



THE SHAMMICK CHRONICLE

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THREE YEARS OF THE "LITTLE PARISH WITH A BIG STORY"

EDITORIAL STAFF – On March 29, 2026, the Combe Martin Village History Project (CMVHP) officially celebrated its third anniversary. What began in 2023 as a humble digital effort has grown into an educational archive.

The project hit a milestone this month: **over 6,000 research documents** have now been downloaded by scholars, students, and curious locals. From the silver mines to the strawberry fields, the village's story is being exported globally.

THE "TALKING PAGE" IMPROVES ACCESS

BY OUR TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

In a bold move toward universal inclusion, the CMVHP has unveiled its **History Speed Reader**.

Designed for those with visual impairments, dyslexia, or simply a preference for the spoken word, this new tool allows the "Little Parish" to tell its big story out loud.

By implementing "Semantic Stratigraphy," even the complex geological layers of our coastline can now be described accurately by assistive technologies.

"Our heritage should not just be seen, but heard," says the project team. "Accessibility is not an 'add-on'; it is the foundation of our 2026 digital architecture."

NEWS IN BRIEF

- **STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER:** CMVHP was featured in the April 2026 edition of *The Shammickite* magazine. The article explored the village's transition from heavy mining to the famous strawberry trade.
 - **GEOLOGY DEEP DIVE:** A new community paper on the *Geology of Combe Martin* was added to the archive on March 31. It provides a detailed look at the minerals that once made this village the industrial powerhouse of North Devon.
 - **MUSEUM COFFEE MORNINGS:** Don't forget! £2.50 for coffee and cake, plus free entry to the Museum. Call into the Museum on Cross Street for more information on events.
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THE HUNT IS ON: EARL OF RONE 2026

FESTIVAL PREVIEW – The dates are set for the village's most famous tradition. [The Hunting of the Earl of Rone](#) will commence on **Friday, May 22, 2026**, culminating in the final procession on Bank Holiday Monday.

The CMVHP archive has been updated with new 2026 retrospective studies on the festival's lineage. Whether you're a "Grenadier" or a spectator, CMVHP is proud to offer an evidence-based history of this reconstruction.

PROVENANCE MATTERS

All materials within the CMVHP archive remain under the **CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 License**. We remind our readers that while we encourage educational use, the "Editorial Integrity" of our research must be preserved. No mixing, no modifications and no commercial use—just pure, referenced history.

[**VISIT THE ARCHIVE:** www.combemartinvillage.co.uk] *"Preserving the past, coding the future."*

Visit <https://earl-of-rone.org.uk/>

