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# **APRIL 2025**

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Photo: Spring daffodils in full bloom by D Clark.

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# Make sure we are sharing your news

Do you have an event, club, activity or news that you'd like to share with the people of Chudleigh?

To be included in the next issue of Chudleigh

Companion, email us by

Friday 9th May

editor@ chudleighcompanion.co.uk

# Would you like to advertise in Chudleigh Companion?

FREE graphic design and very reasonable rates.
Email editor@
chudleighcompanion.co.uk

# **Printed Copies**

Photocopies are kindly printed by Chudleigh Town Council and available from the Foyer of Chudleigh Town Hall.

#### Front cover image:

Delicious chocolate Easter treats from the Sugar Mill, Chudleigh. Photo ©The Sugar Mill.



# Gentle Reiki Healing

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# Elizabeth Ducie









# International Thrillers









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elizabethducie.co.uk

# Copy deadline for the next issue:

# **Friday 9th May**

Please send us your news, events and adverts for the next issue before this date.

editor@ chudleighcompanion.co.uk

The editor reserves the right to edit copy for reasons of space.
Views expressed in Chudleigh Companion are not necessarily those of the editor.

Every care is taken to ensure accuracy within the magazine but please always check with advertisers/ organisers of events in case of cancellation or last minute changes. Chudleigh Companion cannot be held responsible for this.

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chudleighcompanion.co.uk

# FROM THE EDITOR





Chudleigh Town Council offices can be found in the centre of Chudleigh on the ground floor of The Town Hall. The office is open Monday to Friday 9am - 3pm. You can email the Town Clerk, Amii Shelley at clerk@chudleigh-tc.gov.uk or telephone 01626 853140. www.chudleigh-tc.gov.uk

#### **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday 12 May 7pm, The Rest Centre, Chudleigh Town Hall.

#### PLANNING MEETING

Monday 19 May, 7pm, The Rest Centre, Chudleigh Town Hall.

#### **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday 2 June, 7pm, The Rest Centre, Chudleigh Town Hall.

Chudleigh Town Council as a whole is responsible to the community of Chudleigh. The Town Council meet regularly to discuss local issues, support and encourage ongoing community engagement initiatives, maintain devolved assets at a local level, support the economic diversity and prosperity of the town, look after the parks, open spaces and burial sites and review planning applications and make comment as appropriate.

All council meetings are open to the public, please inform the clerk if you want to attend (clerk@chudleigh-tc.gov. uk). Agendas are published on the town council website beforehand. www.chudleigh-tc.gov.uk

Did you know that you can find us online? Chudleigh Town Council has a website and a Facebook page.

@Chudleigh Town Council



Chudleigh Annual Town Meeting 28th April at 7pm

#### All Welcome!

Presentation of Annual Citizen of the Year Award,

Presentation of Annual Business of the Year Award.

Mayor's report & Town Council financial report,

Community Group Reports,

The opportunity for members of the public to speak on any local matter they wish.

For more information or to confirm your attendance, please contact the Town Hall on 01626 853140 or email clerk@chudleigh-tc.gov.uk

# **Community Litter Pick**

The Town Council would like to thank everyone who helped with the Community Litter Pick on Saturday 5th April, to support the 'Keep Britain Tidy', Great British Spring Clean. The Great British Spring Clean is the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign. Our litter picking volunteers collected 10 bags of rubbish! Massive thank you to everyone who took part.



10 bags of rubbish collected during the Community Litter Pick Day. Photo: Chudleigh Town Council.



# Could you help maintain our new planters?

The Town Council are looking for Community Volunteers to help maintain the planters throughout the Town and open spaces. Help as much or as little as you want. No gardening knowledge is necessary. If you would like more information or would like to get involved, please contact the Town Hall, 01626 853140, or email clerk@chudleigh-tc.gov.uk









# CHUDLEIGH HISTORY GROUP 2025 PROGRAMME

www.chudleighhistorygroup.uk

7.30pm, The Woodway Room, Chudleigh Town Hall unless shown otherwise.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – The Polish RAF 307 Squadron and Exeter Airport**A presentation by Michael Parrott from the 307 Squadron Project which covers the history of this Polish squadron which was based at Exeter airport and the important role that it played during World War Two.

29th - 31st May - As part of the Devon History Society's "Devon in the 1920's" celebrations - An exhibition in Chudleigh Church about life in Chudleigh in the 1920s. The exhibition will run from Thursday afternoon to Saturday afternoon and will include two talks about life in the 1920s, one from Julia Neville from the Devon History Society about Devon in the 1920s and one about life in Chudleigh in the 1920s. Further details will be advised nearer the time.

**Sunday 6th July - A group tour of Exeter Cathedral** Looking at the history and architecture of the Cathedral.

August - no meeting.

# **Membership**

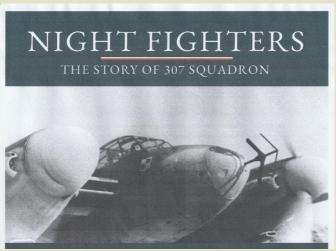
Programme leaflets for 2025 are now available. Email chudleighhistorygroup@btinternet.com

Membership for 2025 has increased to £8 per person to cover increasing costs but admission to the talks remains £1 for members and £4 for non-members. Complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits available after each presentation.

Memberships can be renewed either at the History Group meetings or in advance to 2 Chapel Court, Exeter Road, Chudleigh TQ13 0FH. Email chudleighhistorygroup@btinternet.com

# CHUDLEIGH HISTORY GROUP

The RAF Polish 307 Squadron at Exeter Airport
A Presentation by Michael Parrott

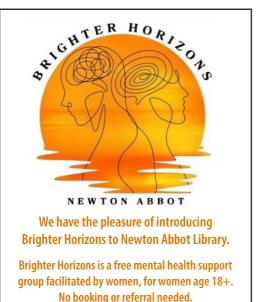




Friday 02<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 at 7.30pm in the Woodway Room, Chudleigh Town Hall

Non-members are welcome to attend. Membership £8.00 p.a.

Entry fees are £1 for members and £4 for non-members which includes light refreshments. Information about the history of Chudleigh and the Chudleigh History Group can be found on our website at: www.chudleighhistorygroup.uk



Group meets every Tuesday between 7-9pm.

Brighter Horizons in Newton Abbot





# **BOVEY TRACEY, TQ13 9FF**

Thursday 5.30pm and 7pm.

Sarah 07818 237110

# **NEWTON ABBOT, TQ12 1UR**

Wednesday 7.30am, 9.30am, 4pm, 5.30pm and 7pm.

Saturday 7.30am, 9am and 10.30am.

Julie 07933 483666

Slimming

slimmingworld.co.uk



# **Youth Centre News**

Market Way, Chudleigh TQ13 OHL. chudleighyouthclub@gmail.com

All the latest news from Chudleigh Youth Centre including up and coming events ...

# YOUTH CENTRE SESSIONS First session FREE!

Mondays - years 6 - 11
5.30pm - 8.30pm, £1 entry
Socialise, take part in fun activities
and enjoy time with friends.

Wednesdays - years 4 - 7 6pm - 8pm, £1.50 entry Games, sports and more!

Saturdays - years 3 - 6 9.30am - 11.30am, £2.50 entry Games, activities like cooking, sports, PS5 and Xbox gaming, football, dancing, and snacks provided.

We also have a tuck shop with snacks and drinks available

# **Volunteering**

Interested in volunteering? Please get in touch. Let's make the rest of the year as fun as possible!

# **Room Hire**

Suitable for meetings or parties. The sports hall and well equipped kitchen or the committee room are available. Very reasonable charges. Contact Bill Keen 07555 580617 for more details.

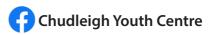
- We're closed over Easter
   Over the Easter holiday the Youth
   Centre will be closed from Monday
   14th April and we will be re-open on
   Wednesday 23rd April.
- AGM Monday 28th April
  Chudleigh Youth Centre is holding our
  AGM on Monday 28th April at 7.30pm.
  All welcome. This is a great opportunity
  to get involved, hear about our plans
  for the future, and meet our team.
  Refreshments will be served
  afterwards. Do join us if you can!

## Volunteer with Us!

We are always looking for passionate adults (18+) who are interested in supporting our sessions. If you're available to help out on Saturday mornings or Wednesday evenings, we'd love to hear from you! Volunteering is a fantastic way to give back to the community and make a real difference in the lives of local young people.

To join in the fun, please contact us on Facebook to request a registration form. We can't wait to see you enjoying the Youth Centre.

Stay active, stay connected, and have fun at Chudlerigh Youth Centre!





2024 was another fantastic year for Chudfix. We ran 6 repair cafes, dealing with a total of 351 items and of those we successfully fixed or sharpened 73% of them! We also provided helpful advice on a further 12% giving us a positive result in 85% of cases!

In 2024 Chudfix also ran a visible mending workshop and a pattern cutting workshop. We are keen to help people learn new skills so keep an eye on our Facebook page for more events.

# What can you bring to a repair cafe?

- Small electrical items (no microwaves please!)
- Computers, laptops
- · Bikes and scooters
- Clothes and textiles that need repairing (no alterations)
- Toys
- Wooden items
- Tools to be sharpened
- Miscellaneous items; we have several fixers who can turn their hand to most things
- ... And we are always happy to provide some advice.



# Want to get involved?

We have a friendly team of regular volunteers but we are always keen to welcome new faces and new skills to the team. Please conctact us via our Facebook page (†) Chudfix Repair Cafe

# CHUDLEIGH BOWLING CLUB OPEN DAY SATURDAY 17TH MAY



Photo: 2025 Chudleigh Bowling Club Opening Day. Picture shows: Ian Ramsay, Captain of Chudleigh Bowling Club, alongside Lord and Lady Clifford in the foreground, surrounded by Chudleigh Bowling Club members.

Chudleigh Bowling Club is looking forward to another summer of bowls at Kate Brook green next to the cricket club. Over the winter our members have been kept busy bowling in leagues and friendlies and holding their own club afternoons courtesy of Torquay United Indoor Bowling Club. A hardy group of volunteers have spent much of the winter looking after and maintaining the clubs most important asset, the grass, and now it's finally time to get back outside and play the game we all love.

The club has a full programme of friendly matches through the summer as well as playing competitively in both men's and ladies' leagues, club, county and national competitions so there is something for everyone. We're a friendly group and run a programme of social events through the year. There will be an open day for potential new club bowlers on Saturday May 17th.

If you are new to the Chudleigh area or are looking to try something new, whether you have played bowls before or not, are young, old or in-between, come down and see us for a chat and to have a go. The game is easy to learn and you can quickly become a good recreational or competitive player. Club nights, where we practice, commence on Wednesday 30th April at 6pm, if you miss the open day we will be pleased to see you at one of those evenings.



# Ugbrooke House & Gardens The perfect venue for...



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- Group tours

- Weddings
- Corporate events

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Contact on

Tel: 01626 852179 | info@ugbrooke.co.uk | www.ugbrooke.co.uk

# Open Gardens



2025

Each year, gardens in Chudleigh are open to the public.

Last year's Open Gardens raised over £3000 for charity



This year's Open Gardens will take place over the weekend of:

# June 14/15

If you have an interesting garden, large or small, formal or informal or designed for wildlife and would like to join in,

Contact Emma: e.emma33@sky.com

You can open your garden on both days, or just one.
By selling drinks, cakes, arts and crafts or even lunches
you can raise money for your chosen charity.
Your charity will also receive a proportion of the ticket money.



We are looking for gardens new and old, to make this another fantastic event!





# Chudleigh and District U3A

The u3a is a self-help organisation for people who are retired, semi-retired or no longer in full-time employment. It provides opportunities for members to share learning experiences and to pursue educational, creative and leisure activities in a friendly environment.

# **Programme for April - May 2025**

Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>
		Main Meeting* 10am - 12pm	Bridge Players 2 - 4pm	Walking
Monday 21st	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>
	Spanish 10.30am - 12pm	History 2 - 4pm	Help with Computing 10am - 12pm	Craft 10.30am-12pm
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 1st	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>
			French 10.30am - 12pm Book Club 2 2.30 - 4pm	Coffee Social 10.30am at The Phoenix
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>
Book Club 2 - 3.30pm	Foodies Club 9.30am - 12.30pm Board & Card Games 2pm - 4pm	Family History 10.30am - 12pm	Gardening 10am - 12pm	Craft 10.30am-12pm
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>
Mahjong 2 - 4pm	Help with Computing 10am - 12pm Spanish 10.30am - 12pm	Photography 10am - 12pm	Bridge 2pm - 4pm	

Plus: Visits, Theatre and Croquet on various dates.

\*The main meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> April will be some presentations from some of our group coordinators based on their activities.

Monthly Meetings are usually held at The Woodway Room, Chudleigh Town Hall 10am - 12pm on the third Wednesday of the Month. visitors are welcome to come and meet members and group organisers, to listen to our guest speaker and to get a feel for what the u3a has to offer. Members pay £1 and visitors pay £2 to attend meetings - this includes tea or coffee.

To find out more information take a look at our website www.chudleighu3a.uk or email membership@chudleighu3a.org.uk Coffee socials are on the first Friday of each month from 10.30am in the Phoenix. Potential new members are welcome to join us.



# Chudfest is back in 2025 with an exciting programme of events!

# Friday 6th June (evening) - Chudleigh Bowling Competition

In conjunction with Chudleigh Bowling Club we will be holding a Bowling Competition. This event will be open to everyone, bowlers and beginners, and should be an entertaining evening on a warm Summer's night (fingers crossed).

# Saturday 14th June (evening) - CADS Murder Mystery

CADS Murder Mystery evening will be taking place in the Primary School hall.

# 14th and 15th June (weekend) - Chudleigh Open Gardens

Chudleigh Open Gardens is back. Once again we are indebted to Chudleigh Wild for organising this event.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July - (morning) - Event for Chudleigh Primary School Details to be released nearer the time.

# Friday 4th July (evening) - Quiz

The ever popular sell out summer quiz.

# Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July - (morning) - Craft & Activities

Details to be released nearer the time.

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July (afternoon) - Festival with Live Music, BBQ and Gong Bath

Sunday 6th July - (morning) - Community Church Service

Sunday 6th July (afternoon) - Children's Soft Play Session

# **Creative Chudleigh Exhibition**

'Creative Chudleigh' exhibition takes place in Chudleigh Parish Church from 1 - 7 July.

Details for all the above events will be publicised nearer to the time and will be available on the website www.chudfest.co.uk

# CHUDLEIGH SWIMMING POOL OPENING SATURDAY 24TH MAY



Chudleigh Community Swimming Pool is gearing up for opening on Saturday 24th May, ready for school half term.

#### **VARIED TIMETABLE**

All our lifeguards are set to return this summer, putting us in a great position to offer a varied timetable this year.
Sessions will include lane swimming, family sessions and general swimming. We're also working on some other potential sessions, so watch this space for further info!

# **PRIVATE HIRE**

The pool will be available for private hires. These sessions are always very popular, and with a capacity of up to 59 people, it makes a great venue for a birthday party, organised club activity or just a good old family and friends get together. Every private hire comes with your very own lifeguard (or more depending upon numbers), access to the changing facilities and the option to include the use of a BBQ (unfortunately you have to provide your own food!).

# **PRIMARY SCHOOL SWIMS**

The pool is also used daily by Chudleigh Primary School children, following their return to school after the May half term and up till the summer break in July. Having a pool provides each child the amazing opportunity to swim once or twice a week, far exceeding the requirements of the National Curriculum.

# **EXTRA HELP PLEASE!**

As we approach the opening date, we need some extra hands to ensure the pool continues to be safe and enjoyable. We're looking for additional volunteers to join our team. Are you someone who loves bringing people together and has ideas for small fundraising activities? Or maybe you're a dab hand with a paint brush, cleaning sponge or a hedge trimmer and have some free evenings? Any help you may be able to provide will be so welcome so that we can make the pool look its best for the opening day, to promote the pool and raise some much-needed ongoing funds.

#### KIOSK VOLUNTEERS

Let's also not forget about our kiosk volunteers! The existing team do an amazing job in staffing the kiosk during our operating hours as they serve up snacks and refreshments while providing friendly assistance to visitors. If you think this is something you could help with then please do let us know! You will help make every visit to the pool a delightful experience.

# **KEEP IN TOUCH ...**

As soon as the upcoming timetable is finalised, it will be published on the website www.chudleighpool.org.uk Hard copies will be located around the town, including outside the pool entrance, outside the main school drive and on notice boards in the town centre.

#### **GET INVOLVED**

Excited to get involved? Please email admin@chudleighpool.org.uk and be sure to keep an eye on our website, www.chudleighpool.org.uk and facebook page for updates on opening dates and times.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible across the new season!

Chudleigh Community Pool and Chudleigh Community Project





# **BRIDFORD**

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7th May 🦼

MONTHLY







with Steve Vegboy Gates BY BOOKING ONLY £2 PER PLAYER 7.30 for 8.00PM

# Chudleigh Garden Show Market Stall Fundraiser





Chudleigh Garden Show Market Stall set up outside the Town Hall. Photo: C Smart.

The second fund-raiser for the Chudleigh Garden Show was blessed with a sunny April day without a shower in sight.

Gardeners were invited to contribute anything connected with gardening and perhaps buy something to take home. There was certainly no shortage of a wide variety of all sorts of bargains. From a large strawberry pot, two iron ducks; a hefty piece of cherry wood to become a garden seat and a child's wheelbarrow, to pots of crocosmia; various herbaceous plants; enough bay trees rooted cuttings to make a hedge and 37 tiny primrose and violet plants. Several other wellwishers came with seeds they had collected from their gardens and others with books and magazines, a specially made bird-box, tree guards and a brand new grass rake.

AFWM donated free packets of cornflower seeds; one kind gardener brought delicious Beetroot Brownies to sample and Simon and Sarah from Milestone Market Garden donated eggs, packets of salad leaves and longstemmed broccoli fresh from the field. To top it all, Mary Marker came along to offer her support with a musical accompaniment.

There was no doubt about it, judging by the amount taken and the number of friendly gardeners who came along - it was a most successful day.

It costs rather a lot to put on a Garden Show, but all of us gardeners together have been able to raise half our target sum. There are two or three more novel ideas in the pipeline, so look out for the next event.

Thanks for your support. Carole & Rosalind.





YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED to a Coffee Morning

FRIDAY 23rd May

With good company, Cake, a Raffle and Tombola All are Welcome CHUDLEIGH PARISH CHURCH 10am— 12pm

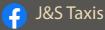
Thanks to your support, our coffee mornings have so far raised £10,035.35

# J&STAXI

My name is James. I'm a local taxi driver based in Chudleigh.

Servicing Chudleigh and Teignbridge area. For all your taxi requirements.

No job too small or too big. J&S Taxi will get you there.



CALL 07534 556791

# Tribal Belly Dance Classes

With Majidah Tribal

Indian, Egyptian, Flamenco, African and more all fused into a delicious dance form.

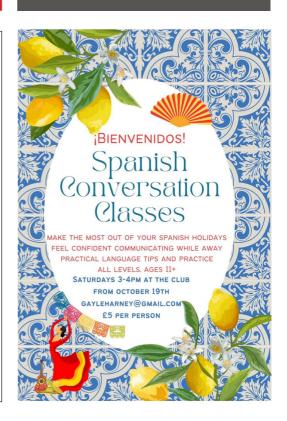
A great way to keep fit and have fun at the same time! Suitable for all ages, no experience necessary.



Chudleigh Town Hall, Market Way, Chudleigh, TQ13 0HL Tuesdays 7.45 - 8.45 pm

> £6.00 per session No need to book, just drop in

Contact: 07813 625871 or email majidah925@gmail.com www.majidahtribal.co.uk





# Gearing Up For A Day Of Fun!

# Family Fun Day, Ugbrooke, Sunday 27th April

**Food Court** BBQ, pizzas and crepes; sweets; tea and cake; coffee; and a licensed bar. **Sports Demos** and taster sessions with Teignmouth Titans netball team and Bournemouth University coach, Andy Boland

Strolling Poet (and multiple poetry slam winner) Jackie Juno;

**Scavenger Hunt** for little ones (grown-ups can help); prize for each complete entry. **Plus ...** Teen Challenges, Games stalls including Tombola for the grown-ups; Teddy Tombola for the little ones; Lucky Dip; Hook a Duck; The Human Fruit Machine, courtesy of Newton Abbot Rotary Club, Local charity stallsFlora and fauna exploration with Chudleigh WILD, Teign Classic Cars, Three Guesses: the weight of the cake; the value of the coins; and the number of sweets.

**PARKING** There is a reasonably-sized car park on site, but please car share if possible to be sure of getting in. There will be a shuttle bus running throughout the day between the Town Hall and Ugbrooke. Call Kate on 07889970986 for details.



# FAMILY FUN DAY AT UGBROOKE PARK



Sunday 27th April, 11am - 4pm Ugbrooke House, Chudleigh TQ13 0AD £5 per adult, KIDS GO FREE!

# PLENTY OF FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

LIVE MUSIC

NATURAL WORLD

SPORTS LESSONS

CAVENGER HUNT

OG SHOW

PRIZE DRAL













With special guests:

David 'Fitz' Fitzgerald and Don Armand, Former Exeter Chiefs / England



Raising vital funds for Cancer Lifeline South West Supported by Newton Abbot Rotary Club





# Gearing Up For A Day Of Fun!

# Family Fun Day at Ugbrooke, Sunday 27th April

Bring the family and join us for a fun-filled day. £5 entry for adults; KIDS GO FREE. Find all the details HERE. Pre-book and avoid queuing by clicking HERE.





by the Orangery, bar and Food Court; grabbing a bite, quench your thirst and soak up the sounds! Full details **DETAILS HERE.** 







**DOG SHOW** Time for your pooch to shine. Enter and pay on the day; but to ensure a space in your chosen classes, **REGISTER HERE**.





With top prizes: 43" Smart TV **Durable Garden Bench** Canon EOS R50 camera PLUS golf days, sports memorabilia & more!

Winners announced by David 'Fitz' FitzGerald towards the end of the show!

#### Sunday 27th April 11am - 4pm

Ugbrooke House, Chudleigh, TQ13 OAD

£5 per adult KIDS GO FREE



Raising vital funds for Cancer Lifeline South West Supported by Newton Abbot Rotary Club



iust £1

each!



PRIZE DRAW We've got some great prizes on offer. Check out all the **DETAILS HERE.** 





Lead by: Colin Wheeler-James of Ground Up Cookery School

Places are limited, booking via our website essential

#### Sunday 27th April 11am - 4pm Ugbrooke House, Chudleigh, TQ13 OAD

£5 per adult KIDS GO FREE

Raising vital funds for Cancer Lifeline South West
Supported by Newton Abbot Rotary Club





**FORAGING** Take a stroll with an expert. Join Colin Wheeler-James of Ground Up Cookery on a guided walk of the Ugbrooke grounds. Pay on the day, but pre-booking essential. **BOOK HERE.** 





Places are limited, booking via our website essential

# Sunday 27th April 11am - 4pm

Ugbrooke House, Chudleigh, TQ13 OAD

£5 per adult KIDS GO FREE!

Raising vital funds for Cancer Lifeline South West Supported by Newton Abbot Rotary Club





**BALL SKILLS** A chance to learn from a legend. Join Don Armand as he teaches ball skills and team skills to budding rugby players. Pre-booking essential. BOOK HERE.







# Concert Tuesday 1st July, 7.30pm Chudleigh Parish Church

We are pleased to be welcoming Torbay Police and Community Choir to Chudleigh Parish Church on Tuesday 1st July at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm), for an evening concert of a variety of songs to open this year's Creative Chudleigh exhibition which is part of Chudfest.

This will be a free admission concert with donations in aid of Rowcroft Hospice with refreshments provided by Chudleigh Fairtrade group.

Please put the date in your diary to come and listen to the choir, view the exhibtion and enjoy delicious homemade fairtrade cakes and drinks.

For more details about Creative Chudleigh contact exhibition organiser, Leah Stirrat. leah.stirrat@hotmail.co.uk Mobile: 07974 113885.





# Latest news from... Ground Up Cookery School

Written by Tasha Wheeler-James of Ground Up Cookery School.



Top to bottom left: dandelions, wild garlic and cones. Photos: Courtesy of Ground Up Cookery School.

# **Foraging and Wild Food**

Since 2020, interest in foraging and wild food has grown from strength to strength, with more people discovering the joy of cooking with fresh, seasonal, and completely free ingredients. Not only is foraging a fantastic way to reconnect with nature, but it's also an incredibly sustainable approach to food, encouraging us to eat in tune with the seasons and make use of what's abundantly available.

At Ground Up Cookery School, we've always been passionate about

celebrating the best of what nature has to offer, and our new "Spotlight On..." series is a natural extension of that ethos. These informal Friday afternoon sessions are designed to be engaging, relaxed, and full of conversation, where we explore different ingredients through creative demos, tastings, and discussion. It's a great way to dip your toes into the world of wild food—especially if you're curious but not sure where to start!

Our first session, Spotlight On... Wild Garlic, was a fantastic way to begin,



Tasha & Colin. Photo: Courtesy of Ground Up Cookery School.

ending in a humbling and unexpected round of applause. Seeing people leave feeling inspired and confident to experiment at home was a real highlight.

These new sessions are an extension of our flagship full-day Wild Food Foraging & Cookery experience, which goes even deeper into identifying, harvesting, and cooking with the best of the wild larder. It's something that's even caught the attention of the BBC, when Colin was invited to teach Marcus Wareing and his team about foraging on Tales from a Kitchen Garden!

Next up: It has to be conifers and dandelions, uncovering their unique flavours, culinary uses, and untapped potential. With each session, we hope to share not just cooking skills, but a way of thinking about food that is more sustainable, seasonal, and deeply connected to the landscape around us.

If you'd like to join the conversation, enjoy a glass of wine and discover something new, come along and join us!



# Cookery School Dates for 2025 in Chudleigh

26.04.25 **Perfect Pies Workshop** £60, half day

09.05.25 **Spotlight on Needles & Cones** £35, 1.5 hours (includes wine!)

10.05.25 Pasta Workshop

17.05.25 Asian Street Food £155, full day

06.06.25 **Spotlight on Dandelions** £35, 1.5 hours (includes wine!)

31.05.25 **Wild Food Foraging & Cookery** £155, full day

14.06.25 Wild Food Foraging & Cookery

21.06.25 Advanced Preservation

05.07.25 **Fish & Shellfish Cookery** £160, full day

12.07.25 Asian Street Food

www.groundupcookeryschool.co.uk

@GroundUpCookery (Instagram, Facebook and X) taste@groundupcookeryschool.co.uk

Call 01647 782022 (leave a message we will return your call asap)

Ground Up Cookery School, Grealy Barn, Chudleigh, TQ13 0AA



# A monthly chat with seasonal reminders from Carole and notes from experts.

Last month I opened with the effects of the long period of wet weather we were having to deal with, and April, instead of the traditional, 'April Showers', has given us so far, day after day of sunshine and blue skies which followed the driest March on record. Gardeners are learning through experience, to do their best to prepare for any eventuality and be ready for the worst while hoping for the best. For instance, while we are enjoying the sunny days we still wake up to frost.



Mulching the soil. Photo: Canva.

If you don't have a water butt, it might be wise to consider getting one now. I have always thought it a good idea to have an irrigation hose with perforations, running along the beds. But, like so many other good intentions, I haven't got round to it

yet. What I have done though, is conserve moisture in the soil by mulching. Now is the time to work in some dry fertiliser – perhaps Growmore or dried chicken pellets - before adding a good layer of mulch.

While you are busy with your beds, remember it's a good idea to top up containers with fresh compost after feeding. This is the month to make sure you have fed all that you have planned to. Raspberry canes, fruit bushes & fruit trees will provide better crops if you pay attention to them now.

How is your rhubarb? Perhaps you have already enjoyed a home-grown rhubarb crumble. Remember to continue feeding with something like, fish, blood and bone, or seaweed fertiliser and, ideally mulch with well-rotted manure.

I expect you have been watering your seedlings regularly and of course, that encourages the growth of weeds as well. So, before they get a hold and your precious seedlings are smothered, pull them out. If you have succeeded in your efforts to encourage the younger members of the

family to take an interest in nature and growing, you might be lucky enough to have reached the stage where they are learning the difference between intentional plants and the ones you don't want. Children have the advantage of being closer to the ground and having smaller fingers so introduce them to weeding as soon as you can. Good luck!



Rhubarb. Photo: Canva.



It's time to stop any weed growth. Photo: Canva.

April is the month for sowing, planting, weeding, mulching and pruning. Yes, this can be the busiest month of the year in the garden. But it will all be worth the effort!



# APRIL REMINDERS

- After flowering, prune ribes (flowering currant) and forsythia back by a third.
- Try to leave Spring bulbs to die down naturally, although you should dead-head the flowers to stop them setting seed, but water them with a liquid feed to ensure a good show next year.
- Although you can take cuttings from pelargoniums at any time that they are growing, the ones taken now will tend to root best.
   Just trim below a leaf joint on a fresh, green, new shoot. Remove

all but the top couple of leaves and pinch off any flower buds and fleshy growths on the stem. It's a good idea to add vermiculite to your compost before potting them up. If kept warm and moist, roots should develop in three weeks.



Take cuttings from pelargoniums. Photo: Canva.

# Procession Day Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2025, 6pm

udleigh Town

Its time to raise awareness of this year's Chudleigh Town Carnival Day.

- Bands are booked
- Floats are starting to commit
- Road closure in planning process

However to make this year memorable we need Chudleigh & surrounding residents to join in the spirit of Carnival and enter the Procession.

For all of our international friends who have made Chudleigh their home, why not show pride in your birth Country and wave your National flags or dress in your National costumes... what a spectacular sight that would be.

Likewise for those born in Britain, lets show a real sense of Pride in our wonderful Country, especially as on the 8<sup>th</sup> May we will celebrating 80 years since the end of World War II. So take a step forward and put an enter into our Carnival Procession, whether motorised, walking, groups or come up with a something new.

Terry Goldsworthy, Chudleigh Town Carnival Chair Person chudleighcarnivalcommittee@gmail.com



# 1st Chudleig Scout Group Active Spring – looking forward to a Great Summer!



Beavers making planets. Photo: Courtesy of 1st Chudleigh Scout Group.

The Scout Group has been very active this past term. Beavers (6 - 8 yrs) did some recycling in the form of 'junk modelling', making futuristic robots to help around the house made from household waste materials. They also had a visit to the Parish Church, worked on skills badges and had an early Easter celebration making cakes based on developing healthy eating habits.

The Cubs (8 – 10 1/2 yrs) all achieved their skills Challenge Badge, which involved learning how to sew and iron clothes, among other things, and have also been working on attaining their Artist's Badge. Scouts (101/2 – 141/2 yrs) worked on their Electronics Badge, which involved learning about components and making a range of electrical circuits. Scouts also celebrated Pancake Day, cooking pancakes outside in the dark, pancake racing and flipping ontests.

# Summer's coming

Looking ahead Beavers and Cubs will be celebrating St. George's Day by joining in a Teignbridge District event taking the steam train from Buckfastleigh down to Totnes. Scouts meanwhile will be helping out at the big fundraising event being held at Ugbrooke House on 27th April (Family Fun Day in aid of Cancer Lifeline South West).

We have a whole Group kayaking session followed by a BBQ in June and plan to take part in the District summer camp taking place at Ugbrooke House in early July and the whole Scout Group will be taking part in Chudfest and Chudleigh Carnival activities.

# **Group Scout Leader, John Powell**john.powell@1stchudleighscouts.onmicrosoft.com





Scouts cooking pancakes. Photo: Courtesy of 1st Chudleigh Scout Group.



# **VE Day in Chudleigh**



# **Thursday 8th May 2025**



Victory in Europe (VE) Day celebrates 80 years of peace and prosperity since the end of the second world war in Europe. The eighth of May 1945 must have been a tremendous relief to those who had endured the privation of six years of war, and even more so for those who had lived through two world wars.

The 8th May this year is a time to mark the sacrifices made, but more importantly it is an opportunity to celebrate the ingenuity and resilience of local communities everywhere that found ways to deal with rationing, blackouts, and all kinds of restrictions on travel, on energy, food, and resource consumption throughout the 1940s (rationing did not fully end until 1953).

My parents often talked about the war and how it had impacted their lives. They were still teenagers when the war started, they lost friends and family members, but they also had to step forward at a young age and take on responsibilities and community roles due to older people being called up to the armed forces and having to devote

much more of their time to the war effort. VE Day 2025 is thus a timely reminder of the importance of local action in making the community more resilient against external forces. When events beyond our control make the future more uncertain it can increase anxiety, and we are currently living in a time when significant changes at the global level will impact all our lives. We face disruption in international relations and trade that threaten supply chains and may increase the cost of living; and there are concerns over the effects of climate change, which may require us to alter behaviour to reduce the impact on our environment and wellbeing. We also face significant impacts (both positive and negative) brought about by developments in artificial intelligence (AI) as well as needing to work out how to limit the damage on young people from 'social' media. However, we don't have to wait for government to act, through community action we can find ways to address these problems, just as people did in the 1940s.

So come along on Thursday 8th May and take a little time to think back at

how previous generations coped when faced with what must have seemed like overwhelming threats to their lives. The events are listed in the box below.

Chudleigh is very fortunate, it has a wealth of local voluntary organisations and active community groups. It is part of what makes the town resilient and an attractive place to live. This is what we are celebrating on the 8th May - the 'dividend' - or benefits of collective community action. Come along and enjoy the festivities, get to know a few more people, think about what is missing, think about what (or what else) you can offer – there are plenty of organisations still needing

support, especially those delivering activities for young people.

VE80 Lapel Pin Badges, Stickers and Poppy Appeal 2025 pins will be available to purchase for a donation towards the Chudleigh Poppy Appeal. Local Cafes, Clubs, Pubs, Restaurants and Shops are encouraged to get in the VE Day spirit from the Bank Holiday period up to and including VE Day Thursday 8 May 2025.



Article supplied by John Powell.

Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Events	Location
May		
9am	Raising the VE day flag	At the War Memorial
	Please Support Local Cafes when able	Various
11am	Laying of VE Day Wreath by Mayor	At the War Memorial
	Please Support Local Cafes when able	Various locations in Chudleigh
11.30am	Televised service on Church Screens from	Chudleigh Parish Church
	Westminster Abbey	
	(If televised live) Tea, Coffee and cakes	
	supported by Chudleigh Fairtrade	
2 – 3pm	School Picnic (Schoolchildren only – no public	Chudleigh Primary School
	admittance) including 1 Minute Silence	
Before	Fish and Chip van outside the Church in the	Chudleigh Church Car Park.
Community	Car Park. Come and get something and sit at	Chudleigh Parish Church
Service	tables in the Churchyard to eat.	Churchyard
6pm – 6.40pm	Community VE Day Service. All age service	Chudleigh Parish Church
	with the school choir singing in the Church.	
6.30 – 7.30pm	Fish and Chip van outside the Church in the	Chudleigh Parish Churchyard
•	Car Park. Come and get something and sit at	
	tables in the Churchyard to eat.	
7.30pm	The Shantymen and guests singing a wide	Chudleigh Parish Church
onwards	range of folk songs, many with a VE	
	Celebration Theme	
Approx. 9pm	Please Support local Pubs to Celebrate VE	Local Pubs & Restaurants
onwards	DAY	



Training will be provided by South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

April 30th, 7-9pm

Please email clerk@chudleigh-tc.gov.uk to book your place

Chudleigh Baptist Church @ The Square

# GARDENING CLUB IS BACK!

Friday mornings 10-12 from 25th April



Join us as we potter in the garden and chat whilst doing some gentle weeding/planting etc.

No previous experience needed. Tea/Coffee/Cake provided!



- Supporting
- Connecting
- Empowering



www.volunteeringinhealth.co.uk

# Volunteer drivers required in Chudleigh We need your help!



# Are you able to support a local charity and your community?

Do you have access to a car, enjoy driving and meeting new people? Can you give a little time to help people attend vital medical and hospital appointments?

Do you want your volunteering to work around you, you decide what you do and when? Our amazing transport service provides 1,200+ drives and travels approx. 30,000 miles a year!

It's not just about driving, drivers are a lifeline for families and people who live alone, a listening ear and supporting arm when it's most needed.

The transport team share ideas to help improve the service. Volunteers are invited to training, social events and wellbeing catch-ups and even the occasional sea dip, so it's a great way to meet new people too.

Please contact Anna Lavis on 01626 771695 or email info@ volunteeringinhealth. co.uk



# **HOPE EXPLORED**

A three-session course run by churches across the UK.

Come and discover real hope in Jesus Christ.

Monday evenings: 28th April, 12th & 19th May 7.30pm for pudding and coffee. Evening finished by 9.00pm.

For more information, or to let us know you are coming, please contact Alex on vicar@chudleighparishchurch.org.uk or 07512119914

Chudleigh Parish Church

HOPE EXPLORED

# EASIER

# SUPPER & COMMUNION

Maundy Thursday, 17th April, 6.00pm

An opportunity to share a meal together before a short service of communion (service starts at 7pm), remembering the events of Maundy Thursday when Jesus shared a meal with his friends before he died. Sign up at the back of church.

# PRAYER & REFLECTION

Good Friday, 18th April, 9.30am & 2.00pm

<u>Time of Prayer</u>: 9.30am overlooking the town, leaving from Parish Church at 9am.

<u>Good Friday Meditation</u>: 2.00pm at Chudleigh Parish Church;
a simple service of readings, reflections, silence and hymns.

# GOOD FRIDAY ALL AGE WALK

Good Friday, 18th April, 4.00-6.00pm

Starting from the Parish Church, join us for a walk retelling the story of the first Easter, finishing with a climb up "the hill" (wear good shoes) and a fish and chip supper overlooking Chudleigh - kids eat free. Open to all but <u>particularly suitable for families</u>. Keep an eye on Facebook & the website for booking details (essential for food!)

# EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday 20th April, 8.00am & 10.30am

<u>Traditional Communion Service:</u> 8.00am in the Choir Stalls
<u>All Age Celebration:</u> 10.30am family friendly service with songs and hymns,
an all-age talk and the opportunity to share bread and wine in remembrance of Jesus.

chudleighparishchurch.org.uk



facebook.com/chudleighparishchurch











# Christ the Redeemer Mission, Doorstep Church, Chudleigh



Spring has finally arrived and we can enjoy the sunshine. The hedges, and our garden, are full of primroses and the trees are beginning to look green. A time of renewal and a reminder of how wonderful God's world is.

Palm Sunday was just before Chudleigh Companion is published. We have been giving out Palm Crosses as in previous years. They are a reminder of Jesus riding into Jerusalem and being hailed as a King, but then being crucified when the crowd and others turned against him. Then it is Easter - when we remember that although Jesus died, he rose to life again. All this was to renew and put right our relationship with God. We need to accept this gift of renewed relationship with God, our loving heavenly Father. When things go wrong He is there to support us and we can turn to Him in prayer. Prayer involves listening as well as asking!

May you have a blessed Easter.

God bless you all, Rev'd Terry Brighton, Free Church of England minister@chtrch.org.uk



# Volunteers needed!

We're looking for Puppy Raisers and Fundraisers to join the local group of volunteers.

Visit: guidedogs.org.uk/volunteering



# Clubs & Groups

# Arts & Crafts

#### Sew n Sew

Every Friday, 4-6pm Town Hall Rest Centre Contact Suzanne Sanders 01626 854319 vssanders08@gmail.com

#### **Artists Group**

Every Tuesday, 10-12.30am Town Hall Rest Centre Contact Karen Gates karen.gates@hotmail.co.uk

## **Painting Workshops**

Two day painting workshops Saturday & Sunday, 10am-4pm Town Hall Contact James 01392 256655 jtatum@btconnect.com

# Dance

# **Teign Valley Dance**

Ballet, tap, modern and hip hop from age 18 months. Contact Bernie 01626 854435 teignvalleydance@talktalk.net

#### **Folk Dance**

Every Monday 8-10pm, £2. Contact Mary Marker 01626 854141

#### **Devon Dance**

Every Wednesday during term time. 3.40 - 8.45pm, Woodway Room at the Town Hall. Email emmaberger141189@hotmail.co.uk

# Health & Fitness

#### Over 50's Pilates

Mondays 10am, Town Hall upstairs. Contact Viv 07906 989367. vivcullenpilates@gmail.com

#### Tai Chi

Tai Chi and Qigong for beginners. Tuesdays 7-9pm, Town Hall Woodway Room. Booking essential. contact Conrad 07769 045207. info@handofthewind.co.uk

## Tai Chi with Lisa Kay

Sundays 10-11.30am, upstairs hall at Chudleigh Town Hall. Contact Lisa 07549 606255.

#### **UK Get Active**

Fitness classes for all abilities inc. body conditioning, HiiT, pilates and over 50s. Contact Gina 07764 167355. gina@ukgetactive.co.uk

# Yoga with Jan

Thursdays 10-11.30am, Town Hall. Suitable for all. Contact Jan 01626 853236. yogajanw@hotmail.com

# **Chudleigh Petanque Club**

Sundays 2 - 4pm, Thursdays 2 - 4pm (up to 28<sup>th</sup> March), Thursdays from 4<sup>th</sup> March, 6.30 - 8.30pm. Chudleigh Sports Centre. Contact Kim 07818 092692 chudleighpetanque@qmail.com

# **Chudleigh Cricket Club**

The Club House, Chudleigh Sports Centre TQ13 0QN. Tel. 01626 859329

## **Chudleigh Bowls Club**

See Facebook page @Chudleigh Bowls Club. Club secretary: watkin.steven@outlook.com

#### **Chudleigh Badminton Club**

Thursday 7 - 9pm at Teign School during winter and Mondays at Chudleigh Primary School during summer. Contact Angie Clark ajc5913@gmail.com

## **Chudleigh Athletic Football Club**

Chudleigh Sports Centre TQ13 0QN. chudleighafc@hotmail.com Tel. 01626 852645

#### **Goodwin Martial Arts**

Taekwon-do for all ages including specialised classes for 4-7 year olds. Contact Tamzin 07970 520078 tamzingoodwin@sky.com www.goodwinmartialarts.com

# **Chudleigh Cannons Netball**

Tuesdays in Bishopsteignton. Contact Nikki 07766715273 or Donna 07972 911053.

# Legend Taekwon-Do martial arts school for those age 7+ to adult

Two free trial sessions at Chudleigh Primary School, Tuesday 6-7pm and Friday 6.20-7.20pm. Call or text: 07889 731364. Darren.lukerTKD@hotmail.co.uk

Senior Instructor: Mr Darren Luker.

#### **Badminton Wednesday Group**

7.30 - 9pm Primary School hall. contact Andrew: andrewparkinson.456@gmail.com

# **Short Tennis most Wednesdays**

6-7.30pm Primary School hall contact Andrew: andrewparkinson.456@gmail.com

# Children

## **Teign Valley Dance**

Ballet, tap, modern, hip hop from age 18 months. Contact Bernie 01626 854435.

# FISH (Fun In School Holidays)

Contact Sarah 08445 618847. sarah@fishkids.co.uk

#### **Chudleigh Pre School**

Sessions held at the Town Hall and School. Contact 01626 854680.

#### **Brownies and Guides.**

Mondays, term time only.
Brownies (Years 3 to 5) meet from 6pm to 7.15pm and Guides (Years 6 to 9) from 7.30pm to 9pm.
Both in the Scout HQ. To register visit https://www.girlguiding.
org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/

# Little Legends Taekwon-Do martial arts school for children age 3-7.

Two free trial sessions at Chudleigh Primary School, Friday 5.30pm -6.15pm. Call or text: 07889 731364. Senior Instructor: Mr Darren Luker.

#### **Chudleigh Library Stay & Play**

Wednesday 10.30am - 12.30pm For children age 0-5 and their carers. No need to book.

# 1st Chudleigh Scout Group. Sections meet during school terms as follows:

Beavers Section: Thursday 6-7pm Contact: Beavers@1stchudleigh-scouts.onmicrosoft.com
Cubs Section: Wednesday 6 - 7pm.
Contact: hayley.kingwell@1stchudleighscouts.onmicrosoft.com
Scouts Section: Tuesdays 7 -9pm.
Contact:
john.powell@1stchudleighscouts.
onmicrosoft.com

# Other Groups

# **Phoenix Hand Bell Ringers**

Monday's 7.30 - 9.30pm. Contact nikifleming66@gmail.com

# **Chudleigh Pensioners**

2nd Thursday of each month, 2.15pm. Town Hall Woodway Room. Contact Jenny 01626 852730.

#### **Chess Club**

Wednesday afternoons 2 - 4pm at The Phoenix, Chudleigh. All welcome including beginners and coaching games.

We also run a chess club at Chudleigh Primary School on Mondays at 3.30pm.

Please come and help. DBS check required. Contact Peter Jackson 01626 852414

## **Chudleigh WI**

1st Wednesday of each month, 2pm Town Hall Rest Centre. Contact Wendy 07952627470 or 01626 852122.

## **Chudleigh Against Racism**

3rd Thursday of the month, 11.30am at The Phoenix, Chudleigh Facebook page @Chudleigh Against Racism.

# Reading & Writing

# **Chudleigh Writers Circle**

3rd Monday of each month, 10am - 12pm Chudleigh Town Hall. Contact Kate McCormick 07889 970986.

## **Chudleigh Book Club**

Meets informally every 6 weeks. See Facebook @Chudleigh Book Club

# **Chudleigh Market**

# Phone Geoff on 07852 173070



New Traders
Welcome!



Enjoy private use of our indoor leisure pool (12m x 8m) with included use of our floats and inflatables on site. We can allow a maximum of 15 children plus up to five adults.

#### **Bronze Package**

1hr swimming pool hire £10 per child

Free parking

## Silver Package

1hr swimming pool and 1hr party room hire £12.50 per child

Includes a party table set up in our dining room after the swim, with squash jugs, sandwiches and crisps.

# **Gold Package**

2hr swimming pool and 1hr party room hire £15.00 per child

Includes a party table set up in our dining room after the swim, with squash jugs, sandwiches, crisps, sausage rolls and vegetable sticks, plus tea/ coffee for the grownups.

• Minimum party size: 7

Ages: 5+

Enjoy 10% off any pool party bookings made before 30th June 2025 –quote code 'poolparty25' when booking!

To book, please contact our Reception team on 01626 853639 or email facilityhires@firefighterscharity.org.uk.