

MUSBURY PARISH NEWS



Spring 2022

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www.holyford.org

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MUSBURY PARISH NEWS

Village Website: www.musburyvillage.co.uk

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The Clergy's Letter

Even during the pandemic the seasons continued. Who can forget the wonderful sound of Spring 2020? Against the backcloth of isolation, lockdown, illness, fear and the absence of motor noise from our roads, the birds seemed to sing louder than ever on our daily exercise walks. The bluebells seemed more abundant and more vividly blue. There wasn't much to be positive about but the emergence of Spring was one. Then Spring gave way to summer and eventually more relaxed restrictions. By Christmas, against the backcloth this time of ice, frost and cold, we shivered in gardens, treasuring moments with families but, oh so missing the warm glow of the lounge fire.

In the church another set of seasons rotates round each year even in times of pandemic – Christmas preceded by Advent gives way to Christmas and then through to Epiphany and Candlemas. After a pause we have Ash Wednesday, Lent, Passiontide, Holy Week, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension Day, Pentecost and Trinity. A longer pause then before we start all over again.

Each year I value and appreciate the joys of each weather season – the new life of Spring, the warmth of summer, the golden colours of autumn and the crisp frosts of short December days. Each year too I value the repeated cycle of the Christian story centring on the birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. Such a cycle makes sure that we miss none of the vital ingredients.

This month sees us observe Ash Wednesday and Lent which is a marvellous time to reflect on our sinfulness and need for salvation so that when April comes and we celebrate Easter, we really do appreciate what we are celebrating – victory over sin and death.

Keep your eyes skinned for details of all that is planned in this Mission Community for Lent so that you can join in and grow closer to God.

At the same time rejoice in the new life that is in our gardens, by the roadside, in the fields and the woods as yet another year moves forward under the direction of our almighty God.

Nigel Freathy

Lent Course

What are you giving up for Lent this year? Instead of giving something up, why not take something up? The Holyford Lent course this year invites you take up “Joy for Lent: the Joy of the Gospel”. We shall be basing our Lent course on Paula Gooder’s The Joy of the Gospel which explores ways in which we can share the love of God and live the faith with joy. Each session includes prayer, a period of reflection on a Bible passage, and a time for discussion.

Tuesdays in Lent (Tuesdays 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March and 5th April):

At 7.30pm in Musbury at Ruffles the home of Cherry and Jolly Sargent,

led by **Fr Steven**

Shrove Tuesday, 1st March from 7pm at Musbury Village Hall

Pancakes (savoury and sweet fillings), Pancake Tossing Competition and Quiz.

The event is free, but donations to cover expenses would be appreciated.

Please contact the Office if you would like to come (office@holyford.org)

or Fr Steven (01297 553180).

If you can help with setting up/catering, please contact Kay Short (01297 552711).



Thank you

£163 was collected for the Children’s, Society at the carol Service, the Carol singing and some from of the Children at the School.

Parochial Church Council

We enjoyed one of our most successful Christmas Craft Fayres ever this last November. Lots of people came and all the stalls did very well. We made approx. £750 which was fantastic. Thank you to all the village for your support. The Carol Service was well attended considering we were still struggling with Coronavirus. There was a lovely atmosphere and many villagers took part by singing and reading. We missed the mulled wine and mince pies once more, though. Carol Singing, around the Village, took place before Christmas which was well received. The Advent Windows were enjoyed by those who walked round to view them. Thank you to all those who went to the trouble of creating them. We combined the Christmas Day all age service with a Communion which proved successful.

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be at 2pm on May 19th. This will give us a chance to thank our Church Wardens, Sue Irving and Michael Pritchard for their leadership and all the people who, in numerous ways, contribute to the running of our Church services and the upkeep of the fabric of the building. There are too many to mention by name but they know who they are. Thank you!

Robin Collis will be presenting the accounts and it will be interesting to see how we survived Coronavirus. We are so grateful for his skills in preparing balance sheets at each PCC meeting and the annual accounts for the forthcoming May meeting.

Arrangements are in place to have conservation and repair work done on the Drake Monument. We are also re-visiting plans for a toilet and kitchen facilities in the belfry area. Unfortunately the recent ceiling work overtook this project in priority

Villagers are enjoying our monthly coffee mornings in the Village Hall Committee Room and we are grateful to the Doultons for their generosity in holding a similar event every fortnight in their home. Many folk who live on their own, value chatting to others on these occasions. Please continue to support the Food Bank in Church. Axminster Food Bank really appreciate our contributions.

We are all looking forward to the warmer weather, the signs that Spring is on the way, the end of restrictions and of course the season of Easter when we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. There will be many special services in Church and we offer you a warm welcome at each one of them.

Kay Short

PCC Secretary.

552711. kayshort43@gmail.com

CHURCH FLOWERS AND CLEANING

Well, here we are again the Annual Spring Clean of the Church is looming.....this year at the normal time of year - last year of course the clean took place in July after our ceiling works so hopefully we should have an easier clean !!! I look forward to seeing all cleaners (let me know if you can't make it) on Saturday 9th April at 10.am, ready with buckets and mops ! Tea and buns provided !!! Extra volunteers always welcome.

A week later it will be the turn of the flower arrangers as we decorate the Church after the long period of Lent. Decorating will be on Saturday 16th April ready for Easter Sunday, when daffodils and all things Spring will renew our spirits and bring us joy for Easter and onwards.

Sue Irving
552440

Ascension Day Thursday 26th May.

All are welcome for the Eucharist Service to celebrate Ascension Day with the Right Rev Jackie Searle, Bishop of Crediton , at 7.00pm

Everyone is also invited for refreshments afterwards at The Hind.
Please book with Sue Irving 552440

Parish Records

Funeral Service

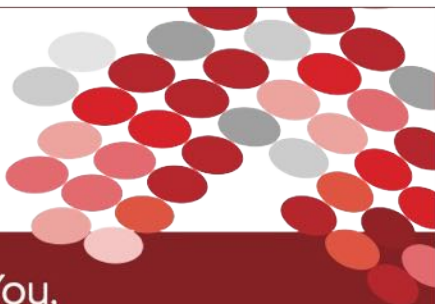
November 26th

Patricia Edith Lilian Rutter

Wedding

4th December

Alice Gay to Jack Chapple



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Weather Watch

November was a remarkably dry month, with a total of just 19.5 mm (about $\frac{3}{4}$ ") for the whole month. This was a welcome respite after a very wet October and allowed the ground to dry out a bit although this was slowed by heavy dews and low temperatures. The average for the month is 104 mm (4"). There were several spells of morning frosts, with the first air frost on 5 November – killing off my dahlias. Gales on 26-27th caused some damage. Rainfall in December, at 110 mm, was close to average, and brought the year's total to 1024mm (41 ins), close to the average of 966mm (38.5 ins). The month started showery but another major gale on 7-8th caused further damage. The rest of the month was remarkably dull and cloudy – nationally it was the dullest December for many years. Christmas Day was very wet. By contrast, January 2022 was a generally dry and sunny month with a total of just 40 mm ($1\frac{1}{2}$ "). The spells of clear bright weather were often accompanied by early frosts.



Mike Lock

Questions of Life and Faith

There will be no session in March and April as Lent Courses will be happening and the April date falls on Maundy Thursday.

The next three sessions will be on Thursdays, 12th May, 9th June and 14th July, all in the Colyford Memorial Hall at 2pm. For anyone who has not been before, this is very much an open and relaxed group to come with any questions about life and faith and new people are always welcome. Sessions are free but a small donation of £1 or £2 is requested to go towards the costs of refreshments and hiring the hall.

Revd Canon Karen Curnock

Thanks

Karen

Nature Watch

Most of the timber from Beeds Hill Plantation has now been removed and the offcuts and brushwood have been windrowed in preparation for new planting. Much damage was done to the surrounding trees and woods by the gales in December. The conifers at the lower end of the western part of the plantation have also been thinned. Those worried about carbon balances should bear in mind that wood used as structural timber locks away the carbon in it for the life of the structure or longer.

The mild winter encouraged the Robins in the garden to start pairing up early. In autumn, the area round the bird feeders are taken over by a single Robin who defends this choice piece of territory against all comers. I always assume that this is a male – but there is no real reason to believe this, as both male and female Robins defend winter territories and both sing. If December is mild, another Robin starts to sneak into the territory. At first he/she is driven off by the territory holder, but eventually a kind of armed neutrality is reached and the second bird starts to be tolerated. The first bird may display by putting its head up into the air, the better to show off its red breast, which is, as it were, 'essence of Robin' to another individual. (David Lack, in his famous study 'The Life of the Robin', based on observations while he was a teacher at Dartington Hall in South Devon, found that a tuft of red feathers on a stick was enough to stimulate a Robin to display.) Eventually, by the end of February if the weather is mild, the two birds form a pair and the male starts to feed the female (if she is well fed she will produce more eggs and his genes will be perpetuated better). Robin nest building is very discrete and it is very difficult to find the nest which is usually well concealed within a mass of ivy, often under cover and sometimes within a building. At this stage everything goes quiet until the young fledge but they stick to thick cover at first, where their plaintive squeakings are often the only sign of their presence. Eventually they start to appear on the ground below the feeders but at this stage they have speckled breasts without any red and are tolerated by the adults. Once the red breast starts to appear, after two or three months, they are driven away.

The mild winter with, so far, no snow or prolonged frost is probably why winter-visiting birds have been thin on the ground. A flock of Redwings fed on the grass fields below Waterford Farm for a week or two but have now moved on, and Fieldfares were very scarce. Bramblings, which sometimes turn up with the Chaffinches under my feeders, have been absent this winter.

The Whooper Swans that visited the valley last autumn seen to have moved on, but there is still a substantial flock of Mute Swans – anything up to 40 – on the river fields below Woodhayne Farm on the western side of the river.

These will soon disperse to find breeding sites, although, because swans do not breed until they are about three years old, some will form a non-breeding flock for the summer, usually on the estuary; breeding pairs do not tolerate other swans in their territory.



Next month should see the arrival of the first summer visitors. The average first sighting date for both Sand Martins and Swallows in Devon

is 12 March, and for Wheatears, the next day, 13 March. However, these dates are becoming more difficult to calculate, as it now seems likely that a few Swallows are wintering here. While this means they avoid the return journey to South Africa, it is a risky strategy, as they would either freeze to death or starve in a cold winter. It also means that a sighting of a Swallow between early December and late February may be a wintering bird, and inclusion in the average arrival and departure dates will distort these.

Seaton Wetlands

Water levels at the Wetlands have been kept fairly high. The finest sight of the month has been the thousand or so Lapwing that use the islands in Black Hole Marsh as a resting place during the day. Mostly they just sit about preening or sleeping, but every now and then something spooks them and they all fly up and around, until they feel it safe to return to the islands. It's always worth looking at the sky when this happens as a Peregrine Falcon may be overhead. I saw this last month and the Peregrine flew past holding something in its talons, about Lapwing size, but it could have been anything. Occasional 'different' geese can be found amongst the big flock of Canada Geese that haunts the fields east of the tramlines at Colyford Common. Last week there were two Brent Geese there, and there was an earlier brief visit from a couple of White-fronted Geese, perhaps from the flock of 30 that visited the Lower Otter Restoration Project in December. One or two Greylag Geese can also sometimes be seen. Waders have been few and far between, but spring migration should start in March and increase the numbers and variety. The most unusual birds seen recently have been Glossy Ibises – glossy black egret-sized birds with long curved beaks. Groups of five and three have made fairly brief visits but there seem to be a number of groups touring Devon and they may turn up again at any time.

Mike Lock

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FRIENDS OF ST MCHAEAL'S MUSBURY

The latest news is that Ann Veit has raised over £600 for the Friends through sale of jams and preserves from her carport at Lion Cottage – a tremendous achievement for which many thanks to Ann – and to all those who bought and enjoyed the excellent jams and preserves.

Thanks also go to Kay Short for running the winter quiz which raised £180. The questions were set by Alan Fowler, who dedicated the proceeds to the Friends in memory of his late father, Edward. The quiz contained questions such as “name the winner of the 2021 Grand National?” and “which is the world’s northernmost capital of a sovereign state?”.

The funds of the Friends also benefitted from the generosity of the families of the late Edward Gay and the late Edward Fowler in nominating the Friends as the beneficiary of collections at their funerals.

Just to recap : this group aims to preserve the church building at the heart of the village for the benefit of the whole community. It is separate from the running of the church as a religious body. There are similar arrangements in Axmouth, Branscombe and Colyton.

We aim to raise funds so that, when repairs and improvements are needed on the fabric of St Michael’s, there is money available to maintain the building for all who live in Musbury.

Anyone interested in joining should contact Rosie Houldsworth on rosie.houldsworth@talkworks.info or Andrew Kennon at beedsfarm@tiscali.co.uk

The committee has been considering how to expand the membership and what fund-raising events to organise. We are conscious of the need to complement not compete with other fund-raising activities in Musbury. All suggestions are welcome.

Andrew Kennon
Secretary

School Report

The children at Musbury Primary have entered into a Times Tables Rockstars competition with all the other schools across First Federation. The children and staff are working hard developing their multiplication and division knowledge and are looking forward to showcasing their talent across the trust!

The school are in the process of revamping the outdoor area for the Reception children. If you have any of the following and would like to donate to new home, then we would be very grateful: tyres large, pieces of material, paint brushes and rollers (household painting), plastic piping (drainage pieces or similar), plastic tubing, funnels, kitchen pots and pans, cutlery and kitchen implements (wooden spoons,) conkers, pinecones, shells, pebbles, sticks, cotton reels, wooden planks, plastic baskets. If you are able to help us out then please contact or drop items up to the school.

Thank you and kind regards

Nicky

Mrs Nicky Ingarfield Administrator
Musbury Primary School. Tel: 01297 552687

Musbury PTFA Jumble Sale

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The Queen's Platinum Jubilee June 3rd-5th 2022 Musbury Celebrates

A well attended meeting was held in the Village Hall on Monday Feb 7th. Everyone present was invited to give their ideas as to how they would like to see the Village celebrate this important event in line with the rest of the country.

The suggestions were a big picnic, a dog show, a street party, a cream tea, a barbecue, decorating homes and gardens, a disco, dancing, children's games, a celebratory mug (made by Mary Jacks), a Boules Competition, a Big Lunch and a Village Photograph.

After much discussion, a big picnic where families bring their own own food, tables and chairs etc seemed the most popular at a venue where there are toilets available like the Village Hall and its surroundings where permission will have to be sought. Decorating homes etc was very popular. The idea of a mug also had many votes. Another suggestion, lots of bunting everywhere with a focal point where the Christmas tree was located.

A Quiz at the pub and the lighting of a beacon are other planned events.

About ten volunteers came forward to meet again on Monday March 14th at the Village Hall. If you missed this meeting and have any more ideas or wish to help in the organisation of the weekend, please email Kay Short and she will pass on any ideas to the organisers ready for March 14th.

Kay Short

kayshort43@gmail.com

Platinum Jubilee display appeal

If you have any memorabilia of the Queen that you would be willing to lend, we would love to borrow it for a Jubilee window display at the Post House. Anything like mugs, tea towels, fridge magnets or souvenirs that you may have lurking in a draw or on a shelf somewhere.

We are happy to collect anything if you give us a call. We'll start gathering things in May.

Many thanks

Sue and Ken

553521

Musbury Heritage - Musbury Memories - 22 years on...

I might as well come straight out with it... reading Musbury Memories makes me sad. Not because of times gone by or how life has changed since those days recalled in the many fascinating stories from villagers, many of whom are no longer with us. No, what makes me particularly sad is the many pictures lost or mislaid and the stories told, but not completed. So many questions unanswered. I appreciate that Musbury Memories was never intended to be a history of the village. It was a fascinating book of pictures and recollections put together to celebrate the Millennium and great job was done by all concerned.

What is highlighted by re-reading the book is just how much knowledge there was in the village and how many pictures were found to support the memories. Unfortunately for me, as I am trying to document Musbury's history and preserve as much of its heritage as I can, many of the memories raise more questions than answers. History is based on facts supported by sources, in other words proof. Musbury Memories provides me with lots of clues, pointers and background stories, but in most cases not the facts. That is in no way to denigrate an excellent publication that succeeds brilliantly in what it set out to do.



Take as an example the piece written by Don Welch, a popular and much-missed resident, who took us on a lovely stroll through the village. My eye is initially taken to the photograph looking down Blacksmith's Hill, with May Cottage & Yew Tree House in the foreground. Where is the original of this picture?

What era was Don's stroll based on? We know he was born in 1930 and he refers to Mrs McKinnel's ownership of Mountfield (she lived there as a widow from 1933 to 1941), but also mentions Harry Dutfield's ownership of the house (1941 to early 1950s). Trying to date the other mentions of people, buildings, trades, etc. becomes quite problematic. For instance, he refers to the publican of the New Inn (The Hind) being a Mr Good. This is interesting because we don't know who the landlords were from 1939 to 1956. So, we have a name, but no date. There are so many similar queries that arise. Who has the pictures of the Cox brothers and which one is which? I could go on....

The whole of Musbury Memories is littered with photographs that seem to have disappeared. There is the lovely picture of the gathering of villagers for the Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee of 1897. Particularly relevant as we prepare to celebrate the current Queen's Platinum Jubilee. What a shame it would be if this was lost forever.



Jubilee 1897

You will see from the poor quality of the pictures accompanying this article that trying to copy pictures from the book results in low quality images with poor resolution and very noticeable banding. As always, the more original the image the better quality the copy and the more we can learn from the details.

I would love to make as many stories, historical information, photographs, drawings, etc. freely available for anyone with an interest in Musbury's heritage to see. Please can anyone who has or knows of the whereabouts of any of these photographs let me know. All I want is to take a high-quality scan, know the whereabouts of the original and that it is being kept safe. Of course, if you would like me to take care of any items and ensure they are kept ready for inclusion in the Musbury Archives, when, hopefully, somewhere is found, then I will be happy to do so.

By the time this article is published I hope to have created a page on the Musbury Heritage website (<https://www.musburyheritage.co.uk>) called 'The Lost Pictures of Musbury' and I will put a link on the Home Page to make it easy to find. There are also images on the Musbury Village website for which the location of the original is unknown. It would be fantastic to find as many as possible.

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

You can now also follow us on Facebook – just search for “Musbury Heritage”

Musbury Heritage - News & Question Time

News

I thought it would be a good idea to list a few of the recent updates on the Musbury Heritage website, as I appreciate not everyone is on Facebook or visits the site regularly.

Knights Farm Picture

I spotted an etching (c. 1930) for sale by auction by the past Musbury resident and artist Edward Bouverie-Hoyton. Realising it was the farmyard entrance to Knights Farm, I contacted the farmhouse owners and they were successful in purchasing the picture. I show a comparison to a modern-day photograph on the website. Just put 'Knights' in the search box on the Home Page (www.musburyheritage.co.uk).



Robert Sellers (1845 to 1938)

Not a familiar name, but this retired policeman served the village for many years as a voluntary controller of traffic at Musbury Cross. This was prior to the building of the by-pass in 1931, when Axminster Road was very busy and the location of many accidents. He was still performing this service in his 80s! To see his interesting story search for 'Sellers' on the Home Page.

William Farley Lethbridge – b. 1787 – d. 1847

You may have seen this former owner of Mountfield's name on the east window of the church. He is commemorated along with his wife. There are also several Lethbridges buried in the churchyard. Potentially one of our most interesting residents, but his story is clouded with mystery. Please read about him by searching for 'Lethbridge'. Are there any naval historians who may be able to help?

Cearley, Sergeant Alfred William (1892 to 1918 or 1949?)

You may have seen my early story about Alfred who is the first-named on our war memorial. I raised questions about his death in France in 1918. Since publication the 1921 census has become available and there is now an update on the website with further evidence. A search on 'Cearley' will take you to the original story and the update.

Question Time

I am hoping to call upon the collective memories of the residents of Musbury, past and present, who may be reading this. The following are just a small selection of some of the questions that have arisen whilst I have been researching Musbury's history. Hopefully these will set the brain cells whirring and I'll be inundated with answers! They are not in any particular order.

- When was Northfields built?
- Mount Pleasant is often referred to as a farm, but I've seen no evidence to support this. Can you shed some light on this?
- When was the last service held in the Chapel?
- According to the Census, Musbury lost nearly 100 acres in size between 1961 and 2011. Any thoughts on what land may have disappeared from the parish to account for this?
- I have been given a copy of a black & white leaflet called "Welcome to Musbury", priced 30p. It has map of the village on one side with pictures and numbers representing Musbury features and buildings. The reverse is a quite a detailed description / history of each of these features and suggestions of 'Places to Walk'. Do you know who produced this leaflet and when and why it was produced?

I would be very grateful for any help you can give on the above. They are just a small selection of questions I have, so I hope to make this a regular feature in the Parish News.

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

Anagrams

Johns Orbison May not be in charge by the time you read this

Wallows One does not necessarily mean it is summer

Ralphies's Bit

It was about this time last year I found myself in Maidenhayne Lane on a hapless quest for frog spawn which seems to have become a rare commodity in recent years. As I searched my head was filled with not only the rotten stench of stagnant ditch water, but also a huge feeling of nostalgia. For here I was in my old childhood stomping ground where I spent most of the school holidays with my best friend. How much bigger it seemed in those days. Who knows, maybe it was! They say things get smaller as the years pass!

Most mornings we could be seen departing Doatshayne Lane armed with fishing nets and a bucket. It was an arduous journey for two small intrepid fishermen, especially made difficult by oversized wellington boots which were heavy and cumbersome. But nevertheless we bravely clumped along dreaming of our catch. We probably resembled something from an Enid Blyton story, but alas, no lashings of ginger beer and a basket of sandwiches for us, we were lucky to have a packet of Opal Fruits or Spangles between us (all of a sudden I now resent that hoity-toity Famous Five crowd). You may be wondering what on earth we were fishing for in those barren ditches. Well, I can assure you that back in those days the waters were alive with minnows, sticklebacks and, if you were lucky, the odd newt. And of course there was always a plentiful supply of frog spawn or tadpoles. How I remember the continuous laughter and giggles that could render you doubled over with pain, which strangely enough made you giggle even more. And naturally a strong bladder was a necessity!

There were no mobile phones and watches weren't a thing until you got "old", but somehow we always knew when it was time to leave for tea. Maybe it was the threat of a good telling off if we were late!

The walk home always took a little longer because the boots were now weighted down by a certain amount of water collected if you dared go into "the deep bit". And of course the catch had to be treated with respect. A tsunami in our buckets would not be good for the hard earned livestock we were transporting back to our garden ponds!

The whole procedure would be repeated the next day, and the day after that. Simple and innocent fun that kept us entertained for all the holidays. How strange it must seem in this new world of technology. Halcyon days!

And remember, if you are lucky enough to have spawn in your pond this year, treasure it.

Ralph

Up On the Allotments

Well, the allotmenters (or is it plotters?) are coming out of hibernation and being seen more frequently at the allotments. The hardy few have continued through the winter and already have their ground prepared ready for the new season. The rest of us are trying to catch up by weeding, removing old crops, digging and generally tidying up. Even now crops are being harvested – chard, carrots, cabbages, leeks and parsnips.

There have been a few changes in plot holders. We are glad to welcome helpers and holders from such far-flung places as Axmouth, Whitford and Axminster. Swapping tips and sharing knowledge are all part of the allotment experience, so it is always good to see new faces.

Jo has been working on the allotment that has been given over to growing crops for local food banks. If you would like a bit of 'green exercise' on a piece of land that is a lot smaller than the plots available, perhaps as a taster, contact her on 07923 448809. She would be grateful for any help.

If the weather fails to entice us out, there is always the joy of sitting inside with a cup of tea to hand, and feet up, perusing seed catalogues and dreaming of bumper crops and warmer weather



Allotmenteer

Musbury Plant & Craft Sale 2022

Saturday 7th May 9.30am – 12.00noon in Musbury Village Hall

We are delighted to announce that the Musbury Village Plant and Craft Sale will be returning to the Village Hall this year

Raffle & Refreshments will be available

Hire of Tables £10 each

Please contact Mrs Valerie Nicholls on 01297 552131 if you would like to hire a table

The Hall will be open for setting up from 5.30pm – 7.30pm on Friday 6th and from 7.30am on Saturday 7th May

We would gratefully receive any plants or seedlings of vegetables, annuals, perennials, indoor or outdoor plants for the Committee's own Sales Table.

All proceeds help finance the Musbury Village Show which we will be holding again this year on Saturday 13th August

Valerie and Michael Nicholls (01297 552131)

GREENER AND CLEANER

We're sure you'll all remember some of the negative things that arose from our recent severe Covid lockdown. But hopefully, like us, you might have also discovered some beneficial things too. Those brainwaves given to us in added reflection time. Such as making a few constructive plans for better living in the future. The kind of things normally put to the back of our minds until we're less busy?

Remember the added challenges of some of those shopping trips during the worst lockdowns? Well, the McCough's started to think harder about how much we 'consume' and potentially pollute the planet with poor shopping habits. Not wanting to linger too long in the shops, we started to consider more what we really needed to buy, instead spending ages pondering what we 'fancied'? Learning point number one. Shopping in your local Spar saves petrol, is less stressful and busy than your average supermarket and boosts local smaller businesses! Hurrah for Julian and all his staff

Second big learning point came when Ian spotted a wonderful book on alternative household cleaners. (Its title is listed at the end of this article)

The book first confirmed our suspicion that many harmful chemicals are contained in most commercial household cleaning products. For example, triclosan. Once touted as a 'cure all' for germs and bacteria, there are now concerns that triclosan can be dangerous when absorbed through the skin. For example, if you use antibacterial soap containing triclosan and then jump into a chlorinated swimming pool, it can produce dioxin on the surface of your skin that then gets absorbed into your body

I remember when my Mum, who had terrible skin problems, used to wash clothes in biological washing powder. She had terrible asthma and skin rashes until she switched to something gentler. That's why some chemicals have such an adverse effect on the environment too, causing water or air pollution.

Our first natural recipe from the book was produced when we ran out of household bleach. We never liked using bleach down the toilet, and found how to make a toilet bowl fizzer.

Pour 250 ml (9 Fl oz) of white vinegar into the toilet bowl. If you wish, add 5 drops of your favourite essential oil/lemon or lime juice. Now add 250 mg (9oz) of baking soda to the toilet bowl. Enjoy watching it fizz!!

Leave overnight. In the morning scrub the bowl with toilet brush before flushing.

White vinegar and baking soda are easily obtained from your local hardware shop. You can clean your windows, mirrors and glass with wine vinegar (the smell of vinegar quickly dissipates) We recommend buying soda crystals and borax too, but you'll have to get the book to learn more how to use them!

The good news is that you have a chance to win a copy of the book. Before we leave you to have a go at the quiz, you'll find some of the answers in this article, and some on the World Wildlife Fund website, where you can also check your carbon footprint <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/> It questions your consumption of food, how you travel, what you do in your home and so on. From these answers, you can roughly see how far your energy usage adds up to the UK's target impact.

(Answers to most of the questions can be found on the World Wildlife Fund website, including under the sections on Rivers and Lakes, and Oceans, as well as in the section 22 Ways to Save the Planet in 2022.)

Remember, the first person to supply all the right answers gets a free copy of Natural Household Cleaning - making your own eco-savvy cleaning products by Rachelle Strauss. Good luck!

Sue and Ian McCoulough

Healthier eggs

In September 2021 the South West Farmer paper published some interesting facts about free range eggs, where the hens are allowed to run outdoors on pasture. Here they can perform natural behaviours like running, dust bathing, pecking and scratching for grubs and seeds

Pasture based management not only provides the highest welfare conditions for the hens, but also provides the healthier eggs.

These eggs contain three times as much Vitamin E, seven times more beta-carotene, and twice the omega-3 fatty acids as industrial barn eggs.

From The South West Farmer September 2021

Musbury Parish Council News Round Up

The Platinum Jubilee

After a well-attended and successful meeting about the village celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee, there will be a further meeting on Monday 14th March at 7pm. Please come along to start working on some of the suggestions such as a Bring-your-own Picnic, decorate your house competition, Commemorative mugs / tea towels, village focal point and of course, bunting!

Jubilee Tree

As you will undoubtedly be aware, 2022 will witness a year-long programme of Platinum Jubilee celebrations throughout the United Kingdom, Commonwealth, and across the globe, to celebrate 70 years of service by Her Majesty, The Queen. This remarkable achievement will be the first time a British Monarch will have celebrated a Platinum Jubilee. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations will culminate on the UK Bank Holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June. This offers a focus for communities across East Devon and beyond to celebrate this unique milestone.

East Devon District Council will gift one of 70 oak saplings to each East Devon Town or Parish community. The resultant special network across the district of commemorative oak trees, renowned for their longevity, strength, and unique position in the national landscape, will offer many other collective opportunities and serve as an important local 'memory jogger' recognising our Carbon Neutral and environment priorities.

Where should the tree go? If you have any suggestions, please contact the clerk in the first instance. The spot will need to be suitable for an oak tree and accessible to the public.

Dog Fouling

Unfortunately, there is still an issue with dog fouling in the village and surrounding area. The Parish Council appreciates that most dog owners act responsibly and clear up after their dog. If you witness dog fouling, the easiest way to report it is via the EDDC app.

If you own a smart phone or similar, please do download the app and then use it to report the fouling issues. It's quite a useful tool for reporting many other things too!

Parking

Please note that the Parish Council are not responsible for parking regulations or enforcement. If vehicles are parked illegally or are abandoned, they can be reported on the Devon Road and Transport website: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/> and EDDC website: <https://eastdevon.gov.uk/environmental-maintenance/report-abandoned-vehicle/> .

For more general guidance

For issues such as - Planning decisions, Housing, Refuse Collection, Recycling, Dog and Pest Control, Noise Abatement, Electoral issues, Licensing and Anti-social behaviour – contact **East Devon District Council**.

For issues such as – Education, Social Services, Planning, Public Transport, Highways and Parking, Trading Standards, Registrations, Library Services, Community Planning and Emergency Planning – contact **Devon County Council**.

Footpath improvements

The steps at Fp 32, at the top of Mounthill have been repaired. Public Rights of Way (PROW) directly funded this from their budget- we hope that walkers will appreciate the new flight.



From the Rural Affairs Team

Unfortunately, over recent weeks, we have had a number of reports where sheep have been chased and attacked or killed by dogs. This can be very upsetting for all those involved.

Livestock worrying is a criminal offence

Action could be taken against you and your dog

Please be a responsible dog owner.

- This means knowing where your dog is and managing its behaviour
- If livestock are present – keep it on a lead. (But release if chased by cattle.)

If you see livestock worrying occurring, please report it.

Use 999 if ongoing. Otherwise use 101 or 101@dc.police.uk

Thank you

PC Whitting – Rural Affairs Team.

FROM THE ARCHIVE SPRING 2014

Village boundaries development plan

East Devon District Council has produced a Draft Villages Development Plan Document (DPD) for consultation. For Musbury the DPD reflects the community consultation feedback. It confirms a portion of Baxters Farm as the preferred development site (when it becomes available), highlights the wish for the existing farmhouse and more traditional outbuildings to be incorporated into the scheme which should echo their existing palette of materials. It notes that new development is supported by residents provided it meets local needs and does not increase (and ideally reduces) the risk of flooding. Two or three bedroom houses are the main requirement with support for affordable homes for local families. Additionally it mentions the community would like to see a community orchard and additional village hall car-parking. The consultation closes at noon on 10 March.

“Things move slowly down in Devon” ed

Trill Farm Garden

After a pretty soggy December, we have experienced an incredibly dry January, making it a pleasure to be working in the market garden. I always dread the onset of winter, but I think that is just about having experienced too many really wet winters when the soil doesn't drain and doing anything outside is a real slog. However, there is not much better than working outside on a cold, crisp day. Although there have been a few good frosts it has also been relatively mild throughout the winter so far, which has made things slightly more pleasant work wise (although it doesn't feel quite right working in a t-shirt in the middle of winter).

Throughout January we have been flail mowing old crops and cover crops/green manures that were sown in the autumn, applying a little compost on some beds and then covering them with black plastic to kill off the weeds before they are planted up in March and April. We have also been clearing our way into the field next to the market garden where we will be tentatively growing a few autumn crops this year. We will keep it simple and just try out some kale and chard, but if all goes well we will grow more crops the following year. This extra space will give us a chance to grow some of the veg that takes up a larger space, such as the winter brassicas, but also to grow more seed crops for companies like Real Seeds in Wales and Vital Seeds in Devon.

We are planning to build a simple barn which will be used to store some of our machinery, but also used as a seed processing space - where we can thresh and dry seed, as well as a teaching space for our courses and a tea break room for everyone who works with us! This will hopefully be done by May. Before then we will be sowing a lot of seeds!! That, along with weeding and cleaning the polytunnels are the two big tasks for late winter/early Spring. It is always an exciting time of year - with a lot of new spring growth, and we are especially excited to trial a couple of new crops this year - ginger and sweet potatoes (in Musbury!!). We will be growing these in polytunnels or cloches, and who knows how they will turn out, but thought it would be worth a go.

We still continue to deliver veg bags in the village and further afield, so please do get in touch by emailing ashley@trillfarmgarden.co.uk or going to <https://www.trillfarmgarden.co.uk/boxscheme.html> for more details. Our salad is also available in Musbury Spar.

Ashley Wheeler

Wildlife On Haye Farm

Since taking over Haye Farm in 2014, we have been committed to creating a farmed landscape that works in conjunction with nature. Our aim is to make space for both productivity and biodiversity.

Allowing hedgerows to grow out provides more habitat and forage for wildlife such as nesting birds and other small mammals. We have also begun experimenting with agroforestry, planting over 2000 new trees as part of our agroforestry system. We hope that in doing this we will be able to bring diversity and resilience into the landscape, whilst maintaining high levels of productivity and diversifying our future income by adding timber, nuts and fruit production as potential products.

We have created many pockets of habitat throughout the farm and are starting to reap the benefits of this with the return of many species, from the majestic Barn Owls that help with natural pest control down to the humble Bumble Bees and many other insects that dutifully pollinate our crops and protecting them from pests such as aphids.

This past week, as the first signs of spring slowly creep in, our lake is filled with Frogspawn as far as the eye can see. The Frogs, the Frogspawn and later Tadpoles, are the beginnings of a magical food web supporting a wide variety of species such as visiting Herons, Grass snakes and many other small mammals. In the last few years the abundance of Frogs in the water has meant we've also had another special visitor, the elusive Otter. The return of this wonderful creature is very exciting for us as it's a sure sign of good water quality and diversity in the local area.

Every year we leave a field on the farm fallow both to allow the land to rest and regenerate and for wildlife to flourish. The fallow field buzzes with the activity of insects, from red ants to butterflies, which in turn attracts hundreds of small mammals, birds and reptiles to feast on the insects and seeds. We often find Grass Snakes and Slow Worms in these fields, basking under sheets of tin that we put out so that we can monitor their presence. Other summer visitors we love to see are House Martins and Brown Long Eared Bats that like to roost in our porch, the Martins harvesting insects by day and the Bats by night. Last May, we rescued a Bat that had been knocked from its perch by the House Martins by resting it in a small cardboard box until evening when it flew off to join its cauldron.



The smallest guests are often the most important. Without the Ants, Dung Beetles and Bees, the ecosystem would collapse. Dung Beetles not only help us to clean up our fields but by spreading the dung they help to spread nutrients and improve soil fertility. Healthier soil means more grass for our livestock which leads to more dung for the Beetles, a perfect circular system.

We also share our land with nature's smallest farmers, the Ants. These Ants harvest the grass to feed the mycelium (fungus) that they grow in special chambers within their hills. The ants then feed off this mycelium they grow, not the plants they harvest, and have been farming fungus for over 8 million years! Their ingenuity



never ceases to amaze us.

Over the past 8 years we have developed the farm to where it is today and have watched the diversity on our farm grow and begin to flourish. We have developed rotational management systems with livestock that are starting to produce positive results, both for the animals and our mini ecosystem. As a result the animals we raise have a full and varied diet which leads to healthier, happier animals.

We are delighted to now be offering our meat and eggs in retail packs and would love to begin to sell our produce locally; reducing our carbon footprint and offering our produce to the local community. Therefore, we'd like to offer the local community 20% off all orders for collection by using code MUSBURY20 on our website, www.hayefarmdevon.co.uk.

Musbury Garage and Spar

What an interesting start to the year we've had at Musbury Garage! The first weekend in January saw the forecourt open through the night once again as a refuelling stop for the Exeter Trial, a motorsport event that dates back over 100 years to the early 20th century. Several hardy village residents showed their faces in the small hours to watch the wide variety of motorcycles, sidecars and cars make their compulsory stop. It always feels surreal having a forecourt full of vehicles and people at 3am; goodness knows what somebody who didn't know the event was taking place would make of it if they just happened to be driving past!

At the end of January, we made a raft of improvements to the Spar store. New chillers, freezers and most importantly, a new counter and protection screens. Hopefully you have enjoyed the changes; by the time you read this, you will have noticed other products moving to new positions in the store, as well as an expansion of our organic, vegan and free-from ranges from our new supplier, Suma. The addition of Cook frozen meals in the store has proved very popular and I have been amazed at the following that they have. Look out for some outstanding offers as we head towards Easter; I'm sure that you will notice the egg-cellent prices which we have hatched for you to treat your loved ones. As usual, your local Spar will be open every day until 8pm over the Easter period.

Our rental fleet has seen some vehicles added in the form of a smart new Toyota Hi-Lux 4x4 pick-up truck, fitted with a tow bar and automatic transmission. This has already proved popular, even being rented by a film production company working locally for a very famous Italian fashion house. Our new vehicle recovery truck has also travelled the length and breadth of the UK, being driven both by ourselves and our rental customers.

A new face has joined our workshop team. Nathan served his apprenticeship with a nearby garage and has joined us to further his career and become an MOT tester, to join Jamie and myself in this role.

All that remains is to thank you, our loyal customers, for all your support, it's really appreciated. If you haven't visited us recently, why not? Come and have a look in the Spar, I'm sure you will find something that pleasantly surprises you.

Julian Rinaldi
Musbury Garage
552292

Musbury & Whitford WI

As the country has slowly been readjusting to living with the pandemic, our WI has once again been holding our monthly meetings with all the usual safeguards in place.

Following on from our very successful Christmas party, we were very disappointed in having to cancel our January meeting due to lack of heating in Musbury Village Hall. It was felt unfair to expect ladies of whatever age to sit for a couple of hours without any warmth. Our Speaker whose topic was to be "Financial Advice" is being asked to visit us later in the year.

Our February meeting was back on schedule when we held a Social Meeting organised by the Committee, and enjoyed a Beetle Drive and other games together with plenty of homemade cakes and tea and coffee to wash them all down. In March we hope to benefit from "Yoga in a Chair". Our Programme of events planned as far ahead as August, includes "Trials of a Traffic Cop" and a Garden Party. We hold a lunch in August when we plan our activities for the oncoming year.

Our Monthly Meetings are held usually in Musbury Village Hall, 7.30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. We have a Book Group which meets in Whitford Village Hall 2.30pm on the 3rd Wednesday each month. Ladies are welcome to come to two meetings to see if they would like to get to know us and join us for more activities and fun.

For more information contact:-

Lesley McGowan Lock 01297 551556

Lee Ross 01297 33609

Valerie Nicholls 01297 552131

Anagrams

Dark mangy shrift An etching by Edward Bouverie-Hoyton

The airfreight meeting Painting by Turner with Musbury connections

Bedsheets chelation She has been in charge for a long time

The Highway Man's code

As a cyclist I was asked by a friend what I thought of the changes to the Highway Code, and I had to admit that I did not really know or understand what they were so what follows I hope explains the changes as it effects horse riders, cyclists and pedestrians, particularly on our local roads

There has been introduced levels of road users (the hierarchy) with those likely to cause the greatest harm at the top (large goods vehicles) and those most at risk (pedestrians) at the bottom Those in charge of vehicles that can cause the greatest harm in the event of a collision bear the greatest responsibility to take care and reduce the danger they pose to others. This principle applies most strongly to drivers of large goods and passenger vehicles, vans/minibuses, cars/taxis and motorcycles. This does not detract from the responsibility of ALL road users, including pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders, to have regard for their own and other road users' safety.

Rules for drivers, motorcyclists, horse drawn vehicles, horse riders and cyclists

At a junction you should give way to pedestrians crossing or waiting to cross a road into which or from which you are turning.

Pedestrians always have priority on pedestrian crossings

Cyclists should give way to pedestrians on shared use cycle tracks and to horse riders on bridleways.

Only pedestrians may use the pavement. Pedestrians include wheelchair and mobility scooter users.

Pedestrians may use any part of the road and use cycle tracks as well as the pavement, unless there are signs prohibiting pedestrians.

Rule for drivers and motorcyclists

You should not cut across cyclists, horse riders or horse drawn vehicles going ahead when you are turning into or out of a junction or changing direction or lane, just as you would not turn across the path of another motor vehicle. This applies whether they are using a cycle lane, a cycle track, or riding ahead on the road and you should give way to them.

Do not turn at a junction if to do so would cause the cyclist, horse rider or horse drawn vehicle going straight ahead to stop or swerve.

You should stop and wait for a safe gap in the flow of cyclists if necessary. This includes when cyclists are, approaching, passing or moving off from a junction, moving past or waiting alongside stationary or slow-moving traffic, and travelling around a roundabout

Cyclists should be aware of other road users and if necessary let people know they are there by bell or voice . Cyclists should not pass a horse on its left.

One of the issues that seems to cause most ill feeling towards cyclists is riding in groups and their position on the road

The following is the updated guidance . Cyclists can ride in the centre of their lane on quiet roads, in slower-moving traffic and at the approach to junctions or road narrowings, keeping at least 0.5 metres (just over 1.5 feet) away from the kerb edge and (further where it is safer) when riding on busy roads with vehicles moving faster than them. This guidance states at least 0.5 metres and from the kerb edge which in local A roads must mean the edge of the tarmac, or white line, not the grass verge. As a cyclist on local roads I would add that the 0.5 metre is guidance only and passing motorists may not be aware of potholes , slippery manhole covers , drains and large items of litter

Cyclists should be considerate of the needs of other road users when riding in groups and can ride 2 abreast - and it can be safer to do so, particularly in larger groups or when accompanying children or less experienced riders.

When passing parked vehicles cyclists should be aware of pedestrians walking out into their path and leave at least a doors width when passing to avoid being hit if a door is opened .

Motorists may cross a double white line to overtake someone cycling or on a horse if they are traveling at 10mph or less

Motorists should leave at least 1.5 metres space when overtaking a cyclist up to 30 mph and more space when travelling faster. (2 metres would be sensible at 60 mph)

Horses and pedestrians should be given at least 2 metres of space and wait behind them if it is not possible to meet these clearances .

In my experience it seems a lot of local motorists, some of whom I would class as professional motorists, rely on the on-coming traffic to give way

Cyclists may pass slower moving traffic on their right or left .

There is new guidance on cyclists and road junctions but I shall not go into this here as this is mainly for the urban cyclist

The Code recommends using the Dutch Reach when leaving the vehicle. Where people driving or passengers in a vehicle are able to do so, they should open the door using their hand on the opposite side to the door they are opening. For example, using their left hand to open a door on their right-hand side.

This will make them turn their head to look over their shoulder behind them. They're then less likely to cause injury to people cycling or riding a motorcycle and people on the pavement . I would add remember to use mirrors as well before opening a door

Jolly

More about dogs “let sleeping dogs lie”

Sally Webster is East Devon’s Principal Environmental Health Officer with responsibility for dog control. With lots of new and inexperienced dog owners now living in and visiting our towns and villages. Sally is offers some advice below about responsible dog ownership, suggesting how dog owners can do the right thing and telling us all how to stay on the right side of the law.

Owning a dog involves responsibilities as well as pleasures and this article will highlight the legal requirements and responsibilities for dog owners.

The following basic tips can help prevent your dog from causing a nuisance:

- Train your dog in elementary obedience, so that it is under control at all times
- Make sure your dog is identified, it is a legal requirement for dogs to wear a collar and tag (in a public place), and to be microchipped.
- It is now a legal requirement in East Devon to always keep your dog on a lead on roads and on pavements next to roads. You should also keep your dog on a lead where there are other animals, for example when walking on a footpath through a field containing livestock.
- Make sure that your garden is properly fenced so that your dog can't escape. Never let your dog out on its own, but take it for properly controlled exercise.
- Always carry a bag you can use to pick up after your dog. Take the waste home to your black rubbish bin or sack or use a litter or dog waste bin. Even better, train your dog to 'go at home'.
- Don't let your dog bark constantly. A well-trained dog is not one that barks at everyone and everything. Dogs that are kept outside for long periods often bark more. Find out when and why your dog barks and take steps to prevent it. We can give advice in the worst cases
- Don't leave your dog alone for long periods; dogs are pack animals and need companionship. Remember - you have a duty of care under the Animal Welfare Act 2006.
- Keep your dog healthy, with regular feeding, worming, exercise, grooming and vaccinations. Make sure your dog has bedding which is clean, warm and dry and that fresh drinking water is always available
- Never leave your dog alone in a hot car, they can become dehydrated and even die in a very short time

It is against the law to let a dog be dangerously out of control anywhere, such as:

- in a public place
- in a private place, for example a neighbour's house or garden
- in the owner's home

The law applies to all dogs.

Your dog is considered dangerously out of control if it:

- injures someone
- makes someone worried that it might injure them

A court could also decide that your dog is dangerously out of control if either of the following apply:

- it attacks someone's animal
- the owner of an animal thinks they could be injured if they tried to stop your dog attacking their animal

A farmer is allowed to kill your dog if it is worrying their livestock.

You can get an unlimited fine or be sent to prison for up to 6 months (or both) if your dog is dangerously out of control. You may not be allowed to own a dog in the future and your dog may be destroyed.

If you let your dog injure someone you can be sent to prison for up to 5 years or fined (or both). If you deliberately use your dog to injure someone you could be charged with 'malicious wounding'.

If you allow your dog to kill someone you can be sent to prison for up to 14 years or get an unlimited fine (or both).

If you allow your dog to injure an assistance dog (for example a guide dog) you can be sent to prison for up to 3 years or fined (or both).

Some public areas in England and Wales are covered by Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) - previously called Dog Control Orders (DCOs).

In public areas with PSPOs, you may have to:

- keep your dog on a lead
- put your dog on a lead if told to by a police officer, police community support officer or someone from the council
- stop your dog going to certain places - like farmland or parts of a park
- limit the number of dogs you have with you (this applies to professional dog walkers too)
- clear up after your dog
- carry a poop scoop and disposable bags

If you ignore a PSPO, you can be fined:

- £100 on the spot (a 'Fixed Penalty Notice')
- up to £1,000 if it goes to court

Further information relating to the East Devon PSPOs can be found on the EDDC website (www.eastdevon.gov.uk/publicspacesprotectionorders).

Further information concerning dog issues can also be found on the East Devon District Council website, www.eastdevon.gov.uk

Alternatively advice can be obtained from the council by contacting the Environmental Health team using the Report It facility on our website, by calling on 01395 517456 or by emailing environmentalhealth@eastdevon.gov.uk

Anagrams

imputable Juline Event happening in June this year

a cold urn A collection of bats

seat weeps Sowing them now for a summer display

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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
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ashley@trillfarmgarden.co.uk

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Musbury Short Mat Bowls Club

Members are enjoying their Friday afternoons playing on three mats every week now. There are enough present to warrant having all three out each week which is very encouraging. We are still careful with sanitising and open windows and doors etc. However, we are much warmer now the heaters in the hall are fixed and are grateful for this.

We are still not playing any matches against other teams but may arrange some 'friendlies'.

We held a very enjoyable Christmas meal at the Hind just before Christmas.

Our new members are settling in well and those who joined with no bowling experience have improved a great deal.

We are looking into going to Manor House Hotel near Okehampton later in the year. We had a great time last time we went three years ago and sadly had to cancel our last planned visit because of Coronavirus.

Musbury Short Mat Bowls Club is definitely back in action and enjoying its benefits with friends.

Kay Short

Secretary.

552711

Litter

Spring is in the air

When the lovely walkers go out and about , please can they try to remember to take a bag and a glove , so they can pick up the rubbish in our lanes and hedges left behind by the not so lovely people.

Axminster surgery prescriptions

If you are registered with Axminster surgery, live in Musbury and would like any prescriptions picked up and delivered, we have a rota of people who will deliver once a week on a Thursday.

The delivery rota helps the surgery by cutting down on footfall. If you feel you can help our community by volunteering to pick up and deliver prescriptions every few weeks, we'd love to have more people on the rota.

For further information on getting your prescriptions delivered, or to volunteer please phone Sue on 553521.

League of Friends

Dear Readers,

I am sorry to tell you but this is the last article from Axminster Hospital League of Friends that I will be writing. Due to ill health and advancing years I have retired from the post of Honorary Secretary although I will remain as a Trustee of the League.

The Chairman Dr. Phil Taylor will also be retiring as Chair at the AGM which will, hopefully be held in The Guildhall, Axminster on middle to end of May. With the support of all the Trustees Steve Holt, the current Treasurer will be proposed to take over the Chair at the AGM.

The League needs reshaping to fill the vacancies left by retirements and the passing of members if we are to support the hoped for Home Nursing in the post coded area of the Axe valley. There are just 6 meetings a year (every other month) usually held in the evening at Axminster Hospital. If you are interested in keeping our hospital active or even taking on the role of Secretary or Treasurer, you can contact Steve Holt or myself (I will still be a Trustee) for more information. Alternatively you can leave your details at Axminster Hospital and we will contact you.

I have enjoyed my time as Honorary Secretary and feel that the time over the last eight years has been well spent. Thank you all for your support.

Musbury Note

Thank you all who supported the Jam Sales during 2021, £603 was raised for The Friends of St. Michaels Church repair fund. I will keep you posted on this year's endeavours.

Ann Veit

Hon. Secretary 01297 552376

Steve Holt

axmlf@gmail.com

Chairman Elect 01460 221843

Wanted - Young Person

Are you interested in a career in journalism or media ?

Are you up for a challenge ?

The News is looking for people to interview local residents and prepare an article for print

Suggestions could be made as to subjects to interview and questions to ask

I can help with preparing the article

This might well fit in with school course work. Ask your teacher

For more information contact the Editor

jolly.images@mac.com

07787188731

A chance to design the next cover for the News

I am looking for designs for the next cover of the Musbury Parish News

The next issue comes out in June and is the Summer edition

Ideally it should be a bold graphic design with a summer/hot theme

Water colour, digital or ink would be suitable

The front cover is in colour and should be an eye catching bright image

Final size 12cm square as front cover of this issue

Images to be submitted to the editor in jpeg format by May the 1st

Jolly

The Sky at Night

March, April and May are times to say goodbye to our favourite winter constellations, and time to begin looking for the spring constellations. Orion, Gemini Taurus and Cancer are still visible, but by 10 pm GMT they are in the western skies and in the south, we now see Leo, and the wandering constellation of Hydra if you have a good southern horizon.

Venus is now a morning planet along with Mars. Jupiter reaches superior conjunction (a superior conjunction occurs when Earth and Jupiter are on opposite sides of the Sun, but all three bodies are again nearly in a straight line) and is too close to the sun to be viewed well, Mercury is also too close to the sun. Saturn is low in the sky in the constellation of Capricornus, so March isn't a good month for looking at planets and April isn't a great deal better as they are mostly all too low in the sky.

April does bring the Lyrids meteor shower, but the peak is three days before the full moon so seeing may not be great. The Aquiriids however, begin on the 19th when the moon is waning gibbous and comes to its maximum on May 6th.

The constellation Virgo contains the nearest large cluster of galaxies, which is also the centre of a super cluster which we are part of. The Virgo cluster contains over 2000 galaxies the brightest of which are visible in an amateur telescope.

The NLO is now open for public open evenings and hopefully we will also have a

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m16

Word Search

Can you find seventeen spring flowers ?

Words can run forwards, backwards, vertically or diagonally, but always in a straight unbroken line .



Answers on page 47

Musbury Community Field And Playground Area



**Musbury Community Field And Playground
Area needs refurbishment.**

**Do you have any thoughts, ideas or would
like to comment?**

**If so, please come along to the public meeting
on Saturday 12th March 2022 at 1130 in the
function room of The Hind Pub.**

Or contact Annie Stark

07412 571466 or annielovescake@outlook.com

GREEN QUIZ

A chance to win the book Natural Household Cleaning

- 1/ What natural ingredient can you clean glass with?
- 2/ What are the two primary ingredients for making a toilet bowl fizzer ?
- 3/ Name two potentially dangerous ingredients which have been commonly used in cleaning materials (one can be found in swimming pools)?
- 4/ In the last century, how much of the world's precious wetlands have been lost.?
- 5/ What percentage of freshwater animals have declined since 1970?
- 6/ Our oceans cover what percentage of our planet?
- 7/ What are the estimated tonnage of plastic that end up in our oceans each year?
- 8/ What percentage of all food produced is wasted in this country?
- 9/ Wasted food in the UK each year creates huge amounts of green house gas emissions. These are equivalent to how many millions of car emissions each year?
- 10/ By switching every light in the UK to low energy LED lights, we could cut our power needs by the equivalent of more than two?
- 11/ What percentage of our water supply comes from surface water?

Answers to Sue McCoulough

suemcc@phonecoop.coop

Word search Answers

forget me not, hellebore, snowdrop, dandelion, wallflower, hyacinth, primrose, daffodil, lungwort, bluebell, foxglove, tulip, aconite, iris, pansy, crocus, fritillary,

And Finally

“If you want peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies.”
Desmond Tutu 1931-2021

“The angels had guitars before they had wings.”
Meatloaf 1947- 2022

“To simply wake up every morning a better person than when I went to bed.”
Sidney Poitier 1924 -2022

“Picasso was burgled and did a drawing of the robbers. Police arrested a horse and two sardines.”
Barry Cryer 1935 -2022

If you are one of the readers who starts at the back page, (apparently many do), you will be unaware of cauldrons of bats, toilets fizzing, growing ginger in Musbury, and a visitation by Glossy Ibises . All to be found in this issue . There are also reports of groups of royalists holding not so secret meetings in the village. Thank you to all contributors for providing such varied and interesting material .

The Musbury Parish News is dependent on its advertisers, and Rod has done an excellent job in getting them on board for this year. We do have space for more advertisers if any reader wants to promote themselves or their services. Contact Rod Powell 552681 for more information

Contributors please note-
Deadline for next issue 13th May

Jolly

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Musbury Diary Spring 2022

Ch-Church: Vh-Village Hall : Hn-Hind :Ruf-Ruffles

March

Tuesday 1st	Pancakes Village Hall	7.00pm	Vh
Sunday 6th	Village Praise	10.am	Ch
Monday 7th	Parish Council Meeting	7.30	Vh
Tuesday 8th	Lent Course	7.30pm	Ruf
Wednesday 9th	Coffee & Chat	10.30am	Vh
Saturday 12th	Playground Refurbishment Meeting	11.30am	Hn
Sunday 13th	Holy Communion BCP	11.15am	Ch
Monday 14th	Meeting re Platinum Jubilee	7.00pm	Vh
Tuesday 15th	Lent Course	7.30pm	Ruf
Sunday 20th	Common Worship with Holy Communion	11.15am	Ch
Tuesday 22nd	Lent Course	7.30pm	Ruf
Sunday 27th	Mothering Sunday Evening Prayer	6.30pm	Ch
Tuesday 29th	Lent Course	7.30pm	Ruf

April

Sunday 3rd	Village Praise	10.00am	Ch
Tuesday 5th	Lent Course	7.30pm	Ruf
Sunday 10th	Holy Communion BCP	11.15am	Ch
Wednesday 13th	Coffee & Chat	10.30am	Vh
Friday 15th	Readings and Meditations	12. noon	Ch
Sunday 17th	Easter Sunday Holy Communion	11.15am	Ch
Sunday 24th	Evening prayer	6.30pm	Ch

May

Sunday1st	Village Praise	10.00am	Ch
Saturday 7th	Plant and Craft Sale	9.30am	Vh
Sunday 8th	Holy Communion BCP	11.15am	Ch
Wednesday11th	Coffee & Chat	10.30am	Vh
Sunday 15th	Common Worship with Holy Communion	11.15am	Ch
Thursday 19th	Annual Parochial Church Meeting	2.00pm	
Sunday 22nd	Evening Prayer	6.30pm	Ch
Thursday 26th	Eucharist for Ascension Day	7.00pm	Ch
Sunday 29th	Holy Communion	11.15am	Ch