

HONITON & VILLAGE NEWS



NOVEMBER 2022
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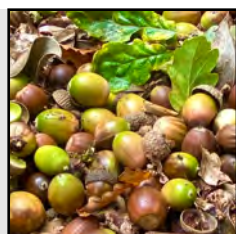
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This is a thought-provoking month while we look back and remember past sacrifices - but also look forward with our youngest contributor May and wonder what changes we personally can make to help the world's problems.

There is also though much to celebrate in our corner of East Devon, with people working together to support the community and with uplifting and inspirational writing from our very talented group of writers.

So whether you're going to one of the local events at the Beehive or elsewhere, going on one of Chris' wonderful walks or improving your garden with Andrea's tips, we wish you a good November from us all at H&VN and thank you for your continued support.



You will no doubt notice that there is no page of Nature Notes this month - but fear not it will be returning in your December magazine.



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

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Where Can I Pick Up My Copy Of H&VN?

Awliscombe-The Honiton Inn

Broadhembury- Post Office and Store - Drewe Arms

Buckerell- via Splatthayes -Telephone Box

Churchinford-The York Inn -The Community Shop

Combe Raleigh- Village Hall Telephone Box

Dalwood- Community Shop

Dunkeswell- Highfield Stores - Highfield Garage - Connetts Farm

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

Gittisham- Bus Stop - Combe Farm Shop - Combe Garden Centre

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 - Hybrid Gallery

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

Offwell- Windmill Garage - The White Hart

Payhembury- Community Shop - Sawmill

Plymtree- Community Shop

Smeatharpe- Highlands

Stockland- King's Arms - Telephone Box

Talaton- Community Shop

Upton- Sidmouth Arms

Upton- delivered ex Payhembury

Weston- Heron Farm Shop

Yarcombe- Village Hall

We Will Remember Them



So, Remembrance Time is soon to be with us again, with poppies on display everywhere. A time to remember, a time to reflect.

The Honiton Branch of The Royal British Legion as in the past will be putting on the 101st season of Remembrance with Poppies being sold in lots of businesses as well as on the forecourt of Tesco and outside St. Paul's Church on Saturdays 29 October, 05 November and 12 November.

We know we live in difficult times, but please give what you can afford to support our Armed Forces Community. You never know when you might need them.

The final planning is now taking place for our annual Remembrance Day Parade on Sunday 13 November starting at 2:30pm.

We will also be holding an Act of Homage at The War Memorial on Friday 11 November starting at 10:50am Please come along and get involved in both events.



Walk Of The Month - The Fluxton Tracks

by Chris Harwood

Map OS Explorer 115 – Exmouth & Sidmouth 1:25000.

4.6 miles

Short but very sweet. Two, if not three, wonderful, long, sunken tracks. Open heath with incredible views. Some large puddles in very wet weather but these can be bypassed by careful use of the hedge banks. Overall, a must do!

Take the Tipton St John Road out of Ottery St Mary. Nearly opposite the school in Tipton St John turn on to the Venn Ottery Road. Almost immediately after the Venn Ottery village sign and on a sharp left-hand bend, cross over and go up a narrow dead-end lane and park suitably after the last house on the right. (Grid Reference 085918). Walk up the gently ascending lane.



This lane is wide, scouring into the stony earth, with rich hedgerows and views back toward Ottery and the Sidmouth Gap. Ignoring bridleways off to the left and right, stay on the main track which eventually meets a narrow, semi-surfaced road. It's possible that it was itself part of the highway many years ago judging by the few remnants of tarmacadam near its junction with the main road.

Move right up the hill, signposted to Aylesbeare, coming to a forest edge on your right. At this edge is a gateway into the forest, which is actually part of the Venn Ottery Common Nature Reserve. At the time of writing the common is being grazed by Exmoor and Dartmoor ponies and Galloway cattle as part of a heath management programme.

Continue up the hill and near the brow of the hill, on the right, is a gateway and Public Footpath sign guiding you on to the open heath. From this high vantage point, you have wonderful views of the East Devon countryside. Follow the track in front, bearing slightly right and downhill and look out for the first yellow arrow signed track moving off and down to the right. Take this slowly descending path and following a marked footpath post move left steeply downhill into the woods.

Follow the track over a wooden walkway to find a narrow wooden bridge. Pass through a metal gate and take the wonderful, sunken track steadily uphill. Move right at the top to meet a stony road. Right here for some distance to meet the public highway.

Right along this road to a Y junction on a bend and here take the left lane - signed West Hill/Broad Oak. Stay on this woody lane for something over 500 metres and then on the sharp left-hand bend turn right on to a signed unmetalled road. Quickly pass the short stretch of houses and buildings and out into the wonderful open countryside. Potter along this wide-open track between fields and hedges BUT beware, in winter, the Puddles! No problem in summer and even in winter there are edges to scramble along so not really a problem. You have almost 1.5 km of this marvellous track but then with great views of Fluxton you drop steeply downhill to meet another wide, stony track. Right on this, passing a house on your left. This is yet another rare sunken track. It can be a wee bit wet but again, up on the bank and off you go.

You will emerge eventually from this utterly magic track beside some cottages and farm buildings and here curve left down to the small road. Cross the road with care and straight up the bridleway opposite, going straight up rather than left by the cottages. This is the final deeply water-etched, tunnelled lane that emerges on the track from whence the adventure started! Move left down the track and back to the 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.

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Stuffing mix
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Bring the Christmas feeling home and join us for a fabulous festive wreath and garland making session! Pre booking required, get in touch to book your space & for more details.

The 8th of December

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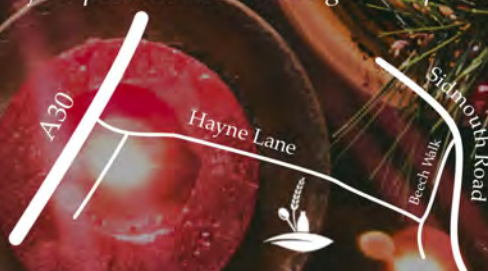
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Cherries, Cherries, Cherries

by Andrea Rye, Combe Garden Centre

*"Loveliest of trees the cherry now
Is hung with bloom along the bough,
And stands about the woodland ride
Wearing white for Eastertide."*

A.E. Housman

If I had room in my garden for another tree it would undoubtedly be a cherry. Of all the trees I remember from childhood the one that stands out is a "Kanzan" cherry tree with shiny mahogany bark that I passed every day on my way to Feniton primary school; every year in spring for a few glorious weeks it was completely captivating, covered in stunning double pink flowers that made it my first plant love. I have since learned that this variety is possibly the most popular ornamental cherry planted in Europe and North America and was bred during the Edo period in Japan. Most of the ornamental varieties we see in gardens come from the Japanese cherry tree, which that country has celebrated for hundreds of years, and rightfully so.

An ornamental cherry is a tree for every season and most are on the smaller side and well suited to small gardens. Cherries become smothered in blossom in spring and there are few other trees that have the same wow factor outside of the rose family; they even look magical when their petals drop and the ground appears to be covered in confetti. Their flowers can be single or double, white, white with pink centres, subtle creams, pale pink or deeper cand floss pink. Cherries have fabulous autumn colour and will look especially gorgeous this year due to the warm days and cold nights that we have been having. The autumn foliage stands out right now in the plants along the road to Exeter with its fire colours contrasting beautifully with the yellow Sorbus and the dark wine-coloured deciduous Euonymus. And after the leaves have dropped the lovely bark that is revealed for winter interest.

There are a huge variety of sizes and habits among the cherries so if you look you are bound to find one to fit your garden and tastes. Here are some of the loveliest.

Upright, Columnar Varieties



Prunus "Amanogawa"- very upright and slender with semi-double, pale pink blossom and slightly bronze foliage. Ideal for a focal point and adding height to a garden or lining avenues and paths. Best in a sheltered spot where harsh winds won't strip the flowers. 8 metres high by 2 metres wide in 20 years. RHS Award of Merit.

Snow goose - very slender tree ideal for very small spaces with single white flowers with cute, prominent, pink stamens that appear before the clear, bright green leaves that turn copper and red in autumn. 4 metres high by 2 metres wide in 20 years. Prefers chalky soil but is happy in most situations including light shade. Quite drought tolerant when established.

Small

Hessei - dwarf tree with gorgeous variegated mid green leaves with mottled pink, white and purple edges that turn red, purple and yellow in autumn. Flowers are prolific, single with pink centres under white stamens and has white petals that often have pink tinged edges. Can be grown in a pot. Doesn't like wet or chalky conditions. 2 x 2 metres in 20 years.

Little pink perfection - dwarf tree with double pink flowers that are darker on the edges and backs and paler in the centre in May and foliage that is bronze when young, becoming mid green in summer and orange and red in autumn. This variety handles pruning in winter well so can be kept very small and is also tolerant of pollution. 2.5 metres high by 4 metres wide in 20 years if left unpruned.

Autumnalis - a winter wonder that produces semi-double white flowers from pink buds, intermittently from November to March and has dark green leaves that turn yellows and oranges in autumn. The blossom is often followed by fruits popular with birds. Does not like wet soil but is pollution tolerant. 4 x 4 metres in 20 years. The "Autumnalis Rosea" has identical features but pale pink flowers.



Show Stoppers

Royal Burgundy - stunning variety with glossy burgundy-coloured leaves that turn bright scarlet in autumn and double, candy floss pink flowers. Happy in most soils except very damp. 3 x 5 metres in 20 years. RHS Award of Garden Merit.

Blireana - a truly spectacular, small tree which is actually an ornamental plum. Blireana has stunning, tidy, round flowers that are semi-double, deep candy floss pink and have fluffy looking stamens. It's absolutely gorgeous and the flowers are produced in abundance in late March and early April. The leaves are purple/bronze. 4 metres high by 3 metres wide in 20 years. Likes moist but well-draining soil in full sun. RHS Award of Garden Merit. Seriously yummy!!



Find Out More About The Lions - Their Future Depends On You



People often ask me

What **are** the Lions clubs?

- Are we a Rugby Team? NO!

- Are we a Chocolate Bar? NO!



We are in fact a group of people who work together to help our community and improve their environment and most importantly have fun doing it.

Would YOU like to meet new friends and have new experiences?

Would YOU like to be a valued member of our community?

Would YOU like to feel the pride and satisfaction that you have made a positive difference to the lives of others?

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Honiton Lions was formed in 1977 by a group of men of all ages and professions and have raised thousands of pounds for mainly local and some international causes we feel are needed. At our meeting in October, we decided to help Project Food based in Axminster and Ottery St Mary hospitals with a donation of £200 to help support the people of East Devon. £200 was also presented to The Feniton Brownies to help with some uniforms.

Our ladies held another stall in the High Street selling homemade jam and chutney and other odds and ends raising just over £200 again.

Our Grand Charity Draw is due to conclude with the draw taking place on Sunday November 6th at 2pm. The venue is The Otter Inn at Weston - more information in next month's magazine.

Please give me a call Brian the Lion if you would like to find out more about Honiton Lions

on 01404 43738

or email me, brian.richards@honitonlions.org.uk

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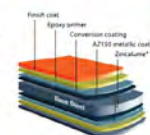
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A View From The Hills

by Miranda Gudenian



I'd planned to collect poppy seeds but got distracted by butterflies. The autumn sunshine warmed my back as I stood at the garden gate watching them, mostly Red Admirals and Peacocks, a few Tortoiseshells, a lone Painted Lady, jewelling the ivied walls of the outhouse. More arrived, and yet more, thirty, forty perhaps, to feed on the nectar-rich ivy flowers. Soon they will be seeking dark corners in the potting shed or flitting unseen into the house to slip behind pictures and sleep away the winter months.

But that morning it didn't seem as if winter was anywhere near, nor even much advanced towards the blustery winds and whirling leaves that usually accompany autumn. In the border by the house Scarlet Pimpernel, the shepherd's weatherglass, spread its five petals wide, heralding another fine day. A man came along the lane with a spaniel on a lead. We exchanged a few words about the unseasonal weather. "It'll make the winter seem shorter!" he said, with a cheery wave of his hand as he went on his way.

At lunchtime I remembered the poppy seeds. Welsh poppies are a love 'em or loathe 'em plant. Granted, they pop up all over the place and can ruin a carefully structured colour scheme in one's garden border, and the long tap root is tricky to winkle out in its entirety, but I confess to a love for the silken petals, for the flowers that look like pools of sunshine.

The heat and drought of these past months have kept the papery seed pods intact, no tearing gales to scatter the thousands of tiny black seeds. My friend Maggie had asked if I would gather some for her to sow in her garden. Once again I found myself distracted, this time by the cries of a young buzzard soaring in the azure sky and by the bees humming among the purple flowers of Salvia and Buddleia as if 'warm days will never cease'.

It was warm enough not to bother with a jacket later in the afternoon when I went shopping. Wandering around Barleymow's farm shop I noticed a basket of quinces and couldn't resist picking up one of the fruits to sniff it: sweet and musky, smelling of hay fields and apple orchards, like a distillation of all the most alluring aromas of harvest.

There weren't any 'golden apples' - as the quince was known in antiquity - in Yarcombe Church on Harvest Sunday, but the windows were piled with orchard apples and flowers from village gardens. Rev'd. Julie led the service, in a "good full church" as someone whispered to me as I took my seat. We sang the farmers' hymn 'We Plough the Fields and Scatter'. Afterwards, eighty sat down to Harvest Lunch in the village hall - though it probably wasn't as rumbustious an occasion as it would have been in the Yarcombe of medieval England when harvest's climax was celebrated on St Martin's Day, November 11th.

Martinmas is a forgotten feast, marking the end of the agrarian year, a day of strong drink and roast goose, of rejoicing in Earth's bounty. Much the same as any harvest celebration you might suppose, except that this one had a main event of dawn to dusk slaughter of pigs, sheep and oxen, the meat salted down against the lean months of winter, a bulwark against starvation. The remnants of the ancient festival faded in the early 20th century when another slaughter took prominence, this time on the fields of Flanders, to cease on the same date, 11th November.

I returned from the farm shop along oak-lined lanes crunchy with this year's gargantuan crop of acorns. 'Mast', our medieval forebears called it, and just what you need to fatten those pigs before Martinmas. Half-way up the ancient green track that forks off my lane, where yesterday I had spotted a stoat shimmying through the farm gate with a half-grown rabbit in its mouth, a pair of cock pheasants were head-to-head in combat, their bronze plumage glinting in the sunshine like the flames of an autumn bonfire.

It wasn't until nine o'clock in the evening that I remembered the poppy seeds and went outside with a paper bag to gather them. The night air was almost balmy. The moon cast such a light that I had no need of a torch. I was stopped in my tracks by the sight of a harvest mouse - 'with silver paw and silver eye' - atop a poppy stem, nibbling one of the seed heads. Being a harvest mouse, it was gone in a flash but probably not gone far. My gathering of poppy seeds would have to wait, and I retreated indoors. Go to it, little mouse, I murmured, and fill yourself up before the lean months of winter blow in.



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Honiton Congregational Church Celebrates 250 Years



Interior of the Congregational Church

Our cover photo is of Honiton Congregational Church and the horse chestnut tree that has been a prominent feature of the High Street for many years. Four chestnut trees and two lime trees were planted by Rev William Wright in 1834. This tree and the lime trees remain.

The church itself was founded by a group meeting in New Street on November 11th 1771. They had left the Presbyterian church which had been established next door to the current site of the Congregational Church but which later declined in numbers. Prior to this in August 1765 a fire swept down the High Street which cleared the site for the Congregational Church to be built. Many of the buildings in the east end of the High Street are from that time.

The church has had its highs and lows but continues as an active place of worship. Originally known as The Independent Chapel it remained an independent Bible-believing church when the United Reformed Church was formed. Subsequently

it became a founding member of EFCC, the Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches. Mr John Halse, local businessman and politician, was Secretary of the Church at this time and many locally will remember him as Sunday School Superintendent.

During this year's 250th Anniversary there have been a variety of events including Open Days, Talks and the AGM of EFCC. A display of the history of the church together with artefacts was put in place in the British Schoolroom and is still available to view. The schoolroom was built for the cost of £320, including a Parliamentary grant of £150, to educate "the children of the poor in Honiton according to the principles of the British and Foreign School Society". Groups of pupils from Honiton Primary School have recently visited the church as part of their RE and history curriculum, experiencing a little of what lessons were like in the past.

On Saturday 15th October a Reunion Tea was held for any who had previously attended the Sunday School, Covenanters Group or Youth Meetings.

The church has provided a number of Honiton Mayors over the years, the last being Peter Halse, and has a tradition of inviting the Mayor and Town Councillors to its anniversary services, which this year will be on Sunday 20th November at 10.30am and will be followed by a buffet lunch.

A history of the church was written for the 200th anniversary in 1971 and has been updated to the present day. It can be found on the church website www.honitonecc.org along with details of the church services and activities such as a popular Parent and Toddler group, Seasonal Ladies Craft Afternoons and Men's Breakfast. Pre Covid, members of the church were also taking services in Honiton Abbeyfield and at Hill House Residential Home.



Those attending the anniversary tea



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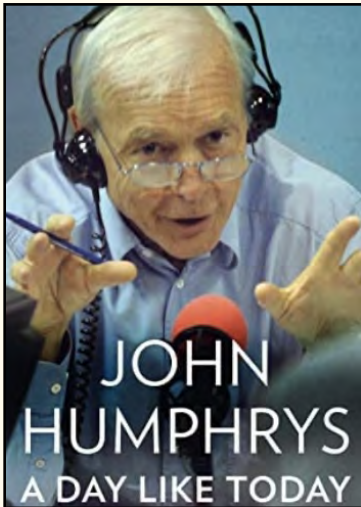
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Book Review - 'Beyond Words' by John Humphrys

by Jennie Sleeman



With tongue sticking out in concentration, the child slowly and carefully formed the letters. Suddenly, 'I'll have that chalk, thank you!' thundered a voice: Superman was on apostrophe watch. The crime? 'Special's board'.

I sniggered, but as I put the birthday card back on the shelf, my attention was caught by a book I'd bought recently from the library, but not read. To be

honest, the name of the author put me off. He had irritated me on many drives to work as I listened to The Today Programme on BBC Radio 4, but I flipped through a few pages.

'Known offenders are being fed into a computer,' claimed a BBC newsreader. I started to read. 'The Slowdown in the Housing Market is Gaining Speed' stated a headline in The Times. I continued reading.

The book does not simply smirk at the unintended effects of punctuation errors. In fact, Humphrys' purpose is not to poke fun at pomposity, incorrect use or plain nonsense (though he does that quite well), but to explore what our changing use of language tells us about the way we live now.

Humphrys dips into language use in many areas of life, including jargon, street language, advertising and that of authority.

An IT system, now obsolete, 'had gone end of life', and a local council, on being asked to explain its use of 'low-profile landscape' replied 'flat'. Are you more likely to buy duty free from an 'in-flight retail facilitator'? What about the singer Cher's sale of personal items. Humphrys referred to a clearout of old junk. She called it 'rewriting my personal environment'. So much more interesting!

Adding unnecessary words, or changing nouns into verbs is an offence. Why do weather forecasters say 'more in the way of sunshine' instead of 'sunnier'? Who knows? Competitors hoping 'to medal' and the hope that athletes would 'podium' simply baffle Humphrys. Equally, he (like me) takes offence at the M&S slogan 'Your M&S', which is simple and untrue. It belongs to its shareholders and I certainly don't want it. I might choose to buy some of its products, but the business does not belong to me!

Sometimes it is the message itself that gets lost. Try this,

from an 'upmarket' newspaper, 'We like to connect with the values of the snowboarding lifestyle.' Why, wonders Humphrys, is hurtling down a slope on a board a lifestyle and what are its values - honour, loyalty, concern for others? What, also, does 'connect with values' mean, rather than adopt them or deplore them?

This leads (syncs?) neatly to this statement from the BBC, 'The transition to an on demand digital environment requires a shift to an asset centric approach to media asset management, capturing meta data at the outset of the assets lifecycle.' It continues, but that is probably enough to make the point that jargon can become gobbledegook (which is such a wonderfully expressive word). Humphrys then has a little fun with the reader by quoting various sentences, some from politicians and some from the Plain English Campaign gobbledegook computer, though refuses to say which is which. Can you guess correctly? 'A vision of expanding contestability in the delivery of offender services', or 'Only geeks stuck in the 90s still go for compatible reciprocal concepts' (which sounds rather alarming). To finish, I like this, 'I assure you that my pre-thinking will be rational.' Answers on a postcard, please.

Humphrys is not, however, averse to learning. His education about street language from a Radio 1 DJ was so effective that he pictured himself as 'a hip young dude' - my powers of imagination are not sufficiently strong. Did you know that in 'Street' there's a million ways of not saying anything? Or why trousers are worn so low that the make of the wearer's underpants is clearly visible? Or what 'down with the kids' actually means? I won't spoil it for you.

Humphrys reminds the reader, perhaps too frequently, that he's been a journalist for over 50 years, is 'an old fool' and one of the 'crusties' which has a rather patronising ring. He has little time for new turns of phrase, or Americanisms and remains passionate about the use of the apostrophe. 'This ageing hack who has made his living using words' believes that the solution is 'to bring back grammar. And then we can all understand what is going on in our world.' Far be it from me to query his sentence construction or to ask where he thinks 'grammar' has been hiding for the last fifty years.

To finish, I must share this from a textbook designed to make Shakespeare's language clear:

Lady Macbeth: Was the hope drunk/Wherein you dressed self? Hath it slept since/And what wakes it now, to look so green and pale?

Translation: Cowardly custard!

Hodder and Stoughton 2006



Move Over Maisie And Roll In Pebble

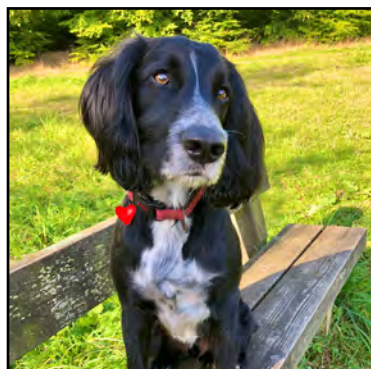
Hello! My name is Bertie and as a young Working Cocker Spaniel I am one very lucky pooch. I live in a beautiful valley near Honiton, and Hembury Fort is my castle.

Over previous months I have shared with you my most inner feelings about Maisie the black Labrador and super sleek "love goddess". Last month she was my one and only heart's desire, but my goodness how swiftly a young dog's affections can turn so this month it is, "move over Maisie and roll in Pebble"!

Now I don't want you all to be thinking of me as a fickle kind of mutt but I am sure that Pebble is the real deal for me; let me tell you more. Recently it was decided that the humans and I would holiday separately, they wanted to go off somewhere hot and sunny which does not suit me so I stayed local and lodged with my best human friend and her new pup Pebble. There was an instant attraction between us, particularly as we have so much in common; both country born dogs, same smart colour, same breed, same bouncy friendly characters, in fact a definite "swipe right" on Canine Tinder for us both.



Never has every moment of every day been so fun filled and exciting; constant frolicking around, playing all sorts of games, great walks, sometimes joining in with other packs of like-minded pooches - and best of all snuggling up together in my basket for our nap time.



Like all really good holidays, going home time comes around far too soon and I was sad to say goodbye to young Pebble and her humans. Back home now I am still reliving some of the fab adventures we had and hoping against hope that the humans will want to go off again without me very, very soon.

Meanwhile I have been indulging in a bit of an autumn makeover and, if I say so myself, thanks to Paula from the Pooch Parlour I am looking pretty "fit" and ready to turn the head of any passing doggo up on Hembury Fort. It is amazing the difference a full cut and blow dry can make and, wait for it, I had my teeth cleaned so even my smile is super sparkly (and according to my humans my breath is now not so stinky).

Of course it won't last long so don't worry, by the time you see me I will be back to my normal scruffy spaniel self, splashing through muddy puddles and rolling in piles of crispy leaves - wowza I just love being a dog at this time of year.

*Be a head
of the rest!*



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Honiton Camera Club Records History Re-Enacted at Upottery



Honiton Camera Club members recently attended an event when Day of Days Living History Group, in cooperation with the South West Airfields Heritage Trust, invited a number of Living History Groups to attend the Upottery Nissen Hut Heritage Centre.

On the Saturday, there were a number of World War II US re-enactors on hand, to explain what it is they do, the kit they wear, and give the public a chance to see a

WWII encampment, right next to the Nissen Hut museum, full of artefacts relating to the airfield and local wartime history.

On the Sunday, a memorial service was held in the morning, to remember all of those who served, and left, from this special place nearly 80 years ago.



Photos courtesy of Andy McGarty, Lynda Piper and Claire Fry

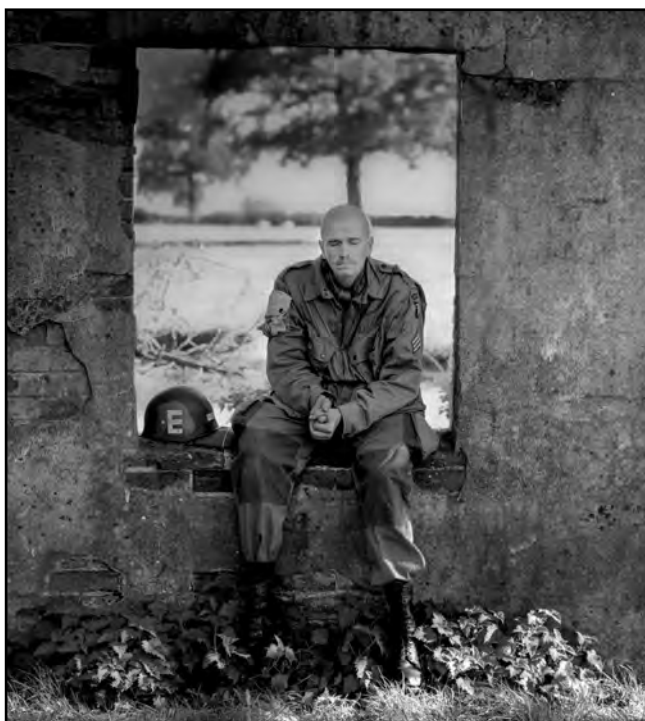
Day of Days Living History Group was created earlier this year, by people who have been involved for many years within Living History, with the goal of commemorating and remembering those who served from Upottery and other airfields during World War II.

The group is based at the former Upottery Airfield, home to the 439th Troop Carrier Group USAAF up to and just after D-Day and most famous as the airfield that Easy Company, 506th PIR, 101st Airborne left from.

With members from all over the country, Day of Days is mainly centred around the US Airborne experience, but aims to commemorate all of the units that were at the airfield, whether that be the 101st or 82nd Airborne, the USAAF Air and Ground crews, US Navy, or RAF units that were there.

With members who are Round Canopy Parachute trained, the group can also provide a hands-on, in-depth experience as to what it is like to leave an aircraft in flight, just as the guys did all of those years ago.

For more information, find Day of Days on Facebook, by searching 'Day of Days Living History Group'.

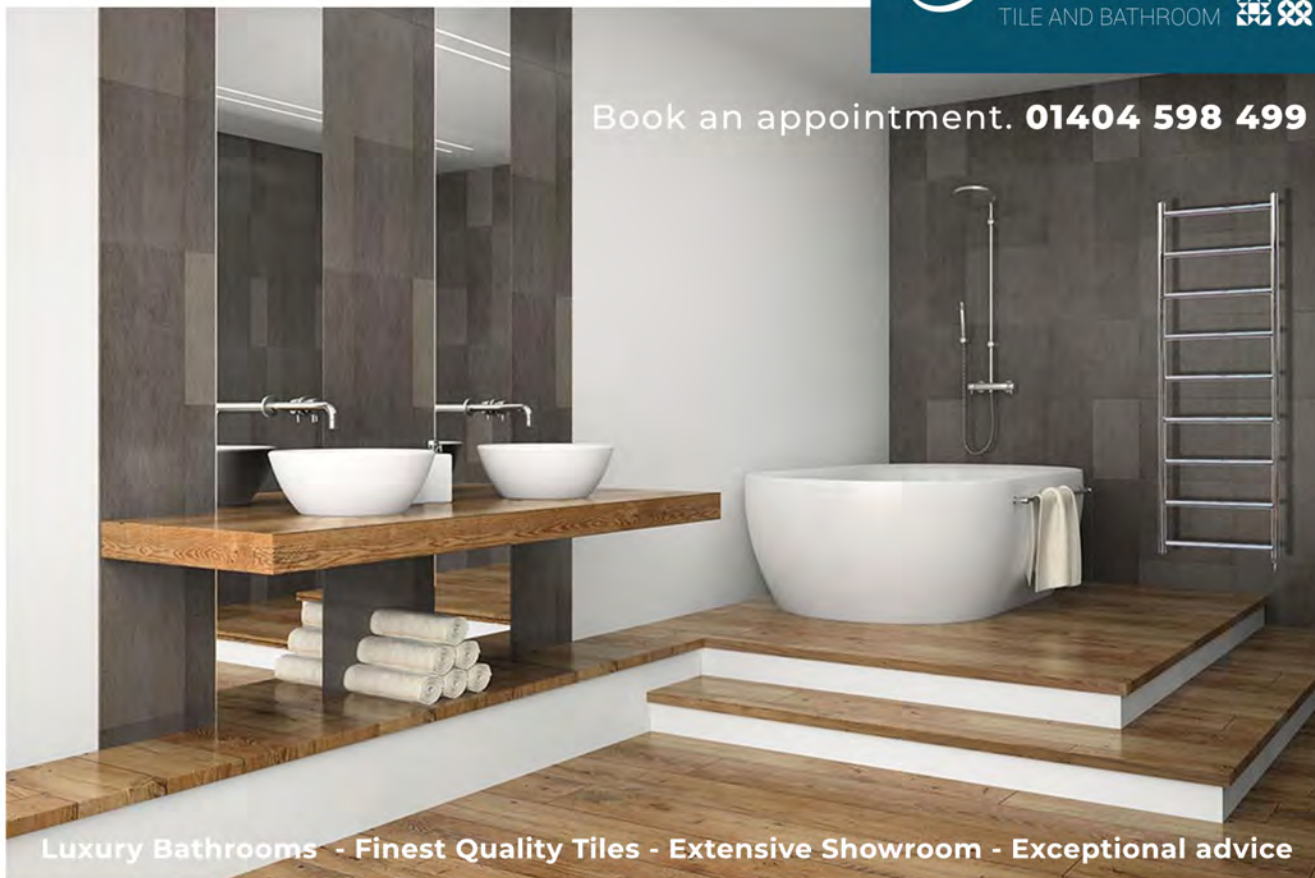


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The Ramblings Of Gertie From Gittisham

with an echo of Virginia Woolf

The nights are drawing in rapidly, and my thoughts are turning to cosy evenings on the sofa with the curtains drawn and some form of warmth emanating forth, hopefully from my latest purchase of a device called Instaheat. Rather like my young man who is going to whisk me off to the Maldives, the firm supplying my miracle, energy-saving device, 'GoGogadgets' are proving somewhat tardy in their promises to deliver. One learns to live with disappointments of this nature.

Being human is such a precarious state, especially since the invention of the Google, Twitterings, Giffgaff and all the other technical nonsense, supposedly invented for the advancement of civilisation. Thank goodness for the simple comforting joys of Literature with its infinite capacity to satisfy all the senses. The clocks will fall back and I will fall into some form of somnolence induced by my reading, whereby my thoughts will drift and who knows where they will rest?

Take last Friday; a dark and dank evening with an uncommonly, harsh seasonal chill, given that winter is not yet upon us. My most excellent text, *Women & Desire – Beyond Wanting to be Wanted*, chosen to illuminate the wanton behaviours of my irascible sister, Birdie, soon slipped from my grasp. I was lost, lost in a reverie concerning the wilfully sensuous nature of that errant hag. The sentence causing my need to pause and reflect came under the sub-heading of that ancient tale: 'Gawain and the Lady Ragnell': - 'What a woman desires above all else is the power of sovereignty, the right to exercise her own free will.'

Now Lady Ragnell was a fictional woman given to a lifestyle not dissimilar to Birdie's, in as much as she lived according to her nature and was bold and uncompromising. Birdie has certainly lived her life solely on her terms, breaking all social conventions along her merry way.

I was reminded of this most painfully, when my birthday loomed; my vanity forbids an admission of my age, but I decided to buckle up and brace myself for a quiet family celebration in my own home. An intimate luncheon, tete a tete to avoid embarrassment primarily for myself, but also for Birdie with her absence of teeth, her sucking, drooling and audible masticating, notwithstanding the dreadful gurning and her addiction to mind-addling substances. For surely a bottle or two of Buckfast would grace the table, if in fact she could be prevailed upon to observe such niceties as to sit at the table and use a plate with knife and fork.

Duly, the appointed hour arrived and no sign of my sister. The home-made goat faggots were done to a turn in my accidentally burnt onion gravy and still the clock ticked. Tut-tut, tut-tut! How could she be so rude? Suddenly, a commotion and there she was, staggering up my path with that most disreputable soulmate of hers - the one she has spent most of her life flagrantly cavorting around with in a most immoral manner. Yet such joy emanated from her - I quite forgot my annoyance at her inconsiderate behaviour: her lateness and her arrival with an uninvited, unwashed and most unwelcome 'other', who was equally buoyant in



mood and possibly in spirits. There was no denying their deep and abiding affection for each other - this love that has survived an infinite number of misdemeanours on both sides in a bid for each to satiate their animal desires.

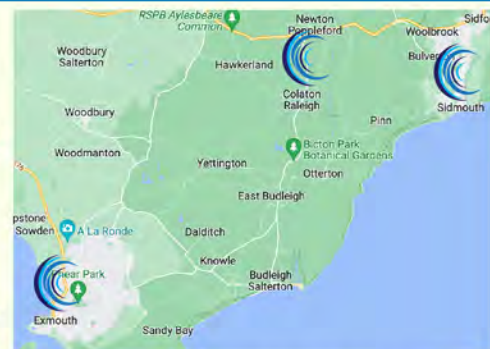
'But what have I done with my life?' I was forced to question as took my 'place at the head of the table and looked at the empty white plates making white circles on it.' Indeed, for all of my circumspect life, in keeping with those buttoned-up strictures embedded in respectable social circles, I now found myself forced to conclude that those virginal symbols were in some way symbolic of a life curtailed, a life not well-lived. Unlike the lives of those two tarnished vessels who were bubbling and burbling away with raucous unbridled glee, as they sprawled, entwined at my table. Numerous times I was forced to avert my eyes as greed, passion and carnal lusts overwhelmed those birthday guests in a climatic overflowing of spontaneous feeling.

By eventide, following their departure, I was left exhausted and drained as the plates were left to dry on the draining board, the Buckfast bottles rinsed and recycled, my pink, nylon nightdress wrapped tightly around my hot water bottle and placed in my severely tucked-in single bed awaiting the weight of my doleful self.

Seemingly, much later, in my dreaming state, I could hear the muttering, mocking incantations of Lady Ragnell and Birdie together reciting a piece by the poet Lucille Clifton from which, for once, I could find no recognition or solace:

*There is a girl inside. She is randy as a wolf.
She will not walk away and leave these bones
to an old woman.*

*She is a green tree in a forest of kindling.
She is a green girl in a used poet.
She has waited patient as a nun for this second coming,
when she can break through grey hairs
into blossom
and her lovers will harvest honey and thyme
and the woods will be wild
with the damn wonder of it.*



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What's On - November At The Beehive

Hello lovely folk, we begin November with a thriller of passion and betrayal in three acts performed by our wonderful Honiton Community Theatre Co. This production of 'The Hollow' by Agatha Christie has some terrific characters including Lady Lucy Angkatell - come along and see whodunnit! Poirot's enquiries reveal a complex web of romantic attachments. It seems everyone in the drama is a suspect – and each a victim of love. November 3rd-5th with a BSL signed performance on Friday 4th.

We also have some fab mainstream films with Mrs Harris Goes to Paris(PG), Ticket to Paradise starring George Clooney and Julia Roberts, and Sally Hawkins and Steve Coogan star in The Lost King.

There's live screened event cinema too with The National Theatre modern adaptation of Chekov's The Seagull(15) starring Emilia Clarke, and The Royal Ballet's A Diamond Celebration, a dazzling showcase by the principal dancers.

We're also spoilt for choice with live music this month and really delighted to have not one, not two but three homegrown amazing acts and talented musician/songwriters playing here!

Sweet Black Angels and BlimeyohRiley are performing a double-header gig on Saturday 12th November, so two great bands in one night - bring your friends and prepare to party!

Then on Thursday 17th November we welcome back Joe and Cole along with the wonderful drummer (from Midge

Ure's band) Russell Field with the mesmerising, marvellous India Electric Co.

There's something for everyone as we also welcome the return of Pete and Dan, who perform with the most exquisite skill a great tribute to Simon & Garfunkel, Through the Years. Saturday 19th November.

Our nostalgic dementia friendly cinema for this month is 'Chariots Of Fire' (PG). Everyone come along for a friendly welcome and cuppa in the café afterwards.

Finally we have The History of Rock which has a great band and vocalists performing all of those iconic rock numbers - book quickly as there are few tickets for this, and History of Soul in early December. It's also worth mentioning The Unravelling Wilburys will also be playing in early December so please do check out our website - www.beehivehoniton.co.uk or pop in to grab a flyer.

We have some good news for those that would like to come along and keep warm in our café throughout the winter with free soup, roll & butter plus cake, company and a warm welcome between 1pm and 5pm every Tuesday from November 1st. There will be board games, chat or bring a book, you're very welcome to join us. We look forward to seeing you soon and thank you for your continued support.

Wendy & the Beehive team.



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

THE HOLLOW - HONITON COMMUNITY THEATRE CO.
3-5 Nov 7.15pm £10 (BSL Interpreted performance on Friday)
 By Agatha Christie. An unhappy game of romantic follow-the-leader explodes into murder one weekend at The Hollow.



NT LIVE: THE SEAGULL (15)
Thu 10 Nov 7pm Adult £16, Student £13
 Emilia Clarke (Game of Thrones) makes her West End debut in this 21st century retelling of Chekhov's tale of love & loneliness.



MRS. HARRIS GOES TO PARIS (PG)
Fri 11 Nov 7.30pm Adult £7.50, U16 £6.50
 Lesley Manville stars as an enchanting widowed cleaning lady in the 1950s, who falls in love with a couture Dior dress.



SWEET BLACK ANGELS & BLIMEYOHRILEY
Sat 12 Nov 8pm £10 (standing gig)
 Two great bands in one night! BlimeyOhRiley - traditional genres with a glazing of Punk Rock. SBA - Melodic/Folk/Rock.



THE BEEHIVE FOLK CAFÉ
Wed 16 Nov 7.30pm Free entry
 Everyone is welcome to come along to sing or listen in the Beehive bar with our lovely folkie host, Sue King.



INDIA ELECTRIC COMPANY
Thu 17 Nov 7.30pm £16, U25 £14 (seated)
 The fabulous indie pop/folk duo are back with a drummer! Using traditional instruments in contemporary styles.



*All details correct at time of print. Please check website for updates. Ticket prices include a £3 admin fee.
The Beehive • Dowell Street • Honiton • EX14 1LZ
Box Office: 01404 384050 www.beehivehoniton.co.uk Charity 1162412



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

TICKET TO PARADISE (12A)
Fri 18 Nov 7.30pm Adult £7.50, U16 £6.50
 A divorced couple team up to stop their daughter from making the same mistake they think they made 25 years ago.



SIMON & GARFUNKEL THROUGH THE YEARS
Sat 19 Nov 7.30pm £20 (seated)
 "One of the greatest tribute shows anywhere in the world" - a celebration of the most successful folk-rock duo of the 1960s.



NOSTALGIC CINEMA: CHARIOTS OF FIRE (PG)
Thu 24 Nov 2pm £4.50 includes hot drink & biscuits
 The 1981 thrilling and moving film. All are welcome at this dementia-friendly screening with subtitles.



ROYAL BALLET: A DIAMOND CELEBRATION
Thu 24 Nov screening 7.15pm Adult £17, Student £11
 A dazzling showcase by the principals of the Royal Ballet, marking 60 years of the Friends of the Royal Opera House.



THE HISTORY OF ROCK
Fri 25 Nov 7.30pm £25 (seated)
 A jaw dropping night transporting you through the golden ages of ROCK! Led Zeppelin, Cream, Guns 'n Roses, and more.



THE LOST KING (12A)
Sat 26 Nov 7.30pm Adult £7.50, U16 £6.50
 The story of the amateur historian who became convinced that she knows the final resting place of King Richard III.



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

Hospiscare To Hold Carol Concert To Remember Lost Loved Ones

The local hospice charity for Exeter, Mid and East Devon is inviting the community to come together in celebration of the lives of loved ones who are no longer with us.



For the first time since the outbreak of the pandemic, Hospiscare is holding a carol service in East Devon to honour the memories of loved ones during the festive season.

Carols at the Park will take place at Deer Park Country House in Honiton on Sunday 4 December. Tea and coffee will be provided on arrival at 3pm with the service commencing at 3:45pm.

There are limited spaces for the carol service, therefore guests will need to register their attendance by visiting www.hospiscare.co.uk/light.

After two years of online remembrance celebrations due to the pandemic, Hospiscare has also announced that its Light up a Life celebration will return to Exeter Cathedral on Monday 19 December at 6:45pm.

Members of the community will be able to come together and honour the lives of their loved ones. Dedications can also be made in the Book of Memories, which will be available to view at Exeter Cathedral, as well as local churches throughout December until twelfth night. To add a loved one's name to the Book of Memories, call 01392 688020 or visit www.hospiscare.co.uk/light. Memories of loved ones can also be shared in Hospiscare's online Gallery of Memories by visiting www.hospiscare.light-up-a-life.org/2022.



Hospiscare would like to thank Walter H Squires for their sponsorship of Light up a Life and Heaven Brothers, Clinton Devon Estates, Coastal Recycling Sherwoods and Exeter Cathedral for their support.



The Arts Society Honiton

Interested in the arts?

Then join us at The Arts Society Honiton. We meet at The Beehive at 2pm on the second Tuesday of the month from October to June.

Our next meeting:

Tuesday 8 November 2-3:30pm

Laughter and Loss: British Artists in WWII

The War Artists scheme was set up in 1939 to employ British artists to depict the war at home and abroad and to keep them safe. In this wide-ranging lecture we follow the fortunes of those chosen, from Eric Ravilious and Edward Ardizzone to Laura Knight and Paul Nash. We will see how the experience of war inspired different artists, examine some of the striking artworks created during the conflict, and commemorate the lives of those who did not come home. An apt lecture for this time of remembrance.

Visitors are welcome and can pay on the door.

www.theartsocietyhoniton.org.uk

Email: info@theartsocietyhoniton.org.uk



Honiton Garden Club



Our next meeting will be on

Thursday 17 November

6.30-8.00pm

at St Paul's Church

Our speaker, Roy Cheeck,
will be giving an entertaining winter talk
Holly & Ivy

Non-members are welcome to join us (£3 entry)

**PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CONTINUE TO MEET IN
THE CRYPT WHILST REPAIR WORK IS BEING
CARRIED OUT WITHIN ST PAULS**

**Don't forget to let us know of your events so that
we can publicise them to the wider community.**

Just contact

honitonvillagenews@gmail.com

What's On



**DEMENTIA
FRIENDLY
HONITON**

November is a busy month for Dementia Friendly Honiton. On November 8th we have our AGM at The Beehive. Anyone is welcome to attend, it is very informal and a great opportunity to meet our Trustees, to learn more about the whole range of work we do and to express an interest if you would like to join our group as a volunteer or perhaps a committee member.

Then, in partnership with The Beehive and Home Instead, we have two free Dementia Awareness sessions. You only need to attend one, they are non medical and suitable for anyone including friends, families and volunteers who may know someone living with dementia



**DEMENTIA
FRIENDLY
HONITON**

AGM Notice **Tuesday 8th November** **5.30pm to 7pm** **Beehive** **Community Venue**

Come and learn more about the work we do to help people with dementia live their best lives within our community – all welcome

info@dementiahoniton.org.uk
www.dementiahoniton.org.uk
CC number: 1189482



FREE Dementia Awareness Community Workshops

For those looking to learn a little more about Dementia

Monday 14 November
2.00pm - 4.00pm

Saturday 26 November
10.30am - 12.30pm



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The Beehive
Honiton



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Saturday 19th November
7-10.30pm

Talaton Parish Hall, EX5 2RL

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includes a sharing food platter

No bar - please bring your own drinks



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Talaton Community Shop
or by contacting Lindsey on:
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Honiton , Ottery & District Local National Trust

We have enjoyed two private house visits over the past 2-3 months; firstly to Wolferton near Dorchester and secondly to Mapperton near Bridport.

We are now organising a series of talks between now and Christmas

On Friday 18 November

The Mackarness Hall in Honiton

2.30pm

Admission £3

Mr Alex Leger will be talking about his time as a producer on Blue Peter

**For any enquiries please contact Richard Coley on
01404 813163**

What's On

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Honiton Hospital
& Community

League of Friends

Christmas Fayre

10 December
9am – 12pm

Mackarness Hall, Honiton



Your Local Library Is A Lifeline This Winter

We know it's going to be a tough few months ahead with the cost-of-living crisis and heating bills rising. So, Libraries Unlimited is launching a 'Libraries for Life' campaign to remind everyone that we're not just about books!

You can sit in the warmth and use our free WiFi or book a computer (up to 2 hours free use per day for library card holders). And here at Honiton Library are groups ranging from Bounce & Rhyme for babies and toddlers to Baby Weighing. There's also Adult Colouring and a Knitting & Crochet group. And don't forget if you're housebound or struggle to get to the library, our Home Library Service can deliver not just books but a friendly chat too!

It's really quick and easy to join the library and it's FREE!

There may be more things happening later on so do keep your eyes peeled and keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.

The Library is open

Monday	9am-6pm
Tuesday	9am-5pm
Wednesday	9am-5pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	9am-6pm
Saturday	9am-1pm

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The magazine is produced monthly and is FREE of charge, it is available in local and village shops. Contact us for page sizes and current rates and we will be pleased to be of assistance.



The Changing Times Of Public Holidays

by Martin Long

	England & Wales	Northern Ireland
New Year	Jan. 1 # Jan. 3	Jan. 1 # Jan. 3
St. Patrick	-	Mar. 17
Good Friday	Apr. 15 ‡	Apr. 15 ‡
Easter Monday	Apr. 18	Apr. 18
Early May	May 2	May 2
Spring & Jubilee	Jun 2 & 3	Jun 2 & 3
Public Holiday	-	-
Battle of the Boyne	-	July 12
Summer	Aug. 29	Aug. 29
Public Holiday	-	-
Christmas	Dec. 25 ‡† Dec. 27	Dec. 25 ‡† Dec. 26
Boxing Day	Dec. 26	Dec. 26

‡ Common Law Holiday
† Holiday falls on a Saturday
‡ Holiday falls on a Saturday and Financial Dealings Act allow the Govt to move the day to the following day

We have become used to the idea of public holidays marking out the passage of the year, from New Year's Day, through Easter and Whitsun, all the way to Christmas. And yet the origins of the whole process of public holidays is by no means simple. And the clue is most definitely in the name.

For centuries, holidays were, to a greater or lesser extent, just that: holy days. It would have appeared wrong to celebrate a festival or hold a holiday to mark a living person or commemorate a human achievement. At the time of a powerful church, such a thing would have been unthinkable.

And then came Queen Elizabeth I. From 1558 onwards, November 17th was marked as the day on which she became Queen. To begin with the day was celebrated in a slightly half-hearted way. But when a rebellion against her in 1569 was put down, Elizabeth ordered that celebrations be stepped up a gear, to become arguably Britain's first overtly political holiday, with what was described at the time as: "bonfires, ringing of bells and discharging of ordinance at the Tower of London."

The day became both the beginning of an increasingly overt cult of personality around Elizabeth, and the creation of the

day when people were asked to give thanks for her survival, faced by challenges from home and abroad. However, from the very start the day was extremely controversial. There were fears that it set a dangerous precedent, both in the way it treated Elizabeth, and by creating a holiday that had a political rather than a religious origin.

When Elizabeth died, the idea of Accession Day did not immediately die with her, although the date of its celebration changed from monarch to monarch. However, it was never again to be celebrated with quite the same fervour as in its first incarnation.

Modern times have seen the whole notion of Accession Day fade into the background, with the late Queen's anniversary in February marked principally by a 21 gun salute, with her official birthday in June taking over the focus with the Trooping the Colour ceremony, which is a whole other story. One assumes that the new King's accession will continue to be marked in a wholly ceremonial way such as this. It seems unlikely that we will ever see our public holidays become ways of marking the lives of individuals as is common in the USA, except for those exceptional moments like the late Queen's death.

Nor will we see, I think, any success for those who would like to see the public holiday constantly talked of for October being named in honour of something like the Battle of Trafalgar. As those who came after the first Elizabeth found, such an action would set a dangerous precedent, which can have unforeseen consequences.

For instance, this month many of us will still attend bonfire parties, or watch firework displays. And we will be well aware that this has something to do with Guy Fawkes, and the attempt by Catholic rebels to blow up Parliament, and kill King James I and VI and much of the English establishment. Less well understood is how much of a big deal "Gunpowder Treason Day" was for so long after 1605. The call to: "Remember, Remember the 5th of November. Gunpowder, Treason and Plot" was very powerful, and was pushed very hard by James.

Over time, however, the political overtones, and to some extent the religious hatred have been softened out of November 5th. And it has long since ceased to be an important date in the calendar, with the event steadily being overtaken by Hallowe'en (also quite another story). But in case you are wondering, many argue that the autumn carnival tradition, in places like Bridgwater, can trace its origins back to street processions to mark November 5th. And we cannot leave Ottery's tar barrels out of the equation either, although their precise origins are clearly more complex and lost in time.

So, where does all this history leave us? Well, if nothing else it reminds us that all the pageantry and ritual that we saw over the past couple of months, as we marked the ordered and dignified transition from one monarch to another, is not something static and unchanging. Over the centuries, the process of accession, the celebrating of our sovereign and the survival of our monarchy have undergone a number of changes, as the institution and the challenges it has faced have changed. And the new King immediately seemed to show that this process is going to continue, in the way he opened up the ritual of accession to public gaze and to wider participation across the country. Nothing stays the same forever, and nor should it.

Does Silver Always Sell By Weight?

by Liz Chilcott



Every Friday, at our valuation day, items of silver are brought into us for sale at Chilcotts. Most people expect that, because silver is not widely used, there will be little demand and therefore not worth much; others think that the value will be solely in the weight of the item.

Silver is hallmarked: hallmarks comprise between three and six stamps, including the maker's mark; some makers are particularly sought after, with their skill and 'signature' look known and collected.

Gilbert Marks is one such maker – a silversmith who designed and produced mainly dishes, platters and cups, in an Arts & Crafts style. All his pieces were individually made by hand, without use of dies - none of them were duplicated. Marks died in 1905 at the age of 43; he is thought to have made no more than 700-800 pieces.

The distinctive style, high quality and rarity of Gilbert Marks' oeuvre ensure desirability. With serious collectors vying to acquire as many pieces as possible for their own collections, any relation between value and weight is totally blown out of the water! The small dish pictured sold for a hammer price of £2,300.

This article has focused on one sought-after silversmith and designer, others include Paul Storr, Hester Bateman, Archibald Knox and Christopher Dresser. You never know - that tarnished metal item at the back of the cupboard might bring you a pleasant surprise!



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**A Victorian silver two handled Bowl, by Elkington & Co.,
sold for £900 (inc. Buyers Premium)**

Top Tips To Keep Your Dog Relaxed During the Firework Season

by Jude Davidson



It's an old wives' tale that your dog will get more scared if you pay them attention. In fact it's the best thing you can do, providing they want some fuss and it's done calmly and gently. Perhaps getting the kids to read a book to them may be one of the best decisions as your dog won't have too much going on but will pick up on words keeping, their attention away from the noises. A kennel in the UK invited school children to read to the rescue dogs and they found it made an enormous difference.

The general saying among trainers is "you can't reinforce an emotion but you can reinforce a behaviour." Let me explain. If something really horrible happens to your dog and they are scared, shaking but not behaving in a bad or destructive way then you will not make your dog more scared or encourage bad behaviours. It will not reinforce their fear because you can't reinforce an emotion. However, if your dog is getting lots of attention when they are behaving in an undesirable way - for example, they may scratch at the door, howl, wee on the carpet, chew the furniture and you are giving them positive attention then they are likely to act that way again because they see it as a positive release and will likely do it again. You can only reinforce a behaviour.

Top tips to help your dog get through the firework season

Keep calm yourself - dogs are amazing at picking up human emotion; 20 000 years of human and dog evolution together has made our dogs experts at reading humans, along with a strong sense of smell picking up chemical changes within us.

Medication - Your vet will help you if your dog is terrified and will give you a lot of guidance. Alternatively www.dorwest.com have remedies. Contact the week before so you have it all ready.

Adaptil plug ins - For a relaxing scentscape which needs to be built up for several days before. These produce a scent that reminds them of their time as a puppy with their mum and can really make a huge difference.

Classical music - Classical FM have a dedicated evening of calming classical music for dogs. Science studies have shown the dogs love classical music over any other kind of music so tuning in could make all the difference and help drown out the horrible noises. There are also channels on streaming sites like Spotify and You Tube.

Walk in daylight - Make sure their bladder and bowels are empty because this can escalate fear if they feel nervous and know they need to go outside but don't want to. This is when those unwanted behaviours can sneak in too.

Focus - Prepare kongs and something to chew or work on to help them keep their mind off noises, and close all the windows to reduce horrible sounds.

Feed early - so they don't feel sick, this might make them feel worse. Fear is best on an empty stomach and they are more likely to enjoy a chew or kong to keep them focused.

Thunder coats - or wrapping something tight around their bodies which helps them feel secure.

Don't think that exposure to fireworks when they are scared is going to help, it will probably make things worse and they are not going to trust you after that.

Preparation

The lead up to firework night you can play firework noises quietly and build the volume up. Play it on some decent speakers so you get the full pitch of sounds.

Make sure your dog's microchip details are up to date and they have their collar with your address and phone number. Make sure gates are closed and they can't escape. Dogs will run or bite when fearful, this is called the fight or flight response.

Keep them on the lead even in the day time in case some donkey lets a firework off.

If you want to have a firework display the kindest thing you can do is to let your neighbours know and put a post on social media or lamp posts warning people in your street so they can get their pets prepared. Owners of fearful pets will really appreciate it.

Have a good firework season everybody, especially you hounds!



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 7 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

View From The Tower - St Mary The VVirgin, Payhembury



My Birthday Wish

Hi there, my name is May and I'm a teenager from Devon who is passionate about preventing the climate crisis, which is unfolding internationally as we continue to pump fossil fuels into our atmosphere.

I'm currently in Year Ten and have just started my GCSEs.

Last month, I celebrated my fifteenth birthday. For my actual birthday, I went to my dad's house with my close friends Rose, Amber and Elinor, where we had a birthday lunch with my grandparents and my younger cousins Martha and Nancy. The previous night, I attended Gertie from Gittisham's birthday party, which was not the average party you'd expect for a seventy-year-old woman.

In 8 years' time, I will be celebrating my twenty-third birthday. Since I was five, I've been wanting to go to Oxford University, and have recently decided I'd like to complete a law degree there, which takes about 5 years. That means that by 2030, I hope to have just qualified as a lawyer and will have a whole future ahead of me. Apart from that, I'm not sure I'll have a future.

This is because climate scientists are estimating a tipping point by around 2030. By then, the impacts of climate change will have either been prevented by mass systematic action or will be irreversible. My generation will, quite simply, either have a future - or not.

In 2050, I will be turning 43. At this mid-century milestone, it's predicted that the climate crisis' impacts will have significantly worsened. A recent study shows that there are expected to be around 50 million climate refugees globally by this point, and that swathes of the UK coastline will be underwater. All in my lifetime.

By then, I may have had children. And they may not have a future. Maybe they will ask about those living right now, whether people didn't know about the crisis or just didn't care. And I will have to say that we knew very well the crisis we were facing, because an overwhelming number of climate scientists, and the activists informed by the scientific consensus, told them so again and again, but no-one took us seriously and instead labeled us as 'woke', 'unrealistic' and 'eco-terrorists'.



However, I don't have to tell my children this because you can give us a future. But everyone needs to act everywhere, and society has to demand change from those in power. For our future.

In next month's edition, I'll be writing an article on how to live an affordable and sustainable life, particularly focusing on making ecologically sound decisions over Christmas.



****All my facts and figures used are backed up by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)***

Did You Know - What You Can Do To Make A Difference?

"Use Your Voice, Use Your Vote, Use Your Choice" - Al Gore

Imperial College London's Grantham Institute has drawn up a list of the most achievable ways you personally can make a difference.

While individuals alone may not be able to make drastic emissions cuts that limit climate change to acceptable levels, personal action is essential to raise the importance of issues to policymakers and businesses.

1. Make your voice heard by those in power - You could tell your MP and local councillors that you think action on climate change is important as they are the people who make decisions about the environment, green spaces, roads, cycling infrastructure, waste and recycling, air quality and energy efficient homes.

2. Plan to eat less meat and dairy - Try to choose fresh, seasonal produce that is grown locally to help reduce the carbon emissions from transportation, preservation and prolonged refrigeration.

3. Cut back on flying - When flying is unavoidable, pay a little extra for carbon offsetting.

4. Where possible, leave the car at home - Walk or cycle; try car sharing schemes.

5. Reduce your energy use, and bills - particularly crucial at the moment with high costs. Put on an extra layer and turn down heating a degree or two. Turn off lights and appliances when you don't need them. Replace light bulbs with LEDs or other low-energy lights.

6. Respect and protect green spaces - Plant trees if you can - the Woodland Trust is aiming to plant 64 million trees over the next 10 years and has tools and resources to help you. Create your own green space - put pot plants on your windowsill; don't install artificial turf or paving. Help protect local green spaces.

7. Consider any investments you have - Voice your concerns about responsible investment by writing to your bank or pension provider. You could check out "ethical banks".

8. Be aware of consumption and waste - Avoid single use items and fast fashion and try not to buy more than you need. Shop around for second hand or quality items that last a long time.

9. Don't forget to talk about the changes you make and make others aware.

Coping With The Energy Crisis

I know that as every day goes by the message on Government energy help is more and more confusing. But we just have to concentrate on what we know for certain from now until 31st March. I am going to foolishly suggest that from spring of 2023 onwards our bills may only increase slightly, not wholly due to Government and world prices, but just the new way we learn to live. Obviously, it is going to be tricky this winter but by the end we will be experienced energy savers who realise that the age of cheap power is gone forever. We will also change our working patterns to use power at the cheapest times of day.

Energy companies will be rolling out schemes to pay homeowners to save energy at peak times in the morning and evening for those with a smart meter. Ovo and Octopus energy are planning to pay up to £10/day to save power on very high use days. In future your smart meter will tell you the current cost of energy which will change every hour. Instead of putting the cat out last thing at night, you will turn the washing machine on before going to bed.

Here we are at the start of November; how many of us have not yet turned our heating on and are waiting for our first higher bills to arrive. If you pay by direct debit you should now be getting £66/month discount off your bills, so if your bill was say £226/month that will come down to £160/month. That will happen until 31st March.

If you are on pre-payment meters, as you well know everything is so much more difficult, but you should be

getting vouchers. If you are struggling with getting them go down the High Street to Citizen's Advice, or Honiton Community Advice on Monday next to Library, or go into the Library and ask there.

There are now a number of Honiton folk who are Energy Champions and help give independent advice with Exeter Community Energy. Look out for us at the Warm Hubs and other community venues. Helpline number 0800 772 3617. Leave a name and number and we will ring you back, or email us on healthyhomes@ecoe.org.uk

Remember that you will now be paying 75p/day just for the privilege of having the gas pipes and electric wires coming into your home. All the information on the telly and online is about the 'average' home bills so it is very difficult to get good information about your own home. You need to keep your home warm during mid-winter and this is going to cost between £3/day for a small flat to £10/day for a larger home.

If you're a pensioner you will also getting an extra £300 in addition to your usual £200 winter fuel allowance (that is around £4.50/day over the 200 day winter period). That payment to your household is direct from DWP.

Please, please on no account give cold callers any information and do not sign up to any free energy help with heat pumps, solar panels or insulation without getting independent advice - contact the Honiton Energy Champions as above and we will get on your case.



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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**

50th Anniversary Of The Ugandan Refugees In Honiton



This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the British Ugandan Asians coming to Heathfield Camp in Honiton. On 4th August 1972 the President of Uganda, Idi Amin, announced that he had been visited in a dream by God, who had issued him with a divine instruction to expel the Asian population from his country.

"Asians came to Uganda to build the railway. The railway is finished, they must leave now," he said at a press conference, giving them 90 days to leave. Each family was allowed to take £55, and each person was allowed one suitcase - many of which were looted by the Ugandan Army troops on the way to Entebbe Airport.

The Ugandan Resettlement Board was tasked with finding suitable short-term accommodation at extremely short notice. Following negotiations with the Ministry of Defence, disused Army and RAF bases were made available at 16 locations across the country. One of these was Heathfield Camp on what is now Heathfield Industrial Estate in Honiton.

Heathfield Camp, covering 57 acres, was designed by Colonel Richard Withington, who named it after his childhood home. It was initially a basic training centre for women who had enlisted in the Auxiliary Territorial Service in the Second World War. Then it became a training camp for National Servicemen. The first regiment to arrive was the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in 1948 and the last regiment stationed there was the Gloucester Regiment who left in January 1971.



*Camp resident and volunteers on an outing.
Photo Rob Waldron*



*Manoj Chitnavis's family.
Photo by Manoj Chitnavis*

On 18th September 1972, the Government's Uganda Resettlement Board took the decision to re-open Heathfield for the use of Ugandan Asian expelees. Women's Royal Voluntary Service leader 'Bunty' Charles was transferred from Houndstone Camp in Yeovil to Honiton to organise the 150 volunteers and get the camp ready for the refugees due to arrive at Heathfield. They had a mammoth task: the army huts had been unoccupied for over eighteen months so they had to be cleaned - twice. Six hundred and eighty beds were made up. By 6.30pm on Saturday 7th October 1972, the camp was prepared for the arrival of the first 586 people.

In total, 1,800 people passed through Heathfield Camp. The sleeping quarters were described in official papers as "fair, normal barrack

accommodation," with basic service furniture and separate toilet and washing blocks. Facilities on the camp included a

clinic, dining hall, theatre for films and social events, and sports fields. There was also a school with facilities for 350 primary and secondary pupils.

Many local people volunteered to work in the camp as teachers, kitchen staff or supplementary nurses; and the Women's Institute assisted with the collection and distribution of donated clothing, youth activities and toys for the children. Ugandan Asians with skills such as tailoring or vehicle repair also offered their services. Seconded civil servants involved in welfare provision and the allocation of council housing were responsible to the civilian administrator; overall in charge of the camp was a retired naval officer, Cdr Williams.

Most of the camps were in poor condition and had to be made ready. The army and voluntary organisations such as the Round Table played a leading role in this. Furniture, cooking utensils, bed linen and other necessities were loaned by the armed forces or requisitioned by the Ministry of Works. Retired colonial administrators and military officers were appointed as Camp Commanders, each being supported by a civilian director and other officials employed by the Uganda Resettlement Board. Paid medical staff and teachers were appointed at most of the camps.

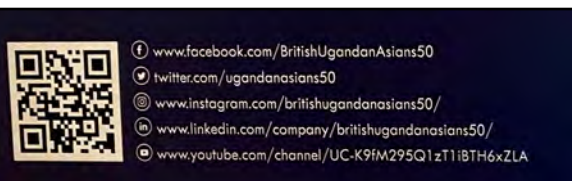
However, as the months went by, many residents of the camps found council homes and jobs, and most moved to existing centres of Asian population such as Leicester, Birmingham and West London. The last resettlement camp closed on 24th March 1973.

"Wearing a saree was fun" Jane Preece

"Groups like the WRVS for example played a very crucial role supplying wonderful volunteers who made a big difference, rather than the more formal approach with civil servants who were rather more bureaucratic" Peter Courtier



Jane Preece in a saree with resident Smita Luka. Photo by Jane Preece



Works Of Art At Honiton Station



Parental Minds C.I.C. Artwork by Brittany Lakin

On October 19th, Honiton Station won a coveted Gold Award in the 2022 Stations in Bloom competition, competing against 30 other stations in Devon, Dorset, Hampshire, Somerset and Wiltshire. Judging took place in July. The awards were presented by Claire Mann, the Managing Director of South Western Railway.

The Friends of Honiton were praised by the judges for their work to reach out to all the community, including the involvement of community groups in the Adopt a Pot initiative.



Open Arms Honiton



Honiton Health Matters. Artwork by Brittany Lakin

Commenting on the awards the Chairman, Martin Long, said, "I am beyond proud to be part of a group of people who do so much for the station, celebrating its past, improving its present and campaigning for its future.

"This award is truly for everyone: for our outstanding station staff, for all the members and supporters of The Friends of Honiton Station, for all the community groups who have adopted our planters, and for our industry partners, including SWR, the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership and Community Rail Network.

"Particular thanks go to Jenny Brown who worked so hard on the Platinum Jubilee art project and on the Adopt A Pot scheme, which have made such a difference to our station."



**Planter designed by Lisa Beigan.
Contributed to by BroCheck members**



**Honiton Carnival & The Beehive.
Artwork by Claire Holgate**



Honiton Carers. Artwork Lisa Lloyd

The Town Lights Up For Carnival



Around & About In Our Community

Otter Valley
Rotary



It is with deep sadness that we mourn the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She epitomised the Rotary motto of *Service Above Self*.

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. The meeting starts 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.

Rotary raises money and donates it to local and international charities/organisations/schools/groups and individuals. To continue doing this we need to grow our membership. If you care about the community, come along to one of our meetings and see what we do, you will be very welcome. Contact the Secretary Carolinect1959@hotmail.co.uk.

Collection for Shelterbox



On Friday 7th and Saturday 8th October, members held a collection at Tesco Honiton to raise money for Shelterbox. They are providing shelters for the flood victims of Pakistan. Once again the public were very generous and we raised over £1100.

Each Shelterbox is tailored for the area that is affected by a disaster; they typically contain a disaster relief tent for a family, thermal blankets and groundsheets, water storage and purification equipment, solar lamps, cooking utensils, a basic tool kit, mosquito nets and children's activity pack. Each box costs approximately £590. 2 boxes can be sent thanks to generous donations.

Thank you once again to Honiton Tesco for allowing us to collect. Otter Valley Rotary has given Shelterbox over £60,000 in the last 22 years, which is a phenomenal achievement.

Santa Fun Run

We propose to hold our annual Santa Fun run on Sunday 11th December, starting and finishing at Land of Canaan in Ottery St Mary. This year we are happy to welcome those who prefer to walk.

The run will set off at 11am with the walkers setting off after them.

This is a FREE to enter event. We appreciate the cost of living crisis is affecting everyone but still want to give families the opportunity to have a fun time. The course this year will be 3 miles.

Pre-registration is essential, all enquiries to: santafunwalk22@gmail.com

Community Raffle

This will be drawn on the 22nd November; all winners will be notified.

If you, your organisation, school or charity needs funds, please contact our Secretary Caroline, ct1959@hotmail.co.uk. We consider all applications.

Success at Food Drink Devon Awards

A number of local food and drink venues were successful at the recent Food Drink Devon Awards for 2022. It is good to see one of our advertisers and one of our distribution points included.

Baked to Taste on the Heathpark Industrial Estate in Honiton won Gold Awards for its Chicken, Leek and Bacon Pie and also its Ruby Murray Veggie Curry Pasty as well as Silver Awards for its Veggie Tagine Pie and its Steak Pasty.

The Heron Farm Vineyard in Weston also won a Gold Award for hospitality as well as a further Gold Award for its 2018 Sparkling Wine and two Silver Awards for its White Wine 2021 and Ma La Gin.

The Drewe Arms in Broadhembury also won a Gold Award for its hospitality.

Well done to our very worthy winners.

**Don't forget to send us your news
If it's happened in Honiton and the
surrounding villages then we're
interested!**

**Just contact
honitontownnews@gmail.com**

Around & About In Our Community

Honiton Carers



What a brilliant session we had in October learning how to do CPR and to operate a defibrillator. Joe Rice led the First Aid session at the Methodist Church, which was arranged by Devon Carers. The carers who wanted to be, were all hands on and most were surprised at how hard it actually is to sustain CPR at the required strength. We also realised how important it is to have annual First Aid updates as you actually forget a lot, as most of us thankfully never need to practise what we learn in real life.

Earlier sessions of our group have been very varied. We had a lovely session at the Thelma Hulbert Gallery with Gemma and Rachel at the end of September learning how to do a still life.



Also in September we enjoyed a great "Walk & Chat" from Otterton Mill along the river to the bridge, across the bridge, up the steps and back to The Mill for refreshments. I had forgotten the incline on the walk back which almost finished off some of our walkers. They made it though - well done to you all. We all enjoyed the wonderful refreshments back at the Mill; their scones are fabulous, you just can't beat them.

Our "Walks & Chats" are funded by the Tesco Community Grant we were awarded at the end of March and we are just loving them.

If you would like to join our carers group please contact Win for more information on winniekjaer@btinternet.com or telephone 07974 636926

Honiton Repair Cafe

'Whoops, my dust buster's just gone bust'. 'Is the guarantee on my 60-year-old Reel to Reel Tape Recorder still valid?'. 'Oh no, my favourite childhood toy, a pull-along toy wooden dog that nods and wags its tail as it goes, has lost a wheel'. Was their destiny the grey bin and landfill? Not at all because their owners came along to the Honiton Repair Cafe. The vacuum cleaner and the toy dog were given a new lease of life; the problem with the tape recorder was diagnosed and the owner given advice on how a new part could be obtained so that one day it, too, will be back in working order.

With the cost of living crisis we are all facing, repairing, instead of replacing, makes a lot of sense. Not only does it keep £££££'s in our pockets it reduces what goes to landfill, as well as carbon emissions. In October, 16 clients came along to seek help from our volunteer repairers. While our repairs worked to restore treasured possession, clients enjoyed tea and coffee and home-made cakes. The aim of the Repair Cafe is slightly different from BBCs Repair Shop. We aim to repair if possible but do not restore; for example, if the leather on a piano stool is worn that is a job for an upholsterer, not the Repair Cafe.

If you have a skill for repairing we would love to hear from you. Contact us on: info@honitoncag.co.uk. Honiton Repair Cafe is open from 9.30-12.00 on the third Saturday of each month so the next one will be on November 19th in the Honiton Community Use Building (CUB), School Lane, Honiton, EX14 1QW. There won't be a cafe in December.

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Around & About In Our Community

Sidmouth Junction Annual Ploughing Match



A glorious autumn day provided the setting for this year's Sidmouth Junction and District Ploughing Association's annual ploughing match.

The event was widely supported by both local entries and others from as far as the Isle of Wight.

Delayed from September because of the dry summer, the event was a tribute to the many entrants keen to demonstrate their skills and continue the long tradition of local ploughing matches.



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A Warm Friday Welcome At Honiton Family Church

**Honiton Family Church Start Their Warm Welcome Fridays
from Friday 4th November
and then every Friday between 10-12**



Come down the High Street to the Family Church for a warm welcome, a cuppa and a slice of cake, friendly chat, hobby crafts and games.

There will be mothers with toddlers, pensioners with shopping trolleys, and some people who just got lost on the way to the car park!

If you want, you can chat to Exeter Community Energy who will have a local volunteer who can help with any electric, gas or water bill queries and more.

Citizen's Advice will be in their new office just across the road so you can have a cuppa while you arrange an appointment with them.

We will put the kettle on and look forward to seeing you soon.

A working group has been formed called Honiton Cares which will bring together the efforts of voluntary groups in Honiton with other local and regional organisations including Honiton Town Council, East Devon District Council, Devon County Council and the NHS to bring as many supporting resources to our town as possible.

Warm Hubs in the area are currently: Beehive Tuesday 1-5pm, CUB Thursday 1-5 pm, Family Church 10-12 Friday mornings - and don't forget the Library (see the What's On pages)

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and that always makes a deeper lasting impression, es

At the risk of being controversial, I am going to say that the current systems and, instead of one large official faceless service, we need more local organisations. In the jargon of health & care folks, they are bringing services where we live.

Our Local Health Service - A Personal View

by Chris Doran



The other things to keep in mind are the things that we manage to do with our charities and skills to because

Free Talkworks for Resilience & Wellbeing Workshop

While a lot of us dedicate our time to work, family life, or looking out for others, it's important to take a step back and ask yourself if you are really looking after yourself. Talkworks Resilience and Wellbeing Workshops will teach you a number of simple but effective tools to help develop resilience and improve wellbeing; they are available for individuals to book onto, but they can also be run as bespoke sessions for businesses, groups and organisations across Devon.

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We always welcome articles written by members of the community. If you have some thoughts to share, contact us - we read and consider all correspondence.

Contact honitonvillagenews@gmail.com

Copy date is always 16th of the month preceding publication

Thank You From Joe Gilson Mobility Scheme

Many sincere thanks to the kind people of Honiton who bring books, bric-a-brac etc for me to sell for my scheme.

It has been 15 years since I started this scheme which gives away scooters, wheelchairs, walkers and sticks free of charge for people in need.

I also am still doing food drops as well as giving families £10 each to enable them to have a bit of spending money in food shops.

I would like to say a huge thank you to

Sarah, Josh, Lee and Pam for their kind support;

Mark for his help;

The people of Honiton who give extra cash to help those in need;

My lady who knits children's jumpers, hats etc;

Tony and Angela for all their bits they give for me to sell.

A really big thank you also to the young man who gives me a £50 note often to help my cause.

A really huge thank you to the kind person who put an envelope through my door on 6th October with a large donation

A particularly huge thanks to the owners of Lace Walk for letting me have my stall in your premises for all these years

The people of Honiton are so kind and I will keep going as long as I can - thank you.

I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas in advance.

Carol Gilson, founder of the Joe Gilson Mobility Scheme



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H	G	D	K	W	X	C	C	H	G	Y	W	B	M	P	O	C
N	I	L	Z	W	M	W	R	V	L	X	K	J	C	M	L	F
R	S	V	C	R	T	N	E	P	L	P	N	U	E	Y	N	V
E	S	Y	N	C	G	Q	E	Y	T	C	L	L	S	B	O	N
H	A	J	Y	I	Y	J	D	W	T	M	L	T	Q	M	V	A
T	G	T	E	P	Y	Y	Y	Q	M	R	Y	B	N	C	A	L
A	E	T	L	G	Q	X	E	T	M	D	A	R	L	C	O	L
B	T	T	G	L	N	H	K	A	E	X	A	Y	M	T	P	E
P	L	R	M	B	F	H	Q	T	L	F	D	Z	T	Q	B	R
B	O	V	E	Y	W	K	M	R	E	M	H	E	W	R	L	B
T	O	R	R	I	D	G	E	A	E	A	R	X	X	G	Q	R
M	O	K	E	M	E	N	T	D	T	M	S	X	L	R	T	O
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N	K	E	X	E	R	D	D	W	N	N	B	R	R	V	N	B

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