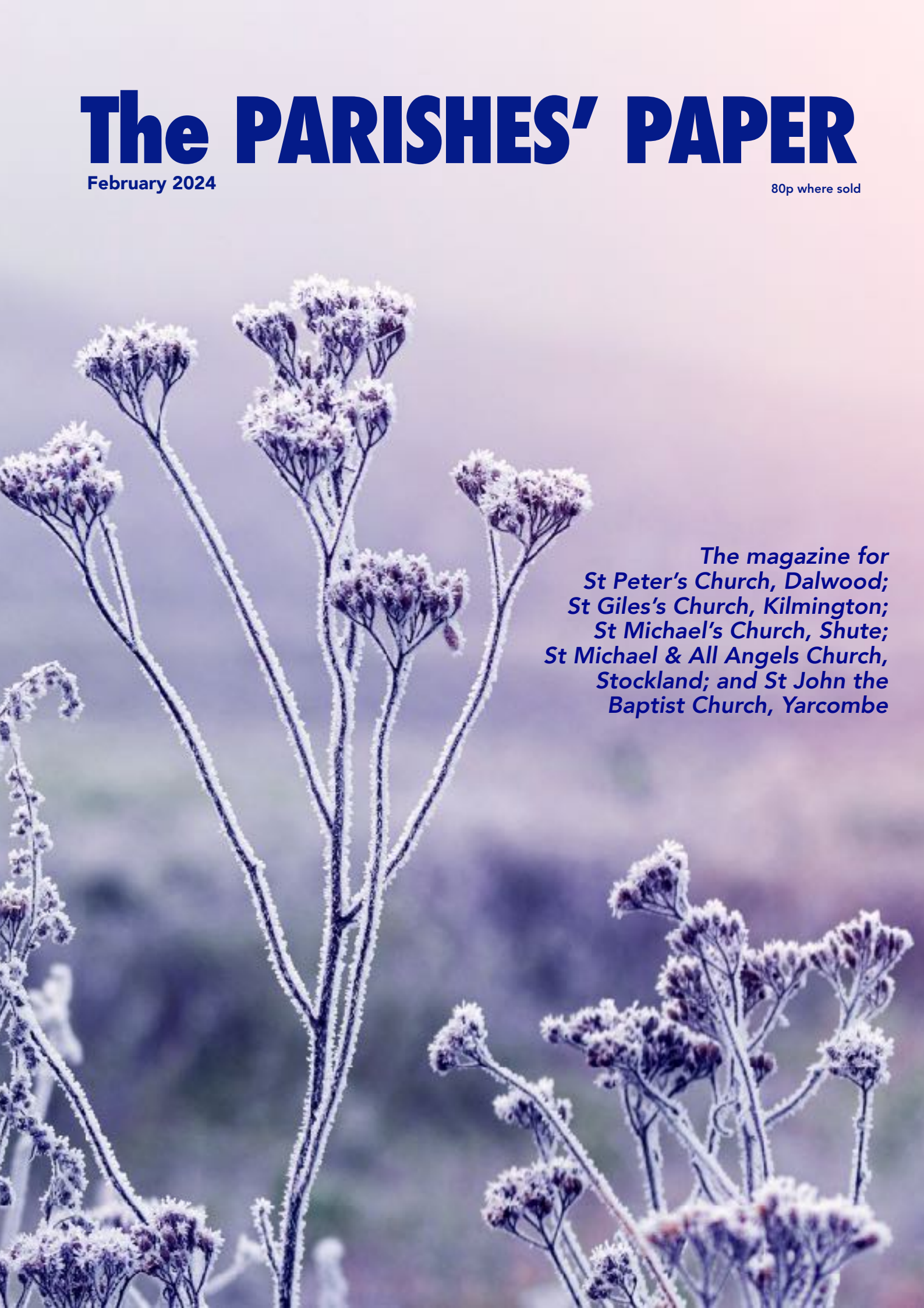


# The PARISHES' PAPER

February 2024

80p where sold



*The magazine for  
St Peter's Church, Dalwood;  
St Giles's Church, Kilmington;  
St Michael's Church, Shute;  
St Michael & All Angels Church,  
Stockland; and St John the  
Baptist Church, Yarcombe*

## FEBRUARY 2024

Date	Dalwood	Kilmington	Shute + Whitford	Stockland	Yarcombe
<b>Sun 4th</b>	10.30am Mission Community Holy Communion hosted by St. Michael's Church SHUTE EX13 7QW				
<b>Wed 7th</b>	9.30am Said Communion hosted by St. Peters Church, DALWOOD EX13 7EG				
<b>Sat 10th</b>	3-5pm Celebrate Together Service hosted by St. Giles Church, KILMINGTON EX13 7RF				
<b>Sun 11th</b>	11am All age worship	11am Morning Worship	11am Holy Communion at Shute Church	11am Morning Worship	11am All Age Worship
<b>Tues 13th</b>	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St. Giles Church, KILMINGTON EX13 7RF				
<b>Wed 14th Ash Wednesday</b>	2pm Mission Community Holy Communion hosted by St. Giles Church, KILMINGTON EX13 7RF				
<b>Sun 18th Lent 1</b>	No service	9.30am Holy Communion	11am at Whitford Church	11am Morning worship	6.30pm Evening Worship
<b>Wed 21st</b>	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St. Peters Church, DALWOOD EX13 7EG				
<b>Sun 25th Lent 2</b>	11am Morning Worship	9.30am Morning Worship	6.30pm Choral Evensong at Shute	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion
<b>Tues 27th</b>	9.30am Said Communion hosted by St. Giles Church, KILMINGTON EX13 7RF				
<b>Sun 3rd</b>	10:30am Mission Community Holy Communion hosted by St. Giles Church, KILMINGTON EX13 7RF				

*The paper used in the printing of The Parishes' Paper is made using raw materials from FSC certified sources and manufactured using a certified process with an EU ECO Label. It achieves a 4 star Green Star Rating*



# FAITH, PRAYER – AND A FLASH OF BLUE

REV JULIE LOMAS

ON one of the sunny but cold days in January, Steve and I decided to walk along the River Otter from Otterton Mill to Budleigh Salterton.

We had walked part of this trail together before but not the whole length, and so we set off having been fortified by coffee in the Mill Café (of course). We soon discovered that the path was closed where we wanted to walk and so we set off on the diversion to avoid being stranded where the path had washed away in recent floods. A lovely walk, lunch in the seaside town and a “moochy” round the shops, we then began the return leg.

I don't know if you are aware but there has been a major project going on to allow the flood plain to re-flood with tidal waters, with the final stages of this work completed last November, allowing the marshes to once again become a haven for visiting birds and other wildlife. As we crossed the bridge something caught my eye – a flash of blue down by the water's edge. Intrigued, I saw a kingfisher minding its own business, standing on the rocks and fishing. I had never seen this before. My only encounters with this bird had been that fleeting flash of blue as one



darted along a river. But here we were, able to stand and watch as it waited patiently and then dived into the shallower water and catch a tiny fish, not once but twice. Excited by what we were observing, we told others and soon a small group of us were engaged in this spot of “twitching.” We eventually had to walk on but the memory is very clear even if the photograph is a little disappointing (you may need to look closely to see said bird!).

I was reminded of something I had been told many years ago about the gift of faith and especially of prayer.

It went something like this: “Faith and prayer is not about achieving, but rather about receiving,” and the illustration was of someone waiting to see a kingfisher.

I like this because it reminds me that we are often encouraged in our faith journeys and our life of prayer to stop and take notice by something unexpected. Just as my eye had been caught by the flash of blue, perhaps you have a story of how God reaches out to you through a word, a picture, a scene, a poem, a song, a sunset – whatever it is then I do hope you are able to stop and take notice, draw close and spend time receiving the gift of God's presence much like I did with the illusive kingfisher.

This month in *The Parishes' Paper* please pay attention to where your eye takes you and where you might stop and linger, and then do something about what you read, such as take part in one of the services to mark the season of Lent, or join The Pilgrim Way Monday evening group. It is in receiving these momentary flashes of interest and inspiration we are often then caught up in a very special moment – may this be true for all our readers this month.

Every blessing.

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*The Parishes' Paper* is the magazine of the Five Alive Community. Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the opinion of the editor or the Five Alive Mission Community. Submissions should be sent, preferably by email in text, Microsoft Word, Pages, jpeg or PDF format to the respective contributor — contact details are on page 31. We welcome photographs and request that these are sharp images and at least 1MB in size. The editor reserves the right to delay or refuse publication of articles for reasons of decorum, space, practicality or libel. Inclusion of advertisements or articles does not imply or suggest any form of endorsement.



# MY FAVOURITE HYMN

In this feature each month, a different person will share with us their favourite hymn and reasons why. This month, **Richard Norman, bellringer of Kilmington**, chooses **Living Lord...**

MY favourite hymn is Living Lord by Pat Appleford (A&MR 712) as it reminds me of a joyful period of my life when I knew and arguably worked with the author – and, of course, both the melody/tune and the words are beautiful and the sentiment timeless.

The whole story: Pat Appleford – Canon Herbert Frank Bishop had been Vicar of St Giles Camberwell for all of my life. When he retired Rev John G Nicholls (JGN) became Vicar. Up to that point the Parish had been a 'teaching parish' and we always had several deacons out of seminary waiting to be ordained and sent out to their first Parishes.

When JGN came that all ended and he was alone in an enormous vicarage built for a large family so he set about letting rooms and using it for other things. One person who came was Pat Appleford. He took the front room to the left as you entered the front door. It was a large room and it had to be as Pat moved his grand piano in.

Anyway, we young things would congregate in his room and he would play his piano and we would all sing. One of his 'tricks' was to take a newspaper, prop it up on the piano music stand and sing paragraphs and sentences from it to psalmic melodies

that he played. I also tried this as at that time I could play both hymns canticle and tunes from the psalter by sight (long since gone with lack of initially piano and now lack of practice).

During these what must have been maybe a year or two Pat would celebrate the Mass at 6 a.m. on Saturdays in St Giles' Lady Chapel and I would serve that mass and then cycle off to work straight after. Mostly a congregation of two or three and sometimes only the two of us when Pat would rush through the FULL said Mass trying to beat his last record – this required coordination

Pat moved out of the Vicarage when JGN had sold it to the Americans. With all the changes we lost touch but I had been told that he had married and moved to Africa - until in 2007 I was at the Centenary World Scout Jamboree and visited Chelmsford Cathedral and noticed that Pat was now one of their Honorary Canons and was still running a local choir so I made contact and we exchanged emails and letters until he passed on.

*Lord Jesus Christ  
You have come to us  
You are one with us,*

*Mary's Son.*

*Cleansing our souls from all their sin.  
Pouring Your love and goodness in.  
Jesus our love for you we sing,  
Living Lord.*

*Lord Jesus Christ  
Now and every day  
Teach us how to pray,  
Son of God.*

*You have commanded us to do  
This in remembrance Lord of you  
Into our lives your power  
breaks through,  
Living Lord.*

*Lord Jesus Christ  
You have come to us  
Born as one with us,  
Mary's Son.  
Led out to die on Calvary,  
Risen from death to set us free,  
Living Lord Jesus help us see  
You are Lord.*

*Lord Jesus Christ  
I would come to you  
Live my life for you,  
Son of God.  
All your commands I know are true,  
Your many gifts will make me new,  
Into my life your power  
breaks through,  
Living Lord.*

## Bible readings February

Date	OT Readings	NT Readings
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Proverbs 8: 1, 22-31	John 1: 1-14
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	2 Kings 2: 1-12	Mark 9: 2-9
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February Ash Wednesday	Isaiah 58: 1-12	John 8: 1-11
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> February Lent 1	Genesis 9: 8-17	Mark 1: 9-15
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> February Lent 2	Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16	Mark 8: 31-end
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March Lent 3	Exodus 10:: 1-17	John 2: 13-22

## From the registers...

### Funerals

The funeral of **Angela Anderson** took place on Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at East Devon Crematorium.

The funeral of **Margaret Mary Dare** took place on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> at St Giles's Church, Kilmington.

The funeral of **Elsie Joyce Symonds** took place on Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at St Giles's Church, Kilmington.

*We extend our deepest sympathies to their families and friends.*

### Christenings

The baptism of **Oscar Newman** took place on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at St John the Baptist Church, Yarcombe.



# It's not too late for making a resolution

HAVE you broken them already? I mean your new year's resolutions, or did you even bother to make any?

Is this another tradition that is slowly disappearing, like so many these days? If you didn't think about making one this year it's not too late to do so. After all, circumstances might change throughout the year, prompting a decision on our part to alter our ways for the good.

Thinking about this, two things come to mind. One, an instruction from our Lord, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

Another thought was the prayer attributed to Richard of Chichester, "Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray; to see thee more clearly, to love thee more dearly, to follow thee more nearly, day by day."

If only political leaders throughout the world would take these two thoughts to heart then conflict would cease and the money spent on armaments could, instead, be used to

improve living conditions for all the underprivileged and starving.

By now, we will have had our annual covenant service, a Methodist tradition, where we renew our promises to God, in effect make a new year's resolution to "love him more dearly and follow him more nearly, day by day", no matter what life throws at us.

Looking ahead, this August we will be saying farewell to our minister, Brian Hadfield, who, after many years in charge, is moving on to pastures new, and then we welcome his replacement in September. More about this nearer the time.

Our monthly coffee mornings are recommencing on Wednesday, March 13th, from 10.30am until 12noon, and, as usual, the proceeds will be going to a local charity. Our art club continues to thrive, and new members are always welcome. Sunday services are at 11am, and a warm welcome is assured.

**Roderick Ovey**  
Dalwood Methodist Church

## Festive Fred finds greatest gift

ON December 11th, the Open the Book team, pictured, went into the three schools in our five parishes to tell the story of Christmas.

Festive Fred was the main character, a boy who absolutely loved Christmas, so much so that he ate mince pies for breakfast and watching Christmas movies in the summer holidays.

The children learned how he longed to have as a Christmas present a Supercharged Max 3000, a top-of-the-range water pistol. His mother read him the story of the first Christmas in Bethlehem and Festive Fred fell into a dream.

During the dream, he learned that the baby Jesus was the greatest gift that anyone could receive. When Fred woke up from his dream Fred's mum said that



he might be getting a Supercharged Max 3000 for his Christmas present but then he remembered his dream and said that there was an even better present, a gift of forgiveness, wrapped in love in the person of Jesus.

The Open the Book team gave each child in the schools a copy of the book Festive Fred finds the Greatest Gift written by Dal Woodridge.

**Keep the Five Alive community thriving and in touch by sending your local news and views**

*Email your contributions to your parish correspondents – see page 31 for contact details*

## Explore gospel

ANYONE in the Diocese of Exeter is invited on a journey of discovery with distinguished scholar and all round nice guy Richard Burridge.

I met him in person in November in Exeter at one of his study days for ministers and he was very engaging and very informative.

I commend to you to join his study group – The Gospel according to St Mark, which will run from 2.30-4.30pm on January 31st, February 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th, March 6th and 13th at Richard Eyre Room in Exeter Cathedral, or remotely via Zoom.

This seven-week course will study Mark's account of Jesus's ministry of teaching and healing and the origins of conflict with the religious leaders of his day. It will cover Mark's discussion of Jesus's identity and mission, as well as preparing us for Holy Week through Mark's narrative of the Passion and Crucifixion. The bible study will be led by The Rev Canon Professor Richard Burridge.

For more information or to book a place, please make contact Richard via richard.burridge@manchester.ac.uk.

*Rev Julie Lomas*

## Visit from Mars

FOLLOWING the success of Museum of the Moon and Gaia, Exeter Cathedral will be hosting Luke Jerram's next artwork, Mars: War and Peace.

The artwork will be exhibiting at Exeter Cathedral Nave throughout February, and will feature sound composition by BAFTA award-winning composer Dan Jones.

The artwork features 120dpi detailed NASA imagery of the Martian surface.

Tickets cost £6, and there is free admission for children (under 18) within a family group.



## A LIFE VERY WELL LIVED



THE baptism of Oscar Newman took place on Sunday, January 7th at St John the Baptist Church, Yacombe

JUDY Gill, 86, of The Old Cider Lodge in Kilmington passed away peacefully at her home on November 16th 2023 after a stoically borne illness.

Judy was born in April 1937 in Truro, an only child to Gordon and Gwen Bax. Early years were spent following her father's job in the RAF around the country before settling at The Old Rectory in St Juliot, Cornwall.

She undertook teacher training at Rolle College, Exmouth, where she met John Gill in 1958. They married in 1960 and bought The Old Cider Lodge, which would remain Judy's idyllic home for 63 years. Judy and John had four children – Sally, born in 1961, Susan in 1963, Malcolm in 1964 and Clare in 1967.

Judy taught at Kilmington Primary School for many years, instilling in the children a curiosity and love of the great outdoors. She and John also cared for several foster children over the years and would host foreign students over many summers who would come to improve their English.

On finishing her teacher career, Judy took on a small local business making horse rugs. Under her guidance and with incredibly long hours, this small cottage industry blossomed to become Gillrugs, purveyors of rugs for all creatures great and small. It still flourishes today.

Despite a quiet and sheltered upbringing, Judy was determined to give her own children a sense of adventure. In the days before motorways, John and Judy would load two ponies into their rickety horse box, collect their children from school and drive overnight to the Scottish Highlands. Judy became a very accomplished mountaineer and organised some epic treks over the years, giving all her family a sense of



accomplishment and a life time love of the hills.

She also had a huge interest in wildlife conservation and a great connection with the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, rearing many rare ducks and geese for their breeding programmes. Horses were also a constant part of Judy's life. She was a keen rider and supported her children's equine capers over the years, and had a decades-long involvement with Cotley Pony Club. Other sporting interests included captaining the school cricket team; a fine handle on fly fishing; an adept skier and a half-marathon medal to name but a few.

Trips to Scotland remained a great joy to Judy throughout her life. As John's health declined they retreated to their bothy in the woods near Plockton, Wester Ross. After his passing, she threw herself into the oasis they had created at Old Cider Lodge, opening the garden to the public for many years to raise money for Hospiscare.

Until very recently, Judy loved walking the local hills, cliffs and woods with various canine companions and would often be seen in the village out in all weathers. The great outdoors remained her happy place and brought her much comfort.

Family was always central to everything Judy did and she will be hugely missed by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A life very well lived.



Loving and Gracious God,

We bring before you the family of people, churches, schools, and chaplaincies that make up our Diocese of Exeter. We give you thanks for the blessings we share and your goodness to us. We pray for the needs of our county, our local communities, our neighbours, and ourselves, that together we may seek your kingdom and grow in love and compassion.

As we live this season and look to the future, inspire us with your vision. Lead us in the ways of your Son Jesus Christ, who is the Good Shepherd and calls each of us to follow him.

We pray for the appointment of our new Bishop, that you will give us a shepherd after your own heart. Give wisdom and discernment to all involved in making the appointment. May those who offer themselves receive grace and peace as they seek your will.

May we, your children, be faithful in prayer, living out our calling to share the good news of your kingdom, and to serve the people of Devon with joy.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Bishop's prayers

**THIS is the year the new Bishop of Exeter will hopefully be appointed.**

Please continue to pray for the selection and discernment process as it moves forward.

The shortlisting of candidates will take place this month, with interviews likely to be in held in April. Bishop Jackie Searle has written a prayer, left, which we would encourage you to pray regularly over the next few months.

**Rev Julie Lomas**



# An A5 format in black and white at a price of 40p 20 years ago!

By Margaret Hagon

ANOTHER nostalgic trip down memory lane looking through THE February 2004 issue of *The Parishes' Paper*.

The Rev Nigel Freathy was our vicar then, assisted by non-stipendiary curate the Rev Anne Mills and part-time assistant priest Rev Dr Garry Gibson.

After a year's retirement, I took over as editor of *The Parishes' Paper* again from Richard Hartwell. By this time, the magazine was now being produced in A5 format in black and white and, for a while, was being printed by a company in Honiton.

This year was a leap year with special services being held in the parish churches on Sunday, February 29th.

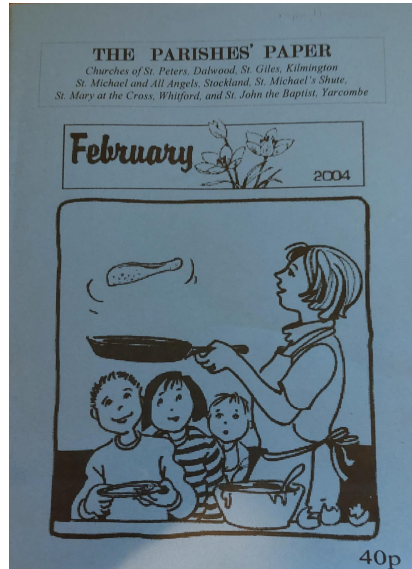
The five Lent services were to be addressed by visiting speakers on the theme of 'prayer' to fit in with the diocesan initiative Planting in Prayer.

The speaker at the first service on Ash Wednesday at Kilmington church was the Diocesan Missioner Canon Mark Rylands with Rev Prebendary Dr Paul Avis, General Secretary of the Council for Christian Unity being the speaker on February 29th.

The puzzle in this issue was accompanied by an article about coughs and sneezes. Well, February 3rd is the right day to have a sore throat as it is St Blaise's Day. Legend says that St Blaise was on his way to be killed when he saw a young child choking with a fishbone stuck in his throat.

The saint touched the child and the bone was dislodged. This led to a custom of Blessing the Throats on St Blaise's Day which continued in one London church.

Another way to celebrate the day



was with big bonfires (before Bonfire Night was thought of) and is probably why we say that bonfires blaze.

All members of the congregations at Dalwood and Kilmington churches were asked to try and attend the family communion services in their church on February 1st when the vicar was to speak about lay ministry teams. During the month, people would have the opportunity to nominate those they considered suitable to serve on ministry teams for their parish.

Lent lunches were being held in Kilmington with the first one on Ash Wednesday, the money being raised split between the Tear Fund and Christian Aid.

An Italian night in aid of St Giles's Church funds was quickly over-subscribed and raised £1,024. The village hall was festooned with Italian décor and typical Italian drinks and food were served.

Dalwood Primary School organised a bring-and-buy sale for the Blue Peter Get Together appeal. The project was to help children all over

the country who had learning disabilities.

The February report from Dalwood WI referred to Derek Rugg who spoke about the Devon dialect and many of its individual words and expressions.

Plans were in progress for celebrating Pancake Day with pancake races, a competition for children and coffee and cakes in the village hall. The event was to be opened by the mayor of Axminster. Michael Shaw was to give a talk about his life as a vet at the February meeting.

Kilmington WI heard about the visit of Bill and Molly Kerslake to a garden party at Buckingham Palace the previous July. They were smartly dressed in the clothes they wore that day.

Although they were not presented to members of the royal party, they still enjoyed the experience and felt honoured to have represented Kilmington Parish Council.

Mr Winterburn was to be the speaker in February talking about 'glass'.

The Musbury and Whitford WI report was about a talk by John Hayward, a community biodiversity officer for Devon Wildlife Trust. His illustrated talk was about rubbish, particularly plastic, and how it affected wildlife.

The February meeting was to be a visit by members to The Golden Hind at Musbury to learn about what goes on behind the bar.

Corrydale Singers invited readers to a St Valentine's School Reunion with entertainment, refreshments and a raffle in Dalwood Village Hall and a performance of Cinderella by Tom Livingstone was shown at Kilmington Village Hall for four days.

Commercial advertising had considerably increased by this issue with nearly 30 adverts, it was now 40 pages long and cost 40p.

**Keep the Five Alive community thriving and in touch by sending your local news and views – we want to hear from our readers**  
*Email your contributions to your parish correspondents – see page 31 for contact details*





# DALWOOD NEWS

Parish correspondent Stephen Boyes-Lee – [stephen@burfords.co.uk](mailto:stephen@burfords.co.uk)  
Parish distributor Sue Drew– 01404 831365

For a second year, members of Dalwood Raft Club went Christmas food shopping and purchased all the items to supply Christmas fare to 13 needy families in and around Axminster.

Each hamper comprised turkey crowns, a collection of vegetables, Christmas pudding, cake, chocolates, fruit, soft drinks, all topped off with tinsel and Christmas crackers.

The hampers were assembled on the evening of Friday, December 22nd over a few glasses of wine accompanied by cheese and biscuits and delivered safely on Saturday 23rd, feeding 50 adults and children.

All this was made possible by Sheila Adby at the Axminster Food Bank, who identified the families most in need and supplied the team with Christian names and mobile phone numbers.

Thanks go to David Dower for his excellent organisation and Veronica for the use of their kitchen to

## Spreading Christmas cheer



assemble the hampers and to all those who have supported the events in 2023 or hired marquees. Finally, a

reminder bookings for marquee hire in 2024 are now open.

*Peter Major*

### St Peters Church Dalwood BIG BREAKFAST



**FUNDRAISER**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

**9-11am Dalwood  
Village Hall**

£8 Full English Breakfast, £4.00 Bacon Bap

Children's Breakfast £5,

All with Toast, Tea and Coffee

Vegetarian Option



A VERY lively Christingle service lead by Mary Harrison was held in Dalwood in January. The congregation heard about the origins of the Christingle and the children had the opportunity to make their own Christingle



**Flower rota for  
St Peter's Church, Dalwood  
February 2024**

2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> February – Shelagh Beak  
16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Lent

# DALWOOD NEWS



JUST a few of the poinsettias and flowers in St Peter's church for the Christmas season.  
Many thanks to all those who donated plants and a special thanks to the flower team for their wonderful arrangements

Please send your Dalwood reports, news and photos to the village correspondent – Stephen Boyes-Lee.  
Email: [stephen@burfords.co.uk](mailto:stephen@burfords.co.uk)



## Dalwood Community Shop and Post Office

YOUR shop is here for your convenience, saving YOU time and petrol

We accept cash and all major credit cards

email: [dalwoodcommunityshop@outlook.com](mailto:dalwoodcommunityshop@outlook.com) tel: 01404 881401

### SHOP OPENING TIMES

Monday- Friday: 8.30am - 5.30pm  
Saturday: 8.30am - 4.00pm  
Sunday: 8.30am - 12.30pm

### POST OFFICE opening times

FRIDAY 10.00am - 12.00pm



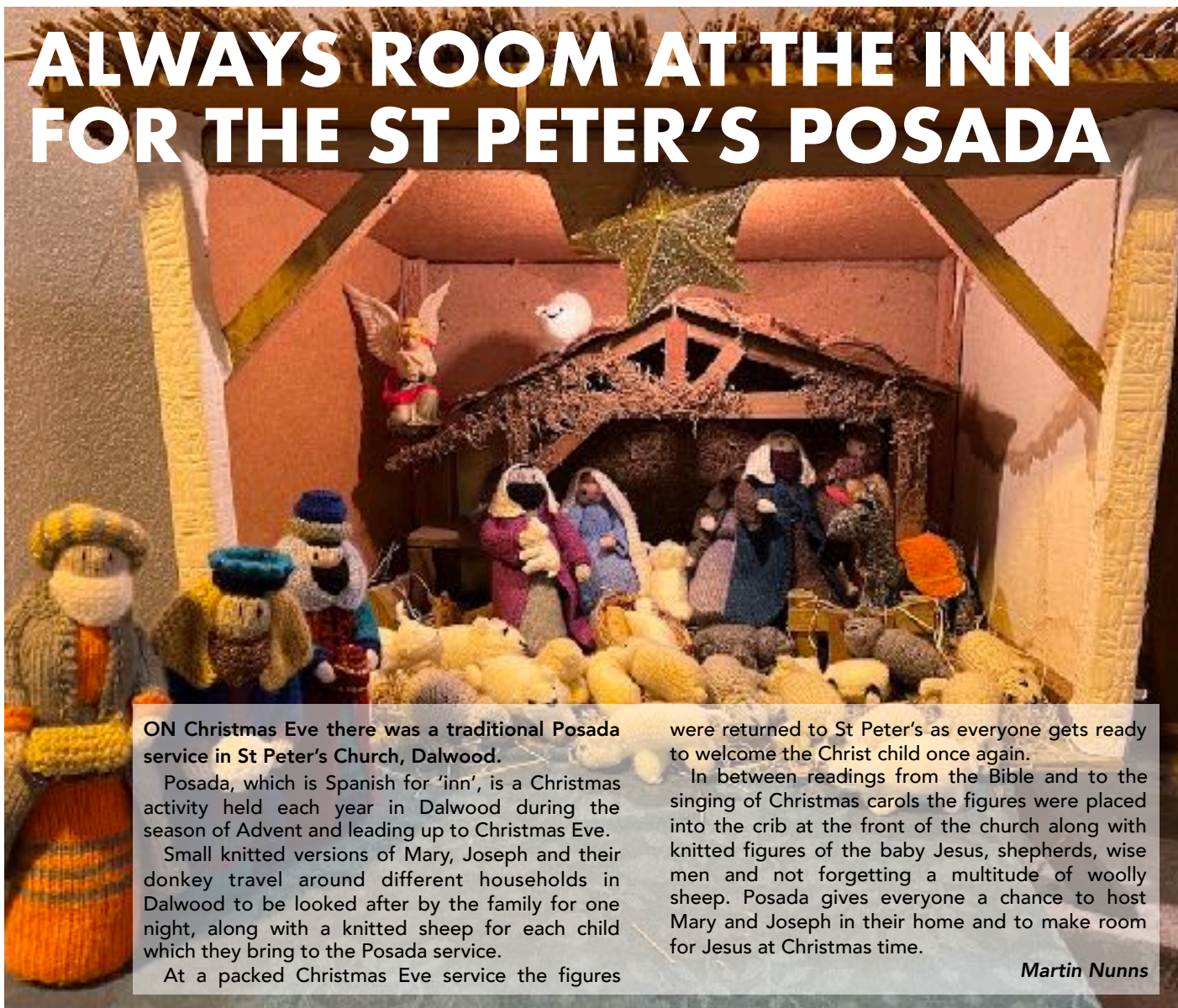
Warm up winters days, come in and see our range of delicious home made curries and more.  
See you soon you will be very **WELCOME**

Could you buy **1** more item when you shop ?



# DALWOOD NEWS

## ALWAYS ROOM AT THE INN FOR THE ST PETER'S POSADA



ON Christmas Eve there was a traditional Posada service in St Peter's Church, Dalwood.

Posada, which is Spanish for 'inn', is a Christmas activity held each year in Dalwood during the season of Advent and leading up to Christmas Eve.

Small knitted versions of Mary, Joseph and their donkey travel around different households in Dalwood to be looked after by the family for one night, along with a knitted sheep for each child which they bring to the Posada service.

At a packed Christmas Eve service the figures

were returned to St Peter's as everyone gets ready to welcome the Christ child once again.

In between readings from the Bible and to the singing of Christmas carols the figures were placed into the crib at the front of the church along with knitted figures of the baby Jesus, shepherds, wise men and not forgetting a multitude of woolly sheep. Posada gives everyone a chance to host Mary and Joseph in their home and to make room for Jesus at Christmas time.

*Martin Nunns*

**Keep the Five Alive  
community in touch by  
sending your local  
news and photos to  
The Parishes' Paper**

*Email your contributions to parish  
correspondents – details on page 31*

**Please ensure all photos sent  
are a minimum of 1MB each to  
ensure we are able to publish  
them – thank you**







# KILMINGTON NEWS

Parish correspondent - Chris Thorne - chrisjonthorne69@gmail.com  
Parish distributor - Anna Crabbe - 01297 32777

## Early Christmas visit from the main man

By Lesley Rew

CHRISTMAS came early to Kilmington last year, Santa on his sleigh came through the village spreading good cheer to the families and children that followed him down to the village hall on Sunday, December 5th.

After settling himself into his grotto, the children were able to meet him and discuss all things Christmas.

The children were kept busy while waiting to see the main man with a picture hunt, colouring and refreshments of hot chocolate and cake. The parents had mulled wine and mince pies.

Soon the time came for Santa to switch on the lights on the village Christmas tree, everyone joined in the countdown before he hit the button and the evening concluded back in the hall singing Christmas carols and some favourite festive songs.



## Busy time for Rev Julie

REV Julie Lomas was kept busy in Kilmington on Christmas Eve as despite her taking the crib service during the afternoon and leading the congregation with midnight mass during the evening.

I believe that she actually took five services within the Five Alive Mission Community on that day.

Despite the service beginning at 9pm, the congregation of 40 was

satisfied that, during the event, it turned midnight in Jerusalem.

Carols were sung and communion was taken. I was lucky enough to be at both the crib service and at midnight mass. It was very satisfying that both services took me into Christmas Day on the following day – to remember what Christmas is all about – the birth of our dear Lord Jesus Christ.

*Christopher Thorne*

THE PAVILION, KILMINGTON



*Lent Lunches*

21st Feb, 28 Feb - 6, 13, 20, 27 March

12.00 noon

Donations welcomed

Enjoy soup and rolls, and good company.

**Cheese and biscuits to follow**

Charities to be advised on the day

CONTACT: CHRISTINE THORNE ON  
07814041059

## Delightful lead into festive week

By Christopher Thorne

WHAT a delightful crib service on Sunday, December 24th, wonderfully led by Rev Julie Lomas.

In attendance were 26 adults and nine children, there were even some friends from Celebrate Together.

Much fun was had as the Christmas story was told and characters and animals were located from around the church who were then duly placed within the crib at the front.

The children – and some adults – enjoyed this immensely. There were a number of knitted angels (borrowed from the Christmas tree), who were found and placed on the roof of the crib.

Carols were sung and sweets were handed out towards the end of the service. All in all, it was an immensely enjoyable experience and a perfect lead into the Christmas week.



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*Email your contributions to your parish correspondents or direct to the editor - see page 31 for contact details*



# KILMINGTON NEWS

## CAROLS WITH A TWIST

By Gill Heighway

THE week before Christmas saw around 100 people of all ages gather at St Giles's Church to enjoy a carol service with a twist.

Organist Margaret Hurford played for some of the carols and for the two anthems, she stood aside for Jurassic Brass, a group from Lyme Regis, of which Robert Crabbe is a member, to take the lead for a few of the carols.

Anna Crabbe led the service and

readers from many walks of life in the village read the lessons and the intercessory prayers – thanks go to all involved in the service which went well and heightened the anticipation of the journey towards the climax of Advent – Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, a week ahead.

After the service, many people stayed on to enjoy mulled wine and mince pies, welcome refreshments after all the singing that had ensued! Thanks to Liz Stonex for preparing the mulled wine and to all the mince pie makers.



## £634 raised

AS the weather turned cold and ever more wintry, three autumn lunches were held in Kilmington Village Hall during November.

Good food and company made these events very enjoyable and two of the lunches were rounded off with amusing anecdotes and poems provided by two of Kilmington's talented performers.

Everyone went home with big smiles on their faces. A good time was had by all and £634 was raised towards the hall's maintenance costs.

Sincere thanks goes to those who helped to make the lunches so enjoyable from Kilmington Village Hall committee.

## Country dance

THE country dancing group at Kilmington Village Hall every Monday 2-4pm, September-December and January-April are a friendly bunch.

Country dancing is a bit like barn-dancing. There is a 'caller' who calls out the steps to you as you dance.

No experience is necessary to join in, just a love for dance! For more information, please contact either Gill Perkins on 01297 32888 or Marie Thorne on 01297 631194.

## Vegetable talk

KILMINGTON Gardening Club's talk on Friday, February 9th is by Claire Foster and is titled Vegetable Gardening.

All are welcome with a 7.30pm start at Kilmington Village Hall, tea and coffee will be available. Non-members £3.

Lesley Rew

## Lent lunches and good company

LENT lunches will begin on Wednesday, 21st of February, at noon, at Kilmington Cricket Pavilion.

The events will continue in to March – all on Wednesdays – at the same venue and all starting at 12noon for six weeks in total.

Donations will be welcome and all proceeds will go to charity. If anyone cannot make it but would still like

their soup to be delivered to them, then please let the team know so that this can be arranged.

Organisers will be contacting all of those whom usually have their lunches delivered prior to the Lent lunches beginning. Please contact Christine Thorne on 07814 041059, or just turn up on the day to enjoy soup, roll, cheese and good company.

For more information  
on the Five Alive  
Mission Community  
please visit  
[www.fivealive.org](http://www.fivealive.org)





# STOCKLAND NEWS

Parish correspondent - Gill Metcalfe gilldog12@gmail.com  
Parish distributor - Rowena Drew 01404 881538

## PAUSE FOR PRAYER

### Pause for Prayer Two Traditional Celtic Blessings

May there always be work for your hands to do.  
May your purse always hold a coin or two.  
May the sun always shine on your window pane.  
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain.  
May the hand of a friend always be near to you and  
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.  
May those who love us, love us.  
And those who don't love us,  
May God turn their hearts;  
And if he doesn't turn their hearts,  
May he turn their ankles,  
So we will know them by their limping.

Contributed by Philippa Wilks

## Poppy £1k funds

THE Royal British Legion's annual house-to-house poppy appeal in November raised just over £1,000.

This was a fantastic amount considering the lack of ready loose change (down to the growth of card payment) so that few had much change on them, and the fact that sadly it was not possible to encourage more volunteers to help with the collection.

All grateful thanks go to all the collectors for their stoic efforts and to all those who supported the appeal again this year. Again, the appeal for volunteers is made here well in advance for next year – a few hours could make all the difference. So, if anyone would like to collect next year it would be lovely to hear from you. Please contact Rozanne Bulmer, Poppy Appeal organiser on 07796 338332.

Rozanne Bulmer

Send your Stockland news,  
photos and events to village  
correspondent Gill Metcalfe:  
gilldog12@gmail.com

# Exciting start back for young village pupils

By Gill Metcalfe

IT is, without a doubt, exceptionally difficult not to be somewhat envious of the opportunities extended to our youngsters at the local school – after all, many of our readers were pupils at the school and perhaps, they can remember such excitement about learning?

Of course, the first week in January heralds the return to school but with such a school, what a welcome return. With Christmas over, what next? Well, it was indeed quickly down to the tasks – the learning in hand.

Featherlake started a new music project – an exciting prospect in itself as music has so often been neglected in the school curricula. Then with so much now on television they set to investigating the seabed and then 'painting ice'.

Meanwhile, Horner started on new computer work – well pre-1980s few knew what computers were or what they could do! They enjoyed Beebots and other computer games – who wouldn't irrespective of age? Evergreen or deciduous trees – examination of leaves and bark also featured. Rectangles, triangles, pentagons and octagons put extra fun into their maths work.

Quantock took on the Anglo Saxons with the week's work revolving around the classical myth of Beowulf – lots of writing and drawing skills plus speculation as to how to cope in an early England environment.

Local archaeologist Dr Lucy Shipley's impending visit to discuss and look at some of her local finds is to be looked forward to. Great writing opportunities there!

In addition, fossils were explored; fractions and mathematical symbol recognition introduced alongside the necessary development of grammatical writing skills were also pursued. On the lighter side perhaps, the week's reader meerkat trail prompted imaginary writing adventures as meerkats!

Bucehayes launched into a revision of fractions and coping with decimals with spelling and grammar reinforced. Work on the circulatory system – pulse rates provoked much interest and talk – along with the study of nutrients and the digestive system, illustrated by the most graphic posters of lungs and heart.

Such a full new term start for all pupils plus the extra PE (cross country competition in February), music, reading and after-school clubs – great to see the school and pupils so obviously thriving.

## Fond farewell to Ben and Christie

A NEW chapter heralds the King's Arms with the recent departure of Ben Walker and Christie Street.

The two put the King's Arms on the 'must visit' pub map: Ben with his front-of-house skills and Christie with her quiet but exceptionally competent organisational ability.

So whilst the pub looks forward to a new era, what better than to say goodbye with a farewell party? And what's more to add to the evening than the virtuoso Simon Durrant providing the musical entertainment accompanied by the many very vocal Stocklanders who joined in with the party.

It was an event to take on board that the pub is a vibrant and essential part of

Stockland providing not only what a pub essentially does – food and drink but a hub for the community – a social meeting point: where else would the book club, the men's and ladies' skittles groups, ladies' craft group, the parish council after meeting group, the numerous Blackdown Hills walking groups and more convene but the King's Arms?

This has proven to be the case over the past six years – so now new licensees will take over and with optimism in difficult times for publicans – our pub will thrive once more.

So it's a fond farewell to those departing and an enthusiastic hello to the new publicans.

Gill Metcalfe

# STOCKLAND NEWS

## New Year's Day walk raises £350

ON an overcast New Year's Day at eight degrees when rain was forecasted for the afternoon, 55 people and 10 dogs assembled at Stockland Victory Hall car park at 10.30am to walk to Beacon Hill and back.

The route taken was Cokers Elm, Marlpipts Cross, Heathstock, then past the entrance to Wadsbury where primroses were in abundance, Paradise and through the field gate up to the Beacon, by kind permission of the Patch family.

At 218 meters (715 feet) high, the brilliant views of the surrounding countryside were evident.

What is intriguing at the north end of this huge area is the circle of ancient thorn bushes. Were they planted as a ritual circle in those early days? Thorns symbolise boundaries, sacrifice and spiritual guardianship. They have profound meaning in Christianity and other religions. Thorns were believed to ward off evil spirits and negative energy. They encircle sacred spaces.

After several photo shoots, the party went back down to the road and walked past the entrance to Horner Hill and



down the lane to go past the two East Horner farm entrances to Three Ashes. Some spots of rain began to fall on the journey back to the hall for refreshments where delicious soups and apple crumbles were served up for the walkers and other members of the public who came to wish each other a happy new year. A total of £350 was raised for Stockland Victory Hall funds.

*Bryan and Rowena Drew*



## Keith sweeps into 80 with a spangly new broom



**FAMOUS last words:** "It's hard to imagine that I was originally going to have a couple of drinks with a handful of friends in the bowling alley."

Such plans completely scuppered by a few villagers who were not going to allow Keith Rowley, pictured, to get away so lightly on his 80th birthday.

Come the day – the Wednesday before Christmas – so much going on in the village but then surprise, surprise – half the village were exactly where Keith was headed – the village hall for what turned out to be an absolutely outstanding birthday affair!

The hall was packed out – tables, decorations and all the paraphernalia that such a day warranted and with Trish Bass, Annie Williams and Janet Fox completely in charge the organisation was what the village has come to expect – a do second to none! The ambience created by them would encourage anyone to have a birthday there –

irrespective of age – the venue was just fabulous.

The music was concert hall equivalent with Simon Durrant in the driving seat – the bands were just outstanding. It was a genuine honour to be able to listen and enjoy the evening's entertainment.

Then to the birthday man himself and to presents! Well the villagers know Keith well in his efforts to keep everywhere spic and span and tidy. With the observation that his broom was getting thin and with the days affected so badly of late with the onslaught of climatic change, what better to present him with a new broom and the obligatory yellow safety jacket!

This was genuinely an evening to remember and even envy plus the pre-Christmas spirit. The presentation of gifts, along with accompanying banter, added to the enjoyment of the evening. Massive thanks must go to the organisers of this magical evening.

*Please let our advertisers know you saw their advert in The Parishes' Paper*

# STOCKLAND NEWS

## Financial gifts given

THE annual meeting of the Stockland Educational Foundation and the Stockland Parish Lands General Charity will be held at the end of March 2024.

At the meeting, the trustees are able to award monetary gifts in accordance with the provisions of the original trust deeds dated 1908 and 1911.

Although the wording of the original deeds could be considered somewhat dated, they are still relevant today. The provisions permit the trustees of the Stockland Educational Foundation to help young people living in the parish with financial grants for educational purposes/apprenticeship resources/course equipment/tools etc and the trustees of the Stockland Parish Lands General Charity can grant money to individuals at times of need due to ill health/medical emergencies/on-going hospital treatment/ or other personal situations.

The trustees invite any parishioners of Stockland parish who meet the trust's criteria for financial assistance to contact chairperson Monica Parris on 01404 881535 or secretary Jane Bright on 01404 881214 by Monday, March 18th.

## Ladies closing in

**HOW does a ladies' skittles team keep going when they are usually placed second in the match?**

Stockland's ladies' team keeps going with loads of enthusiasm to back up their regular Friday evening matches – and yes despite the virtually all-male opposition sometimes – they win! Even if the win is not theirs gradually, they can note that their scores are on the up and scores of nine for each player are creeping onto the scoreboard. All players can note their weekly improvement and the fact that even in defeat they are closing in on their opponents' scores. In addition, there is now a list of players ready to take over when others are not available so a full team is always ready to take on the opposition.

The recent scoreboard indicates that the Ladies team are progressing and given the regular games the improvement for all players may well ensure more wins.

## EARLY HISTORY OF CHURCH

THE earliest known written evidence for the settlement of Stockland was when it was in the Hundred of Whitchurch, now Whitchurch Canonorum, and one of a number created by Alfred the Great who reigned from 871-899 as King of Wessex on the death of his brother, Aethelred, at a moment when English fortunes were low.

The large area centred on the Mother Church of Whitchurch, which lies in the Vale of Marshwood, nearly three miles north-east of Charmouth and most of these villages had chapels of ease. The other settlements included Burstock, Catherston, Colway in Lyme, Pillesdon, Symonsbury, Chideock, Marshwood and Stanton St Gabriel.

Until 934AD, Stockland and the adjacent parish of Yarcombe were known by similar names. The manor of Yarcombe expressed as Erticoma and Stockland as Ercecombe and were not yet distinguished by name. King Athelstan, the grandson of Alfred the Great, gave 10 hides, was the original name of land from the manor of Ercecombe (Stockland) to Milton Abbey or Middleton as it was then called and, because of the attachment to the abbey 'stoche' was added to the name, so becoming Ertacombestoeche, meaning a secondary settlement. Erta or its variable names was the original settlement for the river Yar or Yarty. King Athelstan was a great founder of churches, so even if there wasn't a church at Stockland we can say with almost certainty, that he would have had one built.

The oldest part of the current church is the south wall of the chancel where three semi-rounded windows and the blocked-up doorway of the same stone are stated to be from the Norman Romanesque period of the 12th Century. The stones in the arches of the wall were sawn, which predates the hammer and the chisel. A 13th Century lancet window graces the east wall of Broadhayes Chapel which forms the south transept.

In the Domesday Survey of 1086, the Hundred of Whitchurch now had 18 settlements, including Stockland, with the number of households recorded. Chardstock, now under Whitchurch, had the most with 72 households, Wooton (Fitzpaine) with 54 and Stockland next with 44 households.

The first reference to a vicar at Stockland is from a medieval charter, recently found, regarding Milton Abbey

and Dalwood. In the charter, Herbert, Bishop of Salisbury, 'avers' that one Thomas de Wareham is to be presented as parson of Stockland church. The charter also states that the Chapel of Dalwood will pay an annual sum to the Church of Stockland as a contribution to the living of the parson of the said Stockland Church. Year 1194; Salisbury 1078-1217 Volume 18: "*Et inde profert cartam Herberti quondam episcopi Sar que testatur quod ipse ad voluntatem abbatis et conventus de Middeldon et ad presentationem Thome de Warham persone ecclesie de Stocland admisit Iohannem Avenant clericum ad perpetuam vicarial capelle de Dalwode que ad ecclesiam de Stocland spectat reddendo annuatim persone ecclesie de Stocland nomine pensionis XX (20 shillings)*". So, we know that Thomas de Wareham was the first documented vicar of Stockland in 1194. In a document dated 1201, seven years later, (Dorset Records V Fines 21) is a case relating to the advowson of the chapel of Dalwood.

"In an assize concerning the last presentation to the church of Dalwood on a vacancy, three King John, Alan Dispensarius and Laurentia, his wife, claimed the advowson against the Abbott of Middleton; the Abbott pleaded that it was a chapel belonging to the church of Stockland rendering 20s per annum to the Mother Church and that it was not then vacant, but there was a parson in it, to wit, Thomas, who appeared to witness and said that he was the parson of that chapel as of that which belonged to his church, Stockland and in it to wit, John, who paid to him 20s; and this was witnessed by the Bishop of Salisbury, by his letters. But Alan pleaded that the church was really his free chapel and that he ought to present the clerk like as that which he had of Robert de Chantemerl father of his wife Laurentia, who presented the last person to that church, to wit Roger, as chaplain. The Abott rejoined that Roger himself had rendered as 20s to the church of Stockland to which Alan answered that if anything had been thus paid it was done without his consent and nothing of his right was therefore... and if any parson was admitted after the death of the aforesaid Roger the admission was denied by him." The case was not resolved until 2018-19 when Robert gave up his claim to the advowson.

*Bryan Drew*



# STOCKLAND NEWS



**HARRY Jackson** took this beautiful photo of a Stockland village rainbow on New Year's Eve

## CONTRIBUTING TO SOCIETY

SET up in the 1880s as a 'mutual' group for the benefit of widows and the poor, the Stockland Friendly Society initially provided funds for a decent burial for those who could not afford to pay.

They may have provided other benefits to people who were disabled by accidents or found themselves unemployed. The society also gave loans to craftsmen, enabling them to set up businesses in the parish with an annual parade and society feast being held each summer.

Contributions were a few pence a week, but the club also attracted funds from wealthy families in the area. It was an example of an institution organised and funded by the people of the parish themselves, representing some of the better Victorian values.

By the end of the 19th Century, there were hundreds of 'friendly societies' throughout the UK providing benefits to millions of people. They were regulated by various laws and were obliged to register formally on a central register, now held in the National Archives.

Some of these societies developed into large insurance companies such as the Prudential and Scottish Widows, which, until recently, was owned by its members.

However, most, including that of Stockland, were wound up in the late 1930s, when state benefits first became widely available to the poor, and the need for charitable benefits decreased.

The banner was made around 1880 by George Tutill's Artistic Banner Manufactory in the East End of London. The design came from a standard



catalogue and was painted on to silk woven at the factory. It was used at parish events and fairs to advertise the benefits of joining the society.

The banner became a symbol of the pride felt by members that they belonged to a self-help organisation providing dignity to poor people in the parish. It was last paraded in 1954 at the village 'club day walk' and is now in very fragile condition. Several dozen banners of similar age and design have survived, mostly in the north of England where friendly societies were commonly affiliated with trade unions. The village of Child Okeford in Dorset has a banner similar to the Stockland banner. The history of their friendly society may be found online at [www.childokeford.org/we-unite-to-assist-each-other](http://www.childokeford.org/we-unite-to-assist-each-other).

*Stockland History Group*

## Bells restored

THE village's Come and See exhibition information on the newly refurbished church bells drew much interest – beautiful and so tactile.

A brief text accompanied their display accounting for their age against parallel events of manufacture – some history behind the Stockland bells.

Earlier this year, a set of six hand bells were recovered from the church ringing chamber and the friends of St Michaels and All Angels Church agreed to fund their restoration.

On display was the result of the various processes to return them to working order. The main problem was the condition of the existing leather straps; all were perishing, two were broken, and the rest were suffering with severe splits and cracks.

Sparrow Leather Works in Colyford fashioned six new straps and, with the advice from a local bell-ringer, the new straps were attached to the bells.

The polishing of the bells took a total of six hours of elbow grease with the total cost of the restoration £140. There is an engraving on the largest bell which reads: 'St Michael's Church, Stockland 1896'.

To put this into perspective, it is interesting to note corresponding events of the date. Thus the largest bell date corresponds to the opening ceremonies of the 1986 summer Olympics with the first modern Olympic games being held in Athens, Greece. Again in 1896, Queen Victoria surpassed her grandfather George III as the longest reigning monarch in English history until the late Queen Elizabeth II. And again at the same time, the inventor Guglielmo Marconi applied for the first patent for a system of wireless telegraphy in the UK.

The current intention is to display the rejuvenated bells in the church tower ringing chamber with the possibility of them ringing out again over the village.

*Andrew Smith*

**For more information on  
the Five Alive Mission  
Community visit  
[www.fivealive.org](http://www.fivealive.org)**



# YARCOMBE NEWS

Parish correspondent - Rebecca Bell - rebecca.e.bell@outlook.com  
Parish distributor Mary Smith - 01404 861541

## Nina signs out, Liz signs up for 2024

By Nina Simmons

YARCOMBE Tuesday Club's final meeting of 2023 was the annual Christmas buffet in the lovely Jubilee Hall.

All attending members (many in Christmas jumpers) duly arrived to help set up the hall, bringing selections of savouries, desserts, salads and nibbles.

Tables set up, plates filled, crackers pulled and an abundance of chatter, while Christmas songs played on the sound system.

The group has had a great variety of activities this year. The hall has entertained games, bingo, a talk on food, falconry, buffet and a new addition of a Macmillan coffee

afternoon. Outings have involved open gardens, meadow flowers, otters and butterflies, estates, garden centres and, of course, lunches out.

Even a couple of skittles matches with the Blackdown Ladies took place.



Signing out on my year as co-ordinator, I thank all members for their support and for being such a brilliant group of ladies.

I pass the duty on to Liz Ross, who I am sure will have a super year in 2024.

## A period escape

ON the first Yarcombe Tuesday Club of the new year members were invited to see a film in the village hall.

There was the usual consternation about whether the group could get the equipment to work but with a little bit of help, it was sorted.

A favourite film of Maggie Lane's had been chosen and with subtitles and the volume turned up, the audience was able to appreciate every word uttered and the very fitting musical score.

Miss Potter drew members in and soon they were all carried away in the drama of a fascinating true story set in a lush landscape and featuring much period detail.

The illustrations were animated in places and that lent a particular charm to this beautifully filmed production. Everyone was engrossed and thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.

Back down to earth with tea, coffee and biscuits and homemade cake, leftover from Christmas.

It was a boiled cake recipe to which was added brandy soaked in fruit, ginger pieces and glace cherries and baked in a loaf tin. When cool, it was iced after being cut into two pieces, sandwiched together with marmalade. Very quick and easy!

The February Tuesday Club will be at The Flintlock Inn for lunch.

Maggie Lane

LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY?

LOVE YOUR CHURCH



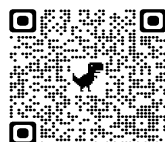
Yarcombe Parish Church has been making a difference at the heart of our Village for hundreds of years.

Like many charities, we rely on **generosity** to fund our work.  
Could you support us to help transforming lives now and in the future?

Please scan this QR code,  
or leave a donation in the wall safe inside church.

Your **generosity** means the world to us.

THANK YOU.



For more information on the Five Alive Mission Community visit [www.fivealive.org](http://www.fivealive.org)



# YARCOMBE NEWS

## Christmas Eve carol concert and nativity

By Rebecca Bell

ST John the Baptist was full to bursting on Christmas Eve in Yarcombe.

The church was beautifully decorated with a variety of displays and an abundance of twinkling candles added to the atmosphere of anticipation.

With the traditional readings and

carols, it was a wonderful occasion to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

It was a delightful sight to see so many children happily dressed up for the nativity scene, that gradually came together as the carols were being sung.

After the service, mince pies and mulled wine were served and excited talking and laughter of the children could be heard filling the church.



In God alone my soul quietly rests,  
for my hope comes from Him. Ps 62:5

## Thanks for getting all FIRED UP

THANK you to everyone who has been joining in with the prayers for the FIRED UP project (*The Parishes Paper*, January issue, page 6) and please do continue to support us in this way.

The interviews took place and as this issue of the magazine goes to print, I am delighted to let you know that we have made an appointment to the role of project worker. The successful candidate

will be announced next month as we are going through the recruitment procedure and carrying out all the pre-employment checks that are necessary.

This is an exciting time for our mission community as we continue to strengthen the ties across the parishes and find new ways to engage with and support families of all shapes and sizes to engage with matters of faith at home

and in the wider community.

In another development, our friends at the Baptist Church, Kilmington, have also been recruiting for a new post to support families, children and young people, and they have also appointed, subject to contract. We hope there will be many opportunities for us working in partnership over the coming months, and we add our prayers to those of all at the Baptist Church for their new appointment.

Rev Julie Lomas

### Pilgrimage group

PLEASE join me at The Vicarage for The Pilgrim Way on Monday evenings starting on Monday, February 26th from 7-8.30pm to engage in an exploration of what it means to be a Christian.

We will look at some of the key questions of the Christian faith such as Who is God? and we will share our doubts and our life experiences. Open to people of faith and those who are not so sure. The dates are February 26th, March 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th. Each participant will also receive a guide book. Please let me know if you plan to attend to help with planning – revjulielomas@gmail.com.

Rev Julie Lomas

### Using prayers of love and faith

LIVING in Love and Faith is the Church of England's discernment process about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

At its February 2023 meeting, the Church of England's General Synod, voted in favour of proposals from the bishops which would enable same-sex couples who have marked a significant stage of their relationship such as a civil marriage or civil partnership to come to church to give thanks, offer prayers of dedication to God and to receive God's blessing.

The Prayers of Love and Faith were commended to be used from December

2023. The final texts of Prayers of Love and Faith are commended for use in regular public worship or private prayer have been published, along with pastoral guidance which outlines how they could be used.

The prayers can be used in regular scheduled services, such as a Sunday eucharist or evensong.

If anyone would like to look at the Prayers of Love and Faith they are available to download via <https://exeter.anglican.org/resources/living-in-love-and-faith/> or you can contact Rev Julie Lomas for a copy.

Rev Julie Lomas

### "I Beg You, Bear with One Another in Love" (Written by the women of Palestine)



World Day of Prayer Service  
Friday 1st March, 2.30pm  
St Giles Church, Kilmington

followed by tea and cake  
Everyone very welcome



### Celebrating a church for everyone

An invitation to all Christians within the LGBTQIA+ community, fellow Christians and allies, in Devon and the South West region

\* to meet, to worship, share stories, encourage each other, and plan future steps \* celebrate the recent steps towards greater inclusion and acceptance in the Church of England \* affirm our commitment to a Church where everyone is welcomed in the love of God.

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
10.30am - 1.00pm

St Thomas Church Hall,  
Church Road, Exeter.  
EX4 1AP

Refreshments provided


There is no charge for this event but there will be an opportunity to contribute to costs

Limited parking only in the church hall car park  
but plenty of local street parking

To help us anticipate numbers  
and for any other enquiries contact  
Preb David Nixon [rev.dave@virgin.net](mailto:rev.dave@virgin.net)  
or Rev David Runcorn [davidruncorn@mac.com](mailto:davidruncorn@mac.com)







**AS** a mission community, we have all been working hard to think about the impact we have on our planet, and on how our Christian faith calls us to take the environment seriously and do what we can to preserve and care for all of creation, not just the people.

This invitation to the Eco Church Celebration at Exeter Cathedral on Sunday, April 28th, 12.30-3.30pm, is for all of us!


Organised by Exeter Diocese creation care team, it will celebrate the eco church scheme in Devon and all that has been achieved so far. Dave Bookless, from A Rocha, will be sharing a message, and churches around the diocese will be sharing inspiring stories.

Come along and be encouraged to take even further action in our parishes and mission community!  
The Acting Bishop of Exeter, the Rt Rev Jackie Searle, will be presenting churches which have achieved bronze, silver or gold eco church status with their awards during the afternoon, and that will include our parish awards. In a fun twist on 'rolling out the red carpet', there will be a mossy carpet for award achievers to walk along whilst contemplating how tiny mosses can have a big impact.

There will be an eco update from the team, as well as a variety of displays and stalls from Devon-based environmental organisations. Delegates will also be welcomed to stay on after the event for a special Creation Care Evensong at the Cathedral, led by Rev Canon Cate Edmonds.

I have already ordered 10 tickets and can arrange for more if required. Please contact me if you would like to attend this event on 07488 278 483 or 01297 35004 or via email at [revjulielomas@gmail.com](mailto:revjulielomas@gmail.com).

*Rev Julie Lomas*



**ECO CHURCH**  
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

**28 April 2024, 12:30-3:30pm at Exeter Cathedral**

## Never too late to lay the foundations of Christianity

**BACK** in September, I began a course given the lengthy title of **Foundations in Christian Ministry**.

For most who have probably never heard of it, it is a one-year course designed for lay people who have taken some steps towards leading services and group discussions, on Christian matters, who now feel that they need more knowledge, a better grounding and to find out more about the path along which God wants them to go.

It is not an onerous course, formal study days are just one Saturday per month in Exeter, with some suggested reading and exercises to undertake between times and a few additional Zoom meetings added in with our tutor groups.

There are no 'exams' or 'tests' and any additional reading you do is

voluntary.

For me, it has proved to be a great source of spiritual renewal and development and great to meet other people who are in the same boat.

It has given me renewed enthusiasm to actually sit down and read more of the Bible – one of the most kept, but least read books on bookshelves!

It has prompted more thought about ways of worship and prayer and it has given me more time with God, to talk and to listen.

I would describe myself sometimes as a 'slow learner'. I am in awe of people who have Saul's Road to Damascus-type experiences, where their lives are turned around completely and instantly.

That has not been my experience. I did not come from a family with a church background, but from a few

childhood brushes with Sunday schools and holiday projects, faith and promptings from God have grown the seed of belief to where I am today, not ashamed to call myself a follower of Christ.

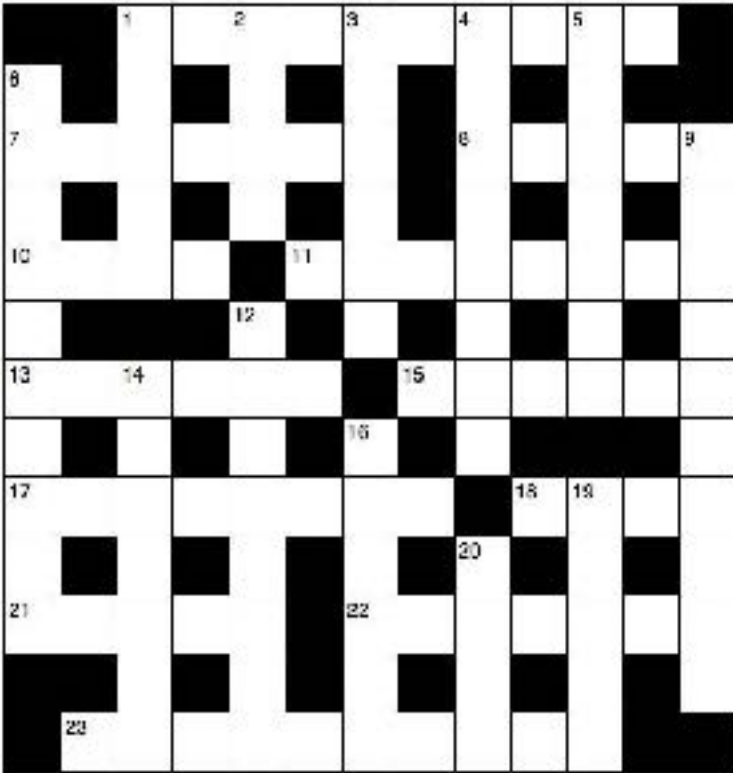
I get the feeling that the good Lord has not finished with me yet, that I am still on a journey.

I am not sure exactly where I am heading, but I think I have learnt enough by now to know to listen, to trust and that I am in good hands.

I am also encouraged that whatever age we get to, it is never too late to re-assess, to learn new things, to change our ways of thinking, to turn to God – He is ever there, just waiting for us to have that conversation with Him.

*Mary Harrison*

# PARISH PUZZLE



## ACROSS

- 1 Success or wealth (Deuteronomy 28:11) (10)
- 7 Forbidden fruit for Nazirites (Numbers 6:3) (7)
- 8 Concede (Job 27:5) (5)
- 10 Look at (Psalm 48:13) (4)
- 11 Much in evidence after weddings (8)
- 13 Condense (Job 36:27) (6)
- 15 Breakwater (6)
- 17 Give a tan (anag.) (8)
- 18 More usually now called Pentecost, — Sunday (4)
- 21 After living for 365 years, it was said of him that 'he walked with God' (Genesis 5:23–24) (5)
- 22 Trampled (Judges 9:27) (7)
- 23 For example, Miriam, Deborah (Exodus 15:20; Judges 4:4) (10)

- 3 So rapt (anag.) (6)
- 4 Declare again (2 Corinthians 2:8) (8)
- 5 Paul's 'fellow worker', to whom he sent two epistles (Romans 16:21) (7)
- 6 God's foreseeing care and protection (Job 10:12) (10)
- 9 Traditional form of Roman Catholic Mass (10)
- 12 'The Lord... has given the — of Israel to David and his descendants for ever' (2 Chronicles 13:5) (8)
- 14 'My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my — ' (Luke 1:46–47) (7)
- 16 The central element in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, identified and interpreted by Daniel (Daniel 2:31) (6)
- 19 'On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of — will not overcome it' (Matthew 16:18) (5)
- 20 City where Paul was under house arrest for two years (Acts 28:16) (4)

## DOWN

- 1 Arrogance (Proverbs 8:13) (5)
- 2 Roman poet from first century BC (4)

ACROSS: 1, Prosperity; 7, Raisins; 8, Admit; 10, View; 11, Confetti; 13, Distil; 15, Groyne; 17, Navigate; 18, Whit; 21, Enoch; 22, Trodden; 23, Prophetess.  
 DOWN: 1, Pride; 2, Ovid; 3, Pastor; 4, Reaffirm; 5, Timothy; 6, Providence; 9, Tridentine; 12, Kingship; 14, Saviour; 16, Statue; 19, Hades; 20, Rome.



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# Feast for the eyes but not for environment

By Kay Pike

## ARE you a regular meal deal picker-upper?

There have been articles about the number of excess calories and sugar in some of them and which supermarket offers the best value lunch deals but how many articles have been written about the incredible amount of single-use plastic involved?

It has been estimated that the average British consumer will spend £10,000 on lunchtime deals over their working life!

Let's take the average meal deal – a sandwich or wrap, drink, packet of crisps and let's not forget that hit of sugar in the form of a choc bar!

That is a minimum of four pieces of single-use plastic per meal deal: break it down even further to the plastic bottle with its screw top, inner seal and

plastic label, the sandwich wrapper with its plastic window and a probable coating of thin plastic on the cardboard (to keep it fresh?).

Or what about that sushi portion with its black plastic bottom which the recycling machines can't spot, a pasty, a pot of fruit, a serving of nuts or perhaps a salad bowl, the latter three which include the thin plastic film lid?

One might argue that all these items are carefully taken home to be recycled kerbside or popped into the buyer's stash of specialist recycling schemes in the garage but realistically this is not the case.

More likely the items are all binned and in many cases these items can be seen littering the grass verges, having been carelessly tossed out of car windows.

Many people are busy juggling work and family commitments etc but have we become too used to the

convenience of it all?

There is very likely to be bread in the cupboard, squash or juice in the fridge, water on tap (with fewer microplastics in it than in bottled water), a homemade sweet treat in the cupboard, maybe leftover food to use up, from which we can put together a lunch within less than 10 minutes.

If a fizzy drink is a preferred option with lunch, could a Sodastream or Drinkmate be the answer; this would also save some of the 90,000 or so tonnes of fizzy drinks bottles produced every year?


Could we perhaps spend 10 minutes less on the internet and social media (who doesn't like a bit of social media and eBay scrolling?) to do this?

Of course, many folks scrupulously put together a homemade packed lunch each day, which is great but if not, perhaps it's something to think about?

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After the St Michael & All Angel's Parochial Church Council and Friends created a wondrous history exhibition last Autumn, several folk commented that they either missed it or had photos and memories that they would like to share. Lots of you did actually bring along some terrific photographs and memories.

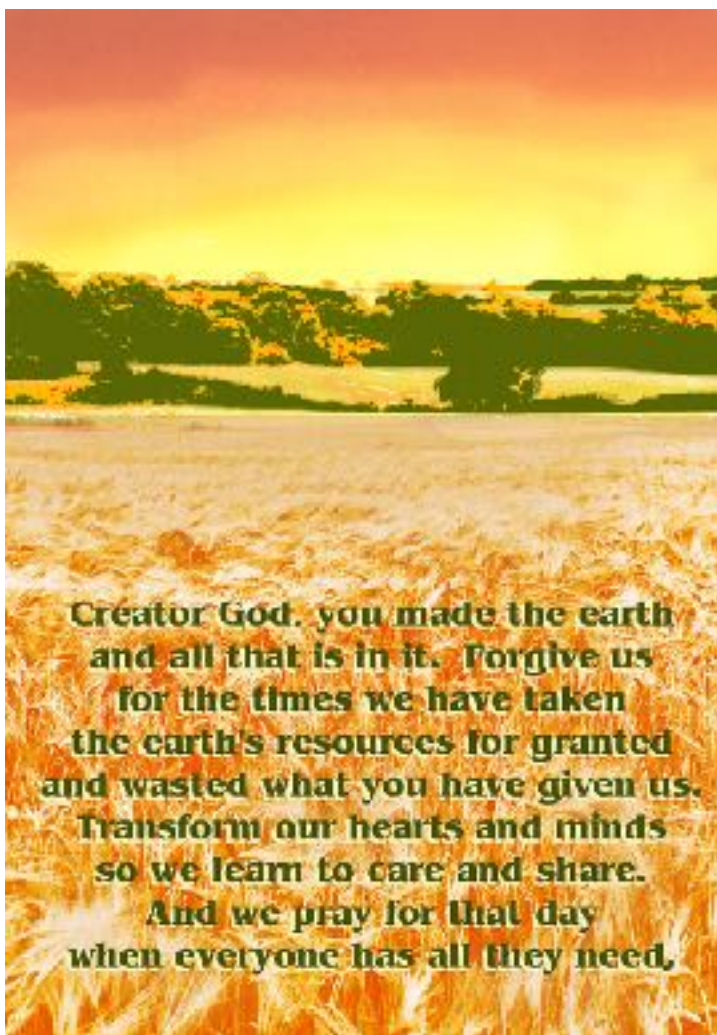
Please note this is the time to let me (Wendy) know if there is anything that you have that would add to our Village archive and that you would be willing to share or lend-either photographed/copied or recorded that you feel would be a great addition to a new exhibition which our beautiful church will be hosting during mid-March.

I would love to record stories old and new about Stockland life and of course if you have any great artefacts or photos then please contact me on 01404881207.

I'm delighted to say that we have been successful in acquiring a grant to create this local project which is funded by the Creative East Devon Fund through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

### Stockland Past and Present

*In collaboration with local historian and author Bryan Drew, the project will gather photographs, footage, documents, and stories from the community, then curate it for the Stockland Past & Present exhibition in March. The culmination of the exhibition week will be a concert featuring Devon folk musician Jim Causley, which will include tunes from Stockland fiddle player Fred Pidgeon on Saturday 16 March.*



Creator God, you made the earth  
and all that is in it. Forgive us  
for the times we have taken  
the earth's resources for granted  
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when everyone has all they need,



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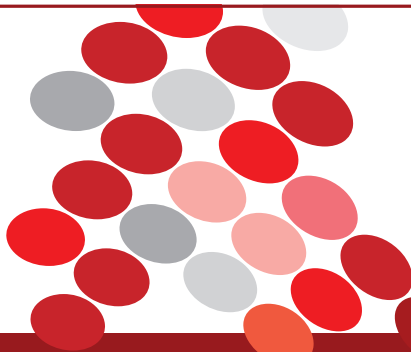
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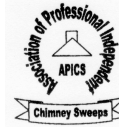


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# FUTURE EVENTS

WHEN	WHERE	WHAT'S HAPPENING
Mondays, 10am-12pm	St. Giles' Church, Kilmington	'Knit & Natter' Group.. All welcome. Bring own knits/crafts. Tea & coffee available for a donation.
Mondays 2pm-4pm Wednesdays, 10am-12pm,	St Giles' Church, Kilmington	Baby group every week including school holidays. Contact Mary Tyler 01297 34958.
Wednesdays, 2pm	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	The Beacon Home Group
Fridays, 10am-12pm	St Giles' Church, Kilmington	Coffee Shop
Fridays, 9:30am-11:30am	Stockland Victory Hall	Stockland and Yarcombe Toddler Group - contact 07951 958327
Alternating Fridays, 6:30pm	Stockland Victory Hall	Stockland Youth Club - every other Friday evening
Sunday, February 4th 7:30pm	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Encounter - A time of worship and prayer.
Tuesday, February 6th 12:30pm	The Grazing Cow, Offwell EX14 9RR	Lunch at 'The Grazing Cow' EX14 9RR. Contact Mary Harrison on 01404 831975 or marylizh13@gmail.com
Thursdays throughout February 7pm	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Alpha Course starts with a free meal. To book contact admin@baptistchurchkilmington.org
Saturday, February 3rd 9-11am	Dalwood Village Hall	Big Breakfast in aid of St Peter's Church, Dalwood. See advert for more details
Tuesday, February 6th 10:30am	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Messy Sparklers
Wednesday, February 7th 9:30am	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Men's Home Group (for prayer and Bible Study)
Wednesday, February 7th 6:45pm for 7:15pm	Kilmington Village Hall	KCC: "The Miracle Club (12a)" To Book email wattsjohn307@gmail.com
Thursday, February 8th 1:45pm for 2pm	Kilmington Village Hall	KCC: "The Miracle Club (12a)" Cream teas @ £3.50. Please order when booking seats.
February 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th 7:30pm	Kilmington Village Hall	Beauty & the Beast Pantomime. Adult £10/under 16's £5. www.ticketsource.co.uk/kilmington-players
Saturday, February 17th 8am	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Men's Breakfast with guest speaker Tim Judson, until recently Pastor at Honiton Family Church.
Sunday, February 18th 3pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Derek Nash (saxophonist Jools Holland Band) + Martin Dale Qtet. Tickets £12.50 t.mackenny111@btinternet.com
Tuesday, February 20th 12:30pm	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Community Contact Lunch
Wednesday, February 21st 12:30pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Dalwood Community lunch. Bookings to be placed with Fiona Fraser 01297 639338
Friday, February 23rd 11:45am	Exeter Cathedral	Cathedral Prayers, led by Honiton at Exeter Cathedral.
Monday, February 26th 7pm-8:30pm	The Vicarage, Kilmington	The Pilgrim Way - A Guide to the Christian Faith (5 week course). To book email revjulielomas@gmail.com

*Please submit upcoming Future Events via the online form. For details on how to do this please contact Kate Newman on 5alivemc@gmail.com*

# THE PARISHES' DIRECTORY

## DALWOOD

**Badminton Club:** Derek Gould - 01404 831749  
**Bell Ringers:** Tower Captain: Donald Pike - 01404 881356  
**Community Shop:** 01404 881401  
**Corrydale Players:** Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193  
**Jubilee Field & Pavilion:** Bookings: Linda Langman - linda.langman@hotmail.co.uk  
**Parish Council:** Kathy Laing - 01404 881601  
**Methodist Church:** Pauline Ovey - 01297 442433  
**Pilates:** Dana Hayden - 07709 524 437 or dana@lookgreatfeelgood.co.uk  
**Raft Club:** Richard Seward - 07730 482919  
**Reading Room:** Richard Seward - 01404 881343  
**Recreation Trust:** Chair: Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193  
**Dalwood Crafters:** Meet 2nd & 4th Thursdays, village hall 2-4.30pm. Jane Smith - 01404 881533  
**The Corry Valley Community Land Trust:** Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193  
**Upholstery:** Laura Anderton - 07789 514269  
**Village Hall:** Bookings Secretary: Linda Langman - linda.langman@hotmail.co.uk  
**Hall Treasurer:** Gill Sutton - 01404 831545  
**Yoga:** Di Magrane - 07940 120221

## KILMINGTON

**Badminton Club:** Derek Gould - 01404 831749  
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Email: admin@baptistchurchkilmington.org  
**Bell Ringers:** Celia Dunsford - 01297 33563  
**Cricket Club:** Secretary: D Lavender - 01297 631868  
**Country Dancing:** Gill Perkins 01297 32888 & Marie Thorne 01297 33906  
**Gardening Club:** Secretary: Bev Perkins - 01297 631801  
**Kilmington Players:** (Chairperson): D Lavender - 01297 631868

**Parish Council:** Parish Clerk: Adrian Jenkins 07800 826657  
**Post-script:** (Editor): Janfryd Gordon-Kerr - 01297 639115  
**Primary School & Pre-School:** Headteacher: Lee White - 01297 32762  
**Royal British Legion:** Commander Stafford Seward RN OBE (Ret'd) - 01297 33909  
**Table Tennis:** Jenny Nickolls - 01297 639758  
**Tennis Club:** Christopher Eastwood 07772 930411; Jane Chalk 07866 040310  
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## SHUTE – WHITFORD – UMBORNE

**Bell Ringers:** Maureen Davey - 01297 553195  
**Parish Council:** Chairperson: Ella Sweetland - 01297 553357 - ella.fernleigh@gmail.com  
**Clerk:** Carol Miltenburg - 01404 831080  
**Parochial Church Council:** Bijan Omrani - bijan.omrani@btinternet.com  
**Shute Community Primary School:** Headteacher: Martin Marriott - 01297 33348  
**Women's Institute Musbury & Whitford:** Lesley McGowan Lock - 01297 551556  
**Whitford Village Produce Association:** (Hon Sec): Christine Wyatt - 01404 830098  
**Village Hall:** Christine Plowman - 01297 552760  
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**STOCKLAND**  
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**Fair Committee:** Acting chair and stall bookings: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983  
**Secretary:** Janet Fox - 01404 881591  
**Parish Council Chairperson:** Ian Morgan - 07923 067383  
**Parochial Church Council:** Secretary: Rozanne Bulmer - 07796 338332  
**Stockland & District Horticultural Society:** Secretary: Pauline Goodwin - 01404 881199  
**Stockland & Yarcombe Pre-school:** Rebecca Ades - 07934 610430 or info@stocklandpreschool.co.uk  
**Stockland C of E Primary School:** Headteacher: Miss R Bendall - 01404 881456; PTFA: Valerie Conlon - stocklandptfa@gmail.com  
**Tennis Club:** Chairperson: Cathy Derryman - 01404 881398; Secretary Jenny Whitley 01404 861 114  
**Victory Hall:** Bookings secretary: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983  
**Stockland Youth Club:** Mel Andrews - 07947 743278 mel@adventurebabies.co.uk  
**Friends of St Michael and All Angels:** Chair: Jane Wedlock - 01404 881817, secretary: Pat Shephard Walwyn - 01404 881511

## YARCOMBE

**Baptist Chapel:** Secretary: Thelma Clarke - 01404 861267  
**Bell Ringers:** Gareth Dear - 01460 68521  
**Children's Committee:** Julie Rich - 01404 861274 or 07967 965208  
**Parish Council, Chairperson:** Matthew Tomkinson - matthew.tomkinson@yarcombeparishcouncil.org.uk  
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### **Mission Community Administrator:**

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**DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 12th**

*It would be much appreciated if contributions could be received as early as possible. Thank you.*



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