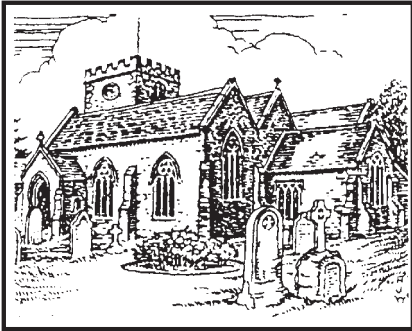
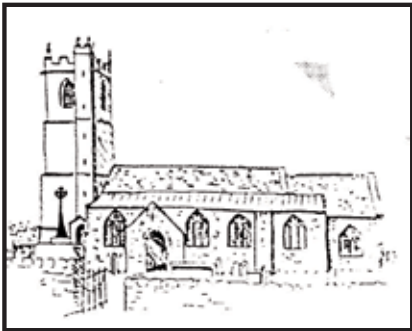


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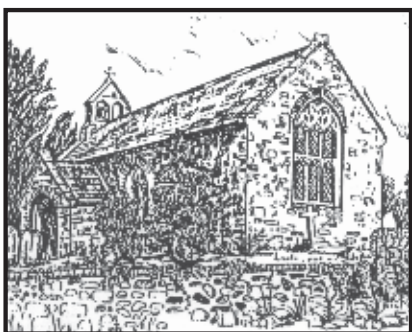
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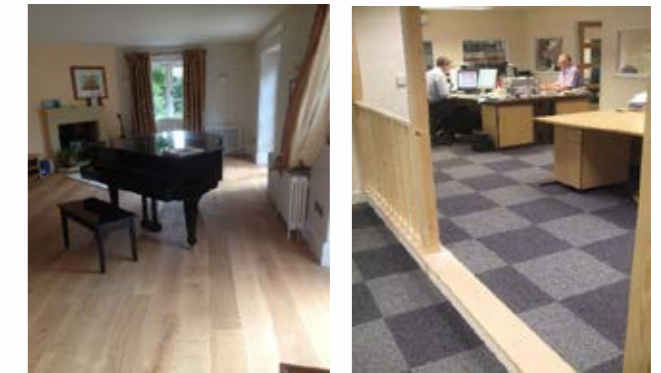
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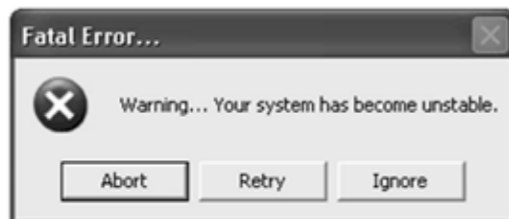
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Mixed Box	30 lb /13.6 kgs	£125
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PARISH PUMP – No. 270 December 2018 – January 2019

SERVICES IN THE UPPER CULM VALLEY MISSION COMMUNITY

December 2018 and January 2019



'To love God and to love our neighbour'

Visitors to, and residents of the area, are most welcome at the services throughout the Mission Community.

www.culmkirks.co.uk

HC = Holy Communion; MP = Morning Prayer; EP = Evening Prayer; FS = Family Service; FC = Family Communion; BCP = Book of Common Prayer; CW = Common Worship

Services	Hemyock, St Mary	Culm Davy, St Mary's Chapel	Clayhidon, St Andrew	Culmstock, All Saints'
2 nd December Advent 1	Joint Benefice Eucharist for St Andrews – St Andrews Clayhidon – 10.30am			
	4.00pm Christingle with Hemyock School	No Service	No Service	No Service
Saturday 8 th December	No Service	No Service	4.00pm Christingle	No Service
9 th December Advent 2	11.15am HC (CW)	No Service	No Service	3.30pm EP with Methodists
16 th December Advent 3	11.15am MP (CW)	3.30pm Carol Service	6.30pm EP (CW) Carol Service	9.30am HC (CW)
18 th December	7.00pm Carol Service	No Service	No Service	No Service
23 rd December Advent 4	11.15am HC (CW)	No Service	4.00pm Crib Service	6.30pm Carol Service
24 th December Christmas Eve	5.00pm - Crib Service 11.15pm – HC (CW)	No Service	11.15pm – HC (CW)	10.00pm HC (CW)
25 th December Christmas Day	10.00am Family Communion	9.00am HC (BCP)	10.00am Family Communion	10.00am Family Communion
30 th December	Benefice Eucharist - Culm Davy Chapel – 10.30am			
6 th January The Epiphany	10.30am Family Service	No Service	8.30am HC (BCP)	10.00am FS (CW)
13 th January Baptism of Christ Plough Sunday	11.15am MP (CW)	9.00am HC (BCP)	10.00am Family Service	3.00pm EP With Methodists
20 th January 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany	11.15am HC (CW)	No Service	6.30pm Joint Service at Rosemary Lane Chapel	9.30am MP (BCP)
27 th January Fourth Sunday After Epiphany	11.15am HC (CW)	3.30pm EP (BCP)	10.00am HC (CW)	8.00am HC (BCP)

Regular Mid-week Services: Tuesdays - Morning Prayer, 10 am at All Saints', Culmstock

Office hours for the parish Administrator Hilary Clements is between 9 and 12 every Thursday or you can leave a message at any other time e:ucvmission@gmail.com t:07495 639 826.

01884 829464 **Appleyard's** 07868 589525

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Remembrance Day Service

It was standing room only at Hemyock Parish Church when over 200 gathered for the annual Remembrance Sunday service with a further 30 outside.

The morning began with a parade from the parish hall which included the church choir, uniformed youth groups, veterans and parishioners. The service at St Mary's was led by Rev Chris Hudson. Readings were given by David Bawler (RBL Poppy Appeal Organiser) and the poem 'We will keep the Faith' was read by Roger Lambert.

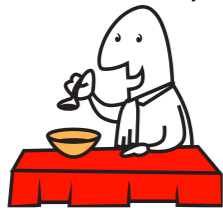
Wreaths were laid at the War Memorial on behalf of the Parish Council, 1st Hemyock Scout Group, 1st Hemyock Brownies and the primary school, where Mr Tim Barton gave the Exhortation.

The collection for the RBL raised £423.84. At 12.30 bell ringers took part in the national ringing event to replicate the moment in 1918 when long silenced bells rang out.

Janice Bawler



St Mary's Church, Hemyock



Monthly Winter Lunch Hearty winter soup, pudding & coffee



**Thurs, 20 Dec
& Thurs 17 Jan**



**in The Church Rooms, Hemyock
(serving at 12.30pm)**

**Donations towards
Building Projects at St Mary's Church**

A Time for Giving

As the Christmas season approaches the St Mary's Charity Shop starts to look towards its end of year figures. Obviously most businesses who use December 31st as the end of their financial year do the same. In our case it's a question of knowing how much we can give away!

When the shop was started back in 2012 one of the conditions we set ourselves was that at least 25% of our proceeds should be given to charitable groups in the village, or groups that help the village, like the Air Ambulance. And we have kept to that promise. So over the past years we've been able to give some assistance to the Scouts, Brownies, Acorns, Carer's group, the Playgroup, the Defibrillator fund, the Hospice and Sam's Legacy amongst others.

And now, thanks to your continuing support, we'll be looking to give some more help to causes/groups in the village. So if you feel your group could use a little financial help do contact us for a form to put some details on. It won't be thousands of pounds, but as we know from our reorganisation appeal every little helps. Please contact the PCC secretary before December 14th (gandbsamuels@tiscali.co.uk). The money will be given out at the Shop session on February 2nd.

Brian Samuels

A Thank you, a BIG THANK YOU, and a plea!

When the seriousness of the conflict in Syria was realised, many churches and councils across the land started to organise aid for those made refugees by the fighting.

Hemyock Parish council took a local lead in this and asked St Marys if we could act as a collecting point. This we were pleased to do, as our being open most of the day made it easy for people to drop things off. Items collected in Hemyock go to a central depot in Taunton, for onward distribution. And this has been the case for about 4 years now.

So firstly a thank you to all you lovely people who bring things into the church. (Front pew, right hand side for any new donors). But your gifts do not magically fly to Taunton. For all that time they have been collected and taken to Taunton by former Parish councillor Jocelyn Pritchard. We're not sure how many bags of clothes she has transported but it is A LOT. So a very big THANK YOU to Jocelyn for all that she has done. But all this is about to change!!

Early in 2019 Jocelyn and her husband will be returning to her Lake District roots, near Kendal. (Yes this is where the "plea" comes in.) Is there anyone who could take over this delivery in the New Year? It has usually been about every three to four weeks that the pew gets filled up. It would suit someone working in Taunton who would not mind the occasional detour. If you are interested please contact either the PCC secretary for St Marys or Councillor Penny Lawrence for the Parish Council. Thank you in anticipation!

PS. Jobshare is of course a possibility!

Brian Samuels

St Mary's Hemyock Charity & Coffee Shop December opening

On **Saturday 1st** we will be at the
Church Christmas Fair

Parish Hall 2-4pm.

Tuesday 11th

Our last session of the year
10 -12noon Church Rooms.

Tuesday 25th

We'll be wishing you all a
Peaceful and Blessed Christmas
and thanking you for all your support
during the year.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal

For the past few weeks Christmas Shoeboxes have been arriving at the home of Janice and David Bawler in Hemyock for the Devon charity Christian Response to Easter Europe (crzee) appeal. The boxes are filled with a huge range of new gifts – sweets, toys and headscarves to tools, aftershave and coffee – as the charity distribute to adults and families as well as children in Moldova one of Europe's poorest countries.

This year has seen boxes arriving from a large area – Morchard Bishop and Bampton to Bridgwater and Wellington and have totalled 124. Along with these has been donated 13 very large bags of knitted garments and good quality second hand clothes and bedding. As well as the shoeboxes the charity provide and support soup kitchens, education and medical projects and family support.

Many thanks to all have contributed to this years appeal with special thanks to 1st Hemyock Cubs who donated 4 very full boxes.

David and Janice



St Mary's Hemyock Charity & Coffee Shop

Will be open in

JANUARY

on

Saturday 5th

Tuesday 8th

Tuesday 22nd

All 10am - 12noon

Church Room, Castle Hill.

Well worth a visit!

St. Mary's Church CHRISTMAS FAIR

at
HEMYOCK PARISH HALL
on
SATURDAY 1st DECEMBER



from
2 until 4pm



Teas & Mince Pies - Cakes & Savouries
Plants - Raffles & Tombola - Preserves
New Pocket Money Toys - Lucky Dip
Body Shop Items - New & Nearly New



&
the launch of the new
HEMYOCK COOKBOOK



.....
Items to sell gratefully received
Customers very welcome!

Foodbank

A mysterious email arrived recently on my phone thanking St Mary's for the 4.6kg (around 10lbs) of goods sent to the local foodbank from the church Harvest Festival for which they were extremely grateful. As this hadn't happened it was followed up when it turns out it was the amount sent from the village over a period of time but no mention of that time.

Most will know that the church acts as a drop off point for goods for the foodbank and every week there are donations which are taken to Wellington. This in turn is taken to the Taunton depot, weighed and returned to Wellington (don't ask!)

With winter approaching goods are even more welcome - they also accept dog food - so the request is please remember to leave your donation in the box always at the back of St Mary's. Thank you.

Janice Bawler

Hemyock Chefs of All Ages Cook up Recipe Book for Upkeep of St Mary's Church

At the Christmas Fair on Saturday 1st December the "Taste of Hemyock" cook book will be launched in support of St Mary's Church.

There will be bunting, biscuits and cake stands laden with some amazing goodies to try made from 71 tried and tested recipes donated by the local clubs, children and village community. Recipes include toddlers play dough and peppermint creams to Malay fish curry from local professional chef Conrad Fielding. There is also a recipe submitted by a dog! Eric the terrier, who just loves home-made biscuits and wants to share the recipe with his canine friends in the village.

We thought it would be great if we could capture and share favourite recipes that have been tried, tested and perfected over the years or handed down from previous generations to inspire present and future cooks in a cookbook for the whole village and beyond to enjoy and raise money at the same time.

The book is £8.50, an ideal unique stocking filler for Christmas. Contact Louise to pre-order your copy of the cook book. Further information: Louise Dalton Email: louwatson@hotmail.co.uk.

Happening Hemyock

A Very Big Thank-You to all those who contributed to the "Happening Hemyock" event on the afternoon of Nov 3rd.

Over 50 clubs, groups and organisations, small and large, from Archery to Zumba, came together in the Parish Hall to show just how extensive and diverse are the ways Hemyock people can occupy themselves. We really are spoilt for choice and there absolutely is no excuse to be bored or lonely in our village.

New groups forming: board games, French club, cribbage. Potential groups: photography, ballroom dancing, bridge, table tennis.

If you are interested in the above, have other ideas, or need more information, please contact Donna Evans, Parish Clerk, at hemyockpc@gmail.com

MacMillan Fundraising Success

A Blackdown village raised over £500 for MacMillan as part of the Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning campaign.

Hemyock resident, Tracey Canning was eager to support the cancer charity having experience, first hand, how MacMillan makes a difference. Her partner Steve, is a throat cancer survivor.

She gathered a willing and eager team of friends, neighbours and work colleagues to take part in the widely supported event.

Around 20 different cakes and cookies were baked and donated. Tea, coffee, milk and sugar was given by Tesco Honiton, Waitrose Wellington, Sainsburys Ottery St Mary and Co-Op Wellington.

Hemyock Church Rooms waived the room hire fees and Churchwardens went even further by proposing to donate the St Marys Church collection of £148.38

Several volunteers set out around the village to offer cookies and cakes to the local workforce, who were unable to take part that morning. Prizes for the raffle and even bags of apples were included in the fundraising.

Tracey explained 'I knew the coffee morning would be well supported Hemyock has a great reputation for its generosity. I was a little worried that there would be so much left, as the cake donations kept piling up. Everyone has been so kind and given so much, I'm just overwhelmed and already making plans for next year.

MacMillan help people living with cancer live life as fully as they can. This year, so far, the people supporting the popular national campaign has raised over £3.1m. The Hemyock event donations are still being posted through Traceys letterbox from those who where unable to attend. At the time of going to print, the total collected is £403.17.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in Hemyock

A huge thank you to all those who helped and supported this years Poppy Appeal. Despite fewer collectors this year a total of £2017.40 was raised. An increase of £39 on 2017.

Once again many thanks and if you can spare some time next year please contact me on bawler1952@hotmail.com or 07773579809

David Bawler
Honorary Poppy
Appeal Co-ordinator



HEMYOCK'S BIG VISIT!!!



He is nearly here!

The team have managed to carefully organise the big man himself and are pleased to share some details below!

Father Christmas, together with some help, will travel through as much of the village as possible. He will stop **only** at designated stops listed below and for a limited amount of time. His followers of Elves and festive helpers will be collecting for the two chosen charities both en route and at the stops.

Night One will start at Lower Millhayes at 5pm. The first stop will be at the Healthy Living Centre, the second Longmead Pavilion Car Park the third in Hollingarh Way at the junction with Blackdown View ending the evening in Eastlands (the square). Father Christmas will need to leave at 7pm.

Night Two will start at Griffin close at 5pm. The first stop will be in the Primary School carpark, the second Catherine Wheel car park, third top of Prowses and finally the Parish Hall car park. Again, the evening will end for the Christmas crew at 7pm.

If anyone is arriving at any stop by car, please be aware there could be a number of people around, no cars are to enter the school premises and the gates and drives of residents need to be respected at all times.

The charities we will be collecting for on the night are Devon Air Ambulance and Grand Appeal for Bristol Children's Hospital. Should anyone wish to donate to the charities but for whatever reason cannot get to a stop or be home to open the door when the crew pass through the village, please put in an envelope marked "Hemyock Christmas Club" and put through the door of either 7 Station Road or 40 Castle Park.

We have a number of sponsors, all of whom have been very generous, without them this event would not have been possible. We will be naming all sponsors in due course, on social media and posters throughout the village.

We all look forward to seeing you on the 5th and 6th December!

Lydia, Libby, Chris & Stuart
Hemyock Christmas Club

HEMYOCK'S BIG VISIT
NIGHT 1 ROUTE
WEDNESDAY 5th DEC 5PM - 7PM

Healthy Living Centre
1

Hollingarh Way
2

Longmead Sports Pavilion
3

Eastlands
4

WE POLITELY ASK THAT THOSE ATTENDING THIS EVENT BY VEHICLE ARE MINDFUL OF LOCAL RESIDENTS. PLEASE PARK CONSIDERATELY.

THESE ARE FATHER CHRISTMAS' PLANNED STOPS WHERE THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE BIG MAN HIMSELF! HE WILL HOWEVER PLAN TO GET AROUND AS MANY STREETS AS POSSIBLE TO SPREAD FESTIVE CHEER AND COLLECT MONEY FOR OUR CHARITIES. SO LISTEN OUT FOR THE SLEIGH BELLS!!

Devon Air Ambulance
www.daa1.org

GRAND APPEAL

HEMYOCK'S BIG VISIT
NIGHT 2 STOPS
THURSDAY 6th DEC 5PM - 7PM

HEMYOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL
1

THE CATHERINE WHEEL
2

HEMYOCK PARISH HALL
3

PROWSES
4

5

WE POLITELY ASK THAT THOSE ATTENDING THIS EVENT BY VEHICLE ARE MINDFUL OF LOCAL RESIDENTS. PLEASE PARK CONSIDERATELY.

THE SCHOOL CAR PARK WILL BE OPEN TO PEDESTRIANS ONLY

UNTIL 7PM FOR THOSE WHO MAY HAVE MISSED FATHER CHRISTMAS ON HIS ROUTE!!

THESE ARE FATHER CHRISTMAS' PLANNED STOPS WHERE THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE BIG MAN HIMSELF! HE WILL HOWEVER PLAN TO GET AROUND AS MANY STREETS AS POSSIBLE TO SPREAD FESTIVE CHEER AND COLLECT MONEY FOR OUR CHARITIES. SO LISTEN OUT FOR THE SLEIGH BELLS!!

Devon Air Ambulance
www.daa1.org

GRAND APPEAL

Opening Times



Hemyock Surgery

Mon – Fri 08:30 – 18:00 – **Please note the dispensary is closed between 13:00-14:00**
 Sat 08:00 – 11:00

Churchinford Surgery

Mon, Tue & Thu 08:30 – 12:30 and 15:00 – 18:00
 Wed & Fri 08:30 – 12:30 – closed in the afternoon on these days
 Weekends Closed

Dunkeswell Surgery

Mon & Wed 08:30 – 12:30 and 15:00 – 18:00
 Tue, Thu & Fri 08:30 – 12:30 – closed in the afternoon on these days
 Weekends Closed

If you require urgent medical assistance or advice outside of normal surgery hours **please call 111. In a genuine emergency you should call 999.** Chest pains and / or shortness of breath constitute an emergency.

Hemyock WI

Hemyock WI have had an interesting couple of months with two good demonstrations, meals out, a Group Meeting, skittles and the Book Club. Karen Pinder's cookery was delicious and she made the whole process look easy. The 'Art Class' with Linda Hampson was both interesting and fun. On January 15th Members will celebrate with a party at the Beam Bridge Hotel but on February 5th they will be back in Forbes Lounge with Helen Kearney who is a Medical Herbalist. March 5th Members will enjoy an evening with Janet Kittow and her amazing quilts. Hemyock WI meets in Forbes Lounge on the first Tuesday of each month and visitors are always welcome.

Brenda Calcraft

Thank you

Thankyou to everyone that came to the firework party at Simonsburrow farm in November. The donations this year were for Shine, a charity supporting people with spina bifida and hydrocephalus across the UK. We raised £250 in total, which has now been donated. Many thanks, Shirley Kunda and family.

NATURAL CHRISTMAS WREATHS

Example



Made to order from £15 with free delivery 10 mile radius of Clayhidon

Telephone 01823 681027 or text 07585138901

Hemyock Tennis Club

The great news for the tennis club is that we are very fortunate to have had a grant application accepted by Viridor. In the coming weeks, work will commence to upgrade the floodlights and extend them to illuminate court 3, and the courts will also be resurfaced. The bulk of the work will take place within a fairly short period, but final repainting, and therefore completion, will probably be carried out when weather allows in the spring of the New Year.

Some additional funds will need to be raised, and the club have arranged a 'race night' to take place in the Parish hall on Saturday March 2nd next year. It will be a very entertaining evening, with a hot supper, bar, and of course the chance to win a few shillings. Look out too for a 'Skittles & Quiz' evening in January. This is a social event scheduled to avoid the Christmas rush.

In line with our obligations towards membership of the LTA, we now have a Welfare Officer, Rachel Bussell. Rachel's contact details can be found on the club notice board together with lots of information on this important role.

A number of friendlies have been played since the end of the summer season, including matches against Wiveliscombe, Wellington, Bradninch, and a monthly arrangement with Uppottery. (First Wednesday of the month). If you want to get involved, please make contact through any club representative. New players are always welcome.

New members - There is still time to grab 2018/19 membership for half price. That's just £42.50 for adult, and £65 for a couple. New junior members can join for just £10, and any additional siblings an additional fiver. For application forms see www.hemyock.org website.

COACHING. Dan Sizer, our club coach, will be offering free coaching for juniors as follows, on Thursday afternoons

Reds (under 8's)	from 4.15 – 5.00
Ambers (under 11's)	from 5.00 – 5.45
Juniors (under 16's)	from 5.45 – 6.45

Private coaching may be arranged with Dan directly on 07951828760 or via email to dan@dsctenniscoaching.co.uk. Website <http://www.dsctenniscoaching.co.uk>.

CLUB SESSIONS. The club weekly sessions are:
 Thursday: Mixed Club Night from 6.30pm onwards
 Saturday: Mixed Club morning from 10.30am onwards
 Sunday: Mixed Club morning (Team Practice) 10.30am onwards

Further club sessions have been considered, and if there is enough interest there is ample court time available, so please feel free to contact me.

NON-MEMBERS AND VISITORS. The courts may be booked by non-members at the Spar shop in Hemyock. Charges are £8 per hour for seniors and £4 per hour for juniors. Tokens for the floodlights are available at £2 for each half hour.

Bob Hawkes, Secretary 07540 435149
bob.hawkes18@btinternet.com or hemyocktennisclub@outlook.com

Great News!!!

Hemyock tennis courts to get major re-vamp

Viridor credits have awarded the tennis club a major grant for new lights. This means that, not only can we re-surface our worn courts (now 13 years old), but also light all three courts with a much better standard of flood lights.

Work will start this Nov/Dec and be completed by Spring 2019. Hemyock will then have the best tennis facilities in the Blackdown Hills (and some way beyond!).

Once work is complete we will have a big open day to celebrate - watch this space.

In the meantime, the works will not prevent play through the winter, so why not join us now? We're friendly and welcoming and cater for all ages and abilities.

Go to www.hemyock.org and follow links to the tennis club for more info, or come along on Saturday morning or Thursday evening (the courts are on Longmead, off Station Road)



Hemyock Baby and Toddler Group
 at Hemyock Parish Hall
 £1.50 per child or £2 per family

Tuesday Afternoons 1.30 pm - 3.00 pm
 Term Time

What?? Puzzles, Books, Ride on Toys, Soft floor baby play area, Arts and crafts, singing, space to run around and lots more. including Tea, coffee and biscuits for adults and a drink and snack for little ones.

Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers... Everybody is welcome.

For further details contact Vicki 01823 680138 or Heidi 07771771980

History Group Report

We have had two interesting talks during our 18/19 series with another 7 talks in our program.

The first talk was on the building of Exeter Cathedral given by the archaeologist employed by the Cathedral, John Allan. The construction in the early years of the second millennium AD created a structure which withstood the German bombardment in 1942 leaving sections of the walls collapsed.

This was followed by a talk in October by Todd Gray from Exeter of the varied memorials built in memory of Devon's contribution to the World Wars.

The next 2 illustrated talks on the third Thursday of the month are on Maritime Shortcuts where canals cut through land including the recent work on the Suez and Panama canals explained on 20th December and The Romans in Devon given by County Archaeologist, Bill Horner on January 17th.

Do come along for an interesting and informative talk at the Church Rooms at 7.30pm on the above dates.



Hemyock Parish Council Business Update December 2018

Hemyock Parish Council held its usual monthly meetings in October & November. It also held an extra meeting in October to discuss the planning application for 30 dwellings on Culmstock Road, adjacent to Griffin Close. A brief summary of the business conducted at those meetings is as follows:-

Planning

Applications received for:-

- 18/01249/MOUT. Outline for the erection of 30 dwellings and formation of access. Land South of Culmstock Road, Hemyock.
- 18/01439/HOUSE. Erection of single storey rear extension and demolition of existing store. Cygnet Cottage, 3 Broadway, Fore Street, Hemyock.
- 18/01377/HOUSE. Erection of an extension. Whitehall View, Hemyock.
- 18/01461/FULL. Replacement of existing wooden double-glazed windows and doors with uPVC windows and doors. The Blackdown Healthy Living Centre, Riverside, Hemyock.
- 18/01511/TPO. Application to fell 1 ash tree. 2 Castle Barton, Culmstock Road, Hemyock
- 18/01374/FULL. Erection of replacement dwelling (revised Scheme). Beamley Bungalow, Hemyock.
- 18/01608/HOUSE. Erection of single storey side extension. 5 Parklands, Hemyock.

Finance

Income - included cemetery payments, interest, planning fee refund, insurance contribution, precept, and VAT reclaim. Expenditure - included room hire, clerk's pay and expenses, grass cutting, village maintenance, improvements to Blackdown Healthy Living & Activities Centre, other admin expenses, training, Poppy appeal and Vehicle-Activated sign solar power.

The council awarded grants to:

- Hemyock Lights Brigade £500
- Blackdown Support Group £1,000
- Citizens Advice Bureau £250

Summerfield Developments

Summerfield Developments approached the parish council and asked for a meeting to discuss the potential development of Culmbridge Farm. The council and many parishioners listened to what the developer had to say and informed the developer of the parish's concerns:- the capacity of the local roads, sewers, school and doctors' surgery. Summerfield is considering the feedback.

Christmas Decorations Competition

The council is holding its annual 'Hemyock Christmas Decorations Competition'. There will be a total of four prizes for the best decorated houses/business premises. Please enter into the spirit of Christmas and make the village look festive and cheerful. Judging will take place week commencing 17th December. Winners will be notified shortly afterwards. If you live outside of the 30MPH limit and wish to be judged, please let the clerk know.

Hedges

Many comments have been made to the council about hedges in and around the parish encroaching on to roads. Residents are politely asked to ensure their hedges are kept trimmed. Whilst there are some restrictions on when hedges may be cut, if there are road safety concerns then under these circumstances those restrictions do not apply.

Elections 2019

Parish councillors are elected every four years. Next year, on Thursday 2nd May 2019, parish council elections will be held. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor please contact any of the parish councillors or clerk for more information.

Highways

Devon County Council's telephone number for members of the public to report any lights that are not working, pot holes, blocked drains/gulleys and any other road maintenance issues is 0345 155 1004. Lines are open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 1pm Saturday. Or report the problem online www.new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem

Police

101 - The non-emergency number for Devon and Cornwall Police
Textphone 18001 101 for the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired
Always call 999 in an emergency.

Finally

If you would like to get involved or wish to know what is happening around the parish then please come along to one of the council meetings, normally held on the first Wednesday of the month in the Forbes Lounge, Parish Hall. The next meeting will start at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5th December 2018. Minutes and agenda are displayed on the web at www.hemyock.org//index.php?topic=parishcouncil and may be found on the two Parish Noticeboards located outside the Spar Shop and in the car park next to the Baptist Church.

Clerk: Mrs Donna Evans, Park Farm, Dunkeswell, Honiton, Devon EX14 4RN
Tel 01823 680968 Email hemyockpc@gmail.com.



*Christmas Music
& Mince Pies*

with

King's Hall School Choir

Monday 10th December

2pm

*Blackdown Healthy Living &
Activity Centre*

Everyone welcome, no need to book

On Being Dementia Friendly

My partner, who lives with me here in Castle Park has dementia, and I often look on the Forum on the Alzheimer's website. I was reading someone's post early one morning, and wanted to write a response - it was all about dementia's effect on people, including carers. Here it is:

ON BEING DEMENTIA FRIENDLY

Wretched thing I know you so,
Where is my love, I do not know
The blank stare from a loved one's face
Freaks me out, in this strange place
Oh yes my dear, there's a blue dog there,
In the corner, do not stare,
Your handbag too is by your side
No, my dear it did not hide
Away in a corner fate unknown,
Yes, dear Aunt, this is your home.
See that lady over there?
No, my dear, do not stare.
She used to be so well turned out
Although she was a little stout,
Now she is all skin and bone
And her family are unknown
To her, here within this place,
And look at you, and your dear face.
I never knew your hair was dark
I thought you were blonde, such a lark,
You kept your hair so neat and smart
To see it now would break your heart.
He's gone you know, your husband dear
You don't need to linger here
You're ninety two years old you know
It really would be kind to go
My dearest Aunt, I say to you
There's nothing left on earth for you.
You cannot eat, nor speak, nor smile
It's been like this for quite a while
I take your hand and kiss your face
It's time for me to leave this place
I will not be back, now I know
Across the sea, I have to go.
And you? You, what will you do?
Nothing more, those words are true.
Your time is done, goodbye, my dear
I would not wish you to linger here.

I had known my aunt all my life and she was a very smart and good looking lady, always well dressed and make up on, hair done, perfume - the works. I came to live in Hemyock from the Isle of Man 35 years ago, and was back visiting friends and went to see Aunty Betty - that was when we talked about blue dogs and her handbag. But she did seem to know who I was. Then a couple of years later, I went back, and she was just 'there' in her bed, not really living at all, and I just wanted to tell her that her husband was dead, my Dad, (who she was very fond of) was also dead, and I took her hand, and told her she could go and join them. She lived for a couple of months and then went.

Mary Hylands



News from the Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre

It has been a busy couple of months at the BHLAC with new classes and therapists joining us. We are thrilled that our new Tai Chi Qigong class has been so popular that there is an additional class on Wednesday morning. Once a month we now have a Betonica Herbal Medicine Clinic, they offer a drop-in appointment for £5 so why not pop in and find out if herbs can help you!

CAMEO, Brightside, Memory Café and the Blackdown Stay & Play Hub had much fun choosing recipes for the Hemyock Cookbook, so we look forward to seeing the finished product early in December!

The BHLAC was absolutely thrilled to be chosen by Waitrose 'Community Matters' scheme in the month of October. A huge thank you to Waitrose and to those of you who supported us by shopping in Waitrose and choosing us for your green tokens!

The 24th November saw a fabulous fundraising event in conjunction with Conrad's Kitchen. The BHLAC was transformed for 'A Taste of Opera' - a wonderful evening of Italian food and music. Thank you to all those involved in raising money for the Centre - we have exciting plans for the future!

We are now gearing up for the festive season with a variety of events. We were delighted to be part of The Lights' Brigade Procession once again this year, providing hot mulled cider and apple juice to get us in the festive spirit! We welcome you to join us on Monday 10th December at 2pm for 'Christmas Music & Mince Pies' with King's Hall School Senior Choir. Everyone is welcome, free admission. We will have our Christmas Fair on Thursday 13th December, come along for coffee and cake and festive stalls from 10.30am - 12pm.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our fabulous volunteers here at the Centre, who are fundamental to what we do. We are currently running a Christmas 'Thank You' Raffle with prizes from Exeter Chiefs, Wildwood Escot, Blackdown Hills AONB, Conrad's Kitchen, Otter Brewery, Elaine's Beauty Shop, to name a few, to raise funds to provide a Christmas Meal for our volunteers. Tickets are available from the Centre, the Spar and the Post Office.

Finally, please visit www.bhlac.org.uk to see our brand new website which details all of our services, events, activities and therapists.

Peta Dayus-Jones
Centre Manager



CRAFTERNOON! 🍷🧶🌸

HEMYOCK. EVERY LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH 2.00-4.00.

Come along to CRAFTERNOON!
Bring your sewing/knitting/crochet.
Join our friendly group for a chat and a cuppa.
Ring Gabbi 680690 or Lynn 680104 for further information.



The Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre – What's on

- Cameo Club** Mondays and Thursdays most weeks of the year. Day care, activities and lunch for older people. Contact Tracy Howe for details on 01823 680687
- Stay & Play Hub** Every Thursday 1.30 – 3pm, a drop-in stay & play session for parents, babies and toddlers. Arts & Craft, Messy/Sensory Play, Baby Massage & more. Call Peta Dayus-Jones on 01823 680687
- Phoenix Group** On the first Tuesday of every month 10am – 12pm, an informal, drop-in session for carers run by Diana Cooper (01823 680175)
- Brightside** On the first Friday of the month, a day of activities, entertainment and good food for people who want to get out and about. Contact Janet Elworthy for information and to book on 01823 680687
- Memory Cafe** On the second Tuesday of every month, company, gentle activities and lunch for anyone affected by memory loss. Contact Janet Morison for information and to book on 01823 680687

Classes:

Monday	Yoga	6.15 – 7.45pm	Julia Baldock
Tuesday	Keep Fit (over 60)	10 – 11am	Pauline Marchmont
	Pilates (2 classes)	5.45 – 8pm	Harriet Tubbs
Wednesday	Tai Chi (2 classes)	10 – 12.30pm	Alice Ringrose
	Pilates (2 classes)	6 – 8.15pm	Harriet Tubbs
Friday	Yoga	9.30 – 10.30am	Steph Leitner

Call 01823 680687 for further information and details of our classes or visit our new website www.bhlac.org.uk

Complementary Therapies Acupuncture Aromatherapy, Alexander Technique, Beauty Therapy, Chiropractic, Clinical Hypnosis, Counselling, Foot Care, Herbal Medicine, Homeopathy, Massage, Osteopathy, Reflexology, TCM. Please contact therapists direct to book appointments.

You can find the BHLAC at Riverside, Lower Millhayes, Hemyock, EX15 3SH

Around Hemyock – Dec 2018 - Jan 2019

Christmas will be just a few weeks away by the time this issue of the Pump is published – for most of us a time of great joy and celebration but for some a time of sadness and remembrance. **Remembrance Sunday** saw November 11th being commemorated in many different ways throughout the world. At St Mary's it was standing room only for the village service with others waiting outside for the laying of wreaths. The church, gate and wall had been decorated with poppies and silent silhouettes could be found in pews reminding young and old of those who gave their lives for our freedom.

We hear that the **Valley Arts** show during half term was very well received and the occasional forgotten line caused great amusement as the cast adapted comments showing their capability at improvisation (Oh yes they did!) proving that whatever happens the show must go on! Well done to all involved.

Hemyock Singers will no doubt be hoping to entertain folk with their December concert followed by a traditional meal in a few days.

The traditional church **Christmas Fair** held at the Parish Hall, when a new village cook book will be unveiled, may have taken place before the Pump reaches you, also the evening Lantern Parade and the village Christingle service but the visit of Father Christmas visiting various parts of the village will have our young folk getting very excited. I still remember as a child being thrilled when visiting relatives here one year Father Christmas paid a visit to their house As my birthday is on Christmas Eve it was a very special treat never forgotten.

People come and go and we say a fond farewell to all who have left the area including **Dan and Lyn Morgan** who have moved to Scotland to be nearer family. To all who have moved here recently we hope you will soon settle into village life and discover all the numerous clubs and organisations that are in the parish where you will find a very warm welcome.

At the recent **Hemyock Happenings** event there were many groups who are not listed on the back of the Parish Pump so people were not aware of them. Perhaps it would be possible for someone to gather these and include in a future edition of the magazine?

The hall is full of people bringing their various objects to the **Repair Café** held at the Parish Hall- what a huge success this is proving to be. The old saying of *Make Do and Mend* springs to mind.

Our regular charity shop, market, lunches and coffee mornings are offering us all a chance to meet up and enjoy one another's company.

Congratulations to **Ben Moon** selected to play rugby for England.

There are people known to us who at this time have been or are unwell – including **Cora Doble, Claire Bridewell, Doreen Salter, Irene Dearsley, Margaret Cameron, Helen Smith and Erika Jordan.**

Sadly some people will be spending their first Christmas without a loved one – we send love and sympathy to the family of **Rosalind (Ros) Snow, Michael Bradford and Audrey Lowman.**

The family of Ros write:
Ros moved to the village on 1977 and in more recent times moved to Crediton. She was a very caring and social person who loved poetry frequently writing her own. Her family would like to thank all those sent cards and messages of condolence and Pring and Son for their caring and respectful manner.

The **local foodbank** is appealing for more goods as we approach the festive season. They mention in particular the fact that when children are at home on school holidays they are not getting school meals so parents are feeding their youngsters more. It is also a time of heating being needed causing extra worry. Hemyock has always been a very caring village and the donations to the food bank continue on a weekly basis. Your contribution, particularly at this time, will be very welcome

– please leave at the parish church and it will be taken to Wellington for distribution for those in need.

It is often said that thank you letters appear to be a thing of the past. Being that time of the year when gifts are exchanged the Oxford Book of Christmas Poems includes an amusing poem *Christmas Thank You's* by Mick Gowar. Here are two of the verses;

Dear Sister,
I quite understand your concerns
It's a risk putting jam in the post
But I think I've pulled out
All the big bits of glass
So it won't taste too sharp spread on toast.

Dear Granddad,
Don't fret
I'm delighted
So *don't* think your gift will offend
I'm not at all hurt
That you gave up shopping this year
And just sent me a fiver to spend.

As Christmas approaches we send a very warm thank you to our retired clergy, John, Ron and Chris as well as lay readers Katharine and David who will be responsible for continuing to take services over the very busy festive season. Thanks also to the churchwardens in our three villages who are busy preparing the United Benefice Profile and job specification as the search begins for a new C of E Priest to serve our communities.

May the joy of Christmas be with us all, with the New Year bringing good health and happiness. Happy Christmas!

Janice Bawler

Your news is always welcome at jbawler1947@hotmail.co.uk



Under the leadership of Val White the cleaning team keep the parish church spick and span. One of the bigger jobs is cleaning the chandelier which she and her husband Ron can be seen doing in this photo. Many thanks to all those on the team.

The Violet Chapman Trust

The Violet Chapman Charity (Charity registration number 299996) was established in 1986 after Mrs Violet Chapman, who was a patient of the Blackdown Practice, gave a substantial gift to the doctors, which was intended to provide patients with services and help that were not available under the NHS.

The original Trustees were Dr Jonathan Meads, Mrs Chapman and Sir Christopher Palmer who, at that time, was senior partner with Ashfords Solicitors and one time president of the Law Society. The Trustees were, at this time, all volunteers not drawing any salary or expenses, and this remains the case to date.

The Trust has discretion to give grants for medical equipment and treatments as well as giving financial assistance to patients of the Blackdown Practice for numerous purposes.

All grants are given for the physical and mental wellbeing of the patients, and many will gain support by the help the Trust gives in supplying counselling where the NHS is unable to supply.

There are many examples that we could give of the patients we have helped recently and would cite one that required their bathroom to be modernised to enable them to continue to live at home; another patient who needed a chair that would help them in getting in and out without assistance. Another example is a patient who had severe back pain and a grant was given for them to have remedial massage.

If you feel the Trust can help you we would suggest you talk to your GP or any person who gives you support and submit an Application form which can be found online or pick one up from any of the Blackdown Practice surgeries. The Trustees are only too happy to consider any applications. Alternatively for more details please contact the secretary, Mrs Judy Barton on 01823 680975 or j.h.barton@hotmail.co.uk.

The Trustees are proud of the speed with which they are able to help patients and in many cases are able to provide financial assistance within two weeks.

The current Trustees are Mrs Shirley Wyatt (Chairman), Mr Stephen Walker (Legal representative - Ashfords), Mrs Judy Barton (Secretary), Dr Susan Brocklesby, Mrs Doreen Pike and Mr Tom Baker.

COULD WE HELP YOU?

Sat 1	Ch'ford & Well'ton Farmers' Market	St Mary's Church Christmas Fair	LIGHTS PARADE, 6pm
Sun 2	Advent Sunday	Christingle Service, St Mary's	
Mon 3	"Mature Movers", 11.00-12.00	Garages (Over 50s)	
Tue 4	Phoenix Carers <i>BHLC</i> 10-12	Mother's Union Advent Service, Well.	14.30 WI FL 19.30
Wed 5	BSG Lunch Club CR 12.30	Father Christmas 17.00-19.00	Parish Council FL 19.30
Thu 6	Taunton Farmers' Market	Bl'down, Play&Stay hub 13.30-15.00	Father Christmas 17.00-19.00
Fri 7	'Brightside' <i>BHLC</i>		
Sat 8	C'mpton & Yarcombe FM's	Hemyock Singers Concert PH	19.00
Sun 9	Devon Ringers Carol service, Buckfast Abbey 3pm		
Mon 10	"Mature Movers", 11.00-12.00	Garages (Over 50s)	Young Farmers FL 19.30
Tue 11	Memory Café <i>BHLC</i> 10.30	St Mary's Charity & Coffee Shop CR 10.00-12.00	Tuesday Club FL 19.30
Wed 12			Gardeners' Meeting FL 19.30
Thu 13	Taunton Farmers' Market	Bl'down, Play&Stay hub 13.30-15.00	
Fri 14			
Sat 15	Hemyock Market (inc. Xmas Trees) PH	Well'ton, C'mpton & Yarcombe FM's	Taunton Vale Harriers Xmas Bingo PH
Sun 16			
Mon 17	"Mature Movers", 11.00-12.00	Garages (Over 50s)	
Tue 18			
Wed 19	Tiverton Farmers Market	Acorns <i>Catherine Wheel</i>	Culm Valley Farmers Xmas Bingo
Thu 20	Honiton & Taunton Farmers' Market	Winter Lunch CR 12.30	Bl'down, Play&Stay hub 13.30-15.00 History Group CR 19.30
Fri 21	SHORTEST DAY	Local Schools Term Ends	
Sat 22	Uffculme Farmers' Market	Mobile Library	
Sun 23			
Mon 24			Young Farmers FL 19.30
Tue 25	CHRISTMAS DAY		
Wed 26	BOXING DAY		
Thu 27	Taunton Farmers' Markets		
Fri 28			
Sat 29			
Sun 30			
Mon 31			NEW YEARS EVE DANCE PH 19.30

Tue 1	NEW YEARS DAY BANK HOLIDAY		
Wed 2	BSG Lunch Club CR 12.30		Parish Council FL 19.30
Thu 3	Taunton FM	Bl'down, Play&Stay hub 13.30-15.00	Mother's Union Planning Meeting CR 14.30
Fri 4	'Brightside' <i>BHLC</i>		
Sat 5	Ch'ford & Well'ton F'Mkts		
Sun 6	Epiphany		
Mon 7	Local School Term begins	"Mature Movers", 11.00-12.00	Garages (Over 50s)
Tue 8	Memory Café <i>BHLC</i> 10.30	St Mary's Charity & Coffee Shop CR 10.00-12.00	Tuesday Club Meal, The Martlet 19.30
Wed 9	"Empty spaces" BSG Bereavement Group 14.30-16.00	16 Castle Park	Gardeners' Social Evening PH 19.30
Thu 10	Taunton FM	Bl'down, Play&Stay hub 13.30-15.00	
Fri 11			
Sat 12	C'mpton & Yarcombe FM's		
Sun 13			
Mon 14	PUMP DEADLINE	"Mature Movers" 11.00-12.00	Garages (Over 50s) Young Farmers FL 19.30
Tue 15			WI Birthday Celebrations <i>Beambridge</i>
Wed 16	Tiverton Farmer's Market		Acorns FL 14.30
Thu 17	Honiton & Taunton FM's	Winter Lunch CR 12.30	Bl'down, Play&Stay hub 13.30-15.00 History Group CR 19.30
Fri 18			
Sat 19	Hemyock Market PH 10.00-12.00	Well'ton Farmers Market	
Sun 20			
Mon 21	"Mature Movers" 11.00-12.00	Garages (Over 50s)	
Tue 22	St Mary's Charity & Coffee Shop CR 10-12		
Wed 23			
Thu 24	Taunton Farmers' Market	Bl'down, Play&Stay hub 13.30-15.00	
Fri 25			
Sat 26	Uffculme Farmers' Market	Hemyock Repair Café PH	Taunton Vale Quiz Night PH
Sun 27			
Mon 28	"Mature Movers" 11.00-12.00	Garages (Over 50s)	Young Farmers FL 19.30
Tue 29			
Wed 30	Crafternoon 14.00-16.00		
Thu 31	Taunton Farmers' Market	Bl'down, Play&Stay hub 13.30-15.00	

PH – Parish Hall
 FL – Forbes Lounge
 CR – Church Rooms
 RS – Riverside
 BC – Baptist Church
 SM – St Mary's
 SA – St Andrew's
 ASC – All Saint's Church
 CPH – Clayhidon Parish Hall
 BHLC – Blackdown
 Healthy Living
 Centre, Millhays

	Parish Hall	Forbes Lounge	Elsewhere
Mon	9.45-12.45 Short Mat 1.30-3.30 Badminton	10-12 Art 7.45-9.30 YFC every 2 nd and 4 th	Pre-School (Primary Sch PS) / Arthritis Group Mature Movers (Over 50's) (GS) 11.00-12 md
Tue	1.15-3.15 Baby & Toddler 7.30-9.30 Badminton	7.15-9.45 WI every 1 st 7.30-9.30 Tuesday Club every 2 nd	Pre-School (PS) / Brownies (CR) / Blackdown Total Fitness (GS)
Wed	7.30-9.30 Gardeners Club every 2 nd	12-2 BSG Luncheon Club every 1 st 2.15-4.15 Acorns every 3 rd 7.30-9.30 Parish Council every 1 st	Pre-School (PS) / Cub Scouts (CR) / Chapel Café (BC) / Blackdown Total Fitness (GS) / Primary School Coffee Morning 1 st week
Thu	1.45-4.45 Short Mat		Pre-School (PS) / St Mary's Choir (SM) / Walk & Talk (VH) / Bell Ringing (SM) / Clayhidon Friends 2 nd / Hemyock History & Archiving 3 rd (CR) / Clayhidon History Group 3 rd / Bl'down Stay & Play(BHLAC)
Fri	6.45-9.45 Short Mat (Fri before Market ONLY)		Pre-School (PS) / Seekers (BC) / Scouts (GS) / Teen Scene (BC)
Sat	10-12 Market every 3 rd		

Forthcoming Events

2019		
Feb	02	Hemyock Pre School/ PTFA, Nosh & Knowledge Night
Feb	18 - 22	Local Schools' Half Term
Feb	21	Winter Lunch, CR
March	02	Race Night, Hemyock Tennis Club
March	06	Ash Wednesday, Lunch, CR, 12.30
April	5	Local schools' End of Term
May	2	Local Elections

If you wish to give people an early notice of your events by getting it in the "Forthcoming Events", please notify Sue Lambert: 680664 or sueliz.lambert@virgin.net by the "Pump" deadline date (This may stop too many clashes of dates!).

Parish Pump Deadline
February – March issue: 14th January

Editor: James Winrow
pump@lickham.co.uk
 07763 855414
 Commercial advertising:
pump-adverts@lickham.co.uk



Times of Mobile Library (See "What's On" for dates)

Thursday (once a month, Week 4)

Clayhidon crossroads 1.15 – 1.45pm
Hemyock Parish Hall 1.55 – 3.00
Lower Millhayes 3.05 – 4.20

Saturdays (once a month, Week 2)

Hemyock Parish Hall 9.45 – 12.15

Also found on: www.devon.gov.uk/libraries

Longmead

The Pavilion is an ideal venue for smaller events needing outdoor space, birthday parties, christenings, family gatherings and of course meetings, the building is licensed to sell alcohol and has a large screen tv and there are basic kitchen facilities for your use.

The MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) is also available for hire, why not combine the two and have a football party? Its ideal for 5 aside football, netball, hockey, we also have basketball hoops for use, is anyone interested in starting up a new club?

Hire charges

Pavilion - £7.50 per hour
MUGA - £15.00 per hour

If you wish to book any of these facilities or would like some more information please contact Karen 01823 681034 or email kazapinder@hotmail.com.

Letter to Clubs from the Parish Pump

I am responsible for the "What's On" and "Forthcoming Events" in the Parish Pump.

When I put in what's happening into the "What's On" I go by the regular times that you've told me. There are occasions when I guess you may not be meeting at the usual time (Bank holidays, Christmas, New Year etc), but I don't know what your plans are, so I have to put the usual times in. This means, of course, that sometimes things are NOT correct.

I would be grateful if you could give me any information that will affect the details in the Parish Pump by the deadline. It does mean looking 2 months ahead which is not always easy!

I hope this will give the village a more accurate and up-to-date Parish Pump magazine.

Sue Lambert

Tel. 01823 680664
sueliz.lambert@virgin.net

Note from the Editor: If you have an event you want listed in the "What's On" calendar section of the magazine, please also notify Sue using the details above. Don't assume it will be done automatically if you submit an advert, copy or poster to me.

Valley Arts

Our autumn show Cinderella was a great success, we played to full audiences every night and had some very positive feedback.

Thank you very much to HEMYOCK POST OFFICE for selling tickets. We were fortunate this year to have two very talented ladies join the group; Mandy Richards, who used her artistic talent to work magic with our scenery and Zelda Gray, who was a huge support with her musical expertise and encouragement. Of course Alice Martin as always produced stunning costumes giving the whole production a lift. There are just as many people involved behind the scenes as there are on stage. If you are interested in helping in any way, with music, dance, costumes, props, lighting, scenery painting and stage building, contact Gillian on 680047 or Caroline at cjpinder@hotmail.co.uk or Sally at sallycartledge@hotmail.co.uk.



Our Christmas meal will be on 22nd of December 7.30pm at the Catherine wheel all involved on and off stage are invited, if you would like to go please ring Gillian on 680047. Gillian will give you the menu and book your place.

Caroline Pinder (Chairman)



2018

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

★ With local Rock, Pop and Blues Band
BAR NONE

£18 incl cold buffet & cheese board

Doors open from 8.30pm. Bar & Prosecco Bar.

Tickets :- Sandra 01823 680036/07594 462219
email sanstone@tiscali.co.uk ★
or Graham 01823 680825 / 07802 967649

@ Hemyock Parish Hall

1,2,3 ... Cha Cha Cha ... Tango ... Salsa ... Quick Step ... Foxtrot ... Waltz ... Rumba ... Salsa ...4,5,6...

At the recent Happening in Hemyock afternoon, it was suggested that some Hemyock residents would be keen to see Ballroom Dancing in the village once again.

I am a complete novice with two left feet but I would love to learn how to dance. And I know of many dancers who would like to take to the floor again. Please get in touch if you want to join in. If enough people are interested maybe we could have dance tutors!

...7!!

Do ring Susan Scantlebury on 01823 681393 or email me: susanscantlebury@yahoo.com

Funding for community projects



Do you have a project which will have an environmental, social or economic benefit?

The Blackdown Hills AONB's Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) gives grants of up to £3000 to encourage individuals, community groups, schools and businesses to try to achieve a more sustainable way of living in the Blackdown Hills.

Find out if your project qualifies and apply for a Sustainable Development Fund grant:

Tel: 01823 680681
Email: blackdownhills@devon.gov.uk



Left Uffculme School? Going on with Education?

The Mary Waldron Trust may be able to assist you financially in vocational and further education (including Richard Huish College) with purchases of books and equipment, including computer requisites. Those applying should normally be resident in Hemyock or Clayhidon and must have received full time education at one or more of:

Hemyock Primary School
Uffculme School

Applications from students (not their parents) are welcome. Actual receipts for purchases made must be provided in due course.

More details and an Application Form can be obtained from the Secretary, Rev Ron White, 10 Hollingarth Way, Hemyock, EX15 3XB. Phone 681020 email revron@btinternet.com



The Blackdown Hills Business Association (BHBA)

News

Wow! What a busy Autumn! We have held some very successful events and learnt some great tips for our expert speakers on topics such as health & safety. We are now looking ahead to our events for the remainder of this year and the beginning of 2019. We have a great mix of informative and social events coming up, everyone is welcome to join us. See our Events Diary below for further details and how to book.

In May 2019 we are running a really exciting event, The Blackdown Experience. To be hosted over the Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th May, showcasing businesses in and around The Blackdown Hills. There will be open workshops, taster experiences and special events. If you are interested in getting involved either as an exhibitor or a visitor please visit www.blackdownexperience.co.uk



Events – everyone is welcome!

There are lots of local events on our calendar, including training workshops, networking events and relaxing socials encouraging everyone to attend and join in.

- Monday 10th December at 10.30am – Instagram Workshop @ The Aviator, Dunkeswell
- Thursday 20th December – Christmas Lunch for members & self employed @ The York Inn
- Wednesday 23rd January – Coffee Tasting @ Brazier Coffee Roasters, Tonedale Mill, Wellington
- Saturday and Sunday, 11th & 12th May 2019 – The Blackdown Experience, see above

For full details on all the events and how to book your place(s) visit www.bhba.org.uk/events

If you are a BHBA member hosting an event that you would like us to share on our website and across our social media platforms do not hesitate to contact us on info@bhba.org.uk

We always welcome new member businesses from on and around The Blackdown Hills, with membership rates starting at just £60/ annum. If you would like more information do get in touch or have a look at our website.

Gemma Sparks, BHBA Co-ordinator | 07533 340847 | www.bhba.org.uk
@BHBAcoordinator | Facebook: Blackdown Hills Business Association,
BHBA, St. Ivel House, Station Road, Hemyock, Devon, EX15 3SJ



1st Hemyock Scout Group

Hello to you all. First, our Annual Sale. What a splendid turnout. The Hall was packed, as was the carpark. So, a big thankyou to all who supported us.

Between you, you helped us raise just about £2,200. An excellent total. This will go towards buying equipment and kit for our young people. We are about to purchase another new tent which will cost in the region of £600. Kit that is needed for our many camping adventures Thankyou all again and put the date 5th October 2019 in your diaries. See you at the Parish Hall for our next sale!

Next, Remembrance Day Parade and Service. What a superb turnout by everyone. It was great to see the Church packed to standing room. All of our leaders were proud to see the wonderful turnout of the young people. We had over sixty present in uniform, including brownies, cubs, scouts and explorers. Note from Rikki- they were all smart and very well turned out. Well done.

Not too much to report from the group sections this time. I asked Group Leader Andy for info and he said, not much to report except to say all sections are out and about and having fun. Thats what I like to hear!

Summer camp next year will be in Denmark with our friends in Tonder. Most of the planning is complete and the trip will start around 20th July for two weeks. We anticipate a party of about thirty five travelling in mini buses across Europe and up into Denmark. Even that will be fun for them.

And finally. This is from the Introduction of the 1960 edition of Scouting for Boys. This was written by Lord Sommers, who was our Chief Scout from 1941 to 1944. (As you can see a World War could not stop scouting). Part of that introduction is as follows: This book was written for boys like you. B-P was one of the most famous of Army scouts, his most exciting adventures happened in Africa, when he had to match his wits against native warriors and trackers, one slip and they would have caught him and shown no mercy. They called him "Impeesa" which means "the wolf who does not sleep", because they recognised his courage and skill. One of his jobs was the training of Scouts in the Army. He discovered that the men thoroughly enjoyed this work and became better men for it.

So there we are. Thats how scouting started in 1907. Proud to say that 1st Hemyock strives to keep up those standards of B-P.

Time flies, time for another finally. May I on behalf of all members of 1st Hemyock wish you a Merry and Peaceful Christmas and a jolly Happy New Year.

Back with more news next year.

Old Rikki



Your Community Needs You!

The Blackdown Support Group aims to relieve sickness, loneliness and isolation by connecting local people in need with local volunteers who can offer them practical support. Those who are suffering from physical or mental ill health, who have disabilities or learning difficulties, or who are experiencing bereavement or the effects of old age can find themselves cut off in rural areas like ours, without access to transport, support services and social opportunities.

The BSG has over 600 people registered with us for support. We cover the 200sq miles covered by the Blackdown Practice. The services our volunteers provide include:-

- Driving – to appointments, shopping trips, social and well-being events, generally enabling greater independence
- Befriending - visiting those who may be unable to leave their own home or have limited social contact with other people, relieving feelings of loneliness and isolation
- Social events - lunch clubs, coffee mornings, carers groups, providing opportunities to meet friends and enjoy a home cooked nutritious meal
- Mentoring - trained volunteers provide a structured support programme for those who are struggling to re-integrate back into the community, perhaps after bereavement, an accident or long period of ill health
- Advocacy – providing support with filling in forms and paperwork to ensure people have access to the services or financial support they need
- We also offer short-term wheelchair loans and a disabled access vehicle.

If you'd like to find out more please get in touch, whether you would like to help as a volunteer or you may know someone who needs help, who is alone, feeling isolated or struggling to care for a loved one. Either way we'd love to hear from you.

Contact Elizabeth McNabb
01823 681 036
d-ccg.bsgadmin@nhs.net
www.blackdownsupportgroup.org.uk

SUTTONS SEEDS
Inspiring Gardens
Do you buy from Suttons Seeds? New code for 2017/18
Get 35% off seeds and 10% off other items from Sutton Seeds while also raising money for Hemyock Scout Group. Just use the offer code **GC1003D** to get the discount and Hemyock Scout Group will receive a donation for every purchase made.

Visit www.suttons.co.uk to have a look at the range of items available!

To find out more information about Hemyock Scout Group visit their website hemyock.scoutsites.org.uk



Nosh & Knowledge



Saturday 2nd February 2019

Quiz night with Cheese & Nibbles

With Bar and Raffle

Hemyock Village Hall

Doors Open 7.30pm

Quiz 8.00pm

£6.50 per person

Max 6 per team

£100 first prize

book contact Ruth

07984 425029



QUIZ Night!

at Hemyock Village Hall

on

Saturday 26th January 2019

7.30 start

£6.50 per person

max 6 per team

BAR AVAILABLE

SUPPER INCLUDED

in aid of



Register your teams with:

Jacquie Redwood

07813 131043

Dear Residents

Members of the County Council are getting concerned about the quality of work being done by Skanska, who as you know took over from South West Highways. A working group has been set up to look into this and a report will come back to the Corporate, Infrastructure & Regulatory Service Scrutiny Committee in due course.

Phase 2 superfast broadband is delayed on average by 18 months due to Gigaclear issues, CDS has requested that Gigaclear make a remedial action plan. It is hoped that Gigaclear will get back on track after new investors have made capital injections, alongside lessons learnt such as wayleave and planning issues to date.

School funding continues to be a big problem, although extra money has gone into school funding, it has not kept pace with demand and Devon have lost 600 teachers and staff through lack of funding. Children's service and school budgets, with 8 months of the year gone, by the end of the Council year this budget is predicted to overheat by £8.7 million and Children's Social Care is forecast to overspend by £5.1 million. The dedicated school grant is also under pressure. Devon have 697 children in care, this is a huge burden on the budgets. Nationally there is 78,670 children in care. Because of these pressures, County have imposed an embargo on replacement staff, any post that becomes vacant will not be filled, unless really necessary, will not be replaced for the next 2 to 3 months, this is predicted to save £5.1 million. Officers are working hard to reduce these short falls, we have always been able to claw back these overspends, and we will do the same again, it will nevertheless, be challenging.

Food waste – 1800 black bags across Devon were analysed, despite being collecting separately by MDDC in the blue box, 30% of rubbish in the black bags was food waste, overall, 40.8% in the black bags were found to be compostable or recyclable, If this is true across the County, it will cost County £6.7 million in disposable cost, therefore a lot more needs to be done on education/ information of this issue. Anything that goes into landfill/ incinerator, costs us money and anything recyclable we can sell and that helps to keep our council tax in check. After saying all that, County is the 4th top recycling County in the Country.

We had a presentation on trees, there is a sad story on ash trees, Devon have an estimated 20 million trees and 20% of those are ash and the prediction is that between 90 and 99% of those will die through Ash Dieback.

Budget is the next biggest issue we have to tackle. Because of the cut back in Government Funding, we have to take out £25 million from the budget. Our current revenue budget is £508 million. 8 years ago when austerity kicked in, our revenue budget was well over £800 million and we have reduced our employees by 4000. We are running a tight ship. Our reserves are standing at £85 million. We took early unpopular decisions which has paid off. We are better placed now to face the future, nevertheless, the next couple of years will be very challenging until such times as the Government has phased out grant support to Local Authorities.

Anyway we can cheer up because Xmas is on its way. Therefore I would like to wish everyone a happy Xmas and a happy and healthy new year, see you then, but if I can be of any help in the meantime, you know where I am, just give a call.

Ray Radford
County Councillor.
Devon County Councillor
Willand @ Uffculme Division
Email: ray.radford@devon.gov.uk



Watch out, watch out, there'll be Bears about!

In 2019 the Hemyock school PTFA will be inviting the whole village to join them on a Bear Hunt!

More details to follow...



Blackdown Support Group

NEW BEREAVEMENT GROUP – 2nd Wednesday of every month, starting January 9th 2019.

“Empty Spaces”

No one can prepare you for the empty space left after a bereavement: The long days and nights, the empty house, feeling out of control, being alone, the strength needed to go out by yourself, new decisions to be made.

Sharing these small issues with others helps you to focus on yourself. One of our long-standing volunteers, Anne Sworn, will be hosting an informal monthly meeting of listening and sharing for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. The meeting will be run as part of Blackdown Support Group outreach work and will address the issues above in a comfortable, safe and welcoming environment. Please contact the BSG office on 01823 681036 for more information.

We would also like to send our very grateful thanks to the following:

All those who attended the Short Mat Bowls tournament at the Village Hall at the end of September. The raffle at the tournament raised a fantastic £300 for the Blackdown Support Group.

Jenny Parsons and everyone who helped with or attended the showings of the “Amazing Film of Hemyock”. Proceeds were shared between the Calf Club Project and The Blackdown Support Group, a brilliant £400 each.

Volunteers Tiff Buckingham, who helped get our Facebook page going (please check it out at www.facebook.com/BlackdownSupportGroup) and Peter Bolt, who designed our lovely new leaflets and posters which you will see out and about around the village!

Christmas events will be taking place in the following locations:

Hemyock Christmas Lunch Club – Wednesday 5th December 12.30pm at the Village Hall £5 per head

Rosemary Lane Christmas Lunch Club and 25th anniversary celebrations – Wednesday 12th December 12.30pm at Rosemary Lane Chapel £5 per head

Dunkeswell Christmas Coffee Morning & Raffle – Wednesday 19th December at The Highfield Sports and Social Club £1 per head

Culmstock Christmas Lunch Club – Wednesday 19th December at The Culm Valley Inn £6 per head

If you or anyone you know might enjoy joining us for any of these events at Christmas or in the future then please contact the BSG Office on 01823 681 036.

Women’s Music Group

Did you used to play an instrument at school and it’s been sitting in the cupboard for years gathering dust? Or have you been just waiting for the opportunity to get together and jam?

If you want to revive your musical talents in a women-only music group then get in touch. There’s no plan, no audition... and currently no music! What type of music we play and when we play will all be worked out together over time and there will be no pressure to play in public if you don’t want to.

Call Jilly on 01823 680073 or email jilly.ould@yahoo.co.uk if you want to find our more.

Meeting up every two or three weeks and new people always welcome!

Cheers,

Jilly (Clarinet) and Mary (Trombone/Trumpet)

Hemyock Bus Timetables

Taunton - Hemyock - Honiton - Seaton

Stagecoach South West

Timetable valid from 25/07/2016 until further notice. Direction of stops: where shown (eg: W-bound) this is the compass direction towards which the bus is pointing when it stops

Mondays to Fridays						Saturdays												
Taunton, Castle Way (S-bound)	—	—	0850	—	1115	—	1415	—	1715	—	—	0850	—	1115	—	1415	—	1715
Hockholler, Heatherton Grange Inn (SW-bound)	—	—	0900	—	1125	—	1425	—	1726	—	—	0900	—	1125	—	1425	—	1726
Wellington, Post Office (SW-bound)	—	—	0911	—	1136	—	1436	—	1736	—	—	0911	—	1136	—	1436	—	1736
Sampford Moor, Blue Ball Inn (SW-bound)	—	—	0920	—	1145	—	1445	—	1745	—	—	0920	—	1145	—	1445	—	1745
Nicholashayne, opp Post Box	—	—	0924	—	1149	—	1449	—	1749	—	—	0924	—	1149	—	1449	—	1749
Culmstock, All Saints Church (E-bound)	0729	—	0930	—	1155	—	1455	—	1755	0729	—	0930	—	1155	—	1455	—	1755
Hemyock, Castle Park (NE-bound)	0738	—	0939	—	1204	—	1504	—	1804	0738	—	0939	—	1204	—	1504	—	1804
Hemyock, Prowses (S-bound)	0741	—	0942	—	1207	—	1507	—	1807	0741	—	0942	—	1207	—	1507	—	1807
Hemyock, Catherine Wheel (N-bound)	0743	—	0944	—	1209	—	1509	—	1809	0743	—	0944	—	1209	—	1509	—	1809
Sheldon, Sheldon Turn (S-bound)	0749	—	0950	—	1215	—	1515	—	1815	0749	—	0950	—	1215	—	1515	—	1815
Dunkeswell, opp Royal Oak	0753	—	0954	—	1219	—	1519	—	1819	0753	—	0954	—	1219	—	1519	—	1819
Dunkeswell, Jenwood Road (W-bound)	0756	—	0957	—	1222	—	1522	—	1822	0756	—	0957	—	1222	—	1522	—	1822
Combe Raleigh, opp Combe Raleigh Turn	0803	—	1004	—	1229	—	1529	—	1829	0803	—	1004	—	1229	—	1529	—	1829
Honiton, Job Centre (Stop D)	0810	0815	1011	1015	1236	1240	1536	1540	1836	0810	0815	1011	1015	1236	1240	1536	1540	1836
Honiton, Tesco Superstore (E-bound)	—	0820	—	1020	—	1245	—	1545	1841	—	0820	—	1020	—	1245	—	1545	1841
Honiton, Waterleat Avenue (NE-bound)	—	0824	—	1024	—	1249	—	1549	—	—	0824	—	1024	—	1249	—	1549	—
Wilmington, White Hart Inn (E-bound)	—	0830	—	1030	—	1255	—	1555	—	—	0830	—	1030	—	1255	—	1555	—
Shute, Shute House (S-bound)	—	0839	—	1039	—	1304	—	1604	—	—	0839	—	1039	—	1304	—	1604	—
Colyton, The Square (S-bound)	—	0846	—	1046	—	1311	—	1611	—	—	0846	—	1046	—	1311	—	1611	—
Colyford, opp The Elms	—	0850	—	1050	—	1315	—	1615	—	—	0850	—	1050	—	1315	—	1615	—
Seaton, Health Centre (S-bound)	—	0852	—	1052	—	1317	—	1617	—	—	0852	—	1052	—	1317	—	1617	—
Seaton, Marine Place (Stop B)	—	0857	—	1057	—	1322	—	1622	—	—	0857	—	1057	—	1322	—	1622	—

Seaton - Honiton - Hemyock - Taunton

Stagecoach South West

Timetable valid from 25/07/2016 until further notice. Direction of stops: where shown (eg: W-bound) this is the compass direction towards which the bus is pointing when it stops

Mondays to Fridays						Saturdays												
Seaton, Marine Place (Stop B)	—	—	0900	—	1200	—	1500	—	1700	—	—	0900	—	1200	—	1500	—	1700
Seaton, opp Health Centre	—	—	0904	—	1204	—	1504	—	1704	—	—	0904	—	1204	—	1504	—	1704
Colyford, The Elms (NE-bound)	—	—	0908	—	1208	—	1508	—	1708	—	—	0908	—	1208	—	1508	—	1708
Colyton, The Square (N-bound)	—	—	0913	—	1213	—	1513	—	1712	—	—	0913	—	1213	—	1513	—	1712
Shute, Shute House (N-bound)	—	—	0920	—	1220	—	1520	—	1718	—	—	0920	—	1220	—	1520	—	1718
Wilmington, opp White Hart Inn	—	—	0929	—	1229	—	1529	—	1726	—	—	0929	—	1229	—	1529	—	1726
Honiton, Waterleat Avenue (SW-bound)	—	—	0935	—	1235	—	1535	—	1732	—	—	0935	—	1235	—	1535	—	1732
Honiton, Tesco Superstore (E-bound)	0701	0938	—	1238	—	1538	—	1735	—	0701	0938	—	1238	—	1538	—	1735	—
Honiton, Lace Walk (Stop C)	0705	0942	0944	1244	1544	1544	1739	1740	—	0705	0942	0944	1244	1544	1544	1739	1740	—
Combe Raleigh, Combe Raleigh Turn (NW-bound)	0712	—	0951	—	1251	—	1551	—	1746	0712	—	0951	—	1251	—	1551	—	1746
Dunkeswell, Jenwood Road (E-bound)	0719	—	0958	—	1258	—	1558	—	1753	0719	—	0958	—	1258	—	1558	—	1753
Dunkeswell, Royal Oak (N-bound)	0722	—	1001	—	1301	—	1601	—	1755	0722	—	1001	—	1301	—	1601	—	1755
Sheldon, Sheldon Turn (N-bound)	0725	—	1004	—	1304	—	1604	—	1758	0725	—	1004	—	1304	—	1604	—	1758
Hemyock, Square (W-bound)	0733	—	1012	—	1312	—	1612	—	1806	0733	—	1012	—	1312	—	1612	—	1806
Hemyock, Castle Park (NE-bound)	0735	—	1014	—	1314	—	1614	—	1808	0735	—	1014	—	1314	—	1614	—	1808
Hemyock, Prowses (S-bound)	0738	—	1017	—	1317	—	1617	—	1811	0738	—	1017	—	1317	—	1617	—	1811
Culmstock, opp All Saints Church	0748	—	1027	—	1327	—	1627	—	1820	0748	—	1027	—	1327	—	1627	—	1820
Nicholashayne, Post Box (NE-bound)	0753	—	1032	—	1332	—	1632	—	—	0753	—	1032	—	1332	—	1632	—	—
Sampford Moor, Vine Cottage (NE-bound)	0757	—	1036	—	1336	—	1636	—	—	0757	—	1036	—	1336	—	1636	—	—
Wellington, Post Office (NE-bound)	0806	—	1045	—	1345	—	1645	—	—	0806	—	1045	—	1345	—	1645	—	—
Silver Street, Heatherton Grange Inn (NE-bound)	0813	—	1052	—	1352	—	1652	—	—	0813	—	1052	—	1352	—	1652	—	—
Taunton, Castle Way (S-bound)	0831	—	1105	—	1405	—	1705	—	—	0831	—	1105	—	1405	—	1705	—	—

Data Provided by South West Public Transport Information (SWPTI) - 33 - 06/09/16

BURLESCOMBE - TIVERTON Via Holcombe Rogus, Huntsham

Friday only (Except Public Holidays)

HEMYOCK, Lower Millhayes	0910	TIVERTON, Bus Station Stand 6	1315
HEMYOCK, Square	0912	TIVERTON, Carew Road	1321
CULMSTOCK, All Saints Church	0920	CHETTISCOMBE, Post Box	1323
CULMSTOCK, Millmoor	0922	CHEVITHORNE, Church	1325
BURLESCOMBE, Ayshford Arms	0930	UPLOWMAN, Bus Shelter	1332
WESTLEIGH, Shelter	0934	STAGG MILL, Cross	1337
HOLCOMBE ROGUS, Prince of Wales	0942	HUNTSHAM, Post Office	1342
HOLCOMBE ROGUS, Whitebrook Terrace	0944	HOCKFORD WATERS	1348
HOCKWORTHY, Phone Box	0950	STAPLE CROSS, Inn	1350
STAPLE CROSS, Inn	0952	HOCKWORTHY, Phone Box	1352
HOCKFORD WATERS	0954	HOLCOMBE ROGUS, Whitebrook Terrace	1358
HUNTSHAM, Post Office	1000	HOLCOMBE ROGUS, Prince of Wales	1400
STAGG MILL, Cross	1005	WESTLEIGH, Shelter	1408
UPLOWMAN, Bus Shelter	1010	BURLESCOMBE, Ayshford Arms	1412
CHEVITHORNE, Church	1017	CULMSTOCK, Millmoor	1420
CHETTISCOMBE, Post Box	1020	CULMSTOCK, All Saints Church	1422
TIVERTON, Carew Road	1022	HEMYOCK, Square	1430
TIVERTON, Bus Station	1028	HEMYOCK, Lower Millhayes	1432

This service is financially supported by Devon County Council



Lift your spirits
Boost your metabolism
Help weight management
Increase brain activity

In a relaxed friendly atmosphere led by a qualified Zumba instructor, experienced dancer and fitness professional.

Join Us Every Monday At Hemyock Garages 6:15pm

For more information, contact your qualified instructor Elena Duffin on 07547 065998 or email dancefit.elena@gmail.com

Find us on DanceFitWithElena

St Andrew's Church, Clayhidon

After the glorious summer months which we enjoyed, we found ourselves in Autumn with its glowing colours and the ripening fruits. The Harvest celebrations at the church were most enjoyable and the special supper in the Parish Hall, was greatly enjoyed. Thank you Casey and your committee for organising it. Thank you also to Brenda for arranging a delightful entertainment afterwards.

St Luke's day service was another happy occasion when members from Rosemary Lane Chapel came to join us. It is a time for reflection about the medical ministry and our own participation in helping others through their difficult situations.

At the end of October it was the wonderful time for the baptism of the latest member of the Blackmore family and we were able to rejoice with the family and little Willow Grace.

On the eleventh day of the eleventh month we gathered together to remember the one hundred year old armistice. The sermon was based upon St Matthew chapter 5 and those who are blessed. We walked down the church path to the War Memorial for the two minutes silence. During the sermon, the children had made a wreath of poppies which they then laid alongside the other wreath. The names of the fallen were read out with a prayer before we sang the National Anthem. Everyone came back into church to see the display of tributes to the Clayhidon men who died. Coffee was drunk with a selection of cakes including some which were decorated with a poppy.

There have been many improvements during this time. The south roof of the church has been renewed. The churchyard wall has been renovated. The external doors and some internal ones have been repainted. There was a concentrated day of cleaning inside and out in the churchyard where a bough of the Yew tree had fallen.

Now we look forward to celebrating our **patronal festival** when Hemyock and Culmstock churches will be joining us on **2nd December at 10.30.**

ST ANDREW'S

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SATURDAY 10 – 12.30
8TH DECEMBER

CLAYHIDON VILLAGE HALL

CAKES, PLANTS, BOOKS, RAFFLE,

COME and JOIN US.
 We look forward to seeing you.

For the children there will be a **Christingle** service at **3.30 on Saturday 8th December** and on **Sunday 23rd December at 4pm** there will be the **Crib service**.

The **Carol service** is on **Sunday 16th December at 6.30.** There will be a **Christmas Bazaar** on **8th December from 10 – 12** at the Village Hall. Regular Holy Communion services will take place during Christmas and will be displayed on the notice board at the church gate.

We look forward to welcoming everyone during the Christmas season and send our very best wishes to everyone for a happy and healthy time of celebration.

St Andrew's Flower Rota

Christmas decorations for St Andrew's could be done on Saturday Dec 22nd at 10.30. Anything goes this year! Bring any spare decorations and twinkle battery lights, holly, ivy and I will get flowers. Please let me know if you can't make it. Nicola 680541.

Nicola Bendle

DECEMBER FAMILY SERVICES AT St. ANDREWS, CLAYHIDON 2018

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR SPECIAL SERVICES IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
SATURDAY DECEMBER 8th
3.30 pm CHRISTINGLE MAKING
4.00 pm SERVICE

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SERVICE IS ON SATURDAY AND NOT SUNDAY AS IS USUAL THE CHILDREN WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO MAKE THEIR OWN CHRISTINGLES AND THE SERVICE WILL BE FOLLOWED WITH SUPPER

CRIB SERVICE
SUNDAY DECEMBER 23rd. at 4.00 pm.

THIS SERVICE WILL BE CANDLELIT AND THERE WILL BE A CHILDREN'S PRESENTATION

IF ANY CHILDREN WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART IN THE PRESENTATION PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH MAURICE AND MAUREEN 680401.

Fond Farewell to Bob Brien

A longstanding member of the Clayhidon Community has moved away from the area. Mr Bob Brien has moved to the Cambridge area to be nearer his daughter Felicity, for health reasons. He will be greatly missed as his contribution to the local community has been immense.

Bob was born and grew up in South Africa, his profession was as an Architect, he married Amber with whom he has two daughters. When work dried up in South Africa and Rhodesia he and the family moved to England and Bob worked in London, where he and three others set up an Architects' office mainly designing hospitals. On retiring he and Amber moved to Hydon Firs, Clayhidon, where they became involved in numerous activities, both in the church and with many social groups, enabling them to establish numerous friendships within the local community.

Bob has shared his musical skills with leading the Church Choir and writing pieces of music, a hymn for our harvest service which is sung annually, and organising concerts to raise money for St. Andrew's Church. He has also used his carpentry skills to make things for the Church. Bob has been a member of the PCC, became Churchwarden for several years and has been a regular church attendee at all styles of service in the years he has lived here. He has put his drawing skills to good use as a member of the Clayhidon Art Group, he was also a long time member of the Local History Group and wrote its newsletter. He was a founder member of the Whisky Club and was an advocate of its customary members' costume!

We wish him well in his new surroundings, although he will be greatly missed by us all.

News from Clayhidon

CLAYHIDON AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT

Many homes in Clayhidon now have a faster broadband service than 95 per cent of the UK. The long promised ultra-fast broadband has at last gone live as the fibre optic cables laid earlier this year week were connected to premises.

The effect has been dramatic, with people able to stream films and download huge files at the click of a computer mouse. General reactions have been highly favourable. For some it has made working at home a workable reality and cut out long car journeys, but they have had a long wait and some are still waiting. It is two years since many signed up to be connected to Gigaclear's fibre network.

PARISH REMEMBERS WAR DEAD, 100 YEARS ON



Nearly 40 people joined a service of remembrance at Clayhidon war memorial Clayhidon on 11 November, the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1. The names of local men who had died in the war were read out. Children had made a paper poppy wreath during an earlier service in the church, and Mollie Upton and Evelyn Tonkin laid this on the memorial. The national anthem was sung. A small exhibition in the church, created by the Local History Group, displayed biographies of five of the fallen heroes of the parish – Hubert and Reginald Bright, Frank Drake, John Honniball, Gilbert Hutchings, William Richards and William Trickey. You can read their stories on www.clayhidon.org.uk In a sermon the Rev John Stone outlined the Christian dilemma on wars such as this, in which both sides claimed to have God on their side. Perhaps the question we should ask, he said, quoting a famous remark, was “Are we on God's side?” The answer lay in Jesus's sermon on the mount, when he said “Blessed are the peacemakers”.

WATCH OUT FOR WALLABIES

A wallaby has been sighted hopping through Clayhidon. Gareth Weekes spotted the Australian marsupial as he was driving down Battle Street at night.

“I caught it in the headlights on the verge before it disappeared into the bushes beside the pumping station at the top of the lane,” he said. “It was hopping in the way that only wallabies and kangaroos do.”

He says that when he got home and told his wife – parish councillor Alison Weekes – she looked at him in disbelief, but when he Googled “Wallabies Devon” his story was immediately confirmed.

It turns out there have been several reports of wallabies in the Devon countryside. Amy Couldrick saw one in woodland between Hemyock and Dunkeswell in May and you can see her video on Devon Live by following the link on the parish website clayhidon.org.uk.

NEW SLEEPING ARRANGMENTS FOR HALL BATS

Work on reroofing Clayhidon Parish Hall has resumed after a delay of nearly four months, caused by the discovery of bats roosting under the slates.

The hall has now obtained a European Protected Species Mitigation Licence from Natural England which has allowed the Wellington roofing firm Courtney Bowden & Son to remove and replace the remaining slates.

But they could not begin again until a large hibernation box had been fixed to a nearby tree. An ecologist from the Dunkeswell consultancy Blackdown Environmental is supervising the stripping of the slates and removing any sleeping bats to the box.

The work is being paid for by a £25,800 grant from Viridor Credits.

A GOOD OLD FASHIONED HOP



Bar None promised to get people dancing and they did. People were on their feet for most of the second set in their Fifties to Noughties gig at Clayhidon Parish Hall on October 6.

Half the audience of teens to septuagenarians were jumping and gyrating in what turned out to be a good old fashioned village hop.

The Hemyock-based band have a huge repertoire of covers, but the evening didn't catch fire until near the end of the first set when singer Lou Naylor stepped into the audience and started handing out hula skirts, paper flower chains and tambourines. That brought dancers flooding onto the floor.

Everything was faster and more frenetic in the second half, with great versions of the Rolling Stones' Route 66 and The Kinks' You Really Got me. The band were terrific and this proved to be a great family event. As usual the hall committee laid on an excellent supper and ran a bar and a raffle, and added a few hundred pounds to the hall's funds.

MACABRE WELCOME SIGN



The parish council is appealing for a volunteer to paint out a macabre message that invites people to “die slowly” in Clayhidon. The clerk, Donna Evans, says a parishioner wrote to say she was unhappy about the effect of weather (and possibly vandalism) on the wording of the sign and on the black lettering on the finger post at the top of Battle Street. Apparently, Devon Highways won't do it, so Donna asks: “Do we have a friendly volunteer who would repaint them?” Any answers on an email please, to clayhidonparishcouncil@gmail.com.

GET READY FOR QUIZ NIGHT

Quiz night returns to Clayhidon Parish Hall on Friday December 7, when the finest brains in the parish will once again be challenged. Last year's quiz was the closest for years, with the Headless Chickens (Julie and Stephen Bullett and Jonathan and Sally Hebler) just beating the Deadbeats in a tie-break.

There will be a licensed bar and a ploughman's supper. Teams of up to four people are welcome. To make sure of your table call Caroline Bendle on 01823 681047 or email carouselle@btinternet.com. Tickets are £5 per person.

CHRISTMAS TREAT AT THE HALL

Choirs, brass and carols, plus mulled wine and mince pies, are on the menu in a special Christmas concert at Clayhidon Parish Hall. Enjoy listening to and singing along with the mellifluous sounds of the Wyndham Singers male voice choir, and also their barbershop offshoot, The Strops, and the Wellington School Brass Players (comprising teachers, parents and pupils). The date is Friday 14 December, 7.30pm. To reserve tickets call Caroline Bendle on 01823 681047 or email carouselle@btinternet.com.

Clayhidon Friends

October Meeting – Learning about Leprosy

Margaret Broderidge gave an informal presentation on “Learning about Leprosy” to her fellow members of the Clayhidon Ladies Group at their October meeting. Her theme was “a picture paints a thousand words”. She described her experience of working with Lepers in Zambia over 15 years during her school holidays and had numerous photographs of the various little friends.

Leprosy is a disease that damages the skin, the nerves of the limbs and the face, and the lining of the nose. It is caused by a tiny germ. It is found in nearly every country in the world, especially in Africa, Asia and South America. The body's defence system is hit and the germs cause sores to turn septic, painful and eventually numb. Toes and fingers become damaged and deformed. It is estimated that there are 15 million sufferers in the world, of which 12 million are not being treated. There is a cure for leprosy if it is caught early and antibiotics are prescribed.

“Operation Sunshine”, a Christian Charity founded by Kathy Hardy of Beer originally sent useful items in containers to Mozambique, where they were distributed and then converted into accommodation. The colony of “New Jerusalem” in Zambia, which Margaret became involved with in 1995, has given hope to those children left as orphans due to leprosy and Aids. The deceased were given descent burials. Shelters and schools were set up, bore holes drilled supplying fresh water and enabling crops of maize to thrive. Sewing programs gave children uniforms and dignity.

Among many duties Margaret did was to drive the children to the nearest prosthetic hospital and also to the dentist. Seeing her photos and hearing her experiences made the Members of the group appreciate how fortunate we, in the West are, and how grateful those children were for the things in life we take for granted.

Sylvi Eastick.

November Meeting – Trolley Dollies

This month, Nicola Bendle came to talk to us about her eight years as an Air Hostess for BOAC (now British Airways). She joined aged 23, fellow Stewards and Stewardesses at Heathrow Airport for her twelve weeks training, before being issued with the Uniform. Things such as Department, Grooming, and Makeup by Elizabeth Arden very thickly applied. First Aid was minimal as it was found a lot of Nurses left the National Health to be a Hostess. The scariest part of the training was jumping out through the Shute.

After training she was issued with the Uniform of Navy pencil skirt, (four inches below the knee), Jacket and white blouse with Tri-cornered hats was issued, the badge was half a wing, like a sycamore. Later on in the 1960's the uniform changed to a dress, much shorter, with the jacket.

There were far more Airlines running in those days. Unusually the Air Hostesses were paid the same as the Cabin Stewards. They all had to join the Union. If there was a Strike and you were mid trip, you had to stay where ever you were in the World till the Strike finished.

Working out of Victoria Station Terminal she had a flat close by, travelling free, in her Uniform from her nearby flat.

Her first flight was memorable. There was a contingent of Frummet (Orthodox) Jews. All the female and males had to be in separate sections of the plane. All food had to be Kosher. A very friendly woman invited Nicola to her home leading to a friendship of thirty years with her and her Surgeon husband.

For long haul flights you were given the currency for each country to buy your meals at the hotels. Of course the thing to do was save the money and go and find a local cheap restaurant. It wasn't unusual to save as much as £300 on a World Tour, which was a lot for the 1960s.

Nicola was lucky to be on the Inaugural flight to Russia. They were briefed by the Embassy on many do's and don'ts and to take your own bath plugs and soap. They were not to discuss politics or go out on their own and on this occasion had chitties to eat in set places. It was chilling to view from the bus journey to the Hotel the ravages of the war still prevalent and the obvious poverty. The tradition to have a party in one of the rooms ensued, supplied with left-over food and drink from the plane. One young Steward was convinced his room was bugged and had pulled back the carpet to discover a metal plate. He had tried to unscrew it, but luckily failed, as the Chief Steward told him it was holding the Chandelier up from the room below.

Another first ever flight was to Alaska. They were on duty throughout the whole long flight, with only a perch in the Galley.

They flew over Canada and the North Pole and the Pilot called them in to listen to him taking a telephone call from the men in the North Pole Radio Station. She read out a letter she had sent to her Father about how beautiful it was, and describing her fellow crew members with amusement.

Round the World tours expanded Nicola's experience of the World. Karachi was always unsafe and they were bussed to a Closed Compound. She managed to see a lot of the Middle East before the modern wars destroyed the beauty. The Gold markets were amazing in Beirut. However she was shocked to see in Bombay and Delhi the amount of maimed children, having been purposely damaged by their parents, to be a more 'appealing' beggar.

Singapore was one of her favourite places. They stayed in Raffles, felt confident to eat the piping hot street food and also take advantage of having clothes made up personally at very cheap prices. In Change Alley there were amazing fake designer clothes to be taken advantage of. When she commented on seeing how many beautiful young women there were in one Club, she was enlightened by a more experienced Steward, that they were indeed 'HeShees' – young boys dressed up.

You had to be tough and carry on. In Auckland she broke her toe. Unusually there was not the extra crew member on the journey and she was told by the Captain to get a grip and carry on. She hobbled in a sock as she couldn't get her shoe on. Luckily the Physiotherapist of the England Football Team gave her some secret, magnificent cream. Going over the International Date Line over Fiji, people couldn't understand if going East, you lost a day, and wanted to know when they got it back.

In those days whilst on the American trips she found the people impolite. She preferred San Francisco to Los Angeles. They always had to have Visas and, up to date passports. She managed to tour seeing the Grand Canyon and the original Disneyland and movie studios. In New York the thing to do was to get an empty bag from Tiffany's.

She found one royal flight very interesting with the First Class Cabin made into a Suite for Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon. They had taken on her favourite tipples of Gin and Martini, a special box of Elizabeth Arden make up and cut glasses and Carafes.

It was very frightening that on one flight to Nairobi, when the under carriage wouldn't drop. Emergency landing procedure was put in place and everyone in the Brace Position. When they landed safely there was a united expression of relief.

Nicola had to indeed obey the rules when after eight interesting years she told her Supervisor she was getting married she was told, sadly, that was the end of her Career. She feels very fortunate and privileged to have been An Air Hostess in the 1960s and all the places and sights she visited.

Lynda Ridout

Clayhidon Parish Council Update December 2018

Clayhidon Parish Council held meetings in October & November. A brief summary of the business conducted at those meetings is as follows:-

Planning

Applications received for:

- 18/01374/FULL. Beamley Bungalow, Hemyock. Erection of a replacement dwelling (revised scheme)
- 18/01284/FULL. Middleton Mill Farm, Clayhidon. Conversion of barn to dwelling and construction of new vehicular access.
- 18/01260/FULL. Change of use of agricultural land to mixed agricultural and equestrian, erection of a timber-framed barn and construction of a manege. Poachers Rest, Clayhidon.

Finance

Income – interest.

Expenditure – clerk's wages, expenses and footpath works.

Highways

Devon County Council's telephone number for members of the public to report any lights that are not working, pot holes, blocked drains/gulleys and any other road maintenance issues is 0345 155 1004 (Lines are open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 1pm Saturday).

Or report the problem online www.new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem.

Police

101 - The non-emergency number for Devon and Cornwall Police. Textphone 18001 101 for the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired. Always call 999 in an emergency.

Parish Lengthsman

The parish has a trained lengthsman. Please report any problems with ditches/drains to the clerk or a councillor.

Elections 2019

Parish councillors are elected every four years. Next year, on Thursday 2nd May 2019, parish council elections will be held. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor please contact any of the parish councillors or clerk for more information.

Local Tradespeople

From time to time the parish council employs people to carry out tasks on its behalf. These tasks range from repairing a wall, improving and repairing footpaths, gates and bridges, clearing ditches, and other general maintenance works. The parish council is keen to use local tradespeople and to that end if you would be interested in quoting for any such works then please contact the clerk giving your contact details and the types of work you are interested in and your details will be held on file.

And Finally

If you would like to get involved or wish to know what is happening around the parish then please come along to one of the council meetings, normally held on the second Monday of every other month in the Parish Hall. The next meeting will start at 7.30 pm on Monday 10th December 2018 (a planning meeting will be held at 7.30pm on the second Monday of the alternate month, if necessary). Minutes and agendas are displayed on the web at www.clayhidon.org and a schedule of meetings may be found on the Parish Noticeboards.

Clerk: Mrs Donna Evans, Park Farm, Dunkeswell,
Honiton, Devon EX14 4RN. Tel: 01823 680968.
Email: clayhidonparishcouncil@gmail.com.

News From Rosemary Lane Chapel

As the nights have drawn in and the weather becomes increasingly unsettled the allure of home comforts become all the more appealing. Only the welcoming light of a house seen in the distance interrupts the darkness of the night sky on the Blackdown hills. That solitary light stands out as a reminder that another is present, it is a comfort, and it is, of course, a reminder to me of the very purpose of the church – to be a visible light amidst the darkness. Over the last few months, we at Rosemary Lane have welcomed several visitors who have challenged and encouraged us to understand the true meaning of what it is to be this kind of light.

In October, Jesse and Mary Mason, who had not long returned from Albania, joined us at Rosemary Lane Chapel. Along with several other members of their church, they helped run a children's club – sharing in the love of Jesus through play, craft, stories and lots of fun. A couple of weeks later we were joined by Tim Fielder, a church worker with London City Mission in Bermondsey. Tim is involved in reaching out to young men with the love and light of Jesus through gym ministry – young men arrive to have a physical workout before they nourish their soul through studying a bible passage together – this ministry is appropriately called 'Body and Soul'. Several days later in early November, we welcomed Igor and Anna Bandura to Rosemary Lane Chapel. Igor is the president of the Baptist Union in the Ukraine and works in partnership with the Slavic Gospel Association. Igor updated us on the situation in the Ukraine: Whilst most of the country experiences unprecedented opportunities to share the gospel, the occupied regions in the East of the country experience persecution with many churches confiscated and congregations threatened with repercussions should they persist in meeting together. Igor and Anna shared news of the Baptist Unions efforts to support these under pressure and persecuted churches... once more; the light shines in the darkness.

Closer to home and continuing with the theme of light, Rosemary Lane Chapel hosted their annual Fireworks display on Friday 2nd November in the chapel field. Over a hundred people gathered to watch the night sky fill with the vibrant colours we associate with awe inducing fireworks. The hot chocolate proved very popular with the spectators as they watched the dazzling display and the promise of a hot dog to follow ensured many stayed on to enjoy this occasion in which the church could serve its' community. A short epilogue followed the fireworks with a reflection on the ways in which God, like a firework lighting up the night sky, has revealed himself to us through Creation, Christ and the Church.

The season of fireworks and bonfires gives way to plans and preparations to another season punctuated by light – Christmas. Lit decorations, candles and of course, the cause of all the celebrations, the dawning of light in the arrival of Jesus Christ. We at Rosemary Lane Chapel anticipate the Christmas season as an opportunity to once more remind ourselves of the New Born King whose arrival was heralded by the bright shining star. We look forward to several special occasions including the 25th anniversary of the Blackdown Support

Rosemary Lane Chapel
warmly invites you to our Christmas services:

Sunday 16th December
Christmas Family Service
led by our children & young people
11:00 am

Christmas Tea and
Carols by Candlelight
4:30-6.30 pm

Sunday 23rd December
Christmas Service with Communion
11:00 am
No Evening Service

Tuesday 25th December
Christmas Day Service
10:30 - 11:15 am

for more information please visit our website
www.rosemarylanechapel.co.uk
or call Jonathan Hillman on 01823 681164

Group's Luncheon Club run in connection with Rosemary Lane Chapel. Our Christmas Family service is on the 16th December (11am) when we hand over to the young people to bring to life the Christmas story. Our Christmas Tea and Carol service will follow this service in the afternoon. Finally, On Christmas day we will meet at the earlier time of 10.30am to greet one another on that happy morn. We at Rosemary Lane Chapel extend a warm welcome to all who would like to join us this December and into the New Year as we celebrate the birth of the Jesus.

*A light has dawned...
For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

–
ISAIAH 9:2-6

Jonathan Hillman – Rosemary Lane Chapel

Coldharbour Mill

What's on at COLDHARBOUR MILL this winter

The Mill Shop will be open Monday-Friday 9.30am-3.30pm until 21st December for high quality Christmas gifts, including gorgeous local crafts and the Mill's exclusive textile products - and scrumptious woollen yarns for winter knitting! For really unique present, why not treat someone to a Steam Experience or a Mill Membership?

The Mill museum and the Brazier Café are now closed to the General Public until February 2019 except for special events - the Mill Shop which will only be closed for Christmas Week. **Pre-booked groups, coach parties and schools** are welcome for guided visits throughout the winter as usual. Please contact the Mill office for info/to make a booking.

The 'Spring Lambs' craft club for under 8s and over 55s continues to run every Tuesday 10am-11am. Taking part is FREE (it's a community well-being project funded by Postcode Lottery) so come along and have fun together!

To join this lively group, please contact Hayley or Sara at the Mill in advance by email at learning@coldharbourmill.org.uk or by phone on 01884 840960.

Transport can be provided by prior arrangement for over 55s. Children must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

Tuesday 1st January 2019 – the traditional **New Years Day Steam Day**, with guided tours and entertainments for all the family. Braziers Café will be open. Free car park.

Volunteers are always welcome at this unique heritage site – there's a wide range of roles available, from maintenance to office work, and factory production to shop work – just let us know what you're good at or would like to learn about, and we'll find something to suit you!

For more info, please visit the Mill website: www.coldharbourmill.org.uk, or email the Mill office at info@coldharbourmill.org.uk or phone 01884 840960.

Table Tennis at Uffculme


Are you interested in playing table tennis? Uffculme Table Tennis Club play at Magelake in Uffculme on the second Saturday of each month from 10.30 to 12.30 and the fourth Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 pm.

Beginners and experienced players welcome, all equipment provided.

For more information please visit their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/UffculmeTableTennisClub/>

THE BLACKDOWN HILLS TRUST

The Blackdown Hills Trust is looking for local volunteers to help check stock fencing around the grazing units in the Neroche Forest area. These sites are managed by the Blackdown Hills Trust in the Blackdown Forest for grazing conservation: they are a magnet for rare butterflies such as Wood White and Duke of Burgundy and an array of plants, insects, birds and mammals. The areas are part of a Higher Level Stewardship and are grazed by English Longhorn cattle in the summer months.



Duke of Burgundy and Wood White butterflies, just some of the species your work would help conserve. Image credits Peter Eeles, Butterfly Conservation.

What will the volunteer role involve?
The role will involve walking the stock fence twice a year during the spring and autumn in the grazing compartments to check for any rotten posts or damage to the wire, and reporting back to the Trust. There may also be opportunities to get involved in practical conservation work, for example clearing conifer re-growth to allow native flora to thrive.

Full training will be provided for the role, including maps of the sites, appropriate contact information and information on what to look out for.

Interested? Contact John Greenshields on 01823660764 or parkfarmwoods@talktalk.net

The Blackdown Hills Trust is a company limited by guarantee and registered in England no. 07181053. Registered Charity no. 1138327. Registered Office: c/o Park Farm, Wellington Somerset TA21 9NP

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*** Subject to Status**

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Hemyock Parish Hall
Saturday 26th January 2019
10am to 12noon

Bring along your items for repair
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Volunteer specialists will be on hand to help you with repairs. A selection of repair materials will be available, or please do bring your own.

Bacon butties join the delicious home-made cakes and scones on sale in the tearoom

Donations for Repairs Welcome

The Blackdown Hills Repair Café is an initiative of the Blackdown Hills Transition Group. Contact trishacomrie@gmail.com or 01823 602908 for more information. Village Hall Postcode is EX15 3QW

LOVE IS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE




Love in the Countryside is back and on the hunt for rural singles who are looking for love but find it difficult to meet potential partners.

If this sounds like you or someone you know email: LoveInTheCountryside@boundlessproductions.tv

BBG TW

UFFCULME ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION



Our sixty allotments are sited at the very top of Clay Lane. The site is well established and friendly. If you're interested in renting a plot (20m x 3.4m) and joining our *Grow Your Own* band, please contact us for details and to arrange a look around.

Contact : Pete Best mob: 07703 185040 e-mail: petebestuk@yahoo.co.uk

The Culm Valley Millennium Screen

Calling all contributors to the making of the Culm Valley Millennium Screen, now housed in Coldharbour Mill in Uffculme.

A plan is afoot to restore and conserve the wonderful mixed media Millennium Screen, depicting the course of the River Culm as it winds its way from Clayhidon to Willand. The screen was originally the brainchild of Dr Jonathan Meads and Peter Reed, created by over 100 contributors, to celebrate the Millennium and to be a snapshot in time of the Culm Valley.

A conservator has been engaged to cast her expert eye over the screen and has noted some damage which needs restoration. We hope to arrange a training day early next year for anyone interested in helping to restore the screen. If you were part of the original project, you will remember how much fun was had in planning and executing this effort. Now we are looking for you to volunteer again to help in this restoration. If you were unlucky enough to have missed this project, all is not lost!


Please join us by submitting your name and contact number to: Pam Golding, Tel: 01884 841162 and join a team of dedicated volunteers. Just half an hour of your time would be so valuable. Learn new skills and enjoy making history.

We hope to re-launch the screen in 2020, twenty years after its original launch. Coldharbour Mill is committed to maintaining this work of art in appropriate conditions, and the result will be that the screen can once again be publicly staged and viewed by locals and visitors.

Pam Golding

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For Information & Tickets

Our Thatching Life

Our Thatching Life, featuring Ferrari the Thatcher and Daisy his apprentice with a yearning for a new hound.

We are off to a late start with our wheat reed re-thatch as we had a few ridges and repairs to finish before winter really sets in, but we are settling into it now. I'm content as I like working with combed wheat reed the most. Your hands are constantly working it, teasing each stem to sit well by it's neighbour, then binding each handful on the roof with a few stems of the last, pulling them across and fixing with twisted hazel spars.

To begin with though, we must tie in the eaves wads. As with slate or tile, the eaves must be made to withstand all the weather from all the roof, making sure there is no water ingress to the timbers beneath and shielding the upper parts of the walls. Each bundle of wheat reed is divided into 5 or so 'handfuls', roughly 5" in diameter when held tightly between both hands. Each handful is worked to separate the stems, making them lie evenly throughout and to knock the stems all down to the end, then tied with a few spare stems just beneath the ears of wheat. Each individual handful is then tied tightly onto the timbers of the roof, one beside the other, ensuring that the eave stays in place for the life of the thatch.

By tying on each one, we also ensure that if a rodent does chew through a string it will only mean that one small piece of the eave is dislodged, rather than a larger section.

These days we tie on with baler twine, currently available in bright pink. Before the 1950's a hemp string fortified with tar was used, and we still often find pieces of it amongst the old base layers of thatch that we thatch over. Earlier ties would have been made out of whatever was to hand, often soaked willow withies, that would tighten as they dried. As I look over the scaffold I see that Daisy has made a new alliance with 'Sticky', the client's dog. Looking like a smaller blacker version of Stitch, and lying very comfortably in the back of my van, (on my coat!), I sense that the Year of the Dog is not quite done, and spring may yet bring the chaos of a new puppy. In the meantime, let me wish you peaceful season's greetings.

Oh, and one more thing, non-believers of Churchinford Village Shop.....I **can** make my own puff pastry, topping off a very fine pie... it's all in the folding!

Alan Ferrari

Commercial Advertising

Advertisements are renewed on an annual basis commencing with the April edition. However, we do accept advertisements with each edition, if there is space. The charge will be on a pro-rata basis for the remaining editions before the next annual renewal.

If you would like to place a commercial advertisement, please contact pump-adverts@lickham.co.uk.
Next deadline for enquiries: **1 March 2019** for the April 2019 edition.



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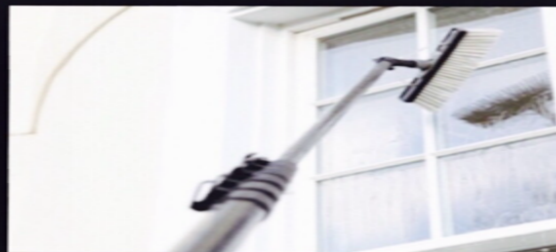
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