



MAY/JUNE 2025

THE BUZZ



Dear Buzz Readers,

The editor and her husband will be making their way to Buckingham Palace very soon in recognition of the presentation of the British Empire Medal at the 2024 King Charles Birthday Honours.

Paul and Stacey are coming with us to ensure we actually find it !!

Events for our Revel Week Celebrations so far are briefly mentioned in this Newsletter. A full schedule of our Vegetable, Art and Craft Show will appear in the next Buzz together with more details of all events.

If you have anything you would like in the next Buzz please let me have it by 20th June please.

Sheila Cholwill Editor

Tel: 01288 381350


Email: sheilacholwill@btinternet.com



Editorial Disclaimer:

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THE BRIDGE MILL AT BRIDGERULE
SUNDAY 11TH MAY • 2025 • 11AM - 4PM



£5 ENTRY, CHILDREN FREE + LIVE MUSIC/MORRIS DANCING

WORKING WATER MILL
OPEN FOR NATIONAL MILLS DAY

MAMMOTH PLANT SALE **PUPPET SHOW**
LAKE AND RIVERSIDE WALKS + WILDFLOWER MEADOWS
MANY STALLS + TOMBOLA + REFRESHMENTS ALL DAY

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES **NO DOGS ADMITTED (EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS)**
www.thebridgemill.org.uk

BRIDGERULE VILLAGE HALL



SATURDAY 24TH MAY

2.00pm—4.00pm

FIND TREASURES

DISCOVER BARGAINS

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Book your table with Vicki 07950 739908

PRELIMINARY NOTICE!

BRIDGERULE ANNUAL REVEL WEEK CELEBRATIONS 26TH JULY— 2ND AUGUST

THE FOLLOWING ARE EVENTS ALREADY EARMARKED BUT THEY
ARE SUBJECT TO ANY ADDITIONS

Newly formed Fun Dog Club to organise a **Dog Show** on
Saturday 26th July.

Village Vegetable, Art and Craft Show - Tuesday 29th July
(*Gentlemen we would like to know if you would like your own
Craft Class. Please contact Rose on 01288 381129*)

Friends of Bridgerule School **RAMBLE** and Football Club **BINGO**

OUR NEXT  COLLECTION IS

**Monday 9th June -
Monday 16th June**

DROP-OFF LOCATION

- BRIGERULE VILLAGE SHOP
- GREEN LABELLED BIN IN SCHOOL CAR PARK

They ACCEPT the following items:

- CLOTHING
- PAIRED SHOES
- HANDBAGS, HATS, SCARVES, TIES, BELTS

They NO LONGER ACCEPT the following items:

- HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
- CURTAINS, TOWELS & BEDDING
- CARPETS, RUGS, AND MATS (INCLUDING BATH AND SHOWER MATS)
- SOILED, PAINTED OR WET CLOTHING
- SCHOOL UNIFORM WITH OR WITHOUT TAGS
- CORPORATE CLOTHING AND WORKWEAR
- TEXTILE OFF CUTS, YARNS OR THREADED MATERIAL
- SOFT TOYS



**To donate clothes, ensure they are gently used, clean,
and in good condition.**

BRIDGERULE VILLAGE
THE FORGE AND BRIDGE INN 1966



POTTERS FISH N THINGS

**SCHEDULE FOR VISITING BRIDGERULE
VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK**

4.30pm—7.00pm

1st May - 15th May - 29th May

12th June - 26th June



WHAT'S ON AT HOLSWORTHY LIBRARY – APRIL 2025

- Creative Workshop with the Resource Centre, Embellished Felt Brooches, Thursday 1st May – 10:00am–12:00pm, booking essential, £2
- Bounce & Rhyme, Thursday 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd (term time only) – 2:15pm – 2:45pm
- The Herbalists Tale, Herbal Medicine Talk with Diana Lee, Thursday 8th – 7pm. Free but booking essential.
- Sashiko Sewing Workshop, Saturday 10th – 2pm–4pm. Booking essential, £5
- Lloyds Bank Community Banking session, Monday 12th – 2pm–4pm
- Home Education Social Group, Monday 19th – 10am–12pm
- Lego Challenge Day, Wednesday 28th – 11am–4pm (drop in session)
- Board Games and Biscuits, Thursday 29th – 11am–4pm (drop in session)
- Lego and games for children. Every Saturday – 10am–12pm

Free hot drinks available during opening hours.

Most events are free but, donations always welcome

holsworthy.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk 01409 253514

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092.
To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk



Supported
by



TORBAY COUNCIL

BRIDGERULE COMMUNITY SHOP

SWEET OR SAVOURY WE WILL TRY AND HELP!

Want a quick snack or something for your packed lunch!? Then why not try one of the latest additions to arrive in our Village Community Shop.

A wide choice of freshly filled sandwiches, rolls and wraps to suit everyone's fancy!



Something warm then there is always our daily freshly baked warm Cornish pasties and sausage rolls.



YOU ASK FOR AN ITEM AND WE WILL TRY OUR BEST TO SOURCE IT FOR YOU

WE ARE HERE TO HELP



Struggling with bills? Get help now!

The Household Support Fund helps
Torridge residents with:



Food



Energy



Appliances



Housing



Essentials

Apply now
torridge.gov.uk/householdfund
01271 371 499



Do you need help with food?

Torridge is working with the Northern Devon Foodbank, Bideford to provide essential help to those who need it the most this winter. Please see the application process below.

1

Contact Torridge District Council
01237 428700 - Option 9
customer.services@torridge.gov.uk

2

You will be issued with a voucher number to
take to your nearest Trussell Foodbank
(Bideford or Holsworthy in Torridge).

3

Foodbank contact details and locations
01237 422243 or 07422 651252
Bideford - Supreme House, Pitt Lane, EX39 3JA
Holsworthy - Manor Suite, Memorial Hall, EX22 6DJ
Visit northerndevon.foodbank.org.uk for more locations



BRIDGERULE VILLAGE HALL

HIRE the HALL from just £25

Small Kitchen £10

Large kitchen £15

BOOKING CLERK Telephone: 01288 381350
sheilacholwill@btinternet.com
Special Price for Local Clubs

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

ST. BRIDGET'S CHURCH
SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES



4th May	Sung Eucharist	11.00am
11th May	Morning Prayer	11.00am
25th May	All Age Eucharist	11.00am
29th May	To be arranged	
1st June	Sung Eucharist	11.00am

No Transport?



RING AND RIDE

- Door-to-door minibus service for all ages, wheelchair & scooter accessible

CARS FOR CARE

- Door-to-door service for medical appointments, 50p per mile

HERE FOR HIRE

- Mini Bus Hire for Community Groups & Charities
- £75/day - £50/evening , self drive

Call

01409 259001

office@holsworthy ruraltransport.co.uk

The Carroll Suite, Holsworthy Memorial Hall, Holsworthy EX22 6DJ

ZUMBA GOLD – Low Impact

Monday Morning 09.45 – 10.45 am
11.00- 12.00 am

Licenced Instructor Sharon Martin

Tel: 07805026364 /or email
shazforty@hotmail.com

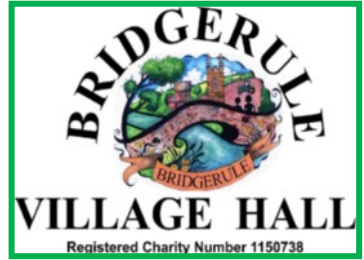


TABLE TENNIS

Tuesday from 2.00pm

Contact Alan on

01288 382988 or

email quilts@hotmail.com

PILATES - Tuesdays 5.45 - 6.45
7.00—8.00

EMILY SKERRETT

Email: ems1982a@gmail.com

Tel: 07828947545



ART AND CRAFT CLUB

Wednesday afternoon

Contact Kath on

01288 381459 / or

Kathwhatmore@gmail.com

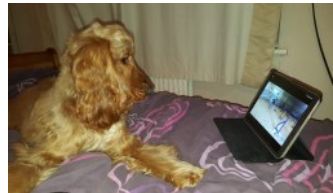


BRIDGERULE FUN DOG CLUB

Wednesday AM/ PM and Friday AM

Contact Steven Spencer on

Fairlightcages@outlook.com



SHORT MAT BOWLS

Friday from 2.00pm

Contact Scott on 01288 381459

or email sdwhatmore@gmail.com





Update:

Since the last update from Derril Water, Ripple Energy entered administration and is now being wound down. Ripple was providing management services to the cooperative society that owns the Derril Water Solar Park and had designed the novel ownership structure that allowed for coop members to receive savings on their electricity bills according to how much power their share of the solar park generated.

Ripple's demise does not affect the ownership of the solar park. Nor will it affect the construction programme. And nor will it affect the coop's commitment to providing the community benefit fund associated with the project.

RES continues to provide project construction management services to the project which is due to start generating power on behalf of 9,000 households that make up the membership of the coop. The project is fully funded with project finance from Virgin Money and specific accounts are in place to cover restoration obligations at the end of the project's life.

On site, the directional drilling under the road connecting the two halves of the solar park has completed, and the substation building is nearing completion. The last of the panel mounting structures will be installed following the demobilisation of the temporary site compounds

Ducts emerging from the directional drill locations

Through the course of May there will be a lot of milestones to achieve. In particular there will be extensive testing of cables, inverters and transformers in advance of energisation of the grid connection. Works will then progress to commissioning the full site in preparation for the operational phase starting in the summer. While all these activities are vital for the completion of the construction phase, they are electrical in nature, so activity on site may be less perceptible.

A possible retrograde step into the future!

I am not one to make political statements, that is for others to do, but I listened to much being said about the need to go green and reduce the worlds reliance on fossil fuels, especially as my grandfather was a forced conscript coal miner in the "Great War" and dug for coal using a pick and shovel in Wigan's coal fields to help in the 1914-1918 war effort. How things have changed, or have they? Maybe things are now much worse!

Children as young as 5 years old are being used to mine rare metals, such as lithium out of the ground in Africa and ethnic minorities are forced to make batteries and computer components in China.

Much is also said about slave labour, but how many people realise their mobile phone, computer and smart watch is built, mostly from slave and child labour? These enslaved people receive as little as 1 USD a day, the profits stuff the pockets of dictators and corporate entities, as is the production of cacao the basic ingredient in chocolate!



Equally, the solar panels on the roofs of houses and covering large sways of the our once green and pleasant land have been produced by individuals forced to work in factories controlled by the Chinese government and paid a pittance for the privilege. A prison cell awaits those who object or attempt to escape.

So, when you next spend hundreds of pounds on buying your expensive technical gizmo, or battery powered car, spare a thought for the individuals receiving a bowl of rice in payment for their contribution to its production.

Now here's a frightening thought! China is gearing up to invade Taiwan and no matter if it happens sooner or later, it will be a humanitarian disaster when it does. It will also mean China taking control of 95% of the world's computer component manufacture and assembly, plus most of the world's battery production. It will become a major influence on the internet and will eventually have the ability to monitor, possibly control the internet, AI systems, and millions of user's internet activity and your data. America will then become a lesser player in that market.

TIK TOK users could well be the first to succumb to the control of world of the Red Dragon!

More customers experience the failings of BT's move to a digital telephone system, some I would add are delighted with it? Nonetheless, when it is your turn make sure your phone is digital compliant and you have a mobile phone as backup!

For free advice telephone Brian Meadows on 01288 38106
Nofix-Nofee Computer Repair Service

Those who have kindly agreed to sponsor The Buzz are:-

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Mr & Mrs Allison - Canna Park

Fred Bond -The Green

Linda Goodman—1 Bridge

Richard & Gill Heal - Holsworthy

Steve and Jo South - Brensham House

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David & Vivienne Hale -Lodgeworthy

Mervyn & Sylvia Lucas - Bude

Ron & Marion Abbott - 2 Bridge Park

Trevor & Sue Bowden -Churchtown

John & Carol Palmer - Holsworthy

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Tony Wallis—Littlebridge Meadows

Peter & Clarice Harris—Highlands

Sue Cowan-Dickie -

Freda Lacey - 8 Bridge Park

Gwen Prouse—Bude

Graham & Claire Braund—Littlebridge Meadows

Barry & Lisa Lucas - Elmpark

Steve & Lorraine—Meadows Barn

Alex and Emily—The Old Paddock

Rob & Carol Cox - Willow Crest

Colin & Helen - Bridgerule

Paul & Pauline Latham - The Green

Ron & Sheila White—Littlebridge Meadows

Phil and Sue Sanders—26 Southfields

Rex and Helen Eccott—Crosspark

Ken & Liz James - Merrifield

Christopher & Heather Darwin

H Taylor - Southfields

Tom & Lucy Murray

D. Leach—5 Macarthur Close

P.J. Bobcat Hire— Colin Cholwill

Chris & Rose Hitchings - The Hitching Post

Alan & Rosie Beat —The Mill

Melissa Field - 10 Southfields

Bob and Ellie Mitchell - Littlebridge Meadows

John & Sonia Gardener - Buttsbeer Farm

Grenville & Margaret Cleave - Garden Ridge

Christine Gee - Southfields

Bill & Margaret Eastcott- Littlebridge Farm

Neville & Wendy Rimmer - Silverstone

Paul & Stacey Cholwill -1 Littlebridge Cross

Joan & Michael Thornton- Atlanta

Michelle and Paul Sanders - Rimmersleigh

Malcolm Newton —Southfields

John and Michelle Jardine

Roger & Diane Green —Moorside

Julie Reddicliffe - Holsworthy

Kevin & Leslie Bowditch - Littlebridge Meadows

Darren & Tasha Stephens - Sanctuary Lodge

Bill & Lynn Keeley - Canada

Pete & Angela North - Kents View

Tim and Carol Honey - Grove Farm

Alan & Linda Weekes - Littlebridge Meadow

Jane Charlesworth—Littlebridge Meadows

Miss P Glover - Lower Dux

Shaun and Sonia - Elm Cottage

Mrs J. Vinnicombe - Holsworthy

Rick & Sarah Hallett—Littlebridge Meadows

Mr & Mrs James—Borough View

Mrs Christine Routley—Holsworthy

Malcolm & Joyce Shadbolt—Kildare

Trevor & Linda Snowdon—The Green

Helen Jayne— The Green

Scott & Kathy Whatmore - Brooklands

Nigel and Crystal - Tackbear

Phil & Doreen Elswood Cair Paraval

Sarah Poole — Javad

Winnie Westlake—Arthmead

Richard & Leila Camp - 1 Meadow View

Fred and Suzanne Cogdell—Green Pastures

Steven and Annie Youldon Knowle

Ian and Tracy—Larapinta

Joan Whatmore—Southfields

Gautam & Susan, Camellia, Canal Rise

Palmer Family— Tamar House

Ray & Shirley Delaforce

Bob & Donna Cooper—Southfields

F. Jackson—East View



Winner of the Easter Raffle at the village shop was Harley with grandma Caroline.

Harley is seen here with her first prize, Bailey, the Rabbit, together with his birth certificate.

Bailey was made and donated by one of our shop customers Sue Timlin.

Just over £100 was raised which will go towards a bench for the Play Park.

BRIDGERULE METHODIST CHURCH

Services at 11.00am

04th May	Rev. Meg Slingo Holy Communion
11th May	No Service
18th May	Cath Paddon United with St Bridget's
25th May	United Service at St Bridget's
1st June	Paul Wreyford
8th June	No Service
15th June	Local Arrangement
22nd June	United Service at St. Bridget's
29th June	Local Arrangement

SHEILA'S MENTIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVERYONE:

Alison Stanton for 10th May

Christine Gee for 12th May

Steve Thomas for 15th May

Marion Abbott for 16th May

Harvey Cholwill for 1st June

Gwyneth Cameron for 5th June

Julia Trayford for 5th June

Me for 5th June

Jo South for 11th June

Dee Thomas for 11th June

Ella Cholwill for 16th June

Cliff Seymour Smith for 16th June

Pam Bowler for 18th June

Betty Slade for 23rd June

Angela Brock for 26th June



Our very best wishes go to Winnie Westlake.

Winnie suffered an unfortunate accident recently . I am pleased to say she is now at home.



Our good wishes go to Cliff Seymour Smith. Cliff is always very helpful in putting the Buzz on-line for the editor. We wish him well.

Neighbourhood Watch Notes

What consternation! You would have to visit a distant hospital like Barnstaple if that hospital wanted a blood test, now that the Ruby County surgery in Holsworthy will not take blood for onward transmission to hospitals. That was the only option.

However, Holsworthy hospital will now take the blood for transfer to whichever hospital requires it. Each of the hospitals has their day for blood to be taken. Barnstaple, Torrington and Bideford, for example, have their individual days at Holsworthy. If you are asked for a blood sample you have to make an appointment with Holsworthy Hospital. Don't just turn up. The phone number is 01395 519922 - an Exeter number. You can't just turn up.

Have you invested in the Ripple Solar Farm, otherwise known as Derril Water Solar Farm ? They have reportedly appointed insolvency specialists to place the company into administration. In old fashioned terms they have gone bust. But work still goes on building new stanchions for solar panels.

And now the latest, but not new, scam. Ticket sales for concerts and events. Don't lose your money by getting tickets from other than the box office or well-known ticketing websites. Check they belong to STAR, an organisation that has signed up for dispute resolution. Visit "star.org.uk/buy_safe". If you think you have been scammed report it to 0300 123 2040 or "actionfraud.police.uk".

If you are approached by a couple in a supermarket car park, take extreme care. One talks but the other may steal your wallet or handbag.

Finally - in the decent weather to come don't let yourself suffer burglary. Keep things tight and lit up at night. Doors, windows, cars and sheds etc locked up when you're not about. Don't let anyone unknown in to your property.

Stay safe.

John McDougall 01288 381237
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator



Spotlight on Hilary Taylor

Hilary has lived in our village for a number of years. She fully commits to our village whenever she can and very much enjoys amongst other things going out walking.

Hilary continues:-

I have had a very varied and interesting career in nursing and midwifery starting as a student nurse in Torbay hospital at the age of 18 years and ending up as a practice nurse at various general practitioner surgeries around Mere in Wiltshire where I lived until I retired at the age of

There were some tasks as a student nurse I did not enjoy however. The main one being collecting tooth mugs of false teeth and cleaning them

“trying” to make sure the right ones were returned to the right pot!!

Yet I loved the medical wards where you really got to know everyone and hopefully see them improve. I also heard swear words I didn't know existed but that was mainly from the motor-bike boys.....

After my midwifery training in Bristol and then Winchester (excellent walks) I found my niche especially enjoying my tie with the community with my bike assisting with a lot of the confinements and requiring to clean a few baths of coal when the need arose.

For reasons not understood by my family, I Volunteered as a V.S.O.

(Volunteered Services Overseas) after a

year in Jersey. I put a pin the world map and ended up in India.

However, V.S.O. Headquarters sent me to Malawi in Africa. I did a months course with the other fourteen volunteers in London learning about the country, customs and interesting politics and warned about the dangers of being deported.



The language course was very good and I was useless making the lovely Malawian tutor laugh every time we did role play - he called me a typical passive Malawian!

Cultural shock! Oh yes, but I loved the country and the people from the start. We were (2 of us until she left) based in Nkhoma, a Scottish and South African mission with a lovely surgical block built with money from the World Council of Churches. The rest of time spent there was where I led the midwifery team and my Canadian pal the Children's Unit. We were kept very busy and I did the midwifery teaching as well, up to our United Kingdom standards and exams. I had 2 sets of lovely students. As much as I loved the work, the people here were very poor and under nourished with many mothers for the young to be having babies ending with many coming in with ruptured uterus etc from the village with subsequent very sad outcomes. Despite it all they were friendly and generous and always gave a smile.

However, we did our best with educating (the students soon learnt what information to impart in a nice way) the people and getting them as fit as we could encouraging family spacing (Family Planning was not allowed by President Banda) and immunisations.

I could go on and on but I wont, suffice to say I felt we had at least passed on our knowledge to the next generation and hope that this very poor land locked country could start to raise more healthy children. However, not that many years later it was blighted by HIV/Aids...



Some of Hilary's students in Malawi.



" She said she would fetch another water butt before the rains come".



Only home made transport available

On a final note of interest I remember well and can now laugh about. I was doing a large ante-natal clinic with some students when everyone ran outside. Then I saw this wild eyed Malawian man holding up my little Brownie camera and saying he had a present for me. How kind..... He pulled a live snake out of his mouth, The watchman hurried in and took the man, my camera (full of mud) and the snake went somewhere too!!! I then called everyone back in and resumed my clinic as you do!

Thank you for Malawi for a wonderful 2 years. I made many of you friends and I learnt a lot from you all. 1973-1975.

I now find myself back in beautiful Devon. How lucky am !!!

The editor wishes to thank Hilary for her most interesting spotlight on her chosen career.

A few useful telephone numbers perhaps:

Holsworthy Medical Centre	01409 253692
Stratton Medical Centre	01288 352133
Holsworthy Hospital	01409253424
Stratton Hospital	01288 287700
Stratton Minor Injuries	01288 287701

**J&P PLUMBING HEATING
&
Home Maintenance**
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07500876642
07500708650

24 *Call Out*
hr

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TATSON FARMHOUSE
BED & BREAKFAST
07960199331

tatsonfarmholidays@gmail.com



To: Mr. J.D. Vance, Vice President U.S.A,
C/o The White House,
Pennsylvania Avenue,
Washington D.C.

Sir,

As part of our annual Carnival there will shortly be an election for "Village Idiot" role for 2025 and thought it would be a nice gesture to offer you the opportunity to apply. You possess some ideal qualities for the role such as; little or no knowledge of international affairs, a distinct lack of facts about the past achievements of the United States in its involvement in conflicts around the world, having never achieved a victory without assistance from other nations. Little knowledge of the involvement of other nations in conflicts around the world since the 2nd World War. All this coupled with extreme bad manners in conversations with other leaders of various countries. All admirable qualities for this position. Your time with the U.S. Marine Corps as an administrator may also be useful in this role.

Originally the offer of the role was going to be made to Mr. Trump but as he has been elected as the village idiot of Wahington DC for the next four years it was decided to give you the opportunity to apply.

There are a number of perks attached to the role but these will only be revealed to the successful candidate.

Hopefully you will take up the opportunity to apply as it is thought you stand a very good chance of being successful.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. R. Tamar (Chairman)

*Mr Barry Marshall forwarded the above to the Editor for inclusion.
Some light hearted amusement.*



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Bude Eye Centre 7 Queen Street Bude

Telephone: 01288 350041

Email: info@budeeyecentre.co.uk

Do you need help with food?

Torridge is working with the Northern Devon Foodbank, Bideford to provide essential help to those who need it the most this winter. Please see the application process below.

1

Contact Torridge District Council

01237 428700 - Option 9

customer.services@torridge.gov.uk

2

You will be issued with a voucher number to take to your nearest Trussell Foodbank (Bideford or Holsworthy in Torridge).

3


Foodbank contact details and locations

01237 422243 or 07422 651252

Bideford - Supreme House, Pitt Lane, EX39 3JA
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Visit northerndevon.foodbank.org.uk for more locations





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