Colyton Parish History Society Newsletter 15 December 2020



After this difficult year I would like to wish everyone the best possible Happy Christmas and very best wishes for a better, happier and kinder 2021.

Sarah Charman

Editor

1. News

a. Theo Marzials encore

Sue Rumney contacted me after last month's Newsletter to say she had a personal connection with some of the people mentioned in the item. She is happy for me to report her comments:

"I read with interest the article about Theo Marzials, the F G Skinner quoted was my great uncle and lived in Kent. My Mother Rosemary Fraser collected and wrote lots about Theo and shared them with Colin Haynes for one of his books - I gave all the notes she left to the Society. (Stored in Archive file AB10 in the Heritage Centre.)

"Uncle Fred and his brother Hesketh (my grandfather) were friends with the Warrys who ran the Bear Pub in King Street which is where they met Theo. (Incidentally, through staying at the Bear my grandfather met Madeline Cook cousin to the Folletts who lived opposite in The Chantry and later married her - my grandmother!). I remember my Mother telling me that she understood that Theo died at Elm Farm (The White Cottage in Dolphin Street) sat on the loo, she said he would have found that very funny as he had a wicked sense of humour!"

b. Calling Time



Jacquie McCullogh has found a box containing the original bell used by Jo Beer in the Colcombe Castle bar to call 'time' - possibly as far back as 1948. She has suggested it might be nice for CPHS to present this interesting item of memorabilia to the new owner, Eddie Dayment, who is currently restoring the Colcombe Castle to its former glory and is looking for old photographs and items of interest to feature in the bar.

2. Other Matters

Gitt(i)shayne and Gittisham

Do you know of any historic connection between Gitt(i)shayne and Gittisham? I am aware that in the Devon dialect 'hayne' means enclosure and I'm told that 'ham' means valley with a stream running through it. Does anyone happen to know if there used to be a family of 'Gitts' (no pun intended) associated with Colyton or this area of East Devon? Or are you aware of why these two places have similar names?