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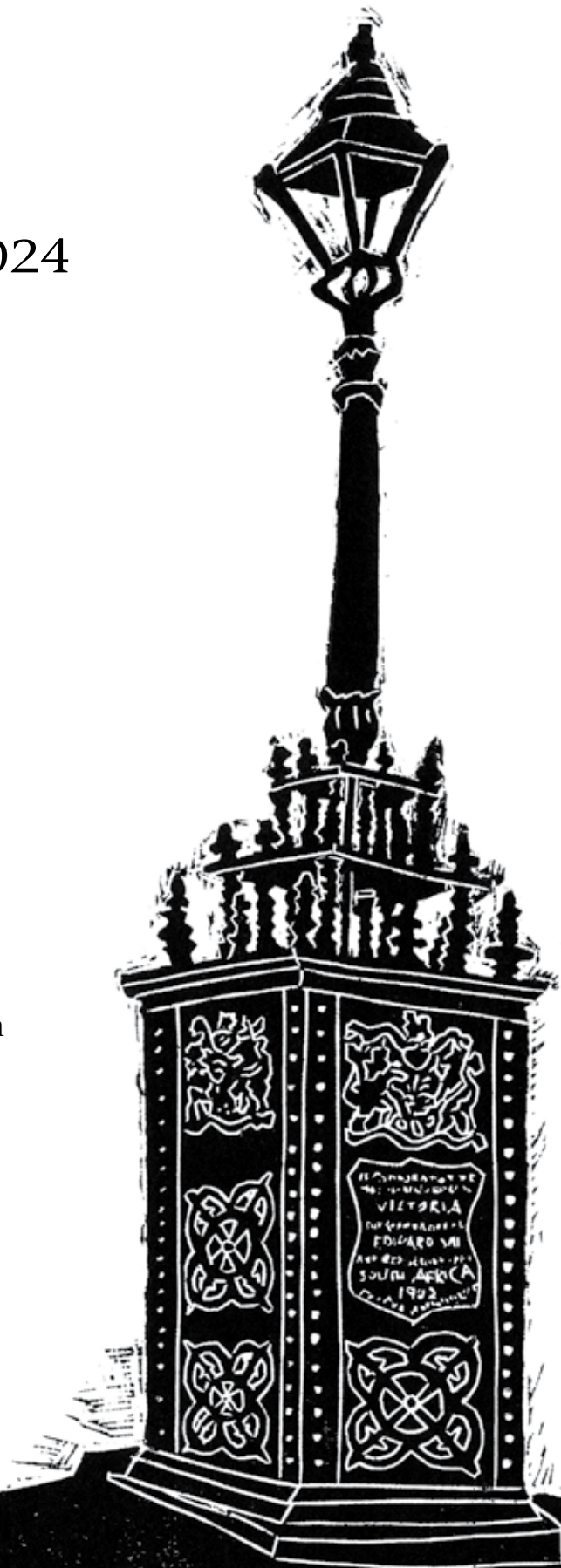
Parish Pump

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

DEC 2023 ♦ JAN 2024

In This Issue:

- ♦ Best Churchyard
- ♦ A New Name for the Blackdown Hills
- ♦ Twinning Visit
- ♦ Duelling Doctor
- ♦ Community Fridge
- ♦ Armistice Service Report
- ♦ St Andrews Carol Service
- ♦ Film Nights



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 07565 856222

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	hembcpastor@gmail.com
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

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PASTOR	Revd Zdzisiu Hendzel 28 Rope Walk, Wellington	662724
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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 2024** for the April 2024 edition.



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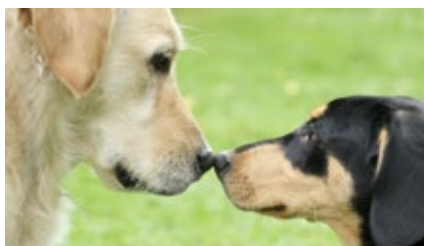
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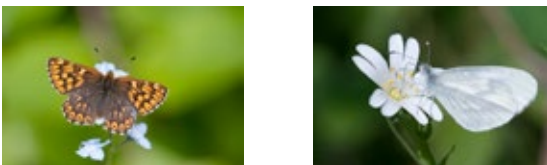
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Duke of Burgundy and Wood White butterflies, just some of the species your work would help conserve. Image credits Peter Eeles, Butterfly Conservation.

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

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SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2023

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Saturday 9th December		4.00pm Christingle service		
Sunday 10th December 2 nd Sunday of Advent		10.00am Communion service	10.00am Morning Worship 6.30pm Evensong (Traditional 1662)	11.00am Communion service
Sunday 17th December 3 rd Sunday of Advent	3.30pm Carol service	10.00am Morning Worship	10.00am Communion service 6.30pm Carol service <i>Mulled wine and mince pies</i>	11.00am Morning Worship
Tues 19th December				7.00pm Carol service <i>And refreshments</i>
Thurs 21st December		7.00pm Traditional Carol service by candlelight		
Friday 22nd December			4.00pm Carols in/around the churchyard <i>And refreshments</i>	
Sunday 24th December 4 th Sunday of Advent/ Christmas Eve		10.30am Benefice Communion <i>Observing 4th Sunday of Advent</i>		4.00pm Crib and Carols in the churchyard
Monday 25th December CHRISTMAS DAY	9.00am Christmas Morning Family Communion with carols		10.00am Christmas Morning Family Communion	10.00am Christmas Morning Family Communion
Sunday 31st December	10.30am Culm Davy Chapel Benefice Communion			

In addition: A service of 1662 Morning Prayer is held each Tuesday at All Saints, Culmstock at 10.00am.
 There will not be a Tuesday morning service of Holy Communion at Culmstock in December.

Parish Pump | No. 300 December 2023 – January 2024



Christmas lights

We all know the feeling of getting the box of Christmas lights out of the attic and hoping and praying that they will shine again for yet another year! We love to decorate our homes with twinkling lights and have recently experienced the amazing Lights parade in the village of Hemyock which brings the community together in a themed extravaganza of lanterns skilfully made.

Lighting up the darkness has spiritual significance for Christians at Christmas. Jesus is often referred to as “The Light of the World”. Why did he come into the world? Why is the light of salvation so important to the world? Try watching *What Christians believe*, in 90 seconds on YouTube for the quick answer! Piers and I find that using apps on our phones every day to deepen our faith and answer these sorts of questions is very helpful. Try *Bible in One Year* or *Lectio 365* for starters! (New Year’s resolution?) You can even set to audio and listen rather than read! Christians believe that Jesus brought light into the world by providing guidance,

“Christians believe that Jesus brought light into the world by providing guidance, hope, and salvation.”

hope, and salvation. Decorating homes and trees with lights during the holiday season can serve as a reminder of this spiritual message, bringing warmth and joy to the celebration. Yes, it’s very sad that the commercial world has stopped showing Nativity sets and Jesus at Christmas, but we can be constantly reminded of Jesus

because of all the lights around us at Christmas. Look at your candles and tree lights indoors, fairy lights on houses and the star on the church, and be reminded of God entering the darkness of this world.

At Christmas Christians think especially of all the dark places of war and suffering in our world and pray for the light of Christ to bring them peace and healing. May he bring that light, peace and healing to any dark places in your own life which trouble you this Christmas.

Liz Langdon

Lay leader in the Benefice Ministry team

St Mary's Hemyock



In This Issue:

- ◆ Best Churchyard
- ◆ A New Name for the Blackdown Hills
- ◆ Twinning Visit
- ◆ Duelling Doctor
- ◆ Community Fridge

Best Churchyard Competition

The parish church of St Marys Hemyock is delighted to have received a Certificate of Merit from Devon's Best Churchyard Competition 2023 sponsored by Devon CPRE, the Voice for Devon's Countryside.

The judges commented on the wild area, bird boxes, composting and recycling facilities. The paths are wheelchair friendly, the notice board displayed up to date information and a welcome banner. They were pleased to see a rose garden, water bowl for animals and three benches allowing different views of the village.

Churchwarden David Bawler said "We are delighted to have received this recognition and thanks go to all those who help keep the churchyard so welcoming for those use and visit the church. Particular thanks must go to Charles Courtenay for his invaluable advice and work on the grounds".



NEW SONGS WORSHIP EVENING

We're really excited to be continuing our bi-monthly evening of engaging contemporary Christian worship, organised by **Culm Valley Christians**. Our Facebook page will have links to the songs playlist in advance - see you there!

SUNDAY 28TH JAN 2024, 6.30PM

THIS MONTH HOSTED AT
HEMYOCK BAPTIST CHURCH

New Songs Worship

Hemyock Poppy Club

Firstly, I wish to say a big thank you to all the Poppy Ladies who have knitted, crocheted and sewn on many poppies, flowers, bees and butterflies. They have all worked so incredibly hard, chatted, drunk many cups of tea and coffee with cake, scones and mince pies through the year.

Also, to the husbands, sons and friends who have helped to put up the displays around the village, The Community Shedders for making the wonderful soldier silhouettes, Clarie Bell for the 'Honey Tree' last summer and for the many groups in the village who have contributed towards the Remembrance Sunday displays inside St Marys. Keep an eye out for our next projects around the village next summer.

We meet every third Thursday of each month in The Church Rooms 10-12noon. Everyone is welcome to visit, bring your own crafts (eg sewing, cross stitch, etc) or pop in for a cuppa. We either knit, crochet, sew flowers onto netting with large eyed needles and large stitches or just natter. No special skills are needed. No membership fees – just a small voluntary contribution towards the tea, coffee and milk.

The following are our next dates for catching up:-

Thurs 14 Dec 10am Xmas Craft in The Church Rooms
12.30pm Xmas Meal, The Catherine Wheel

Thurs 18 Jan
Thurs 15 Feb
Thurs 21 March
Thurs 18 April
Thurs 16 May



HEMYOCK PARISH HALL

(HPHMC)

HPHMC meet every two months to manage the asset that is the Parish Hall and associated recreation field. A number of the groups, clubs, and societies that make regular use of the facilities are unrepresented on the committee. If you feel that your association should have more of a voice, and be able to influence the management of the facilities, then please contact those in charge and ask them to nominate and send someone along to future meetings. Those on the committee are a friendly bunch and can assure new members and / or trustees of a warm welcome.

The committee is looking for someone to help with the monthly Saturday Market. We would like to find a suitable person to help Heather Stallard. Heather is the co-ordinator and driving force behind the market, and many folk throughout the Parish look forward to shopping at the stalls, grabbing a cup of tea or coffee and a bacon roll, or just stopping in for a natter. It would be great to find someone to help Heather in her work, so if you can spare a few hours per month and think this might suit you, or you'd like to help, then contact the secretary of HPHMC - details below.

Over the last couple of years, much has been achieved to improve the hall facilities, for example, upgrading the fencing to the recreation field, LED lighting throughout the hall, replacement external doors throughout, new comfortable

chairs, and provision of round tables more suited to formal functions and parties. There is still much left to do, and there is always a balance to be had between modernising and tradition, but the committee are determined to continue the good work. The next meetings of HPHMC trustees will be January 15th, March 18th, May 20th, and the AGM on June 17th - All in the Forbes Lounge @ 7.45pm.

Hemyock Christmas Market will be on Dec 9th and Christmas trees will be on sale.

Bob Hawkes (Sec)
(bob.hawkes18@btinternet.com)
07540 435149



Thanks

TIM CORY 1945-2023

Judy Law would like to thank the following people for their care and compassion during Tim's long illness:

Dr Murray, the Nurses, Pharmacy, Admin staff and all at the Blackdown Practice.
St Margaret's Hospice.
Gerald Redwood of LG Redwood.

Also the many cards and kind words of support from the local community which brought such comfort at a very sad time. All so much appreciated thank you.

**Mid Devon Singers news –
December 2023**

Why did the choir have to cancel their carol concert? They caught Tinselitis!



Hopefully that doesn't tempt fate and by time you read this article we'll be well prepared for Christmas, having performed in Uffculme at the Coldharbour Mill Christmas Fayre without catching Tinselitis!

If you haven't seen us in person, why not come along for our last performance of 2023? We'll be in Halberton at the Hickory Inn's Christmas Fayre on Saturday 16th December – taking to the stage at around 4-4.30pm.

Research shows that singing can be good for you on many levels – releasing endorphins which reduce stress and anxiety levels and contribute to a positive mental state, as well as promoting social bonding, contributing to a sense of belonging and joy. So, why not resolve to try us out in the New Year? New members are always very welcome - there are no auditions to join our friendly and sociable community choir & there's no charge for trying us out for a couple of weeks - membership subs are then a very reasonable £12.50 per month.

We rehearse every Friday evening during school term time at Halberton Village Hall, starting promptly at 7.15pm. The last rehearsal of this term is on 15th December, and we will return for the 2024 Spring term on Friday 5th January.

If you would like to find out more, contact our Membership Secretary, Lisa, either by email at membership@mids.org.uk or on 07446 877714.

Don't forget to keep an eye on our social media feeds for general news & performance information:

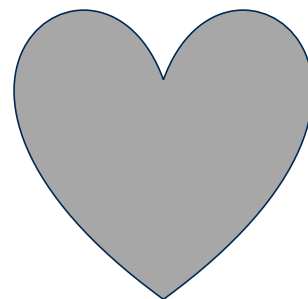
Facebook	themiddevonsingers
Twitter/"X"	@MidDevonSingers
Instagram	@middevonsingers

We wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a prosperous & healthy 2024.

Big Thank You

A Big Thank you to all those who have been so helpful since I fell and damaged my right hand and elbow. Without all the goodwill and prayers it would have been even more difficult. David and I would like to take this opportunity to say Happy Christmas to all as I'm not able to write cards.

From Meg Palmer.



**WHERE YOU LIVE
#HEMYOCKDAY
07867 243 107**

Upper Culm Twinning Association

Whatever your stance on Brexit, we will always be a geographical part of Europe and it's time to start planning our trip to visit our friends in France next May; We last went in 2018 then unfortunately Covid interrupted visits, our French friends visited in 2019 and then this year. For nearly 30 years our two communities have travelled back and forth. Lovely friendships have grown over those years.

The Marais de Gree is an area in Vair-sur-Loire, situated between Nantes and Angers on the banks of the River Loire, we are twinned with 4 small villages similar to ours. The Twinning Association is made up of families, couples, and individuals of all ages, each twinned with a similar French household with friendships that grow year by year. Our twinning weekends (we visit France one year, they come here the next) are full and happy genuine cultural exchanges where, through eating, drinking, and spending time together we expand our knowledge of each other and our countries, finding out what makes us different and just how much we have in common.

Next year we will visit St Hebron during the half term week taking the overnight ferry from Portsmouth on Wednesday 29th May returning on afternoon crossing to Plymouth on Sunday 2nd June. We have a ferry and coach booked but we do need a certain number of people to make the trip viable, we try to keep costs as low as possible and subsidise children's places, this year it looks like adults will pay £240 pp plus cabin (2 berth £55 per couple). We are reliably informed our French hosts are planning lots of good things to do so we are looking forward to a special and eventful weekend and we would be delighted to welcome new members.

To see a little of what we do, take a look at our Facebook group/page Hemyock and Clayhidon Twinning association. If you would like to take part in this twinning trip or would like to find out more please contact Karen 01823681034 or 07747668055 or kazapinder@hotmail.com

And don't worry if you can't speak French as our French hosts are usually very keen to practice their English! And now with google translate (others are available) it's a doddle!



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 PTFA
presents



NOSH & KNOWLEDGE!

QUIZ NIGHT WITH CHEESE AND NIBBLES

SAVE THE DATE

Sat 24th February 2024

Max 6 people per team

£10 per person

Tables must be booked in advance
by calling Ruth on 07984425029

Venue - Hemyock Parish Hall
Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start




Poets Corner

WELL WATERED WORLD

Love the Earth,
It's dust from which,
All life was formed,
All life in land and sea,
In God's good harmony,
When all was good,
Till we,
Sang out of tune alone,
And found we could not sing that
Song of love that we had known before;
And now,
Every sort of music sounds,
From every tribe and tongue,
That all may know that song of love,
When God sent the gift of His dear Son.

David Palmer

NEWS FROM HEMYOCK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Steve Williams 0737 900 9325 hembcpastor@gmail.com

Church Secretary **Maureen 680111** Prayer Requests **Chenda 662318**

For the record, I don't do the national lottery. Best of luck if you do; but for me the one in 45 million longshot of hitting the jackpot makes the prospect somewhat unrealistic - so I'll hang my hat elsewhere. Instead, I'm placing my stake on a guaranteed winner with an even greater prize - Christmas! Well, more specifically, on Jesus himself. And do you know what? The odds are even longer... We often hear these words of Isaiah at Christmas time: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). The prophet wrote that, and also about the virgin birth, 700 years before Jesus would be born. In fact, the Old Testament contains more than 48 major predictions of Jesus' coming. Micah pinpointed Bethlehem as the place of his birth; Genesis and Jeremiah specify his ancestry (a descendant of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, from the tribe of Judah, from the house of David); the Psalms foretell his betrayal, his accusation by false witnesses, his manner of death (pierced in his hands and feet - although crucifixion hadn't even been devised when the Psalms were written) and his resurrection.









So, "what are the odds", as they say... Well, the likelihood of just eight of these prophecies being fulfilled in one person is one in a hundred million billion. If you'd prefer me to paint a picture, it's abit like covering the whole of France in £2 coins, two feet deep. Then put on a blindfold, stroll around France for a bit and have one shot at picking out the single lucky marked coin from that lot! And remember, Jesus fulfilled not 8, but all 48 prophecies. Mathematician Peter Stoner says that the odds of all 48 being fulfilled in one person is one chance in a trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, trillion, (oh, and add another 7 trillions)! Some might say well, Jesus knew about the prophecies and fitted his life around them. But I reckon it's pretty tough to pre-determine your own ancestry, timing and place of birth, means of death and so on. How could he control the fact that Judas was offered 30 pieces of silver to betray him? Or that soldiers would gamble for his clothing? Or that, unusually, his legs would be unbroken on the cross? All of which were foretold in the Bible many years before Jesus was born. There's absolutely no doubt that God went to a lot of trouble not only to send Jesus to us, but also to let us know he was doing it. The important thing is not to look at the baby in the manger, to sing the carols, or even to see prophecies fulfilled. The important thing is to ask.... WHY? The answer is simple. He did it all out of love. Love for you. So, this Christmas, take the opportunity to put your faith in Jesus. On the face of it, the odds are long - but dig deeper, this isn't foolishness. This is the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:18). **Pastor Steve**

SERVICES IN DECEMBER 2023

- **Sunday 3rd** 10:30 am Morning Service, Young Church & coffee
- **Sunday 10th** 10:30 am Morning Service, Young Church & coffee
- **Sunday 17th** 10:30 am **CAROL SERVICE** & coffee, mince Pies
- **Sunday 24th** 10:30 am Christmas Eve Service & coffee, mince pies
- **Monday 25th** 10:00 am **CHRISTMAS MORNING SERVICE**
- **Sunday 31st** 10:30 am Morning Service, Young Church & Coffee

SERVICES IN JANUARY 2024

- **Sunday 7th** 10:30 am Morning Service, Young Church & coffee
- **Sunday 14th** 10:30 am Morning Service, Young Church & coffee
- **Sunday 21st** 10:30 am Communion, Young Church & coffee
- **Sunday 28th** 10.00 am **KING'S BREAKFAST Family Fun Service**
- **FRIDAY 9th FEBRUARY - MESSY CHURCH**

<p>MONDAYS TODDLER TIME</p>  <p>MONDAYS - TERM TIME ONLY 9.00 - 11.30 am Open to under 5's, toys, activities & refreshments.</p>	<p>WEDNESDAYS CHAPEL CAFE</p>  <p>WEDNESDAYS 9.15 - 11.30 am (Closed 27/12) Join us for tea, coffee & a chat.</p>	<p>THURSDAYS 30 MINUTES WITH GOD</p>  <p>EVERY THURSDAY 10.00 - 10.30 am Please join us for a silent time for prayer, rest & reflection, a prayer team member will be available.</p>	<p>HOUSE & PRAYER GROUPS</p>  <p>7.30 pm TUESDAYS with Anne (680057) or THURSDAYS with Vivien (680952) SATURDAY PRAYERS 8-8.45 am please contact Anne</p>
<p>FILM NIGHT SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER MAX LUCADO'S "THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE"</p>  <p>7.00 pm An inspiring family friendly Christmas film showing from 7pm, open to all. No need to book. Come along early for a coffee and a warm welcome.</p>	<p>MESSY CHURCH ADVANCE NOTICE FRIDAY 9th FEBRUARY</p>  <p>4.00 - 6.00 pm A cooked tea, crafts, activities, songs and games for children & their adults. Booking not essential but helpful!</p>	<p>KING'S BREAKFAST SUNDAY 28th JANUARY</p>  <p>10.00 am Our fun family service with a Cuppa, Craft, Bacon Roll or Sausage Sandwich!</p>	<p>FREE MESSY CHURCH MOVIE WEDNESDAY 20th DECEMBER</p>  <p>2.00pm Bring your friends & enjoy the fantastic animated Christmas film "The Star", with popcorn & a drink.</p>

<p>Sunday 10th December @ 7pm Hemyock Baptist Church FREE FILM NIGHT "The Christmas Candle"</p>  <p>Bring a friend & enjoy this uplifting film with a complimentary coffee.</p>	<p>Weds 20th December @ 2pm Hemyock Baptist Church FREE MESSY CHURCH MOVIE "The Star"</p>  <p>Come along & enjoy this fantastic animated film with some popcorn - for free!</p>
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LEAP news

Autumn has been a busy time at the Longmead environmental area and we have continued help from Greendays, and a new Duke of Edinburgh volunteer to spread the load. Nick has been busy with the bush cutter taming some of the brambles and he has cleared beneath the millennium trees. Were you one of the original donors for this lovely copse which is now looking splendid with Autumn colour?

The fruiting hedge continues to thrive and in fact has outgrown most of the tree guards that were installed to protect the whips from rabbits and other nibbling creatures. The crab apple has been less impressive, but we are hopeful that it will grow well next year and there may even be a few apples. We also planted three horse chestnuts that were donated. From their size, they are between one and six years old. Horse chestnuts start to flower at seven years of age, so it will be some time before local children will be able to scour the grass at Longmead looking for conkers. But that is something to look forward to.

If you have room in your garden for a tree, remember to put the 18th February 2024 in your diary. There will be a Tree Hub outside the Longmead Pavillion from 10am where up to five free broad-leaf trees will be given to anyone who wants to plant them at home, on a first come first served basis. The initiative is supported by Saving BritainsTreescapes and the Devon Wildlife Trust. Look out for posters nearer the time. Many thanks to all who have helped throughout the year - your time and enthusiasm is really appreciated. Wishing all users of Longmead a very happy Christmas and a peaceful 2024.

Trish Slater



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?



**Celebrating Christmas at
the **Healthy Living Centre****

EX15 3SH



**Christmas Carols
& Mince Pies**

**With King's College
Prep Choir**

**Monday 11th December
At 2pm**

**Christmas Music
& Mince Pies**

With Honiton Band

**Thursday 14th December
At 1.30pm**

**Everyone welcome
No need to book**



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	Sharon (sharon689smith@btinternet.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)
	Chiropractic – Sue Moore (07534 222031)	Massage – Rachel Ridler (07854 973276)	
Therapies	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

Join our Facebook
Group Stay & Play
Hub Hemyock

Squish *Scoop*

Squelch *Spray*

Spin *Shake*

**Blackdown
Stay & Play
Hub**

Sensory Sessions

Squeeze *Splash*

Term time
Wednesdays 9.30am – 11am
Healthy Living Centre
£2 per family

TODDLERS BABIES PARENTS GRANDPARENTS NEW MUMS & DADS



Take Part, Laugh,
Enjoy & Live Life



Fun-filled day
for older people



**BLACKDOWN
COMMUNITY**

**RIVERSIDE
CLUB**

Two-course
lunch



Mondays & Thursdays
9.30am – 3pm

Healthy Living Centre, Hemyock

Ring 01823 680687 for further info.





valley arts
Presents

Alice in Wonderland

By Tom Walley

Tickets available 13th Jan 2024 from Hemyock Post Office
Adults £10 Children £5

Hemyock Parish Hall 7.30pm 7th-9th Feb
Pre show and Interval BAR AVAILABLE



HEMYOCK PARISH HALL

Friday 8th December

1st & 2nd Line Prizes
Full House Meat Dinner Prize
Raffle

Refreshments before and during the event

Doors open 6.45pm Eyes down 7.30pm

In aid of 1st Hemyock Scout group



Hemyock Christmas Club

Hemyock Christmas Club started in 2018 with the goal of bringing festive cheer to the children (and grown ups) of Hemyock whilst also raising money for two charities that are close to our hearts, The Grand Appeal for Bristol Children’s Hospital and the Devon Air Ambulance.

Each year the loyal elves help Father Christmas visit the wonderful village of Hemyock. We stop at safe locations to let Father Christmas meet our fantastic young people and their adults. The elves hand out hot chocolate reindeer and some goodies while collecting money for the charities in their collection pots. You can’t miss us, the truck is highly decorated in bright lights with a super tree very kindly donated by Connetts Farm! There is also loud Christmas music playing to help you find us and get into the Christmas spirit!

To date your generous donations have totalled a whopping £3,666, which has been split evenly between The Grand Appeal for Bristol Children’s Hospital and the Devon Air Ambulance.

Please come out and support us this year. We will be making our way through the village on 6th and 7th December from 5pm. You can find the maps and rough timings in the pump, on lamp posts around the village or on our Facebook page @Hemyockchristmasclub



Fun fact – when we are finished with tree, our elves take it to Musgrove Hospital Children’s Ward to spread that Christmas cheer a little further!



HEMYOCK CHRISTMAS CLUB
PRESENTS

HEMYOCK'S BIG VISIT

6TH & 7TH DECEMBER 2023



KEEP AN EYE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ALL THE UP TO DATE INFORMATION ON THE ROUTE. SEARCH 'HEMYOCK'S BIG VISIT'.

During this event we will be raising money for these two brilliant charities. Please give what you can to help these wonderful organisations support our community.




HEMYOCK'S BIG VISIT

5PM - 7PM

NIGHT 1 STOPS
WEDNESDAY 6th DEC

NIGHT 2 STOPS
THURSDAY 7th DEC



Follow us on Facebook for live updates on our route progress on the night!
www.facebook.com/hemyocksbigvisit

THESE ARE FATHER CHRISTMAS' PLANNED STOPS WHERE THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE BIG MAN HIMSELF!! HE WILL HOWEVER PLAN TO GET AROUND AS MANY STREETS AS POSSIBLE TO SPREAD FESTIVE CHEER AND COLLECT MONEY FOR OUR CHARITIES. SO LISTEN OUT FOR THE SLEIGH BELLS!!





ROUTE DETAILS AND APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

Night 1 - 6th December



5PM - Healthy Living Centre - STOP 1
Father Christmas will get out and meet the children

Father Christmas and his elves will then proceed up Station Road

5.30PM - Longmead Pavilion - STOP 2
Father Christmas will get out and meet the children

Father Christmas will then make some noise back out onto Station Road, moving on his way to Stop 3

6PM - Hollingarth Way - STOP 3
Father Christmas will get out and meet the children at Blackdown View!

Father Christmas will then travel round Castle Park giving a Ho! Ho! Ho! to all he sees, heading back out onto Station Road, turning past the Post Office and Parish Hall, onto Stop 4.

6.30PM - Eastlands - STOP 4
Father Christmas will get out to meet the children on his final stop of the night


These are all very rough timings as we never know how many of you will turn up on the night in which places. We will be going live on our facebook page and you can keep up to date with where we are by checking in with us there. Give us a like to be in the know!

Please give as generously as you can to support our chosen charities.




ROUTE DETAILS AND APPROXIMATE TIMINGS

Night 2 - 7th December



5PM - Griffin Close - STOP 1
Father Christmas will get out and meet the children

Father Christmas and his elves will then travel to Logan Way and round Lower Greenfield spreading cheer

5.30PM - Logan Way/Parklands - STOP 2
Father Christmas will get out and meet the children

Father Christmas will then continue back out onto Culmstock Road travelling past the Pump and onwards to Stop 3. If you see us passing, please do give us a wave!



6PM - Prowses - STOP 3
Father Christmas will get out and meet the children at the top of Prowses at the turning to Higher Mead

Father Christmas will then travel down the High Street towards Stop 4

6.30PM - The Catherine Wheel - STOP 4
Father Christmas will get out to meet the children on his final stop of the night

On the night the elves will be giving out our (now famous) hot chocolate reindeer and a sweet treat!

Thank you for your support!



MONTHLY EVENTS

The 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 d-

HEMYOCK LUNCH CLUB

XMAS LUNCH CLUB

Wednesday 6th December

And then,

1st Wednesday of the month

12:30pm

Blackdown Healthy Living & Activity Centre,
Hemyock

ROSEMARY LANE LUNCH CLUB

XMAS LUNCH CLUB

Wednesday 13th December

And then,

2nd Wednesday of the month

12:30pm

Rosemary Lane Chapel,
Rosemary Lane



WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!

The Blackdown Support Group is here to help people of all ages in the Blackdown Hills who are finding life difficult.

We can provide:

- Advice & support
- Transport
(for medical, social & wellbeing appointments)
- Social clubs
- Bereavement support
- Someone to talk to
- Volunteer visiting & sitting service
- Prescription delivery for the housebound
- Toe nail cutting
- Wheelchair accessible vehicle hire
- Wheelchair loan

To use any of our services or for information on how you could become a volunteer with

The Blackdown Support Group contact:

01823 681036

d-ccg.bsgadmin@nhs.net

www.blackdownsupportgroup.org.uk

Mid Devon
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Residents' Survey 2023
Let's Talk Mid Devon

Tell us what you think about your local area and the services we provide

letstalk.middevon.gov.uk/
residents-survey-2023

1 November to 13 December

Valley Arts

We were all saddened to hear of the loss of Janet Elworthy and send our thoughts and condolences to her family. Janet has been involved with performing arts in Hemyock for many years; she took part in Hemyock singer's shows, going on to produce the award winning *Oliver*.



When Valley -Arts formed in 2008, Janet was very supportive and directed some of our pantomimes. She has encouraged us and given us guidance throughout, we will miss her but her influence will still be with us, as Stuart who first worked with Janet when he was 11 yrs. old is now directing the Valley- Arts pantomimes and he directed our award winning pantomime – *Sleeping Beauty!* Congratulations to two of our members Helen and Kevin Stone who got married in the summer and to Barbara Churchill who recently celebrated a special birthday. She has always been our prompt and we really appreciate her patience and skill.

This year's pantomime *Alice in Wonderland* will be on the 7th 8th & 9th FEBRUARY 2024. We are very grateful to Hemyock Post Office who have kindly agreed to be our Box Office. Tickets will be on sale to the public from 13th Jan 2024.



Stuart Summers will be our Director and Zelda Gray will be our Musical Director and we are delighted that we have a large cast of regulars and four new members.

Rehearsals are underway and going very well, we have an excellent creative and technical behind the scenes crew, making sure that *Wonderland* will be spectacular.

We are busy learning songs with Zelda; she has chosen a good mix to suit a variety of tastes. We are enjoying singing them and they include; *Welcome to wonderland, C'mon Everybody, That's Entertainment* and many others. We will soon be learning the dances with Adele and Miki, this will be a full afternoon rehearsal and is sure to be good fun.

Stuart has had a difficult task this year with so many talented members, he finally came up with a cast list which is:- *Alice-Emily Caldicott, Knave of Hearts-Kevin Stone, Cheshire Cat-Sonia Moggford –Abbot, Sister-Elsie Flowers, White Rabbit-Vikki Daley, Duchess-Andy Pulman, Caterpillar-Miki Hussey, Tweedle Dum & Ace of Hearts -Gillian Hawkes, Tweedle Dee- Ben King, Mad Hatter-Geoff Taylor, March Hare-Lorraine Marsh, Dormouse-Alison Robson, Mock Turtle-Chris Poole, Queen of Hearts- Caroline Pinder, King of Hearts & Knobby –Mark Dyke, Three of Hearts- Sally Cartledge. Opening poem- Sue Bennet. CHORUS Becky Doble, Elaine Bates and Val Mabbet*

We are still arranging a trip to the theatre in the spring of 2024 with shopping and a meal, Dates and details to be confirmed. A date for you diary is our Xmas meal in the Catherine wheel Sat 16th December. If you would like to join the group or to participate in any way, contact Lynn at lynnpulman@btinternet.com Caroline at cjpinder@hotmail.co.uk or Stuart at stuart.summers28@gmail.com.

Caroline Pinder (Secretary)

Around Hemyock

As we look back over the past 12 months and contemplate the coming year, we will all have our memories and hopes for the future. As well as all those which affect us personally most will wish for peace between warring countries which has dominated news headlines throughout 2023. Good will on earth and peace to all men.

The village has been saddened by recent deaths and our condolences go to all those who have lost a loved one. Our parish church has been almost filled on two occasions as people gathered to remember Janet Elworthy and then Rev Christopher Hudson. Janet had been very involved with Hemyock Singers and Brightside whilst Chris carried out many duties as a retired member of the clergy.

As the glorious colours of autumn appear throughout our countryside I was reminded of Chris who once told me he had a love of trees having been taught the names of them by his father. Older long term residents may remember Lula Moore who recently passed away. We have been informed that Ruth (nee Hannaford) has died of cancer at the age of 87yrs. Long term residents will remember her family had the butchers business at Bridge House.

Janet Elworthy was born into an army Service family moving within both the UK and abroad and attended 13 schools before settling in Somerset then eventually moving to London where she worked as a children's nanny. Janet had a lifelong interest in music and in the 1970s whilst in the capital joined the Tony Strudwick Band singing alongside Leo Sayer.

Returning to Somerset Janet trained as a State Registered Nurse. During this time, she met Rita Parsons and through this friendship she met Jim who she married in 1980. Their daughter Johanna was born 2 years later with Tyla joining the family in 1995. The late David Stepney persuaded Janet to join Hemyock Singers when she enjoyed performing and eventually directing both here and further afield. She became a regional representative of the National Operatic and Dramatic Association for over 20 years until her passing.

Janet and Jim become foster carers giving a stable home to a number of youngsters and Janet recently worked for Somerset County Council as an adoption panel advisor having been given a long service award.

Janet was a founding member of the Brightside Club at the Healthy Living and Activity Centre a meeting place for isolated and bereaved members of the Blackdown community. She organised outings, events and other activities and during the Covid lockdown phoned members on a weekly basis for a chat and optional quiz.

Janet had always loved water recently rediscovering the joy of swimming, swimming 36 lengths but also having fun with her grandson Blaze who she adored and had a great deal of fun with. Her unflinching care for others will live on in the memory of the many people who knew her.

Rev Christopher Hudson

Mary, the wife of Chris writes:

I met Chris at a Jay John (Evangelist, Speaker and Author) conference near Exeter in 2006. The Hemyock Baptist church

organised this six, weekly event and a bus was booked for easy travel. I was new to the area and decided it might be worth attending to start socialising, having been recently widowed and having moved to Conigar Close in July 2005. “Googling” Jay John gave me some concern as it seemed to be aimed at “parenting”, and “focus on the family.” Firstly, I lived on my own and at 57 I was long past parenting. Little did I realise how much this conference would change my life.

Rector Becky spoke in her address of her first service with Chris at Clayhidon in 2019: *“It was very special to be alongside Chris as together we offered the healing ministry of prayer and anointing with oil. His was an authoritative, calm and loving presence which deeply impacted people. Yet despite this he was also very ‘light touch’, ready with humour, and lively informality!”* As those of us who believe that God’s Holy Spirit – that is, the spirit that filled Jesus – can live in us too and those that have known Chris would see that he was certainly filled with that Spirit.

Having studied for the ministry at Cranmer Hall in Durham after a career in local government, Chris was a curate in Bath, before becoming Priest-in-Charge of Butleigh and its associated churches in 1980. A move to North Devon to a group of parishes based around Shirwell, outside Barnstaple, followed in the late 1980s before his final full-time role as Vicar of West Hunstpill in the early 1990s.

Since then, Chris has supported parishes in the Taunton and Wellington area. Firstly, as a retired priest at St Georges and St Michaels at Galmington, in Taunton and since his move to Hemyock in 2006 has been part of the Upper Culm Valley Mission ministry team working in the beautiful Blackdown Hills, as part of the team looking after the four medieval churches at St Mary’s, Hemyock, St Andrew’s Clayhidon, All Saints in Culmstock and the delightful Chapel of Ease at Culm Davy. This ministry also included work with the Church Mission Society and Chris was particularly interested in the work of Dr Nicci Maxwell in Kisoro, Uganda and her work at Potters Village. More locally he was an enthusiastic supporter of the Uffculme Square Corner project and of CHAT, Church Housing Action Team, offering support and advice and in particular help with housing and financial concerns as well as operating a “pop in” Foodbank each weekday morning.

The cards, letters and messages that have flooded in over the last four week highlight the type of man that Chris was, and the mark that he left as a husband, father grandfather, friend and priest. A selection of quotes from a huge selection:

“... a godly, humble, and faithful man of God. Full of fun, faith, and integrity”

“... a humble, spiritual, earthly priest. He preached the very best sermons”

“Who is preaching today? Chris. Good, that will liven things up a bit”

“... eternally grateful that he was able to steer St Michael’s through a vacancy”

“ a gift for healing ministry”

“... truly a giant amongst men: kind, wise, generous and loving. He touched my life and was a great guide to me in troubled times”

“... he restored my faith in the church, and I will always remember his lentil soup”

His interests outside the church and his ministry - like many Church of England priests - included both steam trains and cricket and we suspect his one piece of unfinished business will be that Somerset never won the County Championship in his lifetime. A late starter with technology, he could equally order one single tomato instead of one kilogram, as well as thanking his smart speaker, Alexa, with great politeness.

Feeling the call to work with the most vulnerable and needy, in 2006 just before we married, he went to Zambia, flying to Lusaka with a Christian colleague, laden with gifts for children at a school of mainly orphans. St Michaels Church, Galmington and other churches in Taunton had been fundraising for several years, and this mission had a long-lasting effect on him. He also loved the animals which he encountered in that country, however his total fear of dogs was not altered for quite some months after his return from Zambia.

This love of animals blossomed from cats and hedgehogs, and the wildlife of Zambia, to dogs after our meeting. Having been terrified of them before our marriage, he became transformed from a man scared of Goliath, my adorable, but rather feisty miniature pinscher - who stood about 9 or 10 inches tall - to a devoted dog walker especially on Hemyock Common in his more able days. A highlight was a trip on a very snowy day in 2007 to Exmoor to collect an 8-week-old puppy in my brand-new Jaguar, which he complained I drove far too fast for a puppy to travel, not to mention himself as a passenger. He spent many hours with these dogs on his knees watching rugby, cricket, repair shop, and bangers for cash and he continued to do this even to his last days here when they lay on his hospital bed. We have had 3 cats and 4 dogs over the years with 1 cat and 2 dogs remaining now – all of them he adored, and they adored him.

Alongside his animals and his spiritual family, his earthly one was a source of great comfort and pride, and he felt that being a Christian was not just about being a priest. He loved the outdoors, and combined this with a love of fishing, including taking his son, Tom, to Ireland as a reward for working very hard at his exams. He inherited both his early waking hours and love of gardening from his parents. Both of whom worked very long hours in their beautiful garden as well as having full time employment at the BBC and his mother as an English teacher at Sunny Hill School, Bruton

A look around Chris’s study shows not just these interests, of which his bookshelves bear witness, but also the pictures tell the story of his love of, and pride in, his family. Alongside pictures of churches and his ordination: a childhood picture with his two sisters, his cousins together as adults, his parents and children, and many of his grandchildren, of whom he was immensely proud and the paths they were taking. A similar story is evident on the dining room wall, with pictures framed and hung by Chris with much affection. Whether Henry buying his first flat, Barnaby graduating, or Milo travelling in Europe after A-levels and learning the languages in which his own father was so adept, Emily qualifying as a nurse or Lilly competing successfully on

her horse, he knew and carefully followed their progress and achievements. With Mary came two more grandchildren, also growing up fast and fortunately living very near us in Hemyock. He adored their nearly daily visits and spent hours reading to them (books not kindles!) as they squabbled for a place on his knees which did not have a dog or cat already in residence. This resulted in 2 new chairs being purchased with wide arms to accommodate both the two and four legged companions. He was especially happy about Charlie's artistic ability and Jessica's success at learning to play Chess, perhaps less happy when she beat him.

I will miss him very much, he was a man who was loved by all he met, but I and the family will miss him for his faith, his smile, and his wonderful cooking!

We remember and send good wishes all those known to us who are unwell including **Kay Lane** who has recently undergone a facial operation and **Meg Palmer**.

Our **Scout Group** attracted a large number of visitors to the parish hall when they held a display of Scouting over the years with Hemyock Scouts - report elsewhere. One attraction was a memory board gathering thoughts from long ago as well as those of more recent times whilst outside the traditional campfire could be found. **John Northam perhaps better known by his Scout name of Old Rikki** is a mine of information about the group and it was a delight to see him there.

November saw the church adorned with poppies and full for Remembrance Sunday, December brings us the wonderful parade by the Lights Brigade, the increasingly popular Hemyock's Big Visit, and our traditional church services. This year instead of their annual Christmas Fair St Mary's are inviting folk to an Afternoon Christmas Tea – perhaps to become a new tradition.

Thank you to all who have donated goods to cr2ee throughout the year in particular the **Christmas Shoebox to Ukraine & Moldova Appeal**. As I write over 100 have been received. We are unable to accept donations during December but look forward to your continuing support in the New Year.

From a book of poetry gifted by the late Rev Ron White title:

The Ending of the Year

When tree did show no leaves
And grass no daisies had
And fields had lost their sheaves
And streams in ice were clad
And day of light was shorn
And wind had gone a spear
Jesus Christ was born
In the ending of the year.

From Louise Stephens Miscellany of Poems:

The New Year

Let's try a lot of loving
Let's try a prayer for peace
That war and lust for killing

May for ever cease
May we live in quiet contentment
Heads held high and Conscience clear
Filled with strong determination
To make a nearly perfect year

Merry Christmas everyone and a very happy and peaceful New Year.

Janice x

Correction

Due to a typing error the amount raised for **Christian Response to Eastern Europe** during our Golden wedding celebrations as mentioned in the last issue of the Pump was incorrect. The sum donated to the charity was **£420** not £220.



The poster features the logos for 'Saving Devon's Treescapes' and 'Devon Wildlife Trust'. The main text reads 'Free tree giveaway!' followed by 'Tree hub location: Longmead Pavilion' and 'Date & time: from 10am 18th February, '24'. A green box contains the text: 'Come and collect between 1-5 trees to plant in your garden and help enhance Devon's treescapes. All trees will be UK broadleaf species and will be 20-40cm in height. All trees will come with tree protection and a planting and aftercare guide.' Below this is a photograph of a person at a tree hub with a red starburst overlay that says 'First come, first served - event will run until the trees are gone!'. At the bottom are logos for 'Devon Ash Dieback & Resilience Forum', 'HERITAGE FUND', 'ONETREEPLANTED', and 'WOODLAND TRUST'.

HEMYOCK PARISH HALL (HPHMC)

Just a reminder that for bookings and queries, **01823 680517** is the ONLY number to ring to contact Becky Pike, the booking secretary. We are aware that some of the information on our website - www.hemyockparishhall.co.uk is not accurate. We are doing everything possible to correct it and hope to get things up to date soon. We have recently had an upgrade to our lighting on the premises and now have LED throughout. Thanks to Chris Hearn for a trouble free installation and to the forbearance and patience of our regular hirers during the disruption. The lighting compliments the purchase of more comfortable chairs and round tables and we hope provides for a more comfortable space for any future major functions such as wedding receptions or large parties. The cost of providing heat and light has become a major expenditure, and the hall trustees will be examining ways of ensuring that the premises continue to provide good value to users, in a reasonably comfortable environment. Thank you once more to users local groups for your continued support. The next meeting of HPHMC trustees will be 15th May 2023

Bob Hawkes (Sec)
bob.hawkes18@btinternet.com
680047

What's On December

Fri 1			LIGHTS PARADE, Garages, 7pm
Sat 2	St.Mary's and Culm Davy Chapel	St Mary's CHRISTMAS FAIR tea and stalls, 2.00 – 4.30pm at St Mary's	Well, C'Ford FM
Sun 3	CHRISTINGLE SERVICE		
Mon 4			
Tue 5	Michael Vaughan Antiques Valuation, 1. 30 – 4.00pm, FL		Tues Club, PH, 7.30
Wed 6	BSG Lunch Club, BHLAC, 12.30	BigVisit! 5-7 pm	PC, BHLAC Meeting 7.30
Thu 7	Taunton Farmers' Market		
Fri 8			
Sat 9	HEMYOCK MARKET, PH 10am-12 noon Cullompton + Yarcombe FM		
Sun 10	Free Film Night, "The Christmas Candle", HPG, 7pm		
Mon 11	"Toddler Time" re starts, 9-11am, HBC		Young Farmers, FL 7.30
Tue 12		Carol Service @ Dunkeswell Abbey 7pm	Tues Club, PH 7.30
Wed 13	BSG, Rosemary Lane Lunch Club, Empty Spaces, BHLAC, 2- 4. pm	Gardeners' PH, 7pm	
Thu 14	T'nton FMkt, Mob Lib., PH	History Group, CR 7.30	Poppy Club, Xmas Crafts CR, 10am -12.30pm then Christmas Meal
Fri 15	Empty Spaces, 10.30 – 12, BHLAC	"Messy Church", 4 - 6pm HBC	
Sat 16			
Sun 17			
Mon 18			
Tue 19			
Wed 20	2pm, Free, Messy Church Christmas Movie – "The Star"		
Thu 21	Taunton + Honiton F.M.		
Fri 22	Shortest Day		Hallowe'en Party
Sat 23	Uff,+ Cull. FM	Taunton Vale Harriers	Christmas Bingo, PH
Sun 24			
Mon 25	CHRISTMAS DAY		
Tue 26	BOXING DAY		
Wed 27			
Thu 28	Taunton F.M		
Fri 29			
Sat 30	Mobile Library, Hemyock PH 9.55 – 11.55 Cull FM,		
Sun 31	NEW YEARS EVE		

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

Sunday	Community Shed	10 – 1 pm C Shed	
Mondays	Riverside Club	9.30 – 3pm	BHLAC
	Short Mat Bowls	9.30 - 12.30	PH
	"Toddler-Time" (free)	9.00 – 11am	HBC (Term time only)
	Mature Movers	11 -12 noon	Garages
	Art Group	10 -12 noon	FL (Sept-May)
	Community Shed	10 – 1 pm	C. Shed
	Badminton	1.30 – 3.30	PH
	Salsa DX Dance Exercise	6.30 – 7.30	PH
	Yoga	6.15 – 7.45	BHLAC
Tuesdays	Charity/ Coffee shop	10 -12 noon	CR
	Yoga	9.30 – 11am	BHLAC
	Pilates	6.30 – 7.30	BHLAC
	Baby & Toddlers	1.45 - 3.15 PH	
	Moir Mansbridge Ballet	4.15 - 6.15 CR	
Wednesdays	Chapel Café	9.15 -1130am	HBC
		(closed 27th Dec and not Aug restart Sept 6)	
	Blackdown Stay & Play	9.30 -11 am	BHLAC
	Tai Chi	10am -12 noon	PH
Thursdays	Pilates (2 classes)	6 - 7.15 pm	BHLAC
	Riverside Club	9.30 – 3pm	BHLAC
	Short Mat Bowls	1.30 – 4.30 pm	PH
	Devon Dance Fit, Gold	10 - 11am	PH
Fridays	Devon Dance Fit	7.00 – 9.30	PH
	" 30 Minutes with God"	10 -10.30am	HBC
	Pilates (2 classes)	9.30 – 10. 15am	BHLAC
Saturday	Tap Dance	4.15 – 5.15pm	PH
	Saturday Prayer Time,	8.00 – 8.45	HBC

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 January

Mon 1			
Tue 2	Devon Schools Spring Term starts		
Wed 3			Parish Council, BHLAC, 7.30
Thu 4			
Fri 5			
Sat 6			
Sun 7			
Mon 8			Young Farmers, FL, 7.30
Tue 9			Tuesday Club PH, 7.30
Wed 10	Rosemary Lane Lunch Club, 12.30	Empty Spaces, 2.30 – 4pm, BHLAC	Gardeners' Meeting PH 7.30
Thu 11	Taunton FM	Mobile Library, P.Hall 2.15	History Group CR, 7.30
Fri 12	Empty Spaces, BHLAC, 10 -11.30		
Sat 13	Tiverton, Cullompton Yarcombe FM		
Sun 14	PUMP DEADLINE		
Mon 15			
Tue 16			
Wed 17			
Thu 18	Taunton + Honiton FM	Poppy Club, CR, 10 – 12 noon, CR	
Fri 19			
Sat 20	HEMYOCK MARKET 10-12, Well. F,M		
Sun 21			
Mon 22			Young Farmers FL 7.30
Tue 23			
Wed 24			
Thu 25	Taunton Farmers' Market		
Fri 26			"Messy Church", 4pm, HBC
Sat 27	REPAIR CAFÉ, Hemyock PH, 10am - 1pm	Uffculme, FM	
Sun 28	10am "The Kings Breakfast" HBC		
Mon 29			
Tue 30			
Wed 31			

Forthcoming Events 2024

Feb 7,8,9	"Alice in Wonderland", Valley Arts
Feb 12 – 16	Devon Schools' Half Term
Feb 15	Poppy Club
Feb 18	Tree Hub, Longmead
Mar 21	Poppy Club
Mar 23	Repair Café
Mar 23	Taunton Vale Harriers, Easter Bingo
Mar 28	Devon Schools break for Easter
Mar 29 – 12 Apr	Devon Schools' Easter holiday.
Apr 06	SPRING SHOW + Ploughmans' Lunches
Apr 10	Plant Sale & Afternoon Tea, 2.30 – 5.00pm NB change of time)
Apr 15	Devon Schools Summer Term begins
Apr 18	Poppy Club
Apr 20	Lights Brigade Dance

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!)

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

Parish Pump Deadline

February – March 2024 issue: 14th January

Editor: James Winrow

pump@lickham.co.uk

07763 855414

Commercial advertising:

pump-adverts@lickham.co.uk

Distribution: **Sharon Hunt - Sharon@huntfamily.me**

Hemyock History Group

We started our new year with a talk from Peter Fisher on the Zulu War in 1879 which was initiated by Lord Carnarvon to try to achieve a Federation of States and Kingdoms in South Africa as part of the British Empire. The model was the successful Federation of States in Canada in 1867 within the British Empire after losing America from the Empire. The newly independent America continued their aggressive expansion by invading Texas and California in 1845, fighting against Mexico and their Empire in Central America, Texas and California. Britain had major influences on the Mexican Empire with strong commercial links between the two to the benefit of Britain. In fact there was a proposal for Britain to cancel the debt owed by Mexico in 1846, for the transfer of California to the British Empire.

Our next talk was from Dr David Pugsley on Dr Peter Hennis who was instrumental in saving Exeter from the cholera epidemic. In 1832, cholera, which had been erupting all across Europe, reached Exeter and Dr Hennis, who was born in Youghal, County Cork, Ireland was involved in reducing its impact on the city. His memorial plaque can be seen at St Sidwells, walking from Cathedral Square and his large tomb can be found in the graveyard.

However famous he became, he fell out with a Sir John Jeffcott who was born in Kerry, Ireland, educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and was called to the English Bar at the Inner Temple in February 1826. Jeffcott was installed as Chief Justice of the colony of Sierra Leone on 26 April 1830. He was the only judge in the colony, and much of his work arose from attempts to end the Transatlantic slave trade. Jeffcott was knighted on 1 May 1833, when he returned to England on leave. Jeffcott had been engaged to be married but the engagement was broken off by his fiancée or her family. Whilst in England, Jeffcott received news that a Dr Peter Hennis had made derogatory comments about Jeffcott's conduct in the affair. Jeffcott confronted Hennis but refused to accept his explanation. On Friday, 10 May 1833 a duel with pistols was organised at Haldon racecourse near Exeter, between the two men, in the course of which Hennis was fatally wounded. A warrant was issued for Jeffcott's arrest on charges of murder, and he went into hiding since duelling was illegal. The three organisers of the duel were tried as accessories to the murder, but were acquitted, apparently due to a misunderstanding of the applicable law on the part of the jury.

Following that verdict of acquittal, Jeffcott surrendered, but with no evidence being tendered, he too was acquitted. However, he was removed from his position of Chief Justice of Sierra Leone, and his reputation was greatly damaged. On 27 May 1836, Jeffcott accepted appointment as the first judge of the new colony of South Australia, but died in a sailing disaster in 1837.

David Pugsley, who has researched all documents on the case, presented evidence that rumour and gossip from a number of people adversely contributed to this tragic case.

Our next meeting is on December 14th when Peter Fisher will once again talk to our group about a mysterious death in the Culm Valley. We will also have a meeting during the day on the 14th to present how we manage our archives and update our web site blackdownwnarchives.org.uk. We have had a request from an overseas Asian TV station to attend both these meetings to film how we operate and the benefit to our community of our archiving service. We can only assume that our much valued

community spirit in Hemyock and the Blackdown area can benefit our older residents in particular. We will keep our facebook page at Hemyock History Group updated with progress for the 14th December.

Our meeting on the 11th January 2024 is a special talk from Charlotte Bacon from SW Water about their plans for work in Hemyock and their general services to the community.

Hemyock Gardeners' Association

Hemyock Gardeners' Association meets on the second Wednesday of each month from September to May in Hemyock Parish Hall at 7.30pm, when a lively membership enjoys interesting and entertaining speakers on all things horticultural along with visits to gardens near and far. We are delighted to welcome visitors to our meetings.

To be frank, the weather has been iffy to say the least which makes gardening interesting. However we gardeners are a hardy lot and get on with it! We held our very convivial AGM in November when the Committee is elected. Marie Dear has stepped down from the Committee after many years service and was presented with a bouquet and chocolates as a token of appreciation for all her hard work for the Association. The current Committee was unanimously re-appointed en bloc by those present. This year Ted will be joining the Committee. Congratulations to our Quiz Team who competed in the Pottinger Cup – a Gardening Quiz between Sampford Arundel, Sampford Peverell and Willand.



Caroline Anderson, Brenda Calcraft, Julie Steed and Trish Slater won the trophy. Well done!

Hemyock will host the competition next October. Let's hope we can retain the trophy then.

We look forward to our Wednesday 13 December meeting when we welcome Claire Reid who will be talking to us about her role as Head Gardener at Hestercombe. Everyone is welcome. Entry is just £1 and we serve refreshments.

Susan Scantlebury
Secretary, Hemyock Gardeners' Association
01823 681393/07976 611238.

Hemyock Parish Council update

With the Winter dark nights and mornings, pedestrian safety is a priority, you will all be aware that the speed limit in the village is 20 MPH. With the increased darkness there is even more reason for drivers to respect the limits in place. They are there for a reason and it is especially dangerous for pedestrians where there are no pavements. The Community Speed Watch group work tirelessly to record the speed of cars and report those going over the limit to the police, who can act. The CSW needs additional volunteers to help it educate drivers on not exceeding speed limits and there are also calls from residents for the scheme to be expanded to take in other areas of the village. This cannot be done without even more volunteers. If you feel that you could help the CSW, please contact the Parish Clerk who will provide contact details.

We are pleased to report that the new benches have been purchased and installed outside the Pavillion at Longmead. We hope that they will be well used and a great asset.

The Council has been working with the various groups regarding the Community Larder set up by Sarah Bitmead. We held a Parish meeting for residents to come and find out how we can grow and support this vital incentive and where it would be best to site this important facility. We are in talks currently with the Management of BHLAC with the hope of using an area within it.

The Council receive a weekly newsletter - Devon Home Choice, which lists available council and housing association homes. This is posted on our facebook page, please visit this for information on the properties and how to apply.

The PC makes grants to various organisations in Mid Devon which provides services to Hemyock residents. This includes the Citizen's Advice Bureau, which offers confidential, impartial and independent advice on a range of issues including financial. The Tiverton office has a free advice line on 08082 787999 or visit the website at ruraldevoncab.org.uk.

There are still issues with potholes around the village especially after the rain storms recently - please report these on the Devon County Council website, the more they are reported the more likely they will be repaired. If you see that they have already been reported, please ensure that you add your name to the report.

The Council provides and maintains the Public Conveniences in the Village for the use of all residents. Unfortunately there has been a growing number of incidences of anti-social behaviour and vandalism which is not acceptable. It costs a great deal of money to keep the facility open and in a good state of repair for the benefit of the community and we ask that those accountable will desist from causing further damage.

The Community Land working group continues to work with Cavanna to ensure that the seven acres plot is handed over to the Village in the best possible condition. The Parish Council were disappointed at the current state of the land and we have written to Cavanna to request that the fields are reinstated to their original state and sown with wild flowers. Cavanna have commissioned a reinstatement plan and we await a copy of this. The land itself will be handed over to the Parish once the housing development is completed, we are hopeful that this will be by Autumn 2024 but this is subject to the housing market. There have been many ideas of how we can best utilise the

land effectively for the whole Village, Community orchards, Community allotments, dog walking area and many others. The working group looks forward to exploring these ideas once we are clearer on when we can expect the handover of the plot.

Lucy Jefferson from the Devon Resilience Innovation Project came to the November meeting to discuss possible flood resilience options at both Shuttleton and Lickham Commons by putting ditches and drainage in, and creating ponds to prevent flooding downstream to the Village. This is something which we will need to consider as the weather becomes wetter in the future.

Christmas will soon be here and the judging of the best decorated house will be done between 7th-21st December. If you are on the outer areas of the village and want to take part please let the Clerk know so we can include you. We look forward to seeing all your efforts.

Details of Parish Council meetings and copies of the minutes are posted on our website and facebook page so please keep an eye for updates. The Public Forum during the meeting is an opportunity for you to bring ideas or voice your concerns to the Council so please come along – we look forward to seeing you. Finally the Parish Council wish you all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year and we look forward to working with you in 2024.

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.

Dear Residents

Potholes are always a hot potato. I thought you might like to know the latest Devon pothole numbers for the last six months. April 2022 -(3493), 2023 (4181): May 2022 -3493 (4181): June -2022 2948 (3731): July 2022 -2759 (3466): Aug 2022 -2343 (3766); Sept -2132 (3643).

You will see that potholes are significantly up for 2023 (in brackets), than last year. The worst month this year, January, was 7376, but the last 5 years have been improving, year on year. It looks as though this year might be much higher than last year's 39755 potholes in total. We can only assume that the last 6 months the weather has had an effect on this.

In 2022/23 Devon's combined Recycling Rate, reduced by -1.1% to 54.0%. For Torbay, performance increased to 38.2% from 37.1% in 2021/22, and whilst reductions were noted for many waste streams, service improvements including more reliable collections, the introduction of a chargeable garden waste collection service, and 2022 'Right stuff, right box' campaign, which included enhanced community engagement, all contributed to this overall increase.

Apart from Mid Devon (+1.8%) and Torbay (+1.1%), all remaining Devon Authorities experienced a reduction in recycling rate last year in a range between -0.2% (West Devon) and -2.6% (North Devon). Mid Devon introduced service improvements through its 'Bin-It 123' scheme, including 3 weekly residual collections from October 2022. Wheeled bins also replaced black sack collections which had the benefit of restricting household residue to equitable levels and reducing litter. This service change also encourages residents to fully utilise the recycling collections, in particular organic food waste. East Devon operates similar residual waste arrangements with great success, and high resident satisfaction. In 2018/19 Six Devon WCAs achieved recycling rates over 50%. Mid Devon achieved 55.4%. Exeter, currently the lowest performing Devon Waste Authority, at 24.5%.

I have had several emails relating to the Mobile Library Service, I have received emails from the Secretary of the friends of Uffculme and emails from Hemyock Residents. Devon County's Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee (CIRS), recommends the Library cuts that Cabinet:

- (a) Reconsiders the decision to decommission the mobile library vehicles and looks again at continuing to provide the mobile library service.
- (b) Gets precise figures on leasing vehicles to review opportunities to continue to provide a cost effective service.
- (c) Looks into opportunities to reduce cost of delivery including commercial sponsorship opportunities on vehicles, crowdfunding and or support from Parish Councils and community groups.
- (d) Develops alternative library provision before taking the decision to remove services, and reports findings back to CIRS.

The recommendation of the Cabinet will follow.

Integrated Adult Social Care Operations is forecasting an underspend of just under £500,000. Older People services continue to experience pressures with increasing personal care costs as a result of improved personal care market sufficiency.

As of 31 July 2023:

- We were supporting 11,076 people, a net increase of 116 or 1.1% compared to the same period in 2022.
- We have seen a reduction of 80 or (1.3%) in the working aged adult cohort, which may be reflecting increased review activity.
- However, we are now supporting 196 or 3.2% more older people than at 31 July 2022.
- Net growth (from June) of 39 placements, 43 for people 65 and over in residential and nursing care.

We are working towards next year's budget which will be challenging, although not as tough as we thought it might be after taking drastic action, looking at line by line of all departments budgets and costings, to see where we can make savings. My next report I will be able to go into more detail.

I picked this up on a national survey for Q3 2023 and found the following statistics, you might be interested:

- 40 per cent of Federation of Master Builders (FMB) members reported a decrease in enquiries.
- 39 per cent of members are struggling to hire carpenters, while 35 per cent are struggling to hire bricklayers.
- 34 per cent are having difficulty hiring general labourers, up from 25 per cent in Q2.
- 50 per cent report that jobs are delayed because they are struggling to hire skilled workers.
- 71 per cent of members report that material costs increased in Q3 2023 with 55 per cent expecting this to continue into the next quarter, which is an improvement on previous quarters.
- Increased outgoings have led 71 per cent of members to raise the prices they charge, with half reporting that the business is on track to make a loss or fall below expected margins.
- More than a quarter report that they are restricting hiring new staff as a consequence of increased outgoings.

I can't believe another year has gone by and here I am wishing everyone a Happy Xmas and a Healthy New year. Business stills goes on, so if you think I can help from a County perspective, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Ray Radford
Devon County Councillor
Willand & Uffculme Division
Regards, Ray Radford
Devon County Councillor
Willand & Uffculme Division
Email: ray.radford@devon.gov.uk



1st Hemyock Scout Group

Hello there, our last report for 2023. *Where has the year gone? We have two events to tell you about this time. The first was our*

History of Hemyock Scouting which took place on 14th October in the Parish Hall and on the Rec. This was not only about scouting in Hemyock but also the Guiding Movement of Guides and Brownies.

So I shall start with the latter. Back in the day, some fifty years plus ago, guides were thriving in the village and the brownies had as their leader, Brown Owl, your village reporter Janice Fuller as she was known then. However on Saturday 28th July 1973 she became Mrs Janice Bawler as she married in St Marys a certain David Bawler also known as your Church Warden. You may well ask how do I know this. It was displayed in the Hall on the history day. More of that later. At their wedding 1st Hemyock brownies formed a surprise Guard of Honour for their Brown Owl, which included Rebecca and Nicola Reed, Sarah Grosse, Lorraine Hart and Sally Gooding. I wonder how many of those brownies will be reading this! Final comment, your Church Warden had lots of long dark hair in those days (so did Rikki). Before I move on to scouts, another photo showed our guides which included Wendy Lutley, Jennifer Doble, Ann Matthews, Betty Hill, Carol Baker, Sheila Marke and Janice their Patrol Leader.

Lets move on. The Parish Hall was full of history and memorabilia and oldies like Rikki who was pleased to wear his Danish uniform in honour of our twinning with Tonder. (Also after nearly thirty years it still fits, but my English one doesn't!). All of our sections had displays showing what they get up to, with leaders on hand to chat with everyone. I noticed on the Beaver display that at a recent District Fun Day they won the award for designing a badge to mark the event. The award was signed by District Commissioner Julie Jennings. The cub display was asking for help with more leaders as the numbers increase. Cub leader, Gary Sutton says get in touch with him if you can help. (gary.1sthemyockcubs@outlook.com). I noticed on another of the displays Essential Skills, as follows-- Emergency Aid, Socialisation, Skills for Life, Problem Solving, Taking Turns. What excellent skills to teach our young people for their futures. I also saw some of the badges they work for: Cyclist, International, Sports Enthusiast, Scientist, Navigator, Nights Away, Backwoods Cooking, Outdoor Challenge. Some I remember from the past but good to see scouting now encompasses modern needs.

I shall go back to the past as this was our history. Back in the day we had Senior Patrol Leaders and someone, I know not who, produced a superb list written in italics of their names. Here are a few of them, Brian Milton, Ian Bell, Raymond Alford, Charles Byrd, Nicholas Stevens, Lee Binaccioni, Andrew Hewitt. Apologies to the many others-- you did an equally good job.

Newsletters were an important part of communications and I noticed one from Aug/Sept 1988 written by Skip Lowman, titled The Way Ahead. A new scout year, emphasis on the need for patrol based activities, which will build upon existing knowledge and give new and inexperienced patrol leaders confidence to lead. Skip Lowman had it right and our current leaders are doing much the same. Maybe nothing changes! There was also a board where our scouts could write, what things they like. Here are a few, Hiking up the Beacon, Camps with the Danes, Euro Venture 1994 (obviously a retired scout!), 3000 in Paris, Danish Friendship knots, wafting fires with plastic plates, Iceland 2014 with 1000 other Explorers, 1st day of camp, it rained all day but we stayed positive. On the Rec

Field we had axe throwing, which the Explorers had set up for us. Also a camp fire.

Whilst chatting to the leaders/old leaders I asked why they became leaders. I promised not to mention names, but here are some of the answers. I was bullied into by my wife and skip Lowman, I like bacon butties cooked over an open fire, the global community, have been to International camps, I just enjoy scouting, I like to see the young people working together solving problems, without too much help from us, Was a cub then a scout then a venture scout, my daughter is a scout and I want to put something back, my mums fault when I was six she let me join scouts and now I am a leader as I love the outdoors and the enthusiasm of our young people and finally, I don't know why but I'm glad I did. What a lot of different reasons but thank you, it would not happen without leaders. It was a great display and I hope that those that managed to join us had a good insight into the history and future of scouting in Hemyock.

Secondly we have just attended Remembrance Day Parade and Service. As usual an excellent turn out by the group. All were smart and walked well together. It was a good Service led by David Major, his address included the scouts which was thought provoking for them. The Church and Churchyard were beautifully decorated with masses of knitted poppies. It was wet to begin with but the sun shone for the two minute silence. It was good to see the Church all but full. I have to say that our new District Commissioner was still involved. Her daughter Amey has taken the role that she performed when she was cub leader with us, tying the wreathes firmly to the Memorial to defeat the wind.

I had better wind up now, suffice to say all sections are enjoying their Autumn term programmes and of course having FUN.

And finally, as I said at the beginning another year nearly over. So, on behalf of all members of 1st Hemyock Scout Group may I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful, happy New Year.

Look forward to chatting with you in 2024.

Old Rikki

Blackdown Hills Repair Café

Our first Repair Cafe event in 2024 will be held on the **Saturday 27th January** in the Hemyock Parish Hall EX15 3QW between 10am and 1pm

Please do all come along and have your items repaired and fixed by our Volunteer Repairers, and while they are carrying out your repairs, enjoy some refreshments in our tearoom cafe. Please note, that we are also able to take on extra, larger and more extensive repairs at our local Workshop.

Repair Café events for the whole of 2024
All on Saturday's from 10am to 1pm

27th January, 23rd March, 25th May
27th July, 28th September, 23rd November

Stephan Lehner
Blackdown Hills Repair Café Coordinator
sfelehner@aol.com.



The aim of the Devon Resilience Innovation Project (DRIP) is to help communities at risk of flooding become more resilient and recover quicker in the event of flooding. One way of making a community more resilient is to ensure that vital community assets and services such as community buildings, local food shops and health services are protected and still available during a flood event. Providing a free PFR survey and possibly funding recommended PFR measures to community assets is one of the grant in aid projects available to selected communities as part of DRIP.

As part of the Devon Resilience Innovation Project (DRIP), Devon County Council's Flood Risk Management team is offering a free survey to identify what "Property Flood Resilience" (PFR) measures can be installed to selected businesses and community buildings.

Installing PFR measures can help reduce the impact and damage caused in the event of a flood. They include fitting flood proof doors, flood proof airbricks and non return valves on drainage systems. The primary purpose is to keep flood waters out of the property. More information on PFR and how it works can be found at www.befloodready.uk.

If your business/organisation is a community asset as defined above, within the location of Hemyock and you are interested in a free survey, please email Holly Cavill at JBA (Holly.Cavill@jbaconsulting.com) – Devon County Councils agents, who are acting on our behalf with:

- Your name
- Your address
- Your contact details (email and telephone) and
- Your response to the following 2 questions:

1. Have you flooded previously? Please specify any known flood routes, e.g., front or back door, sewerage backing up etc.

2. If no, do you consider yourself to be at risk – and if you do, how? For example, you have a watercourse backing your property, or the road or your back yard was flooded in the past or water lapped close to your property threshold (ponding or flowing near the entrances to your property), or the property next door has flooded.

Surveys and funded PFR will be given on a first come, first served basis until funding runs out. When we receive your email confirming you are interested, our contracted specialist surveyor (JBA Consulting Ltd.) will arrange a date to survey your property and assess the flood risk. The surveyor will then produce a report for your property recommending appropriate measures. Please be assured that following the survey report you don't have to accept the recommendations. Once we have the survey report we will decide which properties have the greatest need for PFR measures to be installed. This would be subject to property owner acceptance and subject to the funding criteria and eligibility.



Hemyock's own Community Fridge to open in December. Hemyock's new Community Fridge is set to open in the Blackdown Healthy Living and Activity Centre this December for the benefit of all residents of the local community. Foodsave CIC, a local not-for-profit focused on creating zero-food waste communities, has been working closely with local partners to deliver the village's own food-waste reduction initiative. In order to ensure the success of the project, Foodsave are in need of volunteers to help run the day-to-day activities of the fridge – including collecting from businesses within a half-hour drive and doing regular check-ups on the space itself.



In partnership with the Blackdown Healthy Living and Activity Centre, Foodsave is creating a dedicated space for surplus food to be redistributed within the community. The Community Fridge will serve as a location to reduce food waste, working with local businesses and individuals to give away perfectly useable food near to its expiry date, for free to anyone across the community. The space will include both a tall fridge and a freezer, meaning foods of all types will be on offer on a donation-by-donation basis.

Foodsave's work will take on and expand upon the work of Hemyock's existing Community Larder, ran successfully by local resident Sarah on Prowses since 2020.

Jake Bonetta, Director of Foodsave CIC, is looking forward to working extensively with the Hemyock community to make the project a success. "We are immensely excited to get going in Hemyock, redistributing perfectly good food to all those across the community without referral needed. If you are able to spare a couple of minutes during the day each week, or even if you have the ability to do some voluntary driving for us in exchange for mileage costs, please do let us know and we'd love to have you on board!"

The Community Fridge is scheduled to open its doors at the Blackdown Healthy Living and Activity Centre on Monday December 11th. The project, with funding support from Recycle Devon, is open to anyone across the area, anonymously, without referral needed or questions asked. To get involved, please contact Jake via jake@foodsave.org.uk or 07869 859142, or visit www.foodsave.org.uk/volunteer.

the beehive Honiton's Community & Arts
December 2023

BOLAN'S SHOES
FRI 1 DEC - 2pm (with optional lunch) & 7.30pm £7.50/£6.50
A devastating accident changes a group of young lives for ever. Years later, survivor Penny takes her fellow Marc Bolan fan to visit his shrine in London. An encounter there resurfaces past trauma.

THE GREAT ESCAPER
SAT 2 DEC - 7.30pm - Tickets: Adult £7.50, U16's £6.50
Bernard Jordan escapes from his care home to attend the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings in France.

ANDRÉ RIEU WHITE CHRISTMAS
SUN 3 DEC - 4pm - Tickets £15
Immerse yourself in the Christmas atmosphere of André's winter wonderland. Savour the spirit of the season while singing & dancing in the aisles to timeless Christmas carols & romantic waltzes.

THE BEEHIVE CHRISTMAS QUIZ
WED 6 DEC - 7pm - Tickets £8pp
A fundraiser for The Beehive. Price includes Christmas nibbles. Book your team of 4-6 people by calling 01404 384050 (weekdays 9-5pm) Raffle on the night with the chance to win xmas hampers.

DR. FEELGOOD
THU 7 DEC - 7pm - Tickets £26 - Standing Gig
Dr. Feelgood are an English pub rock band formed in 1971. The group are best known for early singles such as "She Does It Right", "Roxette", "Back in the Night" and "Milk and Alcohol".

CHRISTMAS CRAFT & SHOPPING FAYRE
SAT 9 DEC - 10am - 4pm. - FREE ENTRY!
Come for a day out Christmas shopping and visit our craft fair. Support your local artists and creative businesses this Christmas. Our Café will be open providing festive refreshments.

*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

the beehive Honiton's Community & Arts
December 2023

ST AGNES FOUNTAIN
THU 14 DEC - 7pm - Tickets: £20
Presenting carols with a folk music curve. The multi award winning trio bring a magical live performance with unique style and rhythm. They perform "rhythmed-up" carols and Christmas music, interspersed with laughter and spoken word.

ROYAL BALLET: THE NUTCRACKER
FRI 15 DEC - 4.30pm - Tickets: Adults £17, Students £11
Discover the enchantment of ballet with this sparkling festive treat. Join Clara at a delightful Christmas Eve party that becomes a magical adventure once everyone else is tucked up in bed.

THE ELF WHO LOST SANTA CLAUS.
WED 20 DEC - 2.30pm Adult £15, U12's £10, Family x4 £35
An interactive show about three elves tasked with arranging an afternoon for a special group of people to meet Santa. Includes materials to make a craft keepsake and festive refreshments.

NOSTALGIC CINEMA: SANTA CLAUS THE MOVIE
THU 21 DEC - 2pm - Tickets: £4.50. Subtitled film
The legend of Santa Claus is put in jeopardy when an unscrupulous toy manufacturer attempts to take over Christmas. Our dementia friendly cinema ticket includes a free hot drink and biscuits.

A MAGICAL CHRISTMAS VARIETY SHOW
FRI 22 DEC - 4pm - Adult £13, U16's £8 & Family x4 £36
A show full of all your favourite Christmas songs, with laughter, fantastic choreography and truly spectacular costumes, you will be transported to a Winter Wonderland. With special guest Phil Blackmore, BRITAIN'S GOT TALENT STAR!

THE BEEHIVE CAFE Open Mon - Fri 10am - 2.30pm.
We provide a range of tea's, coffee's and home-made lunches including toasties, sandwiches, cakes, and daily specials. Well-behaved dogs are welcome!

Christmas Gift Vouchers available on our website!

The Beehive • Dowell Street • Honiton • EX14 1LZ
Box Office: 01404 384050 www.beehivehoniton.co.uk Charity 1162412

A New Name for the Blackdown Hills

Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty has a new name – Blackdown Hills National Landscape. Along with all other designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England and Wales, we are becoming a National Landscape.

The new name reflects the national importance of the landscapes and the vital contribution we are making to protect the nation from the threats of climate change, nature depletion and the wellbeing crisis. The name change will also help us to create greater understanding and awareness for the work that we do.

Becoming Blackdown Hills National Landscape reflects a step change in our work to protect and regenerate our landscape, with a focus on nature, climate, heritage, culture, and people. The care of the Blackdown Hills National Landscape is entrusted to local authorities, organisations, community groups and the people who live and work within them. We help bring these people together, working collaboratively to conserve and enhance these special landscapes.

National Landscapes across England and Wales

The change to National Landscapes is a significant milestone for the UK, and the next step in fully realising the National Landscapes' vision to be the leading exemplars of how thriving, diverse communities can work with and for nature in the UK: restoring ecosystems, providing food, storing carbon to mitigate the effects of climate change, safeguarding against drought and flooding, whilst also nurturing people's health and wellbeing.



National Landscapes teams have been at the forefront of delivering natural solutions to the main challenges facing

the nation for many years. The new brand underscores our commitment to redoubling our efforts and engaging with a wider audience. In 2019, we collectively set ourselves the most ambitious targets for nature in the sector and we continue to work to meet them.

By 2030, it is our aim that, within National Landscape boundaries: at least 200,000 hectares of the most valuable natural areas (Sites of Special Scientific Interest or SSSIs), which equates to 1¼ times the size of London, will be in favourable condition; 100,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat outside of SSSIs will be created or restored, which is roughly nine times the size of Manchester; and 36,000 hectares of woodland, which is a little smaller than the Isle of Wight, will have been planted or allowed to regenerate. National Landscapes Partnerships will also focus on habitat restoration to ensure the protection of some of our most endangered species and increase their work to help more people to enjoy time spent in beautiful places.

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>

Opening Times

Hemyock Surgery:
01823 680206

The Blackdown Practice

Hemyock Churchinford Dunkeswell

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.

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

Taunton, Castle Way (S-bound)	--	--	0850	--	1115	--	1415	--	1715	--
Hockholler, Heatherton Grange Inn (SW-bound)	--	--	0900	--	1125	--	1425	--	1726	--
Wellington, Post Office (SW-bound)	--	--	0911	--	1136	--	1436	--	1736	--
Sampford Moor, Blue Ball Inn (SW-bound)	--	--	0920	--	1145	--	1445	--	1745	--
Nicholashayne, opp Post Box	--	--	0924	--	1149	--	1449	--	1749	--
Culmstock, All Saints Church (E-bound)	0729	--	0930	--	1155	--	1455	--	1755	--
Hemyock, Castle Park (NE-bound)	0738	--	0939	--	1204	--	1504	--	1804	--
Hemyock, Prowses (S-bound)	0741	--	0942	--	1207	--	1507	--	1807	--
Hemyock, Catherine Wheel (N-bound)	0743	--	0944	--	1209	--	1509	--	1809	--
Sheldon, Sheldon Turn (S-bound)	0749	--	0950	--	1215	--	1515	--	1815	--
Dunkeswell, opp Royal Oak	0753	--	0954	--	1219	--	1519	--	1819	--
Dunkeswell, Jenwood Road (W-bound)	0756	--	0957	--	1222	--	1522	--	1822	--
Combe Raleigh, opp Combe Raleigh Turn	0803	--	1004	--	1229	--	1529	--	1829	--
Honiton, Job Centre (Stop D)	0810	0815	1011	1015	1236	1240	1536	1540	1836	--
Honiton, Tesco Superstore (E-bound)	--	--	0820	--	1020	--	1245	--	1545	1841
Honiton, Waterleat Avenue (NE-bound)	--	--	0824	--	1024	--	1249	--	1549	--
Wilmington, White Hart Inn (E-bound)	--	--	0830	--	1030	--	1255	--	1555	--
Shute, Shute House (S-bound)	--	--	0839	--	1039	--	1304	--	1604	--
Colyton, The Square (S-bound)	--	--	0846	--	1046	--	1311	--	1611	--
Colyford, opp The Elms	--	--	0850	--	1050	--	1315	--	1615	--
Seaton, Health Centre (S-bound)	--	--	0852	--	1052	--	1317	--	1617	--
Seaton, Marine Place (Stop B)	--	--	0857	--	1057	--	1322	--	1622	--

Saturdays

--	--	--	0850	--	1115	--	1415	--	1715	--
--	--	--	0900	--	1125	--	1425	--	1726	--
--	--	--	0911	--	1136	--	1436	--	1736	--
--	--	--	0920	--	1145	--	1445	--	1745	--
--	--	--	0924	--	1149	--	1449	--	1749	--
0729	--	--	0930	--	1155	--	1455	--	1755	--
0738	--	--	0939	--	1204	--	1504	--	1804	--
0741	--	--	0942	--	1207	--	1507	--	1807	--
0743	--	--	0944	--	1209	--	1509	--	1809	--
0749	--	--	0950	--	1215	--	1515	--	1815	--
0753	--	--	0954	--	1219	--	1519	--	1819	--
0756	--	--	0957	--	1222	--	1522	--	1822	--
0803	--	--	1004	--	1229	--	1529	--	1829	--
0810	0815	1011	1015	1236	1240	1536	1540	1836	--	--
--	--	--	0820	--	1020	--	1245	--	1545	1841
--	--	--	0824	--	1024	--	1249	--	1549	--
--	--	--	0830	--	1030	--	1255	--	1555	--
--	--	--	0839	--	1039	--	1304	--	1604	--
--	--	--	0846	--	1046	--	1311	--	1611	--
--	--	--	0850	--	1050	--	1315	--	1615	--
--	--	--	0852	--	1052	--	1317	--	1617	--
--	--	--	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

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

Saturdays

--	--	--	0900	--	1200	--	1500	--	1700	--
--	--	--	0904	--	1204	--	1504	--	1704	--
--	--	--	0908	--	1208	--	1508	--	1708	--
--	--	--	0913	--	1213	--	1513	--	1712	--
--	--	--	0920	--	1220	--	1520	--	1718	--
--	--	--	0929	--	1229	--	1529	--	1726	--
--	--	--	0935	--	1235	--	1535	--	1732	--
0701	0938	--	1238	--	1538	--	1735	--	--	--
0705	0942	0944	1242	1244	1542	1544	1739	1740	--	--
0712	--	--	0951	--	1251	--	1551	--	1746	--
0719	--	--	0958	--	1258	--	1558	--	1753	--
0722	--	--	1001	--	1301	--	1601	--	1755	--
0725	--	--	1004	--	1304	--	1604	--	1758	--
0733	--	--	1012	--	1312	--	1612	--	1806	--
0735	--	--	1014	--	1314	--	1614	--	1808	--
0738	--	--	1017	--	1317	--	1617	--	1811	--
0748	--	--	1027	--	1327	--	1627	--	1820	--
0753	--	--	1032	--	1332	--	1632	--	--	--
0757	--	--	1036	--	1336	--	1636	--	--	--
0806	--	--	1045	--	1345	--	1645	--	--	--
0813	--	--	1052	--	1352	--	1652	--	--	--
0831	--	--	1105	--	1405	--	1705	--	--	--

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HEMYOCK, Lower Millhayes	0915	TIVERTON, Bus Station	1315
HEMYOCK, Castle Park	0917	TIVERTON, Carew Road	1324
HEMYOCK, Square	0919	CHETTISCOMBE, opp Post Box	1327
CULMSTOCK, All Saints Church	0926	CHEVITHORNE, Church	1329
CULMSTOCK, Millmoor	0927	UPLOWMAN, Bus Shelter	1339
BURLESCOMBE, Rail Bridge	0934	STAG MILL, Cross	1342
WESTLEIGH, Bus Shelter	0938	HUNTSHAM, Shelter	1350
HOLCOMBE ROGUS, Whitebrook Terrace	0942	HOCKFORD WATERS	1354
HOLCOMBE ROGUS, Frog Lane	0945	STAPLE CROSS, Inn	1356
HOCKWORTHY, Village Hall	0950	HOCKWORTHY, Village Hall	1358
STAPLE CROSS, Inn	0955	HOLCOMBE ROGUS, opp Whitebrook Terrace	1403
HOCKFORD WATERS	0957	HOLCOMBE ROGUS, Frog Lane	1406
HUNTSHAM, Shelter	1001	WESTLEIGH, Bus Shelter	1410
STAG MILL, Cross	1009	BURLESCOMBE, Rail Bridge	1414
UPLOWMAN, Bus Shelter	1012	CULMSTOCK, Millmoor	1421
CHEVITHORNE, opp Church	1022	CULMSTOCK, All Saints Church	1422
CHETTISCOMBE, Post Box	1024	HEMYOCK, Square	1429
TIVERTON, Carew Road	1027	HEMYOCK, Castle Park	1431
TIVERTON, Bus Station	1034	HEMYOCK, Lower Millhayes	1433

This service is financially supported by Devon County Council

St Andrew's Clayhidon

In This Issue:

- ◆ Armistice Service Report
- ◆ St Andrews Carol Service
- ◆ Film Nights



St. Andrew's Church News

As the pleasant autumn days have continued without serious signs of winter, the month of December seems to have arrived sooner than expected.

The events from October and November we still remember, particularly the Harvest Festival occasion in October when the church was so decorated with gifts which could then be taken to CHAT (Churches Housing Action Team) in Tiverton to be distributed to many in need. We enjoyed the service of thanks for the harvest, at which Helen Stone spoke of the work of CHAT, and afterwards a wonderful meal served to a great number in the parish hall.



On Armistice Sunday in November there were many of us who walked down the church path to the War Memorial before 11 o'clock to join with others throughout the country to remember the fallen in the wars. Along with each name read out was a brief story of their life in Clayhidon before they left for war, and of the circumstances of their death. It was very moving. Afterwards, we gathered in the Church Room for coffee/tea and lovely refreshments.

Sadly, there were other events towards the end of the year which caused many of us great sadness. These were the loss of Margaret Blackmore, our oldest resident and highly regarded and loved, whose funeral was held at St Andrew's in October. Her family has been here for some centuries and she participated in the life of Clayhidon in many ways including as churchwarden, especially since her retirement from teaching. She will be greatly missed. We send our condolences to the rest of the family. We also lost Revd Chris Hudson from our team of service leaders. His ministry to us particularly at the celebration of farming festivals will be very much missed. We send our condolences to Mary and the family.

Now our concentration will be on events leading up to the joys of the birth of Jesus and Christmas. We have several special events and will welcome all of you to come and join with us on any of these occasions. The first one is –

Saturday, 9th December at 4pm. This will be the **Christingle service**, which the children particularly enjoy, with a chance to make a colourful (and sticky) Christingle and enjoy its special candlelight reminding us of Christ, the Light of the world.

Thursday, 21 December at 7pm will be the **Carol service by candlelight**. This will be a traditional carol service of readings, special music and carols for everyone to join in with; another joyous occasion when we can celebrate together.

Sunday, 24 December at 10am will be a special **Christmas Communion service**.

We send our love and very best wishes to all our community for Christmas time and the New Year to come.

P.Reynolds. PCC

Richard Jeffrey Newspaper Deliveries

For more than 20 years - in fact he started before Daphne died - Richard Jeffrey delivered daily papers to the folk of Clayhidon. Never mind the weather - wind, rain, snow, fog - whatever was thrown at him Richard delivered the papers until he was totally unable; a few days before he died.

Hi didn't let the people of Clayhidon down, but they are letting him down not paying for the February and March papers. In fact, there are only 2 decent people who have paid up.

Can the remainder of those owing please step forward and settle their bills.

Judith Ward.

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There is also a raffle



News From Rosemary Lane Chapel

Recent weeks have seen storm after storm arrive: Agnes, Bebet, Ciaran and now, as I write this update, storm Debi. Heavy winds and rain have caused all kinds of disruption. And yet, in the aftermath of storm Ciaran, at just the right time, the wind fell silent and the clouds dispersed as Rosemary Lane Chapel hosted its' annual Bonfire and Fireworks Night. In the context of a week in which roads and schools were closed, it was wonderful to welcome so many members of our community, both Clayhidon and Hemyock, to the chapel field as we shared in some rather delicious hot dogs, hot chocolate and freshly made gingerbread. Of course, the main spectacle was the fireworks that lit up the darkness of the night sky. Bright colours illuminated a backdrop of oak trees as onlookers watched with annual delight at the display before them.

Less dependent upon the fluctuating British weather are our usual indoor events. Our weekly toddler group, fortnightly kids club (Venturers) and monthly Luncheon Club are all growing in popularity with ever increasing numbers in attendance. Even now, preparations are underway for the annual Toddlers and Venturers Christmas parties. Even more poignant are the preparations being made for our Luncheon Club Christmas meal (Wednesday 13th December) at which we will be celebrating and giving thanks for 30 years of the BSG Lunch Club taking place at Rosemary Lane Chapel.

Recent weeks have also seen us enjoy several visitors join us at Rosemary Lane Chapel to preach the gospel. Mervyn Burd (Kings Street, Tiverton) joined us in October. Some of you listeners of BBC Radio Devon may recognise the name. For many years, Mervyn led the 'Pause for Thought' during the morning broadcast. In November we welcomed Matt Brinkley from London City Mission who shared with us about his work heading up the LCM team in Tower Hamlets. And, at this time of writing, we are looking forward to Tirzah Jones from the United Beach Mission (UBM) joining us at the end of November.

Alongside all these visits, as a fellowship we continue to work through Matthew's gospel at our morning service (11am). It has been deeply challenging to hear afresh the words of Jesus in the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5-7), acknowledging as Matthew does, that Jesus is the One who has all power and authority (Matthew 28:18). Even more challenging is the example of Christ as he comes back down the mountain wielding his power and authority with humility, compassion and gentleness to heal and bring hope into the lives of so many (Matthew 8). Jesus sits in stark contrast to the examples of power and authority we see in the world today. In a similar way to the brightness and beauty of the fireworks against the backdrop of the dark night sky, Jesus shines in all His brilliance as he ministers grace and reveals the love of God. He is the light that shines in the darkness of this world and our lives.

It shouldn't surprise us then that light is such a recurring theme in the coming of the Messiah that we celebrate each Christmas. It is as God promised through His word (Isaiah 9:2):

*The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.*

What does this great light look like beyond its' dazzling beauty and brilliance? God tells us though his prophet Isaiah:

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
**Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.***

ISAIAH 9:6

This is the light that shines in the darkness. This is the light that the Leper and the Roman Centurion and the many who were healed encountered (Matthew 8). This is the light we too can encounter this Christmas as we welcome Christ into our lives and our hearts, and with it, receive deep joy. We would love for you to join us this Christmas at any of our many services or indeed into the New Year. That together, in looking to Jesus and His coming to us, we might see the beauty and the brilliance of his brightness. That He might be for each of us, as one commentator says,

'The dawning of indestructible joy.'

With our love and prayer this Christmas.

Jonathan Hillman

On behalf of the fellowship at Rosemary Lane Chapel
www.rosemarylanechapel.com



**Rosemary
Lane Chapel**

Warmly invites you to our Christmas Services

Christmas All Age Service
Sunday 17 December | 11 am

Carols by Candlelight
Wednesday 20 December | 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Worship | 11 am

Christmas Day Worship | 10:30am

www.rosemarylanechapel.com

NEWS FROM COLDHARBOUR MILL

OPENING TIMES: the Museum, Cafe and Shop are open for event days and for pre-booked group and school visits. (to check up-to-date information and book, please go to www.coldharbourmill.org.uk)



Sunday 10th December 2-4pm Friends of the Mill Christmas Afternoon Tea with Big Raffle Draw in the Mill Cafe. All proceeds support the Mill. All welcome. Free parking.

NEW YEAR'S STEAM DAY - Celebrate the New Year and the power of STEAM! **Monday 1st January 2024 10.30am – 4.30pm** (Steam Engines will run until 3pm) Come and explore our 19th century steam complex and factory floor in action, as well as a selection of family crafts and trails to enjoy! Free Parking!

Book online in advance to receive 15% off your ticket price, or become a Coldharbour Mill Member and enjoy every steam day – and all other events – FREE for a year!

CRAFT WORKSHOPS AT THE MILL

4-hour workshops: 11am – 3pm (inc. 45 min lunch break), £20 each.

If you like to do crafts using yarns or textiles, do join one (or more!) of our popular Craft Workshops! All materials supplied. Places are limited so do book soon!

To book online go to: <https://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/workshops/> or phone the Mill office (see contact details below).

Saturday 9th December: Christmas Wreaths. Get creative this Christmas - you will use foraged foliage to create a beautiful Christmas wreath for your home with our skilled volunteer Liz!

Saturday 20th January: Beginners Knitting Course. Learn the basics of knitting with our skilled volunteers Karin & Mandy!

Wednesday 31st January: Crochet a love heart coaster! You will be guided by our wonderful craft volunteer Liz. This workshop is not for beginners.

VOLUNTEERING

Do you have a spare half day or even a full day (or two?) each week – to volunteer at our unique heritage site? We are looking for more curatorial volunteers to help care for exhibits and archives. For all the volunteering opportunities available, see www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/volunteer/ for more info and an informal chat, and to arrange a taster session, please contact us by phone or email (see contact details below).

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For up to date news and information – see the Coldharbour Mill Facebook page and the Mill website: www.coldharbourmill.org.uk.



Quaker Meeting for Worship

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

John Greenleaf Whittier 1807 – 1892 was a Quaker poet and advocate for the abolition of slavery in the USA. He probably best known for the words of the Hymn 'Dear Lord and Father of Mankind' which were taken from his poem 'The Brewing of Soma.' Below are two of his Christmas poems.

Somehow not only for Christmas

Somehow not only for Christmas
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others
Is the joy that comes back to you.

And the more you spend in blessing
The poor and lonely and sad,
The more of your heart's possessing
Returns to make you glad.
John Greenleaf Whittier

Friends at Spiceland Quaker Meeting would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and the hope of a way to peace in the coming year. With love!

"A little smile, a word of cheer,
A bit of love from someone near,
A little gift from one held dear,
Best wishes for the coming year.
These make a merry christmas!"
John Greenleaf Whittier

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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.



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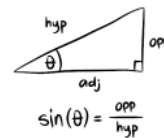


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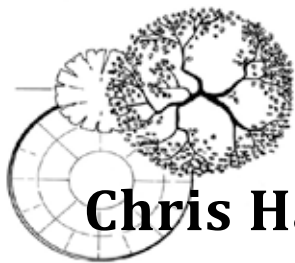
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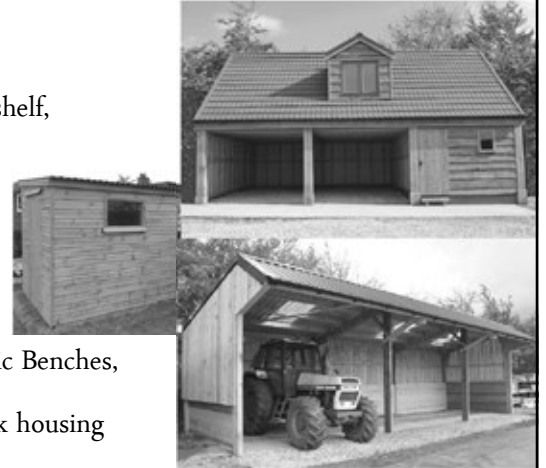
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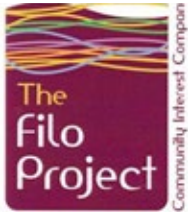
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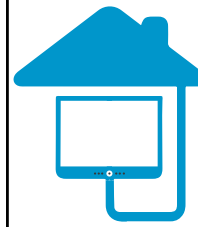
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ST MARY'S RINGERS	<i>Mrs L Holway</i>	681522	
THE GARAGES	<i>Karen Pinder</i>	681034	kazapinder@hotmail.com
THE RIVERSIDE CLUB	<i>Lynn Pulman</i>	680687	riverside@bhlac.org.uk
TUESDAY GROUP	<i>Diane Denman</i>	680139	
VALLEY ARTS & SOCIAL SOCIETY	<i>Mrs C Pinder</i>	680854	
WALK AND TALK	<i>Penny Scoynes, Health Walk Co-ordinator</i>	01392 824752	
YOUNG FARMERS	<i>Michelle Batting</i>	07738 114113	

