up all round where they went down."

The conversion of a dead lover into the devil is obviously a Christianised modification of a very ancient belief, that the dead do come and claim female companions. In all likelihood there lingered on a tradition of some gentleman having been engulfed in the morass of Affaland.

From his 'Book of Folklore' by the excellent Sabine Baring-Gould (1913).

The information below was added by Alec Johnston..

Affaland Moor -Nearest Town Holsworthy (4km NW)

OS Ref. (GB) SS315007 / Sheet: 190

The magic map shows 15 round barrels in this area, Affaland Moor. Surely they add to its weirdness and contribute to its featuring in the story above?

Christening at St. Bridget's Church

Chloe Tape was christened in St Bridget's Parish Church on 15th January 2012.

Chloe is photographed along with her mum, Kelly, her dad, Trevor and her two big brothers, Bradley and Archie. The family live in Littlebridge Meadows.

The service was led by the Rev'd Chris Hardwick.

In addition to the regular attendees a large number of close family and friends came to support Chloe.



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THE ONLY WAY IS.....DOWN!



Tony Wallis will be Abseiling down Spinnaker Tower in Portsmouth on Friday 13th April in aid of Help the Heroes and would be grateful if some Buzz readers would kindly sponsor him.

Tony lives at Little Bridge Meadows and is the regular Question Master at the Bridge Inn Pub Quiz. Good Luck Tony.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NOTES

Can anyone really believe that you can get something for nothing? Will anyone get their “entitled” £2900 by replying to a text message, just because you took out a bank loan before 2009? I doubt it.

And a phone call, to my alter ego—the name I invented, telling me I had been selected by a government body to receive - “absolutely free” - an array of solar panels for free energy; well, it wasn’t worth the caller’s time. Nor mine in answering the telephone.

The answer is— look after number one, and then your neighbours, friends and family.

I have had a call from the Police Messaging Service who said there is a person knocking on doors wishing to sell items as a way to get back into society, having been in prison. It is a nice idea, but he gets a bit abusive if you don’t buy. I suggest you just close the door, and if you have it on a chain—do not remove the chain.

Keep Safe.

John McDougall Telephone: 01288 381237.

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Dear Sheila,

My sister-in-law, Mrs Gloria Steel of Southfields has sent me the latest edition of "The Buzz" and I was delighted to read your article on sepsis.

I lost my dear wife, Hilary to this infection on Christmas Day 2010, just 6 days after she first became unwell with what she thought was 'flu. Her GP's, on two separate occasions, two days and one day before her death, miss-diagnosed her condition as 'flu and she was admitted to Airedale General Hospital late on Christmas eve as an ambulance emergency. The Hospital quickly diagnosed her illness and applied the correct treatment, but in spite of their best efforts, she died at 11.33 am on Christmas morning.

The reason I am writing, is that the article does contain some inaccuracies which may confuse your readers and I do hope you won't mind me pointing them out. The first is that you say that Hilary died of meningitis, when, in fact she died of sepsis, which is quite different.

Secondly, the UK Sepsis Trust is an existing charity, founded by Dr. Ron Daniels, who works in the Intensive Care Unit at the Good Hope Hospital in Birmingham and sees, on a daily basis the devastation this condition causes. He is fighting to raise awareness of this killer, which is relatively easily treated, if caught early. He wants the Government to classify it as a medical emergency, in the same way that meningitis is. It kills over 37,000 people in the UK every year (far more than meningitis) and the trust believe that at least a quarter of these deaths are preventable with early diagnosis and treatment. My family and I are working to help The Trust and urge everyone to log on to their website and sign the e-petition (there is a link to do this easily). If you click on "News Room" you will see an article published by the Yorkshire Post, featuring my daughter, Rhiannon. 100,000 signatures are needed to trigger a Parliamentary debate on sepsis and there is a long way to go. The Trust is run entirely by volunteers and therefore has few overheads but they are desperate for more funding to help promote the cause and donations are very welcome (again, these can be made very simply on their website).

Thank you once more for your article,
Yours sincerely,
David Lovell

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A few weeks ago a group of family and friends from the village visited the West End in London to see the acclaimed 'War Horse'. The tale of bravery, loyalty and the extraordinary bond between a young recruit and his horse.

We boarded our coach in Holsworthy and 6½ hours later we were checking in at The Grosvenor Hotel in Buckingham Palace Road. Our fine furnished bedrooms seemed to be all on different floor levels with two of us eventually finding room 649 on the sixth floor. After a quick freshen up and dining in a nearby restaurant we were taken to the New London Theatre.

Curtain up and for the next 2½ hours we were all transfixed, forgetting very quickly that the full size horses we were watching was being worked by puppeteers. By the length of the applause at the finale' the rest of the audience thought the same. Everyone agreeing that it had been spell binding and something that we will remember for a very long time. The stars of the show being the horses but of course not forgetting the farm goose!

We returned to The Grosvenor to discuss what we had just witnessed before retiring to our rooms. Some of us talking well into Sunday morning—some of us still talking until they didn't get a response!

After an early breakfast we were taken to Marble Arch where we boarded an open topped London Double Decker bus to have a guided tour through the main streets of London. This also proved very valuable—although a bit breezy on the top deck but everyone managed to keep out the bitter chill the best way they could!!

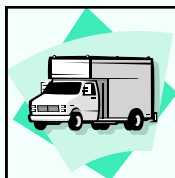
The tour over we made a quick trip up Oxford Street before wending our way home. Everyone agreed we'd had a great weekend with lots of laughs and a most wonderful theatre visit.

Bring on the next time I say!! Sheila



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Diane Green would like to know if anyone can help with the following....

Nurse Venner"

Mrs. Dorolyn Metherell is looking for information about her grandmother, Mrs. Frances Venner, usually known as Nurse Venner.

Mrs. Venner was born in Wiltshire, and came to Bridgerule to nurse Mr. Dennis at Newacott house, who died in 1899. Her first husband was a Mr. Wickham, and her second husband Mr. William Venner of Grove Cottage. Nurse Venner was known to Dr. John King, who founded Stratton Hospital; and to his son, also Dr. John King. She worked as a District Nurse, based in the Stratton area. She delivered babies in Bridgerule, Week St. Mary (1917) and Tetcott (1927).

Mrs. Venner had five children herself from 1901 - 1908. One of the children by her first husband, Mr. Wickham, became Mrs. Ham, and lived at Jewell's Cross Bungalow. Mrs. Metherell remembers going to and fro between Grove Cottage and Jewell's Cross Bungalow when being looked after by her grandmother, who had retired from nursing by then. Mrs. Metherell is a first cousin to Mr. Ernest Venner, now deceased. Nurse Venner died at Grove Cottage in 1948. Mrs. Metherell wants to know if anyone can throw more light on her grandmother's role at Newacott; or if anyone has recollections, or knowledge, of her grandmother's work as District Nurse.

If you can help, please contact Mrs. Diana Green - 01288 381261 - who can put you in touch with Mrs. Metherell.

Hi, my name is **Julia Trayford** and I live at Bailey Gardens Bridgerule with my husband Craig and daughter and son Holly and Sam.

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Gary and his partner Lyn moved to Bridgerule last October and say they have been made very welcome by everyone here. They have spent a little time settling into the village way of life and have been decorating their home which they enjoyed very much, as it is far different from the hectic way of life they left behind!

Lyn has recently started work in the village stores which has been challenging but very enjoyable for her! Especially meeting the very friendly people of Bridgerule. Gary in the meantime has been doing odd jobs for family, friends and customers, all of which have told him that he should do household maintenance work full time.

So, Gary has started a business of **GARY THE HANDYMAN** of which he will undertake to do all the small menial and of course larger jobs that never get done in a household. Anything will be considered! If he is unable to do the job he knows of someone who can, whilst he will still see over the work on his customers behalf. **NOTHING IS TOO SMALL.** His rates are very cheap and will negotiate a price before he starts work. He is fully insured. So if Gary can help please call him on 01288 381658 / 07766806879.



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Your secret is safe with us Chris!!!

Renewable Energy in Bridgerule by Christopher Darwin Feb 2012

Solar power panels have recently become a common sight and there are several installations in Bridgerule. As many readers – including my wife and I - may be considering the idea I suggested to Madam Editor that an article in The Buzz about the opinions of those who already have solar power might be of interest to other readers. Her response was ‘Good idea – make it so’. I therefore contacted several householders and I thank them for their time answering my questions.

In 2011 there was a rush to install photovoltaic panels, which produce electricity from sunlight; this rush was entirely due to Government (taxpayer) subsidy - the ‘Feed-in Tariff’ - which ensured a high price for the power generated. In December the FiT was reduced and many projects stopped; the price of the equipment dropped – but the ships from China continued to offload the solar panels and inverters (which convert the DC power from the panels to AC power). This period in early 2012 may be the bottom of the market for the equipment, although the FiT will almost certainly remain below the high 2011 rate.

Here are the views of four who already have solar panels: Ron Cameron in Southfields and Heidi Masters near the railway station have roof solar systems that were paid for; Susan Timlin opposite the village hall has a roof system that was free; Roger Green at Jewells Cross has a ground-mounted solar system.

Why? Good investment, free electricity for the house, self-sufficiency, ‘green’.

Had the system been well-fitted, and by whom? - In all cases Yes. Cameron by GD Electrical of Minehead – a long-established solar company; Timlin by Homesun, Masters by Solar Energy Solution, both national companies; Green by the local Solar Capture of Treyeo, Bridgerule. None of the roof installations had caused any leaks and all four had been unaffected by the winter gales.

Has it been successful? - All said Yes. Susan Timlin’s electricity bill – previously £40 per week - had dropped to £10/12 during last summer and £20 during the winter. Heidi Masters anticipates about £1500 per year income and her electricity bill has reduced by 50% in the summer, by 25% in the winter. Gwynneth Cameron said that the winter electricity bill was about the same as the summer one.

Any disadvantages - Only the visual effect. Heidi Masters’ panels are on the rear roof of the house and she likes them there. Roger Green said his ground-mounted panels are more evident (but they can be obscured by hedges).

All said that they would have the same system if they moved house.

It will be interesting to repeat these questions in a year or two to see if anything has changed.

My conclusions - We decided in 2011 to make haste slowly. Our main concern is to have our own source of electrical power, since we expect the government’s policy (add windmills, reduce power stations) to lead to power cuts. We had three quotations during 2011, each one cheaper than the last, and saved money by doing nothing.

We plan a ground system for several reasons. It can be partly concealed by a hedge and sited facing due south; its angle can be changed to match the high summer or low winter sun; it can be cleaned easily (as panels will probably go green like most structures around here); if maintenance is required or the technology improves - which it has been doing - the panels will be easily accessible.

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Easter Sunday Carvery Lunch



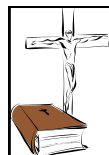
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Lent and Easter Services 2012
Bridgerule, Pyworthy and Pancrasweek



Sunday 4th March:

Eucharist 9.30am at Pyworthy
 Eucharist 9.45 at Pancrasweek
 Eucharist 11.00 am at Bridgerule

Sunday 11th March:

Eucharist 9.30am at Pyworthy
 Eucharist 11.00 am at Bridgerule

Sunday 18th March – Mothering Sunday:

Eucharist 9.30am at Pyworthy
 Eucharist 9.45 at Pancrasweek
 Eucharist 11.00 at Bridgerule

Sunday 25th March:

Eucharist for fifth Sunday of Lent 9.30am at Pyworthy
 Eucharist for fifth Sunday of Lent 11.00am at Bridgerule

Sunday 1st April – Palm Sunday:

Eucharist at Bridgerule – procession with palms from Churchtown Farm
 10.15am

Monday 2nd/Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th April:

Eucharist with meditation on the Station of the Cross. 7.30pm at Pyworthy.

Maundy Thursday:

Eucharist with stripping at the Altar. 7.30pm at Bridgerule.

Good Friday:

Meditation on the last words from the cross 2.00pm at Pyworthy.

Saturday 7th April – Easter Eve:

Service of Light – 8.00pm at Pancrasweek.

Easter Day:

Easter Morning Eucharist 9.30 am at Pancrasweek
 Easter Morning Eucharist 11.00am at Bridgerule.

The following parishioners and local businesses have kindly agreed to sponsor 'The Buzz'.

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 Mr and Mrs C Hitchings - Meadows Barn
 Mr and Mrs T. Brock—The Green
 Mr and Mrs Field - 10 Southfields
 Mr and Mrs Hodges - Southfields
 Cliff and Liz Seymour-Smith - Glencarne
 Mr and Mrs J Gardener - Buttsbear Farm
 Mr and Mrs G Cleave - Garden Ridge
 Mr and Mrs. J. Medland - Rosebank
 Stephen and Sandie - Southfields
 Mrs. Sybil Prouse - Rydon
 Mr J. Dell - Cross Park
 Mr and Mrs Heal - Ashleigh
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 Mr. And Mrs. J. Palmer - Holsworthy
 Sandy and Linda - Lustleigh
 Mr. Jim Bearham - Woodlands
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 Mr & Mrs. Ray. Bewes - The Green
 Skipp Family - Furze Farm
 Mr & Mrs. D. Hale - Lodgeworthy
 Mr and Mrs. J Bowden - St Catherines
 Nigel and Christa - Tackbear
 Charles and Heather Darwin— Scotland Farm
 Bridgerule Ladies Skittle Club
 Mervyn & Sylvia Lucas—Little Bridge Meadows
 Ron & Marion Abbott—Bridge Park
 Mr. & Mrs. J. Wickett—Munks.
 Alec & Pat Johnston - Southfields
 Colin and Margaret Short—Col Marvin
 Mr. & Mrs. Hutchings - Bude
 Tony & Linda Goodman—Bridge Park
 Ron & Gwyneth Cameron - Southfields
 Roger & Cindy Neep -Tamar House
 Trevor & Sue Bowden - Churchtown Farm
 Terry & Julie Reddicliffe—Larapinta
 Michael & Linda Moore -The Green
 Mr. & Mrs. B. Ashton—Southlands

Darren & Amanda Linney - Hollybank
 Robert & Julie Honey - Great Beer
 John & Jean Hammond—Kildare
 Alan & Rosie Beat -The Mill
 Tony Wallis—Littlebridge Meadows.
 Mr & Mrs Steel - 8 Southfields.
 Les & Betty Slade—The Green
 Mr & Mrs Allison -
 Mrs. D' Praser—22 Southfields.
 Michael & Jackie Crocker - Festonia
 Bridgerule Coffee Club
 Mr & Mrs. G. Cooper 32 Southfields

*Also those who did not
 wish to be named*

TRIPLE CELEBRATION

Liz James was born on April 21st 1952. Being born on the same day as Queen Elizabeth II it was an obvious choice by her parents to name their baby daughter Elizabeth.

Coupled with Liz's 60th birthday in a few weeks time Ken and Liz are also due to celebrate their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 22nd April. This coincidentally is when their grandson James will also celebrate his 8th birthday.



Liz could not have imagined being married in any other place than that of the village where she was born and grew up in; that of Ewelme in Oxfordshire. Many visitors came to Ewelme to see the ancient church, school and alms houses there. Liz says think of Midsommer Murders and you will not be far wrong – at least one episode was filmed there. The Mount-Batten family lived nearby and brought their children to be christened in the ancient church. On one particular occasion the Queen was to be god-mother. Liz was a member of the church choir at the time and the rector said “whatever you do, do not bend forward and look at the Queen”. The day arrived and her dad, who was seated behind Liz asked ‘Can you see the Queen’? She made meanings that she couldn’t and so her dad said “lean forward”. So looking sheepishly at the rector first, Liz leaned forward to get a good view. All she can remember is that her Majesty’s legs were covered in bruises and that she was quite tiny! In return the rector raised his eye-brows but thankfully said nothing. Liz said that her father’s family had lived in the village for generations and that she was related to every other person. After returning from the war, her dad had married his sweetheart and was presented with a brand new council house with a very large garden, which you could probably have fitted six modern houses in. She remembers her dad filling the garden with every vegetable and fruit imaginable and her mum being a really good cook with all the things which he grew. Liz looks back on her childhood with fond memories. She and her older sister and brother could roam all day if they wanted and only return home when they were hungry. If they did not, some relation or villager would report back their whereabouts. This was obviously fine when one was a child but not so good as a teenager!

No family holidays but Liz spent many day trips with the bell ringers, church choir, Sunday school and Cricket Club and generally joined in all the village events. When Liz became a teenager she started to attend Watlington Youth club and got to know Ken, her husband to be a little bit better. They had both attended the Icknield School at Watlington. This is where Ken and his family owned a small holding. Later they became engaged and spent all of there weekends and holidays working and helping with the chores on the family holding. Both Ken and Liz had jobs at British Leyland in Cowley and most of the money they saved was spent on a new cow or some farm implement. Even their beloved MGB was exchanged for a Land-Rover!

In 1972 Ken and Liz were married and spent a weeks honeymoon in Benidorm. The hotel wasn't quite finished but it only cost them £70. Their first home together was a caravan on the holding.

The family then decided that if they were to farm seriously they would have to move which would mean moving away, as land in Oxfordshire was way too expensive. Kens family knew the Tappin family who had moved to Villavin previously and so a look around the Holsworthy area began.

In 1974 the whole family moved to Merrifield to start their new life. Two cattle lorries brought their beautiful Ayrshire cows down but sadly many of them became ill, being susceptible to husk (a lung worm) and not used to the wetter conditions of Devon. Consequently and gradually Friesians were bred and this proved to be more successful. Liz remembers it being hard going at first. The weather seeming against them and Liz was homesick, missing her family and her job. Gradually Liz grew accustomed to living on the farm and Merrifield was where their two children Katharine and Simon were born and grew up and the whole family integrated into the community. Like everyone they have had their ups and downs but are still at Merrifield some 38 years later and have been blest with their 3 delightful grandchildren, James, Lucy and Sophie and Liz says she now realises life is what you make it wherever you live. Ken and Liz say that their grandchildren have roots here from their other grandparents as well as them and if they have as good a life as they have had they will do alright. They have worked hard but have laughed a lot too. A sense of humour being the most valuable asset in farming.

Ken & Liz would like to take this opportunity to thank all their farming neighbours for their unerring support and kindness over the last 38 years.

Congratulations Ken and Liz.



HOLSWORTHY RURAL POLICE UPDATE

Bradford & Cookbury Parish Hall was broken into and skittle balls and 3 skittles were stolen and two fire extinguishers let off.

Tetcott - An Ifor Williams P7E trailer, Id mark 516599 & registration TN07 7AU was stolen

Pyworthy – 3 x 5ft Apple trees and a quantity of gooseberry/black current and red current bushes were stolen

Scrap Metal – A white ford transit van has been in the area quoting a well known local firms name. The vehicle occupants are not local and have no links to the name given. If you have such a vehicle come to your address and enquire about scrap metal and think they might not be genuine please contact us on the non emergency police number 101.

We would rather have you call and it turn out that everything was ok than you hesitate and we don't speak to these people.

Locking Vehicles – Recently in Holsworthy a works vehicle left unlocked and unattended had someone steal a wallet and other items from the glove box. The workmen were only 150 yards away but were not aware of this until the end of the working day. They thought that Holsworthy was a little quiet place in Devon where nothing happens unlike where they had travelled from. Unfortunately Holsworthy is not so at times and we need you to all be aware.

Defective vehicles – There are a lot of vehicles travelling on the roads with defective lights and number plates that cannot be read. Vehicles are being stopped and a 7 day notice given for the defect to be corrected and documents to be produce at a Police Station. It is dangerous to drive with lights not working on your vehicles, especially in the current weather conditions as vehicles are not so visible when dirty.

Please put your lights on earlier, or during the day when on the roads so you can be seen quicker and more easily.

PCSO 30103 BEVERLEY BRAY

beverley.bray@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Holsworthy Police Station - 101 Police non emergency number.



Free Home Fire Safety Check available

A Home Fire Safety Check is carried out by your local Fire and Rescue Service. They will visit your home, at a time convenient to yourself, and carry out an inspection of your home. The visit may be carried out by firefighters who are operational, so don't be surprised if a fire engine arrives at your home, or a dedicated team from the local Fire and Rescue Service. You do need to be aware that a fire appliance can be called away at a moment's notice as it is still part of operational resources within your area. They will of course call back or arrange another date if needed.

These visits are **completely free** and you may be eligible for **free smoke alarms** which they will fit if required.

The inspection of your home is not as intrusive as it sounds. They will visit your home, sit down and talk to you about fire safety issues in your home covering areas such as electrical safety, smoking safely and the use of electric blankets. They will then with your permission look at various rooms within your home.

In addition, you may qualify for free smoke alarms to be fitted within your home. They will carry this out completely free of charge and can fit them in a matter of minutes, ensuring you are safer from the moment they leave.

All Fire and Rescue personnel who visit your home will carry photo identification. Please ensure you ask to see it.



In a recent report, over the last 4 years the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service have carried out 11,440 home safety visits and fitted 18,824 ten year smoke alarms.

**To book a home fire safety check call 0800 7311822 or
<http://www.fire.gov.uk/Home+safety/>**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Tuesday 13th March OVER 50'S COFFEE MORNING Parish Hall 10.30am.
- Wednesday 21st March PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Parish Hall 8.00pm
- Tuesday 27th March OVER 50'S COFFEE MORNING Parish Hall 10.30am.
- Tuesday 10th April OVER 50'S COFFEE MORNING Parish Hall 10.30am.
- Wednesday 18th April PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Parish Hall 8.00pm
Including the Annual Parish Meeting
- Tuesday 24th April OVER 50'S COFFEE MORNING Parish Hall 10.30pm

Preliminary Notice:

BRIDGERULE OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 10th June 2012

11.00am to 5.00pm

All proceeds for Devon & Cornwall Air Ambulance Trusts

Preliminary Notice:

**A charity night featuring The Cornish Worzels and
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**At Knowle Bridgerule
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Saturday June 16th 2012.

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Full details in next Buzz