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JULY 2022
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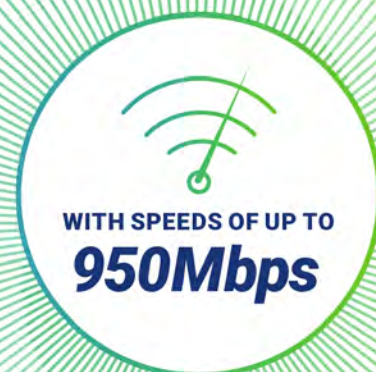
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Well what a year this is turning out to be - after 70 years in the making, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee appears to have been enthusiastically celebrated right across our area. We do hope you enjoy looking through the pictures from both the town and some of the villages.

Of course we have so much more to look forward to - as can be seen by the eight pages of What's On in the centre of the magazine. The end of July brings us both Charter Day and Hot Pennies, followed swiftly in August by Honiton Show in the Showground and Gate to Plate in Honiton High Street - not to mention the various local events that are being organised. Don't forget to let us know your plans as we are always happy to promote these for you.

Finally, against the best efforts of Covid, recessions and other issues, in July we celebrate our 3rd anniversary of Honiton & Village News. At this time we would like to thank you all - for your contributions, your support, your advertising and your feedback. It is so good to know that we continue to be at the heart of our community and hope that this can continue for some time to come.

Please note that copy date is 16th of the month preceding publication

Honiton & Village News is a monthly magazine produced free of charge for the people of Honiton and surrounding villages by a team of volunteers:

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Awliscombe-The Honiton Inn

Broadhembury- Post Office and Store - Drewe Arms

Buckerell- via Splatthayes

Churchinford-The York Inn, The Community Shop

Combe Raleigh- Village Hall Telephone Box

Dalwood- Community Shop

Dunkeswell- Highfield Stores - Highfield Garage - Dunkeswell Airfield Heritage Centre (summer only) - Connetts Farm

Feniton- Spar Shop - Envious Creative Hair - Feniton Hair Stylists

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Honiton New Street - House of Hair - The Dental Surgery - Honiton Library - TRIP

Honiton Heathpark Industrial Estate- Army Surplus Depot

Honiton Lace Walk- Co-op - Joe Gilson Mobility Stall

Honiton High Street - Stitched-up! - Coffee #1 - Little Shop of Seasons - Alan Rowe - St Paul's Church - Allhallows Museum - Wine World - RKL - Pearl Nails - 4 You from Me - Shades - Park Life - Bits & Bobs

Honiton- Tesco Stores - The Beehive - Thelma Hulbert Gallery - Hillside Garage (King Street)

Offwell- Windmill Garage

Payhembury- Community Shop - Sawmill

Plymtree- Community Shop

Smeatharpe- Highlands - Upottery Airfield Nissan Hut Heritage Centre (summer only)

Stockland- King's Arms - Telephone Box

Talaton- Community Shop

Upottery- Sidmouth Arms

Upton- delivered ex Payhembury

Weston- Heron Farm Shop

Yarcombe- Village Hall

How We Celebrated The Jubilee



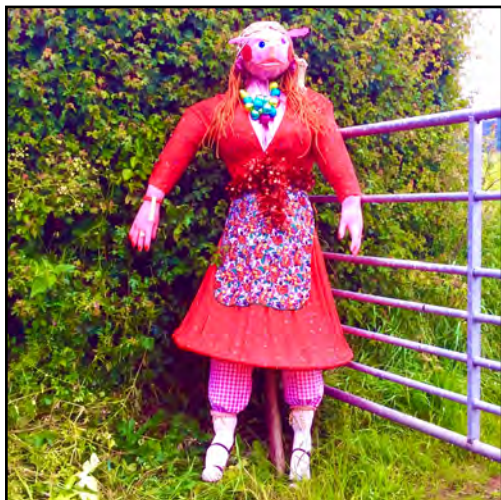
HONITON

Honiton celebrated with the lighting of a beacon on Roundball Hill, a town full of flags and bunting, race events for all abilities, a parade - and a great street party on the High Street

Main photos courtesy of Nick Boggan and David Smyth



How We Celebrated The Jubilee



AWLISCOMBE

Awliscombe Young Wives organised the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations including a scarecrow competition, BBQ and lighting of a beacon on Bushy Knap

Winner of the Adult Class : Panto Dame by Sandy Burrough; 2nd place Dick Whittington by Alan Maynard

Photos courtesy of Mandy Reed



OFFWELL

After many weeks of planning by a small but enthusiastic band of helpers, the Offwell Platinum Jubilee Party took place on Sunday 5th June. Around 125 villagers and their friends and family gathered in the village hall for a right royal knees up, a right royal quiz, games for the children (and the adults) and a veritable mountain of food and drink made for a fantastic celebration. Magical Moon completed the day by wowing the crowd with his magic tricks.

Lynn Whithear



GITTISHAM

The people of Gittisham came together to celebrate in style including a disco sponsored by Blamphayne Sawmills, children's Jubilee souvenirs provided by Car Maintenance Centre and a Cream tea provided by Gittisham Parish Council



How We Celebrated The Jubilee



TALATON

The Parish Council co-ordinated the Jubilee celebrations - the lighting of a beacon, Pie Night in the Talaton Inn and a Party in the (car) Park with live music, BBQ, hog roast and paella - plus of course a bar. A Sunday open-air service was held and conducted by Bishop Martin Shaw to dedicate and bless the oak planted as part of the Green Canopy Jubilee scheme. A Big Jubilee Lunch was held in the grounds of Talaton House with free bubbly and strawberry cream teas for all.



Photos courtesy of Chris Harwood

STOCKLAND

The villagers in Stockland celebrated in style with beacon lighting, the Stockland Fair, a theatre show and a Jubilee street party - despite some early rain.

With many thanks to Charlotte from Flowers on the Hill for the gorgeous floral staff, to Sophie from Muddy Good Grub and to Ben from the Kings Arms for supplying delicious scones and teas.



YARCOMBE

An amazing street party was enjoyed by all who attended - the celebration cake was especially appreciated!

Photos courtesy of Lesley Myhill



And our near neighbours :

MEMBURY

The village was decorated with bunting made by the Arts and Crafts Group and with red, white and blue floral decorations organised by the gardening group. Scarecrows watched over the proceedings.

Events included a BBQ and pop-up bar, lighting of flares on the church tower and a firework display. The village hall was transformed into a 1950s cafe where afternoon tea was served to over 100 people



With thanks to The Stockland Tree

From text written by Sue Nicholson. Photo courtesy of Suzie McFadzean

A View From The Hills

by Miranda Gudenian

On Good Friday this year, that golden day of unseasonal warmth and birdsong, I chanced upon The Duke of Burgundy. Everything that an aristocrat should be - dashing handsome, immaculately attired, he stole my heart away. Sadly, ours was a brief encounter, but I shall treasure the memory to the end of my days.

This is no Mills & Boon romance. On Good Friday, about two o'clock in the afternoon, with the weather more akin to midsummer, my perambulation of the garden was halted by the sight of one of the rarest butterflies in Britain. The Duke of Burgundy has not been resident in East Devon since the 19th century but here it was, at the bottom of my hillside garden, basking in the sunshine.



I watched, hardly daring to breathe. It is...it can't be...it is! I stood in awe, making a mental image of the wing markings, until the little butterfly flickered away over the hedge. I rushed back to the house. A frantic thumb through the butterfly books and a perusal of Butterfly Conservation's website confirmed the sighting. Though it seemed scarcely believable, I had been in the presence of The Duke of Burgundy.

Later, Pete Hurst, Devon officer for Butterfly Conservation, told me that a photograph is crucial for definitive identification. I confess that taking a photograph had not occurred to me at the time and anyway my digital camera languished uncharged in a cupboard. As I cannot print an image from my memory for you to see, you will have to take my word that The Duke was here, however fleetingly.

And it was fleeting. The following days were not kind weather for butterflies, grey and cold, with a bitter north wind blowing. News of The Duke's appearance in Yarcombe spread rapidly around the valley; I kept watch and,

since Easter, a small army of people has been on the lookout too, hoping to witness another sighting. No luck, though. Anyway, the lifespan of this tiny butterfly is just about twenty days, and it is now late in the season for The Duke.

The origins of The Duke's spiffing name are long lost, but the name first came to light in a beautifully illustrated book by the artist Moses Harris entitled *The Aurelian: Natural History of English Insects*, published in 1766, which also lists the food plants of butterflies and moths. The Duke, bless him, is a bit of a fussy eater. It's mainly primroses and cowslips, and nothing much else, thank you. The female lays her eggs on the underside of primrose and cowslip leaves, the caterpillars will feed on nothing else. Which is one of the reasons why the population of this butterfly is in freefall. Cowslips used to be as ubiquitous as buttercups. The carpets of cowslips that spread through England's once flower-rich meadows and woodland glades and edges, so profuse that you could pick basketfuls to make cowslip wine, or strew them at the feet of newly wedded couples, or weave them into garlands for May Day, are almost gone. And with them, almost gone, is The Duke of Burgundy butterfly.

What lured The Duke to my garden? Pete Hurst told me he knows of a few small colonies on the Somerset side of the Blackdowns, but they are not faring well. Perhaps my Duke strayed over the county border. Another possibility is that someone nearby is breeding butterflies for release which, though a delightful idea, can fail spectacularly, as Pete has come across rare or lost Devon butterfly species suddenly turning up at sites that are not always suitable for them.

The most exciting possibility is that a new colony has taken hold nearby. The Duke is fond of hillsides - my garden sits at 800 feet above sea level - and semi-open grassland and woodland edges where primroses and cowslips prosper. Primroses flourish in my garden. Along the lane, the two tussocky meadows belonging to my neighbours Matthew and Maggie, ancient unploughed grassland, are scattered with cowslips. Is that why The Duke came here? Might there be ducal eggs on the undersides of one of those cowslip leaves, quietly waiting to hatch, heralding the first colony in Devon for over a hundred years?

I often replay that encounter in my mind, wandering down the garden steps, the warm air filled with the fragrance of magnolias, and my eye alighting on that tiny butterfly. I moved closer and it fluttered away to bask on the privet hedge. In the sunlight The Duke's chequered garb seemed to shimmer, a jewel of the natural world more brilliant than any diamond.

"Loss is the tune of our age, hard to miss and hard to bear," writes the poet Robert Macfarlane. Having been privileged enough to see it, I can vouch that the loss of The Duke of Burgundy butterfly would be hard to bear. But as Robert Macfarlane also says, "*There has always been singing in dark times*" and so, this autumn, I shall be planting cowslips.



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The Ramblings Of Gertie From Gittisham

In Conversation with William Wordsworth and Minnie



My love for the poetry of William Wordsworth knows no bounds. In particular I am drawn to his Lyrical Ballads, although that is not to dismiss the magnificence of *The Prelude*, also known as *The Growth of a Poet's Mind*, which is an autobiographical work focusing on the spiritual development of the author as he journeyed through his long life and, as such, is a source of inspiration for my ramblings with its strong Bildungsroman emphasis. Wordsworth - who chose to live at Grasmere in the Lake District amidst the abundant splendour of nature - was a poet who wanted to 'reveal the workings of the human heart in all their elemental simplicity. His sense of man's solitary dignity depending largely on his personal faith in the influence of nature, but also on his conviction of the interdependence of man and nature.'^{*} Such a wise man, and how blessed I am to be able to gaze from every aspect of my home in Gittisham on the wonders of God's creation.

When venturing from my home, and perhaps walking Hembury Fort on a balmy evening in late June, what can be more pleasurable than to pause and ponder the palimpsest of a panorama surrounding Payhembury? My heart is full to overflowing or, as Wordsworth so elegantly expressed at such a moment, *'The mind tries to grasp at something towards which it can make approaches but which it is incapable of attaining.'* And so very often when out rambling around one finds oneself 'surprised by joy' to quote once more from the bard. This sense of joy is not to be confused with the joy one feels when running into a long-lost friend unexpectedly or, indeed, when one bites into a toothsome delicacy far exceeding one's expectation of such a culinary delight. NO - the sense of joy is far more profound than that and finds its source deep within the recesses of one's spiritual being.

I remember a conversation I had with my dear, wise friend Minnie Pooley many moons ago - a deeply spiritual being who exuded God's compassionate love from every ounce of her being. Minnie, who lived well beyond her three score years and ten although had never once traveled further than Yeovil, declared, *"'Tis sweet the tranquility of mind when I lie out on the damp, sweet turf in my garden, the bees buzzing amongst they sweet boughs of honeysuckle. The sweep of blue sky touches my soul and my heart rejoices like my Maker has come in a vision to me; 'tis balm; indeed, it is my dear."* Minnie was so beneficial to me to in my troubled earlier days, what with Birdie's defection from hearth and home, and all the other sorts of travails brought about by my own stupidity, far too numerous to mention. Yes, I would pay Minnie a visit in her little bungalow and, no matter what physical ailments were troubling her - and believe me dear reader there were many - she would converse over tea sipped from fine bone china cups, with the sweetness of the bees' labours on bread and butter cut so thin, it was as if I was biting into a filigree of honeyed lace. On leaving her delightful home, I would marvel inwardly on how blessed I felt, and indeed bolstered by a sense of well-being that could only be given by one radiating such an inner peace of mind. Naturally, my thoughts would turn to William Wordsworth with his desire to give substance and credibility to those rural folk who live in harmony with nature. His words from *'Lines Composed a Few Miles above Tintern Abbey'* would find voice in my mind: *And I have felt/ A presence that disturbs me with the joy/Of elevated thoughts: a sense sublime . . .* and from this I would glean that Minnie Pooley and Wordsworth were indeed kindred spirits - she, the muse and he, the poet.

Of course, this is not to dismiss the everyday sense of excitement, anticipation and happiness that Gittisham experienced over the Platinum Jubilee Weekend where we joyously came together at several events to celebrate the 70 year reign of our beloved Queen. The social gathering on the Saturday involved two marvellous local bands and a disco run by our village blacksmith, young Alex Rowe, who became a convincing Freddie Mercury for the evening - yet another most elegant and fetching Queen. His performance was only rivalled by Birdie pitching up, looking and smelling like an old crow in the later stages of decomposition. However, my own moment of personal glory and happy anticipation was overwhelming when I was given the great distinction of cutting the ribbon on the newly erected gates of our Village Hall. This was to take place when a huge number of villagers and friends had gathered for the festive Cream Tea. I spent hours and hours writing and re-writing my speech for this most auspicious of occasions only to find the whole event once more scuppered by my sister Birdie. She pre-empted my arrival, muttered a few incoherent words and proceeded to hack away savagely and unsuccessfully at the ceremonial ribbon with a pair of garden shears - no sense of awesome wonder at the significance of the festivity whatsoever. Those gates, dear reader, were handcrafted by our village blacksmiths - Julian (the father) and Alex (the son) - and are guaranteed to last for a good hundred years or more. What joys and sorrows will they bear witness to, no-one knows, but as sure as eggs are eggs there won't be another Platinum Jubilee Celebration any time soon . . .

^{*}Quotation used from Wordsworth & Coleridge *LYRICAL BALLADS* edited by R. L. Brett and A. R. Jones, 1993

The Blossoming Of Garden Antiques

by Liz Chilcott



Summer is in full bloom, and we are enjoying our outside spaces! Nowadays our gardens are viewed as an extension of our living space - we furnish and accessorise our home exteriors in much the same way as we do our interiors. This trend is very noticeable in our saleroom at Chilcotts, with interest in garden objects growing!

This includes statuary and pots - with moss and lichens adding to their desirability. These objects are mostly on a scale that is suitable for small and average size gardens, whereas granite troughs are perfect for people with larger plots. Typical auction prices range from £50 for reconstituted stone statue to £500 for a large granite trough.

Beautiful garden furniture by specialist makers is always sought after; we usually sell wood or cast-iron pieces, but last year a couple consigned a modern 'woven' set of table and four chairs which sold for £780. Benches, especially those with flat arms to hold a glass of something refreshing, are perennially popular.

Sometimes a really special 'statement-piece' turns up – we have sold some amazing iron objects from contemporary garden sculptures to antique cast iron urns. The pair of

Victorian cast iron urns pictured will be sold in our 16th July sale; they are expected to achieve a hammer price of between £200-300 (plus 21% buyers premium).

If you are 'furnishing' your home exterior, it is worth keeping an eye on Chilcotts' auction catalogues, and, if you are moving house, do not overlook the objects in your garden!



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Honiton Ukraine Concert Raises £1,351.50

With a huge Ukrainian flag serving as a dramatic backdrop on the cinema screen at the Beehive, Honiton Band opened the special fund raising concert with a rousing performance of the Ukrainian National anthem; it felt very poignant when everyone stood to pay their respect to the war-torn nation and its people, and a very fitting start to a wonderful evening of music, song and dance performed by a myriad of wonderfully talented local people.

Honiton Band played a lovely mixed repertoire including 'Beyond the Sea' a Bobby Darin number, 'Angels' by Robbie Williams, and a fabulous Cornet solo by Emma Brown in 'Share my Yoke', 'Born Free' and finally a marvellous traditional brass band marching tune 'The Chieftain', an ideal way to end the set!

Dan Nicholls accompanied his daughter Pippa on the piano as she sang 'Tightrope' from Greatest Showman, a fab rendition of 'Shallow' and 'Yellow' & 'A Thousand Years' by Coldplay - what a gifted pair.

There was great fun and a bit of a singalong to be had with 6 Appeal; only four could come but they made up for it with panache and great humour, the audience were all tapping their toes and enjoyed their medley in particular.

Honiton Community Theatre company treated us to a superb performance which they have only just started rehearsing in preparation for their next summer show at the Beehive (get your tickets quick folks- it's going to be great!). They began with 'Skid Row' from the musical 'Little Shop of Horrors' Lewis Bonetta played a great Seymour

with the rest of the company as chorus. There was a fantastic dance routine and really dynamic, joyful singing from the company's six young soloists as the 6 wives of Henry VIIIth in the number from 'Six' the musical. Sally Cregan blew our socks off with 'Gravity' from 'Wicked' and finally the whole company performed a thoroughly enjoyable 'Together We'll be OK', a great sentiment for the whole evening.

To top the evening off were 'Sweet Honi', Honiton's rock, pop, soul & funk choir. They meet on Tuesday nights at the Honiton Family Church and are accepting new singers and judging by this show they really enjoy Dan's tuition and his conducting skills, they've also formed their own band to accompany themselves. They began with 'Somewhere only we know' by Keane, and an upbeat 'Where the streets have no name' from Sing2/U2, then 'Road to Nowhere' and a very funny, interactive Ping Pong Song, which had some of us in stitches trying to sing the ping or the pong in the right place. Finally was a sing along to Buddy Holly's 'Bye Bye Love'.

At such a time it was truly splendid to experience the feeling of unity that a generous gathering of community groups and like-minded individuals can bring to create an extra special event. Well done to all of those who so willingly gave their time and talents to raise the princely sum of £1,351.50 for the Disasters Emergency Committee Ukrainian Appeal. The DEC brings together 15 leading UK aid charities to raise funds quickly and efficiently at times of crisis overseas.



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Bertie and Friends – Feather and Fur

Hello! My name is Bertie and as a young Working Cocker Spaniel I am one very lucky pooch. I live in a beautiful valley near Honiton, and Hembury Fort is my castle.

Well, it has been another round of fun and capers in my wonderful little "Bertie World".

Now that I am over 4 years old and my recall skills are up to the mark, the humans are trusting me a bit more. Mostly this off the lead time is good for us all but occasionally I seem to have a bit of a relapse.

We have little river running through our garden; I know how lucky is that? As you might imagine it is perfect for splashing about in and cooling the paws on a hot sunny day.

Recently I was being the perfect pooch and following the male human up our little lane on the pre-breakfast wander; we were just going across the bridge and out the corner of my eye I spotted 2 DUCKS bobbing about below.



I don't know what it is about creatures with feathers but it seems to be in my DNA to always want to play with them. I have learned by experience that they don't always want to play with me so the trick is to be super quick before they fly off. On this occasion my birdy reflexes were in fine fettle and the second I espied those adorable fowl I found myself launched off the bridge and flying through the air to land in the water almost on top of them. The little blighters took flight from a swimming start and off I headed, half swimming half running up the river after them - boy was that fun! To my credit I could hear my human shouting, "Bertie come back here at once" so this time I pulled up and went back to him to resume our morning amble as if nothing had happened. The female human was not best pleased though when I splashed into the kitchen dripping river water over her nice clean floor.

As you know I am a very sociable kind of mutt and it is always a grand day when we see "the cousins". There are two of them, they belong to the female human and they have three dogs each. You can imagine what fab fun it is when we all

get together and this time they came to us so I could show them around my manor up on Hembury Fort. It was decided to try and take a group photo - it took a bit of effort to get us sat still long enough for the snap but I hope you agree that it came out ok and we are all looking pretty pooch perfect, and even with smiles on our doggy faces. The two puppies did not have the advanced "sitting skills" required so do not appear in the picture - next time maybe.

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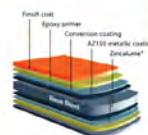
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Adding Structure To Your Garden

by Andrea Rye, Combe Garden Centre

The structure of a garden is important to its overall look and feel. Vertical structure stops a garden looking flat and adds elements of curiosity. You can add structure to a garden by adding sculptures, large pots and paths but here we will look at some of the best plants for adding scale and interest.

Trees with distinct shapes are a great addition to any garden. Columnar, slim and upright trees like the flowering cherry *Prunus Amanogawa* not only bring height but can fit in smaller gardens and have spring blossom, autumn colour and interesting bark revealed in winter. For a larger garden, or if you want to add a patch of light shade try *Prunus "Kanza"* - it has a wide spreading habit, gorgeous mahogany coloured bark and a profusion of candy pink double petaled flowers. A tree with a fabulous inscape that is revealed in winter when the lime/yellow leaves drop is the false Acacia, *Robinia pseudoacacia "Frisia"*. If you have the space one of the loveliest shaped trees is the Wedding Cake tree, *Cornus controversa variegata*; this beauty has a wonderful layered shape that is just as beautiful when the tree is in leaf with its white and light green foliage, and in winter when the branches are bare. If you don't have the room for the *Cornus* try *Viburnum plicatum* varieties, the leaves are not variegated but the shrub makes up for that with its showy white flowers.

Other shrubs offer beautifully layered structures too - such as the dramatic *loropetalums*. "Fire Dance" and "Black Pearl" are among the best varieties and have the added benefit of holding their dark purple and blackish leaves all year. Be very careful if you need to prune plants with this type of habit as random hacking will ruin their shape. Twisted hazel (*Corylus avellana "Contorta"*) is another show stopping shrub that arguably looks best in winter when the leaves fall and the twisted branches are on show; this shrub is also upright and better suited to a smaller space. If you ideally want an evergreen, upright shrub the mahonias are quite dramatic and have sweetly scented yellow flowers in spring; if you dislike how prickly they can be, try a variety like "Soft Caress".

If you are looking to create borders or hedges to bring structure use box (*Buxus*) or *Lonicera nitida*, which will tolerate drier soil than box and does not suffer from the Box Blight. For a looser look, the evergreen *bergenia* can be planted in rows to create a jagged looking edge to beds and borders. If you need something bold for a shady spot and have enough room plant a *Fatsia japonica*; its large fan-shaped leaves and star-like flowers, which give way to black berries, definitely make a statement and - if plain green bores you - plant the "Spiders Webb" variety that has white speckled leaves.

If you are mostly concerned with the spring and summer months when you will be in your garden more, there is a plethora of fantastic perennials that have architectural shapes and inject height and colour too.

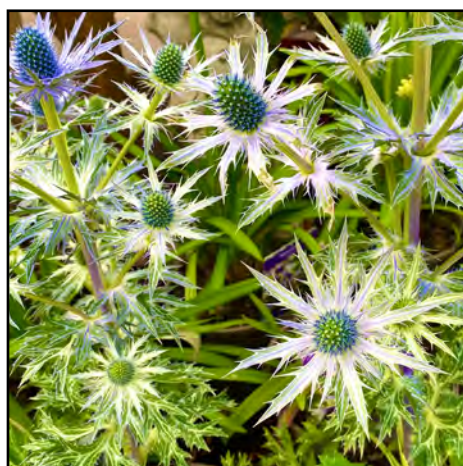
For a cottage garden situation nothing beats delphiniums and lupins. There is an incredible range of new and interesting varieties to try! Look out for the Highlander series of delphiniums; the flowers are triple-petaled and come in incredible colours. Particularly striking are the "Highlander Crystal Delight" with green, white and blue flowers and the "Highlander Bolero" with blue, purple and green flowers. For lupins the Westcountry series is the most dramatic with the sturdiest and tallest flower spikes. Keep your eyes peeled for the new Lupinova varieties! They are very sturdy with wide and extra-large flower spikes and come in lovely colours.

For a more architectural shape try *eryngium "Pen Blue"*. These plants are upright but not too massive and the thistle-like flowers are a gorgeous blue and attract a lot of pollinators. The *echinops "Veitch Blue"* is a less spikey alternative with similar coloured flowers that is not quite so painful to handle or weed around. Both look fantastic planted with the short black grass *Ophiopogon nigrescens*.

Regardless of which situation you have, adding height, layers and different textures will improve your garden and create a richer pallet of plants. Have a think about what you want from each area and then find a plant to suit it. Good luck and have fun.



Lupins



Eryngium



Echinops

Ganesha Wholefoods Expands And Offers An Even Wider Range



Having the opportunity to expand your business isn't one that often comes around, so last year, when we were fortunate enough to be presented with such an opportunity, we knew we couldn't pass it up!

No. 80 High Street had sat empty and unloved next door to us following the closure of TUI travel agents in the wake of the pandemic, so when the premises became available to buy, we jumped at our chance to expand our existing shop space!

The building certainly was as unloved as it looked, and a lot of work was going to be required to get it up to our standard.

By bank holiday weekend in May this year, we were ready for the final push before opening our expansion to the public. A hard-working team of our staff worked tirelessly over that weekend stocking the shelves, cleaning and tidying, and making all-important decisions about exactly where all our exciting new stock was going to go!

Finally, after months of hard work and a truly extensive refurb, we opened our doors (plural!) to Honiton town on Tuesday 3rd May.

As we pretty much doubled our premises in size, we had a lot of extra space to play with. This meant we could fill our shelves with lots of exciting new products that we simply didn't have room for in the original shop space.

We have our resident food enthusiast, Liam, on hand in store who has spearheaded the addition of our exciting new foodie bits. We now have an extensive range of fine cheeses in store, sitting pride of place in our lovely open chiller in the new side of the shop. Staff can often be found in quiet moments staring longingly into the chiller, wondering if eating half a block of cheese at work is acceptable!

Keeping an eye on our u-shaped wraparound counter is a good idea, too, as fresh sourdough bread, cakes and pastries can now be found on select days of the week, sitting tantalisingly on the countertop. These tasty goodies never sit there for long, though, so if you see them, grab them quick!

Heading back around into the original part of the shop, you can find a handsome stand-alone unit that houses the new, incredible Honest Toil olive oil. On this unit also resides a giant stainless steel tapped drum full of their superior quality olive oil available for you to refill!

Just behind that, the area at the back of the original part of our shop now houses a surfeit of cleaning product refills. We have shampoos, conditioners, hand soaps, body washes, and an all-purpose cleaner to name just a few. Simply bring in an empty bottle clearly marked in volume, and we'll fill it up for you – a service that many of our customers have appreciated for years!

Of course, it's not just new stock that deserves a mention; all the great products you know and love can still be found in store.

Our curated supplement range can be found on the left-hand side of the original part of the shop. Our lovely Lisa is always available on hand for knowledgeable advice on any queries you may have – particularly on the menopause and joint health. All our staff participate in regular training and are kept up to date with new bits of information, so you can be sure to find a friendly, helpful face to chat to in store!



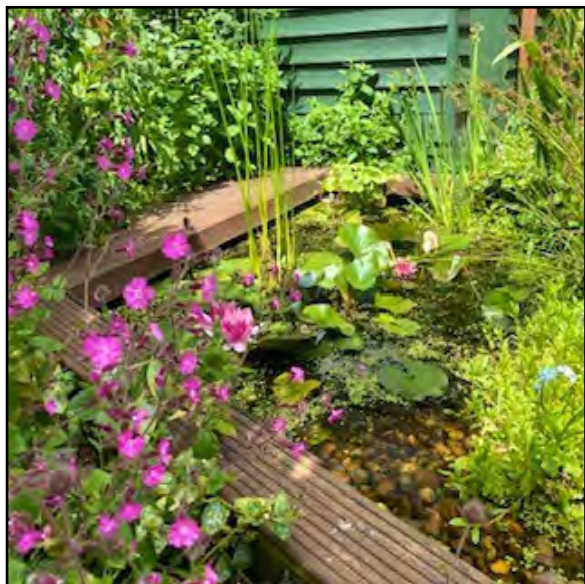
Where once a dilapidated wall and some peeling windows sat, Ganesha Wholefoods now sits proudly on the corner of New Street, offering up its attractive left side to people heading down onto the High Street. We feel it makes such a difference to have one less empty shop on our high street, and we look forward to many more wonderful years trading with the people of Honiton!

However new our shop may look, our core values and ethos remain the same. We have always, and still do believe in selling good food and promoting products that help support a healthy lifestyle. We'd like to offer any readers of this article the chance to visit us in store, and to simply mention this article at the till to receive 10% off the total of their shopping!

See you all in store!

Nature Notes - Clearing the Wilderness

by Vernon Whitlock



I arrived home in early June after a two week holiday on the West Coast of Scotland to find that my small wildlife garden had gone completely wild! After bringing the bags in from the car, the first thing my wife did was to sweep up the remains of the wisteria flowers that created a faded carpet magenta and brown ochre covering our patio. I however had to put things away and have a leisurely cup of tea and a Kit-kat before I was in the mood to tackle the garden wilderness.

This year we had created a new path to the top corner of the garden, allowed a small area of grass to grow, and planted wildflower seeds to create a habitat for wildlife and a source of nectar and pollen for visiting insects. The result is, along with our lavender and catmint, we now have a garden full of the plants that most responsible gardeners would class as weeds and confine to the compost bin!

Finishing my Kit-kat, and having a second cup of tea, I eventually dragged myself out into the garden. I decided to cut back as little as possible, leaving a sense of the wild whilst at the same time being able to have an easy path to our shed and small garden pond. This largely involved pruning back the ever reliable campion, sorrel, water avens and ox-eye daisies, many of which had blown over in the wind.

The first thing I found was a very small frog sitting on the edge of a paving slab. Amazingly it had survived the springtime cull of developing tadpoles carried out by the numerous hungry newts that occupy the pond. The second thing was that the young brood of the blackbird that had nested in our neighbour's garden had decided to make our garden their permanent home. Completely undisturbed by my presence, they rooted around the plants for slugs,

snails and insects and, after feasting on some of our remaining tadpoles, took regular baths in the shallow end of the pond.

When I was a child my grandfather was the gardener and chauffeur to a wealthy lady who lived in a large house at Bideford. When we visited in the school holidays one of my favourite things was to go to the ornamental pond in the large gardens where he worked and watch with fascination the pond skaters, water boatmen and other insects which made the waters their home. It was mainly to recreate that childhood experience that I created the pond in our garden. Although in no way 'ornamental' and only being around 1.5 metres across it is my favourite spot in the garden where I sit and forget the world, watching life in miniature living in and around the water.

Keen to see what had hatched out and developed, the next thing I did after filling the compost bin was to get out my pond net and white plastic tray and have a dip to see what I could find. After trawling through the pond weed and water lilies with several sweeps I emptied the contents of my net into the tray. As I expected, newts in all stages of development were the main occupants, but to my great satisfaction also present were tadpoles, water snails and yes! pond skaters and water boatmen.

Over the weeks since we have been back we have refilled our bird feeders and seen the goldfinches return with their new families to gorge on sunflower hearts - and we needn't have worried about our visiting hedgehogs. The day after our return they were back happily scoffing their special food, leaving just a little for the crows and herring gulls to finish up before we got down for breakfast in the morning.

As ever, one of the things that is high on the list after returning from holiday is planning the next one, but in the meantime I'm sure my garden and pond will give hours of enjoyment.



If you have anything "wildlife related" you would like to show me or tell me about please get in touch at honitonvillagenews@gmail.com

The Directors of the Honiton and Village News magazine would like to thank those concerned for their time in organising and granting us permission to access the Church of St Mary Magdalene, Monkton, for this month's "View from the Tower" article.

View From The Tower - St Mary Magdalene, Monkton



A Wander From East Budleigh To The Coast

Map OS Explorer 115 – Exmouth and Sidmouth. 1:25000 8.1 miles

A longer walk but the gain is well worth the pain! Two of the most delightful green lanes, old rail track, open fields, and a grand finale back along the coastal footpath. Flora, the Roman goddess of spring and flowering plants – especially wildflowers – certainly trod these paths. To finish, maybe a swim or perhaps just a coffee on the beach.



Approaching Budleigh Salterton from Newton Poppleford on the B3178 and very close to Budleigh itself look for the minor road off to the right signposted Kersbrook. (Grid Ref SY 06936 83216). Drive down here and pull into the short stretch of road leading to the old rail arch.

Walk back up the road and just before the main road move left on to the narrow lane/track. At the ornate metal gates take the Public Way off left and stay on this earthy track for some distance, bearing right at the first obvious track junction, and then crossing over the quiet road to re-join the track. At the second road, move right downhill for some few yards and find the (probably unmarked) track off left. A really wonderful lane to be followed all the way to East Budleigh. It's actually a Parish Council sponsored nature trail and has a variety of posts depicting a variety of wildlife.

At the road, opposite the school, move sharply diagonally left through the farmyard and on to the Public Way - Hayeswood Lane. Again, a dream of a green lane. Wee bit of uphill but minimal. Ignore tracks and paths off to right and left but rather carry straight on and drop down into the woods. This is really now just beautiful and there are opportunities for a coffee break and chance to just sit and commune with nature. But onwards.

At the obvious junction of tracks and by the white Pebblebed sign turn left and potter along another gem, Shortwood Lane. Eventually, on a distinct bend and slope down to the right, take the left-hand uphill fork to soon meet the road and gate to Shortwood House.

Wander downhill on the road, passing the caravan park, to cross the old brick rail track bridge. Immediately take the Public Footpath off right to get on to the cycle/walking track along the old railway track. A good tarmac surface! Enjoy the easy walking for about a mile then look for the sign off left for Castle Lane exit. At the road move right and, on the bend, take the Public Footpath off left. Immediately, take the right-hand Public Footpath through a wooden gate. You are now in golf course country – what? Ruins a good walk? – Stay in a more or less straight line now on a good track, eventually passing over a bit of the course itself. At the top move right and, following the signs, find the route to the coastal footpath.

At last, back to the real country rather than the rather clinical greens, and wander through the lush shrubland to soon emerge on the Coast Path itself. Just magic. Move left and enjoy the walk all the way back to Budleigh Salterton seafront. Along Marine Parade and gently uphill to the war memorial. Follow the Coastguard Road merging into the East Budleigh Road and very soon arrive at South Farm Lane. Cross the road to pass under the old brick bridge and your waiting vehicle.

Chris, who lives in Talaton, has been a keen walker and mountaineer all his life, enjoying hikes throughout the UK and abroad. He has written 3 books describing the scenic wonders of East Devon, the Tale Valley and beyond. His informal and approachable style encourages all to get out and explore. "Great Walks in East Devon", "More Great Walks in East Devon" and "Great Walks around Ottery St Mary" are on sale at Talaton's Community Shop, Whimble Stores and the Curious Otter Bookshop in Ottery St Mary.

Third Agers

by Martin Long

Knowing that I am a member of Honiton u3a, a colleague recently asked me to explain what we mean when we say we are “third agers.” It is, after all, not exactly an easy term to get hold of. Is it any wonder, my colleague went on, that many people simply fall back on terms like “retired” to explain who the members of this increasingly large section of society are.

The problem with words like “retired” is that it implies that at some point in our lives we step away from the world at large, and literally retire into some smaller, quieter space where no-one is listening, and where presumably life consists of watching endless re-runs of *Homes Under the Hammer*. Retiring suggests that when the business of earning a living and the job of raising a family come to an end, our lives inevitably get smaller and we switch our brains down to idle, now that the important bits of our lives are done.

I don't know about anybody else, but I for one don't recognise that version of what we should expect of our third age. Life may indeed not be quite as busy as it was. After all, I don't have five classes of teenagers to teach every day or the workload that goes with it. But that doesn't mean that life as we know it stops when we leave the workplace, or when our children head off to start their own independent lives.

Rather than your activity progressively decreasing in your third age, it can be a time for positive change and growth. You have the opportunity to try out new versions of yourself. You can give yourself to that cause or campaign that there was never time for before. And you can take up a new interest, or return to one that had to be put on hold as job, family and lifestyle somehow got in the way.

Being a third ager isn't about a particular moment in time; it is a state of mind. It reflects that moment when you are willing, ready and able to take a new direction in your life, and hopefully with the health and energy to go with it. Being a third ager is not about your life becoming less. It is about a life that is continuing to change and even to grow, despite, or even because, you are getting older.

However, it is not all good news. A study by the University of Surrey in 2011 found that: 'Active' ageing appears to be the province of those who are culturally and materially advantaged, and it is the healthy, educated, upper-class and middle-class that are more likely to engage in a Third Age leisure lifestyle. It is depressing to note that the researchers found widespread “social inequalities based on gender, ethnic and social class disadvantage.”

Despite their huge success in other ways, the research suggests that many groups which appeal to third agers still struggle to speak to the so-called hard to reach groups, those outside the “culturally and materially advantaged” world that the Surrey researchers talk about. Such groups clearly have work to do to ensure that their membership fully reflects the diversity of the society in which they operate.

That being said, to write off this stage of your life simply as “retirement” always seemed to do it a great disservice. It has been one of the most called for changes among u3a members nationwide to be rid of this term. If “third age” is still not entirely understood or embraced as an alternative, it is not entirely surprising. We spend so much time and energy defining ourselves by the work we do, or the family responsibilities we have, that we rarely give any serious thought to what happens next, and what that stage of our lives is actually for. It is too easy to define this part of our lives by what it doesn't contain, like a full-time career, rather than what it does, such as a huge range of new opportunities for leisure, learning and meeting new friends.

I for one am happy to call myself a third ager and to embrace its opportunities. If you think you are a fellow third ager, and you would like to meet some kindred spirits, why not join Honiton u3a. To find out more, go to their website: u3asites.org.uk/honiton

Although he is a member of Honiton u3a, Martin Long writes here in a personal capacity.

u3a learn,
laugh,
live



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July At The Beehive

On Friday 1st July we welcome back Bristol Old Vic Theatre School as they present a thrilling and nostalgic production Thackeray's hilarious satire *Vanity Fair*. Set in the early 1980s New Romantics scene of London, follow wannabe 'It Girl' Becky Sharp and her sweet-natured friend, Amelia Sedley, as they scale the heady heights of society and hustle through the hazardous playground for the rich and beautiful. This roustabout of pleasure, survival, gender politics, tall tales and bigger hair is adapted for the stage by Declan Donnellan and directed by Paul Chesterton. Always a treat and so wonderful to see these talented graduates and stars of tomorrow.

There's family film with the *Jurassic World Dominion*(12A) on Saturday 9th July at 7.30pm.

We have a great weekend lined up for everyone on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th July as a part of 'Imagining our Festival', a small scale event aimed at those who live locally and appreciate their surroundings, would like to explore more, and perhaps feedback, what they would like for Honiton's next Festival of the Imagination which will be themed Our Environment.

We have a wonderful musical comedy show which is being finessed as we go to press, just for Honiton, and it's opening night - hence the bargain price of only £6, we want you all to come along and have a laugh....The Apocalypse is coming. Well, actually, it came. And went. And now it's just us, telling you what happened. Join us as we unravel a story that begins quite close to the end. A story filled with dread, hope and annoyingly catchy tunes. The story of three unlikely heroes facing Armageddon. Expect outrageous costume changes, close(ish) harmonies, ballads, a buttload of exposition, and the sullyng of a beloved National Treasure. *Armageddon Attenborough!* is a lo-fi comedy musical about the Apocalypse, people, and what it means to survive. A new production from Bumnote (the combined brains of spoken-word artist Chris White and musician Hal Kelly). Praise for previous show *Moist, Moist, Moist* (Bristol, 2022): "A knack for humour that can make you sigh in embarrassment, while also crying with laughter" - Bristol 24/7. Age Guidance: 12+ (some strong language & references to violence) Friday 15th July at 7.30pm

On Saturday 16th, as a part of Imagining our Festival, we will meet in The Beehive car park at 10am - sturdy boots on and appropriate clothing for the great British weather - ready to explore some great green spaces in Honiton including the Glen, the Gissage and Roundball Hill (if there's the desire and capability, if not there's an alternative route back to the Beehive if the Hill is too much!) We'd really like you to book so we know numbers for your enthusiastic guides Jo Lowman and Ian Jeeves and we can cover the cost of your coffee and cake in the café on return (£2.50). You will find hidden places, pick up interesting facts and snippets of Honiton history and you may even have some to share; we look forward to seeing you. From 12.30 we hope to have the East Devon Climate Change officer who will answer any queries you may have about how we can help to preserve our beautiful environment, also Wild East Devon and Thelma Hulbert will have displays/info about Climate conversations. This is all suitable for families as are the special, free, drop in art workshops with environmental artist Isgard Wild from 11am-3pm.

For aspiring writers there will be a special water- themed creative writing workshop - whether you're a poet, songwriter or budding novelist this will really get your creative juices flowing and hopefully really inspire you to create more. You will need to book, it's from 2-3.15 pm with a possible sharing in the café if you would like to at the end. The cost is only £6 and tickets are limited. *Water You On About?* A fun, creative workshop exploring poetry, sound & metaphor through all things watery. Led by poet Chris White and musician Hal Kelly. From rain-based sound poetry to personifying puddles. Over the course of this engaging session, you'll learn some new techniques, do some writing and

(if you like) share your work with each other. This is particularly perfect for writers who want to explore their craft more, complete beginners, or anyone who wants to flex their creative muscles, and splash about in some wet, wonderful words. No experience or preparation necessary. Running time: 75 mins. Chris White is a poet & performer based in Exeter. A theatre-maker, multiple slam winner & the first "Riddler in Residence" at Exeter Cathedral. Hal Kelly is a musician & artist who creates experimental electronic music and soundscapes. They've released two albums; *Ears Eaten* and *Like a Liquid*.

For the rest of July we have a National Theatre live screening of Jodie Comer's much lauded performance in *Prima Facie* (15). West End debuts don't come much more astonishing than this -Daily Telegraph-

Finally we have three fab films - *Good Luck to you Leo Grande* (15) starring Emma Thompson & Daryl Mc Cormack. In an anonymous hotel room Nancy greets Leo. He looks every bit as good as his picture, but what Nancy wasn't expecting was conversation as well as fornication. Leo has a view on everything, and though he may not always tell the truth, Nancy finds she likes him. And he likes her.

Our Nostalgic Cinema is *The Sting* (PG). Starring Paul Newman, Robert Redford, Robert Shaw, this great classic will have subtitles and is at 2pm on Thursday 28th July. On Friday 29th at 7.30pm we have *Elvis* (12A) Baz Luhrmann's exploration of the life and music of Elvis Presley (Austin Butler), seen through the prism of his complicated relationship with his enigmatic manager, Colonel Tom Parker (Tom Hanks).

We're also looking forward to the Honiton Community Theatre Co Variety show and some great family films too.

Thank you for continuing to support your local venue and we all hope to see you soon! Wendy & the Beehive team.



Honiton's Community & Arts Venue
**JULY 2022
EVENTS**

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: PRIMA FACIE (15)
Thu 21 July 7pm Adult £16, Student £13
Jodie Comer (Killing Eve) makes her West End debut in the UK premiere of Suzie Miller's award-winning play.

GOOD LUCK TO YOU, LEO GRANDE (15)
Fri 22 July 7.30pm Adults £7.50, U16 £6.50
Emma Thompson stars as a retired teacher and widow, yearning for adventure, human connection, and some sex.

NOSTALGIC CINEMA: THE STING (PG)
Thu 28 July 2pm £4.50 includes hot drink & biscuits
1973. Two grifters team up to pull off the ultimate con. A dementia-friendly screening with subtitles.

ELVIS (12A)
Fri 29 July 7.30pm Adults £7.50, U16 £6.50
Austin Butler gives a break-out performance as 'The King' Elvis Presley, in Baz Luhrmann's extravagant biopic.

AUGUST EVENTS

2 - 6 Aug 7pm	STRICTLY VARIETY
Fri 12 Aug 8pm	THE DARKSIDE OF PINK FLOYD
Sat 13 Aug 4pm	LIGHTYEAR (PG)
Wed 17 Aug 7.30pm	THE BEEHIVE ACOUSTIC NIGHT
Sat 20 Aug 4pm	THE RAILWAY CHILDREN RETURN (U)
Thu 25 Aug 2pm	NOSTALGIC: GREASE SING A LONG (PG)
Sat 27 Aug 4pm	ANDRE RIEU'S 2022 MAASTRICHT CONCERT

*All details correct at time of print. Please check website for updates. Ticket prices include a £1 admin fee.

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Sunday 10th July
3pm

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Martin Shaw – baritone.
They will present a varied programme
including music by
Percell, Handel, Mendelssohn
and Walton

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St Andrew's Church
Broadhembury

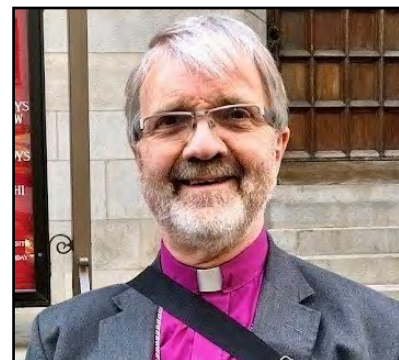
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Payhembury post office

a Charity Event supported by
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Andrew Millington's career in Cathedral music has spanned some forty years, most recently as Director of Music at Exeter Cathedral. He studied the organ at Worcester Cathedral before gaining an Organ Scholarship at Downing College, Cambridge. In 1975 he became Assistant Organist at Gloucester Cathedral where he was closely involved with The Three Choirs Festival and held the conductorship of several notable choirs, two of which won major awards in the BBC's 'Let the People Sing'. In 1983 he was appointed Organist and Master of the Choristers at Guildford Cathedral; over 16 years this included tours to European countries and North America, numerous recordings and an appearance at the BBC Promenade Concerts. He was organist for the 1995 Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall. He is an examiner for The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music and a past President of the Cathedral Organists' Association. His work with the Exeter Cathedral Choir included several broadcasts and recordings and successful tours of Russia, France, Norway, and the USA. In 2003 he was appointed Director of Music of Exeter Philharmonic Choir. He is an active composer of church music and has had many works published.



Martin Shaw originates from Glasgow, although he has spent many years in Devon, both at Exeter Cathedral as Succentor and working around the County as Diocesan Missioner. He was Chaplain of King's College, Cambridge in the 1970s and eventually Bishop of Argyll and The Isles. He sings as soloist in oratorios and recitals, having trained under Gordon Clinton at the Royal College of Music. Now Martin lives in Exeter again with his wife Elspeth. He gives workshops on music, literature, and spirituality.



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What's On

Honiton Agricultural Show Thursday 4th August



The Honiton Agricultural Show is planning for a great celebration of rural life in the East Devon Countryside on Thursday 4th August. We have a fabulous array of fantastic entertainment; The Bolddog Lings FMX Stunt Team – Honda's official and the UK's number one motorcycle display team, incorporating breath taking tricks flying 35ft in the air! Viperaerobatics will have everyone looking to the skies whilst they perform a phenomenal flying display in a beautiful and iconic Pitts 2SB Biplane and the hugely entertaining and extremely fast Shetland Performance Pony Display Team providing mini Gold Cup races raising funds for Bristol's Children Hospital. The Bob Hogg Sheepdog Display will give the amazing opportunity to experience the world of the shepherd and his dog showcasing the brilliant skills these animals have. We are delighted to welcome the Devon & Somerset Pony Club for the first time who will run a demonstration competition between local Pony Club branches of children racing their ponies through bending poles, leaping off their ponies and vaulting back on, and giving everyone the opportunity to see such great team work

and camaraderie within mounted games. We have children's entertainment in abundance; Come and meet the amazing animated characters Sheridan the Sheepdog and Pumpkin the Pony, enjoy the fabulous Twistopher Punch & Judy Show or how about a wonderful donkey ride?

The lower field incorporates all that is countryside with hurdle making, thatching, Cob Block and Hedge laying demonstrations. Or take a trip down memory lane with over 100 Vintage Tractors and over 50 stunning Classic Cars. We look forward to hosting The West of England Hound Show. We will have our wonderful fun dog show with classes for Pedigree or pet pooches.



At the heart of the show are all the wonderful livestock and horses including the majestic heavy horses and a huge variety of differing sheep breeds and Dairy & Beef Cattle.

With a vast array of shopping on offer, fabulous food and drink to tickle everyone's tastebuds there is something to appeal to every member of the family. Come and experience East Devon's Premier Day out!

For further details on the show or information on becoming a member of the Association and enjoying all the benefits please contact the secretary on 01404 41794, follow us on twitter @honitonshow1890. Gates open at 8am with non-stop, action packed entertainment until 6pm. Discounted Early bird Tickets are available now at just £17.50 in advance for a whole day of enjoyment and accompanied children (U16) are admitted free! Please go to www.honitonshow.co.uk and purchase in advance.

Coming Soon At The Thelma Hulbert Gallery Honiton (THG)

Family Workshop – Rondi paintings

Saturday 23 July, 10.30-12.00 / 1.00-3.00

Create fun 'Rondi' spin paintings with artist Anna Fitzgerald.

£3 per child. All abilities welcome. Book via thelmahulbert.com or call 01404 45006



Don't miss: Fresh! Devon Artist Network (till 23 July)

An exhibition of works by 54 artists and creatives from Devon Artist Network featuring a beautiful selection of paintings, photography, textiles, glasswork, sculpture and ceramics. All work is for sale.



photo courtesy of Emile Holba

Coming up:

Three Drops of Blood (6 August – 29 October)

An exhibition of brand new work by 2022 Turner Prize nominee Ingrid Pollard. The works have been created in response to Ingrid's research project in Devon with a focus on local lace histories and botanical gardens, and engaging with the collections at the Devon and Exeter Institution

Thelma Hulbert Gallery, Elmfield House, Dowell Street, Honiton EX14 1LX

Open Wednesday – Saturday, 10 – 5.

thelmahulbert.com





JOIN US FOR THE 131ST

HONITON AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Thursday 4th August 2022

A celebration of Rural Life in the Heart
of the East Devon Countryside



*A showcase for the best of local farming, produce, crafts and rural skills
Exhilarating Entertainment, Fabulous Shopping, Majestic Livestock & Horses*

Tickets just £17.50 Under 16's FREE please visit:
honitonshow.co.uk

Gates open at 8am

FOLLOW US ON:  @honitonshow1890

What's On

Honiton Millennium Green Committee

present for *Honiton Charter Day*

HONITON BAND

who will be giving a concert of popular music to suit all tastes

on

**Saturday 23rd July from 7pm
at the Millennium Green**

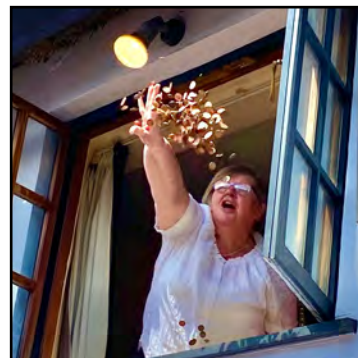
- Everyone welcome
- Bring along your own chairs etc...
- Free wine and nibbles
- Draw



Hot Pennies Route and Road Closure

Come and join in the fun of Honiton's oldest celebration, now stretching back over 800 years.

On Tuesday 26 July the Town Crier in his traditional costume complete with Tricorn hat will hoist the wonderfully decorated Garlanded Pole to lead the crowds through the town, stopping at various points on the route for the Pennies to be thrown to the crowd.



Starting at 12 noon at the Bed Expert (Old Pannier Market), with the famous cry "Ye Glove Is Up ..." the first pennies will be tossed from here. The town crier will then carry the garlanded pole up the High Street stopping at The Three Tuns, WBW Solicitors, The Volunteer Inn and the Glove will finally be raised and left at The Holt. Pennies will be tossed from all the premises.

Please note the following road closures on the day :

New Street to Dowell Street 11.45 until 12.30

Dowell Street to Mill Street 12.30 until 1pm

Honiton Sheddars Introduce Evening Sessions



Honiton Sheddars are pleased to announce that they now have now started weekly evening session on Wednesdays from 7pm to 9pm. This is in addition to there existing sessions from 9am to 1pm on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Honiton Sheddars grew from the Men's Shed movement - community spaces for men to connect, converse and create. But Honiton Sheddars, like many other Sheds, is both for men and women. The activities are often similar to those of garden sheds, but for people to enjoy together. They help reduce loneliness and isolation, but most importantly they are fun.

If you would like to get involved or just check them out, why not pop into one of their sessions. Or if you would like yo find out more, Honiton Sheddars can be contacted at honitonsheddars2022@gmail.com or give them a call on 075292 536169.



Why not visit Honiton Museum to view thier excellent selection of Honiton Pottery



Honiton Hot Pennies

Tuesday 26th July

Starting in Honiton High Street
at The Bed Expert at 12 noon.
Finishing at The Holt



Sponsors:

Hoisting up a garlanded pole with a gloved hand at the top, it is proclaimed that *"No man may be arrested so long as this glove is up"* - a reference to when everyone would come to Honiton for the fair which followed the ceremony without fear of being arrested for their debts.

All are welcome to join the procession that follows the garlanded pole to a number of locations in the town from which 'hot pennies' are thrown. Pennies were originally hot so that the affluent people who threw them could delight in seeing the peasants burn their fingers whilst collecting them.

Nowadays the pennies are merely warm!



Honiton
TOWN COUNCIL

TESCO



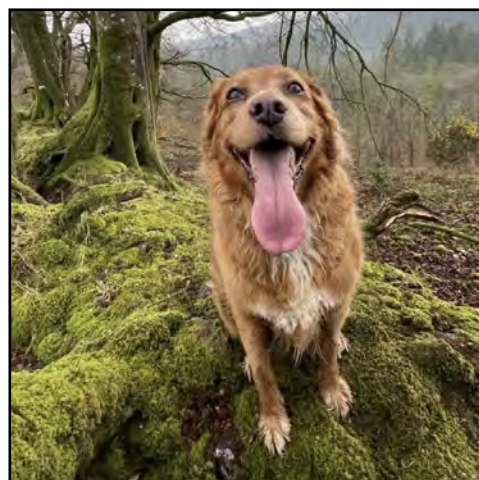
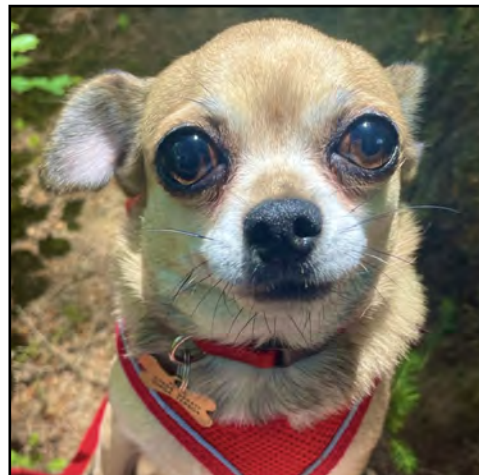
A donation has been received from
United Charities

8 Top Tips To Keep Your Dog Safe In The Summer

by Jude Davidson

The sun is out!! So let's play! And with these top tips you are sure to have a safe time with your fur pal. Here are the Park Life's top tips for keeping your dog safe in the summer.

- 1. Exercise** can be a killer in the summer with more dogs dying from being walked and exercised than being left in hot cars! It's up to you to reduce how much your dog should be getting because if Fido is ball obsessed or loves running around like a loony they're not going to understand the dangers. Try reducing the hard hoofing with mental exercises like finding the treats, sniffaris and training. Keep it cool man!
- 2. Over heating** through not being able to cool down can lead to death. Always use a basket muzzle when exercising because panting is the main way a dog can cool itself; dogs don't have sweat glands on their body like humans. Restricting a dog's breathing is lethal! If your dog overheats place them in a cool spot and cover them in wet towels. Plunging them into cold water could bring on shock so definitely don't do that. Get veterinary treatment straight away if you think your dog is struggling because once your dog's temperature reaches a certain point and they are showing signs of heatstroke, the damage is done! They will no longer be able to cool themselves and are likely to cook and damage their own internal organs. Yeah, gruesome isn't it?!
- 3. Burnt Feet** on hot pavements is really easy to do. Remember, pavements are a really unnatural material that can rise to very hot temperatures. Grass and mud tracks are lots cooler so aim for these instead. Placing the back of your hand on the pavement will guide you in determining if it's OK for your dog; if you can leave your hand there then it's probably OK.
- 4. Water** is a great way to cool down and a good splash about in a river, stream, the sea or lake is perfect for hot weather. I'll encourage the dogs I walk by throwing a few biscuits in the water for them to go bobbing, but not too many, as I know that too much water ingesting can be really bad. Also be aware of blue/green algae as this can be fatal for dogs, it can be found in muddy puddles and still water. Take fresh water on your walks too.
- 5. Overweight** dogs can really struggle with the heat with them essentially wearing a massive duvet! And they are much more likely to be prone to over heating. If your vet has told you that your dog is too big then you are not being very fair. One of the fundamental care skills of owning a dog is being able to feed it properly. Be a professional dog owner! Your vet will be happy to guide and help you.
- 6. Grooming** your dog and getting all the loose hair will be bliss to your fur friend and if your dog can get their hair cut they'll definitely feel better.
- 7. Freezing** treats like carrots and meat mix in a kong will be awesome for your dog and it'll be the same as you eating an ice cream. A lovely refreshing treat!
- 8. Avoid** the midday sun and hot cars. Just don't take the risk, it really isn't worth it. I will always keep the walks in the woods or highlands where it's cooler or where there is water. The walking goes to a minimum with more sniffaris and calmer activities. Air conditioning is full blast!



Jude Davidson is an award winning dog walker and cat sitter who also loves writing dog blogs. She lives in Honiton with her cat Lunar and her dog Elsa and is the owner of Park Life Honiton which she started 5 years ago.

Jude has honed her walks into activities-based wilderness trails, designed for gun dogs to improve their focus, socialisation, general health and happiness in the beautiful Blackdown Hills. She provides top tip videos, lovely photography, stories and information to her customers so they can be part of the fun too.

To join the Park Life Wilderness Club or for more information

07427500766 or parklifehoniton@gmail.com

Welcome To The High Street

Bioresonance Health Treatment Launches In Honiton

restore natures energies to the right place and good health will surely follow

Tina Stacey and Ruth McKenna are opening their new advice and treatment clinics on 11th July with

Tina and Ruth are bringing this well-established alternative complementary therapy to Honiton, which they see as building on the thriving and exciting services now offering natural health advice in our town.

Tina tells us, 'Many people who come to us suffering from allergies, intolerances and related ailments find that our specific, focused therapies can really assist their understanding and help them to live a healthier and tolerant life.'

Bioresonance is a simple process for testing and addressing the body's natural chemical processes, and especially testing for vitamin and mineral imbalance. This testing and treatment is very common in European countries and is used in specialist German hospitals to treat addictions, allergies and intolerances. The scope of testimonies range from stopping smoking to helping pet owners suffering from fur allergy.

Below are three testimonials from clients :

Tim says, 'I highly recommend anyone to try Bioresonance. I severely suffered with eczema and asthma all of my life. Five years ago, Tina treated me and to my surprise my eczema improved and has never returned, my asthma is well controlled, and I have not had any further attacks. I fully recommend Tina, she is very knowledgeable and most helpful and has certainly changed the quality of my life for the better. I am indebted to her and strongly recommend this treatment'

Sue writes, 'I would like to thank Tina for treating me, it has helped me so much with my mental health after losing my self confidence and suffering panic attacks and being unable to sleep; I can't thank her enough. I am now able to move on with my life.'

Patricia's testimonial states, 'The treatment I received a few years ago from Tina in Bioresonance after being diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma helped me to get me through my Chemo treatment, with little side effects. Although it thinned, I didn't lose my hair as many do - and it didn't stop me from doing any of the activities that I was doing prior to having cancer. Also, I had no recurrence of the symptoms of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma even though this was diagnosed as an incurable cancer.'



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A Sunny Opening For Honiton's New Allotments

by Terry Darrant



On 3rd June, Honiton Town Council and organisers officially and proudly opened the Battishorne Way Allotments to a very well attended gathering of over 50 people.

It has been over 30 years since the last Council-run allotments, formerly located at Knowle Close, were lost in the late 1980s. The last remaining private allotments in the town were situated off Clapper Lane, but these too were recently lost to property developers.

The demand for a site to grow fruit and veg, however, remained strong and a site at Honiton Bottom Road was identified by the Town Council in 2006. The idea was sadly not favoured by local residents and the area was designated a village green by Devon County Council in 2011, despite East Devon District Council being the proposer of the land for smallholdings! Despite several unsuccessful other site proposals the plans for this new area of land was offered by Combe Estate, perhaps ironically directly opposite the proposed site of 2006, and the project was put in motion in 2017.

The project hit several stumbling blocks including site design, funding, staff shortages - and of course the disruption caused by Covid-19; however the project finally moved from the Council chamber to the field when work finally began in late 2020.

The Council waiting list for allotments, dating back to 2003, was finally enabled to be satisfied when plot holders were given their leases in October last year, with the final plots allocated in the months before the opening ceremony, a total of 36 allotments (though there are still 50 people on the waiting list).

The Friday in question was fortunately well weathered and the Town Crier announced the official opening of the event followed by an opening speech by the Council's Working Group Chair Terry Darrant, reflecting on the road to that particular day. A cutting of the ribbon by special guest Richard Marker of Combe Estate was followed by a well-received Prosecco-complemented buffet lunch and sumptuous cake made for the occasion by Cathy McCollum.



The two final events of the afternoon were the selecting of the day's best kept allotment and a free prize raffle to a highly anticipated prize of a £50 voucher donated by Combe Garden Centre.

The provision for people to grow their own fruit and vegetables dates back to several Parliamentary Acts of the late 19th and early 20th century. Honiton was no exception to this and there was a Honiton Gardening Association in the town from as early as 1874. The "flowers, fruit and vegetables" at the Association's first exhibition were displayed in "two large marquees" in a field, behind what is now Boston Tea Party, on one August day of the same year, and by 1880 the event had doubled in size!

These new officially designated Jubilee allotments are sure to be a breath of fresh air for the future of the town and its plot holders for *"one of the healthiest ways to gamble is with a spade and a package of seeds!"*



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Welcome To My Garden

Lin Grady at Combe Hill Cottage, Combe Raleigh



I've not always been a gardener. I grew up on our family farm between Dalwood and Stockland and have always been aware of how crops are grown as my father grew them. As well as dairy farming my father grew vegetables in the garden, which Mum cooked for the family. I always remember that home grown vegetables were very tasty compared to those bought at the supermarket.

Whilst growing up, we all had to help out with the chores on the farm, which included potato planting and harvest. I remember it being quite back-breaking work! We also had an orchard and used to help pick the apples, plums and pears. My grandparents and all my elderly relatives also grew vegetables and I would often help them in their gardens when I went to stay. I was also inspired by my brother Colin who has been a keen vegetable gardener from a young age and had his first allotment on the farm. However it was when I moved to Combe Hill Cottage twenty years ago that my passion for flower and vegetable gardening really took off in a big way!

When we first saw it we just fell in love with the garden. Situated on the side of Carpenter Hill in Combe Raleigh it has the most amazing views of Luppitt, Hartridge and Dumpdon Hill. It was evident that the previous owner was a garden lover! Although the main garden slopes downhill and was laid to lawn, it already had an array of mature specimen trees, shrubs and flowerbeds with roses and lots of fuchsia growing in them. It also had two large greenhouses where grapevines grew. The garden was about an acre in size and included a mature apple orchard. To the side there was also a one acre field that a local farmer used to graze his animals.

In that first year we started to put our mark on it. We made a small vegetable patch and I had a go at growing vegetables. We soon discovered that, as we were living in the countryside, we were in competition with rabbits and deer. It felt as if we were living the good life and we went on to get chickens, despite the additional problems with foxes and rats! You just can't beat going out to the hen house to collect freshly laid eggs. We were given a cockerel with the view to having baby chicks - however when it started crowing at 5am we decided never to have another one! One year we kept 10 geese in the orchard, although that also was never repeated as we were constantly chased by them whenever we fed them and when we shut them up for the night!

I would describe the main flower garden as a spring and summer cottage garden and I love looking for new varieties. I also grow new flowers from seed or take cuttings. I particularly love roses and have planted many different varieties of perennials in large clumps close together at the front of the borders. I suppose some would describe it as a riot of colour.

The large enclosed vegetable and fruit garden in the field is my pride and joy. I love growing vegetables from seed and grow a large variety of summer and winter vegetables including tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers, potatoes, broad beans, carrots, courgettes, onions, lettuce and spinach - to name but a few.

As the allotment is so big I share it with my friend Pete Lyus, a very experienced vegetable grower, and I have learned so much from him. I am also a forager and pick elderflowers to make elderflower cordial and I pick blackberries in abundance, which I cook together with the Bramley apples which we grow, and then freeze them. You can't beat a fruit crumble in the winter months. Ron Hutchinson, a close relative, is a great influence in the garden and often gives me gardening advice and often surprises me with lovely plants he has seen.

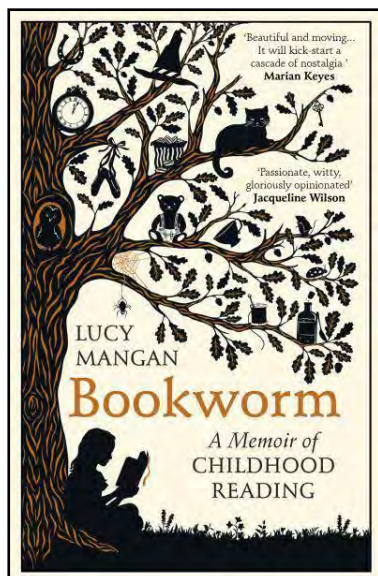
Together with my husband Chris and son Alfie we built a wildlife pond at the bottom of the garden and left it to re-wild to encourage more wildlife into the garden. This has been very successful, attracting dragonflies, insects and newts. We have also been making our field into a wildflower meadow. We are making progress as is evident from the large number of birds, butterflies, insects and bees it attracts.

We are gradually getting things right and it is a joy to live here.



The Books In My Life

by John Burgess



I'm always on the lookout for new books to read, so every weekend I turn to the Books in My Life Series in the Guardian (available online), where well known authors write briefly about the books that have inspired them. Here is a brief sample together with a little of my own reading life.

Earliest Memories

Monica Ali: "My earliest memory is of being given Janet and John books when I was at school and hating them. They were

boring as hell. 'The cat sat on the mat.' That's no way to start a story. The cat sat on the dog's mat - that would have been a little more interesting."

Mary Beard: "When I was about four, my mother read me Beatrix Potter's *The Story of a Fierce Bad Rabbit*. It was so scary (with the hunter's gun coming for the bad rabbit) I could hardly bear for my mother to go on, yet didn't want her to stop either. It was a great lesson in the pleasure of the terror of reading."

My own earliest memory is Book One of the Beacon Readers series with Old Lob, his dog Mr Dan and his cat Miss Tibs. I remember the feeling of moving up the series and suddenly realising I could read. My parents bought a 12 volume set of encyclopaedias and the small rural boundaries of my existence suddenly exploded in all directions.

Favourite Books Growing Up Lee Child: Enid Blyton's *Famous Five* and *Secret Seven*, Richmal Crompton's *Just William*, and so on. He also loved Frank Richards' Billy Bunter books - "incomprehensibly" he says, "since their world was a million miles from mine."

We moved from the country into the nearby town across a square from the library. Every Saturday morning I would trot over to change my books - Jennings, Just William, Biggles and the Enid Blyton adventure series are the ones I remember. These were supplemented by comics - The Eagle, Victor, Wizard, Superman etc, of which there was an abundant supply, swapped between friends.

The book that changed me as a teenager The Irish Writer, Sebastian Barry: "I read James Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist As a Young Man* standing under the little trees in New Square in Trinity College Dublin. I was 18. But, looking back, it seems to me to mark the transition from ultimate childhood to something slightly more advanced."

Monica Ali: "I read George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* when I was 13, and it had a profound impact."

For me, reading *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists* by Robert Tressell woke me up to the existence of injustice and exploitation and helped start my political thinking.

The book that changed my mind

Lee Child: "Margaret Atwood, with *The Handmaid's Tale*. I was 31, married, the father of a daughter, and I thought I had it all figured out. But Atwood laced that narrative with micro-traps for people like me. Time after time I thought my reactions were right on, only to discover a line or a page later I was part of the problem. That book changed me profoundly, hopefully for the better."

A surprising book that changed my own mind, in my twenties, was "The Song of Bernadette" by Franz Werfel. He was a Jew who had to hide in Lourdes as he fled Nazi Europe in 1940 and vowed he would write the story of St Bernadette if he escaped. The book, centred as it was on visions, saints and the Virgin Mary, challenged both my narrow, protestant view of Christianity and my scientific mindset. I could not discount Bernadette's story on faith grounds and any scientific explanation for her visions seemed inadequate.

The books I re-read Monica Ali re-reads, "A House for Mr Biswas by VS Naipaul, the best tragicomedy ever written. It's also a sideways look at colonialism, race and religion; the story of one man's struggle to carve out his own place in the world."

Ester Freud says, "I've reread Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* at different stages of my life and cried different tears each time. I think I may be ready to read it again."

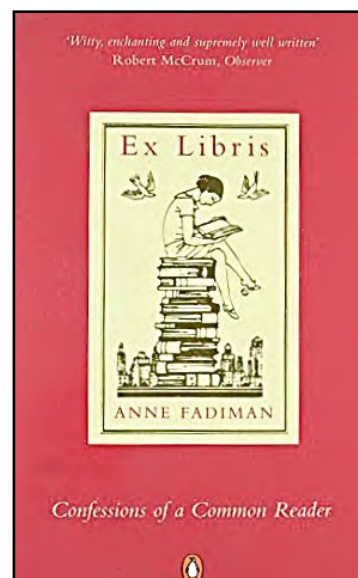
My comfort read Mary Beard: "It's a toss-up between Lindsey Davis's *Falco* mysteries (about Marcus Didius Falco, the Roman gumshoe, and his posh wife, Helena Justina) and Robert Harris's *Cicero* trilogy (which did more for the reputation of Cicero in the modern world than a battalion of classicists ever have)."

Madeline Miller: *Watership Down* by Richard Adams. "It's wonderfully epic, the characters feel like old friends, and I love the heart-pounding ending."

As for me, the Brother Cadfael novels by Ellis Peters are a comfort read. They immerse you in a 12th Century world far removed from our own, where the good come out on top and the bad always get their just deserts.

Here are two enjoyable books about a reading life.

"A Perfect book for anyone who is passionate about books" is Cormac Kinsella's take on *Ex Libris*, a slim volume of essays by Anne Fadiman, or perhaps you would prefer, in the words of Jacqueline Wilson, the "Passionate, witty, gloriously opinionated" *Bookworm* by Lucy Mangan - a memoir of childhood reading. I recommend both.



People With Hidden Disabilities Given Extra Welcome In Libraries

Honiton is among thirty three libraries run by the charity Libraries Unlimited that have signed up to the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Scheme. This means that people with less visible or invisible disabilities will be given an extra warm welcome and any additional help they need in libraries across Devon and Torbay.



The sunflower is a globally recognised symbol for non-visible disabilities. These include autism, chronic pain and learning difficulties as well as mental health conditions, mobility issues, speech impairments and sensory loss such as sight loss, hearing loss or deafness. Respiratory conditions as well as chronic conditions such as diabetes, chronic pain and sleep disorders that significantly impact day-to-day life are also included.



Totnes Library Supervisor Eve Ashton, who's been working on implementing the scheme throughout Devon, said, "People living with hidden disabilities often face barriers in their daily lives including a lack of understanding and negative attitudes. Choosing to wear the Sunflower lanyard discreetly identifies that the wearer may need support, help, or just a little more time in shops, transport, or public spaces."

"Our library staff are already offering help and support to customers with hidden disabilities - many are regular visitors, coming in to our libraries weekly or sometimes even daily to use a range of the many services that we offer. This is just a way of formalising that existing support, and also saying to other people with non-visible disabilities that if they would like to visit us to use our many services their needs will be met with understanding, patience and extra assistance. We're hoping to expand the scheme to all 54 library buildings around Devon and Torbay in the near future."

Paul White, CEO of Hidden Disabilities Sunflower, added, "We are delighted that Libraries Unlimited have joined the ever-growing Hidden Disabilities Sunflower network. Libraries are such an important part of the community offering wide-reaching services; they are an essential hub for all."

"Sunflower wearers will feel confident that when they visit they will be supported with kindness, patience and understanding by library staff who have received our training."

Library staff will be wearing *I Support Sunflower* lanyards to show that they recognise the Sunflower and are ready to help. Library customers can also buy them, with the money raised going to Libraries Unlimited to support libraries.

Signs and information about the Sunflower will be displayed around libraries and they will have an official listing on the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower website.

The 33 libraries where the Sunflower will be implemented are: Axminster, Barnstaple, Bideford, Bovey Tracey, Braunton, Budleigh Salterton, Crediton, Cullompton, Dartmouth, Dawlish, Exeter, Exmouth, Holsworthy, Honiton, Ilfracombe, Ivybridge, Kingsbridge, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, Northam, Okehampton, Ottery St Mary, Paignton, Seaton, Sidmouth, South Molton, St Thomas, Tavistock, Teignmouth, Tiverton, Torquay, Torrington and Totnes.



A network of 54 libraries in Devon and Torbay, and four Devon mobile libraries, are run by Libraries Unlimited, an independent staff and community owned charity. Join up by filling the online form Join the Library - Devon



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Around & About In Our Community

Operation Rudolph Funds Boosted By Successful Craft Fair

A Craft Fair was held at the end of May to raise much needed funds for this year's Operation Rudolph Honiton which is part of the long-standing Honiton based charity TRIP. The event was also an opportunity for other Honiton based charities to promote their work and was also a social event for TRIP volunteers.

There were a wide variety of craft items available on the day and other stalls included a prize raffle, a tombola and the ever-popular cake stall! Everyone at the event was also entertained by the Honiton Town Training Band.

An incredible £436.22 was raised towards helping make this Christmas a little better for those who are lonely, isolated or in need of a little extra help at a time of year that many find difficult. We would like to thank everyone who took part in and supported our event and helped raise this wonderful amount. If you would like more information on Operation Rudolph Honiton, please email v4a@tripcta.org, call 01404 46529 - Option 3 or call in to the Volunteer 4 All office at 122 High Street open Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm.

Vera Made An Honoured Citizen



A well-deserved Honoured Citizen award was recently presented by the Mayor Serena Sexton to Vera Howard in recognition of her many years' service on Honiton Town Council. During her time as a Councillor, Vera worked tirelessly on a number of issues, particularly supporting the Twinning Association.

New Coffee Shop Opens At Honiton Station

Rail passengers have given an enthusiastic welcome to the re-opening of the coffee shop at Honiton station for the first time since before the pandemic. The new business, run by Wilson and Bay Coffee Club, was officially opened on 15th June by Andrew Ardley, Regional Development Manager for South Western Railway (SWR), the company responsible for operating rail services through East Devon.

On-board catering has not been available on local trains since 2020 so this new service will benefit anyone using the station, a fact proven even on opening day as a steady stream of customers were keen to try out what was on offer, including a wide range of beverages, plus a selection of pastries, freshly prepared baguettes and sausage rolls.

Once the coffee shop gets into full swing, opening hours are planned to be from 6 am to 5.30 pm Monday - Friday, 7 am to 4 pm on Saturdays. Plans are also being made to open on Sundays, with the eventual aim to be open between 9.30 a. and 3.30 pm with the final opening hours depending on demand.

Honiton Camera Club held its last formal meeting of the 2021-22 season at Honiton Methodist Church on 20 May. This took the form of the Annual General Meeting, followed by the award of end of season trophies, presented by Diana Wynn, Club Chairman. Despite a difficult year, because of Covid, a full meetings programme was achieved by holding meetings both physically and online.

The photo shows some of the trophy winners on that evening. They are (l-r) Nick Boggon (Crystal Trophy and Project Trophy), Diana Wynn, Club Chairman, David Faulkes (John Moxon Trophy and President's Cup), Lynda Piper (Photographer of the Year, Mary Deney's Memorial Cup and Joan Blackledge Trophy), Chris Dorrington (Pooley Cup).

The 2022-23 season will commence on 9 September at Honiton Methodist Church. New members are always welcome. Up to date information about the Club can be found on its website:
honitoncamera.club

Honiton Camera Club Awards Evening

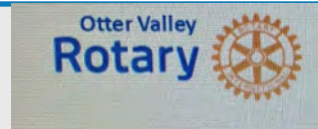


Around & About In Our Community

Royal British Legion



The Royal British Legion was on Honiton High Street on the anniversary of the Falklands War, collecting for the thousands of serving personnel and their families that the charity supports.



Rotarians are people of action

WHAT IS ROTARY? Our ethos is simple. We give time, raise funds and ensure those funds go where the need is greatest, whether home or abroad. A registered charity, we have no overheads: every penny of the money we raise goes to the people we support.

HOW DO WE RAISE MONEY? You will often see us collecting outside Honiton Tesco, Sainsbury in Ottery and McColls in West Hill, this is usually in response to a disaster be it at home or abroad.

At events such as the Devon County Show, Honiton Show, and recently Wiscombe Vintage Hill Climb, our members give their time free - we can be seen manning the gates, giving out wristbands for children to keep them safe, or we will be in the car parks marshalling, often knee deep in mud. We earn money for these activities, all money we earn goes to schools, charities, organisations or individuals.

WHO JOINS ROTARY? Rotary is made up of men and women from all walks of life. We have members from Ottery St Mary, Honiton, West Hill, Exmouth and Cranbrook. We welcome individual and corporate members to our club.

The group meets weekly on a Tuesday evening at The Tumbling Weir in Ottery St Mary at 7.30pm, starting with a 2 course meal. We have a speaker, fellowship or a business meeting which starts around 8.30pm; you do not have to dine if you prefer not to. We are continuing hybrid Zoom meetings for our members who prefer not to socialise in bigger groups at this time.

FRIEND OF ROTARY? If the idea of attending a weekly meeting is not for you, you can be a Friend of Rotary. This involves offering your time free at events; we have some wonderful people who support us in this way, it's a good way to support your community when you are able too.

If you would like to know more about what we do, please visit our website Otter Valley Rotary. You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Devon and Cornwall Community Raffle - Our Community Raffle tickets for 2022 are now being organised, so it's time to get in touch to get yours! Open to any charity, voluntary or community group in Devon, Cornwall or the Isles of Scilly. Contact details can be found on the raffle website: <https://dcrcr.org.uk/> or contact Mike Huxtable from Honiton mthuxtable@aol.com

If you, your organisation, school or charity needs funds, please contact our Secretary on the above email address, we consider all applications.

Honiton Garden Club's Plant Sale

Honiton Garden Club held a very successful plant sale outside St Paul's Church at the end of May. All plants on sale had been grown by members and proved to be very popular, raising £300 towards club funds and to maintain the flowerbed by the town memorial



Around & About In Our Community

Honiton Millennium Green Opens Vernon Corner

What a beautiful sunny day we had for the opening of Vernon Corner, on Saturday 28th May. Vernon Corner is the new wildlife area in the Honiton Millennium Green.

To cut the ribbon we were delighted to have both Wendy Van der Plank, who is well known in the town for all her Creative Art events, plus Michael Vernon who generously gifted this piece of land and provided a brilliant opportunity to enhance the Millennium Green, hence the name Vernon Corner. This allowed us to create an area where we could build a variety of habitats for animals such as bees and butterflies, in fact bugs of all kinds, plus habitats for small mammals like hedgehogs. It also encourages numerous birds and bats into the area.

When the Millennium Green Trustees first took over the area it was just scrub land. We are very grateful to Wildwood Contractors for the ground clearance and hedge laying; to Martin and Ralph Langworthy for the creation of two wheelchair accessible paths and a boundary fence; to Dave Retter for the building of the shelter and information board as well as the bug hotel and insect tower (with help from local children); to Perrie Hale Nursery who supplied the trees and shrubs which were all planted by volunteers; to Robin Shelton who created the wildflower meadow; to David and Jean Cante and the Vernon family who donated two seats; to Francis Martin, the Battishorne Trust, the Tesco Bags Appeal, Honiton Lions, the Mullins Trust for funding in addition to public donations.

The Millennium Green as a whole is a charity and totally reliant on volunteers and donation /grants from individuals and organisations and without the generous support we have been given in different ways, we would not have been able to create our wildlife area.

We would also like to ensure Michael Vernon and all the People of Honiton, that this amazing gift of land, to the People of Honiton, will continue to be nurtured and sustained for many generations to come.

Kassa Retter/Trustee



photo courtesy of Brigita Bishop

Honiton Carers



We have enjoyed a rather busy time lately starting off with a stall at TRIP's Volunteering4all Craft Fair. The footfall was excellent and we really enjoyed a busy morning selling our bespoke crafts including Jubilee bunting, hand-made and donated by our

volunteer Sharron Smith. The following day we were at Honiton Bowling Club open day for a lovely taster session which was great fun. Some of the carers were immediately hooked and signed up for further coaching and a possible membership in the future (some of us ached a bit the following day having found muscles we did not know we had).

At the beginning of June 36 carers went to Burrow Farm Gardens. We enjoyed the sunny afternoon walking around the stunning gardens and later a much needed cuppa with cake.

The next day we watched the Happy Days Jubilee celebration show at the Beehive - full of both glamour & fun, taking us right through from the 40s to date.

We were offered a stall at the Jubilee in Northcote Lane on the Saturday of the Jubilee weekend. The weather was not good in fact it was bitterly cold with a very high wind, but we stuck it out and ended up having a wonderful time with an excellent result.

We have several more activities coming up. Carers Week this year is from Monday 6th June with lots of activities laid on for unpaid carers both by Devon Carers & Carers UK (please see their websites for further details).

Honiton Carers are meeting at The Methodist Church hall on Wednesday 8th June at 2pm for a training session of Moving & Handling with Coldwell Training Company. We are also really looking forward to being at Honiton Co-op store on Friday 10th June for a community awareness session. Honiton Carers are very honoured to be one of Honiton Co-ops 3 chosen causes who each have an in store awareness session once a quarter. Please come and say hello to us, who knows you may find the very bargain you have been looking for.

We are walking The Bys on Saturday 11th June and on Monday 13th June visited Chard Carers Support Group, with whom we have formed a close relationship, for their summer party.

If you are a carer and would like to join Honiton Carers, please get in touch with Win on winniekjaer@btinternet.com or phone 07974 636926

Around & About In Our Community

Buckerell's Vintage Afternoon High Tea



What a fabulous afternoon we all had on Sunday 1st May. Fun and fundraising hand-in-hand in aid of Devon Freewheelers.

All homemade, there was an abundance of delicious cakes to enjoy after the tasty selection of sandwiches, sausage rolls and scones with cream and jam.

How lovely too to drink tea that had been brewed in a teapot and served in a china cup with saucer.

70 High Teas and many more slices of cake later, £923.50 was raised for Devon Freewheelers - and it was lovely to have representatives from the organisation there too.

Thanks to everyone that helped run and support the event. Special thanks to Jen Palfrey for organising and Doug & Adrian for letting us use the venue for free.

Soo Sims (on behalf of Buckerell Community Association)



The Lions Club in Honiton had an extremely busy day on Saturday 21st May starting off with our fourth Mole Screening Day in the Mackarness Hall. Specialist Consultant Dr Tony Downs attended and gave his time and expertise free of charge.

One hundred and eleven people attended and were screened, there were fifteen referrals of which five were urgent.

This event run by the Lions was to raise funds for Hospiscare and Cancer Research UK, with each person attending paying £5, which was matched by the Lions. Presentations will be made at a later date.

In the evening we held our 45th Charter Anniversary at the Honiton Golf Club which was attended by the five Lions Clubs in our zone - Honiton, Axminster, Budleigh Salterton, Seaton and Sidmouth.



Charter Anniversary Left to right. President Richard Allen (Budleigh Salterton) President Brian Richards (Honiton) Zone I Chair Rosemary Partridge-Hogbin (Seaton) President Christopher Rignal (Sidmouth) President Jim Partridge - Hogbin (Seaton) and President Lion Beverly Love (Axminster)

Our Lions Ladies had three plant stalls during May and June and raised over £400 for local charities Well done Ladies.

We are all looking forward to our Classic Car Show at Allhallows Field on Market Charter Day July 23rd - more info on what happened in August.

You can get more information on what the Lions do by phoning Brian the Lion on 01404 43738 or visit our website www.honitonlions.org.uk



Honiton Scout Group marked the 10 year anniversary of the 2012 Olympics and raised

£100 for The Baton charity by running 2012 lengths with The Baton and the Olympic Torch that Ryan Braunton-Turner carried.

All Beavers, Cubs and Scouts had a chance to run with the Baton and Torch.



Don't forget to let us know what is going on in your community

**Contact
honitonvillagenews
@gmail.com**

Copy date is 16th of the month preceding publication

Around & About In Our Community

Community Comes Together To Produce New Banners For Honiton Station

Artwork created by the Honiton community to celebrate transport through the ages, in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022



Three colourful banners have been unveiled at Honiton Station to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The banners display some of the artwork submitted for a call-out curated by the Thelma Hulbert Gallery in the town, and supported by The Friends of Honiton Station and by Honiton Town Council. The project was organised in conjunction with South Western Railway and the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership, as part of the Jubilee celebrations.

Work was submitted by young people from Littletown Primary Academy, Honiton Community College and THG's Masterpieces youth art group, and by members of the Honiton Carers Support Group. Art was created on the theme of Transport Through The Ages, and featured a number of striking images, including several that depict children evacuated by train during World War Two.

In addition, SWR's station staff asked local children to colour in some appropriate bunting to celebrate the Jubilee and displayed the results in and around the waiting room at Honiton Station and at Feniton Station. The Friends of Honiton Station were delighted to support this Jubilee-themed initiative, and offered some funding to facilitate such an excellent project.

A spokesperson for The Friends of Honiton Station said: "It was lovely to see the whole community coming together ready to celebrate this once in a lifetime event. We were delighted to join together with so many local people to make the Jubilee art project such a success. We hope that everyone who visits the station this month will enjoy looking at these fantastic banners."

For all the latest news from The Friends of Honiton Station, and to read their monthly newsletter, go to friendsofhonitonstation.org.uk

Nigel's Jubilee Weekend Fundraising



Six months ago local man and regular at the Honiton Working Men's Club, Nigel Nex, decided to grow his beard and hair to raise money for charity - and over the Jubilee weekend he had it all cut off, raising £140 for Cerebra: a charity for children with brain conditions, and their families (charity no. 1089812).

Starting at the club Nigel then visited The Three Tuns, Honiton Conservative Club, the Volunteer and Ali's Kebabs looking for snippers to raise the money!

We'd like to say a huge thanks to Nigel for doing this for Cerebra. It would have taken a lot of courage to go through with it and we're very grateful that he did. It goes to show there's lots of amazing ways you can help good causes and if anyone is interested in doing something similar for Cerebra, you can drop their fundraising team a line by emailing comms@cerebra.org.uk

Derek Spinks, Marketing & Communications Manager



Buckerell Open Gardens



The recent Buckerell Open Gardens event was much appreciated by many visitors who enjoyed seeing the beautiful gardens in lovely weather



photos courtesy of Adrian Hole

Help Raise Some Much Needed Dough For Marie Curie



The end-of-life charity Marie Curie is calling on people across the South West to throw a Blooming Great Tea Party in June and July to help fund vital care and support for those living with a terminal illness, and their families.

The charity's fundraising appeal is a piece of cake – simply set a date to host a tea party and invite family, friends, or colleagues to tuck into a delectable treat and catch-up over a cuppa.

Every penny raised from a Blooming Great Tea Party will go towards ensuring more people have access to the care and support they need at the end of life.

Marie Curie is dependent on public donations so that it can continue caring for people at the end of life in their own homes across the South West. Donations also support the Marie Curie Information and Support services, including a telephone line which provides a listening ear to anyone dealing with any aspect of death, dying and bereavement.

Natalie Garland, Marie Curie South West Head of Fundraising, said: "Hosting a Blooming Great Tea Party is easy and great fun. Whether you want to bake up a storm at home or pop to the shops for some tasty treats, invite friends, family, neighbours, or colleagues, you'll be helping support people in your local area living with a terminal illness.

"We'd encourage supporters to make the most of the extra-long bank holiday weekend in June too – a perfect occasion to raise a cuppa and some money for a blooming great cause. Just don't forget to price your slice!"

To find out more about Marie Curie's Blooming Great Tea Party, including top tips for planning your party, recipes and downloadable materials, visit mariecurie.org.uk/teaparty

If you are struggling with grief and need someone to talk to or need information and support about any aspect of terminal illness, call the free and confidential Marie Curie Support Line on 0800 090 2309 or visit mariecurie.org.uk/support

Abbeyfield - Honiton Society

Stanhope Independent Living Home

- Abbeyfield's GOLD STAR independent living home
- Bus stop directly outside
- Close by shops, restaurants, a library and Churches

Stanhope Facilities

- Communal lounge and dining room
- Library area
- Pleasant garden

Stanhope Staff

The House Manager oversees the general running of the House with a Call 24 emergency system in operation at all times. Nourishing home cooked food is served daily by the kitchen staff.



Things To Do At Stanhope

- Volunteer run events, excursions and activities
- Trips to the local garden centres
- Visits to theatre productions
- Day trips to the local coast
- Speakers and entertainment groups

If you would like more information or to come and visit please contact us at:

Abbeyfield Honiton Society Ltd Stanhope,
36 High Street, Honiton, EX14 1PJ

Telephone: 01404 43322

Email : Abbeyfield-honiton@abbeyfield.com
or manager@stanhope-honiton.co.uk



- **MILITARY KIT - Hard-wearing Combat trousers; BOOTS; Combat Jackets; CADET KIT;**
- **Rucksacks; Overalls; Sleeping Bags; Waterproof Kit - including Army Gore-tex Jackets and Trousers;**
- **Warm/Thermal Kit; KIDS CAMMO CLOTHING; TARPAULINS.**
- **ALSO VETERANS: Berets; Cap-badges; Lapel Pins; Regimental Ties; Plaques; Cuff-links; Tie-Pins.**

ARMY SURPLUS HONITON

Protecteon-Plus, Unit 5, Durham Way Business Park,
Heathpark Industrial Estate, Honiton EX14 1SQ

www.armysurplushoniton.co.uk

Tel: 01404 43612



HONITON HEALTH MATTERS have been working in the community offering help with energy reduction ideas along with independent energy advisors **EXETER COMMUNITY ENERGY [ECOE]**

- **All households will get £400 from the Energy Bills Support Scheme.**
- **Energy suppliers will deliver this support to households with a domestic electricity meter over six months from October. Direct debit and credit customers will have the money credited to their account, while customers with pre-payment meters will have the money applied to their meter or paid via a voucher.**
- **YOU WILL NOT HAVE TO PAY THIS MONEY BACK**

Households on Means-Tested Benefits listed below will receive an additional payment to the £400

£650 One-Off Cost of Living Payment for those Households on:

- **Universal Credit Working Tax Credit Child Tax Credit Pension Credit**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance Income Support**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- DWP will make the payment in two lump sums – the first from July, the second in the autumn. Payments from HMRC for those on tax credits only will follow shortly after each to avoid duplicate payments.
- This payment will be tax-free, will not count towards the benefit cap, and will not have any impact on existing benefit awards.
- The government will make these payments directly to households across the UK.
- **A Household could be eligible for £400+ £650 + the original £150 council tax rebate**

Pensioners will get the £400 payment + £300 + £200 normal winter fuel payment

Additional One-Off £300 Pensioner Cost of Living Payment

- Pensioner households will receive an extra £300 this year to help them cover the rising cost of energy this winter.
- This additional one-off payment will go to the over 8 million pensioner households across the UK who receive the Winter Fuel Payment and will be paid on top of any other one-off support a pensioner household is entitled to, for example where they are on pension credit or receive disability benefits. Eligible households currently receive between £200 - £300, so the payment will represent at least double the support for this winter.

- All pensioner households will get the one-off Pensioner Cost of Living Payment as a top-up to their annual Winter Fuel Payment in November/December. For most pensioner households, this will be paid by direct debit.
- The government will make these payments directly to households across the UK.

Many Pensioners are not claiming Pension credit and will miss out on the £650 payment.

If you receive less than £200/week and don't claim take action before 24th August.

Ring the Helpline number 0800 99 1234 If possible check the the pension credit calculator <https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator>

Additional £150 Disability Cost of Living Payment

- Around six million people across the UK who receive the following disability benefits will receive a one-off payment of £150 in September for equipment/transport
- **Disability Living Allowance** **Personal Independence Payment**
- **Attendance Allowance** **Constant Attendance Allowance**
- **War Pension Mobility Supplement**
- For the many disability benefit recipients who receive means tested benefits, this £150 will come on top of the £650 they will receive separately.
- The government will make these payments directly to eligible people across the UK.
- **This means that your household may be eligible for £400+£650+£150 plus the original council tax rebate**

Nationwide increase and extension of Household Support Fund

- To support people who need additional help, the Government is providing additional local support, via the Household Support Fund, which will be extended from this October to March 2023.
- The Household Support Fund administered through EDDC, helps those in most need with payments towards the rising cost of food, energy, and water bills.

East Devon District Council work in partnership with **ECOE** to find ways to particularly help more vulnerable people who are not able to get information online. Apart from help with energy bills there are also a range of benefits which not being claimed by vulnerable people and in particular the elderly. The EDDC direct benefits team phone number is **01395 571770**.

HONITON HEALTH MATTERS have been working in the community offering help with energy reduction ideas along with independent energy advisors **EXETER COMMUNITY ENERGY [ECOE]**.

ECOE will now have a team available to support Honiton residents with emergency energy advice and support for energy reduction measures. They are working with Devon County Council and East Devon DC to sign up homeowners for free home retrofit measures.

Helpline number 0800 772 3617. Leave a name and number and they will ring you back, or email them on healthyhomes@ecoe.org.uk

What's Happening With St Michael's Church Honiton?



We are a small group of volunteers who have spent the past three years discussing with the Church Authorities the future of St Michael's church at the top of Church Hill. We wanted to give it a new lease of life as a community asset and on 26th September 2021 we were truly overwhelmed by the response to

the Open Day; 500 visitors, 40 people signed up to volunteer and over £800 raised. We truly believed that approval from the Exeter Diocese was only a formality at that stage, but after many months of waiting we were told it would not be possible to take on the building for community use.

St Michael's church, which had not been used for regular worship for many years, was officially closed in January 2019. Ownership then passed to the Exeter Diocese to find a new usage for the building or dispose of it. On 2nd May 2019 a public consultation at St Paul's Church opened the community discussion to find a solution for the closed church, standing empty and as unkempt as one of the many tombstones that it casts its shadow over. A few people came away from that meeting, got together, and opted to form a working group to try and secure the future use of the building for the town and community.

Our small group included a number of Honiton people with up to 60 years' association with St Michael's. We talked

long and hard about finding a feasible way of taking on the liabilities of this 600 year old Grade II* building along with the many potential structural problems and refurbishment needs that were required to bring it up to 21st century standards. We were exceptionally lucky to have the consent and support from the Earl of Devon who had agreed to be patron of the charity we eventually intended to operate under. There was also the assurance of a fund of nearly £20,000 that had been raised by public subscription. The Church didn't want to sell it and so we investigated ways to lease it using some of the funds we thought were still available.

The Covid-19 pandemic meant progress was slow and communications were very difficult and, whilst we felt we had made great progress with our own plans, ultimately it became obvious that we were never going to be able to persuade the Church Authorities that our plans would work within their restrictive rules of use. Also, we discovered that the funds had been previously allocated and used for ongoing maintenance and were no longer available for us to use to set up the project.

Although it appears from their publicity that the Exeter Diocese has a public commitment to use empty parish churches for the benefit of the community, the sad reality for Honiton is that, even with local support and love of this ancient building, no prayers could penetrate the walls of the Diocese.

We hope the story is not at an end and that we will fight it being sold for an alternative use; watch this space.

The views of Exeter Diocese have not been obtained prior to going to press

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Honiton Community Hospital Update



by Ruth Bagg – Business Manager, Honiton Community Hospital

As business manager for Honiton Community Hospital I am grateful for the opportunity to update you all about the increasing range of community and acute services we are able to offer the residents of Honiton and Eastern Devon.

Our Minor Injury Unit is open from 08:00 - 20:00 7 days a week. We have recently increased X-Ray cover to support the MIU Monday to Friday. A recent successful publicity campaign has encouraged patients to attend Honiton rather than traveling the longer distance to attend the A & E Department at Royal Devon University Healthcare (formerly Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital).

Our outpatients team run up to 35 different specialist clinics including - Children's Health, Diabetes, Dietician, Physio, Speech and Language Therapy, Podiatry and many more.

The Renal Dialysis Day Treatment Unit is based at Honiton and is an outreach service from Royal Devon. Up to 8 patients can be treated within this unit at any one time. This department also benefits from dedicated parking, close to its own entrance. The unit is open from Monday to Saturday 07:30 - 23:00.

Our Maternity team is based on site and offer outpatient appointments Monday to Friday.

Jerrard building (based to the left of the main hospital) provides a base for many of our local teams who provide

support for patients within their own homes as well as following discharge from hospital. Teams include - Community Nursing, Dementia and Frailty, Adult Social Care, Urgent Community Response & Community Rehab Therapy.



In addition to staff from Royal Devon we work closely with our colleagues across Health & Social Care. Teams from Devon Partnership Trust, Devon County Council Child Health, Devon Doctors (Out of Hours service) and Chime (hearing services) - all have regular clinics at Honiton or use the Hospital as their base for the community teams they support.

We are pleased to welcome back Honiton League of Friends to the shop on site; this has proved very popular with patients and staff alike. The League of Friends provides a vital link between the Hospital and the local community, over the years the generosity of local people and the hard work of the League has donated medical equipment as well as supporting new staff and services. During the past few months the League has provided us with a vending machine for patients' use which includes snacks as well as hot and cold drinks. They have also been responsible for our lovely red, white and blue flowers at the main entrance.



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- Hearing Tests
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PATIENT CARE CO-ORDINATOR

COLIN EATON
AUDIOLOGIST - FdSc. HCPC-HAD. MSHAA

Make an appointment online via
www.honiton-hearing.co.uk

or call **01404 47070**



The East Devon Round - Our Local Ultramarathon



The 3rd running of the East Devon Round took place on Saturday April 30th from Offwell Village Hall. This is a 66 mile ultramarathon, combining coast path, trails and private ground and racks up 3,000 metres of climbing (equivalent to 3 x Ben Nevis). This year it attracted people from as far afield as Canada, Scotland, N.Ireland - but also many locals from Ottery St Mary, Honiton, Axminster and even Offwell.

Having set off to a glorious sunrise at 5:30am, the runners pass through 9 checkpoints (including Lyme Regis, Blackbury Camp, Sidbury, Luppitt and Combe Raleigh) before returning to Offwell Village Hall. We also put on the East Devon Round Half which has a truly special finish at Blackbury Camp and incorporates 35 miles of running and 5,500 feet of climbing, and also the East Devon Round Quarter which takes in the northern section of the whole loop, starting and finishing in Combe Raleigh, and incorporating St Cyres Hill, Dunkeswell and Luppitt.

Whilst the event is put on for the love of the sport, and the incredible feats of comradeship, endurance and human strength witnessed each year, we are also pleased to raise some money for various causes. This year we raised a total of £1,000 for a combination of the Rich Wigram Farming Scholarship, Offwell Primary School, Combe Raleigh Playgroup and also a contribution to the upkeep of the Coast Path per runner. We are incredibly grateful for all the landowners for granting the necessary permissions for the run, and also our team of 75 marshals that all make the event go so well, and who also helped clear the course



by 5pm on the Sunday. The event has been supported from the start by Ganesha Wholefoods, Rod and Ben's Organic Soups and Stews, the Ultramarathon Running Store and also this year by RunVenture on Honiton High Street. Further support was received by Dalwood Vineyard, Otter Valley Ice

Cream, Heron Farm, the Axminster Waffle House and Hollismead Dairy.

The easiest way to try and summarise the event is to use what one of our competitors has fed back to us: *The legs may be bruised, the energy reserves completely depleted, but there are many reasons I came back this year and as soon as the aches have subsided won't hesitate to come back next year. You guys have created absolute gem of an event... The course - an absolute monster of epic technical trails through stunning vistas, carpets of beautiful bluebell covered woods, hills with super tough climbs but rewarded*

with horizon busting views, the sea, the Undercliffs, the villages full of supportive locals and marshals alike. The dedication and effort by all you guys - the route marking, the aid stations, the unwavering support and the fact that you all care about every single competitor shines strong and bright, you are all incredible. Finally the competitors - ultra running lends itself to friendship, to bonds being formed as we each battle our way through ridiculous distances, the East Devon Round lends itself beautifully to creating these bonds, through the warmth of its welcome and its embracing care of every competitor from start to finish. It is remarkable how many have returned and a testament to the spirit of the East Devon Round. As one of my fellow club members put it...this is the ultra friendly ultra marathon.



Results - East Devon Round Quarter - Won in a time of 2 hrs 11mins by Matthew Walton. David Brown produced a sterling performance to come in 2nd in a time of 2hrs 28mins. Natalie McDougal won the ladies race in a time of 2hrs 38mins. Special mention to Jean Hughes who completed this course aged 75 - you are an inspiration Jean. Ian Morris is the first person to complete all 3 East Devon Round distances and as always not only ran, but also then went out and helped at a checkpoint.

East Devon Round Half - We had 23 finishers of the half, with only 1 non finisher. James Kelly of Exmouth Running Club breezed in (5hrs 49mins), followed by Lizzie Dyson of Haldon Trail Runners 6hrs 23mins). The next 2 male places went to Andrew Ruffer (6hrs 31mins) and Rob Leonard (6hrs 45mins), whilst 2nd lady went to local favourite Lou Bennett of Honiton RC in 7hrs 25mins. Jenny Lailey (Dorset) completed the female top 3 in 7hrs 59mins.

East Devon Round - Out of the 34 that toed the start line, we had 27 finishers. Ben Stone (AVR) and Steve Adams (Ottery St. Mary) took off at a pace that no one else could follow. Ben finished in an incredible time of 10 hrs 59mins. Steve put in an incredible performance to follow Ben in 11hrs 19mins, both beating the previous course record of 11hrs 46mins set in 2021. These performances put these runners as some of the best ultra-marathon runners in the country. Holly Holmes of Cornwall won the ladies race with a commanding performance of 13hrs 57mins and 7th overall with Jodie Lee (Brixham) 2nd, and Moe Mooney (Scotland) 3rd.



A History Of Citizens Advice

Citizens Advice will be 83 years old on 4 September this year and Citizens Advice East Devon was 62 years old on 14 June.

The history of Citizens Advice is truly inspiring so let's go back to where it all began....

The need for an information service had been on the cards since 1935 however with the War being declared on 3 September 1939, it was needed now more than ever and the following day 200 bureaux opened. The service was run by volunteers; typical issues they dealt with were a loss of ration books, homelessness, evacuations, missing relatives and prisoners of war. Debt was also fast becoming an issue due to incomes reducing. Over the next 10 years more bureaux opened reaching 1,074 - one even operated from a converted horsebox close to bombed areas.



Funding was cut after the war and therefore the number of bureaux was halved. It wasn't until 1960 when funding was restored following The Rent Act; In 1965 national total enquiries reached 1.25m and in 1973 a grant was given to extend the network – National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux (NACAB).

Over time The United Kingdom has faced many challenges, recessions, cost of living increases, EU referendum, and now once again war is impacting our way of life. As technology grows, Citizens Advice grows with it, using data systems that help see the bigger picture and push for changes. Technology has also helped Citizens Advice reach more clients than ever. Since 2003 accessibility has been greatly improved as has the quality of our service by making the Adviceguide self-help content available in Welsh, Bengali, Chinese, Gujarati, Punjabi and Urdu and being the first in the advice sector to audit quality. Adviceline was opened, a call service for the whole of the UK to get advice when they need it, and Language Line was brought in to ensure we can speak with anyone needing help.

Over the years Citizens Advice has managed to make some important changes through campaigning and use of

the data we collect. Some of these changes include-

- The Housing Bill to include a tenancy deposit protection scheme.
- A ban on letting agents' fees
- Persuaded energy networks to give money back to their clients.
- The Supreme Court rules that employment tribunal fees are unlawful.
- Secured government funding of £1.5 billion following issues with Universal Credit.

The Citizens Advice network grew to include the face-to-face service for Pension Wise, the Citizens Advice Witness Service and Consumer Futures. The views for online services now reaches into the millions.

When the Coronavirus Pandemic hit, it was a shock for everyone; however Citizens Advice were able to continue providing its service online and over the phone. Nationally we answered 60,000 more Adviceline calls and 6,000 more Help to Claim calls from January to March 2020 than during the same time the previous year and the website had 2.4 million views.

In 1959 a study group looking at about 200 Exmouth families saw the need for the advice service. They decided they wanted to continue their investigation named 'The Worker and his environment' and opened Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) Exmouth. The study group attended lectures to help them better prepare for the venture, formed a committee of representatives from local welfare bodies and began sourcing funding. CAB Exmouth then opened 2 days a week renting space from the iconic Sailors Rest Building in Exmouth for 10 shillings a week, (equivalent of £8.50 now). At first only a few people turned up-however The Great Exmouth Flood (1960) soon brought a flood of clients - excuse the pun – and this helped secure funding from Exmouth Town Council of £25.00 (equivalent of £613.48 today). They were then able to rent a space in the town hall and opened up 5 days a week. We joined the other East Devon bureaux in Honiton, Sidmouth, Seaton, Axminster and Ottery St Mary - and here we all find ourselves in the present day, still here, still helping our clients.

Since the Pandemic we have had a number of projects which have directly helped many in our community. We have seen the number of people needing help increase from 4,247 in 2018 (pre pandemic) to 5,717 in 2021. We can also show that in 2018 we gave back funds of £750, however in 2021 we gave a whopping £2,414,795 back. Every £1 spent on Citizens Advice East Devon generates an additional £10.50 for our local community.

If you have any information or memories of Citizens Advice East Devon then please get in touch!

media@citizensadviceeastdevon.org



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