MUSBURY PARISH NEWS



Autumn 2021

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www.holyford.org

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MUSBURY PARISH NEWS

Village Website: www.musburyvillage.co.uk

This magazine is published quarterly by the Parochial Church Council of St. Michael's, and is distributed free of charge to all households in the Parish. The cost is covered by the PCC but is largely offset by advertising revenue and by a grant from the Parish Council. The Treasurer will always welcome donations by readers. The services provided by our advertisers are commended: when using them please mention the Musbury Parish News.

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From The Vicarage Steven Writes

As we head into autumn thoughts turn to Michaelmas and Harvest. Michaelmas begins on 29th September, the Feast of St Michael. The Feast is relevant to us in Musbury as St Michael is the patron saint of the whole parish of Musbury—not just the church. On Sunday 26th September there will be a service of Evensong in church (6.30pm) to mark our patronal festival. All are welcome.

Michaelmas is traditionally one of the great Christian celebrations of the year, not least because it falls around harvest-time. In England, there is an old custom of roasting a goose to celebrate the feast. Presumably, this



inspired the Goose Fairs which occur around this time, such as the annual fair at Colyford. (The Chapel there is also dedicated in the name of St Michael—there will be a special service there on 29th September at 7.30pm.) St Michael is celebrated as a great leader of the armies of the heavenly host, triumphing over the devil. This has inspired several legends connected with food, for example the idea that Lucifer, after being expelled from heaven by the Archangel Michael, fell into a blackberry bush. He was clearly irked by this, so spat on the berries so that they turned bitter and could not be picked after Michaelmas. In Scotland there is a custom of the women-folk harvesting wild carrots by digging triangular holes with a three-pronged mattock—the holes apparently representing St Michael's shield and the mattock his trident.

There you are! A menu idea for September: roast goose with carrots (or just carrots if you are vegetarian/vegan) followed by blackberry crumble/pie. Who said the Rector's letter was full of dry theology?

Michaelmas and harvest time offers an opportunity to consider what we have been battling with spiritually, and what we can harvest—learn, make use of—as a result of that battle. St Paul, in his letter to the Church in Galatia, urges us to examine each experience and search for and nurture the fruits of the spiritual life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, self-control. Not always easy things to cultivate in some situations, but with God's help, possible. We hope and pray that all the experiences, precautions, and planning that has gone into living through this time will bear fruit. 'So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up' (Galatians 6. 9).

One significant improvement is that coming to church is a far less risky business now than it has been over the past two years! I am not referring just to the pandemic, but to the dangers resulting from the falling of loose ceiling plaster and the resulting scaffolding present in church. During the past months, St. Michael's has been a hive of activity, with plasterers working on the ceiling. Thanks to the generosity of many people in the village and beyond, and to the efforts of Robin Collis and others in securing a number of small grants, we have not only been able to repair the panels in the South Aisle and Nave, but funds have allowed for the whole of the ceiling and the Vestry to be re-painted. The clean-up operation following the work has been considerable. Thanks to our dedicated team, the church looks spotless.

Several significant donations have been made anonymously. Whoever you are, our heartfelt thanks for your generosity.

We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and friendly congregation at St Michael's. It has been lovely to welcome some new faces to services during recent months. Despite the recent trials, things have held together very well; even when the church was filled with a forest of scaffold poles, intrepid churchgoers clambered in for services, sometimes relying on candlelight when the electric lights were obscured with scaffolding boards above.

At the time of writing, various plans for services and events during autumn are still taking shape. Do keep an eye on our website Holyford.org and our Facebook Page, @holyfordmission for details of the latest events across the six churches. Failing that, contact one of our wardens or me if you wish to know what is going on. An email is sent out each week giving details of forthcoming services and events. If you wish to receive these, please let Emma at the office know: office@holyford.org.

With every good wish and blessing,

Fr Steven.

Parochial Church Council Report

We have had an exciting few months when 'normality' has resumed to a certain degree. The scaffolding in Church is down, the ceiling looks good, the newly decorated Vestry is a treat to work in, weekly services are restored, we can now sing hymns, much cleaning has been done, visitors are back and church members have enjoyed welcoming them and seeing each other regularly again. We still wear masks much of the time, we still try to be socially distanced, there are no refreshments, all doors are open for ventilation, but on the whole, worshipping at St Michaels is beginning to be as it was before Coronavirus.

We did the teas at Tony Drake's Open Garden Event again in June and made £650 .

We have booked November 27th in the Village Hall for our Christmas Craft Fayre which is something to look forward to. Book a table with Sue Irving if you are interested.

Harvest time will be celebrated in October and we look forward to welcoming you all to that.

Our thanks must go to the many people who have worked endlessly to get us to this point. It has been a real team effort. A big thank you, to Father Steven for his encouragement and support throughout the Pandemic and for the extra online services, the telephone services and the visiting he has managed to fit into his already busy life with five other parishes to serve.

Coffee mornings will start up again when we are able and we look forward to enabling villagers to meet together each month.

We also look forward to welcoming everyone at our weekly services leading up to Christmas and the joy and hope that the season brings. It will be extra special this year after all the challenges we have faced in the last two years.

Kay Short PCC Secretary <u>kayshort43@gmail.com</u> 552711



Coffee and Cake !

A chance for a weekly chat on Tuesday mornings.

at The Annexe, Crossway House (the entrance is opposite the Old Post Office) Starting on Tuesday, 21st September Hosted by Ian & Caddie Doulton

Church Flowers and Cleaning

At last......the scaffolding is down and the much delayed annual Spring Clean took

place over 2 days at the beginning of July. Thank you to all the hardworking cleaners who gave up their time to help make the Church 'habitable' again. We have taken the opportunity to tidy (and throw !!) - (the vestry was also repainted) and we now have a better environment, in which to work and worship.

Altar flowers as per the rota can now be enjoyed fully with the Church open every day for parishioners and visitors alike, we are also having regular Sunday services.

Our next Festival will be Harvest - Sunday 3rd October at 10.00am

We also have two weddings taking place this year and we look forward to celebrating these in our newly refreshed beautiful Church.



Sue Irving 552440

Internment of Ashes 16th February Christine Hobbs 30th June John Cyril Albano 21st July Mavis Doreen Welch	Parish Records		
30th June John Cyril Albano	Interr	ment of Ashes	
,	16th Februa	ary Christine Hobbs	
21st July Mavis Doreen Welch	30th June	John Cyril Albano	
	21st July.	Mavis Doreen Welch	



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The Meaning of Life and other Questions

We all have questions about life and faith, troubling issues or aspects of faith that we would like to know more about. The fact that new books about faith are always being written and new insights being shared shows that no-one can ever have all the answers and there is always room for growth. Faith is a shared pursuit where we help each other to grow closer to God, to grow in understanding, to grow in trust, and to grow in love and compassion. Our growth in faith and discipleship depends on mutual support and encouragement. It's why St Paul wrote all his letters, it's why the gospels are written, it is why sermons are preached.

Over past years Canon Karen Curnock has run, in two different benefices, 'Any Questions about Life and Faith" to offer a group opportunity for mutual sharing and exploration of faith. The basic idea is that people come along with any questions about their faith. The only 'rule' as such is that they must be questions that matter to the person asking. It is not a talking shop for airing views about how many angels one can fit on the head of a pin for example or pontificating about the state of the world or anything else which does not directly affect at least one of the people attending. The sessions have been wellattended and have run monthly for two or three years at least. Our faith is life-long and there will always be doubts and questions to share and explore.

The sessions last about an hour and a half and, in agreement with Father Steven, Karen is happy to offer them again in this benefice from September. They are not a course like Alpha. The agenda belongs to the people who come each time (they work well with 7 to 12 people and more than 15 is unmanageable). It is very egalitarian in that people come with their own questions and those present vote for the ones they'd most like to discuss on that occasion.

Karen karen.curnock@gmail.com.

Questions of Life and Faith - Meetings once a month on the second Thursday of each month from 2pm to about 3.30pm in St Michael's church, Colyford.

The first session is on Thursday, 9th September and the next two on 14th October and 11th November. Come along on the day; at the moment no advance booking is needed

Editor's Note: as every follower of Douglas Adams knows the answer is 42

Nature Watch

We often complain about introduced plant species like Himalayan Balsam and Giant Hogweed, but one habitat in Britain that has benefitted greatly from them is walls and rocks. Ivy-leaved Toadflax is the commonest of these wall plants. It was introduced to Britain in the 18th century, reputedly attached to marble sculptures brought to Oxford from Italy. The small purple and yellow flowers are followed by seed



capsules that bend away from the light, thus pushing the seeds into cracks in the wall. It is common on walls throughout Musbury. Walls in Whitford Road in June are brightened by clumps of the blue-flowered Adria Bellflower, and also by patches of blue Trailing Bellflower. Both are introduced rock-garden members of the genus *Campanula*, which means 'little bell' and the flowers of Adria Bellflower are indeed bell-shaped while those of Trailing Bellflower are much more star-like. Elsewhere, clumps of Yellow Corydalis brighten walls in Axmouth and, most obviously, the wall of the road bridge by Axminster Station. Also common is Red Valerian, a much more robust plant which is also common on the rocks of road cuttings like that of the M5 south of Bristol. It has three flower colour forms – two shades of red, and white. While decorative, it produces quite a thick woody base that tends to push the stones of walls apart, and its tiny wind-blown seeds quickly re-establish it. All these introduced plants are commonest on old mortar-bound walls; cement pointing is harder and has fewer gaps and cracks in which plants can establish themselves.

In the last issue Colin Corbett wrote about Castlewood Farm and the problems to which farmers are exposed. The price we pay for commodities such as milk is ridiculously low; sometimes bottled water is more expensive than milk in the supermarkets. At the moment we are in the process of moving away from the European Community's method of farm subsidy - payment based solely on acreage to one loosely defined as 'public money for public good'. Trouble is, no-one but a few have much idea of what this might mean, and since farmers operate on long time scales (it takes three years or so to raise a beef animal), they are all waiting nervously for the Government to make decisions. One aspect of 'public good' is likely to be the preservation and encouragement of 'wildlife'. In this area, for instance, flower-rich meadows are almost all long gone, replaced by monocultures of quick-growing and productive rye-grass, cut at short intervals which mean that ground-nesting birds have no opportunity to raise a brood between cuts. Re-instatement of true flower-rich meadows is a very long process and one we are unlikely to see. Fields of poppies, cornflower and other former cornfield weeds are often called wildflower meadows but this is quite wrong as they need re-seeding every year.

As least as far as birds are concerned, changes in Devon are well documented. Humphrey Sitters's Tetrad Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Devon was based on field work in the years 1977 to 1985, and its successor, Devon Bird Atlas 2007 – 2013, give us a good picture of change in Devon's birds over this time. Between the two atlases we lost Grey Partridge, Lapwing, Skylark, Linnet and Yellowhammer (among others) from the lower Axe Valley, and these losses can be attributed with reasonable certainty to changes in farming practices like the change from hay to silage. Skylarks and Yellowhammers can still be heard and seen on the upland arable lands between Axmouth and Rousdon but here another change in farming practice has come into play – the autumn ploughing of stubbles so that the spilled corn and weed seeds that formerly formed a winter food source have largely gone.

So what would I like to see farmers being paid to do?

First, cutting hedges on a three-year rotation instead of every year. A hedge that is cut every year produces almost no fruits as it is the old shoots that flower and fruit. This would give food for wintering thrushes and dormice, among others, as well as improving the hedge as nesting habitat.

Second, I should like to see a three-metre wide strip left ploughed and harrowed, but not sown or sprayed, around every cultivated field. This would provide weed seeds and insects for young birds in the summer and for wintering birds later. Such strips have been shown to greatly increase the survival of Grey Partridge chicks as well as other farmland species. Large fields could also have a strip or strips left in the same way down the middle. Such 'beetle banks' have the same effect and also give shelter to beneficial insects which spread out into the crop and control pests.

Thirdly I should like to see an increase in the amount of stubble left over the winter, as it would provide a valuable food source for birds. In the South Hams in 1990, there were 132 pairs of Cirl Buntings in their last British stronghold. Careful management, including the retention of winter stubbles, has now raised the population to over 1,000 pairs in 2020 and the species is spreading back into East Devon where it had become extinct.

Finally, I should like to see farmers being less tidy. Those rough corners and little copses and patches of scrub all provide habitat for birds and other wildlife and need to be kept rather than cleared and incorporated into ever-larger fields. We shall have to see what DEFRA comes up with; these are my own personal views and I am happy to discuss them with our local farmers, in the pages of this magazine if need be!

Mike Lock

Seaton Wetlands

The water levels at the Wetlands have been lowered to expose mud for migrating waders and this has worked admirably. On a visit today (9 August) I saw Wood, Green and Common Sandpipers, Ringed Plover, Redshank, Oystercatcher and Black-tailed Godwit. Other wader species can be expected during August and September. There are already a few returning Teal, and a few young Shelduck although the adults have all migrated to their moulting grounds and will start to return in November-December. I also saw a very late brood of Mallard ducklings, just a day or two old, and a Kingfisher from the Discovery Hut hide where nesting Swallows are feeding young, apparently oblivious to the visitors. Three pairs of Oystercatchers bred successfully, as, almost certainly, did Swifts in the boxes provided. Sand Martins have at last been seen investigating the nesting bank built specially for them; perhaps they will breed next year. All the hides and the toilets are now open, although the Discovery Hut remains closed.

Weather Watch

Well – I suppose it had to happen. After the driest April I have ever recorded, we moved to the wettest May ever! The month started cool and dry with overnight frosts and a little rain. This changed on 7th with overnight heavy rain and then a quiet spell until 12th when heavy rain started in the afternoon and continued into the next day, giving a total of 58.5 mm (21/2"). It then rained every day until 26th; the last few days were dry. The month's total was 174 mm (7") – about three times the 17year average. After a wet 2nd June, there followed a dry and sunny spell - excellent growing weather, which lasted until the 19th when there was heavy overnight rain. The rest of the month was more changeable with heavy rain on 24th. On 29th there was a violent thunderstorm over Chard which caused damaging flooding there and sent a major flood down the Axe which spread out over the fields and caught some stock owners by surprise although the Environment Agency's flood warning system worked well. The month's total was 74mm, close to the 17-year average of 69mm. The first week of **July** was showery, with heavier rain overnight on 10th. A warm and sunny spell began on 13th and gave real heat as well, continuing until 23rd when a thundery low moved up from the south and gave heavy overnight rain. This was followed by showery weather until 29th when Storm Evert moved in from the Atlantic, passing mainly to the north of us but giving strong winds nonetheless. The month ended with light showers and a rainfall total of 77.5 mm, slightly above the 17-year average of 65mm.

Mike Lock

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Fall into Autumn

utumn is the perfect time to relax and recharge. Take a train journey through our beautiful gardens and enjoy the vibrant colours as the season changes. Have a tea or coffee with some delicious cake or have a picnic lunch, followed later with a traditional Devon Cream Tea! Preferably book tickets online for your visit to guarantee a slot.

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READ EASY AXMINSTER AND SEATON (and beyond!)

Do you know anyone, 18 or over, who would like to improve their reading skills? It may surprise you to know that over 2 million adults in England alone have very poor or no reading skills, meaning they are unable to attain their full potential. In the 21st century life is changing so quickly - today so many necessary things are available from apps on our mobile phones or on the internet (shopping apps, on-line medical forms, news and weather updates, job applications etc.) that being able to read is key to carrying on our everyday life.

Read Easy Axminster and Seaton provide one-to-one coaching for adults in safe, easy to access venues. Learning is at the reader's own pace and our coaches are trained and experienced with a variety of teaching methods available to them. One of our latest local success stories is of a young mother of five who has recently finished her reading course with us and is to be featured in a national publicity campaign by Read Easy UK.

On a national level, Jay Blades, presenter of the TV series 'The Repair Shop' will feature in a new BBC documentary later in the year. The programme entitled "Jay Blades: Learning To Read At 51" will feature Jay as he begins his journey learning to read with his Read Easy Reading Coach, as well as covering the stories of other adults he meets who are also learning to read. Jay Blades says: "Learning to read is going to be the toughest challenge for me. On this journey I'll be meeting nearly whatever reason and

On this journey I'll be meeting people who can't read, for whatever reason, and hopefully helping them. I'd love this film to inspire the millions of other adults in the same situation as me."

For further details contact Sheila (Coordinator Read Easy Axminster and Seaton) on 01297 552847 or email 'sheila@readeasy.org.uk'

From the archive Autumn 2007

"Affordable housing has emerged as one of the most important issues for EDDC to address. District councillor Iain Chubb says this was a key message from the 'place-shaping' workshop he recently attended with other council members in the Seaton , Colyton, Trinity and Sidmouth wards. Acting as a kind of think-tank, councillors put forward their views on what different parts of the district should look like and how they should function over the next few years. They discussed ideas for the location, form, nature and character of development to be accommodated in East Devon. Including new homes, jobs, hospitals, schools, shops and recreation facilities. "

From the Parish Council roundup. Did they consider the hospitals being Closed ?

Trill Farm Garden

The last piece I wrote for the Parish News was at the beginning of May, I had talked of the cold, dry Spring...three months on and I will talk of the cool, wet summer! It has been probably the trickiest growing year that we have experienced in twelve seasons here at Trill. The 2012 season was particularly difficult too with the incessant rain leaving the ground saturated for most of the year. This year, May's rains waterlogged our soils and made totally unsuitable conditions for much of the veg that we were getting in the ground. A lot of the plants sat there and yellowed as they couldn't access the nutrients because the ground was too wet and cold, resulting in unfavourable conditions for the life in the soil to make nutrients available for the plants. So, everything looked pretty dreary in June, but as it started to dry up and the sun came out through June and July the plants soon picked up and we began to see good growth. We had a bad batch of seed compost this year which resulted in many plants rotting off at seedling stage, so we had to sow cucumbers, beans, courgettes and squash multiple times and these were all planted much later than normal. Thankfully, some of these plants actually benefited from being sown later, especially the squash which settled in far quicker than normal and look to be the healthiest squash crop we have ever grown! Now we just need a bit more sun to ripen all of the squash and other fruiting crops.

Our favourite parts of the garden this year have been the beds of flowers that we have sown that divide up the plots of the rotation. They were simple to grow and have required no attention whatsoever, but provided so much for insect life, which in turn brings more birds to the market garden as well as increasing pollination of some of the veg plants and many of the flowers also attract predatory insects, which keep numbers of pests in balance. We have had no problems whatsoever with aphids this year, and this is a sign of strong, healthy plants, but also a balanced ecosystem. The flower strips have buckwheat, sunflowers, dill, mallow, borage, cornflowers, persian clover, phacelia, summer vetch, calendula and more, and they are literally buzzing with life. It is this balance between creating a productive market garden along with a beautiful space for ourselves to work, and providing nectar rich flowers for insects to thrive that feels really important to us, and each year we strive to strike this balance by managing the space in ways that encourage more and more life both in the air and in the soil.

Don't forget if you are interested in getting veg from us visit <u>www.trillfarmgarden.co.uk</u> and follow the links to the box scheme. Musbury Spar also sells our salad bags and other veg of ours, so you can always drop in there to pick up a bag of salad.

Ashley Wheeler

BATS ABOUT BATS WALKS - SEPTEMBER WILD EVENTS

A series of bat detecting walks are planned at a range of sites in East Devon and West Dorset – the target area for the Grey Long-eared Bat project. Exploring a range of habitats including meadows, woodland, farmland and lanes, these magical moon lit walks will be led by local bat experts. A chance to learn how to identify bats using hand held bat detectors and contribute valuable data needed for monitoring our UK bat populations.

These FREE events are part of the Grey Long-eared bat project, possibly UKs rarest bat, with only 8 known roosts and confined to the southern coast including a stronghold here in East Devon and West Dorset. On the walk, find out more about the project and how you can help in the challenging restoration of this seriously declining bat species.

Saturday 4 September, 7.15pm – 9.15pm

Bolshayne Farm, Southleigh Road, Colyton

Sarah Butcher, Devon Bat Group - leads a walk through the farm's traditional hay meadows including Bolshayne Fen SSSI, ancient hedgerows, and nearby woodland edge - perfect habitat for Grey Long-eared bats. We will be peering into the night sky and listening out for these bats using special hand held bat detectors.

Friday 10 September, 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Holyford Woods, Colyford

Adrian Bayley, local bat expert leads a walk in one of East Devon's oldest woods, perfect habitat for bats. Adrian also plans to show the harp nets, which capture bats safely and carefully for identification. Will we pick up the Grey Long Eared Bat - known as the whispering bat for its quiet echo location?

Friday 17 September, 6.45pm – 8.45pm

National Trust Stonebarrow, Charmouth

Spy on these mysterious flying mammals of the night on a magical bat detecting walk, in search of the rare Grey Long Eared Bat and some of the other 18 UK bat species, with local bat enthusiasts Mary Anne Crafter and Ruth Worsley. Learn how to use bat detectors to help us identify tonights bats on the wing. The Golden Cap estate holds an incredible 15 out of the 17 species of UK bat including the very rare Grey Long-eared bat

Saturday 18 September, 6.45pm – 8.45pm Hogchester Meadows, Charmouth

Spy on these mysterious flying mammals of the night on a magical bat detecting walk, in search of the rare Grey Long Eared Bat, with local bat enthusiasts Mary Anne Crafter and Ruth Worsley. Learn how to use bat detectors to help us identify tonight's bats on the wing. A chance to explore these glorious meadows as part of Hogchester Farms ambitious rewilding project.

To book any of the above email <u>savingspecialspecies@gmail.com</u> **Ruth Worsley** Wildlife engagement Officer 01297 489741

Axminster Food Bank

We continue to supply food to over 50 people a week with the number of referrals steadily growing again. This will only increase as furlough payments cease and the extra £20 given to those on Universal Credit is removed.

Thank you to all of you who continue to support us particularly via the Food Bank basket in Musbury garage. We are receiving less from the baskets in the supermarkets at the moment maybe due to the holiday trade and also probably because of the recent reportage of shortages in relation to delivery drivers.

We are often short of pasta sauce, tinned tomatoes, coffee, tinned meat and tinned vegetables, tinned fruit and baked beans (but not of pasta!). Maybe we could also put in a plea for dog and cat food. A number of our clients live by themselves and their pets mean so much to them. We know of some people who will feed their animals before themselves if we cannot supply pet food.

Many thanks again for your support.

Sheila

Stop Press;

As well as The Spar Shop at Musbury Garage, you can now drop items off in the Church

Garden Club

We have decided to cancel the 21/22 Garden Club season due to general uncertainty about so many aspects of putting on events in the winter months. We are optimistic about starting up a programme again in Autumn 2022, and hope to have a relaunch party for members next summer.

Thank you to all the members who supported us in the May plant sale where we raised nearly £200, and also to those who provided photographs for the Musbury Gardens display in the windows of The Post House in August.

Karen, Val and Sue

Musbury Heritage - War Memorial Biographies

It may seem early, but this is the Autumn issue when our thoughts soon turn to those who gave their lives serving in the forces.

Previous articles have spoken about our war dead, but another reminder never goes amiss! In the Summer issue I mentioned that I had thoroughly researched the lives of those listed on our war memorial and, as not everyone has access to the internet, I'm presenting some of their stories and telling a little more about what I've discovered.

In December 1920 a meeting, presided over by Major Soper, a veteran of the Boer War and living at South Cross House, decided that there should be a



determined effort to obtain a war memorial for the Musbury Parish. It was resolved that a memorial stone be placed in the churchyard or in the churchyard wall, and a committee was appointed to carry out the recommendation.

Funds were raised and in March 1921 the war memorial tablet was affixed to the wall at the entrance to the churchyard. A dedication ceremony was held on Sunday afternoon, 10 April 1921. Following the Second World War, the memorial's inscription was renewed with a new tablet, which added the names of 4 men who had lost their lives between 1939 and 1945.

Currently we have no details about the replacement memorial or when it was installed. If you know anymore about this, please let me know.

There are some interesting stories about Musbury's fallen and, possibly, a few errors on the memorial. Whilst it would be nice to clear up all these issues, it is, perhaps, part of the charm of how we remember these brave people. There was, no doubt, a lot of confusion after both wars and mistakes are likely to have been made.

The following are just a few examples. For the full, up to date stories please log into <u>www.musburyheritage.co.uk</u> and enter "War Memorial" in the search box on the home page.

Sargeant Alfred "William" Cearley, the first named, is a particular anomaly. He was reported "missing, believed killed" in France on 11 July 1918 and on 22 August

he was confirmed as "killed". Strangely his death was dated 23 May 1918 and attributed to an enemy air strike on St. Omer Military Hospital, where he was being treated for influenza. This is not the end of the story, but as the following is based on some disiointed information it cannot be substantiated as 100% correct. His wife Charlotte (nee Jefford) emigrated to Canada after the war, married a James Minchin in 1926 and shortly after this claimed her husband's war pension under her new married name. In September 1918 a James Minchin (a UK subject) crossed the border from the U.S.A. into Canada to settle in



the same area that he would later marry Charlotte. After 1926 no trace can be found of a Mr & Mrs Minchin in Ontario, but, after finding many conflicting and convoluted historical records, I found a memorial tablet in the cemetery of Belleville, Ontario, Canada which reads: - "CEARLEY – In Loving Memory – Alfred William Cearley 1894 to 1949 – Charlotte, his wife 1896 to 1968". Is this just a coincidence?! The full story will be online by the time this magazine is distributed.

W. Welch who is listed as "Missing" under WW1 is also a mystery and I'm hoping someone reading this may be able to help. Despite a lot of research, I can only come up with 2 possible men. Firstly - William James Welch (a.k.a. Welsh) who was born in Musbury in 1886 and served in the Devonshire Regiment from November 1915 until he was demobilised on 19 April 1919. Secondly - William Walter Welch who was born in 1888, moved to Coventry with his brother to seek employment in the blossoming motor industry and was still living there in 1939. So, unless someone can come up another possible W. Welch, I am stuck for now!

There a couple of servicemen who perhaps should have been shown on Musbury's War Memorial

Private William Henry Phillips of the 10th Battalion, the Royal West Kent's (the Queen's Own Regiment.), son of Henry and Emma Phillips. He was born in Whitford in the 2nd quarter of 1892 and died about late 1918, aged 23. William Henry Phillips was a cowman, like his father, living at Beal's Farmhouse (now

Musbury Barton) in Musbury. We know he died as a prisoner of war in September 1918 and does not appear on Axminster, Shute or Kilmington war memorials.

Private Walter Abbott of the 4th (Reserve) Battalion, the Devonshire Regiment, son of Charles and Alice Abbott, Spiller's Farm, Seaton Road, Musbury. He was born in Shute in about 1890. He died on 7 July 1917, aged 27. In 1911 he is described as a "Farmer's son, working on farm' with



his father at Colhayne Farm, Shute. By September 1916 Charles Abbott had bought a smallholding in Musbury, known as the "Veterinary Infirmary" (now "Spillers Farm"). On Walter Abbott's war records he is shown as living in Musbury. In this case we do know the reason for his omission, as he is listed on the memorial outside St. Michael's Church in Shute. His family probably had close connections with that church.

Finally, it would be wrong to omit the one known Musbury civilian death.

Leslie Forsey was born in Marshwood, Dorset on 9 October 1908 and moved to Musbury with his parents when they became tenants of Doatshayne Farm in about 1924. They moved to Keeper's Cottage, Musbury in 1928, presumably shortly after Doatshayne Farm was destroyed by fire in April 1928. By September 1939 Leslie was a travelling salesman, working for Dawkins, the drapery business of Axminster and still living at Keeper's Cottage. He was killed during the first air raid on Yeovil on 7 October 1940 when a bomb made a direct hit on an air raid shelter. Leslie Forsey is reportedly inscribed on an Axminster memorial (not the War Memorial, perhaps inside the Minster) and in Westminster Abbey (also not confirmed).

Martin Minter / Musbury Heritage / martin@musburyheritage.co.uk

You can now also follow us on Facebook - just search for "Musbury Heritage"

Ralphie's Bit

Do you remember the good old tin dustbin? For those of you who don't, before we were issued with plastic boxes every co!our of the rainbow we had a large, round tin container into which we threw all of our waste. Bottles, tins, food waste all went in together and were sealed with a resounding clang by a metal lid.

Today we have what are called "waste management and disposal technicians" who will deign to call every three weeks to scrutinise our rubbish. If it is clean, placed carefully into the correct box and if it not an inch over the top, they may approve it and will take it away. In the days of the dustbin we had weekly

collections by our local dustmen. In those days there was no electronic hoist to make life easy, they just hauled the bin onto their shoulders and threw it manually into the back of the lorry. And if you had something too large for the bin, such as a mattress, they would only be too happy to take it.

Our local dustmen were Dave, Bedford and Ron. Much missed village characters and lunchtimes in



the pub on dustbin day were always an experience. In they would march, order three pints of traditional "rough" cider (so rough it rotted away the plaster on the wall where the tap dripped)! Out from their knapsacks they would produce well used tin lunchboxes which contained doorstop cheese sandwiches and perhaps a raw onion which was eaten at the bar. In those days this was normal practice as food was not a big part of pub business yet. But before eating there was the essential trip to the car park. Here shirt tails were untucked and the dustman's dance would take place. This consisted of vicious shaking movements and lots of self back patting. There was good reason for this performance, the tin dustbins would invariably rust at the bottom edges leaving a hole. In the summer the unwrapped food waste could get fairly unpleasant and attract swarms of nasty bluebottle flies, and as our intrepid trio hauled the bins onto their shoulders a multitude of maggots would find their way through the holes and wriggle down the shirt collars, and there they would rest until the dustman's dance would get rid of them. Always a fascinating sight to behold, and I fear an art that has now long gone.

Editors note: the picture above may not be Dave, Bedford and Ron

They do say that one man's rubbish is another man's treasure. And this became quite the truth for Bedford, Ron and Dave. Each week they would proudly show us what they had rescued from the tip for their own use. Stuffed animals, broken clocks, pieces of brass and I even saw a couple of kitchen chairs produced.

I know that our waste collections are now efficient and environmentally friendly, but sometimes I do hanker for those innocent, old days when the clanging of dustbins could be heard throughout the village on bin day and your bin collectors would give a friendly wave as they drove by. Halcyon days! **Ralph**

Snippets

ColyTots New group for tots and their parents and carers

Drop In Tuesdays 9-10.15am for coffee and croissants , chat, a song and a story St Andrews Church Colyton

Contact Linda Joy lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com

The Law

Pc Linda Ebdon and Pcso Darren England are currently working alongside Devon and Cornwall Police Rural Affairs Team in east Devon.

The areas covered are :- Sidmouth, Axminster, Seaton and Honiton.

The team's primary aim is to increase our rural communities confidence in policing, public engagement and crime prevention advice.

If you would like a visit or advice please email the officers.

darren.england@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

linda.ebdon@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Church Coffee Morning

Look out for news of the return of the monthly Coffee morning.

This will be resuming once The Village Hall committee room and kitchen becomes available .

Watch Village notice boards and www.musburyvillage.c.uk

Jigsaw Puzzles

Nights drawing in. TV rubbish . Why not try a jigsaw ? I have some quite challenging jigsaws available for a small donation to The Friends of St Michael **Jolly** 552470

MUSBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS ROUND UP -

Face to Face Meetings

Since the start of May, the Parish Council have once again been able to meet in person at the Village Hall. The AGM and APM were held on May 2021 and the last normal Parish Council Meeting was held on Monday 12th July. It has been lovely to talk face to face again and to welcome parishioners back to meetings in the traditional sense.

We were fortunate to welcome Roland Hauke to our last meeting who has recently moved to Great Trill Farm and has interesting plans for the area. Conservation is key to everything that he wishes to do at Great Trill and is his passion, having grown up on farms.

There are two main elements to his vision: to create both new species rich grasslands and convert existing grasslands and to plant native woodlands.

There will be other smaller projects too and Mr Hauke is keen to educate the younger generations, welcoming small groups for field trips from local schools and interested groups.

New Parish Councillor – Gary Knight

I very much look forward to supporting the Council in maintaining Musbury as a special place to both live and work.

Along with my wife Bev and two sons Joe and Jack we moved to Honiton from Maidstone in 1994, we then downsized to Wilmington in 2014 before Bev and I moved to Musbury.

I was elected without a contest to Widworthy Parish Council in April 2019 and very much enjoyed the role. I am reasonably IT proficient so was tasked with setting up Widworthy onto the Parish Online website.

I have had a varied working career commencing with the Ministry of Defence in London when I left school, before joining the London Fire Brigade in 1978. More recently I retired from The Football Association where as well as being a tutor and coach educator I was the National Lead for Talent Identification for the disability programme, including being manager of the England Blind football team.

I have been retired since August 2018 and enjoy walking, DIY and woodturning.

Highways

Much has happened in the last three months on our roads. Doatshayne Lane has been patch resurfaced, Double Yellow Lines have finally been painted, a grit bin has appeared and been moved to a less visible site and a VAS sign has been erected on Marlborough Road. Many thanks to all those involved in these developments. The Parish Council hope that the village roads will be safer places to walk, cycle and drive in all weather conditions.

Thanks also to Peter Rorstad and Steve Hearne for their work on repairing the noticeboard at the top of Church Hill which was badly damaged by a large vehicle late one evening.

The weather conditions seem to have been perfect for the weeds in recent weeks. Almost two full days of clearing by Anthony Sartin has made a huge difference along Axminster Road. If you can, please do help out by clearing the area outside your home. Highways do not clear weeds unless there is a road safety issue.

Devon Air Ambulance Night Landing Site

We are pleased to inform the village that planning permission has now been granted for the Lighting column for the Devon Air Ambulance Landing Site.

'The first half of 2021 has been a busy time for Devon Air Ambulance Trust. Between the 1st January 2021 and the 30th June 2021, Devon Air Ambulance experienced an incredibly busy period with crews deployed to 930 incidents, serving 577 patients.

Of these 45.4% were medical incidents and 54.4% were trauma incidents with the remaining 0.2% being inter-hospital transfers.

2021 has been a busy year so far for the Critical Care Cars as well as the two aircraft. The cars were deployed to 228 missions and the helicopters were deployed to 702 missions.

The charity continues to assist the critically ill and injured during its busiest summer yet, with crews combatting brutal heat in the aircraft as well as an increasing demand on the lifesaving service.

As a charity that is 100% independent of Government funding, it continues to welcome support from the local communities it serves to keep the service running.' Source: DAAT website

It is great to know that emergency services will have such near access to the village in the future if needed thanks to the generosity of all those members of the parish who have supported this project.

Allotments

A plot will become available at the end of September. Please contact the clerk if you are a Musbury Parish resident who would like to take on the tenancy of an allotment.

Rubbish

Please can we ask parishioners and visitors to use the most appropriate method of disposing of their waste. Large bags of household waste should not be put in the public bins as they are small and can be over-filled very quickly. EDDC are experiencing some staffing issues in their waste management teams so public bins are not always emptied as regularly as we would all like however, we still enjoy a regular kerb-side collection service. Thank you.

We look forward to seeing you at the next Parish Council meeting on Monday 6th September 2021 at 7:30pm. Please keep your eye on the noticeboard and website for more details.

Jo Boyce (Clerk to Musbury Parish Council) Tel: 553898

Further Rubbish Ramblings

The following was witnessed recently in the village

"As I approached the Post House I saw this chap carrying two small bags crossing Axminster Road towards Church Hill. Never seen him before but on reaching the which was almost completely full of poop bags he rammed one of the bags he was carrying into the bin. The bin is now completely blocked and cannot now be used for its proper purpose.

A Fiat car was parked roughly opposite to Janet's place and the chap walked across the road from where the car was parked to the other side carrying the second bag and as I passed him I looked back c/o of my rear view mirror to observe him depositing the second bag in the landfill bin serving Alamo My gut feeling is that the individuals are holiday makers who did not wish to leave their rubbish in the waste bin where they were staying nor take it home."

The League Of Friends

'The Hospiscare@Home service in Seaton and Axminster will cease at the end of September 2021. Hospiscare will work closely with local GPs and the district nursing team(s) to ensure patients and families have the appropriate support needed during the transition period - pending new arrangements from the Leagues of Friends. The number of patients and their complex clinical needs have risen over the last few years. Due to this, we have not been able to provide the level of service as was originally designed for the Axe Valley Hospiscare@Home package, and need to concentrate on more specialist cases that meet our criteria.

We would like to thank both Leagues in Seaton and Axminster for their financial support over the last few years which has allowed us to enable 98% of the patients we cared for under this service to die in their preferred place of choice. For most, this was at home. We would like to wish the Seaton and Axminster Leagues of Friends success with their future services.

Hospiscare will continue to offer patients, families and healthcare professionals from Seaton and Axminster support through our Specialist Ward in Exeter, and Clinical Nurse Specialist team in the community, as well as our bereavement and education provision - as we do across our area of care in Exeter, Mid and East Devon. The Leagues of Friends, who commission this service, are in discussions with an alternative provider and are confident of a positive outcome to re-establish this service for the Axe Valley.'

The second piece of information, which has no bearing on the above, is that I intend to retire as secretary to the Axminster League of Friends as soon as a replacement can be found. At 75 and with dodgy health I feel it is time a fitter person took over. Anyone interested can contact me in the first instance on 01297 552376. The League is so important to the hospital in giving the community a voice as well as providing much needed equipment and services that could not be made available by the NHS. **Ann Veit**

Hon Secretary LOF AH 01297 552376

Musbury Notes I am still making and selling jams from my carport and for the moment the funds will still go to Musbury Church Repair Fund. Last year £520 was donated and so far this year there is over £300 in the 'pot'. Please continue to support this fund raiser for our own village and thank you to all those who have donated produce from their gardens and allotments. Some lovely BoysenBerry Jelly available thanks to Sue for growing and harvesting them. Ann Veit

Footpaths

Hopefully we have at last found a DCC approved contractor, who is familiar with the workings of the PROW supplies depot, and keen to get started on our backlog of repairs and improvements.

He has our list and the 2:1 gates we have asked him to install will not only be easier for walkers, but being self closing prevent escape of livestock. At present there are no finger posts at the dept but fingers crossed.....

The recent Parish Paths Partnership newsletter has highlighted a growing problem common to many parishes, including Musbury, regarding dog fouling on rights of way and in fields.

Dog faeces may carry the parasite neosporosis which can lead to abortion in cattle and the condemning of carcasses when livestock enter the food chain. It is vital for rural livestock and animal health that dog owners behave responsibly and pick up after their dog.



A revision of the Countryside Code was launched earlier this year to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the original publication. Briefly the message encourages users of public rights of way to be friendly, not feed livestock, keep to the definitive line of the path and to take dog poo home with them for safe disposal. 'Stick and flick' is no longer acceptable.

Janet Albano

Stop press : Finger posts now done





The Countryside Code





Your guide to enjoying parks and waterways, coast and countryside

Respect everyone

- be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- · do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking
- be nice, say hello, share the space
- follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

Protect the environment .

- take your litter home leave no trace of your visit
- do not light fires and only have BBQs where signs say you can
- · always keep dogs under control and in sight
- dog poo bag it and bin it any public waste bin will do
- care for nature do not cause damage or disturbance

Enjoy the outdoors

- check your route and local conditions
- · plan your adventure know what to expect and what you can do
- enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory



www.gov.uk/countryside-code

Parking

Since the installation of the Double Yellow Lines in The Street, as forecast the perennial problem of parking vehicles, both cars and vans has got worse with access to private drives being partially blocked, vehicles blocking lowered kerbs and obstruction of clear view of entry or exit of side roads. Time for a reminder to readers of the Musbury Parish News of parking rules as published in The Highway Code.



Rule 238

You MUST NOT wait or park on yellow lines during the times of operation shown on nearby time plates (or zone entry signs if in a Controlled Parking Zone) Double yellow lines indicate a prohibition of waiting at any time even if there are no upright signs.

Rule 243

DO NOT stop or park:

- near a school entrance
- anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- at or near a bus or tram stop or taxi rank
- opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
- where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
- in front of an entrance to a property
- on a bend

Rule 244

You **MUST NOT** park partially or wholly on the pavement unless signs permit it. Parking on the pavement can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments and people with prams or pushchairs.

Concerned Resident

Lyme Bay Outdoor Cinema coming to Musbury

Once upon a time in a field not far from you, there was an idea. This new idea grew, and coined the name Lyme Bay Outdoor Cinema. And we are inviting you to become part of the story by joining us at its first event in the Musbury School field on Saturday 18 September.

There will be a big screen, there will be great food, there will be hot drinks and there will be a bar. There will also be car parking (in a field opposite the petrol station) of which all proceeds will go to the school PTFA. Profit from ticket sales will also go to the PTFA.

So what's in it for the organisers? Unique Boutique Events is a micro business based in Colyford and brings to East Devon the popular pop up street food markets Seaton Eats Boutique and Sidmouth Eats Boutique. Unique Boutique Events also happens to be run by me, Elenor Carr, a parent of 2 children in the school. I'm delighted to be able to help raise funds for the PTFA and the outdoor equipment they wish to buy. Unique Boutique Events will also gain by learning how to run this new event and will raise a little revenue from the food and drink traders. All round it's a win win situation. Will that be the case for the characters in our film....? What we are screening is yet to be announced but we assure you it's a classic, suitable for all ages, with fight scenes, romance and laughs and great one liners. We'll also have a local short film to screen prior to the main film. Tickets will be priced at £10 per adult, £8 per child and an Early Bird ticket for 4 priced at £30.

Please watch our Facebook page @uniqueBoutiqueEvents or our website <u>www.uniqueboutiqueevents.co.uk/Lyme-Bay-Outdoor-Cinema</u> for more details. If you are super excited about this event already and wish to reserve a ticket now, please text or message 07970 857696. If you are a business and wish to advertise on the big screen please email <u>chat@UniqueBoutiqueEvents.co.uk</u>.

Lisiting details: **Saturday 18 September.** Gates open approx 6pm. Film to conclude by 10pm for the latest info visit www.ungiueboutiqueevents.co.uk/Lyme-Bay-Outdoor-Cinema

Facebook: @uniqueboutiqueevents

email: chat@uniqueboutiqueevents.co.uk

Phone / text: 07970 857696

Update From The Castle

Over the past few months the rangers have been hard at work maintaining a vast network of footpaths across East Devon as well as completing ash dieback surveys across National Trust sites including Musbury Castle. Ash dieback is a devastating disease threatening ash trees across the country including veteran trees and woodlands in our care. The disease, caused by a fungus called *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*, originated in Asia and its



spread is attributed to the movement of plants as part of global trade. With its windborne spores, the fungus spreads guickly causing leaf loss, bark lesions and dieback in the crown of the tree. There are an estimated 80 million ash trees in the UK, helping to shape some of our best loved landscapes. They make up a third of our entire tree population. It's thought that over 90% of these trees will be lost to the disease which will have a devastating impact on the countryside and biodiversity of our woodlands. Each year, the ranger team complete ash dieback surveys to monitor the progression of the disease in our countryside sites and identify trees in high risk zones (this includes those that are along public highways, rights of way, well-used paths, permissive routes, and near residential areas and car parks) that pose a risk to public safety and unfortunately require felling. Not all affected ash trees will be felled. Wherever it's safe to do so, we'll be leaving both standing and fallen deadwood so that wildlife can benefit. It's been a devasting year for ash trees in East Devon as the disease has accelerated over the past 12 months, but fortunately only a couple of trees within the high risk areas of Musbury Castle are showing the more advanced stages of the disease so minimal felling work is required at present.

It's hard to believe that our summer work season is coming to an end, and the ranger team will soon restart the winter scrub clearance work at Musbury Castle as part of the grassland restoration work. This winter, the rangers will be running a series of scrub-bashing events so that members of the local community can come and get involved with our work at the hill fort. These events will be lots of fun, with loppers, bow saws, pitch forks and bonfires galore! They will take place on Saturday 23rd October, Saturday 20th November and Saturday 11th December from 10am – 3pm. To find out more information and register your interest in these events please email <u>lucy.buckingham@nationaltrust.org.uk</u> or call Lucy on 01297 680507.

Musbury Garage and Spar

With our area once again opening its doors to visitors, we have seen a massive increase in the number of visitors to our shop and forecourt. There have been supply issues due to a lack of HGV drivers and the knock-on effects of the 'pingdemic', but generally Spar have done us proud with their delivery service levels.

The end of July saw us becoming an outlet for the 'Cook' range of high-quality frozen meals. The enthusiasm from you, our customers, was pleasingly positive, so much so that availability has been a bit of an issue. We are working on ensuring that the Cook freezers are carrying more stock over the next few weeks, so please bear with us and thank you for your support thus far.

The more eagle-eyed amongst you may have noticed that we have added a brand-new recovery truck to our fleet. This is available to rent on a self-drive basis and can be driven on a car licence. In addition, we will be using the vehicle to collect and deliver rental cars as well as offering a vehicle transportation and recovery service to our customers.

We have exciting news regarding further upgrades to our shop. Over the winter we will be installing some new chillers and freezers to enable us to increase our range. In addition, we are making improvements to our till area, which will help to improve our service to you at the point of payment.

Some of you may be aware that unleaded petrol is changing. For the last few years, it has contained up to 5% ethanol and has been branded as E5. Over the next few weeks, this will be changing to E10, with up to 10% ethanol, or bio content. This E10 is not recommended for pre-2011 vehicles. Therefore, we have taken the decision to start selling Gulf Endurance alongside our standard unleaded to give you a choice. This is a high-performance 97 octane alternative that is E5 and is available from pumps 3 and 4, with standard E10 offered from pumps 1 & 2. If you need any more information or are unsure which petrol to use in your car, don't hesitate to ask me or one of the workshop team.

All that remains is for me to thank you all for shopping local and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Julian

READ EASY AXMINSTER AND SEATON (and beyond!)

Do you know anyone, 18 or over, who would like to improve their reading skills? It may surprise you to know that over 2 million adults in England alone have very poor or no reading skills, meaning they are unable to attain their full potential. In the 21st century life is changing so quickly - today so many necessary things are available from apps on our mobile phones or on the internet (shopping apps, on-line medical forms, news and weather updates, job applications etc.) that being able to read is key to carrying on our everyday life.

Read Easy Axminster and Seaton provide one-to-one coaching for adults in safe, easy to access venues. Learning is at the reader's own pace and our coaches are trained and experienced with a variety of teaching methods available to them. One of our latest local success stories is of a young mother of five who has recently finished her reading course with us and is to be featured in a national publicity campaign by Read Easy UK.

On a national level, Jay Blades, presenter of the TV series 'The Repair Shop' will feature in a new BBC documentary later in the year. The programme entitled "Jay Blades: Learning To Read At 51" will feature Jay as he begins his journey learning to read with his Read Easy Reading Coach, as well as covering the stories of other adults he meets who are also learning to read. Jay Blades says: "Learning to read is going to be the toughest challenge for me. On this journey I'll be meeting people who can't read, for whatever reason, and hopefully helping them. I'd love this film to inspire the millions of other adults in the same situation as me."

For further details contact Sheila (Coordinator Read Easy Axminster and Seaton) on 01297 552847 or email 'sheila@readeasy.org.uk'

From the archive Autumn 2007

"Affordable housing has emerged as one of the most important issues for EDDC to address. District councillor Iain Chubb says this was a key message from the 'place-shaping' workshop he recently attended with other council members in the Seaton , Colyton, Trinity and Sidmouth wards. Acting as a kind of think-tank, councillors put forward their views on what different parts of the district should look like and how they should function over the next few years. They discussed ideas for the location, form, nature and character of development to be accommodated in East Devon. Including new homes, jobs, hospitals, schools, shops and recreation facilities. "

From the Parish Council roundup. Did they consider the hospitals being Closed ?



TRILL FARM GARDEN

We offer delivery of our organic veg bags to Musbury and surrounding areas on Tuesdays.

> Each week you can order a bag of vegetables grown by us (supplemented by other organic producers in winter & spring). The bag will have a selection of seasonal veg and will always include a bag of our salad leaves.

You can also find our salad bags at Musbury Spar

For more information and to order go to trillfarmgarden.co.uk/boxscheme ashley@trillfarmgarden.co.uk

m18

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Still a family run business, serving the local community of East Devon for over 50 years

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Anagrams

Belted tile	(3, 2, 5) Rollling Stones Album		
Rifled gong	(10) James Bond villain		
Fullfills roads float	(1, 8, 2, 7) Spaghetti Western		
Wainscoted lot	(5, 8) The main man in the above		
Hurry wise wee hoe	(4, 3, 4, 4) Pink Floyd Album 1975		
Zip lend peel	(3, 8) Rock Band originally named New Yardbirds		
Thwack ermine	(3, 6, 3) A British horror film 1973		
Ark hen ray	(5, 4) known for kicking a ball around		
Morn lancing	(8, 4) Neil Young song that was the first song played by Bob Harris on his Radio One debut		
Nightmarish ace eaten (3, 4, 3, 1, 7) Dylan's classic anthem			
Justices rusts sharper (5, 6, 9) Lloyd Webber Musical			
Whale Noel	(9) 31st October		
Downgraded firth form cam (3, 4, 3, 6, 5) Thomas Hardy Novel			
Cheating Camel	(7,6) We must do something to stop this, but will we?		

Up on The Allotments

Firstly an appeal: If you have spare produce from your allotment or garden, the following people in the village have links with local foodbanks who would be grateful for it. Please contact: info@axminsterwellbeing.com and put in the 'subject' box 'FAO Sheila (Food Bank Manager)' for Axminster Foodbank or joannaboyce@lymeforward.co.uk for Lyme Regis Foodbank

It's not just growing that happens up at the allotments. The following is a report from Andy at Plot 31 who has been involved in a Citizen Science project, and also a World Record!

Can we learn to love slugs?

The RHS hope so! The last study of slugs in the Uk took place in 1944 and all the advice we are given is based largely around the information derived from that study.

We all know how climate change has impacted our gardens and



allotments; I have certainly noticed changes to the types and sizes of the slugs I've seen. I have been part of a new research project for the past year, which is funded by Newcastle University in partnership with RHS Wisley. The primary aim is to identify the types of slugs across the UK and to understand how each type interacts with the garden or allotment. The researchers are also investigating whether the public can identify slugs, to the level required, in order to implement any recommendations.

At regular intervals, I am collecting samples of all slugs to be found on a given date, and in a given location. (60 other 'slug spotters' across the country collect samples at the same time.) These are then collated before posting to RHS Wisley's new science lab. Imogen who runs the project was recently on BBC 'Gardener's World' talking about slugs in general.

Identifying the slugs has been extremely difficult and even those who have experience of slugs have to dissect and inspect internal organs to accurately identify some of them. The material provided to identify them has proved to be very interesting and it's clear there are only a few slugs we need to worry about. It seems certain that the phases of the moon, which we know affects moisture levels in the soil, have no bearing on slug activity. Not even temperatures of -5c will stop some slugs! In 1944 there were only 44 known species. This has certainly increased and a number of sub-sets will have to be created! There are slugs in Devon that are yet to be identified.

The findings will be published next year, but the program has certainly changed my opinion on our garden adversary.

World Record!

I have had through confirmation from Guinness World Records that my application for the tallest teasel has been successful. It's taken a year and has only been successful with the help of Alan Parkman and Mike Lock in identifying the plant to the level required to meet GWR conditions

Allotmenteer

The Musbury Show

We did have hopes of holding the Musbury Show in the Village Hall in August this year and had prepared everything including the Schedule and Judges as far as possible but were unable to find a safe way of running it inside the hall so that the entries could be seen and enjoyed by all. However, we were able to hold both the Garden Charm and Vegetable Plot Competitions, the judges being able to visit them and their gardeners in turn. We are extremely grateful to Mary Benger and Dereck Hurford for agreeing to do this. The results were "On Show" in the windows of the "Old Post Office" during August. We would like to thank Sue Leach for the excellent display of the competitions.

The Garden Charm Competition was judged in June when the emphasis was on charm rather than tidiness or absence of weeds, on the variety of the plants and colour, where it would be a pleasure to relax and enjoy the results of one's labours. Nine gardens were entered, the judge thought the standards were very high and the winner was Val Burfitt.

Six excellent Vegetable Plots were inspected in July. The judge looked for the range and variety of plants grown and their health rather than the tidiness of each plot. The winner was Mike Lock.

We are very happy and grateful to Rosie Harris for agreeing to join us, the Show Committee, which now consists of: David Antell, Rosie Harris, Mary Minter, Martin Minter (Treasurer), Lesley McGowan Lock, Valerie Nicholls and Mick Nicholls. Many of the preparations we made for this year mean we are ready to put on the Show next year in August 2022.

Musbury Short Mat Bowls Club

The good news is that now the Village Hall is in business and Musbury Short Mat Bowls club have tentatively started meeting again - all be it within the restrictive rules of the English Short Mat Bowls Association.

Many of our members have returned and playing surprisingly well after such a long enforced break!

We can only have two mats out at a time and only four players on a mat but we have managed well so far and there is plenty of news to catch up with, while sitting out waiting for a game. It is so good to see everyone again after a break of nearly eighteen months.

By Christmas, hopefully, we will be allowed more players at any one time and things will gradually get back to normal.

Obviously there are no matches against other clubs yet but this will come eventually I am sure. For the time being, we are just content with being able to participate in the sport we all enjoy and seeing friends again each week.

We are looking forward to gaining new members from clubs who have sadly had to close. We hope to celebrate at Christmas with our usual meal together and we look forward to welcoming all our members back at some point in the near future.

We are grateful to the Village Hall Committee for their thoughtfulness and organisation in difficult times for enabling us to at least start playing bowls together again even if it not back to full capacity yet.

We welcome new members from the Village especially if you have moved into Musbury during the Pandemic and would like to join a friendly group of people to have fun on a Friday afternoon. Tuition is given and bowls are available to borrow initially.

Kay Short Secretary. 552711

Musbury and Whitford WI

Our WI was able to meet 'in the flesh' at last in August in Musbury Village Hall when we held our usual Planning Meeting. This is when over a Ploughman's Lunch we plan the next year's programme of speakers for our monthly meetings, outings, events, and other activities. Till then we have only been able to meet and communicate via Zoom. Starting in September we hope that speakers we had booked for 2020 will be able to come and educate and entertain (two of the aims of WI) us with topics such as "50 Gems of Devon" and "Royal Shinanikins". These monthly meetings are booked for the second Tuesday 7.30 -9.30pm each month. Visitors are welcome to come and see what we get up to. Bring a mug, we provide biscuits and cake.

Contacts: **Joy Burges**s (01297 551416)

or Lesley McGowan Lock (01297 551556)



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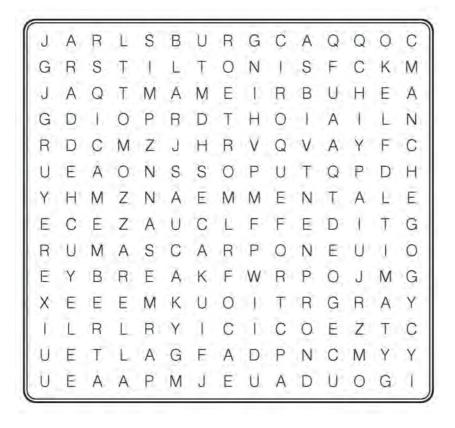




Wordsearch

Find fifteen cheeses

Words may appear forwards, backwards, horizontally, vertically or diagonally



The sky at night

We are now passing from summer through to autumn. As I write this we are at the

peak of the Perseid meteor shower, which I hope some of you have been able to see. Nights are becoming longer as we head towards changing our clocks again in October, and some of the well-known constellations are now being seen after midnight telling us that winter will soon be here.



As we look south in September both Jupiter and Saturn are still evening objects, with Saturn setting around 2.30 am and Jupiter at 4 am. With the nights getting darker seeing them is coming back to a more reasonable time of the night. Venus sets around 8.30pm so is not really good for evening viewing yet. Neptune is in the constellation of Aquarius and above the horizon all night long. It's closest to the earth on 14th September.

In October we have the Orionid meteor shower which is at maximum on the 21st/22nd October. This shower is caused when the earth passes points on its orbit where there is debris left by Halley's Comet. This year will not be a good year for viewing as the moon is full on the 20th October.

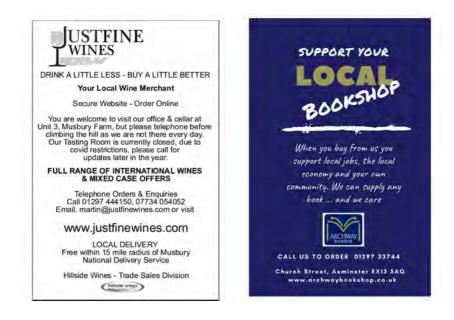
In October the Andromeda constellation is in a good position and the Andromeda galaxy should be visible. This is considered to be the most distant object which can be viewed with the naked eye. Despite this it can be a tricky object to spot. Because of the way our eyes work it is better to look just slightly to the left or right so the image falls on the outer region of your retina. This is called averted vision and is the only way to find both the Andromeda Galaxy and on a really clear night the Triangulum Galaxy. Don't expect to see something like the images you get from the Hubble telescope. What you are looking for is a fuzzy blob. Neither of these are visible if you have light pollution though, so find a very dark spot and then look for the W of Cassiopeia it will probably be quite high in the sky. Just to the left you should see a > shape which if you follow it down you will find the square of Pegasus. Go back to the > shape and half way along the upper arm is where the galaxy is. I hope some of you do manage to see it.

By November the summer constellations are moving out of view and the winter constellations of Taurus and Orion are moving into the southern skies. I'm sure most of you can recognise Orion and from there many other objects are easy to find, including the Orion nebula and other things we'll talk about in the December issue.



At present the NLO is closed because of COVID-19 and some refurbishment work, but hopefully we will be open again in 2022 the new year. For more details see <u>www.normanlockyer.com</u>.

No matter what "keep looking up".



And Finally

"I think life is there for you to grab it and be positive. Just look for the good everywhere."

Dusty Hill 1949-2021

Like another great publication, The Guardian Newspaper it is time to start a Corrections and Clarifications section. In the Summer edition, Colin Corbett should have been credited with the item "The View from the farm". Also in the same edition the word search may have confused a few as the grid had appeared in the winter edition as 15 music memories from the seventies and it was not twelve musicals as titled.

Let us hope everything is correct in this issue although the spellchecker and auto correct always struggles with the anagrams. This is the time to thank my two proof readers Sue Leach and Cherry .They have both proved invaluable and without their help, I can assure you, there would be far more mistakes.

So now we can look forward to "the new normal' which a quick google search reveals to be digital. "The Post Covid world will bring forward a new normal -one that will accelerate digital transformation in many areas" according to a UN report.

Or according to BBC news pandemics may be "the new normal." Or "The pandemic has created a new sense togetherness, making us more aware of our shared humanity and of the living conditions of others. At the same time, many worry about their societies becoming more divided in the future", according to a seven country report drawing from a survey of 14,000 people

So probably best to carry on, regardless and in the words of Thich Nhat Hanh "dwell in the present moment. I know this is a Wonderful moment"

Stay safe and mind how you go.

Jolly Contributors please note Deadline for next issue: November 12th



Musbury Diary Autumn 2021

ch-Church: vh-Village Hall :hd-Hind.

September

Sunday 5th	Village praise	10.00am	Ch	
Monday 6th	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm	Vh	
Sunday 12th	Holy Communion BCP	11.15am	Ch	
Saturday 18th	BBQ and live music at The Hind	6.00pm	Hd	
Saturday 18th	Outdoor Cinema school playing field	6.00pm		
Sunday 19th	Holy Communion CW	11.15am	Ch	
Sunday 26th	Patronal Festival Evensong	6.00pm	Ch	
Wednesday 29th	Holy Communion	7.30pm	Ch	
October				
Sunday 3rd	Harvest Festival Village Praise	10.00am	Ch	
Subday 10th	Holy Communion BCP	11.15am	Ch	
Sunday17th	Holy Communion CW	11.15am	Ch	
Monday 18th	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm	Vh	
Sunday 24th	Evening prayer	6.30pm	Ch	
Sunday 31st	Holy Communion CW	11.15am	Ch	
November				
Sunday7th	Village praise	10.00am	Ch	
Sunday 14th	Remembrance Sunday	10.50am	Ch	
Sunday 21st	Holy Communion CW	11.15am	Ch	
Saturday 27th	Christmas Craft Fayre	10.00am	Vh	
Sunday 28th	Evening prayer	6.30pm	Ch	

Keep an eye on village notice boards and the web site for more events, including the resumption of the monthly coffee mornings at the Village Hall.