

The PARISHES' PAPER

July 2020

60p 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;
St John the Baptist Church, Yarcombe



BUBBLES AND BIRTHDAYS

By Kate Williams

IT was all-go in the Williams household last month - well, you know, all-go in lockdown terms.

Lockdown life seemed to be much busier with being allowed to see other people in groups of six at a two-metre distance outdoors, a lockdown birthday and then a new 'bubble'.

After spending almost all of my time alone with my two children for around 10 weeks, only visiting Tesco once and Dalwood Village Shop a few times whilst Mr Williams was busy farming, it was an extremely welcome change to actually go out and have a few visitors - under all the guidelines, of course.

Those changes came just at the right time for my daughter's lockdown birthday. We knew it was going to be a tricky one, trying to make it special but she was lucky enough to have a steady stream of visitors in the garden, not to mention a shed-load of presents to celebrate being a very big six.

The unicorn cake which I have made for her for the past three years running was replaced this year with a much simpler design - but it was delicious. I do love a bit of baking but lockdown eating is not helping my waistline! This includes the fluffy white loaf I made the week before which was devoured within 24 hours. Whoops.

The other highlight was the bubble. My mum, who lives next door and usually helps out and spends lots of time with the children, has been without a cuddle for three months. And she's a very tactile person.

Then came news people living alone could 'bubble' with another household -



and we didn't hold back! An extremely emotional and tearful reunion took place with long-awaited cuddles restored.

As I write, we are awaiting news from the Prime Minister on more lifting of restrictions, giving hope to businesses and schools as we enter the next stage of the 'new normal'.

And I wish for more families to enjoy those much-needed cuddles in the very near future.

REOPENING OF FIVE ALIVE CHURCHES FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

St Peter's Church will reopen for private prayer every Saturday and Wednesday from 10am to 4pm starting on Saturday, June 27th.

St Michael's in Shute and St Mary at the Cross at Whitford will unfortunately need to remain closed for the time being. It is hoped that this will change before too long.

St Michael and All Angels at Stockland will not be opening yet.

Kilmington PCC is happy to announce that Kilmington church will be opening for private prayer only on the following days each week starting on Tuesday, June 23rd - Tuesday 10am-12noon and Saturday 2-4pm. Each opening will be stewarded and strict safety procedures and social distancing will be in place.

Kilmington church will be open on Saturday, September 5th from 2-4pm for private prayer and for anyone who would like to make a Gift Day donation. A Gift Day letter and envelope will be delivered to every household in Kilmington before the event.

St John the Baptist Church in Yarcombe will not be opening until later in the summer. However, the Baptist chapel is available for contemplation and private prayer twice a week on Sundays and Wednesdays from 11-12 noon. Your nearest church to Yarcombe which is open in the Five Alive East Devon Mission Community is St Giles's at Kilmington see details above.

CONTENTS

Clergy Comment	3
Psalm of the Month, bible readings and registers	4
Lockdown news	5-6
Parishes in Pictures	7

Travellers' Tales	8-9
Dalwood news	10-12
Kilmington news	13
Stockland news	14-17
Shute & Whitford news	18-20
Yarcombe news	21

Travellers' Tales	22
Parish Recipe	23
Parish services	24-28
Parish Connections	29
Parish Directory	30
Five Alive Mission teams	31

COVER: This month's front cover photo of a country lane in the Five Alive community is by **Tim Phillips**

The Parishes' Paper is the magazine of the Five Alive Community. Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the opinion of the editor of the mission community. Submissions should be sent, preferably by email in text or Microsoft Word, 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.



FIVE ALIVE RISES TO TECH CHALLENGE

Gill Heighway

WELL, the Five Alive Mission Community has experienced its first online service and it was seemingly a great success.

Archdeacon Andrew very kindly led the service so that he could show us all how it would work. We used the medium of Zoom for the service and those who couldn't access this programme could use their phones to listen in – we had approximately 50 people who tuned in.

So, the great news is that even if you don't have the required technology for Zoom, we'll provide a phone number to enable anyone to listen in and enjoy the service, rather like listening to the radio.

The feedback has been incredibly positive which has spurred us on to

say that we'll have a Five Alive service on the first Sunday of every month over Zoom.

To this end, Rachel Hudson, our administrator, has purchased an upgraded version of Zoom for our Mission Community; this means that our session won't be cut off after 40 minutes which happens with the free version.

I'm the lucky person who is leading the next service on July 5th at 11am, which is both exciting and slightly terrifying!

Being in lockdown has been both difficult and isolating for many. Who could have foreseen how many of us, out of necessity, have had to embrace modern technology to enable us to keep in contact with friends and family?

Looking to the future, we have been asked to look carefully at how we can 'do church' in different and more creative ways to help those who may be unable to return to church, to partake in some way.

We've risen to the challenge of using technology in lockdown, so why don't we try and use it effectively as we slowly start to open our churches, which is currently under discussion, and step into the future of the 'new normal'.

Please put Sunday, July 5th, 11am, in your diaries and join us for our next Five Alive service on Zoom. We look forward to seeing you then – please invite friends and neighbours to tune in, the more the merrier! I'll see you on Zoom.

Take care and keep safe.

The Five Alive Mission Community held it's first monthly online Sunday Service on June 7th which was attended by over 50 participants.

The next service is on July 5th at 11am and will be led by our Licensed Reader, Gill Heighway. Anna Crabbe and others will also be contributing together with Kathy Laing on keyboard. Everyone is welcome to join the service using the online meeting forum, Zoom, and if you do not have access to a computer, by telephone. For details of how to use Zoom and how to join the service please contact Rachel Hudson using 5alivemc@gmail.com or call her on 07568531579. You can also obtain details from one of your churchwardens/parish representatives. We do hope that you will be able to join the service and to 'meet up' with friends.

The Parishes' Paper would like to clarify where contributors should send material they wish to be published.

Parish-specific editorial material for publication on a specific Parish page (Dalwood, Kilmington, Stockland, Shute, Whitford and Yacombe) should be sent to the respective parish correspondent. Non-parish-specific

editorials and all adverts (including for charities and charitable events) should be sent to Martin Nunns.

In order to ensure your advert is printed please do not send adverts to the parish correspondents.

We welcome photographs and request that these are sharp images and at least 1MB in size. Items for

inclusion on the Future Events page and pages 1-7 should be sent to Martin Nunns.

Email addresses for the above contacts can be found on page 31 and we would be very grateful if you could submit your contributions by the deadline date printed each month on page 31. Thank you.

PSALM OF THE MONTH

PSALM 66 - chosen by DAVID WILSDON

"You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; but you brought us out into a place of liberty"

GIVEN its Old Testament context (sacrifices of oxen and goats were no longer practiced in Judaism after the destruction of Herod's Temple in 70 AD, although "sacrifices of thanksgiving" were, and are, still in order), Psalm 66 is full of hope, and well worth reading, proclaiming, singing or praying in the times we live in.

"Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld his loving mercy from me."

1. Be joyful in God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; sing the glory of his praise.
2. Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds ! Because of your great strength your enemies shall bow before you.
3. "All the earth shall worship you, sing to you, sing praise to your name."
4. Come now and behold the works of God, how wonderful he is in his dealings with human kind.

5. He turned the sea into dry land; the river they passed through on foot; there we rejoiced in him.

6. In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations; let no rebel rise up against him.

7. Bless our God, O you peoples; make the voice of his praise to be heard,

8. Who holds our souls in life and suffers not our feet to slip.

9. For you, O God, have proved us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

10. You brought us into the snare; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

11. You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; but you brought us out into a place of liberty.

12. I will come into your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows, which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

13. I will offer you fat burnt sacrifices with the smoke of rams; I will sacrifice oxen and goats.

14. Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he has done for my soul.

15. I called out to him with my mouth and his praise was on my tongue.

16. If I had nursed evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me,

17. But in truth God has heard me; he has heeded the voice of my prayer.

18. Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld his loving mercy from me.

From the registers

As there are no weddings or baptisms to announce, The Parishes' Paper is pleased to now include births and engagements in this section. Please send your messages to martingnunns@gmail.com

Funerals

Denise Elizabeth Gould, burial of at Dalwood Church on March 31st 2020

Jean Fry, burial of ashes at Yacombe on June 27th 2020 following the cremation that took place at Taunton Deane on May 12th

Betty Richards, of Kilmington, passed away on June 16th 2020. Funeral will take place on July 3rd, at 2.30pm at St Giles's Church for family only at the graveside. If any friends and villagers want to gather near the church, that would be much appreciated by Betty's family.

Bible readings July 2020

Date	OT Readings	NT Readings
Sun 5 [G] Trinity 4 [Proper 9]	Gen: 24:34-38,42-49,58-End Ps: 45:10-End	Rom: 7:15-25a Matt: 11:16-19,25-End
Sun 12 [G] Trinity 5 [Proper 10]	Gen: 25:19-End Ps: 119:105-112	Rom: 8:1-11 Matt: 13:1-9,18-23
Sun 19 [G] Trinity 6 [Proper 11]	Gen: 28:10-19a Ps: 139:1-11,23-24 or [139:1-11]	Rom: 8:12-25 Matt: 13:24-30,36-43
Sun 26 [G] Trinity 7 [Proper 12]	Gen: 29:15-28 Ps: 105:1-11,45b or [105:1-11]	Rom: 8:26-39 Matt: 13:31-33,44-52

Rosie, 14, gets creative selling masks for NHS



ROSIE Holgate, of Heathstock, has made over 115 masks with proceeds going to the NHS



By Kate Williams

A STOCKLAND teenager has been getting creative during lockdown, making and selling face masks with proceeds going to charity.

Rosie Holgate, 14, of Heathstock, has been sewing the masks since May 18th with all profits going towards the NHS.

The Woodroffe School pupil explains: "I've been doing craft stalls for charity since I was nine and I was hoping this year would be a big year for them.

"However, this hasn't worked out with the coronavirus pandemic. So instead, I was trying to look for good ideas to keep me busy. I

found a tutorial on YouTube of how to make a face mask and edited it slightly to work for me. I then had the idea of selling them, like I would normally on my stalls, and have now been making and selling masks for a month.

"I have made and sold over 115 masks!

"I can now make a mask in no more than 20 minutes and I know the steps completely off by heart.

"Some people have given me bits off fabric that they had spare, but most of the fabric I am using is either ordered online or what I had already.

"I am selling my masks for £4 each, all profit going to the NHS.

"I am super happy that I can contribute and get involved in the



coronavirus effort.

"Thank you so much to those who have supported me."

If you would like to order a mask, please call 07771 786610. Rosie can also send photos of fabric choices to mobile phones.



Helen's lockdown snuggle quilt will remind her of her late mum

By Kate Williams

LOCKDOWN has provided time for people countrywide to make and do things they usually can't get done.

Dalwood resident Helen Turner has done just this by making a stunning quilt, pictured, to remind her of her late mother.

Helen, of Danes Hill, says: "It was mostly quilted from fabrics I had in the draw for years.

"An old sheet from my Mum's and the backing fabric was from a curtain from my Mum's, who we lost last year.

"The size is just right for snuggling under on the settee on a cold winter's night. I will feel like she is cuddling me!"

Heaven's Grocery Store poem is apt for this current situation

By Margaret Hagon

WITH many shops reopening today amidst a turbulent and anxious time, I suddenly remembered a poem I first heard on a cruise ship several years ago.

I attended the Sunday service conducted by the captain and the resident ship's chaplain.

During the service, the chaplain read out the following poem and everyone was visibly moved and affected by it.

In such times as we are experiencing now, I personally find it of great comfort.

Heaven's Grocery Store

As I was walking down life's highway, many years ago, I came upon a sign that read, Heaven's Grocery Store...

When I got a little closer, the doors swung open wide and I soon found myself standing inside.

I saw a host of angels. They were standing everywhere. One handed me a basket and said, "My Child, shop with care..."

Everything a human needed was in that grocery store. What you could not carry, you could come back later for.

First I got some Patience. Love was in that same row. Further down was Understanding. You need that everywhere you go.

I got a box or two of Wisdom, and Faith a bag or two, and Charity - of course - I would need some of that, too.

I couldn't miss the Holy Ghost; it was all over the place. Then some Strength and Courage to help me run this race.

My basket was getting full!

Then I remembered I needed

Grace. I chose Salvation for salvation was for free. I tried to get enough of that to do for you and me.

Then I started to the counter to pay my grocery bill. I thought I had everything to do the Master's Will.

As I went up the aisle I saw Prayer and put that in, for I knew when I stepped outside I would run into sin.

Peace and Joy were plentiful, the last things on the shelf. Song and Praise were hanging near, so I just helped myself.

Then I said to the angel, "Now, how much do I owe?"

He smiled and said, "Just take them everywhere you go."

Again I asked, "Really now, how much do I owe?"

"My child," he said, "God paid your bill a long, long time ago."

Anonymous



THIS 'deer' little thing was spotted by Steve Mackenney in Dalwood recently., skipping about the Five Alive countryside

Uplifting prayers online



A FEW weeks ago, Exeter Diocese set up a Zoom prayer room as part of Thy Kingdom Come and had 240 hours of continuous prayer ending on Pentecost Sunday.

A few of us in the Five Alive Mission booked two prayer sessions and met on Zoom for two-hour slots. We shared prayers and thoughts together and it was really encouraging to see each other and pray together.

People from all over Exeter

Diocese took part and it was amazing that all the prayer slots were filled.

The three bishops and the four archdeacons booked several sessions mostly the ones through the night! Many people found the time uplifting and encouraging during this 'lockdown' when people have felt isolated at times.

Thank you to all who took part and for sharing prayers and thoughts.

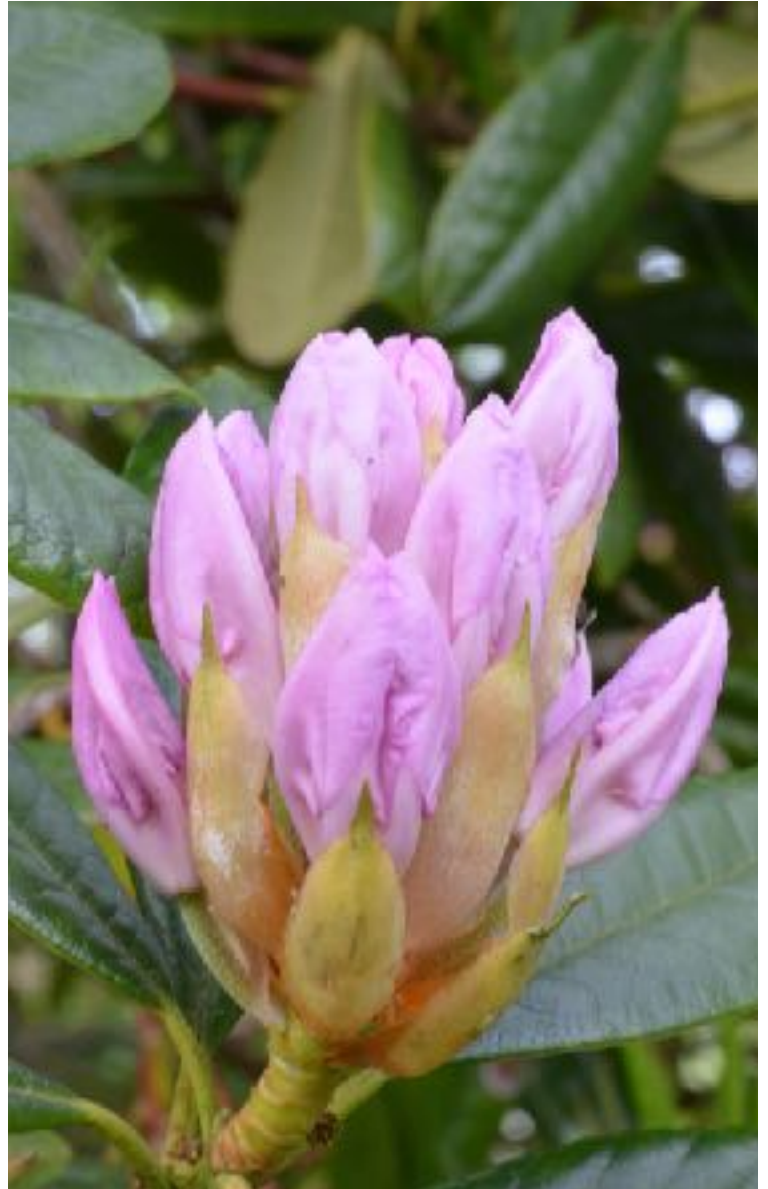
Anna Crabbe

Send your lockdown news to the editor by July 12th
kate.williams5@icloud.com

PARISHES IN PICTURES

OUR resident photographer, Tim Phillips, whose images often grace the magazine's front pages - including this very issue - has sent in a collection of his stunning pictures.

This selection of artistry shows off his talents as well as the beautiful Five Alive countryside.



DELAY IN DUBAI

AFTER leaving East Devon on November 1st last year, we took six weeks to travel and visit friends within the UK and spent four weeks in Cornwall preparing the first draft of a book on the Healing Prayer Group, hosted by my Aunt Emma in Flushing, near Falmouth.

As we were invited to spend Christmas and New Year in Hong Kong, we decided to leave a few days earlier and have a stopover for three days in Dubai. Very kindly, Anthony and Morgan Arnott - married in Dalwood December 2018 - loaned us their villa in Arabian Ranches, a gated community around 40 minutes West of Dubai airport. Tessie, their Filipino maid was also there to care for us and we took turns in walking the dog, Beau.

There is so much to see and visit in Dubai and just a few days to do so.

Therefore we found the Dubai Miracle Garden to visit nearby and took Tessie there also which was a real treat for her. It was 4pm in the afternoon and the place was packed with whole families having photo-shoots amongst all of the amazing horticultural features, blended with some Disney characters - giant size and full of flowers.

We saw a tea set, saxophone trumpets, kangaroos, a decorated Emirates plane, good use of elevations, coloured umbrellas, water features and revolving characters. This visit made Tessie's day and she helped by taking some photos for us also.

On our second full day, I drove in our hire car all the way from Dubai to Abu Dhabi on the motorways - sometimes eight lanes! We passed Jebel Ali where there is an Anglican church and Yas Island where the Ferrari Centre is based - Abu Dhabi Grand Prix - and eventually reached the Louvre Museum in Abu Dhabi.

There, we met up with Gill Nisbet, one of the priests at St Andrew's Church, who had a season ticket, which also gives her access to the Louvre, Paris! This museum has been open about three years and is



SIMON and Pauline Holloway at Dubai Miracle Garden in December 2019

located on an Island connected to the main tourist area. Pauline remarked that it felt like being in a spaceship, when we were waiting for our lunch.

We visited a special exhibition all about luxury through the ages and through the different cultures. The final exhibit was an hourglass and reminded us that we each have the same luxury of time.

After this visit, we went on to the British Club for lunch and a brief tour. This is one of the oldest such ex-colonial clubs in the world. After the club, we found our way to St Andrew's Church and met up with Canon Andy Thompson, the senior pastor.

We had a personal tour of the church compound which is home for 65-70 congregations of various nationalities and flavours of church. The Catholic church however, has a separate compound next door and there is a mosque dedicated to Mary the Mother of Jesus also on the same block.

Andy is a celebrated writer on spiritual matters and the history of

the church in the UAE and we were given a copy of his latest book on the history of the church in Oman. His book Jesus of Arabia has been translated into Arabic and is now a main textbook for trainee Imams all over the Middle East - search for a copy on Amazon.

Fridays in the UAE are a day off as they are in all Muslim countries and so we went to Holy Trinity Church, Dubai, not far from the Shard, for their morning Eucharist at 10.30am on Friday and Tessie joined us.

Most Filipinos are Catholic, but many are very happy to join Anglican churches also where they receive more biblical teaching.

We were greeted by Canon Harrison Chinakumar, the rector of Holy Trinity, which is twinned with the Deanery of Honiton as part of the link between the Dioceses of Exeter and Cyprus and the Gulf.

Just a month earlier, they had hosted Roger Jones and a team for a worship week with workshops on the Holy Spirit and a joint-choirs production of Rock - the story of

TRAVELLERS' TALES



ABOVE, Rev Harrison Chinakumar, with Rev Simon Holloway at Holy Trinity Dubai. Left, Rev Canon Andrew Thompson at St Andrew's Church in Abu Dhabi



Simon Peter and Cornelius (Acts 10).

There were familiar hymns, liturgy and a drama production by the youth group all about angels in the Christmas story. Rev Chinakumar spoke about Joseph from Matthews

1v18-25.

1. He chose Mercy over vengeance; He chose decency and compassion over Shame; 2. He decided to dismiss Mary quietly but a dream changed his mind 3. He supported Mary through pregnancy

and beyond. 4. Both Josephs - old and new testaments - stayed sexually pure. 5. Keep Joseph in the Holy Family picture. Dads are important!

On our flight home five weeks later, we again flew through Dubai and this time I watched a three-part documentary on Emirates television channel about the history of the Emirates, narrated by Jeremy Irons.

Camels, pearls, oil are the three main eras for this part of the world. After the British invaded these lands because their ships bound for the East Indies were being attacked by pirates, they stayed from 1819 until 1968 and the lands were known as the Trucial States, under British protection.

However, in the 1950s, oil was found offshore and then onshore and eventually the dream of the UAE was formed in December 1971, the vision of Sheikh Zayed, whose kindness and deep commitment to his Bedouin people were reciprocated. Bahrain and Qatar did not join the proposed Federal Union but the other nations did come together to form the United Arab Emirates.

There is wonderful harmony between faiths and religions in this area, which hosts large numbers of migrant workers who are Christian from India, Pakistani, South Korea, Philippines, Nigeria, South Africa and many other nations... even including a few Brits! At present the largest Protestant church in the Middle East is being built for the many migrant workers living in Abu Dhabi, which has grown from 400k to 2.5million in 40 years. It will seat up to 40,000 people.





DALWOOD NEWS

Parish correspondent Michael Dods - dr.michaeldods@btconnect.com

Parish distributor Susan Hunnisett – 01404 881268

Morris in lockdown: return to school - hand washing and Mrs Dewhurst's stick

By Morris McGowan, age 11

LAST week I went back to school. The first few days felt strange because we hadn't seen each other in over two months. Going back to school was a big change but it soon felt normal and fun.

Unfortunately, not everybody in my class has been able to return to school because some of them are vulnerable or have vulnerable family members so they are still shielding, we all miss them but they are still learning online at home.

We try and 'Zoom' chat online to catch up with them when we're out of school.

At school, the only real big change is staying apart from everyone else. It takes a bit of getting used to but, apart from the social distancing and not wearing school uniform, everything seems almost normal.

We get to school at 9am, wash

our hands then lessons begin. First, we read some books that the school have cleaned for us, do some literacy and then some maths... at the moment we are doing algebra. Then in the afternoon we get to do something fun like forest school, PE or art.

One of my classmates, Eliza, worked out if you add up the time every child in the year six 'bubble' spends washing their hands each school day it totals one hour and 26 minutes. However, another one of my classmates, Alice, came up with a faster, but still thorough, hand-washing system which we are trialling at the moment.

In PE we are mostly doing athletics - skipping, shot put, triple jump and sprint running. These are much easier to keep socially distanced in rather than team sports.

Sometimes, if we forget about social distancing and get too close,

Mrs Dewhurst comes round with the 'metre stick' to remind us - it's hilarious!

At School we stay in our bubbles all day, I am in the Year 6 bubble, there is also a Year 1 and reception bubble and a keyworker bubble.

When we are on the school field, the Year 6 bubble has the top half, then the keyworkers have the bottom left corner and the reception and Year 1 bubbles have the bottom right.

We can no longer have our lunch in the new classroom so we all bring packed lunches and eat them on the field. I'm really enjoying being back at school, it is so much fun, especially now I can see some of my friends again.

So that sums up school during coronavirus really - its lots and lots and lots of hand washing, less children than usual, a packed lunch and social distancing ...but it is still fun!

Big 'thank you' to all who donated linen for carers

A BIG 'thank you' to all those who kindly donated pillowcases and other bed linen to be made into laundry bags for carers.

The Musbury group has been able to donate over 600 laundry bags to those who need them.

The appeal has now closed.

Caroline Nunns



The PARISHES' LOCKDOWN

To keep the Five Alive community thriving, we want to hear from our readers. You can email your contributions to your parish correspondents or direct to the editor - see page 31 for contact details

DALWOOD NEWS

Team Tuckers extends huge thanks to supporters as pub prepares to reopen

By Kate Williams

STAFF at Dalwood's Tuckers Arms - known locally as 'team Tuckers' - would like to extend their thanks, once again, to supports who have helped the pub stay afloat during the recent coronavirus pandemic.

Many businesses, locally and across the country, have felt the wrath of financial difficulties the current situation has made, particularly in the hospitality industry.

Tracey and Craig McGowan, Beverley and the Tuckers Arms

team would like to say "a huge thank you" to all those who have stood by them and the business.

Tracey says: "[We] would like to say a huge thank you to everybody who has supported us throughout the last few months, particularly Dalwood Community Shop for allowing us to advertise our takeaway service with them.

"Hopefully, by the time this [issue of] *The Parishes' Paper* is printed, it will be time for us to start welcoming you back into the pub.

"The local community have been astonishing in their support of the pub, ordering takeaways to keep the local pub going. Without you all, the

pub wouldn't have been able to survive and we really appreciate each and every one of you.

"We can't wait to get our wonderful team of staff back into action and show you all the new additions we've made in the pub whilst we've been closed, please keep an eye on Facebook and local noticeboards to find out more details about our new 'Covid secure' measures and how book tables.

"For those of you that still require a takeaway service once the pub has reopened, we will be happy to help with that please telephone us on 01404 881342 for details.

"Thank you once again!"



BURROW FARM GARDENS

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INCLUDING TEA ROOM, NURSERY AND TOILETS

NO NEED TO BOOK AHEAD BUT PLEASE ALWAYS MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING

OPEN DAILY FROM 10AM - 5PM

DALWOOD, AXMINSTER, EX13 7ET

Dalwood Village Hall Trust and Dalwood Recreation Trust need a volunteer ...

Have you some spare time? Would you like to help our charities?

The Village Hall Trust reg. charity no:300809

and Dalwood Recreation Trust reg charity no:1148103

are looking for a volunteer **BOOKING SECRETARY**

Our current booking secretary is stepping down after many years in the post. She has kindly said that she will hand over all the information and details that you would need.

The booking secretary role in brief:

- ✚ Takes the bookings and enquires for both the Hall and the Jubilee Pavilion and Field
- ✚ Receive any booking fees that are not paid in by BACS
- ✚ Liaises with the treasurer of both the Hall and the DRT (the same person currently holds this post for both charities)
- ✚ Has the full support of both boards of Trustees

Interested?

Want to know more?

Please contact Shelagh Fearnley

Chair of Village Hall Trust and Dalwood Recreation Trust

Email bsfearnley@icloud.com

Tel 01404 881193

Or have a chat with any trustee you know... thank you

Stay safe and well

DALWOOD NEWS

An impressive cacti collection

By Michael Dods

I STARTED collecting cacti, and other succulent plants, in the 1950s when I was about nine years old.

Once a week, my godmother would take me out in her Austin A30 Devon around south-east Essex and I remember we frequently saw small country bungalows with signs outside saying 'cacti for sale' - for two shillings and sixpence I could buy quite an impressive plant! Several of these original plants I still have and I suspect many of them are older than me!

As I became more obsessed and knowledgeable about cacti and old world (eg African) succulents, my collection expanded and my parents allowed me to extend my collection into their second greenhouse. I also started to grow some species from

seed, although this is a relatively slow process.

On one occasion, in the 1960s, I went on holiday to the Canary Islands and obtained a short-term import license from Customs and Excise so that I could collect and bring back some species of succulents that are indigenous to the Canary Islands. I also purchased a packet of five seeds of the dragon tree, *dracaena draco*. Not strictly a succulent, but the largest specimen in Tenerife (called El Drago Milenario - the thousand-year-old dragon) is growing at Icod de los Vinos in north-west Tenerife and is the oldest living plant of this species. Its age was estimated in 1975 to be around 250 years. I still have a pair of these plants that I grew from these seeds so my plants are 50 years old!

When Wendy and I moved to Dalwood 14 years ago, I rented a

van to transport my collection and dismantled, transported and rebuilt my greenhouse to accommodate them. They are not the easiest of plants to transport and several thick pairs of gloves are essential.

Some of my cacti that are growing in the ground have reached the roof of the greenhouse and I have had to amputate three or four large plants. Fortunately, they are very tolerant and will re-root quite easily.

I would love to hear from anyone in the Five Alive area who share my interest and would be more than happy for anyone to call in and see my collection. I am beginning to think it needs thinning down so would also be happy to part with some unwanted or duplicate specimens in exchange for a small donation which I will give to St Peter's Church, Dalwood.

Please contact me by phone on 01404 831208.



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 tel: 01404 881401

SHOP OPENING TIMES

Monday- Friday: 8.30am - 6.00pm

Saturday: 8.30am - 4.00pm

Sunday: 8.30am - 12.30pm

POST OFFICE opening times

3 mornings a week

MONDAY: 9.00-11.30am

TUESDAY: 9.00-11.30am

THURSDAY: 9.00-11.30am

Covid -19 has made us all wash our hands more, sanitise and deep clean our homes

We have lots of cleaning products and sanitisers to help ... come in and have a look





KILMINGSTON NEWS

Parish correspondent - Michael Tyler - mwtyler2@googlemail.com

Parish distributor - Alun Evans 01297 353585

National livestreaming of our church services

By Darrell Holmes

BACK in March, we started livestreaming a Sunday service for the congregations of St Giles and The Baptist Church, Kilmingston.

Being produced at The Beacon featuring myself, senior pastor Darrell Holmes, pictured, aided with technical assistance by my son, Jed, with contributions from associate pastor Mike Hudson at his home, we also include many other contributors of songs, bible readings, prayers and testimonies.

We now have a following of possibly as many as 500 people viewing these on Facebook, Youtube and on the baptist church website. We even produce DVDs for those who are not online. These people are clearly viewing now only from local homes, but across the South West, England, Scotland and around the world. Our services all this year have been focussing on the gospel of Mark under the title Knowing Jesus, which has been a

fantastic God-incidence as we are sure that many have been getting to know him far better through these services.

It has become apparent that many people are now enabled to join with us in worship, even those who cannot or would not normally attend a church service. Distance, health and transport is no longer a barrier.

We have people joining in the service from their sofa, their bed, their office and even their garden. It is for this reason that we are investing in equipment and planning which will enable us to continue live-streaming services long after the lockdown restrictions have been lifted. We have encouraged those who appreciate these services to share the link with friends and family and so it has spread like wildfire.

So we have discovered yet another blessing of the virus - whilst acknowledging there are many destructive outcomes - in the purposes of God.

The congregations of St Giles and The Baptist Church, Kilmingston, might have numbered a maximum



of around 150 people on any given Sunday in the past, but now it has grown to over three times that amount. If you haven't found our services, just search for Beacon Life on Facebook or YouTube.

Or visit our website at www.beaconbaptist.co.uk. You could even contact us and ask for us to send you a DVD of our latest services.

The PARISHES' LOCKDOWN

To keep the Five Alive community thriving during the coronavirus pandemic, we want to hear from our readers

What is keeping you busy during lockdown? - Send us your photos
Send in your 'thank you' letters - Let us know what's happening in your parish

You can email your contributions to your parish correspondents or direct to the editor - see page 31 for contact details



STOCKLAND NEWS

Parish correspondent - Gill Metcalfe gilldog12@gmail.com

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CASCADES OF COLOUR



By Philippa Wilks

LOCAL gardeners seem to have risen to the challenge of the enforced 'lockdown'.

Gardens have become works of art as hands have been turned lovingly into devoting their hours into sheer floral beauty.

The example of Newlands' garden

reiterates this local investment. So many gardens are full of breathtaking colour; a sheer pleasure and certainly somewhere to enjoy in otherwise uncertain moments.

Last year's Open Garden Event in Stockland demonstrated the spectacular efforts achieved in the parish; such praise and pleasure were clearly derived from seeing what had been achieved.

A placard (anon) once seen at a garden show offers a salutary reminder: 'When all else fails, there is always the garden.'

There is little doubt that there are many such vibrant gardens in the parish which could be enjoyed by magazine readers; please take the time to share them by emailing direct to the editor at kate.williams5@icloud.com.



THE legendary collie who chased cars through the village, barked warnings when strangers approached and ran free on the fields and pastures of Heathstock, died peacefully last month after a long, happy and eventful life.

Jimmy was a big collie; indeed, he may have looked frightening and a little intimidating to those meeting him for the first time, but to those who knew him, Jimmy was much loved as the ever-present hound who enriched our lives. He will be sadly missed.

So long to legendary Jimmy

Undoubtedly, there will be many recollections and fond memories from Heathstock locals of this indomitable hound. I recall one such of Jimmy's reaction on a usual perfunctory visit, when such was beset by a thunder storm.

Jimmy developed the habit of dropping in on Pauline and I in our garden. We purchased some dog treats that he would call down about twice a week to claim his reward; true to his nature he would only ever take one treat.

He would not take this from hand, it had to be placed on the floor in front of him. He would look you in the face, nod his head appreciatively, take the treat and trot back off up the drive.

On the day of the storm, Jimmy

was visiting us when a huge clap of thunder sounded. Fast as you like Jimmy was in the utility seeking to escape the thunder. The washing machine door was open. Jimmy placed his head into the washing machine to escape the storm where he remained cowering for the duration of the storm choosing only to extract his head from the machine and leave our utility when Nancy came to rescue him and take him home.

Such stories of our animal companions serve to remind of the pleasure that they bring into our lives. Whilst their loss brings sadness most have benefitted from the knowledge that their pet had a good and exciting life.

Colin Bentley

Thanking our farmers

By Gill Metcalfe

DURING this period, farmers have been seen to work on conservation issues.

For example, when the Cawleys's Shore Bottom property was sold in 2016 the old and diseased conifer woodstock was replaced with indigenous trees and hedges. Over a 1000 native hedge whips were introduced whilst one area of poor drainage was replanted with 40 ornamental willows to combat drainage issues, and to protect and enhance the landscape.

In order for the land to be used productively for grazing, temporary fences have been erected to safeguard the young plants surrounding the fields – hopefully reducing the need for the industrial made in the future. It is amazing how such work can generate so much physical and mechanical effort.

Tractors and large 'plunger' machinery were used to secure the fence posts.

Efforts like these to conserve and use the land are truly applaudable and again add to the nature of the entire parish; another 'thank you' to our local farmers.

● Whilst the gardeners have been using their newly-found time, the farmers too can be congratulated for their 'horticultural artistry'.

The first grass cut has taken place throughout the parish. It is strange to note the beauty of the cut grass as it falls into equally spaced parallel lines,



only later to be replaced by large rounds of hay or straw.

Recently, with the late evening sun, the remaining stalks of the cut grass have shone with a golden hue; gazing over the intricate and rewarding husbandry must surely evoke a sense of pride. Such makes it easy to understand why so many artists (van Gogh, Turner) used landscapes as those currently seen in Stockland as the focal point of their work.

Thanking the farmers for their artistry may seem unusual but it reflects on the ambience of the entire parish.

Gratitude to animal friends

MUCH has been written for this month's Stockland news - and last month's) - to say thank you.

Whilst such has been directed to individuals and to groups, Colin Bentley points out the thanks that we owe our animals whilst Amanda Thomkins (June issue) quite rightly thanks much of Stockland and praises the local businesses' compliance.

It is with these reminders that several of the local businesses are animal based and desperately need

our continued support and funding: local animal rescue and rehoming groups such as Ferne, the Donkey Sanctuary and Axe Valley Wildlife Park have faced massive cuts in their funding with their visitor incomes totally axed.

These, and similar local charitable groups, still need our vital support – it is important not to forget them.

A visit to these organisations after lockdown is lifted will clearly be so appreciated.

PAUSE FOR PRAYER

Let our hearts be filled with compassion for all living beings. Let us pray that all living beings realise they are our sisters and brothers, nourished from the same source of life.

Let us pray that we cease to be the cause of suffering to each other.

Let us plead with ourselves to live in a way which will not deprive others

of air, water, food and shelter, or the chance to live.

With humility, let us pray for peace in our hearts and on earth.

Amen.

Phillipa Wilks



Back to school for some kids

STOCKLAND Primary Academy opened up with a limited number of children returning on Monday, June 8th.

Learning is taking place outside where possible and hygiene rules are being carefully considered.

The school, for the time being, will remain open for reception, Years 1 and 2 and key worker children.

Staff are just now working out whether or not it is feasible to open up to the rest of the years.

By Alan Ash

STOCKLAND has always been - and hopefully will - remain an essentially rural parish, but it has not been unproductive and its industries, admittedly mostly 'cottage' but at times on a small factory scale, has been varied indeed.

These notes reflect on the growth of industry in Stockland's early days, recorded mostly during the 19th Century, a period during which there is some written account.

Around 10,000 years ago, when hunter-gathering was the way of life, tools were necessary and these were made from stone within the parish with the main sites being at Telegraph Cottage, Crandon's Cross and Aller Farm.

An excellent account of the 'finds' in Stockland appears in Bryan Drew's History of Stockland and Beyond. Throughout the Bronze Age and the Iron Age agriculture developed slowly with the emphasis on cattle and a roving lifestyle. Relics of iron smelting (scoria) have been found within the parish at several sites including at Millhayes Mill, where the author of these notes lived.

In medieval times the open field system of communities whose individuals farmed their own strip of land in co-operation with their neighbours, was widely adopted but there is some doubt as to how far this happened in East Devon, as it is now. The population was sparse and there was plenty of space for the individual to cultivate and graze. Furthermore, the purpose of the open field of a hundred acres or so, without hedges, was to allow uninterrupted ploughing with large draught teams owned by the community.

Such reasonably flat tracts of land were rare in east Devon and rarer still in Stockland. Farming with enclosed fields and settlements followed slowly and it was not until the turn of the 19th Century that all the land within the parish, with the exception of the 'turbary' became enclosed for agriculture. Enclosure was a gradual process everywhere and led to the taking over of the countryside that had not

The growth of village industry in early days

been developed by those who thought they had title to it from those otherwise un-landed persons who felt entitled by virtue of possession and use. The last enclosure award in Stockland was granted in 1807 when the remaining open acres of the parish were enclosed. Some settled parishioners were evicted but some allowed to stay. What the criteria were for these decisions is not known.

A good idea of the way of life in Stockland at the beginning of the 19th century can be gained from A General View of the Agriculture of the County of Devon by Charles Vancouver, first published - in America- in 1808. Although Stockland and Dalwood were part of Dorset at that time, and for another forty years or so, the surrounding parishes of Membury are included in the text. The book is a reprint of one of the surveys made for the Board of Agriculture and is remarkably detailed and well worth consulting. It is the inspiration if not the source of much of these notes, particularly the first half of the 19th Century for which there is little surviving documentation other than parish official paperwork and newspapers.

If industry is defined as the making or manufacture of goods or services in excess of your own needs followed by selling that excess at a profit, then the production of woollen cloth has to be the first industry to involve Stockland and is certainly the worst documented. In general, the industry flourished in Devonshire between 1768 and 1787, having started in the 13th Century, and



declined thereafter when it transferred to industrial Yorkshire.

There is just one mention of a 'lately built tucking mill' in 1778, which was Cor mill, but it is almost certain that Millhayes mill forsook corn for wool for a while.

The process of tucking, also known also as fulling, was to cleanse and thicken the woollen cloth, and it followed several manual processes. The untreated fleece from the sheep was first 'teased' to remove obvious dirt and rubbish, it was then 'combed' or 'carded' to separate the strands prior to 'spinning' which drew the strands into a single thread.

One wool comber could keep eight spinners fed with thread (Vancouver). This thread was then woven into a cloth which at this point was greasy, soiled and loosely woven; tucking then followed. On arrival at the mill, the cloth was first

STOCKLAND NEWS



cleansed in hot water with washing-soda and soap, primarily to remove grease. Then it was pounded mechanically in the mill with urine, fuller's earth -a light clay - and hot soapy water. Then it was washed and rinsed in clean water. When it left the tucking process it was sent for 'tentering' - drying and stretching on racks in the open air and this was followed by raising the nap with a teasel brush. It can be seen from this that the greater part of the process was manual and labour intensive and gave employment to local cottagers including the women.

In demand by this activity were clean hot water, soap, washing-soda, urine, and fuller's earth. Surface water in times of rainfall

would have been unsuitable so that an adequate spring or well was imperative.

An open wood fire could have provided the hot water but coal was available from South Wales by sea to Axmouth. Ashes from the wood fire would have provided soda ash, a substitute for manufactured washing soda and there was plenty of urine handy. The nearest source of genuine fuller's earth was Frome or further on, Bath. Whether there was a nearer substitute is not known. Soap was made in the parish. A soap-boiler named Martin Bending is mentioned in 1716 and when Harrison and Cory farm and Ridge farm were offered for sale in 1800, the tenant, Mr Stocker, was

described as a tallow chandler and soap maker. A chandler's trade was to make candles and both candles and soap were made from the same waste animal fats, the latter with the aid of caustic soda or the substitute soda-ash. Candles were the only form of lighting until the paraffin oil lamp became available after 1853, when it was invented, but it was not until 1878 that the proprietor of the village shop, John Collins, was granted a licence to sell 'Benzoline' and to store five gallons in a purpose built place thirty feet from the dwelling house, as was required by law. These simple wicked lamps gave a yellow flame similar but larger and safer than a candle and it was not until 1915 that any real light was thrown on the scene with the arrival of the pressurised Tilley mantled lamp. Electricity was not available in the more remote parts of the parish until the early 1950s.

The archives concerning Stockland - those which are catalogued and mostly seen - do not contain a single reference to a tucker except as a surname and there are plenty of those. But there are numerous references to clothiers from 1715, serge makers in 1771, and the end of Kerseymere production in 1800. Add to that the field names such as Woollen Meadow and Rack Close and insurance policies taken out on a textile mill by a neighbour of Millhayes mill in 1747 and 1777, suggests the use of the mill for wool processing, but there is a reluctance to admit it. Whatever the truth of the matter, it is certain that Cory mill, along with its Kerseymere manufacture was put to auction in 1800 and by 1840 those same mills, nearly new, were grist (grain) and flour mills. Earlier, in 1781, a baker bought Millhayes mill which saw the return of milling to Millhayes, if it ever left.

- *The Mill still stands today as a delightful detached property and, as might be expected is surrounded by water, from the beautiful ponds high above holding back the water to the Mill race which then cascades down steep steps underneath the house exiting at force where the wheel would have stood, re-joining the tail at this point.*



SHUTE NEWS

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New novel 'bestseller' for local author Paddy

By Bijan Omrani

SHUTE resident and crime novelist Paddy Magrane recently released his latest novel which was an instant hit, being hailed a bestseller online.

Conspiracy thriller *Red Desert* rose to the top 100 of the Amazon Audiobooks bestsellers table, pleasing those who are fans of Jack Reacher, Jason Bourne and Homeland.

Desperate to escape the past, the lead character, Tom, swaps a safe life in London for a spell in the desert of Iraq, providing therapy to the staff of an isolated oil concession. But his new job quickly becomes dangerous, especially when he starts to ask too many questions about a series of deaths.

A lethal attack on the camp sends him back to the UK, but he's determined to keep investigating. Iraq is coming home with him, in more ways than one.

The first reviews of Red Desert on Amazon speak in glowing terms about a high-octane, rollercoaster ride thriller, which seems very different to life in peaceful Shute. Does it feel incongruous to write about such things here?

Not so much incongruous as a necessary escape! I love living here but I'm also very fond of travel, particularly in the Middle East, so I was keen to set a thriller there, at least in part. A local friend has spent years working for an oil company in the arid south of Iraq.

In addition to being one of the world's largest untapped reserves of oil, the desert is also littered with lethal unexploded ordnance from both Gulf wars – mines left by the Iraqis and cluster bombs the allies



LOCAL writer Paddy Magrane, whose new novel *Red Desert* has hit the top 100 of the Amazon Audiobooks bestsellers list

dropped that failed to detonate. The more he talked about his work there and the extraordinary risks he and his colleagues were willing to tolerate, the more I thought the setting would be perfect for a thriller. Throw in a killer and some unexplained deaths and I knew I had the makings of a really exciting story.

Your previous books have featured a therapist. Why the interest?

Yes, I've written a couple of thrillers - *Disorder and Denial* - which feature a character who shares some of the same traits as Tom, *Red Desert's* protagonist.

A version of him has been in my mind for years. But I'm also a therapist myself so this is definitely an example of an author writing what they know. I think a shrink makes for a really interesting

protagonist in a thriller, a genre in which the hero is normally defined by his physical skillset.

Tom, it's fair to say, is not great with his fists but he is good at seeing the world through a therapeutic lens and, when cornered, using his therapeutic insight to find a solution.

Have you got another book under way and will it be exploring similar themes to *Red Desert*?

I'm very fond of Tom and already have the outline of a new thriller – one involving refugees and dark establishment figures. But for now, I'm concentrating on a crime thriller set in Essex in 1953, when a storm surge overcame the east coast.

The parallels between then and now – of nature hitting with terrible force and a renewed sense of collaboration and community emerging – have been striking.

SHUTE NEWS

LOCKDOWN LISTENING

By Bijan Omrani

SHUTE resident and international composer, organist and choirmaster Peter Lea-Cox trained at the Royal Academy of Music and is well-known in the South West for leading local choirs, including the Shute Plainsong Choir.

Peter shares his tips for getting into classical and choral music during lockdown

What did your school do to inspire a love of music in you?

Singing was everywhere in my youth, and it wasn't just in the schools. There was singing in the community, with folk songs. Most households owned a piano around which people would gather to sing together. Everyone sang in schools.

At primary school we had a community song book with traditional songs: The Grand old Duke of York; Hearts of Oak are our Ships; Marching through Georgia; O My Darling Clementine. Every assembly had its hymn. The standard of singing or music-making was not the issue: everyone joined in, and general knowledge of music and an appreciation of it was assimilated. However, real musical talent was gently fostered by this, and the results were manifest in amateur choirs in church and town, chamber music and local orchestras.

At Oundle School, where I was an assistant music master from 1967 to 1972, there was a tradition started by the first headmaster back in the 1920s where each year the entire school took part in what was called 'The Whole School Work'. Everyone joined together to sing a great choral work. Believe it or not, initially this was the Bach B Minor Mass! However, as time went on, other works were added and the B Minor Mass was phased out. The best way of introducing people to classical music is through live performance. This has various disincentives: a) You have to go out to attend - not possible during this shutdown; b)

You have to pay to get in or get out; c) The standard of amateur performance is not always a good selling point for a new listener; and d) There is a sort of elitist overtone about the whole occasion – a typically English reaction! Despite all of this, I have seen the powerful effect of live music when giving house concerts here in Umborne: To be able to watch what an organist has to get up to adds enormously to the enjoyment. The actual musical content then becomes of less importance to the involvement of the listener, although you might argue that this is not the point of this exercise.

As you have said, we can't get to live concerts during the lockdown. Can the radio, YouTube, and other online media, be a substitute for live concerts when trying to get an appreciation of a new type of music? Might it even be better?

Familiarity makes for popularity. I remember my schooldays being filled with the sounds of Radio Luxembourg. My companions would listen to the pop songs which would slowly make their way up the charts. At first, comments would be "Oh, I don't like that," but after a few days of repetitive listening, they came to like the song. All this is much more difficult when it comes to classical music. A mild solution comes with listening to Classic FM. Here, extracts of more popular pieces of classical music are played quite frequently, and listeners are asked to submit their favourite pieces which are played, like the pop charts, in order of popularity.

Can you recommend some early or choral works for people who want to try listening to this repertoire for the first time? What should they listen for, and are there big ideas or stories to go with them?

One could start with pieces that have a memorable melody or a memorable refrain. There are many things to choose from: the folk song revival that was cultivated by Cecil

Sharp and Vaughan Williams, and also Gallery Church Choir music all have their roots in the past.

Or, try listening to the repertoire of the second half of the Last Night of the Proms: Pomp and Circumstance by Edward Elgar, Chanson de Matin, or Rule Britannia by Thomas Arne. Also Try Handel: Water Music (instrumental): Where e'er You Walk (vocal); or go for big sounds such as Toccata and Fugue for organ by J.S. Bach. There are also wedding favourites: The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba by Handel. For something bright, try Vivaldi's Four Seasons.

There can be a lot of history behind early and classical music. Does it matter if we don't know this history when we try to start out in a journey of appreciation of this music?

It isn't necessarily important to be fully briefed on the historical background. However, sometimes a work with its association is a useful plus: Zadok the Priest, by Handel, for example, was first written for the Coronation of George II, and Walton's Crown Imperial March for that of George VI. It becomes rather like getting to know London by tube: how do the stations tie up with what is surrounding them? You get to know the names of the stations, but it only becomes relevant when you get out and walk between them.

Some people might say early music or classical music isn't for them, because it is "elitist" or old – what response would you give to encourage people to think differently?

Classical music has drifted away from popular music over the centuries as the art form has developed. Aside from the church repertoire, instrumental music was music to dance to; but then much that remains is courtly music, and therefore not the people's music which was and still is to a certain extent passed on aurally: Irish pub music for example. However, it is important not to be put off by this historical split between courtly music and the music of the people!

SHUTE NEWS

Festival donates £300 funding

By Bijan Omrani

SHUTE Festival, which has recently donated funds to Axminster Food Bank and Shute Community Primary School, has delivered online events over the course of June and will continue during July.

The historian, poet, and traveller, James Crowden – a local resident and historian of cider – spoke to an audience of over 100 on his time living in an isolated Himalayan village in 1976 and his recent acclaimed book on the subject, *The Frozen River: Seeking Silence in the Himalaya*.

Other June events included Sunday Times chief foreign correspondent Christina Lamb in conversation with Samantha Knights on her new book, *Our Bodies, Their Battlefield*, about the impact of war on women around the world.

July will see two further online events, both with a travel theme. On Thursday, July 9th at 6pm, best-selling and award-winning local

author Robert Twigger will be speaking on his new book, *Walking the Great North Line: From Stonehenge to Lindisfarne to Discover the Mysteries of Our Ancient Past*.

On Thursday, July 30th, again at 6pm, Peter Fiennes will be in conversation about his recent book *Footnotes: A Journey Round Britain in the Company of Great Writers*.

Online attendance at the talks is free. To register, please visit the Shute Festival website - www.shutefest.org.uk/programme - where full details are given for registration. You can also join the mailing list by emailing shutefest@gmail.com for further details.

Festival organisers are grateful for private donations which have enabled them to make a donation of £150 to Axminster Food Bank, and £150 to Shute Community Primary School.

Donations also enable the festival to be kept free for everyone, and online.

If anyone would like to make a



LOCAL author Robert Twigger will speak of his new book on July 9th

donation, which are much appreciated within the community, please visit the web-page www.shutefest.org.uk/tickets-donate--contact.



WHITFORD NEWS

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Edward raises gloomy spirits as he plays piano outside village hall for passers-by

WHEN all seems gloomy and the mood is low, music is one medium that can raise the spirits.

It is with this object in mind that Edward Jacobs, a Whitford resident, came up with a plan.

As a professional musician, teacher and musical director of local choirs, he decided that he could contribute a special performance outside the village hall.

The piano was hauled out of 'retirement' in the hall and placed outside the entrance. From this position he was able to keep himself

and those passing at a safe distance. During 30-minute sessions he played for anyone walking by who cared to listen and enjoy his performance on the keyboard.

Each session had its own theme including such choices as romantic melodies, jazz, ragtime, wartime and music from the shows.

Edward, missing his weekly performances to a live audience, dressed up for the part, and some with eagle eyes noted that he changed his tie to reflect each session!

The evening selection truly came to life with the addition of twinkly lights which Matthew Wallace mounted at the hall entrance. 'Stella by starlight' sparkled in the surrounding darkness.

His mission was successfully accomplished at a point in lockdown where one day seemed very much like another. This event proved to be a very welcome oasis and certainly provided a lot of people with a great deal of pleasure.

Chris Bonny
Whitford Village Hall



YARCOMBE NEWS

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Vigilant and helpful villagers and John Salter award given

By Lesley Sutton

THERE is not much to report from Yarcombe at present - everybody seems to be complying with the government's instructions and are pleased that the dreaded virus has been kept at bay.

Delivery vans are buzzing around as it now seems more possible to arrange a slot from the supermarkets. Some are relying on 'click and collect' and visits have been made to either Chard or Honiton for supplies by the brave.

Judith David and Kayleigh Johns are arranging help for those still under strict instructions to stay at home. The helpfulness of the local shops has encouraged their usage and hopefully this will continue when some form of normality returns.

The only excitement has been a couple of visits from the police and the abandonment of a car outside the Lych Gate. Things that may well have gone unnoticed if those who

live in the village centre had not had the time to be vigilant.

There is still a good deal of daily walking by many in the community. Those taking to the footpaths please advise the wardens if any problems are encountered.

The painted stones, originally left by Angela Clement, have multiplied as others, especially the children, have been using their imagination and these little splashes of colour are appearing on walls, bridges and stiles all around the village.

Plants are also still being left at the Post Office, together with masks and other items of use.

Perhaps vegetables will soon be harvested and offered around, as the welcome rain has brought on much growth and gardens are burgeoning again.

The village is grateful to Churchinford Village Shop and Post Office for re-opening and manning our sub-post office facility on Tuesday mornings.

The possibility of up to six people

being able to meet up in gardens has meant that some have been able to meet up and enjoy coffees and teas, keeping a social distance and using hand sanitiser, during the fine dry weather that we have been experiencing.

The churchyard grass cutting teams have kept to their timetables and everything looks very smart. The PCC will decide whether the church is to be opened and on what basis and key holders await their decision.

Yarcombe Parish Council has held its virtual annual meeting and, due to current circumstances, all councillors will hold their present positions for a further year.

The John Salter Memorial Prize has been awarded to Saffron Doble and her mother, Jan, for their outstanding public service to the community, tidying litter and rubbish from pathways, lanes and hedgerows on a regular basis in all weathers. We all congratulate them and thank them for their dedication.

YARCOMBE WEATHER MAY 2020

	2020	2019	2018
Average Max. temperature	20.2°C	15.8°C	20.5°C
Average Min.	7.0°C	7.8°C	9.0°C
Average Overall temperature	13.6°C	11.8°C	14.8°C
Rainfall	8.0mm	30.0mm	32.9 mm
Wettest Day	5th 3.2mm	7th 15.5 mm	1st 11.2 mm
Sunniest Day	8th 15.0 hrs approx	14th 15.0 hrs	28th 15 hrs
Warmest Day	31st 24.9°C	25th 19.7°C	28th 27.6°C
Coldest Night	12th -0.3°C	6th 2.4°C	1st 1.9°C
Sunshine hours	290 hours approx	220hrs	229 hrs

Since the March 23rd, the sun came out most days, which helped us to feel better during the lockdown. In fact we have enjoyed the sunniest spring since the Met Office records began in 1929. Although the sun shone so much during May the cool East winds kept the temperature down. We now need some rain to help the plants grow and green up the grass.

Tony Newman

Please stay in touch by telling us how you are spending your lockdown days
Contact your Yarcombe correspondent, Lesley Sutton, by email: rovingstutton@btinternet.com

A WORLD AWAY

NEW Zealanders and their visitors enjoy all types of sports and each town can be known for its own specific extreme sport.

The amazing hikes into the bush on some of the trails, speed boating down rocky ravines, wind surfing, bungee jumping, paragliding, iron man competitions, abseiling down the Sky Tower or other perilous cliffs or buildings, they seem to spend their lives jumping off things.

The All Blacks, their eternal sporting heroes, are lauded everywhere and should they lose, the country goes into mourning. I have been fortunate enough to see the Black Caps play a couple of international cricket matches at Eden Park when the massive scoreboards are greeted with partisan storms of approval when a '6', '4' or wicket is displayed.

As is the norm, my grandchildren spend their weekends and after-school time being ferried to football, cricket, hockey, touch-rugby, tennis, netball, swimming, gymnastics, climbing, or ballet, often on the same day. It is a good job that tights are worn for ballet as they cover the massive bruises on my granddaughter's legs, she is a vicious hockey player!

My son-in-law is an arborist and trees in the garden are festooned with ropes for them to scale and swing from.

They also attend the local primary school where they are fortunate enough to have a swimming pool which is used by all every day and sometimes twice as the older children mentor the little ones. No child is allowed outside without a hat at playtime due to the penetration of the sunlight because of the hole in the ozone layer. On a Friday afternoon, they have an assembly 'Whanau time', to which parents and friends are invited, which starts with everyone standing up to sing along - with video assistance - to the national anthem, first in Maori and

then in English. Each class explains what they have learnt during the week and certificates are awarded for good behaviour or excellent work and each session is chaired by two pupils.

They learn Maori as part of their



lessons and their teachers are known as 'Whaua Becky', 'Whaua Kim' - their Christian names - in Maori style. They also learn to speak Maori. They learn to spell by rote, an amazing collection of 30-40 words a page taken from a booklet starting with A and ending with Z as they rise through the classes, which they are tested on weekly. Whether they know the meaning of the words I am unsure.

It is quite normal for both children and adults to walk around the streets barefoot and we spend a lot of time trying to find the children's shoes when they are required to

wear them. It is also customary to take off your shoes when entering someone's home.

They drink a lot of coffee and there is an abundance of cake shops and cafes serving the masses. There are very few of what we would call pubs but lots of restaurants which serve beer and alcohol and, of course, meals with menus from all over the world. Midmorning, when we would perhaps have 'elevenses', they have morning tea.

Work usually starts at 8am with a half-hour lunch break and school starts at 8.30am and finishes at 2.30pm. Children in some of the more remote areas of both islands board out during the week in towns and only go home at weekends or holidays. I spent one Christmas near Gisborne on a farmstead which was an hour's journey to a main road, so going to town was a major expedition, you don't need to forget to buy something.

The population is so very diverse but all rubbing along together, immigrants and native New Zealanders. Some of my daughter's friends have met their partners from all over the world during their 'gap year' and there is an influx of English grandmas - usually during January or February - the winter months in the Northern Hemisphere.

They seem to live a life quite apart from the rest of the world and TV programmes are generally imported from the BBC, their own shows very down-to-earth and unsophisticated.

Adverts are very basic, shouting seems to be the way to make people listen, not the subtle amusing pictures that we experience. There is very little about world news and I often think as I leave Auckland Airport on the way home that the rest of the world could have gone up in smoke and disappeared - perhaps this year it would have been a good idea!

PARISH RECIPE

OLLIE'S BURGERS by Ollie Drew, age 13

ENJOY A HOMEMADE BURGER

Ingredients:

500gm 10 per cent fat beef mince
Large onion - chopped small
Mixed herbs to taste
Salt and pepper to taste
1 garlic clove - crushed

4 burger baps

Additions: sliced tomatoes
lettuce
cheese slices (optional)
onion rings (optional)

Method:

- Wash your hands and mix all the ingredients together using your hands. If the mixture will not bind add a beaten egg.
- Divide into four and mould each quarter into a burger shape.
- Cook in a non-stick pan over a medium heat, turning frequently until cooked through.
- Cook onion rings.
- Fill each bap with a burger and the extras, hold together with a wooden skewer and serve with oven chips.
- Enjoy!



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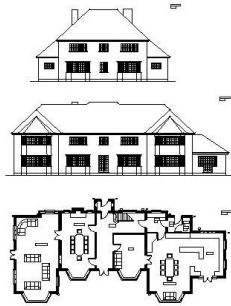
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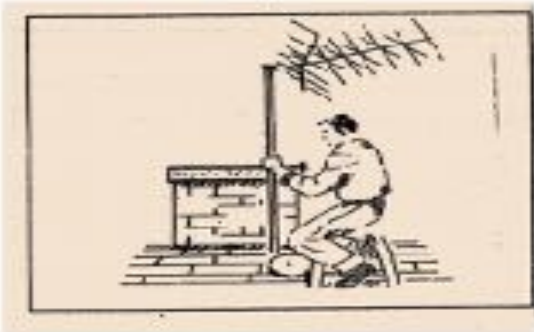
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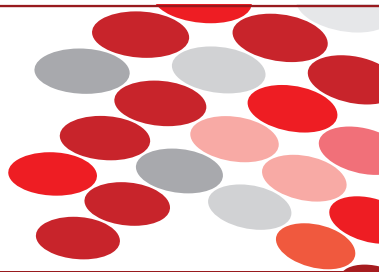
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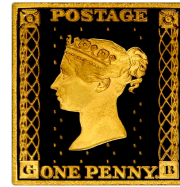
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1 Corinthians 13:13



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UNFORTUNATELY, this month we are not including our Future Events page due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Instead, during this uncertain time, we would like to offer you some useful links to keep you connected with what is happening within the parishes our Five Alive East Devon Mission Community

www.axminstertowncouncil.gov.uk ACER (Axminster Community Emergency Response) - A community response network bringing together a variety of organisations including Axminster Town Council, the NHS, Devon County Council, East Devon District Council and a wide range of community and voluntary group. Services provided include assistance in shopping, food concerns, collecting medication or simply providing you with a friendly voice at the end of a phone. Visit our website or call the helpline on 01297 35550

www.fivealive.org - To stay up to date with what is happening across all of our Five Alive Mission Community, please visit our website. Here you will find any notices on what is happening as well as present and previous issues of the Parishes Paper.

www.stockland.org.uk - For information on what is happening within Stockland and some surrounding areas (including take aways, online entertainment, useful general information, etc.) as well as access to join in the 'Stockland Tree', please visit this website.

www.dalwoodparish.co.uk - Information on what's currently happening within Dalwood, contacts for each church in the area general and includes a list of local walks.

www.yarcombe.net - Stay up to date on what is happening within Yarcombe in their local website which includes information on any contacts required, local walks, and general information on the area.

www.kilmingtongvillage.com - Kilmington's local website is ready with plenty of information on what is currently happening with regards to the Coronavirus outbreak and is providing many links to government websites and advice as well as contacts for needs within the Parish. You can also find issues of the Kilmington Postscript available on the website.

The Church of England - Online services are being posted weekly on the Church of England website www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online. As well, you can find many other resources are available on the website for prayer reflection, devotions and practical information during this time.

The Beacon, Kilmington - Currently hosting LIVE Sunday services on their Facebook as well as on Youtube at 10:30am. You can find these by searching for Beacon Life on YouTube, as well as www.facebook.com/TheBeaconLife. Along with the Sunday services, online house groups and mid-week live sessions are also taking place on these platforms.

The fruit and veg stall from the Axminster Market is now back in business on Thursday mornings as usual. A new set-up has been provided to allow for social distancing as well as card and cash payments are now being accepted.

Local food deliveries in the Dalwood area from the Village Shop are available, for more information call 01404 881401

The Tucker's Arms are offering a 'take away' service at the moment with local deliveries available. See advert for more details or call -1404 881342

The Kings Arms in Stockland are providing takeaway food and veg boxes. See advert for more information or call 01404 881686

*If you need help please do not hesitate to contact a member of the **pastoral team** in your village, contact details are on page 31. We are here to help!*



THE PARISHES' DIRECTORY

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Badminton Club: Derek Gould - 01404 831749
Bell Ringers: Tower Captain: Donald Pike - 01404 881356
Community Shop: 01404 881401
Corrydale Singers: Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193
Jubilee Field & Pavilion: Booking secretary: Chris Eddy - 01404 831009
Parish Council: Kathy Laing - 01404 881601
Methodist Church: Pauline Ovey - 01297 442433
Mary Berry (bookings) - 01404 831685
Raft Club: Richard Seward - 01404 881343
Reading Room: Richard Seward - 01404 881343
Recreation Trust: Chair: Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193
Spinning group: Meet weekly, Thursdays, 2-4.30pm
Methodist Chapel Meeting Room
Jane Griffiths - 01404 831207
Stitch & Bitch (craft group):
Meet 2nd & last Thursday
Tuckers Arms, Dalwood, 8pm
Mel Gosling - 01404 831481
Jane Griffiths - 01404 831207
The Corry Valley Community Land Trust: Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193
Upholstery: Jane Griffiths - 01404 831207
Village Hall: Bookings Secretary: Chris Eddy - 01404 831009
Hall Treasurer: George Marshall - 01404 881442
Yoga: Di Magrane - 07940 120221

KILMINGTON

Badminton Club: Derek Gould - 01404 831749
Baptist Chapel: Rev Darrell Holmes - 01297 631638
Bell Ringers: Celia Dunsford - 01297 33563
Bridge Club: David & Stephanie - 01297 35033
Cricket Club: Secretary: D Lavender - 01297 631868
Country Dancing: Gill Perkins 01297 32888 & Marie Thorne 01297 33906
Gardening Club: Secretary: Jean Falconer - 01297 33708

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
Short Mat Bowls: Ron Foster - 01297 35529
Table Tennis: Jenny Nickolls - 01297 639758
Tennis Club: Sue Moore - 01297 32361; Sue Wells - 07912 272102
The Hitchcock Pavilion: Peter Huscroft - 01297 32243
Village Hall: Louise Quincey (bookings) - 01297 32358

SHUTE – WHITFORD – UMBORNE

Bell Ringers: Maureen Davey - 01297 553195
Parish Council: Chairperson: Bill Marshall - 01297 551077
Clerk: Carol Miltenburg - 01404 831080
Parochial Church Council: Bijan Omrani - bijan.omrani@btinternet.com
Primary School:
Headteacher: Patrick Germscheid - 01297 33348
Shute Theatre & Arts Guild: (Chairman): Simon Ford - 01297 553680
Women's Institute Musbury & Whitford: Lesley McGowan Lock - 01297 551556
Whitford Village Produce Association: (Hon Sec): Christine Wyatt - 01404 830098
Village Hall:
Joy Burgess - 01297 551416
Umborne Hall:
Sheila Townsend - 07818 662402
Umborne Ladies Social Club:
Ann Shepherd - 01297 553343

STOCKLAND

Bell Ringers: Wendy Urquhart - 01404 881207
Book Group: Wendy Urquhart - 01404 881207

Fair Committee: Acting chair & stall bookings: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983
Secretary: Jill Mills - 01404 881244
Parish Council: Councillor R O Griffiths - 01404 831207
Parochial Church Council: Secretary: Rozanne Bulmer - 01404 881838
Stockland & District Horticultural Society: Secretary: Pauline Goodwin - 01404 881199
Stockland & Yarcombe Pre-school:
Sarah Bilson - 01404 549606 or 07775 701269
Stockland C of E Primary School:
Headteacher: Clive Hellowell - 01404 881456; PTFA: Valerie Conlon - stocklandptfa@gmail.com
S.W.A.G: Chairperson: Jill Bellamy - 01404 881641; Secretary: Jane Wedlock - 01404 881817
Tennis Club: Chairperson: Cathy Derryman - 01404 881398
Victory Hall: Bookings secretary: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983
Yarcombe & Stockland Cricket Club:
Chairperson: D Patch - 01460 62196

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: Nick Randle - 01404 861648
Parochial Church Council: Secretary: Rebecca Bell - 01460 234002
Jubilee Hall: Debbie Carter - 07498 503316
Tuesday Club: Lesley Sutton - 01404 861386
Yarcombe & District Young Farmers Club: Roger Patch - 01404 881267
Yarcombe Amenities Club: Lesley Sutton - 01404 861386
Yarcombe Community Handbells:
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Community Council:

Martin Nunns - 01404 881313

Mission Community Administrator:

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Geoffrey Berry - 01823 601386
geoffrey.whberry@gmail.com

PASTORAL TEAMS

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Caroline Nunns - 01404 881313
Mary Harrison - 01404 831975
Peter Major - 01404 831296
Evelyn Tratt - 01404 831316

Kilmington

Barbara Woodsford - 01297 33777

John Church - 01297 32417
Sally Huscroft - 01297 32343
Alun & Rose Evans - 01297 553585

Shute

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Iris Morton - 01297 551135
Bijan Omrani - 01297 639748
bijan.omrani@btinternet.com

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Peggy Pearce - 01404 881426
Mary Walsh - 01404 881893
Philippa Wilks - 01404 881366

Yarcombe

Rosemary Abel - 01404 861774
Rebecca Bell - 01460 234002
Lin Box - 01404 861400
Diane Frost - 01823 601103
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Sue Drew - 01404 831365

Parish Distribution Contacts

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Kilmington: Alun Evans – 01297 553585

Shute/Whitford: Betty Harris – 01297 34199

Stockland: Mary Walsh – 01404 881893

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DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST ISSUE IS JULY 12th

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

**THANK YOU
KEY WORKERS!**



**WE ARE
PRAYING FOR YOU**