



# The Broadsheet

Broadclyst Parish Council Newsletter

Spring 2024/Issue 62

Covering Broadclyst Village, Tithebarn and Westclyst

## Hillside Gardens Allotments Open

Becky Searle

There was much joy in Westclyst in December when the allotments at Hillside Gardens were opened. Thanks to the collective efforts of a large number of residents, the Broadclyst Environment Group and the Parish Council, there are now fifteen happy plot holders ready to get growing. And there will be more on their way soon on the Redrow Estate. Allotments are a wonderful way to bring a community together, grow healthy local food, improve biodiversity and make sure that everyone has courgettes!

If you are one of the lucky ones that has just taken on an allotment, or you are hoping to get your hands on one soon, here is some advice to get you started.

**Make a plan:** Dividing up your allotment plot can make it seem a lot easier. Then, you can work on it bit by bit, getting some crops growing whilst you work on setting up the rest. Start by thinking about paths and structures. Decide where to put your compost heap, water butts, places to sit and any other structures you want, and then how you will get to them. Remember, direct paths are

always best on an allotment!

**Removing Weeds:** This can be done by digging them up, hoeing or by using a weed suppressant such as heavy duty weed fabric or cardboard. I recommend removing deep-rooted weeds like thistles, docks and dandelions with a fork or weeding tool otherwise, they will come back easily! Brambles and nettles should also be dug out.

**Preparing the soil:** The soil here in Westclyst is very heavy clay, so digging it over will take a lot of time and effort. I recommend trying out no dig gardening. Simply use a layer of compost or well-rotted manure on top of the soil, and plant into it. This will feed the life in the soil and support your plants with no need for fertilisers. The soft texture of compost also makes it much easier to manage weeds.

**Winter to Spring Jobs:** Now is a great time to plant bare-root fruit trees and bushes. These are a lot more affordable than potted fruit and trees, and usually do really well. You can get them from most supermarkets at the moment. Setting up water collection is also important

this time of year, so you don't run out in the summer!

If you would like more information on setting up your allotment, you can find me on Instagram, Facebook, YouTube and in Kitchen Garden Magazine. I'm always happy to help if you have any questions, so if you see me around, come and say hello!

*Becky is a Garden Writer and Speaker with a background in Ecology. She writes about organic gardening and working with biodiversity. She is also starting a new plot in Westclyst this year!*



Clare Ratcliffe

## Unsung Helpers

**It has been noticed, particularly during the festive season, how many people help other people. They help with shopping, cleaning and gardening, they give people lifts in their cars, help with food distribution and they check all is well with neighbours. And some help with IT.**

Volunteers help in the Clyst Caring Charity Shop and in the Day Care Centre, they help with child minding and the Youth Club and in the hubs around the Parish. Some clean the church and tend the church yard and

run events to help save the church from closure. Events are held to support charities, which takes time and effort both physically and mentally.

The Parish Councillors and the Clerks go beyond their remit delivering food and help, they put up notices during flood warnings which are quite often not during daytime working hours. People take time to contribute to and distribute The Broadsheet. There are a few walkers who regularly pick up litter which

sometimes escapes from the refuse lorries or is dropped or thrown by careless people. It wouldn't be fair to expect them to pick up your dog's mess so please do it yourself. There are others who pull cars out of ditches and floods with their tractors and 4x4s and all this for no reward.

None of us know all the people who do all these good things, but you know who you are, so please accept this article as a thank you for making Broadclyst and its surrounds such a pleasant place to live. (See Page 5.)

# Meet your Local Councillors



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## Copies of Parish Council Agendas and Minutes

The minutes of all parish council meetings are always put on our website. Copies of these and/or any agenda can be emailed or posted. Please telephone or email the parish clerk for particular copies you want, or request to be added to our emailing list for all agendas and minutes sent out monthly. Details of all planning applications are also available on the website.

# Chairman's Corner

## Councillor Henry Massey

Spring's on the horizon, a time of the year when our local farmers are in the thick of lambing. For some farmers though, the year has not started well. As I write this, there have been **four** separate incidents involving dogs chasing sheep in a field adjacent to Broadclyst. At least two of these involved dogs that were within the dog walking field. The Parish Council quickly erected a dog-proof fence around the dog walking field to stop further incidents. It was therefore really upsetting to hear that as I write this, another incident has occurred leading to injuries to some pregnant ewes.

I am myself the owner of two dogs, and am somehow quite capable of keeping them on a lead when near sheep. I know in the last incident there was a significant threat of one of the dogs being shot. I also question how easy it is to

walk a lot of dogs at the same time. I am aware that some of these incidents have involved people walking four or more dogs. Farmers will protect their sheep using lethal force – if you really care about your dogs then be warned.

On other matters, we may live in a relatively rural part of the UK, but in the past month, I have had reporters calling from both the Daily Mail and most recently the New York Times! It seems that the people of New York have been reading about Broadclyst whilst eating their bagels for breakfast.

The subject of these articles has been about the unfortunate dumping of seven giant tortoises at Ashclyst Forest. One poor reporter came down from London to Exeter St Davids and was then dismayed to find that Sprydun Beacon at

Ashclyst Forest wasn't served by a railway station!

Taxi duly organised, he spent the day searching for the 2,500 words to fill the space his editor had given him. I was called in desperation, as he hadn't really enough content for even the first paragraph. I wasn't much help – I could hear his disappointment when I assured him that Broadclyst was not the centre of a satanic cult (I had a joke here about a neighbouring village but our Clerk made me delete it) or a world centre for reptile breeding. He even tried asking about the impact our farms may have from the dead tortoises. I assured him that as they didn't farm tortoises they probably wouldn't worry too much.

The growing community of Tithebarn now has a residents association, and the first commercial



building is emerging from the ground. We're looking forward to supporting them with their community projects.

As a reminder, the West Clyst allotments are now available. Although we had a waiting list of people who wanted them, now they are actually available, it appears that most of those on the list have gone quiet (i.e. changed their mind) so it took a while to actually get people signed up. I think, however, that they are now largely let.

Enjoy the Spring Broadsheet – best wishes, Henry

## Clerk's Report

### Budget setting and 2024/25 Council Tax

*Angie Hurren*

**Broadclyst Parish is a beautiful and historically rich parish, approximately 35 km<sup>2</sup> and home to over 6,000 people.** Predominantly rural with new residential and economic development in its southwestern corner, it encompasses the three main villages of Broadclyst, Westclyst, and Tithebarn, along with several smaller villages and

hamlets. A map of the Parish can be found on the website, under the community and footpaths tabs.

The governance of Broadclyst Parish Council is driven by both statutory duties and powers that reflect the electorate's wishes. Nationally, parish councils are increasingly influential in neighbourhood planning,

with Broadclyst actively participating in this trend. The Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan identifies future community projects for the council and part of the Finance Committee's duties is to prepare a budget that allows for delivery of such projects.

The Broadclyst Parish Council's Budget Report for 2024-25 is available to

read in full on the Parish Council website (under the finance and budget tabs). It offers a comprehensive overview of the financial planning and allocations for the upcoming year. This report is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability to residents about how public money is spent.

**Continued on Page 3**



# Clerk's Report

Contd.

The Council's finances are managed within a strict legal framework, ensuring responsible and effective use of public funds. The budget setting process involves careful consideration of anticipated income and expenditure, leading to the determination of the precept, which is the parish tax required to fund parish council operations.

## How much?

The Broadclyst Parish precept for 2024/25 has been set at £430,685, a 1.85% increase from 23/24. A Band D property (with no benefits or other reductions) will pay a Parish Council tax of £156.21 for the year 24/25, or £13.02 per month. This

equates to an additional 5p per week (£2.95 to £3.00).

## Why has it gone up?

The Council's budget for 2024-25 includes various ongoing expenditures, such as administration, public relations, maintenance, and youth provision. The main reasons for the increase are an additional £25,000 to expand youth work; a new post of Committee Clerk to support the work of the council's committees; and a new post of Community Connector to help address the needs of the community while fostering an environment of support and engagement. Additionally, the budget reflects an ongoing commitment to neighbourhood planning, climate emergency

response, and other vital community services.

The increase has been kept to a minimal impact by making reductions to other areas of council operation. Income streams for the Council include allotment rents, hall hire, known grant funding, and interest from investments. The Council continuously seeks external funding to supplement its budget, ensuring that local taxes are effectively used for local services.

## Devolved service provision.

The budget forecasts for 2024-25 are meticulously prepared, reflecting the Council's proactive approach to community service and financial

responsibility. This approach is particularly important in the current economic context, where principal authorities face budget constraints, and local councils like Broadclyst Parish Council are taking on more responsibilities.

In conclusion, the Broadclyst Parish Council's budget for 2024-25 is a balanced and thoughtful plan that addresses the growing needs of the community while exercising fiscal prudence. It aims to provide high-quality services to all sectors of the community, ensuring that the Parish continues to thrive and meet both current and future challenges.

# Broadclyst's New Community Connector

**The function of this newly-created position is to make sure that everyone in Broadclyst Parish, which covers Tithebarn, Westclyst and surrounding hamlets, feels included and cared for.**

The Community Connector will work closely with different groups in the Parish to understand what people need and how best to help them. This means listening to people, figuring out what they

enjoy, and helping in a way that makes them feel special.

This role is also about bringing people together. By building strong friendships and working with others, the Community Connector will make the community stronger and better. Everyone will have a chance to be involved and to help make decisions that affect the Parish.

The creation of this role shows how much

Broadclyst Parish cares about its residents. It's a promise to look after everyone, to make sure no one feels alone or left out. This job is a big step towards a future where everyone in Broadclyst Parish can be happy and healthy, where people look out for each other, and where the community is like a big, supportive family.

In summary, the Community Connector is not just a job; it's a

commitment from the Parish of a brighter, kinder future for everyone in Broadclyst Parish. It's about making sure that all residents, no matter their age or situation, feel included, important, and taken care of.

This role is a shining example of how when people come together, they can make wonderful things happen.

*Councillor Karl Straw*

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# Change of Headship at Clyst Vale Community College

*Ms Sara Jacobs,  
Principal*



After 23 years at the helm, Dr Kevin Bawn has retired as Principal. At the time of his retirement he was Devon's longest serving secondary head. His successor is Sara Jacobs who initially joined Clyst Vale in 2019 as Deputy Principal. Over the last four years Sara has become fully immersed in the culture and ethos of the College, working closely alongside Dr Bawn and the rest of the senior leadership team to lead College improvements. Sara's energy and drive played a significant role in the

College securing its recent 'Good' judgement from OFSTED in December 2023. Prior to joining Clyst Vale, Sara worked for nearly 30 years across four different secondary schools in a variety of leadership roles including Assistant Headteacher at Uffculme and Director of the West Country Teaching School Alliance, and brings a wealth of experience to the post.

In her first letter to parents and carers Ms Jacobs acknowledged it was a privilege to be the next Principal at Clyst Vale, stressing that whilst there would be a focus on developing a culture of excellence, the values that underpin the ethos of the college would remain. As a Gold Award winning Rights Respecting School, Clyst Vale is renowned in the local area for its tradition of putting young people first. It is a college

that promotes positive relationships built on trust and a collective purpose to empower every student in its community to thrive, unlock their potential, and fulfil their aspirations.

Ms Jacobs commended Dr Bawn on his long and successful career, becoming one of Devon's most respected headteachers, noting that he had worked tirelessly for nearly a quarter of a century to ensure that Clyst Vale has remained rooted in the heart of the local community and promoted the importance of inclusive education. Ms Jacobs said that "Dr Bawn departs Clyst Vale having achieved both

OFSTED Good and Rights Respecting School Gold accreditation, leaving the College exceptionally well placed for future success. I express my gratitude for his relentless dedication to the College and his invaluable support over the past 4 years. I wish him a very happy and well-deserved retirement".



One person knows who emptied out his car ashtray by the exit gates of Clyst Vale Community College on a Friday night a couple of weeks ago!

What a disgraceful anti-social character this person is to leave his rubbish for an unseen helper to clear up. (see Page 1)

  
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# Tithebarn - A Community in the Making

**Nestled between the River Clyst and Pin Brook adjacent to Exeter's Science Park, you'd be forgiven for not knowing exactly where Tithebarn is, or that it is now over five years since the first home was completed.**

Although Tithebarn may not have the same modern-day history as other communities, archaeological excavations before construction started revealed a fascinating history of human occupation that spans over 3000 years.

Around half of the 1500 homes that are expected to make up Tithebarn have now been completed. As houses continue to be built towards the Clyst, the landscape is also being transformed on Tithebarn Way with the Local

Centre now rising from the ground. This will provide a much-needed hub for the community. Among its amenities, the Local Centre will host a Tesco Express, space for a café and outdoor street vendors, play equipment, and a set of sports pitches.

Yet, with progress comes challenges, and Tithebarn is no exception. Like many new developments, residents have been frustrated by the pace at which basic amenities have

been delivered, the maintenance of many of the public spaces, and the reliability of the district heating network. People living in Tithebarn are also missing out on the basic support that comes with living in an established area. However, amidst these challenges lies an opportunity for residents to actively shape the trajectory of the community. More than anything, we want to be able to say, 'I live in Tithebarn' and for people to reply, 'Oh yes, I've heard that is a great place to live.'



It was from conversations over the last year that a collective voice for the community was born: the **Tithebarn Residents Association**. With the invaluable help of Ebbie Peters, Community Builder for Pinhoe, and the Black Horse Inn for providing us with a welcoming space to meet, a constitution was drafted, a public meeting held, and committee voted in before Christmas. The committee is made up of people from across

Tithebarn with very different backgrounds and experiences in life, but what we all have in common is a passion for Tithebarn to thrive.

Central to the association's mission is empowering residents to participate in the shaping of Tithebarn's future. Regular public meetings are scheduled throughout the year. These offer residents a forum to share ideas, engage with local authorities, raise issues but above all, get to know one another. In the words of a resident that recently contacted the association, "A community

It costs nothing to be a member of the association and you can offer as little or as much time as you like to further its aims.

**Our next public meetings will take place on 20 March and 23 May starting at 7 pm at The Black Horse Inn.**

At our March meeting, PCSO Jonathan Sims from the Local Policing Team will be joining us to answer questions and listen to any issues that residents have, for example, pavement parking. We appreciate you might not be able to attend in person,

but if you would like to keep up to date with the association's work and offer your support, please visit our website [www.tithebarn.uk](http://www.tithebarn.uk). If you have any questions for Jonathan, or are interested in getting involved, please email [ra@tithebarn.uk](mailto:ra@tithebarn.uk).

starts with the people who live in the area taking responsibility for the community on which they live...this starts with a sense of belonging."

As Tithebarn continues to evolve, the success of the association hinges upon it being supported by the wider community. To become a voice that is heard when engaging with developers or local authorities, we need your support in the work we do.

*Fran Aggleton and  
Matthew Lehnert*





# Buddy's Badge Success

*Councillor Liz Straw*

Children were very excited to meet Broadclyst Parish Council's Buddy the Road Safety Bear. During two meet and greet sessions a total of 330 road safety badges were given to children leaving the primary school.

Standing in School Lane, Buddy chatted with families encouraging children to be safe while travelling to and from school. During a recent session Buddy was accompanied by Dan, a County Council Civic Enforcement Officer, pictured, who along with his team, is also working

hard encouraging drivers to park safely in the village. We're hoping to work closely with the Civic Enforcement department to make our streets safer.

The Police and Fire Brigade have also been invited to join Buddy in future meet and greet sessions with families in School Lane. The Parish Council is creating a working party to discuss ways of building a strong safety culture in and around Town Hill, which is the only pedestrian access to the primary school.

It's encouraging to hear families now referring to Buddy when reminding their children to be safe while crossing Town Hill,

so let's keep up the good work and as Buddy says let's "Travel Safely Every Day."



# New Youth Services in Broadclyst, Tithebarn and Westclyst

*Councillor Karl Straw*

Exciting news for the youth of Broadclyst, Westclyst, and Tithebarn – the YMCA Exeter Community Projects has been awarded a contract to deliver new youth services in these areas. This initiative, poised to transform the landscape of youth engagement and support, is a significant step forward in nurturing the potential of young people in these communities. The Parish Council has decided to invest an additional £25,000 a year in youth work which along with the new Community Connector role is a significant uplift in community support and engagement.

The project's aim is the development and delivery

of new youth provisions, designed to be responsive to the specific needs and interests of young residents. Central to this vision is the creation of new, vibrant spaces where young people can gather, learn, and grow. These hubs of activity will not only offer recreational opportunities but will also serve as vital platforms for educational and personal development programs.

A key focus of the YMCA's plan is fostering youth participation in how the service is run. By encouraging young voices to be heard in community decision-making, the project aims to empower a new generation of engaged, proactive citizens. This approach is

not just about giving youth a voice; it's about integrating them into local community life.

The project also emphasises the importance of collaboration and community involvement. Recruiting and training local volunteers will create a robust support system around these youth services, ensuring sustainability and community ownership. Partnerships with local organisations and councils are set to broaden the impact of the project, creating a network of support and opportunity for young people.

Furthermore, the initiative is designed to be dynamic and adaptive, evolving with the changing needs

and aspirations of the youth it serves. Regular assessments and feedback mechanisms will ensure that the services remain relevant and effective, truly making a lasting difference in the lives of young people.

In conclusion, the YMCA Exeter Community Projects' new youth provision is a beacon of hope and progress for Broadclyst, Westclyst, and Tithebarn. It represents a commitment to the well-being and future of young people, promising to foster a vibrant, engaged, and empowered youth community.



# St John the Baptist Church Broadclyst

## The Great Broadclyst Abseil Weekend

Rev Gudrun Thomas

**Do you like a challenge?**

**Have you ever wondered about the view from the top of the church tower here in Broadclyst?**

**Well now is your chance to combine the two with our Abseil event.**

Over the weekend of **11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> May 2024** we are offering the chance to abseil down Broadclyst church tower for an entrance fee of £30 and, in addition, all we ask is that you raise a minimum of £30 sponsorship. There will be a prize for the person raising the most sponsorship. The Abseil is open to adults and children aged 10+

The money raised will support the important work of local churches, including work with young people and a donation to a local Broadclyst charity, Clyst Caring.

To book a time slot and register go to [www.cranbrookchurch.org/whats-on](http://www.cranbrookchurch.org/whats-on)

Over the weekend we are also looking at putting on some entertainment, craft stalls, food and refreshments to add a community feel to the event. If anyone has any ideas about what we might provide in addition to the abseil or if anyone would be happy to volunteer support over that weekend then please get in touch -we would love to hear from you.

If you require further information please contact

Rev Gudrun Thomas

[rev.gudrunthomas@eastclystchurches.org](mailto:rev.gudrunthomas@eastclystchurches.org)

### The East Clyst Churches

### The Great Broadclyst Abseil



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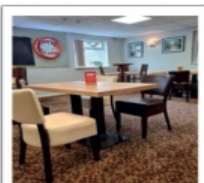
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# Clyst Caring Friends - Your Local Charity

## Our Services – Clyst Caring Friends

Clyst Caring Friends charity operates a day centre in Broadclyst, which is run by staff and volunteers. The day centre offers lunch, and enjoyable and educational activities.

We also run a transport service with the aid of volunteers, which is for day centre clients, and for surgeries at Pinhoe or Broadclyst or other local

medical appointments, such as podiatry or the dentist. There is also the possibility of a one-way journey to local hospital appointments.

## Volunteering?

To run our services, we need volunteers who are willing to give some of their spare time to help us, at our shop in Broadclyst, as a driver, or in the day centre. Every individual has their own personal reasons for volunteering. These include better

physical and mental health and wellbeing. It also gives people a sense of worth whilst making new friends and feeling part of a team, a sense of connection to others in the community and supporting causes they are passionate about, to name but a few.

Voluntary vacancies available include drivers, helping at our day centre or charity shop. If you would like an informal chat with our Office manager Ann Unwin about volunteering, please call

01392 464940. If you would like to help please email [clystcaringfriends@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clystcaringfriends@hotmail.co.uk) for an online application form or collect a paper copy from the charity shop in Broadclyst. We can even post you a form if needed. If you feel this is something that appeals, Clyst Caring Friends would love to hear from you.

## How you can help Clyst Caring by becoming a member of the Cooperative

You can become a life member of the Coop for just £1. As soon as you have done that, you can choose Clyst Caring Friends as your “Local Cause”. The more people sign up to be members of the Coop, and choose Clyst Caring as their “Local Cause”, the more money Coop will donate to Clyst Caring. The Coop are changing the way that they reward members and Local Causes, but Clyst Caring will benefit if you sign up and select us as your local cause, up to a cut off date of 19 October 2024.

*From left to right in the photo : Sue Wreford, Store Manager at the Coop, Henry Gent, Chairman of CCF, Sam Peterson, new CCF General Manager, and Ibhade Akpede of the Coop*



**Fresh eggs available daily from our family run Crabhayes Farm (EX5 3BN) and Broadclyst Village Stores and Post Office**

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Early booking is strongly recommended.

## Children's Mini Tennis

Saturdays



FREE FOR LED MEMBERS or £5.25 per session.

Early booking is strongly recommended.

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# National Trust - Swifts of Broadclyst Project

**We are lucky enough to hear Swifts screaming in the skies over Broadclyst on warm summer evenings. However, numbers have halved in just the last ten years! Can you help?**

## What are Swifts?

The Swift is a medium-sized aerial bird and a superb flyer. Sleeping, eating, bathing and even mating on the wing, swifts rarely touch the ground. They are also the fastest birds in level flight, with an impressive top speed of 69 m.p.h.

Swifts are plain sooty brown, with a white throat, but in flight against the sky they appear black. They have long, scythe-like wings and a short, forked tail. Swifts are summer visitors, breeding across the UK, but are most numerous in the south and east. Spending their winters in Africa, swifts migrate 3,400 miles twice a year, stopping off to refuel in places like Portugal and France along the way.

After a long flight back from their summer in Africa, swifts have one thing on their minds - to mate. Swifts pair for life, returning to the same site each year for a little nest renovation before laying and incubating their eggs.

## Why are they in decline?

They like to live in houses and churches, squeezing through tiny gaps to nest inside roofs. But as more old buildings are renovated and gaps in soffits closed, swift nest sites are fast disappearing. This, in part, has resulted in swifts being added to the red list in the 2021 UK Conservation Status Report.

Red is the highest conservation priority, with species on this list needing urgent action. Species on this list, such as swifts, are globally threatened, with big declines in breeding populations and ranges. That's why swifts urgently need our help.

## How can we help Broadclyst's Swift population?

By installing a Swift brick in a wall, or putting up a nest box, you could give a Swift a place to rest and raise a family.

Swifts don't build mud cups like swallows or house martins. Instead they use little holes under the eaves of houses, or in gaps in walls, squeezing in and then creating a nest inside from spider silk, feathers, leaves and even small pieces of windblown paper, all caught on the wing. Modern houses don't have many of these gaps, and as older houses are



improved, swifts are being shut out.

Specially designed nest boxes can really help swifts by giving them a place to raise a family. But adding one to your house isn't quite like putting up a box for blue tits. They have to be installed high up on a building with at least a 5-metre drop and clearance in front to give the swifts clear flight access. With safety issues to consider, putting one up is a job best left for people who are used to working at height.

## What do I do?

If you would be happy to have 1 or 2 Swift boxes on your house and you think you have somewhere high up with good flight access, as described above; please contact Fi Hailstone, Estate Ecologist on [Fiona.hailstone@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Fiona.hailstone@nationaltrust.org.uk)

We would like to get as many boxes as possible installed before the Swifts return from Africa in

May 2024.

## FAQs

### Will Swifts nest in my box?

Swifts mate for life and are deeply faithful to their nest holes, so they can be difficult to attract into new nest-boxes. The chances are better if Swifts are already nesting in the vicinity, which is why there is still hope for Broadclyst's Swifts! Time and patience are needed; success may well not come in the first or even second year.

### Will bird droppings be a problem?

No. Swifts usually eat a good proportion of the chicks' droppings, and do not usually defecate in or near the nest themselves. Sometimes Swifts are mistaken for other birds like Swallows and House Martins.

*Fiona Hailstone*

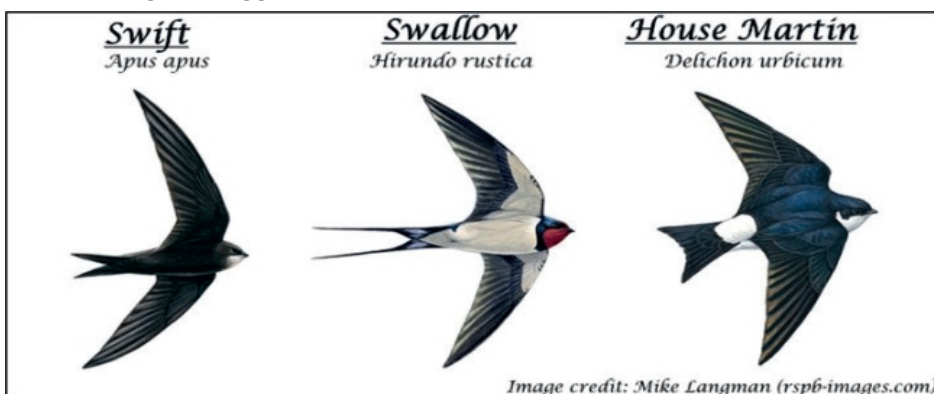


Image credit: Mike Langman (rspb-images.com)

# All Welcome at Broadview Community Hub

Broadview Community Hub has been running for 16 months up at the Community Centre in the middle of Broadview.

The Hub is run by East Devon District Council and is open to everyone. The youngest visitor has been less than one year old, and the oldest visitor is currently 94. We allow you to bring your dog as long as it's well behaved and doesn't bark too much. Bring your cat if it is willing and sociable!

Every week we provide a home cooked lunch and hot drinks and snacks. We run themed days with accompanying food such as the launch of Wimbledon with cream teas, or Lunar New Year with a Chinese Buffet.

Alongside a great lunch and good company we run a series of fun activities which you can choose to take part in.

We have tie-dyed t-shirts, made macrame plant hangers, had a table football competition, played Karpets Kurling and printed cards and wrapping paper. We have been visited by wild animals and an excellent singer. But we also just sit and play scrabble, or Cribbage for hours.....!

Some of the things planned for the next couple of months include :

A display of birds of prey - 20th March  
Easter Crafts - 27th March

And in April :

Ceramics – make a clay plaque 10<sup>th</sup> April  
70s week on 17<sup>th</sup> April.

We also hold budgeting workshops and advice of facing the cost-of-

living crisis. ECOE – the Energy Charity are visiting on 13<sup>th</sup> March with money saving tips and advice on cutting your energy usage.

Come along, don't sit in on your own, join a fun friendly group run by Lucinda Cliff from EDDC along with a team of fantastic local

volunteers. You don't have to come every week; we will welcome you and you may make

*Lucinda Cliff  
Project Officer  
Community Hubs EDDC*



## What will you do this year to improve your wellbeing?

Life is so often about looking ahead with eager anticipation as to what the future holds, and at this time of year it is especially enjoyable for our members, as we near the start of the new outdoor bowls season. Could this be the time for you to do the same, and come and join the fun whilst improving your health?

From Tuesday April 16<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting, Broadclyst Bowling Club will be pleased to offer any experienced players, or newcomers to the game, the opportunity to enjoy 4 free sessions to see how they get on before committing to join the club. All necessary

equipment is available, but you may prefer to bring your own pair of flat shoes.

For those new to the sport, we have our qualified coach to help them settle in and learn the basics, whilst the more experienced can just get straight in to play.

Last year was very positive for the club in that our membership increased with a combination of novice, and experienced players, who by the end of the season, were engaged in friendly matches against other local clubs. We hope that with Covid now having less of an impact on people socialising, we can look forward to this upward trend continuing.

For those not familiar with us, we are a small friendly club, open to all age groups, and have a team entered in the Exeter & District Men's Over 60 League competition, as well as playing regular mixed team friendly matches, both home and away, during the course of the season. We have regular practise matches, and in house competitions, as well as social events during the course of the year.

The club meets at the Sports Pavilion, Holly Close, Broadclyst, on Tuesdays between 5 and 7pm, and Wednesdays and Fridays between 2 and

4pm. Tea and biscuits are available at the end of each session.

If the idea of fresh air, light exercise, and having a go at something different appeals to you, get in touch to discuss in more detail, or just turn up and see what the game can do for your wellbeing.

For more information contact,

Marilyn (Secretary) on 07888 678207, Email [marilynsecbb@gmail.com](mailto:marilynsecbb@gmail.com) or Tony (Captain) on 07891 429419

We look forward to seeing you soon. Steve Higginson (Chairman)



# The BrasS Of It!

Richard Dew

**Are you a lapsed brass player looking to rekindle your musical spark? East Devon Daytime Band may be just what you are looking for and they are looking for you!**

The brainchild of cornet player Trevor Heynes, East Devon Daytime Band is a friendly and informal group of enthusiastic brass players who rehearse and play in the daytime – hence the name!

We aim to have fun together playing a mixed bag of music from Swinging Dixie to Anna Magdalena, from the Anvil Polka to Mack The Knife and back again via the usual traditional tunes, marches, hymns and anything else that takes our fancy.

We perform our music at local fetes and events, care homes and fundraisers around Exeter and East Devon and are particularly welcoming and supportive of players of all abilities who would like to come and join us.

You may have seen us at one of our Christmas carolling events having successfully completed our busiest season yet with well received performances at IKEA Exeter store, Sundial Care Home in Tipton St John, Newton Poppleford Primary School, Lockyer Lodge in Sidford and St Peter's Church Carol



service in Dalwood.

EDDB is delighted to announce the recent appointment of Mr Roger Riggs, well known and respected Musical Leader of the successful Lymstone Academy Brass Band, as our permanent Conductor.

As the band has grown we have also recently moved to a new band room at the Sidmouth Rugby Football Club Pavilion, Byes Close, Sidford, EX10 9PY where

we practice each Wednesday from 10:15-12:15 and there is ample free parking for all.

If the East Devon Daytime Band sounds like the place for you, please give Trevor a ring on **01395-708766** or visit the band website at <http://eastdevondaytimeband.weebly.com>

We look forward to welcoming you to the group!

**Please Note: Last Date for Articles for Summer Broadsheet: 30th April, 2024**

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# At the Council Table

*Councillor Henry Gent*

## Once again, a lot of planning applications to look at recently.

At the site known as Pinn Court Farm (in other words, Bloor, Westclyst), the application 23/0747/MFUL is to cancel the outline proposal for a nursing home, and to build 45 houses instead. We have been wrestling with this for nearly a year. We have succeeded in getting them to remove an unsafe looking proposal for a crossing of the B3181, but, at the time of writing, we still do not support the application, having discussed it 3 times.

We have also been wrestling for a while with a couple of sites on Tithebarn Way. Up near Honiton Road, opposite Anning Way, there is

Outline permission for 6,000 sq metres (about 60,000 sq ft) of office space (21/3148/MOUT). The developers are, at the time of writing, seeking to be released from the requirement to connect to the district heating network (23/2242/VAR), by providing a source of heat of a lower carbon intensity. The Parish has supported that. Slightly further down Tithebarn Way, on the same side of the road, the developers have an application for 4 commercial units and 9 dwellings (eg 23/2214/MFUL). This site has a complex history with 2 different planning applications, one of which has gone to appeal. Further down again, we have the Local Centre, currently being built.

Above the shop, which we expect to be a Tesco, will be 444 sq m with planning permission for Healthcare and Community use.

In Broadclyst village, I was pleased to see the National Trust supported the tenant of one of their old houses, in an application for Listed Building Consent to put in double glazing, and that the application was approved. The Parish had supported this. Sometimes, rigid conservation policies create too much of a challenge in terms of the cost and carbon emissions of heating, so it was great to see everyone agreeing on a more sensible policy.

Another positive planning result was the approval, in December, of the new



shared use trail and cycleway from Shercroft Close, Broadclyst Station, to Mossbayne Lane (DCC/4336/2023). There is no funding available yet, but planning permission helps to get funding for this important route which will eventually connect Cranbrook to Exeter, and will run through Tithebarn, giving Tithebarn residents direct access to the new public open space at Station Road, via a new bridge over the Clyst.

**Please Note : Last Date for Articles for Summer Broadsheet 30th April, 2024**

## The Wider Significance of Saundercroft Farm

### The planning application for the battery energy storage system at Saundercroft Farm has now been approved.

Once built, with a power output of 300 MW, it will be able to put out as much electricity as the old and decommissioned Hinkley Point A nuclear power station, (but not nearly as much as the not-yet-built Hinkley Point C at 3,000 MW).

If it were working now, Saundercroft would be three times larger than the

largest Battery Energy Storage System in Europe. But by the time it is built, it may well be eclipsed by other even larger sites, elsewhere in Europe, and in California (where else?) they have already built a battery site with an output of 750MW. And Saundercroft is not alone. There are other battery storage sites in the offing in East Devon, although those are smaller sites than Saundercroft.

Batteries have become a key part of the switch to

low carbon electricity. The main sources of low carbon electricity, wind and nuclear, generate electricity at all hours of the day and night, irrespective of demand, and some of that power has to be absorbed at night, stored, and then released during periods of higher demand, during the day.

An even greater challenge is to store energy for long periods. A recent report by the Royal Society concludes that green hydrogen and green

ammonia are the leading contenders in a mix of technologies which will allow energy to be stored for longer periods, even months. In that context it is relevant that a recent report by DCC noted the area around Junction 29/ Exeter Airport as a possible location for green hydrogen storage.

*Councillor Henry Gent*

# A Beaver on the Clyst - Exclusive!

Councillor  
Henry Gent

**During 2023 there was clear evidence, confirmed by wildlife professionals, of a beaver on the Clyst.** This exciting news opens up the possibility that a breeding population could establish in the Clyst valley in future.

At this stage it is very early days. The evidence of chewed branches and trunks did not prove anything other than the presence of a single individual passing through, perhaps a male roaming around looking for females. This can be compared with the Otter, where there is now a population of over twenty families, established over the last decade.

Beavers were hunted to extinction in Britain hundreds of years ago, but very recently they are being gradually re-introduced. We are following the lead of other countries in northwest Europe, most of which had lost their beaver population. For example, Germany has

re-introduced the beaver, and has a population of about 25,000. At this stage the population in England is, in comparison, very small, less than 1,000.

How did a beaver reach the Clyst? There are three possibilities. The most likely explanation is that an individual travelled from the headwaters of the Otter to the headwaters of the Clyst. In the triangle between Clyst Hydon, Plymtree, and Talaton, there are fields where the ditches going to the Clyst are close to the ditches going to the Tale, a tributary of the Otter. Beavers have been in the Tale valley for a few years.

It is also possible that the beaver swam around the coast! In 2021 a beaver was found on tidal mud in the Exe estuary near Exmouth, and was thought to have swam around from Budleigh Salterton. A beaver swimming up the Exe estuary would find the mouth of the Clyst at

Topsham as the first opening to freshwater on the eastern shore of the estuary.

There is also a possibility that the beaver arrived by human agency, perhaps deliberate “guerilla re-wilding”. There are other places in the Exe catchment where beavers have been seen, so our Clyst beaver is not the only pioneer.

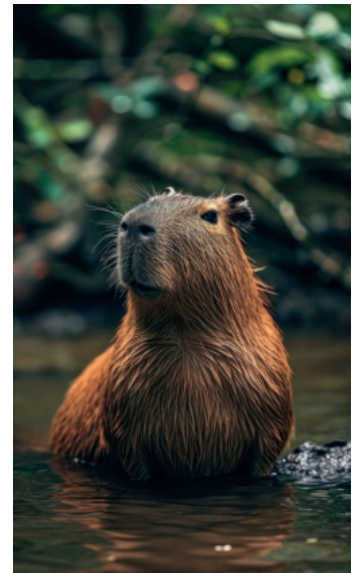
Is it a good thing if beavers establish on the Clyst? Beavers can do both good and harm. The beaver’s natural desire to dam drainage culverts and ditches could be unwelcome. Ditches and culverts exist for a reason!

On the other hand there are areas of catchment and floodplain where beaver dams will not do any harm. From the perspective of nature (“bio-diversity”), carbon capture, water quality, and flood alleviation, beaver dams can do

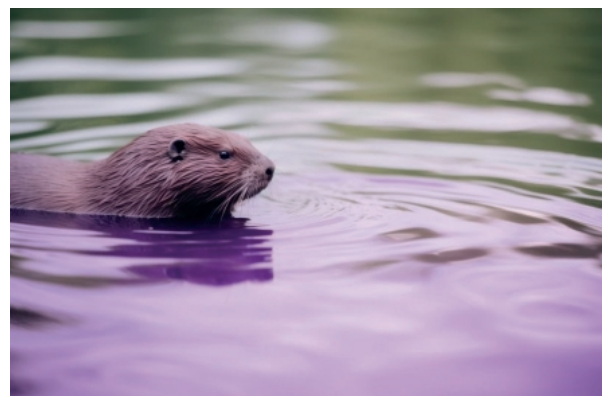


good. Beavers can be managed, must be managed, to minimise the damage and maximise the benefits.

And it would be fun to see beavers around here!



We have enjoyed the re-population of the Clyst by otters over the last 30 years. The return of the beavers could be even more entertaining.





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# Broadclyst Twinning Association

Doreen White

**On 30th November four members of the group ventured to Plymouth for the Brittany Ferry crossing to Roscoff, France. It was a smooth crossing and we managed to sleep in our cabins.**

After a drive of one and a half hours we reached Plobannalec - Lesconil in Brittany, where some of our hosts gave us breakfast. The rest of our day was spent meeting our hosts and setting up our stall in the local sports hall.

We go to help our "twins" publicise the association and do not expect to make a profit, but hope to cover our costs by selling British Christmas goodies, various teas, biscuits, marmalade and sweets. The Fair lasts two days and we were busy trying to promote

Twinning, or "Jumelage" as it is called in French. Not all of us are fluent in French but our hosts help us out!!

After clearing our stall we spent a final night with our hosts and next day set off for home, having to return via Caen to Portsmouth as Brittany Ferries do not run a daily service in winter. This makes it a long drive home and we eventually reached Broadclyst after midnight - tired but pleased to have been well looked after and done our 'bit' to promote Twinning.

Our French friends will be visiting Broadclyst in 2024, from May 8th to 11th and there are many ways you can help;

1) Could you host one or two French friends?

2) Could you help at one of the events we will organise?

3) Could you help plan a visit to a place of local interest?

4) Could you provide some food for an event?

If you have an interest in any of these or would like to know

more about Broadclyst Twinning Association please contact any of the following :

Eleanor 07595926250

Henry 07974373554

Doreen 07415923506.

Kirsten 079773402154



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# Staff Update

Angie Hurren

**The Council is an organisation of two parts: elected Councillors (or Members) and Council staff.**

The Members, who are Holders of Public Office (not 'volunteers') do not receive any payment as they discharge their duties, which include setting the Council's strategy and making decisions in accordance with it. The staff are recruited and appointed as employees of The Council as a body corporate, carrying out both statutory duties and other duties as directed by The Council.

This structure ensures paid staff are carrying out work that has been agreed by elected Members, who in

turn have been informed by local residents and businesses whom they represent.

Here at Broadclyst Parish Council we now employ seven full and part time members of staff, with additional casual hours contracted staff for busy periods. Our staff are: Angie Hurren, Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer; Natasha Curwood, Operations Manager; Helen Cutting, Pavilions Administrator; Andy Ricketts, Head Grounds and Maintenance person; Gerri Tingey, Hygiene Operative; Gemma Cole, Committee Clerk; and Jake Bonetta, Community Connector.

The sharp-eyed amongst you will notice two new

names in the list: Gemma, and Jake. Gemma joined us on a temporary basis back in December and is working specifically with the Youth, Traffic, and Communications Committees as well as helping out with general office admin. Jake's post is one that has been waiting in the wings for some time and its creation has been driven by Council recognising the needs of the community during and since Covid. A two-year post, Jake's role will see him out and about in the different communities across the Parish, talking to you and seeing what he can do to help: this could be with something specific to your household, a neighbourhood matter, or

a wider problem. He is the man with the answers (or if he doesn't have them, he will have a good go at finding out!). Wish there was a crotchet club or a games group near you? He will also be able to help you to get new community groups up and running! Do keep your eyes on our social media feeds to see when he will be in your area.

As always, any queries or questions do get in touch with us on **01392 360269** or via **office@broadclyst.org**. We don't bite - well, Tuesday to Friday is fairly safe, but Monday mornings can be a bit snappy!

## Thank you for finding Toby's lead



*To the person who found Toby's new orange dog lead, which had fallen out of my pocket while walking in Danes Wood, and kindly left it by the notice board, I am very grateful to have it back. Thank You very much.*

*Judy Ferrier*

## Broadclyst Fund

**Covering Broadclyst Village, Tithebarn and Westclyst**

**Is there anybody in need in Broadclyst? The answer is probably yes, but we don't know who it is.**

**If you need a modest sum for a sudden emergency or know a friend or relative who does, please email [broadclystfund@gmail.com](mailto:broadclystfund@gmail.com)**

**Application forms can be found inside the church and on the Broadclyst Parish Council Website. Several grants have been awarded during the last year.**



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# Village Clubs and Societies

**Broadclyst  
Brownies and Guides**  
Hazel (Brown Owl)  
07779 038637

**Broadclyst Local  
History Society**  
Jason Jackson  
07873 129102

**Broadclyst and  
Killerton Tennis Club**  
Sophie Cook  
c/o Clerk 07532 286713

**Broadclyst  
Bowling Club**  
Tony Rusbridge (Captain)  
07891 429419  
marilynseccbb@gmail.com

**Broadclyst Reading  
Group**  
Liz Rhodes 01392 461416 or  
Clyst Vale Library 01392 464010

**Tornados Netball Club**  
Vicky 07956042247  
tornadosnetballclub@hotmail.com

**Devon Racqueteers  
Badminton**  
01392 464676

**Heathfield Farm Trust**  
Matthew Staite  
mstaite@heathfieldfarm.org

**Broadclyst Knitting  
Group**  
Glenis Petrelli  
01392 461218

**Broadclyst  
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Chrissie Sweetland  
07837 610249

**Broadclyst W.I.**  
Chrissie Sweetland  
07837 610249

**Cantilena  
Chamber Choir**  
cantilenadevon@gmail.com

**Ladies Craft Group**  
Jean  
c/o Clerk 07532 286713

**Broadclyst Short Mat  
Bowls Club**  
Colin Jackson  
01392 469409

**Broadclyst Youth Club  
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Angie Hurren  
07532 286713

**Short Tennis and  
Badminton for Children**  
01404 42325

**Broadclyst Rainbows**  
Holly Lomax (Bee)  
broadclyst rainbows@gmail.com

**Toddler Group**  
Natalie  
01392 360269 (Office)

**Broadclyst Art Society**  
Denise Proudfoot  
01404 822642

**Broadclyst Cricket  
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Contact  
www.broadclystcc.co.uk

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Phil Wakely  
chair@pinhoescouts.org  
Pete Newman  
gsl@pinhoescouts.org

**Broadclyst  
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broadclystbells@gmail.com

**Broadclyst  
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katiejonesiphone@gmail.com

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broadclystenvgrp@gmail.com

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Broadclystvips@outlook.com

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broadclystallotmentassociation@gmail.com

**Broadclyst  
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Cllr. Henry Gent  
henry.gent@broadclyst.org

**Broadclyst Twinning  
Association**  
eleanor.rylance@gmail.com

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## Clyst Vale Library Opening Times

Monday 3.30 pm - 5.30 pm  
Tuesday CLOSED  
Wednesday 3.30pm - 5.30 pm  
Thursday 4.00 pm - 6.00 pm  
Friday CLOSED  
Saturday CLOSED

clystvale.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk  
Tel : 01392 464010  
Clyst Vale Community College  
(Next to main Reception)

## CLYST CARING FRIENDS

### YOUR LOCAL CHARITY SHOP

Help your Community!

Bargains galore, all proceeds to Clyst Caring

### OPENING HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:30 am - 3.30 pm  
Saturday 9:30 am - 12:00 noon  
Sunday - Closed

Donations always welcome, purchases even more so

# What's on in the Parish (see [www.broadclyst.org](http://www.broadclyst.org) for updates)

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Broadclyst Local History Society</b> Broadclyst Victory Hall 2nd Monday of month	<b>Broadclyst Library</b> Clyst Vale Community College Also Wednesday and Thursday	<b>Broadclyst and Killerton Tennis Club</b> 7.00 pm Also Thursday Broadclyst playing fields	<b>Broadclyst Brownies followed by Guides</b> 5.00 - 9.00 pm Pavillions
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Broadclyst Bowling Club</b> Bowls Green, Sports Pavillion 5.00 - 7.00 pm Marilyn (Secretary) 07888 678207 Email : marilynsecbb@gmail.com	<b>Devon Racqueteers Badminton</b> 7.00 - 10.00 pm Broadclyst Leisure Centre	<b>Bingo</b> 7.45 pm Broadclyst Victory Hall	<b>Tornados Netball Club 7.00- 8.00 pm</b> Clyst Vale Community College
	<b>Chatterbox</b> Broadclyst Parish Church 10.00 am  2nd/4th Tuesday of month	<b>Heathfield Farm Trust</b>  Lunchtimes Also Saturday	<b>Broadclyst Reading Group</b> Clyst Vale Community College Library Every other Tuesday 4.00 - 5.30 p.m.	<b>Casual Trampolining</b> 3 sessions 5.30 - 7.45 pm Broadclyst Leisure Centre
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Little Angels Baby and Toddler Group</b> 9.15 - 11.15am Broadclyst Victory Hall	<b>Casual Trampolining</b> 3 sessions 5.30 - 8.30 pm Broadclyst Leisure Centre	<b>Broadclyst Bowling Club</b> Bowls Green, Sports Pavillion 2.00 - 4.00 pm Also Friday 2.00 - 4.00 pm	<b>Martial Arts</b> 5.00 - 6.30 pm 01404 814317 Broadclyst Leisure Centre
	<b>Broadclyst Knitting Group</b> Every last Wednesday in the month Broadclyst Parish Church			
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Broadclyst Community Café</b> 9.30am -12.30pm Victory Hall	<b>Ladies Craft Group</b> 10.00 am Sports Pavillion	<b>Broadclyst WI</b> Clyst Caring Day Centre 4th Thursday of month	<b>Broadclyst Gardening Club</b> 7.30-9.30 pm Broadclyst Victory Hall 2nd Thursday of month
	<b>Cantilena</b> 7.15 - 9.15 pm Gracey Court	<b>Youth Club with YMCA</b> School year 6 onwards 7.00 - 9.00 pm Term Time	<b>Broadclyst Short Mat Bowls Club</b> 7.15 -10.00pm Broadclyst Victory Hall	<b>Broadclyst Short Mat Bowls Club</b> 7.15 -10.00pm Broadclyst Victory Hall
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Toddler Group Up to 4 yrs</b> 10.00 -11.30 am Sports Pavillion	<b>Broadclyst Rainbows</b>  5.00 - 6.00 pm	<b>Broadclyst Art Society</b> 9.30 am -12.30 pm Broadclyst Victory Hall	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Clyst Caring Friends Coffee Morning</b> 10.00 -11.30 am Day Centre 1st Saturday of month	<b>Killerton Farmers and Local Produce Market</b> 10.00 am -1.30pm 3rd Saturday Killerton House	<b>Mini Tennis</b> 9.00 – 9.45 am Age 4+ 10.00-10.45 am Age 10+ Broadclyst Leisure Centre	<b>Short Tennis and Badminton for Children</b> 10.30 am -1.00 pm Broadclyst Leisure Centre
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Broadclyst Cricket Club</b> Killerton House Every Summer Sunday			

## Broadview Community Centre EX5 3HA Coffee Mornings

Open every Monday 10.00 am till 12.00 noon  
All welcome for a cup of coffee and a biscuit  
£1.00, free refills  
Any helping hands would be great!

*mrsroofbadger@yahoo.co.uk or 07391229593*

## Broadclyst Toddler Group

Broadclyst Toddler Group meets every term-time Friday between 10 and 11.30am, at the Pavillions, Broadclyst. We offer a place to play, relax and have a good old sing-song, and that's just for the adults! 0-3 year olds can come along and get creative, meet new friends and find fun things to do. We organise visits and trips out and seasonal activities. The sessions run on a drop-in basis, no need to book. Costing £2 per child, this includes all craft and cooking materials, toddler snack/drink and nice cuppa for the grown-ups.

**Contact 01392 360269 or email [office@broadclyst.org](mailto:office@broadclyst.org)**



# Useful Telephone Numbers and Contacts

Devon County Council	0345 1551004	Shelter (Advice regarding homelessness)	0808 8004444
Devon C.C. Customer Relations	0800 212 783	Samaritans UK (free for landline and mobile)	116123
East Devon District Council	01404 515616	Jobcentre Plus Helpline	0845 6043719
EDDC out-of-hours emergencies	01395 516854	Environment Agency Flood Line	0845 9881188
Exeter City Council	01392 277888	The Farming Community Network	03000 111999
R.D. and E. Hospital	01392 411611	Clyst Vale Community College	01392 461407
Medical Non-Emergency (NHS Direct inc Dentist)	111	Broadclyst Community Primary School	01392 461288
Police Non-Emergency	101	Westclyst Community Primary School	01392 304040
Crimestoppers	0800 555111	St. Martins School, Cranbrook	01404 515409
South West Water Limited	0800 1691144	Monkerton Primary School	01392 304040
Western Power	0800 365900	Cranbrook Education Campus	01404 823293
Gas Emergency	0800 111999	Broadclyst Pavilions	Helen 07925 181720
EON Heat	0345 302 4312	Broadclyst Sports Centre	01404 42325
See the Light	0845 051 1668	Younghayes Centre (Bookings)	01404 41719
Exeter Bus Station	01392 427711	Victory Hall (Bookings)	01392 467161
Exeter Airport	01392 367433	East Clyst Churches (Rev Marc)	01404 822525
Pinhoe Surgery	01392 469666		
Clyst Caring Friends (Ann Unwin)	01392 464940	Honiton Minor Injuries Unit is a good alternative to	
Age U.K.	01392 202092	RD&E on 01404 540540. Similarly, Tiverton has an	
Citizens Advice Bureau	0844 4994101	Urgent Treatment Centre on 01884 235400	
East Devon Citizens Advice Bureau	03444 111444		
or <a href="http://www.adviceeastdevon.org.uk">www.adviceeastdevon.org.uk</a>			



**Please Note: Last Date for Articles for Summer Broadsheet 30th April, 2024**

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Articles for Summer issue of the Broadsheet  
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★ Contributors are respectfully asked to  
check factual accuracy of articles and advertisements  
before submitting as Broadsheet Editors are unable to  
accept responsibility for such errors once items are  
received for publication. ★



**M. Sillifant & Sons**

**Independent Family Funeral Directors**

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