

The PARISHES' PAPER

April 2021

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; and St John the Baptist Church, Yacombe

THE SUNDAY SERVICES



April 2021

DATE	Dalwood	Kilmington	Shute/ Whitford	Stockland	Yarcombe
Sunday April 4th	11am Holy Communion	Join Dalwood or Stockland	Join Dalwood or Stockland	11am Holy Communion	Join Dalwood or Stockland
Sunday April 11th	Join Kilmington	11am Morning Worship Five Alive Service	Join Kilmington	Join Kilmington	Join Kilmington
Sunday April 18th	Join Stockland	Join Stockland	Join Stockland	11am Holy Communion Five Alive Service	Join Stockland
Sunday April 25th	Join Yarcombe	Join Yarcombe	Join Yarcombe	Join Yarcombe	11am Morning Worship Five Alive Service

Sunday Zoom Services

(only if church meeting not taking place)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84707163966?
pwd=THFEWDNkYjVJSHILNnA3eDN5anBNU](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84707163966?pwd=THFEWDNkYjVJSHILNnA3eDN5anBNU)
T09

Meeting ID: 847 0716 3966

Passcode: 319918

Dial by Location:

+44 203 901 7895

In the event that Covid lockdown restrictions mean that the services in church cannot take place, there will be a Zoom service each week using the usual service details provided here.

Further details can be found on the Five Alive Website

<https://www.fivealive.org/>



WHAT IS LOVE?

ANNA CRABBE

WHAT is love?

Anne Cetas, a Daily Bread bible reading notes author, wrote the following”

When a group of children were asked, “What is love?” they gave some thoughtful and some hilarious answers.

Six-year-old Judy said, “Love is when you tell a boy you like his shirt and he starts to wear it almost every day!”

Four-year-old Ben said, “Love means everybody has a family.”

Another child replied, “When my grandma got arthritis, she couldn’t bend over and polish her toenails anymore. So my grandpa does it for her all the time now, even when his hands got arthritis too.”

Grandpa’s sweet example of sacrifice brings to mind an amazing story in the Bible. Jesus, knowing He wouldn’t be with his disciples much longer because of his



imminent arrest and crucifixion, took a towel and wrapped it around his waist. (John 13) He poured water into a bowl and began to wash his disciples’ feet. Peter recoiled at the thought because it didn’t seem right. The Master and Lord bending low and touching my dirty feet? Yet in order to teach them what it meant to serve others, Jesus said, “Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you should also wash one another’s feet.”

After teaching His followers for three years, Jesus gave His life for our sins. Humility and sacrifice- the true nature of love.

How do we learn to give sacrificial love? Start by asking God for His direction. He’s created you and has given you gifts to use in serving others.

Keep your eyes and heart open to those around you.

Help someone with a project or need.

Serve your own family.

Provide a meal for strangers or a neighbour.

Pray for someone you find difficult.

How will you ‘wash’ someone’s feet today?

A very happy Easter to you and your family and as we move to seeing one another again, may we be filled with compassion and love for all we meet.

What does all-age worship really mean?

WHAT is all-age worship?

It IS...

- an opportunity for people of all ages, understandings and experiences to come together to offer God their praise and worship
- a time when the whole family of God can learn from each other

and grow together

- recognisably part of the church’s regular worship pattern
- a concept which requires us to think what we mean by “worship” and “family of God”

It’s NOT...

- a children’s service with adults

present

- an adult service with children present
- a children’s performance
- a chance to sing the butterfly song again
- reaching only the lowest common denominator
- an unstructured free-for-all

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COVERS: This month’s front cover photo is courtesy of **Tim Phillips**; the back cover photo is courtesy of **Giles McLoughlin**, of Ham

PSALM OF THE MONTH

PSALM 22, Part 2 - chosen by DAVID WILSDON

IN the introduction to Psalm 22, part one (Psalm of the Month, March issue), I pointed out that, with its opening verse being that quoted by Jesus on the cross, and its plentiful references to personal suffering, it is most suitable as a Reading during Lent.

So part two reflects the delight of having relief of one's prayer being answered, and has much more of an Easter feel about it.

PSALM 22, PART 2

21. You have answered me!

22. I will tell of your name to my people; in the midst of the congregation will I praise you.

23. Praise the Lord, you that fear him; O seed of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.

24. For he has not despised, nor abhorred the suffering of the poor; neither has he hidden his face from them; but when they cried to him he heard them.

25. From you comes my praise in the great congregation; I will perform my vows in the presence of those that fear you.

26. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord shall praise him; their hearts shall live for ever.

27. All the ends the earth shall remember and turn to

Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow down before him.

28. For the Kingdom is the Lord's and he rules over the nations.

29. How can those who sleep in the earth bow down and worship or those who go down to the dust kneel before him.

30. He has saved my life for himself, my descendants shall serve him; this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.

31. They shall come and make known his salvation, to people yet unborn, declaring that he, the Lord has done it.

Date	OT Readings	NT Readings
Bible readings April 2021		
Sun 4 Apr [Wh/Go] Easter Day	Ps: 118:14-24	Acts: 10:34-43 John 20: 1-18 OR Mark 16:1-8
Sun 11 Apr [Wh] Easter 1	Ps: 133	Acts: 4:32-35 John 20:19-End
Sat 18 Apr [Wh] Easter 2	Ps: 4	Acts: 3:12-19 Luke: 24:36b-48
Sun 25 Apr [Wh/R] Easter 3	Ps: 23	Acts: 4:5-12 John 10: 11-18

From the registers

Funerals

John Astbury, born March 24th 1930, died on the February 24th 2021.

The funeral for **Terence Ernest Copp**, took place in Stockland on March 12th 2021.

Elisabeth Miller, church warden of St Michael's, Shute, passed away in late February.

Captain Charles Walsh Dawson, of Kilmington, born 24th October 1919, died February 5th, 2021

As we have very few weddings or baptisms to announce we are pleased to now include births and engagements in this section

THE PERSEVERING DAFFODIL

By Revd Canon Cate Edmonds

TRAVELLING to and from the Cathedral I pass several wide verges ablaze with hosts of golden daffodils.

Sight of these never ceases to lift my mood and to make me smile. The joy of seeing their bright trumpets, some large and some delicately small, lifting their heads as traffic passes them by is something that I treasure at this time of the year.

The bulbs have been dormant underground for months and then, regardless of what is happening around them, up they come pushing their way through mud or frozen ground. I have been so moved by them in the pass that I thought I would plant some bulbs in the grass verge outside our house. The ground was very unforgiving and it was very difficult to plant the bulbs easily; but I persevered and then left them to it.

As other bulbs have appeared, I

have waited anxiously for mine to peep through the ground; but not much was happening. I then noticed that our grass verge was being walked on by many people out for their daily exercise, instead of walking in the road. These little shoots that were appearing were being trampled on. I was rather dismayed and felt I had wasted my time. But how resilient they have been. Some have persevered and although yet not in bloom, they soon will be.

I have been reflecting on these daffodils and their resilience. The pandemic has increased the footfall on our verge and thus made it more challenging for these new bulbs to establish themselves and develop. Has the pandemic been challenging for you in the growth of your faith? Have you felt yourself challenged in what you have always held onto in your faith? Owing to the lack of both community and communion have you felt undernourished? Have you felt the burden of isolation spiritually draining? Or have you, like my poor

bulbs, taken this opportunity to persevere, to take things a bit more slowly and to use the time to explore your faith more deeply?

Christ's journey in the wilderness was a time of trial, both from temptations but also from hardship. As he travelled through the 40 days there must have been times when he wondered whether it was all worth it. Was the call from his Father too great? We too can feel that our call as Christians is hard, and perhaps even harder in our present time. But as Christ knew and we know, we do not struggle alone, we have the Holy Spirit to guide and to inspire us enhanced by the joy of creation around us to lift our hearts and minds.

I know that very soon my struggling bulbs will raise their golden heads and welcome the coming of spring. Their journey might have been hard but they will make it. Our journey has been hard but we will make it, we have the light of Christ to guide us and the hope of life to come.

Taken in Dalwood's Lower Lane, looking towards the National Trust Loughwood Meeting House and Shute Hill, scattered with sheep and lambs

Photos by Michael Dods



Private asylum at Ford

Introducing Part 2 of Bryan Drew's article on the provision for mental health in the Parish. A resume reminds that the facilities provided, given the times, were exceptionally humane. Buildings were certainly generous and recreational space more than ample; financing and the welfare of individuals is well documented.

Part 2 records details of the patients though not the reason for their detainment - their mental health issues. Whilst care for the mentally disabled was institutionalised and indeed under incarceration the guardians of Ford, given their lack of knowledge, showed genuine concern for the mentally unwell.

THERE is no doubting the historic wealth of the Stockland Parish, and perhaps somewhat surprisingly its significance to major concerns raised today.

Bryan Drew's article focuses on the historical context of coping with mental health and how Stockland's ancestors addressed the issue.

Inspections were carried out at the asylum at Ford, Broadhayes, to review it and its inmates periodically. A list of the inmates for 16th March 1829 gives details of each person, continued here, in part two of Bryan's work...

March 1838. The magistrates are worried about the food. 'Where the pauper lunatics are concerned, the keeper is using the dietary scale of the Axminster Poor Law Union which the visitors feel is not adapted or sufficient for lunatics whose bodily health is good. If they are in good health, they work on the farm daily. They also have a skittle alley, which in fine weather is much resorted to by the patients, who also have access to newspapers and books. Religious duty performed twice every Sunday to such as are not able to attend parish church.

Feb. 1839. 23 patients. One has twice escaped over the 12 ft wall. Walls raised to 14 ft all-round the premises. Door connecting male and female yards to be removed and walled up.

Oct 1839. 2 patients escaped. Wrenched an iron bar from window. Now repaired'.

That there were still paupers in private establishments as late as 1839 was probably due to the demand on the County Pauper Asylum. One wonders how wise the visitors were in recommending the discharge of one patient, Elizabeth Aplin, who though much improved, was 'still not free from

PART of the asylum's surrounding wall - note the height



all visionary ideas'.

April 1840. On a visit to Ford the visitors were indignant to find both manager and keeper absent and all the male patients locked up together.

A report of a visit to Ford in Jan 1841 stated, 'Half a window without glass, Ceilings and passages need repair. Feb. Repairs not done - nor classification tho' long ordered. Ceilings and cleanliness bad. Aug Orders carried out'.

The following is taken from the Stockland 1841 Ford Lunatic Asylum census:

'William Spicer male 55 Governor b Chard. Jane Spicer female 20 b Stockland.

Ames Spicer m 18 b Stockland, Edward Spicer m 11 b Stockland. James Wakley (Guardian) m 54 Gentleman b Membury (brother of

Thomas Wakley who founded the Lancet medical journal and married Jane Spicer, daughter of William Spicer). Susan Wakley f 27 b Wambrook, Victor Ja's Wakley m 3 b Stockland. John Davey m 24 Keeper b Stockland, Ann Genge f 19 Domestic Servant b Yeovil, Sarah Dare f 18 Domestic Servant b Yarcombe, William Stuckley m 58, James Batchoin m 50 b Barnstable, Isaac Loveridge m 45 b Lyme Regis, Archibald Thorner m, James Mitchell m 60 b Ottery St Mary, John French m 72 Butcher b Kilmington, William Walls m 80 Tailor to Beer, Benjamin Wyatt m 22 Labourer b Uppottery, William Cross m 76 Shoemaker b Axminster, Henry Vainmett m b Barnstable, Osmond Baker m 41 Labourer, Elizabeth Ve..ly f 53 b Axminster, Mary Ford f 53, Dianna Vast f 31 Servant, Martha German f 40, Ann Bough f 55 Housekeeper, b Yarcombe, Mary Tarrant f 59 b Axminster, Maria Symonds f 30 b Illminster'.

A story passed down through previous generations was that a tunnel connected Ford with the Stockland Church, but no evidence of it has come to light. The tunnel suggested may have been a reference to the tunnel of trees/over-hanging branches between the two.

The Seating Plan for Stockland Church of 1826 shows seating for the Ford Servants beside 'Crannons' immediately before the chancel next to the Ford House Transept, now the Broadhayes Chapel

Today, all that is left of the asylum is part of the high wall which surrounded one of the 'airing yards', some rails and a gate.

● ***Bryan Drew is renowned locally as the author of the definitive text *A Journey Through The History of Stockland****

EASTER GARDENS GROW



THE Easter Gardens project has flourished thanks to organiser Caroline Nunns. The idea of the garden is to show a miniature depiction of the tomb after the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. Main picture, by Sophie Nunns and, left, by Caroline Nunns



ABOVE and below, gardens by Karen and Sue Drew; right, by the Pace family





DALWOOD NEWS

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

Parish distributor Sue Drew- 01404 831365

Neighbourhood plan update

THE Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) has continued, during the pandemic, to progress Dalwood Neighbourhood Plan (DNP) with Stuart Todd, Planning Consultant to its submission version.

The DNP has progressed to the Submission version. At the first opportunity we will post the DNP on the parish council website.

Regarding the consultation statement: this must be published alongside the submission version of the NP. It is a document that contains the evidence of how the NPSG has consulted, prepared, and written the NP.

Regarding the basic condition Statement: Stuart Todd, planning consultant, has written the required Basic Conditions Statement:

Next steps:

- The submission versions are ready for proof reading.
- The submission versions will be sent to the parish council as the

NPSG have undertaken the NP on behalf of the parish council.

- Once signed off by the parish council and minuted, all three submission statements will be sent to East Devon District Council (EDDC) for a further six-week external consultation and posted on the parish council's website.
 - Please take this opportunity to read them. If you require a hard copy, please let a member of the NPSG know. There is one hard copy that can be loaned to residents.
 - After the EDDC's external consultation has been completed, an independent examiner will be appointed.
 - Following the Independent Examiners conclusions EDDC will organise a referendum.
- Referendum: Dalwood community will be invited to record their view of the NP via a vote. The Polling Station will record all votes. EDDC

will organise the referendum.

EDDC will send all Dalwood residents a voting card, exactly as in Local and General Elections. Dalwood Village Hall will be the voting station for the referendum.

As restrictions are eased, we will be informed when the referendum will be held.

If approved by the community EDDC will adopt Dalwood's NP, it will be considered by planning when all planning applications in Dalwood are made.

When your voting card arrives, please use it. Thank you for all your support in helping the NPSG produce the NP, it has been so appreciated. We could not have done it without you.

**Shelagh Fearnley,
Kathy Laing, Sue Cooper,
Brian Eddy and Lorraine Lucas
DALWOOD
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
STEERING GROUP**

DALWOOD COUNTRY FAIR 2021

YOUR Village Fair NEEDS



CAN YOU HELP?

On the Field: Fair Day 21st August or before to set up and after to clear up contact Brian Eddy Field manager Tel 01404 831009

With catering on the Main Field: contact : bsfearnley@icloud.com

With catering in the Pavilion: on the day or to bake a cake, sausage rolls, cheese scones, sandwiches: contact Shelagh Fearnley email bsfearnley@icloud.com

With village stalls: contact Kathy Laing Tel 01404 881601

Donate a raffle prize: contact George Marshall Tel 01404 881442

Make a cake for the cake stall: contact Helene Bradley Tel 01404 881262

Enter the 'Best of Fruit, Veg and Flowers' in the Village Show Tent: contact Chris Eddy 01404 831009 or Helen Howarth h_amazon@hotmail.com

EASTER LILIES

Unfortunately, we are unable to fill St. Peter's church in Dalwood with Easter lilies this year!

However we will be decorating the church with spring flowers and Easter Gardens. We will also display the usual commemorative scroll with the names of our loved ones. If you would like to add a name to the list please contact Sue Drew on 01404831365 or Caroline Nunns on 01404881313. If you wish to make a donation for church flowers please put this in the church wall safe on your right as you enter the church.

There will be a service on Easter Sunday at 11am led by the Reverend Nigel Freathy



St Peter's Church tower warning

By Michael Dods

FOLLOWING the five-yearly inspection at St Peter's Church, some serious defects have been found at the top of the church tower which will need a stonemason to put right.

Part of the parapet on the north side has badly crumbled and the mortar has fallen away.

There is a serious danger of large pieces of masonry being dislodged or falling out completely.

Until we get the funds and have the stonework made safe, the churchwardens have no alternative but to fence off part of the path



around the west door.

When visiting the church, please ensure this area is avoided.

POEM

He is there by Our Side

When the world is sad and drear,
Long the watches of the night
Hope is gone, replaced by fear,
When our hearts are craving light,
We've a God who's always near,
Through 'til dawn, when all is bright,
He is there by our side. He is there
by our side.

When life's problems get us down,
There's no problem, trouble, care
Smiles replaced by worried frown,
In this world that we can't share
God is there, we are his own, If we
go to God in prayer,
He is there by our side. He is there
by our side.

When we trust in God we know
He is there where ere we go.
Day by day our faith will grow,
He is there by our side.

Roderick Ovey



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

THANK YOU for your continued support, patience and understanding during the Pandemic

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



DALWOOD NEWS

Can St Peter's win the Best Kept Churchyard?

By Michael Dods

EVERY Year the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (CPRE) runs a competition across Devon to find the best kept churchyard.

Dalwood entered in 2019 for the first time and came third, winning a Highly Commended Award which is hanging in the church porch.

The village is entering again this year and would welcome the community's support. Besides keeping the churchyard neat and tidy, it is asked to encourage various forms of wildlife and to encourage people to take a longer look at the churchyard. Judges will visit St Peter's Church unannounced two or

three times over the summer with the results being announced in the autumn.

So, rather than just taking a pleasant stroll through St Peter's, why not pick up one of the I-SPY sheets, which can be found in the porch, or the more demanding questionnaire about the graves and have a really good look around.

There are I-SPY sheets on birds, plants and fungi - with more being prepared, while the grave questionnaire asks questions like "What is the Name of the Spanish Nobleman buried in Dalwood" and "How many people died in 1970". The answers to the questions will be published in an autumn issue of *The Parishes' Paper*.

Please support the efforts of our



grass cutting volunteers who work throughout the summer to keep the churchyard looking good. You can help in the following ways :

- Have a go at the I-Spy and question sheets
- Pick up any litter
- Clear dead flowers, wreaths etc from any graves tended
- Ensure old flowers, oasis, plastic flowers and pots are disposed of correctly.

Plant Sale



Saturday 15th to

Saturday 22nd May 2021

Dalwood 'Street' Sale

If restrictions ease, we will move to the Jubilee Field Saturday 15th

Varied selection of plants including perennial, bedding, vegetables etc.

Raffle: tickets available in the shop or ring Kathy 01404 881601

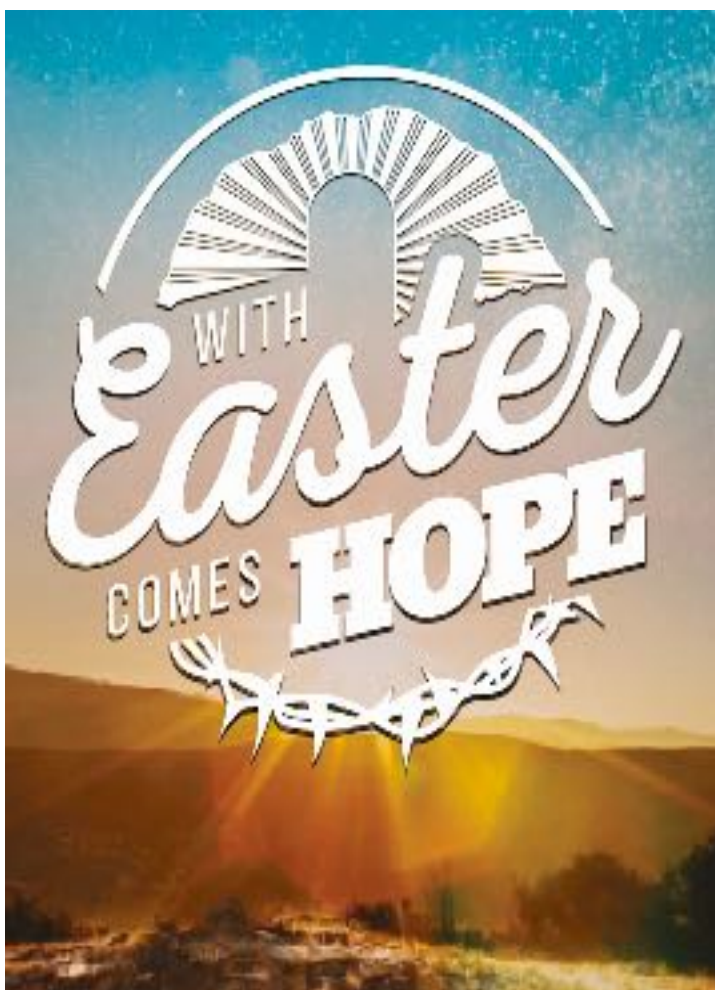
Raffle prizes gratefully received.

If you would like to grow some plants from seed please get in touch as we have some seed packets.

All proceeds to Dalwood Recreation Trust

Reg. Charity no. 1148103

Please contact Shelagh Fearnley: 01404 881193
For further information





KILMINGTON NEWS

Parish correspondent - Michael Tyler - mwtyler2@googlemail.com

Parish distributor - Alun Evans 01297 353585

Soup Gang helps charities

By Diana Mellows

THE Soup Gang from St Giles's Church is about to set off on its delivery rounds.

Jill Hitchcock, Diana Church, Anna Crabbe and Diana Mellows — with one of the gallant soup makers, Colin Stewart.

Other soup makers, not pictured, are Jenny Newbery, Caroline Lavender, Gill Heighway Christine Thorne, Christine Mills, Tom and Jo Cook, Peter Guy and Jane Chalk.

The soup has been very much enjoyed by the recipients each week and donations have been made to several charities, including RNIB, Cancer Research, Riding for the Disabled and St Giles's Church. A very big 'thank you' to all those who have contributed to the success of this venture throughout Lent.



Ancient graffiti in the flower room

By Diana Mellows

THE organ in St Giles's Church has recently needed a bit of repair work but the organ tuner was unable to complete the job without removing the back panelling of the instrument.

To expose the woodwork, everything needed to be removed from the flower room — everything, from the Christmas crib to the flower pedestals and all the vases and cleaning materials.

This area had once been the vestry, and the robing area for the vicar as well as the choristers. The hooks are still to be seen where they hung their cassock and surplices.

I took the opportunity to a look at the room whilst it was empty and was amazed to see scribbles on the panelling.



Luckily, I had my camera with me and took a few snapshots. They must have been scratched into the woodwork with penknives or pins by the junior choristers of St Giles's choir.

There are dates and initials and I wondered if any readers would remember being in the choir with anyone with matching initials all those years ago. It would be interesting to find out, would it not? The work on the organ was completed very speedily, so new shelves are now in place. I was lucky to take my pictures.



KILMINGTON NEWS

Project to save rare bats

A PROJECT is underway aiming to save a rare bat which has a population in the area.

Grey long-eared bats, pictured, are one of our rarest bats with an estimated UK population of about 1,000 bats. With only very few roosts left throughout the country, there is an important population in East Devon and it offers a vital link between the other few remaining colonies across the south coast of England in Devon and Dorset.

There is a real risk of losing this link as colonies become increasingly isolated from each other, as foraging sites and commuting route disappear and are fragmented by landscape changes which have resulted from changing agricultural practises. Establishing connectivity is vital for its future long term.

The Return of the True Night Rider project sets out improve the plight of this endangered bat – with its stronghold here in this local area of East Devon. It will focus on improving this crucial connectivity to the known roosts in Dorset – enhancing foraging and commuting roosts to the east of the AONB and into neighbouring West Dorset, where there are possibly more roosts.

It will work with landowners to increase and encourage meadow restoration and creation and also bat friendly wildlife gardening with the wider public. Meadows, marshes and orchards are the preferred feeding ground of the GLEB. Over 92 per cent of wildflower meadows have sadly disappeared since the 1960s, hence the dramatic impact too on the numbers of this bat.

Often called a whispering bat because of the very quiet echo



location that they use for finding and feeding on insects in the dark, and hunting at night, these ‘true night riders’ feed on moths and other insects.

Their echolocation — use of hearing to detect prey — is so quiet they can hover in front of fluttering moths undetected before catching the unsuspecting prey. These insects are mostly found on meadows which are full of wildflowers with their nectar sources that the insects feed on.

The key then to caring for this bat is to maintain as many wildflower meadows as possible around their roosts and to enhance the wildflower interest of other fields.

As well as supporting a diverse wildlife from insects to birds of prey, they are also enjoyed by us - valuable for our mental health and wellbeing - walking through a meadow in full bloom in early summer is a magical experience. They are a riot of colour and alive with the buzz of insects.

On this exciting project, East Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty team and the Bat Conservation Trust will work together to help enhance wildflower meadows in the area.

Craig Dunton, the project’s Land Advisor, is working with landowners to help enhance their meadows

whilst Ruth Worsley, the project’s Engagement Officer, is organising a variety of events and activities for local people so they can get to know more about these bats and other local wildlife. The project will also work collaboratively with Dorset AONB, Dorset Wildlife Trust, local bat groups, and wildlife volunteers.

Ruth is working with a wide range of groups and individuals including schools, youth groups, and community groups. The project will develop opportunities for communities to connect with nature including meadow strolls, bat detecting after dusk and a chance to contribute to data collection with citizen science surveys. Also, virtual zoom talks are offered – bats bought virtually to the comfort of your home and a guide to creating wildlife meadows in your own back garden. - something for everyone.

If you are a landowner and would like to increase the wildflower interest of a meadow, please get in touch with Craig Dunton, project land management advisor, cdunton@bats.org.uk or ring 07807 215270.

If you would like to know more about events or know a group or school who would like to be involved then please email Ruth Worsley, savingspecialspecies@gmail.com; or ring 01297 489741.

This project, The Return of the True Night Rider, is funded through the government’s Green Recovery Challenge Fund. This bat is one of eight rare species that the East Devon AONB are putting the spotlight on and working to improve their conservation – for more information www.eastdevonaonb.org.uk.

Do you know where Donkey Copse is?

A QUESTION for local residents — where is Donkey Copse?

Several people have asked me do I know where Donkey Copse is. Apparently, it is either in Shute or

Kilmington parishes where a rare wild flower was reported to be growing there some years ago.

Can anyone provide information on this mysterious copse?

If so, please contact me on 01297 34958 or via email at mwtyler2@googlemail.com.

Mike Tyler



RBL sees light at the end of the coronavirus tunnel

By Cdr Staff Seward OBE RN Rtd
Chairman RBL Kilmingdon Branch

IS there light at the end of the Covid tunnel? We truly hope so!

Like spring, you are never quite sure what is around the corner, however, I am confident that if we continue our current crusade to overcome the pandemic, then we will succeed — thankfully we British do not give up easily!

As always, our thoughts remain with all those who are suffering from illness, the vulnerable, and the families and friends who provide such essential support.

On this occasion, we in Kilmingdon reflect on another sad loss, this time of John Astbury, who passed away on Wednesday, February 24th. Both John and Margaret have been incredible supporters of the Royal British Legion and we shall miss him greatly. As with all those who have departed our world; 'We will remember them'.

Looking forward, we would wish to assure all our members and readers that we are continuing to plan future events and are currently in discussion to confirm the details of our annual family barbecue in July as well as a Trafalgar Night dinner in October.

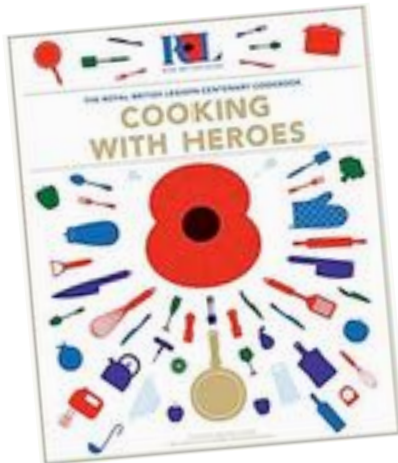
Of course, we will also aim to provide support to other village events as and when needed and continue to plan for events later in the year.

Looking further afield to next year and with regards to our own centenary event on Saturday, May 7th 2022 — 100 years since the unveiling of the War Memorial — we would like to take this opportunity to thank those who

have provided ideas of how we might celebrate the occasion, which we will discuss at our next meeting. If you have any ideas, it is not too late to submit them either to myself or any of your committee. Do not be shy, we welcome any thoughts you may have.

On a national level, our corporate teams have been working to secure some great partnerships to celebrate our centenary through the sale of some special memorabilia including:

- **Cooking with Heroes** cookbook — To celebrate the centenary of The Royal British Legion, some of the world's bestselling celebrity chefs — including Jamie Oliver, Ainsley Harriott, Cyrus Todiwala, Melissa



Helmsley and the Hairy Bikers — have teamed up with acting or former members of the military to create this unique cookbook. The book will be released on May 18th and is available for pre-order from Amazon — **Cooking With Heroes: The Royal British Legion Centenary Cookbook**, £19.95 or £16.05 if you order before the release date.

- **We are the Legion**: richly illustrated with over 350 images,



including an extraordinary collection of early poppy designs, legion posters and unseen archive shots, the book also includes original photography specially commissioned for the project. This book promises to be an insightful read full of interesting facts about our lesser known projects and missions throughout our 100 years. It's due for release on May 6th and can also be pre-ordered at Amazon — **We Are The Legion: The Royal British Legion at 100**, £18.99 or £16.91 if you order before the release date.

As always, I would like to thank you all for your continued support and incredible generosity. I look forward to seeing you all as soon as we are permitted.

Of course, we will always welcome anyone who would care to join us. Please do not forget that for the immense sum of just £18 a year you can join our incredible community and support those who have sacrificed everything to safeguard the life we treasure so dearly.

Take great care and stay safe.

- **Contact details:** 07799612557 or email t60sas@hotmail.co.uk.

Please send us your community news and photos from the Five Alive area
Contact your Kilmingdon correspondent, Michael Tyler, at mwtyler2@googlemail.com



STOCKLAND NEWS

Parish correspondent - Gill Metcalfe gilldog12@gmail.com

Parish distributor - Mary Walsh 01404 881893

100 Club wins

THANKS go to everyone who subscribed to the Stockland Victory Hall 100 Club which now has a full 100-plus members; the support is very much appreciated in these Covid times.

The January and February 'outside social distance' draws have been made and the winners are as follows: January — No 84 Jane Wedlock, £20; No 7 Ben (Kings Arms), £10; No 96 Tom Miskin, £5.

February — No 19 Jenny Whitley, £20; No 97 Nick Simmonds, £10; No 76 Leslie Thomas, £5.

Monica Parris

PAUSE FOR PRAYER

From a hymn written in 1864 by Folliott Pierpoint

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies;
Father, unto thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and
flower,
sun and moon, and stars of
light:
Father, unto thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent child,
friends on earth and friends
above;
for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Father, unto thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.

*Contributed by
Philippa Wilks*

WI programme gives real insight into 1930s life

By Gill Metcalfe

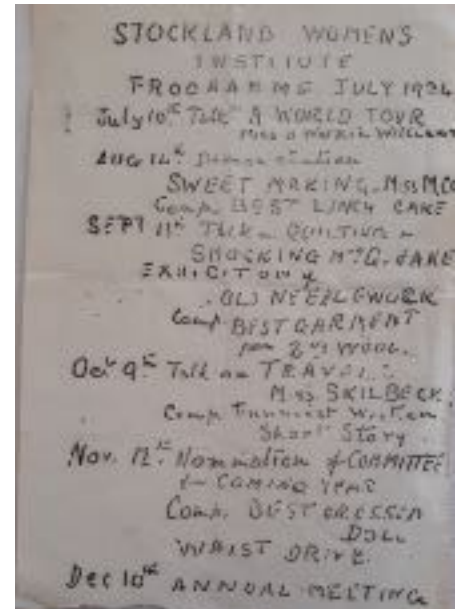
Stockland WI 1934
Photo 6 Stockland Women's Institute Programme 1934 (Pam Boyland)

RECENT Stockland news page of The Parishes' Paper has rightly paid tribute to the contribution of Jill Bellamy as the long-term president of social group Swag.

It seems apt to include a reminder of the tradition of the Women's Institute (with Swag as its successor) in Stockland.

The programme included here is that for 1934 – 87 years ago, a hand-written epitaph to women's group history.

The activities included in the meetings offer a real insight into social life, with home-making – baking, quilting, needlework, knitting, demonstrations and competitions – as the core inclusions with travel clearly of prominent interest to people to whom such beyond the county boundary was probably rare.



STOCKLAND Women's Institute Programme 1934

Photo courtesy of Pam Boyland

The programme is clearly full, and as stated, reflects the skills and accomplishments of the period.

Please send us your community news, activities and nature photos of the Five Alive area

Contact your Stockland correspondent, Gill Metcalfe, at gilldog12@gmail.com

STOCKLAND NEWS

Spring arrives in the parish



By Andrew Smith

TURN the corner of Stockland parish's lanes and, despite the recent rains, winds, sleet and giant hailstones, the colour of brave plants confront and surprise.

Snowdrops, crocuses, daffodils, hellebores, camelias, cherry blossom and even the rare



Brave Hellebores – early spring flowers and, inset, stunning 'perfect' Camelia flower head

Photos by Philippa Wilks

Japanese Pagoda Bush ('Sun King') greet passers-by.

Continuing down the lanes, lambs

fill the fields and the lambing sheds are hectic.

Spring has arrived in the parish!



Camelias outside the front door

Annette Smith



SOPHARA Microphylla 'Sun King' bush in full bloom – March, left, and lambs – real signs of spring

Gill Metcalfe

STOCKLAND NEWS

Children back to school – in pyjamas!

STOCKLAND Preschool is very happy to be welcoming back more children as the older siblings return to school.

The children are enjoying the chance to be outdoors more as the days lengthen, and the all-weather outdoor Friday sessions are an extremely muddy success!

They also celebrated World Book

Day by coming in wearing pyjamas and sharing favourite bedtime stories together and worked hard on beautiful art projects for Mother's Day.

Preschool has been very fortunate to have been awarded a grant from the National Lottery Community Covid Recovery Fund, which has made a huge difference over this

tough lockdown period.

In spite of the many challenges of pandemic life, the children are full of joy and laughter, and the staff are proud to be able to keep supporting them as they grow and learn. We hope that toddler group will return in the summer term, in an alternative venue.

Lucy Shipley

Thanks to Anna as pop-up shop closes 'doors'

THE Pop-up shop sited in Shore Bottom is to close temporarily.

The demand for what was a Covid emergency provision has slowed due probably to the clear governmental bubble rulings and the virus prevention vaccination giving people a more freedom in their shopping habits. Eggs will still

be available.

Thanks go to Anna Trott for keeping the shop up and running with so many varied goods to choose from, throughout the whole of lockdown – from the start.

Cawleys' chickens are away on holiday under the avian flu Defra ruling where they are held under

the regulation covering. On last sighting they were thoroughly enjoying life, though somewhat in awe of the giant American turkey in a close-by pen. Cawleys' eggs will be back once the Defra Avian Flu ruling changes. Plants will also feature as per last year.

Gill Metcalfe

HONITON FORWARD

DESIGN A POSTER COMPETITION

Honiton Forward is teaming up with East Devon District Council and Devon Loves Dogs and are calling on Honiton children aged 16 and under to design a poster to highlight the importance of picking up after your dog. Please see our social media channels and website for full details.

Entries in by 30th April

Email in your entries to membership@honitcrforward.uk

T&C - 1 entry per person aged 16 years and under. Double A4 size.



"It's not quite as bad as it looks – they're only withholding payment until we publish our expenses."



SHUTE & WHITFORD NEWS

Parish correspondent - Bijan Omrani - bijan.omrani@btinternet.com

Parish distributor Betty Harris - 01297 34199

Remembering Elisabeth

By Susan Gunn-Johnson

Elisabeth Miller
February 28th 1939-
February 20th 2021

*All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women
merely players:
They have their exits and their
entrances;
And one man in his time plays
many parts.*

*(spoken by Jaques – in
Shakespeare's 'As you like it')*

WHEN the sad news of Elisabeth's death reached me, a whole range of images came flooding into my head – of a smile with such a twinkle in the eye; of postcard-sized notes pinned in immaculate handwriting, of a glass of whiskey (yes, a dram of the malt was raised in her memory here in Exeter that very evening!) and of immaculate posture topped by neatly coiffured hair.

Reflection also brought back a whole range of encounters and activities – her close involvement with Shute parish church and village; concern for the residents of The Stables and founding the Cathedral Players in 2008 – directing a range of subsequent productions for them, performances which afforded me the opportunity to slap a gentleman around the face in one production and dance a tango in another – both actions in front of the golden gates of Exeter Cathedral and both as directed by Elisabeth!

However, my clearest and most enduring memories will be of Elisabeth's involvement with Shute Theatre and Arts Guild (Stag). To use Jaques's line quoted above, Elisabeth played 'many parts' in that context. There was her contribution to the organisation of the company, including being its chair for some years; but with her lifelong love and experience of theatre which



ELISABETH Miller

included her time stage managing at the Bristol Old Vic (an experience she always remembered with fondness), there are many examples of her work to bring productions to the stage. In totting up the number of her productions for Stag of which I am personally aware, I very quickly reached 14, and there will have been more.

Herself an accomplished actor, she had to bring that into play for the production of Oscar Wilde's *Lady Windermere's Fan* – the first play in which I met her as a director in 1994. Following a car accident which took the leading lady out of action, Elisabeth had to step into that role, and, even holding a book and without period costume, the audience's appreciation of the action was not diminished. Of course, there was also Miles Teaber-Hill's treading of the Stag boards as Badger in the stage adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows* in 2004.

Although she would probably never have given herself the title 'production manager', Elisabeth so often did much of the background work to ensure that all was in place for productions; a particular memory is of her incredible management of all the availability information from her cast members which, before work even started on a play, was drawn together into a crystal-clear rehearsal schedule.

'Many parts' – yes – but for me, and possibly for many Stag

members, her role in the director's chair, or perhaps more accurately 'pew', will be that for which she is best remembered in East Devon.

Elisabeth's thorough knowledge of the scripts of the plays she directed, her very clear vision of the 'end product' and her attention to detail meant that she clearly guided all that happened.

Never one to be defeated by potential practical issues and never afraid of a challenge, Elisabeth would often take things which others saw as problems or limitations and turn them into positives, even strengths. If funds were limited, the set or the costuming could be pared back to a minimalist version which had the audience focusing on the key elements of each. The 2012 production of Dylan Thomas's *Under Milk Wood* brought the audience in to watch it as a radio broadcast – complete with red recording light. Casting was also a challenge she clearly surmounted, and not infrequently was heard the comment 'Where did she get all those men?' – particularly apposite with the production of RC Sherriff's *Journey's End* in 2015). Nor were her audiences unfamiliar with cross-dressed characters – perhaps her bravest move (and possibly encouraged by Glenda Jackson's *Lear* in 2016) was the casting of her English king in Shakespeare's *Henry V* in 2017.

To return to the lines of Jaques – 'players'... 'have their exits', and for Elisabeth, that came just a few days before her 82nd birthday. As Irving Berlin once wrote, "The song is ended, but the melody lingers on"; and it will indeed live long in Stag – in our private memories of working with Elisabeth, in the records of past productions, the programmes, the photographs and even the occasional film.

From those who hold dear those memories of Elisabeth, as Horatio said to Hamlet:

*"Good-night, sweet prince;
And flights of angels sing thee to
thy rest."*

Food, flowers and music for April's Shute Festival

By Sam Knights

THERE will be three Shute Festival events in April, all with outstanding speakers and performers.

The first event, on Thursday, April 15th at 6pm, will feature multi-award-winning food and travel writer Caroline Eden. Caroline will be talking with fellow writer, Sophie Ibbotson, about her latest book intertwining food, travel and people, *Red Sands*.

Caroline is a writer and critic contributing to *The Guardian*, BBC Radio 4's *From Our Own Correspondent* and *The Times Literary Supplement*. She is the author of four books, all of which focus on the Turkic-speaking world: *Samarkand* (2016), *Black Sea* (2018), *The Land of the Anka Bird* (2020) and *Red Sands* (2020).

Lit up by emblematic recipes, *Red Sands* is filled with human stories, forgotten histories and tales of adventure, while bringing in universal themes that relate to us all: hope, hunger, longing, love and the joys of eating well on the road.

Beginning on the shores of the Caspian Sea, in oil-rich Kazakhstan, the story heads into the kitchens of underground desert mosques, through the world's largest walnut forests in Kyrgyzstan, to remote orchards in Tajikistan, into cafés and canteens in Uzbekistan's leafy capital and to dining rooms in Soviet-era sanatoriums, all the while exploring how food mirrors and shapes landscapes, history and culture.

Red Sands was featured in various 'best books of 2020' lists, including BBC Radio 4's *The Food Programme*, *Financial Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Week* and *The New Yorker*.

Tim Hayward, writing in *The Financial Times*, wrote: "Eden continues her explorations, not just of fascinating and often under-



WRITER and critic Caroline Eden

reported places, but also of the boundaries between reportage, travel and food. There is nobody writing about food at the moment who's committed to this level of immersion and it rings out in every line."

On Thursday, April 22nd at 6pm, Shute Festival will be hosting an online panel discussion on biodiversity and wildflower meadows between Hugo Rittson-Thomas and Sir Ghilleen Prance.

Following a career in film and television, Hugo moved into nature writing and photography. A number of his works focus on royal and celebrity gardens. His books include *Secret Gardens of the Cotswolds*, *Great Gardens of London* (which includes coverage of the private gardens of 10 Downing Street and the Prince of Wales's residence, Clarence House), and *Secret Gardens: Private Sanctuaries of Britain's Artists and Creators*, featuring the gardens of Sting, Anish Kapoor, Rupert Everett and Prue

Leith. His most recent book is the lavishly-produced *Wildflowers for the Queen: A Visual Celebration of Britain's Coronation Meadows* to celebrate the Coronation Meadows which had been created to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

Sir Ghilleen Prance is one of the world's leading botanists, and one of the most renowned explorers of the Amazon over the last half-century.

He was previously a director of the New York Botanical Garden, and later director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. He is also involved with the Eden Project.

On research expeditions to the Amazon over the course of 50 years he discovered over 350 new plant species, and he is the author of a large number of books and scientific works, including the recent *That Glorious Forest: Exploring the Plants and Their Indigenous Uses in Amazonia* (2014).

On Thursday, April 29th at 6pm, the young violinist Emmanuel Bach will be in concert. Emmanuel is a rising soloist with an increasing international profile. He won the 2018 Royal Over-Seas League String Competition and is an Artist on the Countess of Munster Recital Scheme, 2017–20. He has performed as a soloist and chamber musician at venues such as Wigmore Hall, St George's Bristol, St Martin-in-the Fields, St James's Piccadilly and Queen Elizabeth Hall.

Emmanuel has played concertos including Brahms, Mendelssohn, Paganini No1 and Tchaikovsky. He was invited to play as a co-soloist with Anne-Sophie Mutter in Bach's Double Concerto. Emmanuel read Music at Magdalen College, Oxford, gaining a double First. He studied with Natasha Boyarsky, receiving his Masters from the Royal College of Music. He completed an Artist Diploma in 2018 at the RCM with Radu Blidar. Alongside solo and chamber playing, he has played on orchestral schemes with the BBC and London Symphony Orchestras.

All events can be joined for free online. Please visit the website, www.shutefest.org.uk, for further details. Thank you also to everyone for your generous donations, which help to keep the Festival free for all!



YARCOMBE NEWS

Parish correspondent - Lesley Sutton - rovingsutton@btinternet.com

Parish distributor Mary Smith - 01404 861541

Whilst we continue our 'restricted' lives due to the Covid-19 pandemic, correspondent LESLEY SUTTON delves back into her store of memories to recall some of the village's fantastic organisations

Fun of the children's outing

THE Children's Outing Fund provided fun for all the children in Marsh and Yarcombe and every new family was welcomed into the village and invited to the annual Christmas party.

This event was held in the Jubilee Hall and the committee nominated mothers to buy gifts for all the children. This was usually split by one person buying toys for boys and another for girls. There was a tenure of three years, first year being assisted by someone who had done the job, to show what was required, second year still together with knowledge gained previously and the third year when the original person was replaced with a new person.

Funds were raised by members visiting all the households in their area, selling draw tickets on the doorstep, this could be a long winded affair as everybody needed to be kept up to date with what was going on.

Originally, the party included all ages with trestle tables set out with party food, sausages, jellies and other exciting goodies of the time.

However, with an influx of families, the smaller children became in danger of their older compatriots' size and energy and being mown down in some of the games! So it was decided to have a party for the younger children, whilst the older ones went on an adventure.

Ice skating at Bournemouth springs to mind. A summer outing to the seaside during the school holidays was very well supported too. Trips to Weymouth, Paignton and Minehead to Butlin's always involved the whole community taking a day off and joining the queues for the coaches and races for the back seats. The children went free of charge and the cost of the adults' fares covered the expense with money to spare for the Christmas funds.

Those days were amazing fun

when the weather was fine and everybody got sunburnt with sand in their shoes which was transported back on board on the way home. Some can remember visits to the cinema and dragging round the town when the weather was inclement. There was always a stop for fish and chips on the way back, the chosen shops warned of the time and numbers in advance so everything was prepared.

Nowadays, such trips would be received with amusement as they have become an everyday occurrence with much more sophisticated venues, but a good time was had by all.

The organisation has survived the ravages of time and renamed Yarcombe and Marsh Children's Fund. The committee, with Julie Rich and her helpers, is putting on lots of new ideas and, thankfully, helped to organise Father Christmas's visit to Yarcombe last December during lockdown.

YARCOMBE WEATHER FEBRUARY 2021

	2021	2020	2019
Average Max. temperature	8.4°C	9.7°C	10.7°C
Average Min.	3.3°C	4.6°C	3.6°C
Average Overall temperature	5.8°C	7.2°C	7.0°C
Rainfall	120.3mm	215.1mm	71.6 mm
Wettest Day	13th 16.6mm	15th 26.3 mm	3rd 17.1 mm
Sunniest Day	28th 10.0 hrs	27th 8.0 hrs	26th 10.0 hrs
Warmest Day	26th 12.6°C	23rd 12.5°C	27th 16.4°C
Coldest Night	11th -4.5°C	28th 1.4°C	3rd -4.7°C
Sunshine hours	88 hours approx.	86hrs	108 hrs

Thank heavens that there were only 28 days in February as we had every type of weather possible. During the first 14 days only a little rain fell, but we had very strong Easterly winds, bringing a few snow flurries and plenty of frosts. During this period the average overall temperature was 2.9C. Most of the rain fell in the second half of the month and lifted the daily temperature to around 6.5C.

Tony Newman

Talent aplenty with village shows, pantos and cinema

By Lesley Sutton

THE Jubilee Hall Committee encouraged local talent by arranging annual shows, performed on the stage by those brave enough to take part, presented in the autumn half-term time.

The Women's Institute presented several plays, A Day at the Beach and a concise version of Sleeping Beauty, directed by Joan Berry (Spiller at the time) being amongst the most memorable. The Young Farmers' Club, which performed plays in its annual nationwide competition and gained many prizes for its efforts, would bring them to the Yarcombe stage. Mark Drew had George Formby with his ukelele off to a 'T'.

Musical items, either solos, or songs, anything that would provide interest and amusement were welcomed. John Salter would read letters received from his elderly relative living somewhere near Dartmoor written and spoken in dialect and often very near the mark which would raise a laugh.

A cast of many of the local men celebrated one of the Second World War anniversaries by putting on a Dad's Army show, all dressed up in their uniforms with Keith Goodman as Captain Mainwaring. The audience had to dress up in the 1940s style as well and refreshments of the era were provided.

Don Tapster and Barbara Baskett

produced several pantomimes over the years, including Dick Whittington, involving Julian Phillips and a custard pie.

The then vicar, Leslie Lloyd-Jones, was an ugly sister in a production of Cinderella, Eleanor Dunn (Wright) and Shirley Hartshorn (Neve) also taking major roles. The last major show was Cinderladdin, with a glowing cast including Janet Phillips, Ena Stringer, Gordon Evans and Emma Sutton which gained great acclaim. Music was provided by Therese Prince and Becky Lipscombe amongst others. All the children took part either acting or singing in the chorus. Another memorable production was of Oliver, a major attraction as so many were required.

The Singing Kids of Yarcombe (SKY) under Lin Box, Liz Freeman, Maggie Dillon and Vicky Wiggins had a huge success with The Sound of Music, borrowing Marianne Sheard from Upottery as Maria and Keith Freeman as Captain Von Trapp. All the children were involved with other members of the community who didn't mind standing up and playing a part.

John Carter revived live dramatics with visits from Alison Neil in participation with Villages in Action. This one 'lady' show enticed lots of people from the area who enjoyed her depictions of famous ladies. These included Mary Anning, The Fossil Lady of Lyme; Mrs Beeton, My Sister; and Larks and Magic, the life of E Nesbit, who wrote The

Railway Children. As is Yarcombe's wont, food was served and there was an opportunity to ask Alison questions about the characters after the shows.

Julian Fellowes was, amongst others in the British film industry, keen to make films available to all and was a prime mover in Moviola, a company showing films in village halls and other community places. The group was encouraged to come to Yarcombe where a monthly film chosen from updated published lists was projected onto a large screen at a budget price of £5 per person.

There was plenty of free parking, with refreshments, teas and coffees and the ice cream usherette to boot. The organisers had to arrive early to help set up the equipment and arrange the seating and sell the tickets.

Several Yarcombe folk looked upon this evening as a treat and visitors from local villages, Combe St Nicholas, Churchinford, Stockland and Upottery, swelled the ranks often to capacity. The King's Speech was amongst one of the most popular with Eat, Pray, Love; Julie and Julia; and Bond film Skyfall all shown.

As time went by the other villages jumped on the band wagon and opened their village halls for afternoon and evening showings. Before lockdown, a small group mooted the possibility of renewing other such events, especially now being able to use the newly installed equipment in the hall which has been provided by a grant.

KEEP US POSTED!

Please send The Parishes' Paper team your community news and photos
Yarcombe correspondent, Lesley Sutton - rovingsutton@btinternet.com

'Lasagne gardening' lesson

By Gill Metcalfe

VEGETABLE patch turned over yet, or are the weeds still to be faced?

Having inherited a garden which is more suitable to rockery planting and succulents than vegetables, it seemed an ambitious foray into establishing a thriving plot for veg and fruit cultivation. It also appeared foolhardy for a complete 'townie (even London) – never grown a vegetable – high hedges to hide from neighbours, more the forte, to venture into growing something actually edible.

However, a chance reading of an article on 'lasagne/compost/sheet and sandwich gardening' (whatever) encouraged a 'can-do' experiment: the promise of bountiful gardens, no digging, no tilling, no weeds - no kidding!

Encouraged by the chief exponent's words 'you'll have a fabulous new bed come spring' and assurances that there would be few,



'LASAGNE' grown broad beans – March progress

if any, weed problems, and that the soil produced would be crumbly, friable, nutritional – organic even – and ready for spring seeding – well what more could be said?

The terms refer to the method of building a garden that is essentially adding layers of organic materials that will 'cook down' over time, creating a good soil full of life. Maybe the January start was a little late to begin the experiment – early autumn is strongly advised – but with all the materials needed gathered together, plus enthusiasm, the work started.

The 'materials needed' form a lengthy list of what is usually chucked on the bonfire heap by less savvy gardeners – namely: grass clippings, leaves, fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, tea leaves and tea bags, weeds (if they haven't gone to seed), manure, compost, seaweed (not readily available), shredded newspaper, junk mail, pine needles, spent blooms, trimmings from the garden, peat, moss and most importantly cardboard.

Heeding the more obvious advice of removing the rockery and surface rubble from the planned 'bed' area and with the direction of no need to dig, turn over the soil or even weed, the area was strimmed mercilessly.

The first layer, the cardboard was placed to cover the whole area – no gaps: over-lay. A scouring of Heath Park Industrial Estate provided all of this essential layer, one which will act as ground cover and keep the weeds from popping up. It will completely decompose and actually add to the soil.

Then the next layer, one of water-absorbent materials (straw, dried grass clippings or bark) went down: approximately three inches thick was laid.

The third layer (up to eight inches thick) should be of organic materials such as grass clippings and compost (thank you chickens – well rotted gifts) to increase the productivity of the future garden. Watering here is necessary – sprinkle all over as this will assist in the breakdown of the materials used. Having over-ordered on compost meant more repeat of the



BED under preparation

layers building up the beds. That's it – now the directive is to wait for spring letting the bed decompose throughout winter thus allowing the microbes to do the job of making rich soil.

Winter over, time to check the efforts of the first bed – early broad beans on their way up and early peas to go in once the frosts are over followed by the runner beans and indeed, no weeds. Second bed – early days – cardboard evident as unfinished; needs to be built up for next year if the efforts of this year prove worthwhile.

A quick check on the internet will reveal a plethora of books and YouTube clips extolling the virtues of this 'cultivation' gem.

Tongue in cheek, the method expounded here was surely used by our ancestors before later generations were bombarded with TV gardening, horticultural wonder products and innovative machinery. Success: to be reviewed – watch this space.

THY KINGDOM COME

This year Thy Kingdom Come will run from Ascension Day on 13th May to Pentecost on the 23rd May.

If you would like to join in this time of prayer and would like to find out more or receive free resources to assist you, please contact me on 01404881 313

or at

carolinecnunns@gmail.com

Thank you

Caroline





Future is looking bright for young farmers' calendar

FEBRUARY seemed another quiet month for Yarcombe and District Young Farmers' Club (YFC) given the current circumstances around Covid-19 and lockdown.

However, we find ourselves in April already, the months are passing very quickly and we seem to be flying through the young farmers calendar.

We continue to host our regular club meetings via Zoom, where recently a discussion was held in regards to our chosen charities for the current year. We are very pleased to confirm that we will be continuing to fundraise and support the two nominated charities from last year — Mardon House (neurological rehabilitation) and The Farming Community Network.

The future months in the young farmers calendar certainly appear to

be more promising and brighter for all. We are very much all looking forward to the better months ahead and being able to fundraise as much as we can for the two above-mentioned charities. It is also very encouraging and pleasing to begin having discussions as a club, surrounding potential future events and fundraisers, what with the restrictions starting to ease, albeit gradually.

As the restrictions do start to ease and normality appears to be in sight, we hope to be able to share with you details of our events in the near future.

We encourage all members to stay actively involved and connected with YFC and we will be looking to continue with a variety of online activities to keep you busy in the short-term, with the view of

hoping to see you all in person again, as soon as we can.

If anyone would like to become involved in YFC, we would love you to join our club and encourage you to contact our chairman or secretary for more information.

If anyone has any further questions please contact chairman Dan Olive on 07811 744714, or secretary Natalie Sampson on 07775 591324.

Once again, may we express our huge appreciation to all key workers, be it farming, NHS, health-care, to name a few, for seeing us all through this pandemic.

We hope you all stay safe and well.

Katie Trevelyan
Press Secretary
Yarcombe and District
Young Farmers' Club

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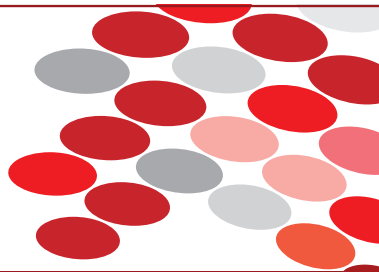
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UNFORTUNATELY, Future Events are still not being included due to COVID-19. Instead, during this uncertain time, The Parishes' Paper would like to offer readers some useful links to keep you connected with what is happening within the parishes the Five Alive East Devon Mission Community

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.

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. Also, there is a weekly Post Office at the Beacon on Tuesday mornings from 10-12pm.

St Giles's Church has a daily church barrow outside the building which is raising money for church funds. Do bring anything that could be resold for a donation, come and browse anytime in the day. Friday is cake day !

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.kilmingtonvillage.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.

*If you need help please do not hesitate to contact a member of the **pastoral team** in your village, contact details are on page 27. We are here to help!*



THE PARISHES' DIRECTORY

DALWOOD

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: Bookings: Helen Howarth - 01404 831771
Parish Council: Kathy Laing - 01404 881601
Methodist Church: Pauline Ovey - 01297 442433
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: Helen Howarth - 01404 831771
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 831424
Village Hall:
Christine Plowman - 01297 552760
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 and 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 Hellawell - 01404 881456; PTFA: Valerie Conlon - stocklandptfa@gmail.com
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: Clive Stone - 01404 861174
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 Flower Show:
Press secretary: Julie Rich - 01404 861274 or 07967 965208

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Martin Nunns - 01404 881313

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Parish contact:

David Wilsdon - 01297 34142

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Yarcombe

Jean Rich - 01404 861274

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Geoffrey Berry - 01823 601386

geoffrey.whberry@gmail.com

PASTORAL TEAMS

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Laurie Lucas - 01404 881495

Caroline Nunns - 01404 881313

Mary Harrison - 01404 831975

Peter Major - 01404 831296

Wendy Dods - 01404 831208

Kilmington

Barbara Woodsford - 01297 33777

John Church - 01297 32417

Sally Huscroft - 01297 32343

Alun & Rose Evans - 01297 553585

Shute

Peter Easton - 01297 553537

Bijan Omrani - 01297 639748

bijan.omrani@btinternet.com

Stockland

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Suzanne Bradbury - 01404 881530

Jenny Donne Davis - 01404 861344

Nancy Patch - 01404 881675

Peggy Pearce - 01404 881426

Mary Walsh - 01404 881893

Philippa Wilks - 01404 881366

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DEADLINE FOR THE MAY ISSUE IS **APRIL 12th**

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

