

COLYTON PARISH HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER 22 Oct 2017

Editor's note

With the year drawing swiftly to its close, it is perhaps timely to reflect on the lessons of the past as we look towards an increasingly uncertain future. 2018 will be a year of significant anniversaries: the ending of the First World War – that Great War supposedly to end all wars. And the centenary of the passing of the Representation of the People Act, 1918 when women got the vote for the first time.

This month the Heritage Centre has welcomed Michael Gee several times as part of his researches in to Devon's orchards. And finally thank you to whoever found the missing books and returned them to the Heritage Centre.

Sarah Charman **Editor**

1. News

a) Was Great Granny a Suffragette?



Emmeline Pankhurst leader of the suffragettes

Was your great grandmother a suffragette? Or indeed a suffragist? And do you know what the distinction is? (Suffragists believed in peaceful campaigning while suffragettes took direct action.) Do you have any family stories about your great grandmother's campaigning exploits or any clothing or personal letters or other written materials dating from that period which you would be prepared to share with the History Society? Is anyone aware of any tales of Colytonian women who were known to have been suffragettes? Or by contrast supporters of the anti- suffrage league? If you do - please do get in touch. (sarah.charman@yahoo.co.uk)

An interesting article in the Sidmouth Herald in February 2012 recounted the story of local philanthropist and lifelong suffrage supporter Annie Leigh Browne:

<http://www.sidmouthherald.co.uk/news/sidmouth-philanthropist-was-staunch-suffrage-supporter-1-1214166>

b) Devon's Orchards – can you help?



Feoffee, Parish Councillor and local historian Colin Pady points out the Parish boundary as he helps Michael Gee - a fellow Feoffee from Landkey – with his research into local orchards

Writer and conservationist Michael Gee recently contacted the Society asking for help with research he is doing into Devon's Orchards. He is looking for any references to old orchards, apple varieties, and photos or anecdotes about management and harvesting and the importance of orchards in the life of a community. Do you have any information - then do please get in touch with me or Michael Gee at m.gee320@btinternet.com

2. Forthcoming Events

a) Future CPHS Meetings in 2017

Our monthly talks and meetings continue this week with:

- **Buildings of Sidmouth** by Nigel Hyman at 7.30 pm on **Wednesday 25 October** in Colyford Memorial Hall.

In November Colin Pady has very kindly agreed to speak in place of the lecture on The Churchills by Patsy Kingdon which has had to be postponed.

- **Colyton Families** by Colin Pady at 7.30 pm on **Wednesday 22 November** in Colyford Memorial Hall.

The programme for 2018 will be out shortly.

b) Other Organisations' Events

- i)  **Legacy to Landscape Project News - 2017 Events for October and November:**

Devon's amazing hedges – their history, wildlife and management

Friday 27 October, 7pm Colyford Memorial Hall, Swan Hill Road, EX24 6QJ, Grid Reference SY249924 Talk from hedge expert Rob Wolton, Chairman of the Devon Hedge Group. Devon has the best hedges in the world! Hear about their long history, rich wildlife and management techniques from expert. Event is part of Devon Hedge Week. Further information on Hedge Week events :

www.devonhedges.org/news-training-eventsdevon-hedge-week/

No booking required. Free event.



Lending hedges a helping hand - Saturday 28 October, 10.30am-3.30pm
Pratts Hill, near Colyton We are improving the quality of the hedgerows between Holyford Woods and the neighbouring hedgerows and copses to the north. This will improve the ability for a whole range of wildlife from bats, dormice and insect life to move around the countryside. Stay for as long as you like and bring a packed lunch if stopping all day. Gloves, tools and drinks provided. Free event. Booking essential: Pete.youngman@eastdevonaonb.org.uk or 01404 310012

Lending hedges a helping hand - Saturday 18 November, 10.30am to 3.30pm
Pratts Hill, near Colyton. Hedge planting day - Another chance to roll up your sleeves and help enhance the environment for both people and wildlife. We are improving the quality of the hedgerows between Holyford Woods and the neighbouring hedgerows and copses to the north. This will improve the ability for a whole range of wildlife for bats, birds, dormice and insect life to move around the countryside. We will be planting oak trees into hedgerows and under planting an

over grown hedge with a variety of shrubs and understory trees to provide more shelter and a more diverse environment providing a range of flowers, fruits and berries. You are welcome to come along for as long as you like, just bring a packed lunch and a hot drink. Stay for as long as you like and bring a packed lunch if stopping all day. Gloves, tools and drinks provided. Free event.

Booking essential: Pete.youngman@eastdevonaonb.org.uk or 01404 310012

What do forests do for us? Friday 10 November, 7pm Peace Memorial Playing Fields Pavilion, Coly Road, Colyton, EX24 6PU The Legacy to Landscape project comes inside for its series of winter talks. *Wolves, bears in Devon?* Rod Lawrence draws parallels with today's global forests and what the forest in the Legacy project area may have looked like in the past and the range of wildlife this valuable habitat supports. Could this environment return to the UK and East Devon? No booking required. Free

More information about this community heritage project :

www.eastdevonaonb.org.uk/our-work/wildlife/legacy-to-landscape

- For more information on events and how you can get involved:
www.eastdevonaonb.org.uk/our-work/wildlife/legacy-to-landscape
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