

THE
*Parish
Pump*

St Mary's ♦ Hemyock
All Saints ♦ Culmstock
St Andrew's ♦ Clayhidon
Culm Davy Chapel

FEB ♦ MAR 2023

In This Issue:

- ♦ Poppy club
- ♦ Hemyock Singers – end of an era
- ♦ 100 mile walk
- ♦ Memorial bench
- ♦ Clayhidon village hall improvements
- ♦ Clayhidon village hall café
- ♦ Community celebration party



Editorial Notice

The 'Parish Pump' is produced by the Churches of Hemyock with Culm Davy, Clayhidon and Culmstock for the people of the area. The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editors. The 'Parish Pump' accepts no liability for (i) any claims made by the advertiser (ii) any errors or omissions in any advertisement as submitted by the advertiser (iii) any legal action as a result of the advertisement.

The editor can be contacted via email on pump@lickham.co.uk, or by telephone on 07763 855414.

Church Contacts

The Benefice of Hemyock with Culm Davy, Clayhidon and Culmstock

Mission Statement: To love God, and to love our neighbours

RECTOR Rev Becky Totterdell (available normally Tuesday, Friday and Sunday) 01823 681520

MINISTRY TEAM **Rev John Stone: 01823 681459** **Katharine Simpson: 01884 841984**
Rev Chris Hudson: 01823 680170 **Di Cooper: 01823 680175**
Dr David Major: 01884 841253 **Helen Williams: 07739 463873**

ADMINISTRATOR Khendra Porter (available Wed and Fri 9.00am-1.00pm)
ucvmission@gmail.com 07495 639826

ST MARY'S HEMYOCK

WARDENS	David Bawler, 4 South View	680352 / 07773579809
	Sarah Folland	681362
SERVICES	<i>For details please see inside</i>	

CULM DAVY CHAPEL

WARDENS	Mark FitzGerald	680564
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ST ANDREW'S CLAYHIDON

CONTACT	Revd Becky Totterdell	681520
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ALL SAINTS CULMSTOCK

WARDENS	Richard Preston	680216
	Carlie Salter	cjsalter2012@gmail.com 07450 996169

HEMYOCK BAPTIST CHURCH

SERVICES	10.30am with Junior Church <i>See the noticeboard for other activities and events</i>	
PASTOR	Steve Williams, 3 St Margarets Close	680946
SECRETARY	Mrs Maureen Aylwin	680111

ROSEMARY LANE CHAPEL, CLAYHIDON

SERVICES	11.00am Morning Worship followed by Bible Times for Young People & Adults 6.30pm Evening Service 11.00am Family Service – 3rd Sunday only	
PASTOR	Jonathan Hillman, 1 Blackdown Court, Clayhidon	681164

QUAKERS

Spiceland (Uffculme) Meeting House, Prescott EX15 3AZ

SERVICES	10.30am Meeting for Worship every Sunday Children's meeting on 4th Sunday	
CONTACT	Pat Bell (Clerk)	01884 841375

METHODIST CHURCH

PASTOR	Revd Zdzisiu Hendzel 28 Rope Walk, Wellington	662724
CONTACT	Tony Butler	680441

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CONTACT	Fr Courtney	01884 32253
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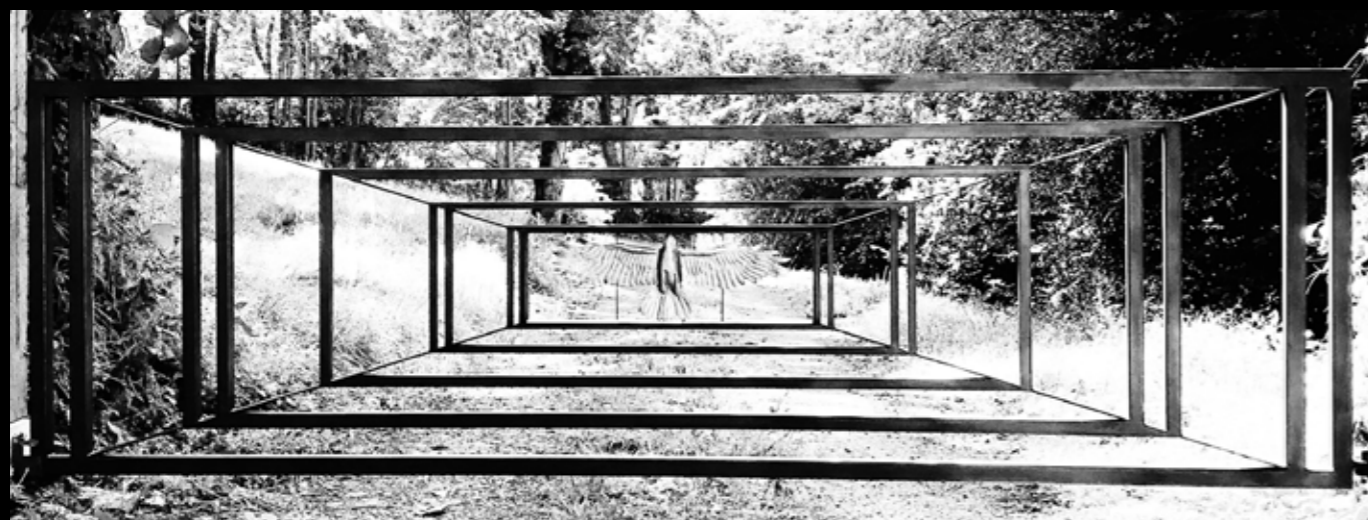
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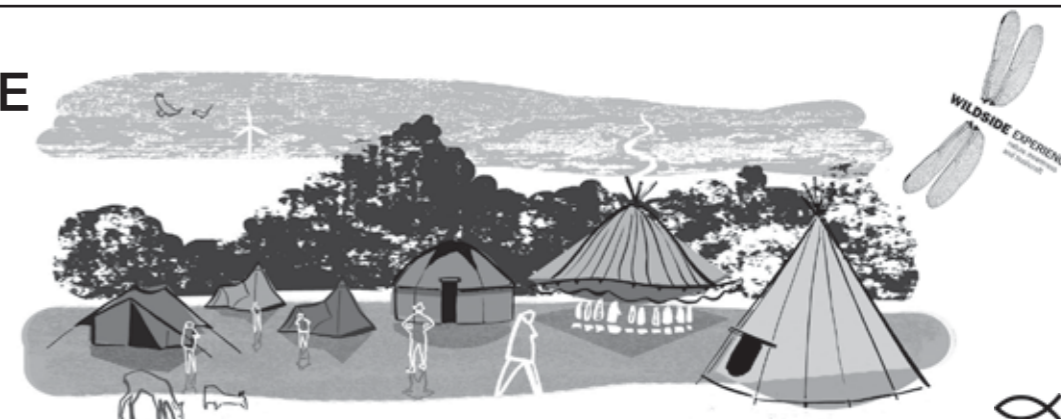
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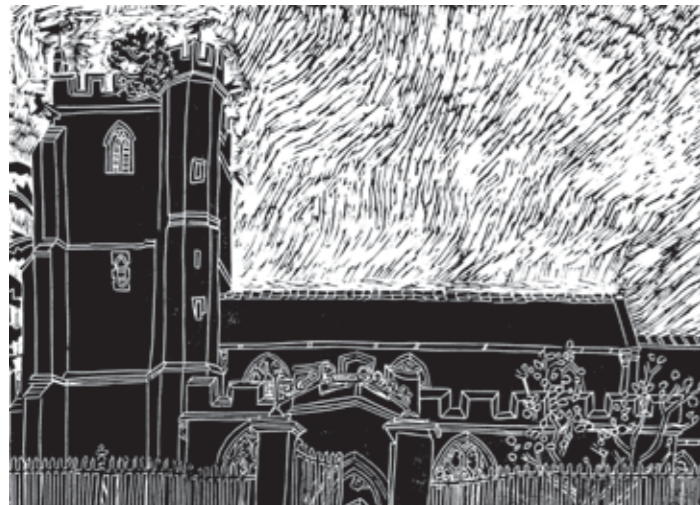
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The Blackdown Hills Trust is looking for local volunteers to help check stock fencing around the grazing units in the Neroche Forest area. These sites are managed by the Blackdown Hills Trust in the Blackdown Forest for grazing conservation : they are a magnet for rare butterflies such as Wood White and Duke of Burgundy and an array of plants, insects, birds and mammals. The areas are part of a Higher Level Stewardship and are grazed by English Longhorn cattle in the summer months.

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

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

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

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

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



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www.culmkirks.co.uk

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2023

	Culm Davy Chapel	St Andrew, Clayhidon	All Saints, Culmstock	St Mary, Hemyock
Sunday 5th February 3 rd Sunday before Lent	9.00am BCP Holy Communion		10.00am Communion Service	11.00am Café Church
Sunday 12th February 2 nd Sunday before Lent		10.00am Communion Service	10.00am Morning Worship 6.30pm BCP Evensong	11.00am Communion Service
Sunday 19th February Sunday before Lent	3.30 pm BCP Evening Prayer	10.00am Morning Worship	10.00am Communion Service	11.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 22nd February Ash Wednesday				7.30pm United benefice communion service + imposition of ashes
Sunday 26th February Lent 1		10.00am Communion Service	10.00am Morning Worship	11.00am Communion service

SERVICES FOR MARCH 2023

	Culm Davy Chapel	St Andrew, Clayhidon	All Saints, Culmstock	St Mary, Hemyock
Sunday 5th March 2 nd Sunday of Lent	9.00am Communion service (Traditional 1662)		10.00am Communion service	11.00am Iona Morning Worship
Sunday 12th March 3 rd Sunday of Lent		10.00am Communion service	10.00am Morning Worship 6.30pm Evensong (Traditional 1662)	11.00am Communion service
Sunday 19th March 4 th Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday	3.30 pm Evening Prayer (Traditional 1662)	10.00am Mothering Sunday Family service	10.00am Mothering Sunday Family Communion	11.00am Mothering Sunday Morning Worship
Sunday 26th March 5 th Sunday of Lent Passiontide begins		10.00am Communion service	10.00am Morning Worship	11.00am Communion Service

In addition: A service is held each Tuesday morning at All Saints Culmstock at 10.00am.

On the 4th Tuesday (**28th February & 21st March**) it is a Traditional (1662 BCP) Holy Communion; the remaining weeks it is a Traditional (1662 BCP) Morning Prayer. All services are contemporary in style, unless designated 'Traditional'.

Please check notices outside the churches for up-to-date information about services.

Parish Pump | No. 295 February – March 2023



A tribute to Reverend Ron White

Dear Friends,

'No man is an island, entire of itself', wrote the great seventeenth century poet John Donne. The reality of this hits home to each of us when we lose someone special to us. Not only have we lost that person, but we ourselves are changed by the loss. The closer the person, the greater the change. As I take funeral services for each unique person from our villages, I am so much aware that not only do we grieve for the person gone from us, but the family and friends gathering together are at the start of a new journey and way of life.

But loss is also a time to look back with thankfulness for all the good of the past and, as local churches, we have been doing that as we also grieve the passing of my clergy colleague, Revd Ron White, at the grand age of 86. Born and brought up in the Bolham Valley of Clayhidon, Ron's ministry and work took him to far-flung Africa, and whether at home or abroad he was considerably pioneering in many different ways. In the Anglican congregations across our four villages, in Rosemary Lane Chapel and in Hemyock Baptist Church, Ron will be remembered for:

His heart for mission

That was seen in his work as a young local preacher, as mission secretary for the Christian Union at Bristol University, running beach missions, starting Devon Assemblies youth camps, his work with Christians Abroad, Scripture Union in Uganda, and supporting Christian unions in schools. His passion for bringing young people to Christ was born from his ministry both as a teacher and a missionary. Ron's heart for mission transformed the lives of many young people for good.

His heart for ministry

Ron's Christian commitment eventually led him to ministry as a priest in the Church of England. As a church family in these parishes we have very much valued Ron's ministry among us, leading services and preaching, and ministering communion to people at home and to community groups. I think he saw it as a gift of God that he could minister in the villages in which he grew up, and which were always so close to his heart. Ron was a part of the Anglican churches' ministry team and his contributions to our planning and discussions were always valuable with the wealth of experience he brought.

His heart for music

The congregation at St Mary's, Hemyock, have benefitted particularly from this gift of Ron's, through his ministry as choir master and organist over very many years. And the Culm Davy congregation relished his leading morning communion services because he would be both at the front leading and at the back playing the organ! And his accordion enabled joyful worship to take place out in the open air wherever needed, especially at Clayhidon, and lifted everyone's spirits.

The words of the hymns, Bible readings and poems chosen for his funeral service spoke very eloquently of the assurance Ron had that his life was bound up securely in God, and of the confidence we can have in looking forward to the resurrection and the life to come. This is an assurance that is offered to all of us, through the loving gift of Jesus, and Ron would want us to know it!

A fitting summary of Ron's life is one which St Paul writes about himself to his colleague, Timothy, as he neared the end of his life:

'I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.'

We thank God that this is so not just for St Paul, but also for Ron White, and so we entrust him with thanksgiving to the loving care and the joyful welcome of the Lord he loved.

Revd Canon Becky Totterdell, Rector

St Mary's Hemyock

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Crib service

Warm coats, hats, scarves and gloves were needed, when almost 70 people gathered at St Marys for Carols in the Churchyard.

Helen Williams told the Christmas story as the nativity figures were brought forward and placed in the crib which was blessed by the Rector Rev Canon Becky Totterdell. A quartet of musicians supplied music as those present chose favourite carols to sing as the afternoon came to a close.

Christmas Day saw a service of Holy Communion held at Hemyock Parish Church led by Rev John Stone. The reading was given by Cheyenne Jordan, prayers led by Hazel Partridge with 3 musicians accompanying the carols.

New Years Day Songs of Praise

To welcome in 2023 a United Benefice service New Years Day Songs of Praise, followed by light refreshments, was held at St Marys church Hemyock led by the Rev Canon Becky Totterdell with organist Nigel Atkinson.

An invitation had asked people to select a favourite hymn to be included speaking about what it meant to them. Amongst those chosen were In the Bleak Midwinter, Brother Sister let me serve you, Tell out my Soul the greatness of the Lord and To God be the Glory. Readings were given by David Bawler and Sue Bennett with prayers led by Becky Doble.

Carol service

Candlelight welcomed nearly 120 worshippers to the annual Carol service at Hemyock parish church which was led by Rev Canon Becky Totterdell with organist Michael Osmond

Greenery and tiny fairy lights along windowsill plus a huge Christmas trees added to the seasonal decorations at St Marys thanks to Monica Smith leader of the flower arrangers.

The traditional readings were given by members of the choir and congregation with a short address by the Rector. The beautifully song choir items were 'I wonder as I Wander' and 'I sing of a maiden that is Makeless' (soloist Sue Bennett) were a tribute to the late organist and much admired choirmaster Rev Ron White.

During the singing of 'Joy to the World ' the candles the congregation had been presented with on arrival were lit. A surprise item at the end of the service saw the tower ringers changing to chiming handbells as those present enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies.

APCM

A New Year means it is time to look back on the last one. Well it is in certain quarters including the Diocese of Exeter who want various bits on information on what we, and other churches, have been doing. In the past few years we at St Mary's have pulled some of this information together to produce a report looking at what the various groups have been doing. This gets looked at in what is in effect the Church's A.G.M. - the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

This is done in conjunction with another ancient meeting - the Annual Vestry Meeting. This has one job to do - to elect the Churchwardens for the next 12 months. Back in days of yore Churchwardens has various powers, including ensuring gentlemen removed their hats in church and organising a "church rate" around the parish. This latter was not always a success.

This year the Hemyock Vestry and APCM is on April 25th starting at 7.30pm. That for Culmstock is on April 23rd after service, Clayhidon has theirs on May14th, again after their service.

Votes in the Vestry meeting are open to those living in the parish. To vote at the APCM you need to be on the church Electoral Roll. If you want to enquire about the Roll please contact our Electoral Roll Officer Diana Cooper.

St Mary's Charity and
Coffee Shop

TUESDAYS

in the
Church Rooms, Castle Hill

10.00 am to 12noon

Also on the first Saturday of each
month

Well worth a visit!

Ron White

Val and the family would like to thank all those who helped Ron in the final weeks of his illness: our doctors and all the staff at the Blackdown Practice, the community nurses, the Urgent Response Team, the St Margaret's Hospice care at home team, and the Marie Curie nurses whose calm presence at night was a great blessing.

We would also like to thank the Reverend Becky for an uplifting service, Gerald Redwood for his sensitive competence in all the arrangements and everyone who helped in any way to give Ron a good send off. Thank you for all your messages of sympathy and support. We are overwhelmed by your kindness.

Val, Jackie and Alison

FUND RAISING - 100 MILE WALK (LOCALLY) for CR2EE GENERATOR APPEAL

In response to an email I received the other day regarding the appeal for Generators for Ukraine, I suddenly had the idea that maybe I could walk 100 miles (locally) in January to raise funds for this appeal. (I believe that sometimes God gives me ideas and nudges - and this is one of them!). So, I am pleased to be able to do this small thing for those people who are in such need at this traumatic time.

There are many things I cannot do, especially to do with computers!, but I can walk and am happy to undertake this challenge, so if you are able to contribute any amount, small or not quite so small(!) CR2EE would be very grateful for your help, and even more grateful would be the people who benefit from the generators. I cannot imagine what so many people are going through in Ukraine, and even though things are difficult for some in this country, we are not experiencing the daily devastation and trauma of Mr Putin's actions.

CR2EE - Christian Response 2 Eastern Europe have roots going back to 1990 - they do a fantastic job of work, and have been doing so for a long time, so your support is very much appreciated. cr2ee is a voluntary charity therefore all your donations can be used to buy much needed generators.

If you would like to support this Generator appeal to help make life a little easier for some, please contact:

Delia - 01884 840955 email delia.kennedy@hotmail.co.uk;
 Rev Gudrun Thomas - 01884 840622 email rev.gudrun.thomas@gmail;
 David Bawler 07773579809 or 01823 680352 email bawler1952@hotmail.com.

The voluntary Charity Christian Response, (cr2ee), is authorised by UK Charity Commissioners Number 1062623 Website: www.cr2ee.org.uk Facebook: cr2ee email:- mail@cr2ee.org.uk

Cr2ee update

If you follow the charity on Facebook you may have seen some short personal clips of life in Ukraine along with people of all ages opening Christmas gift boxes in Moldova .The depot at Exmouth has been closed for an extended festive break but will be reopening in coming weeks. If you have any good quality secondhand items you would like to donate (or perhaps unwanted Christmas gifts) please contact us on 07773579809.Your support over the past year has been tremendous from babies items to medical aids and monetary donations all have been grateful received by those who have so little to those facing destruction in their homeland. Thank you Janice & David

Hemyock Poppy Club

An excellent turnout at St Mary's Church on Saturday 22 October for The Poppy Club's coffee morning, raising £361.43 for The British Legion. Including wonderful window displays by Hemyock Beavers and Cubs, Baby & Toddler Group, Blackdown Stay & Play Group, Gardeners Clubs, Riverside Club, Hemyock Primary School, and poppy wreaths from The Chapel Cafe, Hemyock Baptist Church.

Hemyock Poppy Club 'poppy bombed' the church, together with long nets of poppies outside too after many months of knitting and crocheting. The outside 18' net was complimented by an amazing black silhouette of a soldier made by the Community Shedder's Club. Many cups of tea and cake were consumed whilst viewing military uniforms, displays and artefacts, together with a raffle. Both young at heart and children enjoyed the hunt for the crocheted mice around the church too. Thank you to Tom Courtney, Martin Hyman, Geoff Pike and Chris Benn for the loan of their uniforms for the display.

The Poppy Club were also mentioned in January's edition of The British Legion magazine show casing the large net at the end of the church and the soldier silhouette. We also received a message from a British Legion Group in Ireland wishing to make similar displays for their church.

A big thank you to all our lovely ladies for knitting, crocheting and sewing on poppies over many cups of tea and coffee with lots of lovely homemade cakes. Also Mark Farrell for helping to display the large net, Alice Martin for the loan of the mannequins. Finally but not least to St Mary's Church for allowing us to 'poppy bomb' the Church both inside and out, and the use of the church for the coffee morning.

The Poppy Club are going to continue meeting in The Church Rooms, third Thursday each month, 10am to 12noon over a cuppa and cake. Everyone welcome to join us. Do bring any other craft or knitting/crochet project you may be working on, or just join us for a cuppa and natter. The Poppy Club are going to be continuing with poppy displays for November and other projects along the way.



David Berkley 1931 – 2022

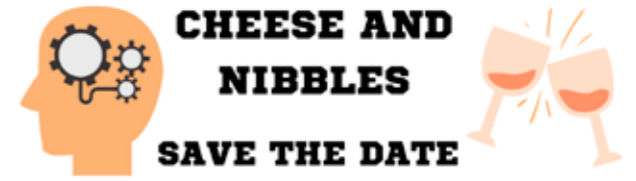
David and Vivien moved from Somerset to this area in 2003, first to Tedburrow, then Hemyock High Street. Many will have seen him determinately striding his circuit through the village, Whitehall or The Byes with his walking poles in recent years. Others will know him as a collector of bee swarms, livestock pregnancy tester, enthusiastic musician, Blackdown Support Group driver, actor of Open The Book bible plays, keen historian, social commentator, occasional contributor to The Parish Pump, member of Hemyock Baptist Church, prolific vegetable gardener, repairer of tools, collector of used stamps and generally someone who 'gets involved'.

In the notes that David left, he wrote: "I hope that, thanks to Jesus, my new home will be one that is better than any previous ones. I would like to send you an email to tell you – I'm not one for Facebook. 'Home' means a garden and a workshop – don't know whether there will be those. And a concertina, clarinet and flute to make heavenly music. I might even learn violin or harp! Throughout my life, coming home has always been a joy. I like to think that, by the Grace of God the same now applies."

David was not keen that his illness stopped him from 'getting on with it', but he was always grateful and humbled by the support that he received from friends, neighbours and the wonderful staff at The Blackdown Practice. As a family, we would also like to thank you all for your kind wishes and support.

Vivien Berkley and family

NOSH & KNOWLEDGE!
QUIZ NIGHT WITH CHEESE AND NIBBLES
 SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2023



MAX 6 PEOPLE PER TEAM
£10 PER PERSON
TABLES MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE BY CALLING RUTH ON 07984425029



Hemyock Gardeners' Association
Spring Show 2023



Hemyock Parish Hall
 Saturday 1st April
 Ploughmans from 1.00pm

Join our 100 Club
 -For only £2 a month.
 -Cash Prizes.
 -Email to join.
 hemyock100club@gmail.com

SUPPORT LOCAL CHILDREN AT HEMYOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL



HEMYOCK SINGERS – An end of an era

Hemyock Singers have provided the village with concerts and stage shows for almost 50 years but sadly the membership had become low, being especially affected by Covid, and their last concert took place on December 12th 2022.

Janice Bawler an original member who sang with the group for over 40 years write -The group grew out of a music appreciation group within Hemyock Leisure Centre giving their first public performance in 1973 - a concert version of Iolanthe. Such was the success the following year saw them singing The Gondoliers. A change of genre then saw the group present at Hemyock Parish church The Crucifixion by Stainer and by 1975 their first full stage production HMS Pinafore was followed the next year by Merrie England with a cast of over 50 for each production.

Original performances had been for one night but later years saw 5 nights when the Parish Hall was filled to capacity with a waiting list. The group performed a huge variety of musical stage shows including My Fair Lady, The Wind in the Willows, Annie get your Gun, The Wizard of Oz, Fiddler on the Roof, Calamity Jane and Oliver. This went on to win the National Operatic and Dramatic Association's (NODA) Regional Award for Excellence. Programmes produced by members also won regional NODA awards.

A long standing annual tradition saw the group singing choral works including Handel's Messiah, Vivaldi's Gloria and Faure's Requiem both here and in other venues as well as entertaining at village events, care homes and Christmas celebrations throughout Mid Devon, Wellington and Taunton. The Singers were also amongst those who took part in the BBC Songs of Praise when filmed at Taunton in October 2021.



To celebrate their 21st year a hugely successful dinner was held at the Parish Hall when other invited guests joined past Producers and Musical Directors and presentations made.

Almost 50 years since their first concert saw a small but dedicated band of Hemyock Singers give a delightful evening's entertainment with a variety of songs from musicals, including Hairspray, different for the group but greatly enjoyed, followed by a selection of carols before a bring and share supper was enjoyed by all present.



Hemyock Christmas Club

We are absolutely delighted to announce that we have raised a Christmas Club record breaking amount of **£636.56**. This is all thanks to the generosity and spirit of the people of Hemyock. The money raised will be split equally between our two charities; The Grand Appeal for Bristol Children's Hospital and the Devon Air Ambulance. We are extremely grateful for each donation.

Kindly donated by Connetts Farm, the **tree** was passed to the Children's Ward at Musgrove Park Hospital, delivered by the Elves in the truck kindly loaned to us by Somerset County Cars (Toyota).

Our team had such a great time bringing Father Christmas to Hemyock, the weather was chilly (-5) but DRY!!! The smiles we saw from the children make it all worthwhile, and being able to raise money for these two important charities is a real privilege.

SAVE THE DATE

To be able to put this event on again this year we will be raising fund to help pay for the costs associated. We are going to hold a Bingo on 11th March 2023 in The Parish Hall, eyes down 7.30pm.

The Violet Chapman Trust

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

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

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

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

There are many examples that we could give of the patients we have helped recently and would cite one that required

their bathroom to be modernised to enable them to continue to live at home; another patient who needed a chair that would help them in getting in and out without assistance. Another example is a patient who had severe back pain and a grant was given for them to have remedial massage.

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

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

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

COULD WE HELP YOU?



News from the Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre
 Over the last couple of weeks, I have had a number of people pop into the Centre to find out what goes on here! They were new to the area and were pleasantly surprised to find out that our village had such a fantastic resource. We have so much going on at the Centre, our Riverside Club for older members of our community, our Stay & Play sessions for families, 7 Pilates and 2 Yoga classes each week and we have 2 massage therapists, a chiropractor and an osteopath working here. If you haven't been here before, please feel free to pop in and take a look, we're open each weekday from 9am – 1pm.

We have been lucky enough to be awarded a £500 grant from Action for Children to spend on resources for our Stay & Play group. We spoke to our families and they were keen for us to invest in sensory equipment. From February, our first Stay & Play session each month will be a sensory session, designed to stimulate, develop and relax the senses.

There hasn't been much uptake for the 'Warm Spaces' initiative in the village so far this winter. We have therefore decided to change it slightly at the Centre. Our comfy Riverside room will be open every Tuesday from 9am – 1pm. There will be free tea, coffee and hot chocolate available, along with biscuits and cake. You are welcome to come along, read a book, watch the television, or work on your laptop. Our heating is on and you are welcome to come and enjoy a warm space.

Just a reminder that the Centre is available to hire for birthday parties, wedding anniversary celebrations, baby naming ceremonies and much more. Email centre@bhlac.org.uk for details.

Big Quiz Night
 Raising funds for


Saturday 11th March
Doors open 7pm
Quiz starts 7.30pm
Healthy Living Centre

Max. 6 per team Licensed Bar £5 per ticket

Tables to be booked in advance by contacting Jon Dagger: 07725 852322

 ☎ 01823 681036
 @BlackdownSupportGroup
 d-ccg.bsgadmin@nhs.net

Regular Calendar of Events

Blackdown Support Group run regular events throughout each month. Everyone is welcome to attend and booking is essential. To book your place please call us on 01823 681036 or email us d-ccg.bsgadmin@nhs.net. Transport can be arranged if required.

1st Wednesday of the month
 Hemyock Lunch Club 12.30 for 1.00pm
 Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre, Hemyock.

2nd Wednesday of the month
 Rosemary Lane Lunch Club 12.30 for 1.00pm
 Rosemary Lane Chapel.

3rd Wednesday of the month
 Duneswell Coffee Morning 10.30-11.30am
 Throgmorton Hall, Duneswell.

Last Wednesday of the month
 Culmstock Lunch Club 12.30 for 12.45pm
 Culm Valley Inn, Culmstock.


 exeter community energy

Exeter Community Energy have been joining us at our social groups recently, as part of their Healthy Homes for Wellbeing project. Their advisors offer practical energy efficiency advice and support to help you save money and stay warm in your home. If you would like to find out more or to make an appointment with an advisor, please contact us for more information or call Exeter Community Energy direct on 0800 772 3617.

FREE ENERGY ADVICE WORKSHOP



Join us for a FREE workshop with a trained energy advisor from our partners, energy experts Exeter Community Energy

Tuesday 7th February 10.30am-12.30pm
 @ Blackdown Healthy living and Activity Centre, Hemyock

30 minute presentation / Q&A session to include information on
 Reducing your costs
 Tips on saving energy and water
 Heating control advice
 Smart Meters / Billing Tariffs

Grants for insulation, heating and home improvements to increase your energy efficiency
 Additional support available for anyone struggling with energy costs

Save money, save energy and reduce your impact on the planet! Please call us on 01823 681 036 if you or someone you know might benefit but are unable to attend in person. Transport available on request.

 
 exeter community energy

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

Riverside Club	Mondays and Thursdays most weeks of the year, 9.30am – 3pm. Day of activities, entertainment and lunch for older residents of the Blackdown Hills. Contact Lynn Pulman (01823) 680687
Community Shed	Sundays and Mondays most weeks of the year, 10am – 1pm. The Shed is a place to pursue practical interests at leisure, to practice skills and enjoy making and mending in a social setting. Contact Peta Dayus-Jones (01823) 680687
BSG Lunch Club	First Wednesday of every month at 12.30pm, come and enjoy a low cost, nutritious and freshly-cooked two course meal. Contact Blackdown Support Group (01823) 681036
Stay & Play Hub	Wednesdays term-time 9.30am – 11am, a drop-in stay & play session for babies and pre-school children. Art & craft, messy & sensory play, music & stories. Health Visitor clinic on the 2 nd Wednesday of each month.

Monday	Pilates (3 classes) 9am, 10.15am & 11.30am	Louise Lyus (lou@connectedpilates.com)
	Yoga 6.15pm	Julia Baldock (07708 469745)
Tuesday	Yoga 9.30am	Lea-Ann Furphy (leaannfurphy@gmail.com)
	Pilates 6.30pm	Harriet Tubbs (07791234319)
Wednesday	Pilates 6.30pm	Harriet Tubbs
Friday	Pilates (2 classes) 9.30am & 10.45am	Sarah Grey (pilatessouthwest@gmail.com)
Therapies	Chiropractic – Sue Moore (07534 222031) Massage – Rachel Ridler (07854 973276)	
	Osteopathy – Martha Price (07734 431624) Massage – Ruth Bell (07892 896895)	
	Betonica Herbal Medicine Clinics – clinic@betonica.co.uk	

You can find the BHLAC at Riverside, Lower Millhayes, Hemyock, EX15 3SH
www.bhlac.org.uk or call 01823 680687

Arts & Crafts **Baby Weigh** **Sensory Play**

Music & Singing **Blackdown Stay & Play Hub** **Messy Play**

Snacks & Story time **Term time on Wednesdays 9.30am-11am** **Tea & Coffee**

Blackdown Healthy Living Centre
 Hemyock
 £2 per adult

TODDLERS BABIES PARENTS GRANDPARENTS CARERS

Hemyock History Group

Rev John de Burgh Forbes

Our Rector from 1896 until 1927 was born in 1857 in Whitchurch on Thames and when baptised, Queen Victoria signed as a witness. The connection with the Royal family was due to the fact that his grandfather was Sir John Forbes who became a surgeon Commander in the Royal Navy from training in Edinburgh in 1806 until he was discharged in 1816 to become a well respected physician in Penzance and Chichester before being appointed Physician to the Queen in 1841 and knighted in 1853. Rev John went to Clifton College, Bristol, ordained at Kings College and served as Chaplain to the Royal Court in St Petersburg prior to arriving in Hemyock in 1896. He lived at the Rectory, which is now Regency House, with his sister Eliza to help with the catering and admin. His first action was to build the church rooms after purchasing the land from two local families after their cottages were burnt down. Traction engines with coal fires travelling the lanes did not go too well with the thatched roofs of the cottages as sparks were blown out the engine funnels. Local councils had also just been formed to undertake some of the functions that the Church had previously been responsible for such as the Collector of taxes for the poor. The church graveyard had also become crowded and the Government instructed the new councils to find new land on which to create a cemetery, helped by the Rector. The Hemyock benefice was attractive to the rector due to the fact that he could walk to the station, hop on a train and travel in style to Plymouth, from where he could take a passenger ship down to the Mediterranean during the cold winter months. John Forbes eventually established a C of E parish in Palermo, Sicily to which he retired in 1927 for 6 years before returning to England and joining his brothers and sisters at Swanston House in Chudleigh to which his Mother had retired in 1901 when his father died at Whitchurch on Thames. Obviously a number of his 12 brothers and sisters had married and moved away from the family including his eldest brother, Alexander, who moved to Melbourne, Australia and whose latest descendant became a prominent diplomat. A number of brothers and brothers in law became merchants trading around the world with James, emigrating to Canada, Eustace, an engineer with the British South African company in Rhodesia and became involved with the Matabele wars in Rhodesia. One of his brothers in law, married to Charlotte, based themselves in Liverpool running an import and export business. They all grew up with Sir John and his brother Alexander, who retired to live in the family house in Whitchurch, for their last few years.

Alexander had been a merchant in Mexico, when the Mexican empire included Texas and the SW America States, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatamala, Nicaragua and California where he owned silver mines.

In 1835 Alexander, who was also the British vice consul in Mexico, wrote the first book in English about California and was involved in persuading the British Government to exchange the considerable debt owed to Britain by Mexico, for the state of California. However the break away states of America were advancing west gradually taking control of all the land north of the Rio Grande and in 1846 this included California.

Rev John de Burgh Forbes chaired a parish meeting of residents who raised the funds for the memorial Pump erected in 1902 which has recently been completely renovated by the Parish Council.

Rev John de Burgh Forbes became the first President of the Bowling Club in 1905 and was able to hand over the ownership of the land, on which the Green had been established to Trustees of the club at a meeting on 1st July 1921. Rev John was also the official who opened the new Parish Hall in 1927.

SW Archaeology

Dr Bryn Morris, who manages South West Archaeology (Swarch), gave a talk at our January meeting about his work on investigating various sites using a variety of techniques. A number of slides displayed the result of Lidar surveys at Killerton Estate completed by Swarch. Drone LiDAR surveys are a rapid and accurate way of capturing large areas at a high level of detail. With the added benefit of being able to penetrate vegetation, a LiDAR survey is a cost effective and reliable way to get topographic survey data of a site. The Dyke Aclands owned several estates in the West Country including Columbjohn Manor, Broadclyst Manor, Pixton Park, Tetton Park and Trerice Manor originally owned by the Arundell family but when Margaret Acland married 2nd Baron Arundell brought this estate into the Acland family. Swarch were involved in designating the two deer park pales and watering pond, at Killerton, probably post-medieval in origin, but dating principally from the C18 onwards. The sections of park pale survive well and will allow a valuable and very complete insight into the domestic economy and pursuits of the occupants of this private estate. The earthworks will retain archaeological material relating to their construction and more generally on the use of later post-medieval deer parks at a period when they were becoming less fashionable across the country as a whole. The history and evolution of the deer park is well documented both historically and archaeologically which enhance our understanding and significance of Killerton's deer park. With the scheduled monument Dolbury Hillfort, the Grade II listed Killerton House and the Grade II registered park and garden, as well as a number of other listed buildings which together illustrate well the historical development of Killerton. Of course several of the estates with land and buildings have been given to the National Trust to manage. Most of the estates had deer parks since when they were established the land represented the largest Royal Hunting Park in the Country. Dr Bryn also indicated which roads had been part of the original country layout with field patterns spreading from the roads rather than newer roads simply breaking up the field patterns. This was a fascinating talk from someone who has spent his life protecting historic treasures in our landscape.

The next two talks will be given by Colin Spackman on the Duke of Wellington and his connections to the area on Thursday 9th February and Alan Reeve on Bishop Lydiard Mill on Thursday 9th March.



Take Part, Laugh,
Enjoy & Live Life



Fun-filled day
for older people



Two-course
lunch



Mondays & Thursdays
9.30am – 3pm
Healthy Living Centre, Hemyock
Ring 01823 680687 for further info.



Memorial Bench Presented

On Saturday 7th January a new bench, lovingly restored by volunteers of the Blackdown Hills Repair Café, was positioned outside the Baptist Church in Hemyock. The bench is dedicated to the memory of the late David Berkley, who was himself a committed volunteer for the Repair Café since its inception in March 2018, and a much-loved member of the Baptist Church fellowship.

David was well known for his love of recycling and repair, and would turn his hand to anything – specialising in the sharpening and repair of tools for the Café.

Present at the presentation in honour of David were, as pictured from left to right, Mark Jolliff and Stephan Lehner (Co-ordinator) from the Blackdown Hills Repair Café, Karen and Chris Berkley (David's son and daughter-in-law), Vivien Berkley (David's wife), and Richard Bishop (Blackdown Hills Repair Café); along with Pastor Steve Williams (behind the camera!).

Please feel free to put the bench to good use and pause for a while to enjoy the view!



Hemyock Gardeners' Association

Hemyock Gardeners' Association is thriving with more members than ever. Membership is now £10 per person. Meeting on the second Wednesday of the month there is the opportunity to listen to interesting and entertaining speakers as well as visits to gardens near and far, taking part in our Spring and Autumn Shows and getting together for social events.

December and January meetings were excellent and well attended. In December Michael Gee spoke about Devon Orchards and gave us a very good talk – even including mention of a Hemyock orchard in the 1500s! January was our Social Evening with a bring & share supper. Members brought along tasty savoury and sweet treats making the buffet table groan with delicious food. Jane produced a Quiz which everyone enjoyed and the Raffle of chocolates, sweets and wines went down well.

We're looking forward to **Wednesday 8 February**, our next meeting with a talk by Jeremy Wilson on Camellias. Due to the Panto in the Parish Hall we have had to move venues so we'll be at The Healthy Living Centre at 7.30pm. Next day we're off to see the snowdrops at East Lambrook Manor. Other dates for the diary:

Saturday 1 April SPRING SHOW – Ploughman's lunches return! Open Classes for non-members.

Wednesday 12 April no evening meeting. Instead 10.30am for a Coffee morning & Plant Sale.

June sees a visit to White Post Nursery at Langford Budville and our Weekend Away to Wales, now fully booked by members.

July is Hemyock's Garden Safari with members opening their gardens for a small entrance fee.

Saturday 26 August AUTUMN SHOW make a note of the date. Showing flowers and produce.

There's always a warm welcome for visitors and guests to our meetings. Entrance is £1 with refreshments. For any info on the Association and its activities, just give us a call.



Above Brenda Calcraft has become Life President of Hemyock Gardeners' Association following her resignation as Chair. The award was given to Brenda by Barbara Heaton, the new Chair.

Letter to Clubs from the Parish Pump

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

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

I would be grateful if you could give me any information that will affect the details in the Parish Pump by the deadline. It does mean looking 2 months ahead which is not always easy! I hope this will give the village a more accurate and up-to-date Parish Pump magazine.

Sue Lambert, tel. 01823 680664, sueliz.lambert30@gmail.com.

Editor, James Winrow, pump@lickam.co.uk

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

Valley Arts

We had a successful 60s and 70s evening with the BIRD DOGS. Good food, good company and excellent band. Some fancy dressers were so well disguised they weren't recognisable; Zelda the Hippy chick springs to mind!



Rehearsals are well under way for our 2023 Pantomime ROBIN HOOD on the 8th, 9th and 10th February 7.30pm in Hemyock Parish Hall. It will be a good local evening out, where you can enjoy all round family entertainment. Tickets are on sale at Hemyock Post Office Adults £10 Children £5

There will be a bar available before the show starts and in the interval, drinks and light refreshments will be on sale. Stuart Summers is our producer, Zelda Gray our musical director and Adele Bolt our choreographer. Wardrobe: Alice Martin, Lynn Pulman, Julie Bailey and Rose Kilhams. Robin Hood will be played by Ben King, Maid Marian- Miki Hussey, Dame Dora- Emily Caldicott, Sheriff-Geoff Taylor, Little Jane- Caroline Pinder, Friar Tuck- Chris Poole, Will Scarlett- Kevin Stone, Denchman the Henchman- Mark Dyer, Juliet- Helen Williams, Jolly- Elsie flowers, Alan a Dale- Andy Pulman, Mystic Meg - Sonia Mogford-Abbot, Leafworm- Simon Hawkes, King Richard- Gillian Hawkes, Long Face the horse- Vikki Daley

Chorus members: Sally Cartledge, Sue Bennett, Alison Robson and Lynn Pulman.

There is a skilled behind the scenes team including Dave Killams –lighting, Jessica Simmons make up, Graham Reekes-sound, Mandy Richards-scenery painting. Len & Stuart Summers, Gillian & Bob Hawkes stage building. Bar Hilary Moles and Bob Hawkes.

If you are interested in joining the group this year and think you would also like to participate in any way, don't hesitate to contact Lynn at lynnpulman@btinternet.com Caroline at cjpinder@hotmail.co.uk or Stuart at stuart.summers28@gmail.com.

Our Christmas meal was at the Catherine Wheel on 17th December, it was lovely to see so many people there, the meal was delicious and we were very well looked after. Thank you to everyone at the Catherine Wheel and thank you Gillian for organising it was definitely a good way to start the festive celebrations!

Caroline Pinder (Secretary)

Commercial Advertising

To advertise in the Parish Pump, contact pump-adverts@lickham.co.uk.

Advertisements are renewed on an annual basis commencing with the April edition. However, we do accept advertisements with each edition, if there is space. The charge will be on a pro-rata basis for the remaining editions before the next annual renewal. If you would like to place a commercial advertisement, please contact: pump-adverts@lickham.co.uk.

Next deadline for enquiries: **1 March 2023** for the April 2023 edition.

Around Hemyock

It seems like only yesterday we were enjoying the festive season. In a short few weeks we celebrated seeing the village adorned with colourful lights and a wonderful parade with lanterns depicting the weather, trips around the estates by Father Christmas and his band of merry helpers, St Mary's Christmas Fair, church services including the joyful Christingle afternoon and carols in the churchyard whilst a Songs of Praise welcomed in the New Year.

For some of our families it has also been a time of great sadness with a member of their family passing away. We remember **David Berkley, Robert Pike, Rev Ron White, Perce Moon and Ron Cassell** who from 1980-1992 was the Pastor of our Baptist Chapel. The following has been received.

Robert Pike formally of Oakleigh and later of Prowses, Hemyock passed away peacefully in the presence of his two daughters, Karen and Kate on Christmas Eve 2022 on Clyst Ward at the RD&E Hospital, Exeter. He was much loved and will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Robert was born on the 17th of Dec 1944 in the Llanfrechfa Grange Hospital, Cwmbran Wales. He spent the majority of his adult life living in Clayhidon and in more recent years, Hemyock. Robert was an active member of the local community. He worked for the local council authority as a lorry driver until he had a stroke in 1998. In his spare time, he was a Parish Councillor for many years and Bar man at the Half Moon Inn, Clayhidon during the 1980&90's. Robert also collected parish donations for the Poppy Appeal.

He played darts, skittles and enjoyed volunteering his time as a driver and general helper for the Healthy Living Centre and other local charities. He would often help out at the Garages Youth Club in Hemyock. He was a founding member of the Blackdown Sea Angling Club and enjoyed both fresh and sea water fishing. Prior to his heath failing, Robert enjoyed spending time over at "Johnnys" ponds. As a keen amateur CB Radio operator, he would whistle out the call signs "M3YNI" and "Rod Rest". You would often see the oversized ariel on his car above the hedge line, before seeing the car! Roberts Funeral took place on Friday 27th January 2023 at Taunton Crematorium. Those who attended were asked to wear funky ties, waists coats and trouser braces in memory of Robert's quirky dress sense.

Donations in Roberts memory will go to The Blackdown Suport Group and may be sent to the Funeral Directors, Crescent Funeral Services, The Old Coach House, Crescent Park, Taunton, TA1 4ED. Or online at crescent-donations.co.uk

David Berkley

David Berkley was born and brought up in the Home Counties and studied Agriculture at Reading University, where he met his wife Vivien. In 1958 they moved to Somerset to manage a YMCA hostel at North Cadbury that was being used for the British Boys for British Farms scheme to train a new generation of young people to work in farming. This led to a job as lecturer in Agriculture with Somerset Farm Institute, first day release around the county, then based in Cannington. In the mid-eighties he resigned to start his own business in the then-new field of livestock pregnancy scanning, covering the whole of the South West. That venture only ended when his equipment finally became beyond repair.

With their six children grown up and with their own families, in 2003 David and Vivien sold their home in Somerset and moved to Tedburrow, next door to son Chris and his family. Later they downsized to a cottage in Hemyock High Street. In Devon, they characteristically got involved in many village activities, including the Baptist Church and The Repair Cafe. These activities all supported David's lifetime principles of "Make and mend", to think of others before himself and to live life in Jesus' name.

Rev Ron White

St Marys needed extra seating to be brought in for the service of Rev Ron White attended by 200 people. A man of considerable talent he was held in great esteem and affection by all who knew him.

Ron died on 16th December 2022. His funeral service took place on 6th January 2023, and he is buried in Hemyock Cemetery with many family and friends.

He was born in 1936 at Troakes Farm, Clayhidon, went to the village school, was awarded a full boarding scholarship at Exeter School, followed by a degree course at Bristol University gaining a 2:1 in Biology with Chemistry. He then did a PGCE at Oxford. His subsequent career involved teaching in different types of school: Abbotsholme, a progressive boarding school; Birch Freeman High School, a boys' secondary school in Lagos, Nigeria; 2 years at Honiton when it was a secondary modern, and 12 settled years at Uffculme (1974 – 1985).

In parallel there has always been a strong Christian faith and commitment which led him to taking up a position of leadership in a Christian organisation (Scripture Union) in Uganda. We were deported by Idi Amin's henchmen in 1973.

43 years of Ron's life were lived in fellowship at Rosemary Lane Chapel and 43 years in the Church of England. He was ordained priest in 1986, served his curacy in Ivybridge and was appointed vicar of Stoke Fleming, Blackawton and Strete (South Hams) in 1988.

In retirement since 2000 he has lived out his priestly ministry in our local parishes as well as taking on the position of organist and choirmaster at Hemyock. He was also a pianist, accordion player, musical director (Hemyock Singers), actor (VAS), author, entertainer at harvest suppers, secretary or administrator of several village groups, coffee shop server, gardener, artist, litter picker, putter outer of bins etc...

Perhaps he really was the character he once played in The Mikado: Pooh Bah – the Lord High Everything Else.

We send condolences and love to the family and friends of those mentioned and to others known to us.

To all who are unwell or recovering from surgery or illness we send all good wishes remembering by name **Kay Lane, John Andrew, Chris Hudson, Joan Cooper, Alan Craig, Mary and Chris.**

Robin Hood will be visiting the Parish Hall in early February courtesy of Valley Arts. The group go from strength to strength as they bring fun and laughter with their shows.

As the village continues to grow new groups join those well-established from children's ballet classes to the Gardeners Association. The Pump back cover and centre diary will keep you abreast of events.

Congratulations to **Julie Jennings** who has been appointed District Commissioner for Tiverton and District Scouts. Many families will know of the tremendous amount of work Julie has done for the 1st Hemyock Group in particular the Cub Scouts over 24 years. Such is the affection Julie is held in there were tears from some of her young members on hearing her decision to resign as our Cub Scout Leader. We wish her good luck in her new role and thank her for all she has done for the Association..

Congratulations also to **Kay Cork** who has sent the following.

The past few years have been extremely tough for all small businesses and sadly due to recent price increases they are still struggling. However, perseverance definitely pays off,

Whilst 2020 was one of the hardest years I have faced in the 10years I've been running my small business, I started 2021 by becoming a finalist in the Hair And Beauty Awards and nominated for Nail Technician of the year from the Social Media Hair and Beauty Awards. I am starting 2023 slightly differently due to having Bilateral Carpal Tunnel surgery and a bit of time off, but with the same drive and passion for my work and now I'm a finalist for the third year in a row for Best Gel Nails in the UK hair and beauty awards.

I'd just like to thank all of my wonderful clients new and old because without you I wouldn't still have my dream job.

Kay Cork x
The Beauty Annex
54 Station Road
Hemyock
Instagram- @kay.thebeautyannex.hemyock/



The folk who organise the Parish Pump send all good wishes to everyone for 2023 and look forward to receiving news you would like to share with others.

Janice
Jbawler1947@hotmail.co.uk

Cancer Research Big Breakfast

**Saturday 4th March
Culmstock Village Hall
9am – 12 noon**

We welcome you along to this lovely event, enjoy a hearty breakfast with friends, buy a raffle ticket and raise money for Cancer Research.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help for an hour or two, please contact Denise Wood on 07866671859 or Diana Clegg on 07525330081. Thank You.

Firework Evening Thanks

The Kunda family would like to thank all that attended our charity firework evening. We raised an amazing amount of **£560.00** which we have donated to Devon Freewheelers.

WILD ABOUT DEVON

COMMUNITY GRANTS OF UP TO £500 AVAILABLE!

Are you a community group, parish or town council, or collaborative local community partnership in Devon (including Torbay)?

- Do you have a wildlife project idea that you want to kickstart?
- Are you looking for funding to advance an existing wildlife initiative?
- Would you like to start a new group with a wildlife focus?

This grant scheme recognises the vital role community action can play in creating long term benefits for wildlife. This could range from gardens and parks, to churchyards, orchards, window boxes, ponds and ditches, buildings and more!

APPLY ONLINE TODAY!
tinyurl.com/yc85faw7

Devon Communities Together, Devon Nature Partnership, Devon Environment Foundation, Devon County Council

What's On February

Wed 1	BSG Hemyock Lunch Club, FL, 12.45 – 2.30 BHLAC	Parish Council, BHLAC, 7.30
Thu 2	Taunton FM Mobile Library, 14.30 -15.40	
Fri 3		
Sat 4	Tiverton, Well. + Churchinford FMs	
Sun 5		
Mon 6		
Tue 7		Tues Club, 7.30, FL
Wed 8	BSG Rosemary Lane, Lunch, Empty Spaces, 2.30- 4pm, BHLAC.	Gardeners' Meeting, 7.30 ROBIN HOOD
Thu 9	Taunton FM, Mobile Library History Group, CR	ROBIN HOOD
Fri 10	Empty Spaces, 10.30 - 12.00, BHLAC	ROBIN HOOD
Sat 11	Cullompton + Yarcombe, FMs	
Sun 12		
Mon 13	Local Schools Half Term – Feb 17th	Young Farmers, FL, 7.30
Tue 14	VALENTINE'S DAY, Charity/ Coffee Shop,	
Wed 15		
Thu 16	Honiton + Taunton FM. Poppy Group, CR, 10 am – 3pm	
Fri 17		
Sat 18	HEMYOCK MARKET, Well.FM Mobile Library, Hemyock PH, 9.55 – 11.55	
Sun 19		
Mon 20	Local return after Half-Term	
Tue 21	SHROVE TUESDAY, Charity/ Coffee Shop, 10 -12, CR	
Wed 22	ASH WEDNESDAY	
Thu 23	Taunton Farmers' Market	
Fri 24		
Sat 25	Uffculme FM Nosh & Knowledge, Hemyock P.T.A	
Sun 26	CHRISTMAS DAY	
Mon 27		Young Farmers, FL, 7.30
Tue 28		

Weekly Meetings in Parish Hall and Elsewhere (Forbes Lounge, Church Room, BHLAC & Garages)

Sunday	Community Shed	10 – 4 pm	C Shed
Mondays	Riverside Club	9.30 – 3pm	BHLAC
	Short Mat Bowls	9.30 – 12.30	PH
	Mature Movers	11 – 12 noon	Garages
	Art Group	10 – 12 noon	FL
	Community Shed	10 – 4 pm	C. Shed
	Badminton	1.30 – 3.30 pm	PH
	Salsa DX Dance Exercise	6.30 – 7.30 pm	PH
	Yoga	6.15 – 7.45 pm	BHLAC
Tuesdays	“Warm Spaces”,	10 – 3pm	BHLAC
	Charity/ Coffee shop	10 – 12 noon	CR
	Yoga	9.30 – 11am	BHLAC
	Pilates	6.30 – 7.30 pm	BHLAC
	Baby & Toddlers	1.45 – 3.15 pm	PH
	Moira Mansbridge Ballet	4.15 – 6.15 pm	FL
Wednesdays	Blackdown Stay & Play	9.30 – 11 am	BHLAC
	Pilates (2 classes)	6 – 7.15 pm	BHLAC
Thursdays	Riverside Club	9.30 – 3 pm	BHLAC
	“Warm Spaces”,	10 – 3pm	CR
	Short Mat Bowls	1.30 – 4.30 pm	PH
	Devon Dance Fit, Gold	10 – 11 am	PH
	Devon Dance Fit	7.00 – 9.30 pm	PH
Fridays	Pilates (2 classes)	9.30 – 10. 15 am	BHLAC

These **WEEKLY** activities happen regularly each week with occasional breaks for Bank Holidays and school holidays. They will not be put into the “What's On” of the Parish Pump (as they are so regular) but fortnightly and monthly meetings will go into “What's On”, **IF I AM NOTIFIED!**

Please contact me, **Sue Lambert, 680664 or sueliz.lambert30@gmail.com** if there are any alterations, or additions to this list.

PH - Parish Hall
 FL – Forbes Lounge
 BHLAC – Blackdown Healthy Living and Activity Centre
 C.SHED – Community Shed
 CR – Church Room

What's On March

Wed 1	BSG Hemyock Lunch Club, FL, 12.30 – 2.30 BHLAC	Parish Council, BHLAC, 7.30
Thu 2	Taunton FM Mobile Library, PH, 14.30 – 15.40	
Fri 3		
Sat 4	Tiverton FM	
Sun 5		
Mon 6		
Tue 7	Charity/Coffee Shop, CR, 10-12,	Tues Club, 7.30, PH
Wed 8	BSG Rosemary Lane Lunch Club Empty Spaces, 2.30- 4pm, BHLAC.	Gardeners' Meeting, 7.30pm, PH
Thu 9	Taunton FM, History Group, CR, 7.30	
Fri 10	Empty Spaces, 10.30 - 12.00, BHLAC	
Sat 11	Cullompton, Yarcombe FM	“Big Visit” Bingo
Sun 12		
Mon 13		Young Farmers, F.L, 7.30
Tue 14	Charity/ Coffee Shop	PUMP DEADLINE
Wed 15		
Thu 16	Honiton, Taunton FM, Warm Spaces, CR, 10 – 3pm, Poppy Group, 10-3pm	
Fri 17		
Sat 18	HEMYOCK MARKET, Well. FM, Mobile Library, Hemyock PH, 9.55 – 11.55	
Sun 19	MOTHERING SUNDAY	
Mon 20		
Tue 21		Charity/ Coffee Shop, 10 -12, CR
Wed 22		
Thu 23	Taunton Farmers' Market	
Fri 24		
Sat 25	REPAIR SHOP, PH, 10 – 1pm, Uffculme FM	
Sun 26		
Mon 27	British Summertime begins	Young Farmers, F.L, 7.30
Tue 28		
Wed 29		
Thu 30	Mobile Library, PH, 14.30 – 15.30	
Fri 31	Local Schools, End of Term to Mon 17 th April	Scouts' Bingo

Forthcoming Events

- April 01 Gardeners' Spring Show
- April 07 Good Friday
- April 09 Easter Sunday
- April 10 Easter Monday
- April 15 Hemyock Market
- April 17 Local Schools start of Summer term
- May 04 Council Elections
- May 05 “Pre-Coronation Supper Evening”, FOSM
- May 06 CORONATION
- May 15 Hemyock Market
- May 18, 19, 20 Devon County Show
- May 27 Repair Café
- May 29 – June 02, Local Schools Half-term

- June 23-25 Gardeners' Trip to N. Wales
- July 22 Mid. Devon Show
- Aug 26 Gardeners' Autumn Show

If you wish to give people an early notice of your events by getting it in the Forthcoming Events, please notify **Sue Lambert, 680664** or at her email address: **sueliz.lambert30@gmail.com** by the “Parish Pump” deadline date. (This may stop too many clashes of dates!)

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

Parish Pump Deadline February – March issue: 14th March

Editor: James Winrow
 pump@lickham.co.uk
 07763 855414

Commercial advertising:
pump-adverts@lickham.co.uk

Distribution: Clare Sibley 07967 051182.

Hemyock Parish Council

Business Update, February 2023

The parish council held meetings in December & January. A brief summary of the business conducted at those meetings is as follows:-

Co-options & Vacancy

The council welcomes two new co-opted members to the council, Kelly Talbot and Stephen Ward. The parish council has one vacancy.

Election 2023

Do you want to make a difference to your community and be a voice for the residents of Hemyock? Are you passionate about improving the lives of those living in the village? Why not become a Councillor and join Hemyock Parish Council? Councillors give their time to serve others and get involved with issues concerning the village. As a local councillor you can become a voice for your community and make a difference. Councillors attend to the needs of residents, local groups and businesses, make decisions on local services, collaborate with district and county councils, and progress vital projects to invest in the future of the community. Parish Council elections will be held on 4th May 2023 – your chance to become a parish councillor! Do you know someone who cares about their local community? Why not encourage them to stand for election on 4th May 2023?

To be a Parish Councillor you must:

- Be a British citizen or a citizen of the Commonwealth or European Union
- Be 18 years or older on the day you are nominated for election.
- For the whole 12 months prior to nomination for election, have been either an elector of the parish (occupy or rent/own premises in the parish), or reside within 3 miles of the boundary of the parish, or have your principal or only place of work in the area.

Nearer the time you will be able to obtain a nomination paper from Mid Devon District Council. If you have any questions about what's involved in being a Councillor, what the Parish Council does, or the nomination process, please contact the Clerk via email hemyockpc@gmail.com or speak to any of the existing councillors – their details can be found on the village website: hemyock.org/parishcouncil.

Coronation Party – Saturday 6th May

Do you think the parish should have an event to celebrate the coronation of King Charles? Possibly an afternoon tea/evening party on Saturday 6th May? If you want to help organise such an event(s) please contact Sue Scantlebury 01823 681393 or email susanscantlebury@yahoo.com.

Planning

Applications received for:-

- 22/02028/TPO. Application to cut back overhanging and broken limbs of 3 Oak trees and 5 Beech trees and lopping of small growth from 1 Sycamore and 1 Ash tree protected by Tree Preservation Order 93/00003/ TPO. Conigar Knob, Hemyock.

- 22/01600/HOUSE. Erection of single-storey extension. The Old Chapel, Hemyock.

- 22/02165/FULL. Erection of garage/carport and workshop. Whitehall, Hemyock.

- 22/02245/HOUSE. Erection of garden room and replacement porch; removal of conservatory; raising level of adjacent terrace; alterations to the North, South and West fenestrations; repairs and alterations to barn to include partial conversion to form ancillary accommodation and formation of swimming pool. Whitehall Manor, Whitehall, Hemyock.

- 22/02246/LBC. Listed Building Consent for erection of garden room and replacement porch; removal of conservatory; raising level of adjacent terrace; alterations to the North, South and West fenestrations; internal and external repairs and alterations; repairs and alterations to barn to include partial conversion to form ancillary accommodation. Whitehall Manor, Whitehall, Hemyock.

- 22/00852/MFUL. Erection of a poultry building (2878.93 sqm) and associated works. Goodalls Farm, Hemyock.

- 22/02302/FULL. Extension to existing covered yard, erection of storage building, enclosure over manure store and creation of an earth-banked dirty water store. Simonsburrow Farm, Hemyock.

- 22/02329/OUT. Outline for the erection of an agricultural worker's dwelling. New Gorwell Farm, Hemyock.

- 22/02390/HOUSE. Installation of 6 solar panels to rear of property. 2 Lower Millhayes, Hemyock.

Permission granted noted for:-

- 22/01754/FULL. Erection of agricultural general purpose storage building. Culmbridge Farm, Culmbridge Road, Hemyock.
- 22/01645/FULL. Change of use of agricultural land for the siting of a shepherd's hut for use as holiday let. Oxenpark, Castle Hill, Hemyock.

- 22/01877/FULL. Alterations to car park to include demolition of brick wall; repairs to retaining wall; replacement fence; formation of footpath and alterations to gully positions. The Blackdown Healthy Living Centre, Riverside, Hemyock.

- 22/01600/HOUSE. Erection of single-storey extension. The Old Chapel, Hemyock

Permission refused noted for:-

- 22/01889/FULL. Erection of general-purpose agricultural building. Land at NGR 312978 112025 Castle Hill, Hemyock. Miss Lawrence had checked the reasons for refusal: the planning officer had commented that there was no evidence the development was necessary. The AONB had commented that they were keen to limit the introduction of development in isolated locations. The application lacked clarity for use and need.

Finance

Income – included overage payment, donations, interest, and cemetery. Expenditure - included clerk's pay and expenses, grass cutting, village maintenance, insurance, toilet cleaning and consumables, electricity, water, asset maintenance, legal fees, room hire, bank charges and Christmas competition.

The following grants were awarded:-

- £1000 Blackdown Support Group
- £1500 Repair Café, Jim's Shed

The pc has agreed to keep the Band D annual rate at £97.31, reducing the overall precept it receives to £84,890.

Longmead

The pc continues to liaise with the company which Maverick (skatepark designer) has appointed to complete a flood risk assessment, and Devon County Council. Once the pc understands and is content with the flood compensation areas, the planning application will be submitted to MDDC.

Work to fix and improve drainage on the road to the containers has been completed. The pc intends to install some sleepers to protect the grass areas and then, later in the year, consider a larger project to look at the best surface for these areas.

Community Speed Watch – More Volunteers Are Needed!

Have you seen or heard vehicles speeding on Station Road? Are you concerned? Could you spare an hour to monitor the traffic? The village has its own speed watch team and it is looking for new members. If you would like to take part in Hemyock Speed Watch and play a part in helping keep our village roads as safe as possible, please contact our coordinator, Martin Dear, for more information: 07805 254115 or email hemyockspeedwatch@gmail.com

Community Land

As part of a 106 legal agreement, 7 acres of land will be offered to the parish council. The pc has created a new Community Land Committee to drive this project forward.

The parish council hopes the land will:-

- Be a space that brings families and communities of all ages together
- Be developed along sustainable and green principles
- Encourage people to spend time in nature through a good design of the space

The pc intends to create a path from Longmead through the two fields of green open space to link up with the new development, Oak Mount.

With regard to the 7 acres, the parish council invites interested groups/individuals who wish to create a community area within the open space to contact the council. The council is hoping that groups of like-minded individuals will get together and drive their project forward. The pc will facilitate and support each group.

If you've always wanted an allotment, or wish to create a community orchard, or wildflower meadow, talk to the council about your idea and together we can create a great space for everyone to enjoy.

St Margaret's Brook

Last month work was carried out to repair the collapsed bank along the path by the castle. The flat stones were piled up and the pc intended to use them further up the brook to strengthen and extend the narrow path. Unfortunately, the stones were removed before the pc could reuse them. If anyone has any flat stones that may be of use to the pc, please contact the clerk.

Lengthsman

The pc has employed its own lengthsman to look at some of the worst areas in the parish with regard to blocked drains, gulleys, etc. Clayhidon pc has employed him to mend potholes that will not be fixed by the county council. The pc will monitor how successful this Clayhidon initiative is.

Christmas Decorations Competition

The judge this year said ' Hemyock's Christmas lights are truly impressive and even more so when you go round and look at all of them. The whole display is anchored by the wonderful pink light displays on the trees and the pink clouds, especially at St Mary's and with the large star on top of the tower. There is a lot of work involved in doing that many trees and the Lights Brigade team who do it should be thoroughly congratulated. I particularly liked the tree baubles at Higher Millhayes, and the effective weather theme in Castle Park of a polar bear on an iceberg in a blue sea. The bungalow in the centre of the village caught my eye because the use of a single soft white colour throughout the house and garden was so effective, and in Eastlands I liked the way lines of lights were trailed over a garden even if it didn't have any convenient trees. Of course, it was hard to choose winners. Impossible really, because the overall effect is that the community cares and we all enjoy the Christmas feelings the lights create.'

After careful consideration the winners are...

- 1st Prize £40.00 K McShane, 1 Higher Millhayes
- 2nd Prize £30.00 H Burke, 5 Castle Park
- 3rd Prize £20.00 E Ward, Cornerways, The Square
- 4th Prize £10.00 J Clunie, 29, Eastlands

Grants Resources Information News (GRIN)

The pc has subscribed to the above. This not-for-profit organisation gives the latest news on grants available to groups. If you are looking for a grant, this pc resource may be able to help you.

Hedges

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

Highways

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

Police

101 - The non-emergency number for Devon and Cornwall Police
Textphone 18001 101 for the deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired

Always call 999 in an emergency

Finally

If you would like to get involved or wish to know what is happening around the parish then please come along to one of the council meetings, normally held on the first Wednesday of the month at the Blackdown Healthy Living & Activities Centre, Riverside (the next meeting is Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7.30pm). Minutes and agenda are displayed on the web at www.hemyock.org/parishcouncil.

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

Our Thatching Life, featuring Ferrari the Thatcher, Daisy the apprentice, Carney and animals various

It was summer when I last wrote one of these. Sometimes just normal, everyday life eats away at your time like the tide at Sidmouth cliffs. I remember we arrived there once one summer's evening for a cheeky fish and chips after work, to find a cloud of red dust hanging over the shore, another huge chunk of land having fallen into the sea. Sometimes no matter how hard you try and defend your time, with early starts, late finishes, time just goes.

Up until the New Year at least the weather has been good, especially as we have been on the largest roof we have ever done. It's not the biggest house really, but one of those with an extension every 100 years for the last 400, so there are valleys and hips all over the place. The customers have been wonderful, really patient and kind, and just glad to be warmer and drier under each new bit of roof. The weather lately has been less kind, with heavy rain battering several of the older roofs of our other customers, and we have had two weeks of patching and sheeting to try and keep everyone dry. It might just be coincidence that everyone's roofs have reached 'a certain age' all at once, but I can't help thinking it's the change in climate.

Materials continue to test our certainty. It seems the country ran out of twisted spars in the run up to Christmas. Supplies have arrived but now suppliers are having to limit sales to stop some people trying to buy 5 times their normal amount... it's our very own loo roll crisis! I'm just about to try and source materials for the next job so let's hope that is a bit less stressful than last year (tho' almost certainly no less costly).

We have had the same cough/flu/lurgy thing that's going around and although we are finally back at work, we are like a pair of aged cockerels hawing and crowing our way through the day. Luckily we have some extra help for a couple of weeks from Carney, young, fit and full of energy, she might just about help us get through the day. Either that or I hear there is a cracking Repair Cafe in Hemyock each month... p'raps they could patch up a pair of old thatchers?

Times of Mobile Library**Hemyock Village Hall every 2 weeks**

Thursdays 14.30 – 15.40 Feb 2, Mar 2 & 30, Apr 27, May 25, Jun 22, Jul 20, Aug 17, Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 7.

Saturdays 9.55 – 11.55 Feb 18, Mar 18, Apr 15, May 13, Jun 10, Jul 8, Aug 5, Sept 2 & 30, Oct 28, Nov 25.

Mid Devon singers

It's about now that, for many of us, those well-intentioned promises we made ourselves at the start of the year; to become physically more active, more sociable, more creative, start to fade. But it doesn't have to be that way! Have you ever considered that joining a Community Choir such as the Mid Devon Singers is a fun way to tick all those boxes.

Singing has been found to lower blood pressure, increase blood oxygen saturation, elevate immunity, heighten pain threshold, strengthen respiratory muscles, and reduce stuttering. Making music produces measurable changes in the brain that positively impact our ability to heal after strokes. Add to this the decrease in stress, depression and anxiety that singing produces and it's evident that singing can lead to a deeper sense of well-being and overall happiness.

It has also been demonstrated that singing improves social bonding and social cohesion. Singing is an intimate activity and when you share it with others, it helps strengthen bonds. Furthermore, at Mid Devon Singers, in addition to our regular weekly get togethers for rehearsals, we have a varied social calendar. For example, in the past year we have enjoyed a summer bar-b-que, a boat trip on the Grand Western Canal, a Christmas dinner and disco and a quiz night. As Yvonne Buttifant (Musical Director) says "The choir have an excellent community spirit, they are like one big family" "

Choir members enjoy the creativity that making music affords as our two Musical Directors use their skills to produce a unique version, through their arrangements and improvisations, of a pre-existing piece of music. Contributing your individual voice to produce a sound that is in harmony with the other voices around you, to produce a unique sound, is a truly awe inspiring creative activity and the art of making a simple group of words become meaningful and that inspire and touch everybody's heart gives choir members a lot of fulfilment.

To find out more how singing in a choir can benefit you, and to experience the FUN for yourself, why not come along to one of our rehearsals and give us a try. There's no charge for trying us out and it's free for under 18s. New members are very welcome; there are no auditions to join our friendly and sociable community choir. We meet at Halberton Village Hall, on Friday evenings at 7.15pm. If you would like to find out more information, contact us now at info@mids.org.uk or call our Membership Secretary, Lisa Pinney on 07446 877714 Alternatively contact our Chairperson, Bernard Johns at Chair@mids.org.uk or on 07855 583356.

**1st Hemyock Scout Group**

Hello to you all. I hope you are all well as we are at 1st Hemyock. All sections are now busy with their Spring programmes and looking forward to better weather for our outdoor activities.

Lets start with news from HQ. Our Chief Scout Bear Grylls has sent us a new year message. I shall briefly relay its content. What a brilliant year was 2022! Biggest growth in numbers in a single year in over seventy years. Also well on with developing our newest section, squirrels (note from Rikki, Hemyock is doing its bit, we have a thriving squirrel section). One of our biggest achievements, helping over 420,000 young people gain skills for life. He says thanks to all of our volunteers for helping us achieve Charity of the Year 2022 in the Charity Times Awards. He finally says- Well done to all our leaders and volunteers and give yourselves a well earned pat a the back.

Now some news from Tiverton District. A new District Commissioner has been appointed. It is our very own Julie Jennings. Congratulations to Julie. Alas we lose her as an active Hemyock cub scout leader and supporter of the group as a whole. However I am sure Julie, in her new role, will not forget us. She has told me that she has enjoyed her twenty four years as a leader with us. She will be missed but the gap will be filled and 1st Hemyock will continue to be a leading light in Tiverton District.

Ever onward! Back in December at St Marys Christmas Fayre I was reprimanded by our Group Chair Karen. In a previous Parish Pump I got section leaders mixed up, so I am pleased to say that Karen has furnished me with a complete list of leaders as of now. Here they are:

Josh Archer Group Scout Leader

Squirrels: Claire Shears Section Leader, Helen Brain Section Leader.

Beavers: Amie Seaforth SL, Sharon Hunt ASL, Christopher Seaforth ASL.

Cubs: Christian Boyd SL, Daniel Sellick ASL, Jake Palmer ASL
Scouts: Joss Langford SL, Ian Firth ASL, Anne Leigh-Mallory ASL
Jenny Bijars ASL.

Explorers: Haydn Hayes and Stacey Oswald.

Group Skills Instructor: Colin Grabham

Group Executive Committee: Karen Pinder Group Chair, Lorna Pring Group Secretary, Gillian Hawkes Group Treasurer, plus: Wendy Grabham, Hilary Clements, Paul Radford, Richard Jeans, Sharon Hunt and Susanne Hayes.

Thats our team and thanks to every one of them for the time and effort they put in to make 1st Hemyock the best. (Rikki hopes this is all correct- otherwise "serious reprimand" from Group Chair!).

For something a bit different, a short report from our stalwart volunteers for each Pump. We start with Karen, Group Chair.

As Group Chair I work closely with our GSL, Josh, and with the Executive Committee to ensure the effective running and the administration of the Group.

As Group Chair I am responsible with the committee to make sure that we provide the facilities and resources needed to deliver scouting and to enable the future development of scouting within the group. I have to ensure that the group exec acts within the legislation applicable to charity trustees, following the Scout

Association's Policy Organisation and Rules and to lead the administrative and financial support teams. With the committee we promote the Scout Group within the local community and keep in touch with the Scout District. I have been a member of the Group Exec for some 22years. I feel that scouting can help to provide children and young people with many life skills, values and self-confidence which go on to help them in their future lives. We have a thriving Group in the village but sadly a very long waiting list. If we could encourage more people to volunteer as leaders we could give so many more children this exciting experience.

Karen.

Thankyou Group Chair, a lot of work going on behind the scenes. And Rikki echoes your plea for a few more leaders, even part time. This would cut our waiting list- as Skip Lowman said decades ago, our young people want to be scouts now, not in the future.

That leads Old Rikki onto a snippet he saw in a newspaper at the end of last year from a doctor. "Being a scout is good for you, says new research, with the benefits stretching into middle age. Ex scouts were 35% more likely to report excellent health at 50. I think the psychological benefits are key. The scouting mindset is the antithesis of the spoilt, introspective, delicate snowflake generation." I must say I agree, but change middle age to old age in my case! I am proud to have been involved with scouting for most of my life.

Have I got space for a finally? Perhaps a quick one. If you observe attentively you will even find wisdom in shadows.

And as our Founder BP said, Always Be Prepared.

Best wishes to you all for a super 2023 from 1st Hemyock

Old Rikki

Blackdown Hills Repair Café

Our Next Event is on Saturday 25th March at the Hemyock Parish Hall EX15 3QW between 10am and 1.0pm.

Please do come along and have all of your broken items repaired and fixed by our Volunteer Repairers, and while they are carrying out your repairs enjoy some refreshments in our tea room café.

Our Repair Cafe Events for the whole of 2023 are as follows, All on Saturday's at the Hemyock Parish Hall EX15 3QW from 10am until 1.0pm (We are now able to take on extra, larger and more extended repairs due to us now also having a workshop facility) January 28th, March 25th, May 27th, July 22nd, September 23rd, November 25th.

Many thanks and kind regards, Stephan. Coordinator of the Blackdown Hills Repair Cafe



NEW HOMES | OAK MOUNT, HEMYOCK



A range of 40 beautifully built 3 and 4 bedroom homes on the outskirts of the village. Visit our marketing suite to speak to a sales advisor for more information.

Blackdown Hills Business Centre, Hemyock, EX15 3QU

01823 210837
oakmount@cavannahomes.co.uk
cavannahomes.co.uk

Poets Corner

WANDERING INTO SPRING

Winter/Spring who knows?
 Those days in March,
 When twelve hours light or dark,
 Frost and Sun, snow or rain,
 March winds may blow, or
 Spring sunshine glow all in one day,
 Then blue sky bright and,
 Beneath a hedge a primrose peeps,
 Yellow smile to bring the bees,
 While in the trees,
 Buds swell and break,
 They have heard the call of Spring,
 And deep among the twisted roots,
 In damp darkness of litter and loam
 lives the dark net of the,
 Mushroom World of secret growth, making
 New from old,
 And maybe man learned,
 The biology of the Compost Heap,
 mass of micro-life, living, consuming, dyeing,
 Passing life to be,
 Wisdom lit by The Creators light,
 And is still to shine.

WINTER

Sitting in my Window seat,
 Soaking up some Winter sun,
 Clouds blow with the western wind,
 Spatter raindrops on the glass,
 Wind sighing, singing, whispering
 Bending sturdy oak trees branches,
 Plays the tune of Winter days

David Palmer

Longmead

The Pavilion is an ideal venue for smaller events needing outdoor space, birthday parties, christenings, family gatherings and of course meetings. The building has a large screen tv and there are basic kitchen facilities for your use. **The MUGA** (Multi Use Games Area) is also available for hire, why not combine the two and have a football party? Its ideal for 5 aside football, netball, hockey, we also have basketball hoops for use, is anyone interested in starting up a new club?

Hire charges

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

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



Come and play cricket !!!

Hemyock Cricket Club would like to welcome new and old players of all standards and ages for the upcoming season. We are a friendly social club that plays Saturday afternoons in Division 3 of the West Somerset League, and some friendly matches.

For more information please contact :

John Hurley (Captain) 07972 744279 jchurley66@googlemail.com
 Malcolm Steer (Secretary) 07456 690503 malcolm653@hotmail.co.uk



the beehive Honiton's Community & Arts Venue	
<p>FEBRUARY 2023 EVENTS</p>	
<p>THE GET-TOGETHER WITH MAMA TOKUS Fri 3 Feb 7.30pm £14 A joyful, collective experience where YOU get to join in with the band. Uplifting gospel, soul & funk with lyrics beamed up in front.</p>	
<p>INDIA SWEETS AND SPICES (12A) Sat 4 Feb 7.30pm Adult £7.50, U16 £6.50 A colourful romantic comedy-drama from the producers of Crazy Rich Asians with a strong sense of both fun and feminism.</p>	
<p>AFTERSUN (12A) Fri 10 Feb 7.30pm Adult £7.50, U16 £6.50 Paul Mescal stars as idealistic father Calum, whose holiday with his daughter triggers bittersweet memories 20 years later.</p>	
<p>THE ADDAMS FAMILY 14-18 Feb 7pm + 2pm Sat matinee. Adult £15, U16 £12 Hilarious family musical presented by Honiton Community Theatre Company.</p>	
<p>THE ROYAL OPERA: THE BARBER OF SEVILLE Sun 19 Feb 2pm Adult £17, Student £11 (cinema) With vocal fireworks, scheming lovers and one very busy barber, Rossini's comic opera is packed with fun & mischief.</p>	
<p>BEEHIVE ACOUSTIC NIGHT Wed 22 Feb 7.30pm NOSTALGIC CINEMA: NOW, VOYAGER (PG) Thu 23 Feb 2pm £4.50 includes hot drink & biscuits 1942 drama/romance. A subtitled, dementia-friendly screening.</p>	
<p>FEB & MARCH 2023 EVENTS</p>	
<p>NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: OTHELLO (12A) Thu 23 Feb 7pm £16, Student £13 An extraordinary new production of William Shakespeare's most enduring tragedy, directed by Clint Dyer.</p>	
<p>THE BEEHIVE OPEN DAY Fri 24 Feb 2pm - 8pm. Free entry. Showcasing the activities and opportunities at the Beehive. Drop in and see what's on offer.</p>	
<p>A MAN CALLED OTTO (15) Fri 3 March 7.30pm Adult £7.50, U16 £6.50 The story of Otto Anderson (Tom Hanks), a grumpy widower who is very set in his ways. A funny, heartwarming story.</p>	
<p>PETER KNIGHT'S GIGSPANNER BIG BAND Sat 4 March 7.30pm £26 A unique force in British folk music. Steeleye Span fiddle player Peter Knight with Sacha Trochet, Roger Flack, Bellowhead's John Spiers and Edgelarks Phillip Henry & Hannah Martin.</p>	
<p>Sat 11 Mar EMPIRE OF LIGHT (15) Wed 15 Mar THE BEEHIVE FOLK CAFE Fri 17 Mar THE ELTON JOHN SHOW Sat 18 Mar THE BANSHES OF INISHERIN (15) Thu 23 Mar ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: TURANDOT (12A) Sat 25 Mar TILL (12A) Thu 30 Mar NOSTALGIC: JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR (PG)(ST) Thu 30 Mar NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: LIFE OF PI (PG) Fri 31 Mar WOMEN TALKING (15)</p>	
<p>THE BEEHIVE CARE NOW OPEN! Mon-Fri 9.30-3.30pm Saturday 9.30-1pm Bar open 1 hour before events</p>	
<p>*All details correct at time of print. Please check website for updates. Ticket prices include a £1 admin fee. The Beehive • Dowell Street • Honiton • EX14 1LZ Box Office: 01404 384050 www.beehivehoniton.co.uk Charity 1162412</p>	



Hemyock Baby & Toddler Group

Tuesdays
1:45pm - 3:15pm
Term time only

£2
per adult

Hemyock Parish Hall



We have ride on toys, crafts, puzzles, imaginative play, musical instruments, books and lots more!
Drinks and snacks provided for everyone.

Facebook – Hemyock Baby & Toddler Group



IS LISTENING EASIER THAN READING?

...it certainly is if you're sight impaired, and it may well be so for people who find it difficult to read because of a medical condition, for example Parkinson's Disease.

If you know someone who is struggling to read, the **Mid Devon Messenger** can offer listening alternatives. We want everyone to feel connected with their community while also having a chance to lose themselves in a good audio book!



The Mid Devon Messenger can keep people connected by providing weekly recordings of local news, interviews, stories, quizzes and entertainment. Working in collaboration with Calibre Audio, we also offer audio books. The service is entirely free of charge.

If a member of your family, or a friend, struggles to read or decipher print due to one of the following conditions, we are here to help:

- Sight impairment or blindness
- A learning disability such as Dyslexia
- A brain injury or cognitive impairment such as head trauma or stroke
- Difficulties with physical dexterity caused by Multiple Sclerosis, Motor Neurone Disease, Parkinson's Disease, arthritis, paralysis or terminal illness

Our aim is to get people connected and stay connected in whatever way works best for them.

Simply contact Helen McIntosh on 07834 688838 or email: enquiries@middevonmessenger.org.uk

More information about mid Devon Messenger may be found on their website: <https://middevonmessenger.org.uk>

Hemyock Bus Timetables

Taunton - Hemyock - Honiton - Seaton

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

	Mondays to Fridays					Saturdays				
Taunton, Castle Way (S-bound)	0850	1115	1415	1715		0850	1115	1415	1715	
Hockholler, Heatherton Grange Inn (SW-bound)	0900	1125	1425	1726		0900	1125	1425	1726	
Wellington, Post Office (SW-bound)	0911	1136	1436	1736		0911	1136	1436	1736	
Sampford Moor, Blue Ball Inn (SW-bound)	0920	1145	1445	1745		0920	1145	1445	1745	
Nicholashayne, opp Post Box	0924	1149	1449	1749		0924	1149	1449	1749	
Culmstock, All Saints Church (E-bound)	0729	0930	1155	1455	1755	0729	0930	1155	1455	1755
Hemyock, Castle Park (NE-bound)	0738	0939	1204	1504	1804	0738	0939	1204	1504	1804
Hemyock, Prowses (S-bound)	0741	0942	1207	1507	1807	0741	0942	1207	1507	1807
Hemyock, Catherine Wheel (N-bound)	0743	0944	1209	1509	1809	0743	0944	1209	1509	1809
Sheldon, Sheldon Turn (S-bound)	0749	0950	1215	1515	1815	0749	0950	1215	1515	1815
Dunkeswell, opp Royal Oak	0753	0954	1219	1519	1819	0753	0954	1219	1519	1819
Dunkeswell, Jenwood Road (W-bound)	0756	0957	1222	1522	1822	0756	0957	1222	1522	1822
Combe Raleigh, opp Combe Raleigh Turn	0803	1004	1229	1529	1829	0803	1004	1229	1529	1829
Honiton, Job Centre (Stop D)	0810	1011	1015	1236	1240	1536	1540	1836	1840	
Honiton, Tesco Superstore (E-bound)	0820	1020	1245	1545	1841	0820	1020	1245	1545	1841
Honiton, Waterleat Avenue (NE-bound)	0824	1024	1249	1549		0824	1024	1249	1549	
Wilmington, White Hart Inn (E-bound)	0830	1030	1255	1555		0830	1030	1255	1555	
Shute, Shute House (S-bound)	0839	1039	1304	1604		0839	1039	1304	1604	
Colyton, The Square (S-bound)	0846	1046	1311	1611		0846	1046	1311	1611	
Colyford, opp The Elms	0850	1050	1315	1615		0850	1050	1315	1615	
Seaton, Health Centre (S-bound)	0852	1052	1317	1617		0852	1052	1317	1617	
Seaton, Marine Place (Stop B)	0857	1057	1322	1622		0857	1057	1322	1622	

Seaton - Honiton - Hemyock - Taunton

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

	Mondays to Fridays					Saturdays				
Seaton, Marine Place (Stop B)	0900	1200	1500	1700		0900	1200	1500	1700	
Seaton, opp Health Centre	0904	1204	1504	1704		0904	1204	1504	1704	
Colyford, The Elms (NE-bound)	0908	1208	1508	1708		0908	1208	1508	1708	
Colyton, The Square (N-bound)	0913	1213	1513	1712		0913	1213	1513	1712	
Shute, Shute House (N-bound)	0920	1220	1520	1718		0920	1220	1520	1718	
Wilmington, opp White Hart Inn	0929	1229	1529	1726		0929	1229	1529	1726	
Honiton, Waterleat Avenue (SW-bound)	0935	1235	1535	1732		0935	1235	1535	1732	
Honiton, Tesco Superstore (E-bound)	0701	0938	1238	1538	1735	0701	0938	1238	1538	1735
Honiton, Lace Walk (Stop C)	0705	0942	0944	1242	1244	1542	1544	1739	1740	
Combe Raleigh, Combe Raleigh Turn (NW-bound)	0712	0951	1251	1551	1746	0712	0951	1251	1551	1746
Dunkeswell, Jenwood Road (E-bound)	0719	0958	1258	1558	1753	0719	0958	1258	1558	1753
Dunkeswell, Royal Oak (N-bound)	0722	1001	1301	1601	1755	0722	1001	1301	1601	1755
Sheldon, Sheldon Turn (N-bound)	0725	1004	1304	1604	1758	0725	1004	1304	1604	1758
Hemyock, Square (W-bound)	0733	1012	1312	1612	1806	0733	1012	1312	1612	1806
Hemyock, Castle Park (NE-bound)	0735	1014	1314	1614	1808	0735	1014	1314	1614	1808
Hemyock, Prowses (S-bound)	0738	1017	1317	1617	1811	0738	1017	1317	1617	1811
Culmstock, opp All Saints Church	0748	1027	1327	1627	1820	0748	1027	1327	1627	1820
Nicholashayne, Post Box (NE-bound)	0753	1032	1332	1632		0753	1032	1332	1632	
Sampford Moor, Vine Cottage (NE-bound)	0757	1036	1336	1636		0757	1036	1336	1636	
Wellington, Post Office (NE-bound)	0806	1045	1345	1645		0806	1045	1345	1645	
Silver Street, Heatherton Grange Inn (NE-bound)	0813	1052	1352	1652		0813	1052	1352	1652	
Taunton, Castle Way (S-bound)	0831	1105	1405	1705		0831	1105	1405	1705	

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

Opening Times

Hemyock opening times:

Monday – Friday 8.00-18.30 (please note the dispensary is closed between 13.00-14.00)

Saturday 9.00-12.00

Churchinford opening times:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8.30-12.30 and 15.00-18.00

Wednesday and Friday 8.30-12.30 (closed in the afternoon on these days)

Weekends - closed.

Dunkeswell Surgery:

Monday and Wednesday 8.30-12.30 and 15.00-18.00

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8.30-12.30 (closed in the afternoon on these days)

Weekends - closed

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



BURLESCOMBE - TIVERTON Via Holcombe Rogus, Huntsham REDWOODS 697

Friday only (Except Public Holidays)

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

This service is financially supported by Devon County Council

St Andrew's Clayhidon



In This Issue:

- ◆ St. Andrew's Church news
- ◆ Hall improvements
- ◆ Village hall café
- ◆ Community celebration party

St. Andrew's Church News

We send our very best wishes to everyone in our long parish for a happy and healthy New Year of 2023. We hope you have had a memorable Christmas to celebrate the birth of Jesus when shepherds and magi came to Bethlehem to find the baby and worship Him.

At the church we have been fortunate to enjoy several events during recent weeks when we could rejoice and be happy together in the festive season. Our church was beautifully decorated with flowers, candles, cards, a Christmas tree and with the heaters glowing it added to the magic of the occasion.

The children especially enjoyed the Christingle service when they could think about the world while they fitted a candle to the top of their Christingle and then gathered round the church to sing 'Away in a manger'. The nativity scene at the Christmas carols service is another occasion for children and all adults to enjoy together and continue to experience in the following weeks. Refreshment time after these special services gives an extra opportunity to join together in delight and conversation.

Before these different events we held a United Benefice service when people came from Hemyock, Culm Davy and Culmstock to join with us to celebrate the life of St Andrew - another special occasion. There were also the appropriate Christmas services of Communion and remembrance at all these churches during this season.

Sadly there have been three men who lived many years in Clayhidon who have recently died. We send our deepest sympathy to the families of Rev. Ron White, Robert Pike and Mervyn Procter all of whom gave much benefit to our parish. They will be greatly missed. At this time of winter we will be hoping to keep our attention towards any who need any help in any way. We will be ready to provide prayers and comfort whenever we can and friendship can always be found in the church. The services are on the church notice board and in the Pump.

P.Reynolds. PCC

FILM NIGHTS

at
CLAYHIDON VILLAGE HALL
(EX15 3PL)

THE LOST KING (12 A)
Friday 17th February

MRS HARRIS GOES TO PARIS
Friday 24th March (PG)

LIVING (12a)
Friday 21st April

Feb and March films begin at 7.30pm – door at 7pm
April film begins 8pm – door at 7.30pm

Tickets: £6, available in advance from
valerieslabbert@icloud.com
or 07793066111, and also at the door

LICENSED BAR
For more info contact Val Slabbert on
07793066111

We welcome you to

CLAYHIDON VILLAGE HALL'S

CAFÉ

Saturday 11th February
and
Saturday 11th March

10.30 - 12.30

Community Celebration Party

Clayhidon is planning a community celebration party on the day of King Charles 111's coronation, May 6. Organisers hope it will be an event to remember for everyone in the parish.

A small committee of volunteers has already worked out the venue south of the village hall in a field owned by Russell and Caroline Bendle, arranged the marquee and generator, decided the hall will run and benefit from the bar and is already planning the food and music for the event. It will probably start at about 5pm and carry on til midnight starting with activities for children.

Any ideas suggestions and volunteers to help should contact Alison and Gareth Weekes, Nicola Bendle, Jo Blackmore, Val Slabbert, David Bearne and Maurice Bendle.

Please email alisonweekes@gmail.com.

BIG BREAKFAST

for CANCER RESEARCH

CLAYHIDON VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 18th March 9am – 1pm

Full English Breakfast	£8
Continental Breakfast	£4
Children under 5	free

Please book with Nicola Bendle 01823 680 541

Raffle - Vegetarian & Vegan options

Clayhidon Village Hall

The Village Hall Management Committee are progressing plans for the hall improvements. The next stage is to submit a full planning application and obtain Building Regulation approvals This will allow us to approach building contractors and seek quotations.

The expected costs are around £150000 and hall reserves will allow about £40000 to support this. The balance will be funded by grant aid. Once we have detailed costings the Committee will approach grant and funding sources locally and nationally.

Fund raising is ongoing and we continue to promote hall use with hires and live events which will boost our reserves. The annual Parish Council grant of £2000 delivered to support our running costs is appreciated.

David Bearne - Hall Treasurer

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For copies of this leaflet in other formats, please contact us on 01884 242099

Updated September 2022

Funded by the UK
Community Renewal Fund

Clayhidon Parish Council

Clayhidon Parish Council Update, February 2023

The council met in December & January. A brief summary of the business conducted at those meetings is as follows:-

Planning

Planning application considered for:-

- 22/02133/FULL. Erection of roof over yard. Callers Farm, Clayhidon.
- 22/02270/FULL. Change of use of agricultural land to domestic curtilage and siting of timber chalet for annex/ancillary accommodation. Sunset, Rosemary Lane.
- 22/01483/FULL. Erection of 3 dwellings with 2 garages, parking, landscaping, drainage and associated works following demolition of existing dwelling and chapel building. Rose Cottage, Clayhidon.
- 22/02379/HOUSE. Erection of a garden room following removal of existing conservatory Ravens, Rosemary Lane, Clayhidon.

Permission granted noted for:

- 22/02320/NMA. Non-Material Amendment for 19/01509/HOUSE to allow repositioning of front porch. Hatchet and Brandy Cottage, Clayhidon.
- 22/02133/FULL. Erection of roof over yard. Callers Farm, Clayhidon.
- 22/01274/FULL. Change of use of the land for the siting of 2 glamping pods for use as holiday accommodation and associated access. Honeyhill Farm, Clayhidon.
- 22/00644/FULL. Conversion of agricultural barn to dwelling (Revised Scheme). West of Valley View, Dunsgreen Lane, Clayhidon.
- 22/01891/NMA. Non-Material Amendment for 18/02002/FULL to allow reconfiguration of windows and doors due to internal layout changes. The Smithy, Clayhidon.

Finance

Expenditure – bank charges, clerk’s wages and expenses, lengthsman.

The following grants were awarded:-

Riverside Club, Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre - £150.00
 Mid Devon Mobility – £100.00
 St Mary’s PCC Hemyock - £65.00
 Clayhidon Parish Hall - £2,000.00
 Clayhidon Parochial Church Council (churchyard maintenance) - £540.00
 Blackdown Support Group - £750.00
 Citizens Advice - £75.00
 Mid Devon Churches Housing Action Team - £250.00
 Blackdown Hills Repair Café - £250.00

The pc has agreed to keep the precept at £8,910, increasing the Band D annual rate at from £39.98 to £40.27.

Coronation Party, Saturday 6th May

It has been suggested that an event be held in Russell and Caroline Bendle’s field next to the hall, with a marquee, food, a bar, a band and something for the children. What do people think? Alison Weekes is heading up a committee to organise a coronation party. If you would like to help, please contact her via email Alisonweekes@gmail.com.

Highways

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

Police

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

Parish Lengthsman

The parish has a modest budget to employ a trained lengthsman to maintain those ditches/drains which are no longer maintained by Devon County Council. Please report any problems to the clerk or a councillor so that the lengthsman may be deployed where he is most needed. Our lengthsman has filled in 55 potholes in the parish using 52 tubs of material provided by Devon Highways. We will monitor how effective these repairs are.

Hedges

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

Local Tradespeople

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

And Finally

If you would like to get involved or wish to know what is happening around the parish then please come along to one of the council meetings, normally held on the second Monday of every other month in the Parish Hall. The next meeting will be held on Monday 13th February 2023 at 7.30pm Parish Hall. Minutes and agendas are displayed on the web at www.clayhidon.org.uk and a schedule of meetings may be found on the noticeboard at the Parish Hall.

Clerk:

Mrs Donna Evans, Park Farm, Dunkeswell, Honiton, Devon EX14 4RN. Tel 01823 680968. Email clayhidonparishcouncil@gmail.com. www.clayhidon.org.uk

News From Rosemary Lane Chapel

This morning, in the Hillman household, we are dealing with disappointment. Not for the first Saturday in recent months, football has been cancelled. The pitches are waterlogged and unplayable. My wife contains her understandable glee, she has been saved from a rather wet morning. The boys stand in stark contrast: they are a picture of disappointment and frustration. It's difficult to watch, but disappointment can be a common feature in life.

Recent months at Rosemary Lane Chapel have been full and busy, particularly over Christmas. It was a time of rejoicing as we shared in the celebrations of Christmas with members of our community: The BSG Christmas Lunch, Toddlers and Venturers Christmas Parties, and Open the Book Assemblies at Hemyock Primary School. Sunday services were shaped by our advent series entitled ‘Christmas According to Matthew’ giving us cause to focus on the events surrounding the birth of Jesus, the arrival of Immanuel. The season was made complete by the inclusion of our Christmas all-age service, Carols By Candlelight and our Christmas morning worship service. And yet, this well-planned season, rich in anticipation, excitement and hope, was not free from disappointment (and I’m not talking about England’s exit from the world cup).

At a time when we make so many plans, when anticipation and excitement build, if things don’t go as hoped for, we can face disappointment. Ill-health hampered many from attending the aforementioned events or even disrupted family plans for a Christmas long hoped for in the aftermath of Covid. For many whose experience was loss, disappointment doesn’t even come close to describing the sadness and grief encountered during the Christmas season.

We are faced with a question – when hope flourishes, how do we handle disappointment? When we spend so much time anticipating the events of a season like Christmas, how do we deal with derailed plans?

When we come to the accounts recorded in the Bible of the birth of Jesus, we find a familiar scene. We picture the infant Jesus surrounded by Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, Wise Men, donkeys, sheep and maybe a camel. The scene is framed by a stable and a star that shines brightly above. The scene is quiet, peaceful, and seemingly perfect. However, even if the scene ever looked like this, it didn’t stay this way. The resentment and jealousy of a bitter king forced Joseph, Mary and Jesus to flee to Egypt. The arrival of Jesus, the very first Christmas, doesn’t end as we would expect or hope. Jesus becomes a refugee. No doubt Mary and Joseph battled with disappointment. But as we read these events in Matthew’s gospel, we are reminded of two things that I believe help us in our disappointment. First, God the Father remains present in his watchful care and protection of his Son (Matthew 2:13):

¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

It is God’s word that sends Jesus to safety, it is God who remains present. This is true for all God’s children: He is present, He is purposeful, even in disappointment. Second, Jesus didn’t come to live a life removed from fear, disappointment and pain. Jesus, even as a child, experienced life’s difficulties. Why is this important for us? Well, the One who died for us, who rose again, now lives to intercede for us before God the Father. He intercedes as One familiar with pain and suffering and disappointment.

Therefore, Christ, who is fully God, became fully man and sympathizes with our weaknesses and cares for us in them. I wonder what impact it would have upon us if this year ahead we longed for, not for what the world reveres as perfect, but for the promises and presence of God. These concluding events of the birth of Jesus as recorded in Matthew remind us, through the experience of the incarnate Son of God, that He is with us, more than this, He is for us, even, especially, in our disappointments.

*I will sing the wondrous story
of the Christ who died for me –
how he left the realms of glory
for the cross of Calvary.*

*Yes I will sing the wondrous story
of Christ who died for me –
sing it with His saints in glory,
gathered by the crystal sea.*

*I was lost: but Jesus found me,
found the sheep that went astray,
raised me up and gently led me
back into the narrow way.*

***Days of darkness still may meet me,
sorrows path I oft may tread;
but His presence still is with me,
by his guiding hand I’m led.****

Jonathan Hillman

On behalf of the fellowship at Rosemary Lane Chapel
rosemarylanechapel@live.co.uk

*Francis Harold Rowley

NEWS FROM COLDHARBOUR MILL

OPENING TIMES: the Museum, Shop and Grist Mill Café Bar are all open to the public. Wed-Fri 11am-3.30pm until the end of March. There is no entry charge to visit the Shop & Cafe.



KNIT AND KNATTER

These morning sessions in the Mill Cafe will be on the first Wednesday of each month from 1st February. No need to book; just come along with your knitting, crochet, cross-stitching (etc)! For more info, phone Wendy in the Mill Cafe: 01884 840960.

WORKSHOPS

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Please bring your own lunch. For more information and to book, please see www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/workshops or contact the Mill by phone or email – see details below.

COLOURFUL CORD WEAVING - Monday 6th February

Learn how to make your very own colourful corded yarn and create a woven structure with it! Bring along something you are inspired by, be that a picture or an object, and through careful colour selection, we will construct braided cording which you will use within a tapestry woven structure. This will lend itself to your chosen inspiration and you will learn how to make with meaning.

POMPOM GARLAND MAKING – Wednesday 22nd February

Come and create a fun and playful pompom garland to hang in your home now the Christmas decs are down! You will be learning how to make your very own pompoms in a choice of colours whilst stringing them together.

CONNECTIONS THROUGH COLLAGE - Monday 13th March

Create your own visual piece of art through the medium of collage. Bring in images of something special to you, may that be family members or places you have visited, to use as a base for your collage (we will photocopy them and use the copies for the collage) and any other scrap paper, newspaper, etc you'd like to include in your collage. Learn how to mark-make onto paper, paint connecting colours, layer up materials and stitch back into them.

VOLUNTEERING

Do you have a spare few hours to help volunteer at our unique heritage site? See www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/volunteer/ for the opportunities available. For an informal chat, and to arrange a taster session, please contact us by phone or email (see contact details below).

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Email: info@coldharbourmill.org.uk. Phone: 01884 840960.

Web: www.coldharbourmill.org.uk. Coldharbour Mill Trust Ltd is Registered Charity No: 1123386

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Spiceland Quaker Meeting Uffculme EX15 3AZ
We Meet for Worship at Spiceland every Sunday at 10.30am till 11.30am - this is a blended Meeting also available on Zoom - All are very welcome.
Meeting ID: 865 5570 2735 Passcode: 498173
For more information phone Ali Dominy 07810768557 or use the "contact us" form on our website: <http://www.spicelanduffculmequakers.com/> or email spicelandnotices@btinternet.com

Sharing some Quaker Words
Friends recognize that much of the misunderstanding, fear, and hatred in the world stems from the common tendency to see national, religious, and racial groups as blocks, forgetting the varied and precious individuals who compose them. Differences between individuals, and between groups, are to be prized as part of the variety of divine creation. Every person should be free to cultivate his individual characteristics and his sense of belonging to a racial or cultural group as long as by so doing he does no violence to any one in the human family. Only when differences are the basis for feeling of superiority do they become barriers of hate and fear. – Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1969

We know ourselves as individuals but only because we live in community. Love, trust, fellowship, selflessness are all mediated to us through our interdependence. Just as we could not live physically without each other, we cannot live spiritually in isolation. We are individually free but communally bound. We cannot act without affecting others and others cannot act without affecting us. We know ourselves as we are reflected in the faces, action and attitudes of each other. – Janet Scott, 1980

Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness and bearing one with another, and forgiving one another, and not laying accusations one against another but praying one for another, and helping one another up with a tender hand. –Isaac Penington, 1667

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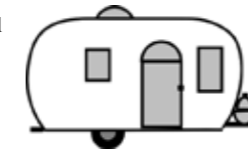
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Contact Home Manager Marie George for more information on **01823 662032** or do visit for a tour of the home and grounds.

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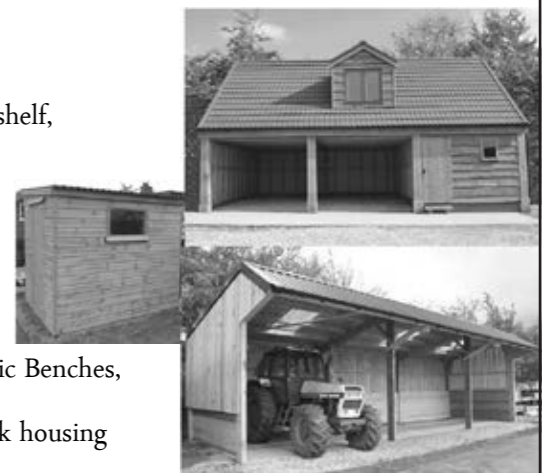
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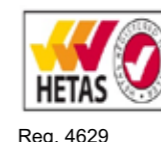


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