

Dittisham Village Voice 10th February 2014

The bad weather has brought our village extremely high tides, flooding on the Ham and in the Ham car park, and it also blew over the huge tree opposite St Georges Church – not a nice welcome for the new residents of the adjacent cottage who had only moved in the day before. I hear that the unfortunate new residents were marooned in the cottage for a while until the tree surgeons were able to remove the massive fallen tree from their pathway and drive.

On 20th January the Red Lion was overflowing with villagers who had come to support our local author Jill Treseder. Jill's first novel – The Hatmaker's Secret – has just been published and the village took the opportunity to launch the book in style. Based on research into her own family history Jill has written a brilliant novel: In 2006 a woman sets out to discover why the existence of her West Indian great-grandmother was kept secret... and how was it managed for so long? The novel's themes of identity, prejudice and betrayal echo from one century to another in this beautifully written book. All the books Jill brought along to the launch sold out within half an hour and many orders were taken on the night.

The West Dart Bus picks up some of our villagers each Friday and takes them to Dartmouth, returning them a few hours later. Now villagers will be pleased to hear that the bus will stop at Sainsbury's. The bus leaves Dittisham each Friday at 9.30am.

Last Saturday the Village Hall had its annual major Spring Clean. Thanks to the wonderful team of volunteers the walls were painted, and the hall had a general spruce up. A large bench has been installed for the footballers to use when they change, and it doubles up as a very useful storage area. The hall is now ready for its busy year ahead.

Tomorrow Pig Racing comes to Dittisham once again. The plucky pigs will start racing at the Ferry Boat Inn at around 3pm, so please do go along and enjoy the mad cap presenter, pork themed snacks and cider. It's always a really fun event.

Next Saturday 22nd February is Quiz Night in the Village Hall. Teams of eight reasonably clever villagers will get together to test their local and general knowledge. It is always a really entertaining evening. Entry is £3 on the night and the quiz will start at 7.30pm. So now is the time to start brushing up on your local facts and reading the encyclopedia at bedtime and who knows, maybe this year you will have your very own 'Mastermind Moment'.