

The PARISHES' PAPER

April 2024

80p where sold

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



'HE IS RISEN INDEED, HALLELUJAH'

APRIL 2024

Date	Dalwood	Kilmington	Shute + Whitford	Stockland	Yarcombe
Wed 3 rd	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St. Peter's Church, Dalwood EX13 7EQ				
Sun 7 th	10.30am Mission Community Holy Communion hosted by St. Peter's Church, DALWOOD EX13 7EQ				
Tues 9 TH	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St. Giles Church, Kilmington EX13 7RF				
Sat 13 th	3 - 5pm Celebrate Together Service hosted by St. Giles Church, Kilmington EX13 7RF				
Sun 14 th	11am All age worship	11am Morning Worship	11am Holy Communion at Shute	11am Morning Worship	11am All age worship
Wed 17	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St. Peter's Church, Dalwood EX13 7EQ				
Sun 21 st	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Worship in Whitford	11am Family Service	6.30pm Evening Worship
Tues 23 rd	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St. Giles Church, Kilmington EX13 7RF				
Sun 28 th	11am Morning Worship	9.30am Morning Worship	6.30pm Choral Evensong Shute	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion
Wed May 1 st	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St. Peter's Church, Dalwood EX13 7EQ				
Sun May 5 th	10.30am Mission Community Holy Communion at St. Michael and All Angels Church, STOCKLAND EX14 9BP				

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RESURGAM! I WILL RISE AGAIN

REV JULIE LOMAS

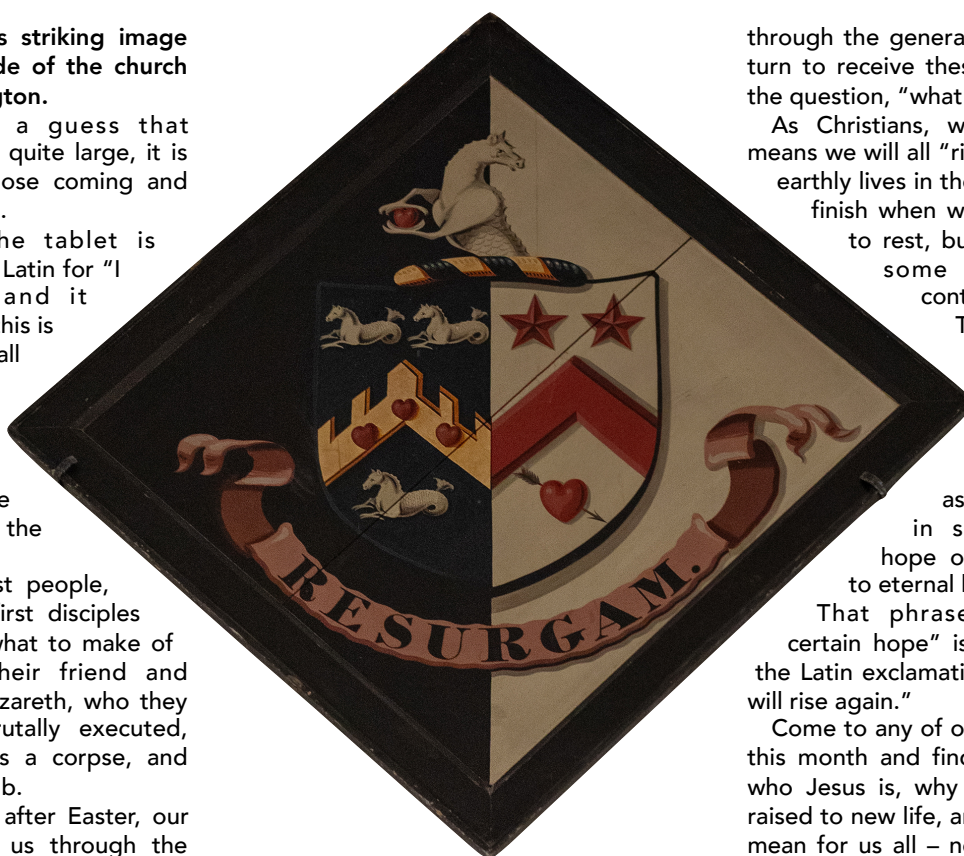
TAKE a look at this striking image taken from the inside of the church of St Giles in Kilmington.

I would hazard a guess that although this item is quite large, it is rarely noticed by those coming and going into the church.

The word on the tablet is "Resurgam" which is Latin for "I will rise again" and it occurred to me that this is something we can all focus on this month as we celebrate Eastertide, the season of the resurrection from the dead and new life of the person of Jesus.

A mystery to most people, not least the very first disciples who did not know what to make of the sightings of their friend and teacher, Jesus of Nazareth, who they knew had been brutally executed, taken off a cross as a corpse, and buried in a stone tomb.

During the weeks after Easter, our Bible readings take us through the numerous resurrection appearances of Jesus, to women, men, individuals, groups, behind closed doors, in open spaces, and even on a beach where



Jesus served up a c o o k e d breakfast. These eye witness accounts have been handed down to us

through the generations and it is our turn to receive these stories and ask the question, "what does this mean?"

As Christians, we believe that it means we will all "rise again" and that earthly lives in these bodies will not finish when we die and are laid to rest, but that they will in some mysterious way continue.

This is what we say at the funeral services for our loved ones, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life."

That phrase, "in sure and certain hope" is what lies behind the Latin exclamation, "Resurgam – I will rise again."

Come to any of our village churches this month and find out more about who Jesus is, why he died and was raised to new life, and what this might mean for us all – new life and a sure and certain hope. Resurgam!

Let me know when you have spotted where the tablet with this inscription is located.

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

MY FAVOURITE HYMN

In this feature each month, a different person will share with us their favourite hymn and reasons why.
This month, **Nigel Burton from St Giles's Church, Kilminster**, chooses
God is Working His Purpose out as Year Succeeds to Year...

MY favourite hymn is **God is Working His Purpose out as Year Succeeds to Year**".

It shows God is in control and ultimately the whole earth will be filled with the glory of God. It also shows that God's word is sent out by many messengers from utmost east to utmost west.

I also particularly am inspired by the phrase we sing that "all we can do is nothing worth, unless God blesses the deed".

1 God is working this purpose out,
as year succeeds to year;
God is working this purpose out,
and the time is drawing near;
nearer and nearer draws the time,

the time that shall surely be:
when the earth shall be filled with the
glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

2 From utmost east to utmost west,
where human feet have trod,
by the mouth of many messengers
goes forth the voice of God:
"Give ear to me, ye continents,
ye isles, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the
glory of God
as the waters cover the sea."

3 Let us go forth in the strength of
God,
with the banner of Christ unfurled,
that the light of the glorious gospel of

truth
may shine throughout the world.
Let us all fight with sorrow and sin
to set the captives free,
that the earth may be filled with the
glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

4 All we can do is nothing worth
unless God blesses the deed.
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide
till God gives life to the seed.
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the
glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

Author: Arthur Campbell Ainger
(1841 – 1919)

Bible readings April

Date	OT Readings	NT Readings
Sunday 7 th April Easter 2	Acts 4: 32-35	John 20: 19-end
Sunday 14 th April Easter 3	Acts 3: 12-19	Luke 24: 36b-48
Sunday 21 st April Easter 4	Acts 4: 5-12	John 10: 11-18
Sunday 28 th April Easter 5	Acts 8: 26-end	John 15: 1-8
Sunday 5 th May Easter 6	Acts 10: 44-end	John 15: 9-17

From the registers...

Funerals

The committal of **Sidnie James Newbery** took place on Friday, March 1st at St Giles Churchyard, Kilminster.

The funeral of **David George Rayner** took place on Thursday, March 7th at Taunton Crematorium.

The funeral of **Margaret Dawn Carter** took place on Friday, March 8th at East Devon Crematorium.

The funeral of **Colin Dunmow** took place on Wednesday, March 13th at East Devon Crematorium.

We extend our deepest
sympathies to their
families and friends.



New programme board to help steer next steps

FOLLOWING discussion at the February meeting of General Synod, further details of plans for a new programme board to oversee the ongoing work of Living in Love and Faith (LLF) have been shared with General Synod members.

The Bishop of Leicester, Martyn Snow, the lead bishop for LLF, has written to Synod members to outline plans for a new oversight board and the reformation of three working groups: the Pastoral Guidance Working Group, the Pastoral Reassurance Working Group and the Prayers of Love and Faith (PLF) Working Group.

Synod members have been invited to express their interest in joining the groups which will be formed of bishops, other clergy and laity.

In addition to these working groups, meetings with stakeholders will be organised to help enable progress

ahead of a meeting of The House of Bishops' in May.

Two formal groups will also be formed, as agreed following the commendation of the PLF:

- Pastoral Consultative Group – to aid bishops, diocesan staff and others with answers to the broad questions that arise from the implementation of PLF and other LLF work. This group will comprise a small number of bishops, supported by consultants.

- Independent Review Panel – to consider concerns about the implementation of the PLF and application of the pastoral guidance, and make recommendations for addressing justifiable concerns.

A timeline is being finalised to allow these groups to make progress ahead of the House of Bishops' meeting later in May, which will feed into the General Synod sessions in July.

Final call for confirmation

THE next service of confirmation will be conducted by Acting Bishop of Exeter, Rt Rev Jackie Searle at St Giles's Church, Kilmington, on Thursday, May 9th at 7.30pm.

If anyone would like to be confirmed at this special service, please make sure you speak to Rev Julie Lomas on or before April 14th – this is now the final call for candidates.

Contact revjulielomas@gmail.com or 07488 278483.

Save the date: for holiday club

THE Baptist Church Kilmington and friends will be hosting their annual summer holiday club for those currently in Reception to Year 6 from Monday to Friday, August 5th to 9th.

Bible stories, songs, games, snacks and crafts will be engaging children throughout the activity week. More details, including how to book, will be released nearer the time.

Lent 'thank you'

LINDA Heighway would like to thank organisers and volunteers of a recent event.

She said: "Please thank all the folks who arranged the Lent lunches and happy Easter to all the Five Alive community."

Juletta gets stuck in for families with scavenger hunt and school activities

AS part of my role as Families Outreach Worker, I will be providing activities each month to help you to explore faith at home.

This month, I have adapted a scavenger hunt (see page 21) produced by the Kitchen Table project, which has a website full of ideas and a brilliant Facebook page.

During the spring term, I have been finding my feet and starting to get to know the various teams of people supporting families in each of the parishes.

It was wonderful to be involved in

two activities with Shute Primary School down at the church and to visit Stockland Primary Academy for an assembly.

Look out for more events and activities that the Five Alive team will be working on across the parishes.

If you would like more support in exploring faith with your children or young people or are interested in a parenting for faith or raising faith course do get in touch.

Juletta Obudo

Families Outreach Worker

5alive.families@gmail.com



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

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



My journey to the stained-glass windows

By Rev Alison Finch

I'VE been with you a few week now, you might have seen me about, and I look forward to getting to know all of you come time, just please be patient with me I'm terrible at remembering names!

I was made wonderfully welcome at Kilmington on March 3rd and some of you heard my testimony on New Year's Eve in Dalwood. So for those of you who weren't there, I thought I'll tell you a little bit about me, my life,

POEM

ON A HILLSIDE

On a hillside, lone, forsaken,
Just a felon on each side,
Hung the Son of God, our Saviour,
Who, for us, was crucified.

His were not the sins that put him
There for all the world to see.
Ours the guilt that saw him hanging
On the cross at Calvary.

In his love for us he suffered
Painful death upon a tree.
Dying so that, sins forgiven,
We may live eternally.

Earthly tomb could not confine him,
Plans of scheming mankind failed,
There the grave clothes but no body,
Death and sin have not prevailed.

"He is risen, he is risen"
May our hearts with gladness sing.
Raised in triumph, death defeated,
Reigns on high our heav'nly king.

Can be sung to All for Jesus, by John Stainer.

Roderick Ovey
Dalwood Methodist Church



and what brought me here.

I remember running into a church when I was about three, I'd been taken there by one of the staff from the children's home, where I lived in Aberdeen.

The first thing I saw was the colours coming into the church from the stained-glass windows, it was beautiful, amazing, and I just wanted to be part of that rainbow of colour and I ran down the aisle to get to the light. Not so fast, a hand came out, grabbed me, picked me up and took me away from the beautiful windows.

I suppose that is the story of my life, wanting to get to that light, those colourful windows and yet, there always seemed to be a barrier stopping me. My journey into priesthood has been an eventful one, from being told I wasn't good enough, not from the right background, to having health issues, and even worse – I was a woman! Yet, deep down in my soul, I knew, without doubt, I was been called to be a priest.

The first bishop I met, told me: "He didn't really want to meet me, and I had an hour to persuade him why he should ordain me." He sent me to a selection conference! Then during my conference, I was told I wasn't educated enough, but I fought my corner saying I was a qualified nurse.

The chairman of the conference was different, I met him in the bar the night before my interview with him (we were the only two in there) and the next day I remember it like yesterday. He said: "Alison, people in the church are going to try and change you, but don't change, the church needs people like you." I passed the selection conference.

When I went to theological college as a full-time student, I was asked to leave the tutorials if they were discussing 'priestly things' (I didn't I put up a good fight!). I was the only woman in my year, and I quickly grew a thick skin.

My curacy was in Banbury in Oxfordshire and it was during my time there that I was finally ordained priest on April 17th 1994, as I walked out of church to loud cheers and clapping I realised I'd finally achieved what God wanted for me, I had arrived at the stained-glass windows.

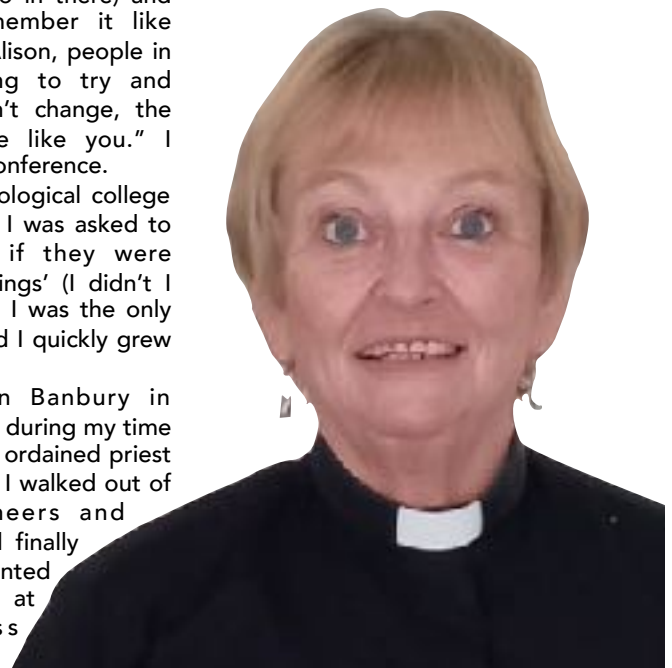
The barriers didn't stop then, there were always people who made it plain what they thought of 'women priests', I was spat at, received hate mail and I even had a brick through my window, where my girls were sitting. Whenever I took a service in those early days, I always felt I was being judged, but I got bolder and I grew in confidence.

My ministry has seen me being a vicar in Broadstairs to rector of the Orkney Isles, to being a full-time town/workplace chaplain in Colchester. I decided to retire early when I was vicar/chaplain in High Wycombe, just after Richard, my husband, died seven years ago.

I've been part of St Gregory's, Seaton, for six years, in that time I have trained as an Anna Chaplain, which is a ministry to older people in their homes and care homes.

However, it seems that God has other plans for me as, last October, I was invited to become more involved in supporting the Five Alive East Devon Mission Community, and I will shortly be licensed as an associate minister to this mission community.

As I write, I thank God for the barriers, that has been put down on my path of life, I thank Him too for the bridges that I've been allowed to cross, and as I look to my future, I still see some barriers, some crossroads appearing in my life, but I journey on knowing that God is right beside me and I thank God that he's led me here.



Palestine women: World Day of Prayer

By Caroline Nunns

THIS year's World Day of Prayer was written by a group of Christian women living in Palestine. The service was prepared 18 months ago, before the events of October 7th and the subsequent crisis in Gaza. The theme of the service was 'I beg you, bear with one another in love.'

The service began with Palestinian music and a slide show of Palestine. A display of Palestinian produce reminded us of the importance of the olive tree, both for its oil used in Middle Eastern cuisine but also as a symbol for the three women whose voices we heard read by members of the congregation.

The trunk of the olive tree was represented by an older woman, Eleanor, and a member of the Greek Orthodox Church in the Holy Land. St George's Orthodox Church was established by her grandfather in the early 19th Century.

During the Nakba or 'catastrophe' of 1948 when 750,000 Palestinians including her family were forced to flee, her Jewish neighbours offered to store icons and precious communion cups for the family ready

for their return but this has never happened.

Eleanor now lives in Jerusalem where she has worked implementing humanitarian and development programmes serving all the community regardless of ethnicity, gender, status or need.

Next, we met Lina whose aunt Shireen Abu Akleh was a prominent Palestinian-American journalist who worked as a reporter for 25 years for Al Jazeera, before she was killed by an Israeli soldier while wearing a blue press vest and covering a raid on the Jenin refugee camp in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. Shireen was like the branch of an olive tree and although cut down too soon, her legacy lives on as a Christian woman who dared to speak the truth in love.

Finally, we met Sara who was born and raised in Jerusalem as a Lutheran Christian. She is like the leaf of the olive tree connected through its branched to the roots.

She has seen many changes in society for the better which has been indicated by ordination of her church's first female pastor.

With her parents, she visited her grandparent's old house in Jaffa but sadly those now living in the house were hostile to them. Her great

grandma, like others forced to flee in 1948 kept the keys to the house in the hope that they could one day return.

During the peace, the congregation were encouraged to pass to other members a bookmark showing an olive branch, with the words 'Put peace into each other's hands and like a treasure hold it' from a hymn by Fred Kaan.

We were delighted to welcome Rev Nicky Davies, Team Vicar for the Axe Valley Mission Community who has worked for an outreach group in Palestine and who spoke of how the community reached out with love to all members of the community offering a safe space in spite of many hardships such as the power and water being constantly turned off and how they had to pass through many checkpoints when they travelled.

The congregation stayed for refreshments and an opportunity to talk to Nicky after the service.

Many thanks go to Mary Harrison and her team for organising the event. If you would like to find out more, booklets are available in Kilmington church or go to www.wwdp.org.uk

The artwork in the booklets is by Halima Aziz, a Palestinian visual artist based in Germany.





DALWOOD NEWS

Parish correspondent Stephen Boyes-Lee – stephen@burfords.co.uk
Parish distributor Sue Drew– 01404 831365

Innes on the start line at muddy run

THE clouds parted and the sun shone for this year's Dalwood 3 Hills Challenge on Sunday, February 18th, started by a local celebrity.

But it wasn't all plain sailing, although anyone involved may have been better off if they did have a boat! Several parts of the course had

to be changed at the last minute due to flooding from heavy overnight rain, but nothing deterred the 197 runners even though one of the youngest runners said, at one point, the water was up to her knees!

Dalwoodians came out in force to support the runners at various stages of the race, including 30 marshals, car parking attendants and a large number of spectators.

Ruby Red Runners from Honiton, the race organisers, said that the popularity of the event was testament to the warm welcome given by Dalwood residents and thanked locals for sharing the "beautiful village"; they had so many lovely comments from the competitors – so it is set to run for a few more years to come!

The village was honoured to welcome celebrity starter Innes FitzGerald, European U20 cross

country champion, also recognised for her stance on environmental issues.

Runners came from far and wide and helpers had fun spotting club vests as participants ran passed from Crewkerne, Exmouth, Swanage, Teignbridge and as far away as Cornwall. Then all back to Dalwood Village Hall for the presentstion, including prizes donated by Dalwood Vineyard, and, of course, cake (there's always cake in Dalwood!).

The proceeds have been agreed to be dispersed as follows: Shute Primary School PTFA – £500; Rich Wigram New Zealand Farming Scholarship – £500; Motor Neurone Disease – £500; Honiton Food Bank – £250; Axminster Food Bank – £250.

See pages 9-10 for the race results from the day and visit the Ruby Red Runners FaceBook page for full details and more photos.



DALWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

invite you to a

COFFEE MORNING

AT THE CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY 10TH APRIL

10-30 AM - 12 NOON

WITH A "BRING AND BUY" STALL

IN AID OF

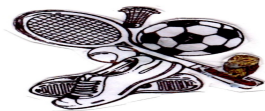
HOSPICE CARE

DO COME AND ENJOY A CUPPA AND A CHAT AND SUPPORT THIS WORTHWHILE CAUSE!



Dalwood Recreation Trust's

Reg. Charity no. 114810



12th PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER

Dalwood 'Street' Plant Sale Week

Saturday 18th to Saturday 25th May 2024

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 any plants from seeds we have packets in the shop, please help yourself. We would love to receive donations of any plants, that you can spare. Please bring them to the shop before 18th May or on Saturday 18th May after 10.00am.

The tables will be along the street and outside the shop.

THANK YOU

All proceeds to Dalwood Recreation Trust
For further information please contact
Shelagh 01404 881193 or Sue 01404 881688

DALWOOD NEWS

Red Ruby Running - Dalwood 3 Hills - Provisional Results 2024 - Men

Position	Name	Race Time
1	Sam Kelly	01.04.39
2	Michal Legg	01.07.44
3	Matthew Clist	01.08.24

Red Ruby Running - Dalwood 3 Hills - Provisional Results 2024 - Women

Position	Name	Race Time
8	Jo Meek	01.17.06
9	Elizabeth Dyson	01.17.25
31	Claire Watkins	01.30.00

Red Ruby Running - Dalwood Dash - Provisional Results 2024 - Men

Position	Name	Race Time
1	Rossi Wayne	34.20
2	Yossi MaClure	34.22
3	Rafe MaClure	34.57
6	Oscar Wadley – (Marshal error impacting time by 10 minutes)	39.07

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

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

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



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



NEW RANGE : Vegan, Free From dairy, gluten, nuts, eggs, Vegetarian
**If you want more products stocked in this range, that you would buy,
please let us know.**

Could you buy **1 more item when you call in ?**

SHOP OPENING SUMMER TIMES From 1st April

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

POST OFFICE opening times

FRIDAY 10.00am - 12.00pm

DALWOOD NEWS



CELEBRITY starter
Innes Fitzgerald sets
the runners on their
way

Red Ruby Running - Dalwood Dash - Provisional Results 2024 - Women

Position	Name	Race Time
3	Lucy Skye	34.30
7	Mia Wills	39.32
9	Imi Clarke	42.01

For more information
on the Five Alive
Mission Community
please visit
www.fivealive.org



DALWOOD COMMUNITY SHOP & POST OFFICE

FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY 13TH APRIL

DALWOOD VILLAGE HALL

6.00pm first call 6.30pm

Bar* Refreshments* Raffle*

PRIZES

As the extension nears completion, we are
getting ready to open the Coffee Shop, join
us for an update and a fun filled
Family Bingo night.

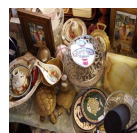


Jumble Sale



in

Dalwood Village
Hall



Sat 27th April

At 2.00pm

Bric-a-brac, Jumble, Books, Nearly New, Clothes,
Raffle, Teas

Admission 20p



Proceeds in aid of Dalwood Church



KILMINGTON NEWS

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

Mother's Day flowers and fun

By Anna Crabbe

A LOVELY Mothering Sunday service was enjoyed on March 10th at St Giles's Church with posies being given to all the ladies in the church and some were delivered after the service to ladies in the village.

A sketch called A Job for Life was performed which was amusing to the congregation. Thanks go to the posy-making team and to Diana Seward, allowing us to use the barn to make the posies.

Diana's car, which deviated from the track when driving down to the barn, had to be rescued! Everybody was safe and the car survived.

Thanks go to all who helped with the service.



Bells on Sunday

THE bells ring on Sundays prior to a service, usually in the morning. However, don't be surprised if you hear St Giles's Church bells ringing again on April 28th, 5-6pm.

A team from Combeinteignhead will be visiting to practice for a competition in May. Please therefore do not come to church expecting a service.

Celia Dunsford

Garden colour

KILMINGTON gardening club's next talk, 'All year round colour in the garden', is by Alan Down.

He has had a career in horticulture and owned Cleeve Nursery for 35 years. Everyone is welcome to the village hall on Friday, April 12th at 7.30pm. Non-members £3, bar, tea and coffee.



Kilmingtong Litter Pick

SUNDAY 7TH APRIL

3 PM - 5 PM

"LET'S CLEAN FOR A BETTER FUTURE"



STARTING & FINISHING @ ST GILES CHURCH

FREE REFRESHMENTS AT THE END

KILMINGTON NEWS



CELEBRATING her 90th birthday, local lady Sheila Hill hosted a lunch for family and friends in Kilmington Village Hall

Big breakfast

ON Saturday, March 9th, Kilmington held its annual Big Breakfast in aid of Cancer Research.

The queue started to form outside the village hall from 8.45am ready for the doors to open at 9am and it was then busy till the doors closed at 12noon.

The team worked hard at cooking, serving, selling cakes and running the tombola, but it was worth it as over £2,500 was raised for this worthy cause. Well done to all involved.



**For more information
on the Five Alive
Mission Community
please visit
www.fivealive.org**

Charity Lent lunches

By Jean Thorne

DURING the period of Lent, a delicious meal of homemade soup, bread and cheese followed by tea or coffee was available to enable people to get together and raise money for good causes. All this had only been made possible by the work of generous volunteers.

This year, lunches were provided on Wednesdays until March 27th at 12noon in Kilmington's cricket pavilion. Soup deliveries were made to anyone unable

to attend.

Donations were welcomed and all proceeds went to charity. Over the years, many charities have benefited from these events.

The first lunch held on February 21st was very well attended, despite heavy rain which formed an enormous puddle outside the pavilion entrance. After many leaps across, or paddles in the puddle, the hot soup was most welcome!

Many thanks go to Christine Thorne, the event organiser, and her helpers who all worked so hard this year.



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

KILMINGTON NEWS



VILLAGE'S THRIVING COFFEE SHOP

By Gill Heighway

HAVING enjoyed the company and delicious biscuits on offer at Kilmington's weekly coffee shop, I thought it was about time someone wrote a short piece to encourage those who haven't made it yet to give it a go.

The Friday Coffee Shop was started by Ann Marsh way back in 2008 and she was ably assisted by Mary Tyler and Jan Farley.

Over the years, the team has

changed and it has gone from strength-to-strength, with more and more people stopping off for a beverage and some of Margaret Astbury's wonderful biscuits, tarts and cakes – a different recipe each week.

Margaret joined the team in around 2012 and Lucy Lane and Barbara Woodsford have now come aboard too.

For several years, Ann kept a register of who attended each week, however, as it became ever more popular, this practice has fallen by the wayside! Passing walking groups pop

in regularly, which is lovely, and a few tourists have been enticed in by the sign put out every Friday.

Anyone is welcome to join the group between 10am and 12noon at St Giles's Church, Kilmington, each Friday of the year.

Visitors will receive a warm welcome and lots of great chat. Donations are happily accepted for the upkeep of the coffee shop, however, anyone passing without any cash, should not let that stop them popping in for a cuppa – we look forward to seeing everyone.





STOCKLAND NEWS

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

True mystery story

TWO thoroughly enjoyable reads have been the subjects of the recent book club meetings – On Chapel Sands: My mother and other missing persons (Laura Cumming) and Nine Lives, Peter Swanson.

From the onset, the author of On Chapel Sands assures all the characters are real. Only one name had been changed, in the final chapter. Thus, the reader embarks on a true story (believing in the narration) with many twists and turns before the final one.

The opening chapter is exceptionally powerful drawing the reader in immediately. In 1929, Laura Cumming's mother, Betty, was kidnapped from an almost empty beach in Lincolnshire – a prolonged moment of inattention – the three-year-old was gone. The police were called and no one in the village of Chapel St Leonard had seen anything. For her parents this was a nightmare. An inexplicable abduction – Betty turned up safe and sound but the circumstances that surrounded her being snatched were shrouded in secrets and lies. Far from knowing nothing, people locally were seemingly locked in acts of communal silence that would continue for decades – knowing far more than they would let on. Once the narrator is identified – sometimes confusing – the storytelling is just a delight whilst the author cleverly weaves her literary expertise into some just sublime sentences cleverly illustrated through well-known artworks. The entire group thoroughly enjoyed the book – absolutely absorbing and challenging.

Other books that had been read by group members were shared and included: Next to Nature (Donald Blythe), A Lady's Guide to Fortune Hunting (Sophie Irwin), Underneath the Archers (Grahame Harvey) – an absolute must for The Archers fans; The Body - A Guide for Occupants (Bill Bryson), A Place Called Winter (Patrick Gale) and the frequently recommended Akenfield (Ronald Blythe).

The Book Club meets on a monthly basis on Saturday mornings. Contact: Paul Spencer on 01404 881819.

Gill Metcalfe

'Outstanding' event takes over village life

By Gill Metcalfe

IT is hardly surprising that the Stockland section of *The Parishes' Paper* this issue is dominated by the events of one outstanding week in March – that of 10th-16th – its effects reverberating well into April.

This was a village showcase week with all events taking place in the village church. Starting on the Sunday – Mothering Sunday – beginning with the service the Stockland adventure had begun. With the past as theme of the focus local detectorist Simon Durrant shared his historical knowledge and local 'finds' with parishioners and others. This was followed by the launch of the Stockland Past and Present Exhibition which then ran for the full week closing on the following Saturday with a musical finale of Songs from Devon featuring Jim Causley (and Uncle Tom Cobley and all) to bring down the curtain on a stunning enterprise. How to be proud of a village and appreciate the energy, the time and even the passion behind its production.

Then the spin-offs for the community. Every class from Stockland's school – Featherlake, Horner, Quantock and Bucehayes – were on board throughout the week visiting the exhibition in turn and for Quantock it was a full back in time tour of the village led by local historian and publisher Bryan Drew alongside his wife, Rowena, plus organiser Wendy Urquhart – all with lots of stories to tell as well as having an unbelievable Stockland knowledge – with the circuit ending at a one-time local ale house at Church Style Farm!

And then not to mention the Stocklanders themselves pouring over the memorabilia, recognising their homes, past relatives and local stalwarts and all the old machinery, tools and hands on farming. Lots to pour over – memories to be recovered and smiles galore at recognition of at what was once – and innumerable thanks for an unforgettable reminder and exhibition.

Without doubt the organising team are to be heartily congratulated and thanked for such an unforgettable week. Well, done to them all.

Fantastic fundraising for church help

THE Friends of St Michael and All Angels committee recently consulted Rev Julie Lomas and the PCC as to what future projects they had in mind for the church to which the group might contribute.

Several ideas were put forward and the group is delighted to be able to assist with the costs of new bell ropes; a large screen projector for use by church and school; improvements to the children's area in line with Julie's aim of making the

church open to everyone; large electric candles for use at services such as at Christmas – a health and safety issue subject to new regulations; a new set of step ladders for the same reason as above; and leaflet holders for improved display purposes.

Thanks go to members of the group and to all those who have supported fundraising events without which none of these things would be possible.

Friends of St Michael and All Angels

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE: SEND US YOUR REPORTS AND PHOTOS

Please send your Stockland news, photos and event reports to village correspondent Gill Metcalfe: gilldog12@gmail.com

STOCKLAND NEWS

FIRST LUNCH OF THE YEAR IS BIGGEST YET

THE first ladies' lunch of 2024; not the first Wednesday as per the usual schedule for the group's get-together but the change did not deter anyone with 28 signed in for lunch – 12.30pm and the eagerness to arrive was noted. This was the biggest group ever!

With the King's Arms Stockland unavailable, a change in venue was needed and the Sidmouth Arms, Upottery, stepped in and heartily welcomed the group.

With the outstanding experience of the Christmas meal with them, the owners of the Sidmouth Arms pulled out all the stops and far exceeded expectations in venue, food, service and ambience.

Thanks goes to the staff for making the lunch and the time spent so memorable and enjoyable.

There is no doubt that the get-togethers are more than welcomed and enjoyed and that they contribute to village life – chatting, catching up, learning about new grandchildren, holidays, family and successes, all avidly shared plus some speculation as to what was happening and indeed what happened in the village.

Thanks go to all who tucked in, enjoyed the banter, won the raffle and returned home thoroughly delighted to have been able to join in and contribute to the venture.

Ladies' Wednesday Lunch committee

Visit: www.fivealive.org
for more information on
the mission community

Primary school fun

THE spring term has been a busy one for Stockland Primary Academy.

It was a joy to see the children out and about in the village with the recent history focus.

Featherlake, having immersed themselves in the storyline of The Big Bad Wolf were posed with constructing more imaginative sentences; Horner examined some of the local archaeological finds and looked at the development of aeronautical flight starting with the Wright brothers; Quantock joined in with the history immersion of the village and were able to share historic finds; and Bucehayes were busy completing assessments and writing texts for websites.

And finally, swimming – perhaps a little light relief.

Such curricula synopsis demonstrates just how busy the local schoolchildren are – but what fun!

Gill Metcalfe



Photos: Julia Howard

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starts on
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lessons from 13.30

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Jo Jo

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£30 for 6 weeks

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5 – 12 years

spaces are limited



THE wettest February, rained almost every day since Christmas and April will soon arrive. Despite the muddy lanes, the puddles and the quagmires rendered of lanes spring undaunted has woven its way into the area. Lambs abound, blossoms are evident and the raw colours of winter are changing as the blooms take over

PAUSE FOR PRAYER

A Prayer for Lent by John Birch

Remind us often Lord,
when we are feeling
proud,
arrogant,
beyond reproach,
pleased with ourselves,
self-sufficient in our ways,
that for such as us
and better
and worse
you walked a road
that took you to a cruel cross,
and rose again to show us where
we might look for rescue
as from this lofty perch
we fall.

Contributed by Philippa Wilks

SAVING THE KINGS ARMS PUB AGAIN!

By Gill Metcalfe

THE wonderful Stockland pub, The Kings Arms Inn, has had a rocky year with periods of closure and uncertainty culminating in the pub closing on December 29th last year.

On February 29th, Stockland Community Pub Limited (SCPL) held its annual members' meeting at The Victory Hall to bring the membership up-to-date with what has been happening and more importantly the outlook for the future.

The meeting was very well attended with 91 members out of a membership of 293 present in person and a further 25 members submitting proxy votes.

The first part of the proceedings covered the management committee's review of the year presented by the chairperson, followed by the treasurer's report. Phil Burnett, the current chair, took the meeting through the circumstances leading up to the temporary closure last summer and the subsequent re-opening of the pub in September and the difficult decisions and legal actions that the management committee had to take to ensure the continued survival of SCPL and hence the pub.

Andy Kippax, treasurer, reinforced the challenges SCPL faced financially over the year but noted that the situation had improved significantly as a result of a settlement with the outgoing tenants and the receipt of income from the new tenant.

The members present expressed their

thanks to the management committee for their actions during what must have been a stressful time.

The future now looks much more certain, with a new tenant signed up, SCPL finances looking healthy and the Kings Arms anticipated to re-open in the coming weeks and, once again, become the hub of the village. Locals close to the pub will have noted the flurry of activity in recent weeks as SCPL and the new tenant undertake a range of works to repair and refurbish the building in anticipation of re-opening.

The second part of the proceedings was the election of members to the management committee. A total of nine candidates stood for seven places on the committee – an unprecedented level of interest for which the current committee were very grateful.

The successful candidates and the existing members of the management committee met the following week at The Kings Arms to elect the society officers for the coming year and to plan activities and support for the pub and tenant in the coming year.

Members of the management committee are: Phil Burnett – chair, Damian Clay – vice chair, Andy Kippax – treasurer, Sheelagh Dawes – secretary, Craig Bernhardt, Nick Chance, Catherine Derryman, Martin Gundry, Anna Trott, John Vickery, Steve Whitley and Jane Yates.

The committee wishes new tenant Andrew Marshall all the best for his new venture.

Philip Burnett





SHUTE & WHITFORD NEWS

Parish correspondent - Fanny Balcombe - fbalcombe@btinternet.com

Parish distributor Betty Harris - 01297 34199



ABOVE left, Maureen Davey and Jenny Bartlett, the two Sunday lunch chefs. Above right, a lunch visitor taking time to read The Parishes' Paper

Impressive lunch thanks to the community spirit

By Joy Burgess

SUNDAY lunch again at Whitford Village Hall, always a much looked forward to event!

On entering the hall it looked lovely with fresh flowers on the tables and very enticing cooking smells wafting in from the kitchen.

In the kitchen, Jenny Bartlett and Maureen Davey were busy preparing both beef and vegetarian lasagnas with salad and garlic bread.

The hall started to fill up – Maggie Patterson and Joy Burgess took the orders, then the regular waitresses, Coral Robinson and Joan Knowles, started to bring out the food. There were very generous portions of really lovely food.

Meanwhile, the bar was in full swing in the capable hands of David and Fanny

Balcombe, always a popular meeting place for friends and villagers to chat and enjoy the refreshments, particularly the very palatable wines chosen by expert Xenia Ruscombe-King.

Then visitors somehow had to find room for pudding; there were so many to choose from baked by very talented ladies of the village and served up by Ali Hunt and Diane Small.

Thanks must go to the many other people involved in organising and helping. The mound of washing up was tackled by Jan King and Megan Cox. Thanks also to those who set up the hall and those who cleared up afterwards, took table cloths and tea towels home to be washed.

Events like this only happen because of the willingness of many people to join in and help and thanks go to them all for providing such a lovely, enjoyable lunch.

Welcome on Wednesdays

WEDNESDAY Welcome is held in cosy Coronation Room in Whitford Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.

It is a friendly group of people who share a get-together and chat about life experiences and any number of diverse topics. The hour-and-a-half quickly passes with bouts of laughter and reminiscences of past events, whilst we sup coffee and munch on biscuits.

Twice a year, the group ventures out from the village and treat themselves to a lunch or cream tea and enjoy the pleasant surroundings of a café or tea room that we may not have known previously.

Recently, the group has invited friends to join at 12noon, and taste the homemade soup provided by Ros Hallworth and Christine Plowman. This treat is much appreciated by all the members of the Wednesday Welcome group.

New members are always welcome, as the name suggests.

Kay Orsman

Busy village life

WHITFORD is a seemingly quiet village to drive through but it has a vibrant community life with many things happening throughout the year.

Over the last few months, events have included a buzzing village quiz, bingo night, a Hallowe'en celebration for lots of local youngsters, themed bar nights and a village lunch for over 60 people, cooked and served by a team of volunteers. These village lunches are legendary, often on the first Sunday of the month.

A village-wide flower pot festival is planned for June and the village produce association summer and autumn shows will happen later in the year. This is only a snapshot of life in Whitford and everything depends on as many willing volunteers as possible.

Fanny Balcombe

For more information on the Five Alive Mission Community please visit the website: www.fivealive.org

SHUTE & WHITFORD NEWS

Dairymaids and milkmen of long ago: tales told

AT the latest meeting of The Umborne Social Club, the group enjoyed an entertaining and very informative talk given by Colin Pady, an experienced local dairy farmer from Colyford.

His family has farmed for many years in the area and he recounted interesting tales growing up on the family farm.

The local dairy farms were originally very much family businesses with sons becoming cow men and daughters becoming dairymaids, responsible for the milk, cheese and cream production and selling them at the local pannier market in Colyton.

The group heard how dairy farming evolved from these small farms through to milk rounds selling direct to the public and then on to centralised distribution enabled by railways and refrigeration.

Herds got bigger and less labour was needed with the arrival of tractors, milking machines and larger sheds.

The Milk Marketing Board, set up in the 1930s controlled the milk market in the UK but it was dissolved in 1994 after it failed to comply with EEC rules at the time.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 4th at 7.30pm when Alma Swan from the East Devon Meadows Group will be talking about the work done there.

Sheila Townsend



Let the bells ring for cubs

ON a gusty Saturday afternoon in February, Colyton and Seaton Cubs descended on Kilmington church for a visit to the bell tower.

Their leader, Richard Norman, had arranged with parents and Kilmington bell ringers to show the cubs around the bell tower, and a demonstration of the workings of the clock.

When they first arrived, it appeared chaotic but Richard soon had them all under control, firstly with a talk on the safety of everyone and he expressed to the cubs the importance of listening and doing what the adult said who was their chaperone for the visit.

On the way up to the tower, the children stopped to see the tower clock workings and had the opportunity to wind one of the weights by turning one of the large wooden handles which they enjoyed.

Next stop was looking at the bells in their frames, next to some of the cubs standing by the door, the bells looked huge. At the top, the children were delighted to see how high they were. Eventually, they all climbed down and

took turns at chiming the bells in the chamber.

Richard had set up large and small handbells and, after much laughter, parents and children managed to ring Happy Birthday, which everyone was really pleased about.

To round off the afternoon, the bell ringers gave a short demonstration of ringing.

Richard also mentioned that they are extremely short of leaders for the cubs and would welcome volunteers to help.

Maureen Davey

Shute and Colyton bellringer



Join in with the flowerpot fun

WHITFORD'S first Flowerpot Festival is due to take place on Saturday and Sunday, June 1st and 2nd, 10.30am-4.30pm.

Tea, coffee, cake and ice creams will be served all day on Saturday and there will be a bar, barbecue and ice creams served on Sunday.

Trail maps and a quiz will also be available.

Please come and support this event. Visitors will be amazed by the creativity of the good people of Whitford. The Chapel will be open on both days.

Ros Hallworth

Please send all your Shute and Whitford village news, photos and event reports to the parish correspondent, Fanny Balcombe, via email at: fbalcombe@btinternet.com

SHUTE & WHITFORD NEWS

POEM

NOLI ME TANGERE (Easter Morning)

When I saw you early in the morning
I thought you were the gardener;
I did not recognise your grace,
that fragility of bone in flesh,
the oh so well known line and form.

I hurried to you unknowing,
the anxious question in the air
spoken before I reached you –
Where is he? Where have they
taken
My lord? A wonderful revelation!

And it is terrible. You say to me –
Mary, touch me not ... You are
marble,
but I have held your familiar body
in intimate communion. You are
changed
now, suddenly unknowable and
new.

Stranger, you bewilder me.
Can you not give me even
one tender moment's comfort?
Must I not ever feel again
the warmth of your embrace?

I am consumed with shame:
I gave you my heart because
you knew me in an instant;
you understood my readiness,
ever too keen, unguarded.

I have only just learned to know you
and now you put me from you.
My recoil is deep and painful
and I have no strength to renounce
you.
How can I share you?

Today you belong to everyone.
Your words are for the world and I
no longer know my place.
I cannot see you clearly through my
tears
and I am lost again.

Fanny Balcombe

**For more information
on the Five Alive
Mission Community please
visit www.fivealive.org**

Edward and his music will be greatly missed

IT is with sadness that the residents of Whitford learned of the passing of Edward Jacobs, teacher and professional musician, just 63 years.

In 2008, he moved to the village and made an instant impact when he formed the Axe Valley Community Choir with rehearsals in the village hall. His passion for music and for encouraging inclusivity resulted in many people singing who had no previous experience or who considered themselves to be 'tone deaf'.

The choir went from strength-to-strength and, with up to 80 members, was invited to sing locally and notably opened Dalwood Music Day and performed an emotional Christmas celebration in the Minster in Axminster. He even took the bold decision to support the choir in making a CD which featured I Made it Through the Rain, a favourite at the time.

Edward supported Whitford Village Hall by putting on piano concerts and, during lockdown, he placed the piano at the entrance so that people could enjoy his beautiful music from a safe distance. Recently, at the tiny church, The St Mary At the Cross, Whitford, he gave a piano recital to raise money for this building that he loved. This place of worship now has a lovely old organ that Edward once played on a Christmas Eve when the organist was 'snowed in' and also a piano that Edward donated to the church in memory of a special friend of his.

At Whitford Summer Show, Edward was pleased to display his classic cars and especially his father's Riley that he still used occasionally. He also drove coaches during the summer season along the Jurassic Coast and he enjoyed the banter from holidaymakers.



He loved teaching at St Mary's Catholic School and the pupils had a great respect and affection for him and his style of teaching. People of all ages interested Edward and he loved nothing better than to be with friends, sharing stories, all enhanced by generous slices of cake! He will be missed.

Kay Orsman

**Please send all your Shute
and Whitford village news,
photos and event reports to
parish correspondent Fanny
Balcombe via email at:
fbalcombe@btinternet.com**

Spring Opening Festival of the Devon Historic Churches Trust



**Bishop's
Open Garden**

The garden of the Bishop's Palace is one of the best kept secrets in the area. It is a beautiful garden with a mix of formal and informal planting. The garden is open to the public for a few days each year. It is a great place to see the garden and the palace. The garden is open to the public for a few days each year. It is a great place to see the garden and the palace.

The Palace, Palace Gate, Exeter, EX1 1HP
Sunday 17th and 24th March 24
Sunday 14th and 20th April 24
2pm-4pm. Charge 5p. Children 2.5p

There is no charge for parking. Please do not feed the animals. Please do not smoke. Please do not drink alcohol. Please do not litter. Please do not enter the garden after 4pm.

More information on www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk



YARCOMBE NEWS

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

Peter's Eco Church award

By Rebecca Bell

THE churchwardens and the PCC of St John the Baptist Church, Yarcombe, are very happy to announce that they have been awarded a bronze Eco Church award in recognition of their efforts to care for God's Earth in each of the following areas: worship and teaching, management of buildings and land community and global engagement lifestyle.

The church will now be working towards the silver award.

At present, there is a vacancy for the role of eco representative for St John the Baptist Church.

Anyone interested, enthusiastic and keen in all things 'eco' and caring for the environment and feel they would like to



REV Julie presents Peter Bell with a bronze Eco Award for St John the Baptist Church

consider taking on this valuable role as the church's eco representative, please contact Reverend Julie Lomas for further information of what is involved.

Wisdom event raises £682 for hall

ON March 9th, Yarcombe Jubilee Hall was filled with 15 excited teams all eager to enjoy a fun and relaxed evening of food and test their knowledge at the wine and wisdom fundraiser.

Quizmaster Cathy Derryman asked questions on various subjects which included general knowledge, singing duets, famous faces and bird songs. During the evening, colourful, tasty plates of refreshments were all consumed and washed down with wine and a selection of beverages available from the bar, and everyone eagerly bought raffle tickets on arrival from the inescapable positioned raffle table.

The Golden Star added to the

atmosphere of the evening moving from table to table during the night as the top scoring position varied, but finally landed and ended on the winning table; a team from Stockland. Thanks go to Cathy Derryman for her wonderful array of questions and everyone who helped make the evening a great success – all contributions helped raise an amazing £682 to assist with the hall's ever increasing expenses. Current expenses include an area of rotten wooden floor and a broken water heater which both need replacing. Yarcombe Hall Committee are also holding a fundraising Big Breakfast on Sunday, May 5th in Yarcombe Jubilee Hall 9am-2pm.

Helen Parris

Tuesday Club win

YARCOMBE Tuesday Club celebrated a resounding skittles win in its February friendly match with the Blackdown Ladies group.

There were some excellent individual scores with strong play from an on-form Tuesday Club team. Both teams fielded 10 players. After losing the first round the Tuesday Club team made up for it by achieving the winning score in all further rounds. The Tuesday Club brought 11 players and two supporters and lent one

player to the Blackdown Ladies Team to make an equal number, as only nine of their team made it on the day.

As usual the venue was the Sidmouth Arms in Upottery which provided delicious sandwiches and chips, great 'sticker-uppers' and a warm and welcoming skittles room. Congratulations to the players, thanks to the drivers, scorers and money collectors. Thanks also go to the Blackdown Ladies from Bishopswood and especially Janet Grabham who organised the match.

Liz Ross

Pascal's wager

DO you know what Pascal's wager is? Well if you don't, it is this: "Let us weigh the gain and the loss in wagering that God is. Let us estimate these two chances. If you gain, you gain all; if you lose, you lose nothing. Wager, then, without hesitation that He is."

The Friday Faith Forum for March began with Brian Smith telling the group of the life of Pascal and his wager that it was best to live one's life on the basis that there is a God because if there is, then it is gain all the way in this life and the next and if there is no God, you have lost nothing by believing it to be true.

Under Nigel Freathy's chairmanship, a goodly gathering of folk from Yarcombe and beyond, well fed and watered with delicious sandwiches, scones and cakes and cups of tea and coffee debated the truth or otherwise of this wager by Pascal.

The group considered amongst many things whether believing is indeed all gain or whether there are indeed sacrifices in believing.

It was considered by contrast what the gains in this world are by believing in God and reflected on the decline of religious belief in the western world and the possible reasons for it.

It was considered whether betting on the possible truth of the existence of God could in any sense be thought to be the same as what Christians normally mean by faith.

The group spent some time musing on what more everyone could each do as Christian people to commend the advantages of true belief to those who are reluctant to commit. On the latter point, it was noted how the greatest influences for good have probably been much more likely to have been encounters with people rather than sermons!

It was very fruitful and encouraging hour of debate before more food and tea followed.

Nigel Freathy

www.fivealive.org

Signs of life – Scavenger hunt

(Adapted from Care for the Family's Kitchen Table Project)

1. Listen out for birdsong

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." Psalm 100 v1-2

- What do you think the birds are saying?
- Can you learn to identify a bird by its song?

It's so good to sing, shout or whisper to tell God what we're thankful for and to be excited about his beautiful world.



2. Look up at the sky

"Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his." Psalm 100 v3

- Notice the shapes of the clouds. What can you see?
- How does it make you feel to look up at the sky?
- What do you think God is saying?

God is incredible. He made us in his image and we are all unique – just like the clouds!

3. Look out for animal tracks

Look out for animal tracks, a creature moving, or a bird in flight "We are his people, the sheep of his pasture." Psalm 100 v3

- Can you identify which animal made the tracks? What is the creature doing?
- Can you make your own footprints in the ground?

God loves all of his creation so much and keeps watch over us.

4. Spot something beautiful

"Give thanks to him and praise his name." Psalm 100 v4

- Can you collect, photograph, draw or describe things that you are thankful for in creation?

Thank you, Lord, for all these wonderful signs of life, which remind us that you made us as part of your creation, and that Jesus came to bring new life to us all.

5. Can you spot a bird's nest?

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise." Psalm 100 v4

Follow a bird with your eyes and see if you can spot one. Nests are amazing! They are intricate and strong. Inside this cleverly woven creation of twigs, grass and moss, birds lay their eggs, which are bursting full of new life. They are a safe place for birds to bring up their young.

- What do you love about your home?
- What makes you feel safe?

6. Can you see something that looks dead?

"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever." Psalm 100 v5

Now look and see if you can find some buds or new shoots. Dead leaves and sticks are essential to life! They are breaking down into new soil.

- Can you think of other examples of when something old or dead becomes something new?
- God's love never ends. What are some of the things you are finding difficult right now? Could you pray together as a family?

7. Look at a tree stump

"His faithfulness continues through all generations." Psalm 100 v5

- Can you find a tree stump and count the rings?

The number of dark rings on a tree show how old it is. They can keep growing for hundreds of years! And your family tree includes lots of great, great, great grandparents, aunts and uncles who lived a long time ago. God was around to see all of them too.

Share some stories of where you've seen God's faithfulness in your family.

Can you find any other signs of life? ☐ Blossom ☐ Water ☐ Moss ☐ Bees ☐ Butterflies ☐ Insects

- How many different species of leaf can you spot?
- How many different species of flowers can you find?

Baby & Parent Support Group



Mondays 2pm - 4pm
Wednesdays 10am-12pm

Contact Mary Tyler 0129734958 for info.

St. Giles Church, Kilmington

All volunteers DBS checked.
Refreshments available.

DIocese of EXETER
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
IN DEVON



A YEAR OF
SMALL
STEPS

APRIL '24 - MARCH '25

Creator God,

the heavens declare
your glory,
and the earth your
generosity.
Forgive our exploitation
of your gracious
provision.
Through your bountiful
goodness
guide our efforts
to be better stewards of
your creation.

Amen

SMALL STEPS FOR

APRIL

WEEK 1

Join a local litter pick or just do a miniature one of your own.

WEEK 2

Go for a walk in a green space.

WEEK 3

Compost your food waste if possible.

WEEK 4

Plant bee and butterfly-friendly seeds, if possible. If not, sponsor a tree planting or donate to a wildlife charity.

How much time do we spend thinking about loo rolls?

By Kay Pike

CHANCES are, not a lot! We might have a favourite luxury brand or maybe we're happy with whatever is on offer this week. Millions of pounds have been spent to convince us that toilet roll is about puppies, purity and padding instead of a basic human function!

The market is huge, we each use approximately 590 miles of the stuff in a lifetime — that equates to a lot of deforestation around the globe.

However, there are a few basic facts that should give us pause for thought... hold on to your hats! The well known 'top brands' use almost entirely virgin pulp, which is to say, wood cut specifically for this purpose. They can also use chlorine bleaching methods, which produces dioxins which are harmful to human health. Many brands contain PFAs, otherwise known as 'forever chemicals,' to make the toilet paper more durable. These harmful elements, when flushed, can

enter our water system, harming the natural world and also us. Makes you think doesn't it? A bidet (very European!) may be the most sustainable way to go, however, in terms of space and budget, this may not be an option for most. There are alternatives you can try.

Bamboo is a very fast-growing crop (35" approximately every day) and does not require as much water or any pesticides or fertiliser. It is also biodegradable and will dissolve completely in water and is safe for septic tanks (good news — no pandas are deprived of their favourite food in the process and the raw material is sea freighted!).

Naked Sprout is currently a 'best buy' according to the Ethical Consumer magazine, as is Bamboo Bobbi, Honest Supplies, Bumboo, The Cheeky Panda. Quite often they are available on subscription at a slightly cheaper rate, delivered to the door at a frequency set by the customer. The eco brand, Who Gives a Crap is also very popular

(you can even use the paper wrapping for your presents!).

In summary, have a look for toilet paper that doesn't have added fragrances, is unbleached, or is whitened using safe processes like elemental chlorine-free, totally chlorine-free, processed chlorine-free. Maybe research the common brands to see what they put into their product. Recycled toilet paper is a great way of keeping paper out of landfill but do check that it is BPA/BPS free.


One more fact — did you know that toilet paper is only used by about 30 per cent of the world's population?

● The above companies are merely given for information and do not constitute a recommendation from Plastic Free Axminster. Do please do your own research; what will suit one person will not suit another. For more hints and tips, follow the group on Facebook, Instagram (#plasticsavvyaxminster) and check out plasticfreeaxminster.org.

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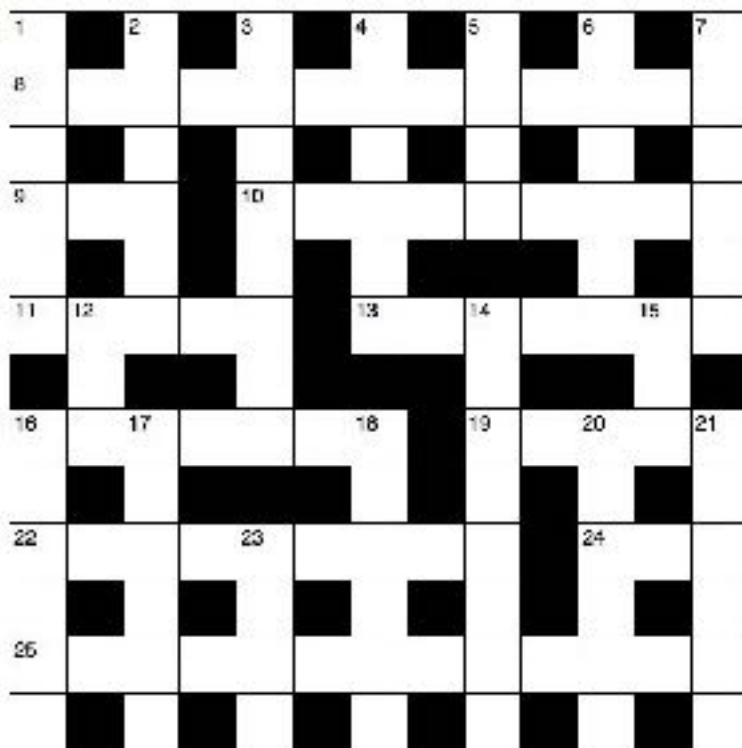
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PARISH PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 8 'He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the — ' (Isaiah 53:12) (13)
 9 'When they had sung a hymn, they went — to the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:30) (3)
 10 Comes between Galatians and Philippians (9)
 11 'Your heart will — and swell with joy' (Isaiah 60:5) (5)
 13 Muslim holy month (7)
 16 Ten ears (anag.) (7)
 19 Under (poetic abbrev.) (5)
 22 How Abram described himself to God when he complained that his inheritance would pass to a servant (Genesis 15:2) (9)
 24 'Go to the — , you sluggard' (Proverbs 6:6) (3)
 25 Debar from receiving Communion (13)

DOWN

- 1 My — for His Highest (Oswald Chambers' best-known book) (6)
 2 Festival of the resurrection (6)
 3 'His sons will prepare for war and — a great army' (Daniel

11:10) (8)

- 4 'Let not the — string his bow' (Jeremiah 51:3) (6)
 5 Name of the River Thames in and around Oxford (4)
 6 'From then on Judas watched for an opportunity — — him over' (Matthew 26:16) (2,4)
 7 'But Christ is faithful — — over God's house' (Hebrews 3:6) (2,1,3)
 12 Long-handled implement used to till the soil (Isaiah 7:25) (3)
 14 Order to which monks and nuns devote themselves (8)
 15 Appropriate (Proverbs 15:23) (3)
 16 I, uncle (anag.) (6)
 17 'They gave him — — of broiled fish' (Luke 24:42) (1,5)
 18 'Weren't there three men that we — — and threw into the fire?' (Daniel 3:24) (4,2)
 20 Mountain where Noah's ark came to rest (Genesis 8:4) (6)
 21 'Don't you know that friendship with the world is — towards God?' (James 4:4) (6)
 23 Prominent architectural feature of large cathedrals such as St Paul's (4)

ACROSS: 8, Transgressors. 9, Out. 10, Ephesians. 11, Throb. 13, Ramadan. 16, Hatred. 23, Dome.
 DOWN: 1, My — for His Highest. 2, Festival of the resurrection. 3, 'His sons will prepare for war and — a great army'. 4, 'Let not the — string his bow'. 5, Name of the River Thames in and around Oxford. 6, 'From then on Judas watched for an opportunity — — him over'. 7, 'But Christ is faithful — — over God's house'. 8, 'He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the — '. 9, 'When they had sung a hymn, they went — to the Mount of Olives'. 10, Comes between Galatians and Philippians. 11, 'Your heart will — and swell with joy'. 12, Long-handled implement used to till the soil. 13, Muslim holy month. 14, Order to which monks and nuns devote themselves. 15, Appropriate. 16, I, uncle. 17, 'They gave him — — of broiled fish'. 18, 'Weren't there three men that we — — and threw into the fire?'. 19, Under. 20, Mountain where Noah's ark came to rest. 21, 'Don't you know that friendship with the world is — towards God?'. 22, How Abram described himself to God when he complained that his inheritance would pass to a servant. 23, Prominent architectural feature of large cathedrals such as St Paul's. 24, 'Go to the — , you sluggard'. 25, Debar from receiving Communion.



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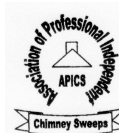


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FUTURE EVENTS

WHEN	WHERE	WHAT'S HAPPENING
Mondays, 10am-12pm	St. Giles' Church, Kilmington	'Knit & Natter' Group.. All welcome. Bring own knits/crafts. Tea & coffee available for a donation.
Mondays 2pm-4pm Wednesdays, 10am-12pm,	St Giles' Church, Kilmington	Baby group every week including school holidays. Contact Mary Tyler 01297 34958.
Fridays, 10am-12pm	St Giles' Church, Kilmington	Coffee Shop
Fridays, 9:30am-11:30am	Stockland Victory Hall	Stockland and Yarcombe Toddler Group - contact 07951 958327
Alternating Fridays, 6:30pm	Stockland Victory Hall	Stockland Youth Club - every other Friday evening.
Monday, April 1st 10am-12noon	Stockland Victory Hall	Easter Monday Brunch followed by a walk at 12:30pm.
Tuesday, April 2nd 2:30pm	Church Rooms, The Minster, Axminster	Mother's Union talk by Revd. Alison Finch on her 'Journey to the Priesthood'. All welcome. Mary Harrison 01404 831975
April 10th 10-30am - 12noon	Dalwood Methodist Chapel	Coffee Morning in aid of Hospiscare
April 10th 6.45 for 7.15pm	Kilmington Village Hall	KCC: 'One Life (12)' To Book email wattsjohn307@gmail.com
Thursday, April 11th 1.45pm for 2pm	Kilmington Village Hall	KCC: 'One Life (12)' Cream teas @ £3.50. Please order when booking seats.wattsjohn307@gmail.com
Saturday, April 13th 10am-12pm	Yarcombe Village Hall EX14 9AA	Second Saturday of each month. Homemade cakes, local honey, eggs, jams, plants, woodwork, cards, and bric-a-brac.
Wednesday, April 17th 12:30pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Dalwood Community lunch. Bookings to be placed with Kathy Lang 01404881601
Saturday, April 20th, 3pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Dalwood Jazz - Nick White (Chris Barber JB) & his Quintet. To book: t.mackenney111@btinternet.com
Saturday April 20th 1:30pm	Stockland	Stockland Junior Tennis Coaching, see advert for more details.
Saturday, April 27th 6pm for 6:30pm	Kilmington Village Hall	KCC: 'Oppenheimer' To Book email wattsjohn307@gmail.com
Saturday April 27th, 2pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Jumble sale in aid of Church funds.
28th April 2pm-4:30pm	The Palace, Palace Gate, Exeter EX1 1HY	Bishop's Open Garden. Tickets £5. www.devonhistoricchurches.co.uk

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

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

KILMINGTON

Badminton Club: Derek Gould - 01404 831749
Baptist Chapel: Mike Hudson, Pastor - 01297 631638
 Email: admin@baptistchurchkilmington.org
Bell Ringers: Celia Dunsford - 01297 33563
Cricket Club: Secretary: D Lavender - 01297 631868
Country Dancing: Gill Perkins 01297 32888 & Marie Thorne 01297 33906
Gardening Club: Secretary: Bev Perkins - 01297 631801
Kilminster 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
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SHUTE – WHITFORD – UMBORNE

Bell Ringers: Maureen Davey - 01297 553195
Parish Council: Chairperson: Ella Sweetland - 01297 553357 - ella.fernleigh@gmail.com
Clerk: Carol Miltenburg - 01404 831080
Parochial Church Council: Bijan Omrani - bijan.omrani@btinternet.com
Shute Community Primary School: Headteacher: Martin Marriott - 01297 33348
Women's Institute Musbury & Whitford: Lesley McGowan Lock - 01297 551556
Whitford Village Produce Association: (Hon Sec): Christine Wyatt - 01404 830098
Village Hall: Christine Plowman - 01297 552760 or bookings@whitfordvillagehall.org
Umborne Hall: Sheila Townsend - 07818 662402
Umborne Ladies Social Club: Ann Shepherd - 01297 553343

STOCKLAND

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

01404 881819
Fair Committee: Acting chair and stall bookings: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983
Secretary: Janet Fox - 01404 881591
Parish Council Chairperson: Richard Switzer 07946 109203 richard.switzer@stocklandpc.org.uk
Parochial Church Council: Secretary: Rozanne Bulmer - 07796 338332
Stockland & District Horticultural Society: Secretary: Pauline Goodwin - 01404 881199
Stockland & Yarcombe Pre-school: Rebecca Ades - 07934 610430 or info@stocklandpreschool.co.uk
Stockland C of E Primary School: Headteacher: Miss R Bendall - 01404 881456; PTFA: Valerie Conlon - stocklandptfa@gmail.com
Tennis Club: Chairperson: Serena Kerr 01404 861287; Secretary Jenny Whitley 01404 861 114
Victory Hall: Bookings secretary: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983
Stockland Youth Club: Mel Andrews - 07947 743278 mel@adventurebabies.co.uk
Friends of St Michael and All Angels: Chair: Jane Wedlock - 01404 881817, secretary: Pat Shephard Walwyn - 01404 881511

YARCOMBE

Baptist Chapel: Secretary: Thelma Clarke - 01404 861267
Bell Ringers: Gareth Dear - 01460 68521
Children's Committee: Julie Rich - 01404 861274 or 07967 965208
Parish Council, Chairperson: Matthew Tomkinson - matthew.tomkinson@yarcombeparishcouncil.org.uk
Parochial Church Council: Secretary: Rebecca Bell - 01460 234002
Jubilee Hall: Debbie Carter - 07498 503316
Tuesday Club: Co-ordinator Nina Simmons - 07882 827538
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To be advised

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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.

Happy Easter

