

MUSBURY PARISH NEWS



Summer 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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From The Vicarage Steven writes

June: when we celebrate a great Jubilee and a significant Birthday

On Sunday 5th June the Church celebrates two great events: the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen and the Feast of Pentecost (otherwise known as Whit Sunday). Pentecost is celebrated each year as one of the key festivals, like Christmas and Easter. It focuses our attention on the Holy Spirit—the third person of the Trinity (which is: Father, Son and Holy Spirit). Pentecost occurs fifty days after the celebration of Easter and marks the occasion, fifty days after his resurrection, when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to accompany his disciples in their faith and assist in their ministry. It is an event recorded in the Bible (in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 2), where the disciples—fearful about how they would keep the faith and do all the good that Jesus had asked them to do in the face of many trials and challenges—were filled with a surge of love and encouragement which drew them together to form the Church. The Holy Spirit transformed a group of fearful disciples (meaning ‘followers’) into a courageous band of apostles (‘ambassadors’). In a very short space of time, thousands learned of Jesus and were baptized. This is why Pentecost Sunday is celebrated as the birthday of the Church.



What exactly is the Holy Spirit? It is often explained as the ‘breath’ or ‘energy’ of God, but there is no single, adequate word to explain what Christians essentially understand as a mystery. It is an indescribable help and tangible power which is at work in us as a gift from God. We use many signs and symbols to help us to understand the nature of the Holy Spirit, including fire, doves, and holy oil, this is because Christians often pray to the Holy Spirit for grace, energy, power, peace and healing.

The prayer of the first followers of Christ—indeed every follower of Christ—is that God will assist us and give us everything we need to live a good and useful life,

Six months before her Coronation service, the Queen asked all people of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth to: *'Pray that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life'*. This is what we do each week in at least two of our services, and shall be doing on Sunday 5th June in the Holyford Mission Community when we will celebrate the Jubilee. What has the Holy Spirit got to do with the Jubilee, or the Queen?

Seventy years ago, on 2nd June 1953 the Coronation was televised—all apart from one moment, which was deemed too sacred to be shown on television. It is where, after a prayer to the Holy Spirit is sung (the *Veni creator*), the Queen was anointed with holy oil—a symbol of the Holy Spirit coming upon her in affirmation and to assist her in her life's work. As Handel's majestic anthem, *Zadok the Priest* echoed around Westminster Abbey, the cameras turned away as a canopy was brought to cover the Queen to enable her some privacy. This is because at this point in the service some of her clothing was removed. All the symbols of her earthly status were shed—the crimson velvet robe she was wearing, her diamond diadem and the coronation necklace—leaving her in a simple white dress. At that point the Archbishop anointed the Queen with oil (poured over her hands, chest and head). This oil was a symbol of God's grace and the Holy Spirit. It was used at this point as she was set apart to serve and love her people, vowing to do so through all her actions, with all her heart and with all her mind. The meaning of the ceremony is based on an understanding that the Holy Spirit is called to witness and hallow the oath of her office, and empower the Queen herself to fulfill it.

At her coronation, Elizabeth II promised to follow Christ's example, to be set apart to serve, not simply to be served. After the anointing, St Edward's Crown of solid gold was placed on her head. This is how the Holy Spirit was called upon to be there at the birth of a new reign. A Royal biographer, William Shawcross, said that the Queen found this intimate and profound moment to be not only the most significant part of the service, but *'...the most solemn and important moment of her entire life.'*

It is very appropriate, then, that we should be celebrating and honouring that oath—the birth of the longest reigns in British history—on Pentecost Sunday. It is a well-known fact that the Queen is a lady of deep faith. That moment, when the Holy Spirit was asked through prayer to assist the Queen, has proven to be a source of strength and inspiration to her for over 70 years, through all the ups and downs of her reign.

The Queen is special, of course, but each one of us is equally important and loved in the sight of God. The Queen, as a committed Christian, knows this, which is why she takes her job so seriously. It is not only the Queen who has been anointed by the Holy Spirit or has access to God's grace; all baptised Christians are anointed by the same spirit, to draw on God's presence and grace to strengthen our faith and service to others. This is what the Queen does, it is what the first disciples and apostles did, and what generations of Christians have been called to do for over 2000 years.

On Sunday 5th June we shall be celebrating two events in which the Holy Spirit played a key role: the birthday of the Church, and the birth of the longest and most successful reign in British history.

Each church in the Holyford Mission Community will be holding a special Jubilee service on Sunday 5th June. Join us wherever you can and celebrate with us. There will be services at 8am and 10am at St Andrew's, Colyton; 10am at St Michael's, Musbury; 11.15am at St Giles's, Northleigh and St Lawrence's, Southleigh; at 3pm at St Winifred's, Branscombe, and at 3.30pm at St Michael's, Colyford. All are welcome.

With every good wish and blessing,

Fr Steven.

Musbury Village celebrate
Her Majesty's
Platinum Jubilee
2nd to 5th June 2022

Thursday 2nd June Beacon lighting 9.45pm in Cathole Field at the top of Mount Hill

Friday 3rd June BBQ & Mini Beer Festival from 6.30pm Quiz 8p.m at the Hind Pub

Saturday 4th June Village Group Photograph 11.00 am in the Church Yard

Sunday 5th June 10.00am Village Praise Service at St Michael's Church

Sunday 5th June from 12.30 pm Village picnic at the Village Hall

Parochial Church Council

St Michael's Church looked beautiful after the talented Flower Arrangers had been busy on Easter Saturday. Our thanks go to Sue Irving and her team.

We held our first Table Top Sale since lockdown at the end of February just as the last Parish Magazines were being distributed. It was successful and the £514 profit will be welcome to help us keep the Church building and services going for the future.

This year the service for Mothering Sunday was Evening Prayer. We made posies and these were given to the ladies present and those unable to be there.

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on May 19th in Church at 2.00pm. By the time you read this, it will have happened. The event gives us an opportunity to thank the Church Wardens, Sue Irving and Michael Pritchard, for their wise leadership and all the other people who perform regular duties day in day out much of which is unnoticed. We will be expressing our thanks to our Treasurer, Robin Collis, too, for all the work he does in preparing regular statements for our meetings and the Annual Accounts.

We were particularly pleased to witness the marriage of Michael and Shuna in Axminster Minster on the Saturday before Easter and wish them much happiness in the future together.

We held a series of Lent course evenings at Cherry and Jolly's home before Easter and several people took part in interesting discussions led by our Rector, Father Steven Martin. Other similar courses were held throughout the Mission Community and people were free to join any of them. We were grateful to Cherry and Jolly for their hospitality and lovely cake!!

The Sheldon Singers visited us recently and gave us a lovely concert of varied music. Thank you to all those who supported this event. The concert raised £250 towards our 'toilet/ kitchen facilities'.

We are continuing with the monthly Coffee Morning and Chat on the second Wednesday in each month and Caddie and Ian Doulton hold one at their home in other weeks. These occasions are a particular help to people who live on their own and appreciate the company of others in a relaxed friendly atmosphere. The profits from both go to charity.

Church members did the refreshments for the Plant Sale recently and the profit from this goes to Church as does the profit from doing the teas at the Open Gardens at Musbury Barton June 25th/26th 2022. We look forward to some good weather that weekend for Lt Col Drake and for ourselves!

The holiday season is upon us and I hope you are able to get away and enjoy different surroundings in the coming months. I hope you find visiting other Churches in those places interesting. We will be welcoming visitors to St Michael's in return, I am sure, and look forward to reading their comments in our visitors book.

We continue to welcome villagers to our varied selection of service each month which satisfies the many tastes of parishioners in Musbury.

Kay Short (PCC Secretary) 552711 shortatbeacon@gmail.com

UKRANIAN REFUGEE SUPPORT

With Ukranian refugees now starting to arrive in the U.K. and some arriving shortly within the parishes of The Holyford Mission Community, it could be of benefit to both hosts and refugees if we could help and welcome them by setting up a Mission Community Support and Social Group. At present it is unknown how many people within our parishes have volunteered to become hosts and this would be very useful to know. A social group could provide a social network for refugees and host families to get together, to talk, to be able to offer a kind and listening ear to families who are going through so much and to exchange useful information and perhaps also to organise social events. We may be able to offer holidays to refugees staying in cities, to give them and their hosts a break and space at a difficult and challenging time.

If you are planning on giving a home to refugees and are interested in becoming involved in supporting in this way, please let Jill Johnson know (details below). Jill would love to hear from people who would like to volunteer to help in other ways e.g. with setting the group up, with help organising social events, with language skills, transport, financial / benefit advice, or anything else that you can think of.

Steven

Contact: Jill Johnson, Churchwarden at St Winifred's, Branscombe, telephone: 01297 680133 or email a message via the Office. Our Administrator is Mrs Caz Jefferies, Office@holyford.org.



AXMINSTER & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY



Director Peter Parshall

Saturday, 11th June in the Minster, Axminster 7.30 pm. CONCERT by the Axminster and District Choral Society of Mendelssohn's Elijah with professional orchestra and soloists. The soloists are Chloe Stratta – Soprano, Juliet Curnow – Alto, Magnus Walker – Tenor and Julian Rippon – Bass. The concert will be conducted by Judy Martin. Tickets are £15.00 central aisle or £12 side aisles. Under 18s are half price. Covid precautions will be followed including wearing of masks as appropriate and not attending if suffering from a cold or other symptoms. Tickets will be refunded if potential Covid symptoms prevent attendance or if Covid rules change. BYO cushion and refreshments! Tickets may be purchased from Archway Bookshop, Trinity Square, Axminster (cash only), online via the link on the website, <https://www.axminsterchoral.co.uk/> or direct from Members. There may still be some available on the door at the event.

Registered charity no.900458

Parish Records

Wedding

18th March.

Thomas Edward Brooke
Lucy Sarah Gay

Funeral and Burial

26th April

Daphne Molly Farrant



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Weather Watch

It has been a seriously dry spring, with February, March and April all having about half the average rainfall; the average total for these months is 212 mm (8.5 ins); for 2022 there has been 113 mm (4.5 ins). Not only are soils dry and cracking, but the level in my well is now close to a metre lower than it was this time last year, showing that groundwater has not been recharged over the winter. February was generally mild, cloudy and dry, but with heavy rain on 15th, the strong winds of Storm Eunice on 18th, and a frost on the morning of 23rd. The month's rainfall total was 46 mm (2 ins) against an 18-year average of 81 mm. March began dull, mild and damp, but a cold north-east wind set in on 5th and lasted four days. The rest of the month was largely dry (but with rain on 16th) and often warm and sunny. The total rain for the month was 48.5 mm (2 ins); the 18-year average is 73 mm. A cold north wind on 31st set the scene for the first few days of April. A milder and damper spell was followed from 9th by frosty mornings. Slightly warmer days followed from 12th and the month ended generally bright and sunny albeit often with a cold wind. Total rain for the month was 18.5 mm (¾in) against the 18-year average of 58 mm.

Mike Lock

What it means on the farm

Farmers across the UK need a spell of wet weather to help wash in fertiliser that has been applied in recent weeks at great cost, owing to soaring input prices. Farmers have struggled with too much rain in the autumn and not getting crops established, and now seem to be straight into the spring drought.

“Spring drilling was done in reasonably good conditions. Some crops are up nicely, but others on less than decent seedbeds are now really struggling.” A farmer comments.

Having just applied expensive fertiliser, and then to see it sitting on the top of the ground and not doing anything due to a lack of rainfall was “all a bit frustrating”, said one farmer

He continued: “As the old saying goes, ‘a wind from the East is no good for man nor beast’ – and that’s exactly what we have got. We need south-westerly breezes.”

But he remains hopeful that showers in May will come to rescue the situation and avert a crisis.

“I’m not getting too down in the mouth yet,” he said. I’m hopeful the weather will come right for farmers.”

Jolly

Nature Watch

It has been a slow start to the season for summer migrant birds. I did not see a Swallow until 18 April and as of today (10 May) I have yet to see a Swift. House Martins, Sand Martins and Swallows were over the river in numbers in the dull weather of 1 May but few seem to have settled at their breeding sites as yet. Chiffchaffs, on the other hand, arrived on time and in plenty in mid-March and have been singing constantly since; Blackcaps arrived a little later, towards the end of the month and are also still singing. The cold north-easterly winds in late March and early April seem to have delayed migration of many species. One lucky person (the Editor) has heard a Cuckoo but nowadays one has to go to the edges of Dartmoor to hear and see them at all reliably. I have not seen a Spotted Flycatcher yet; they have become increasingly scarce in recent years.



The journeys that these birds make every year are becoming better and better known as ever-more sophisticated and lighter tracking devices are developed. We know from ringing recoveries that most of our Swallows pass the winter in the Cape Province of South Africa. Satellite tags on Cuckoos have shown that they winter in the Congo Basin forests. Most migrate westwards through Ghana and Ivory Coast before crossing the western part of the Sahara Desert, but others fly north from Nigeria and cross the Sahara in the middle, then passing north through Italy. One Cuckoo that passes the summer in East Anglia has now made the journey from there to the Congo forests six times and has returned safely in 2022. Spotted Flycatchers marked with geotags that record day-length (allowing latitude to be calculated) have shown that these birds winter in Angola. Similar tags on Swifts have demonstrated that our birds winter in southern Africa and then cross the Gulf of Guinea to Ivory Coast and Liberia before heading north to Europe. Geotags require that the bird is caught twice – once to install the tag and a second time to remove it and download the stored information. A new system, Motus, installs tiny transmitters on birds (and even on butterflies); the signals, unique to each bird, are picked up by a network of special receivers and decoded. At present there are few receiving stations in Britain, mainly on the East coast, but one of these showed that a Robin crossed the North Sea from Holland to Suffolk – 140 miles in four hours.

In mid-April a Roe Deer was killed on the road between Musbury and Boshill Cross. Roe are common here but rarely seen as they move about largely at dawn and dusk and tend to stay in thick cover. The fawns are born at this time of year and the mother hides them in long grass and leaves them for much of the day. If you or your dog come across a fawn, DO NOT assume it has been abandoned; LEAVE IT ALONE and do not touch it; the mother will return to it later. There are few other deer in this area; Sika, which are introduced from Japan and resemble a small Red Deer, have been seen as near as Trinity Hill, where my grandson picked up a cast antler, and there are rumours of Muntjac but no confirmed sightings. These are small deer the size of a large dog, with a hunched appearance and very short antlers. Red Deer and Fallow Deer may occasionally pass through but Chinese Water Deer are presently confined to East Anglia

Seaton Wetlands

The Wetlands were pretty quiet during the early spring. Even though the water level was lowered on Black Hole Marsh to provide open mud, there were very few waders on spring passage. A few Little Ringed Plovers were seen, and there was a minor influx in dull misty weather on 1 May when an Avocet, Dunlin, Ringed Plover, Greenshank and Bar-tailed Godwits joined the regular flock of Black-tailed Godwits on Black Hole Marsh. All bar a few Black-tailed Godwits and Dunlin left after a day or two. The Avocet bore a numbered leg flag that showed that it had been marked as a chick in July 2019 at Needs Ore Point on the Solent. Wintering Teal and Wigeon have now left but Shelduck are still numerous; the females will nest in rabbit holes further up the valley and take their young down the river to the Estuary when they hatch. One hopes that any young will survive better than the Mallard; I haven't seen a single brood on the estuary or elsewhere and suspect that the Crows and Magpies have eaten well. Late June and early July will see the first returning waders, usually Common and Green Sandpipers; these are probably birds that have failed to breed successfully. Other species will follow in August and September – the peak months for wader migration.

Mike Lock

The Musbury Club

Are you missing Musbury Garden Club?

Well, some of us are hoping to fill that gap and more with the Musbury Club! The Musbury Club is intended for everyone in the village, whatever your age or interests. If you live in the village, you are a member of the Club. It is a chance for a monthly get together, with a cup of tea and a chat centred around that meeting's topic. It needn't mean there is always a speaker, it could be a general discussion, some entertainment or a help session.

It is hoped to start the Musbury Club in the autumn with an open meeting to find out what people would like the subject of these get-togethers to be, and where they should be held. That will be followed by a couple of pre-planned meetings to get us underway, after which the format and topics will be based on the feedback we receive.

Please let us know your thoughts and suggestions about this idea, by contacting any of us listed below. Meanwhile, watch out for more information in the Autumn Parish News, the Musbury Village website and posters around the village.

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Graham Stark	grahamstark62@gmail.com	01297 552088
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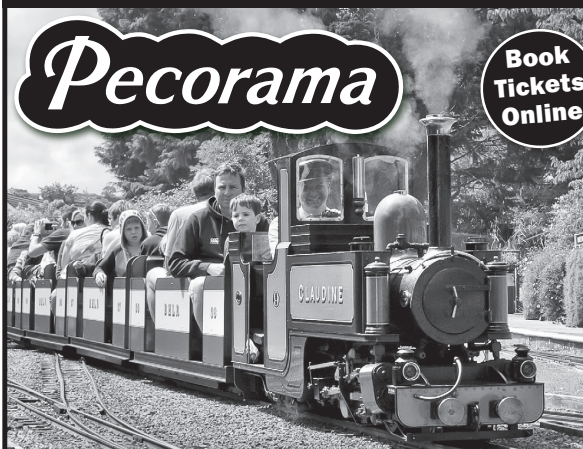
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A Message from Theresa Musbury Spar Manager

As I'm sure most of you know I am retiring in June. I just wanted to thank every one in Musbury for the support they have shown over the last 13 years. I feel I have come full circle, my Saturday job was at Musbury Shop and Post office, John + Bonte Fenner were in residence then, many moons ago. Then I left school and went to work at Woolworths in Seaton and slowly lost connection with village life. Leaving home at 7.30am and getting home at 6.30pm didn't leave much time for village life. I used to joke I never saw the outside of my house in the winter.

Fast forward 37 yearsWoolworth gone, for the 1st time in my life I was unemployed, it felt like life had ended. After 4 months I dropped my C.V. into Julian at Musbury Garage, thinking they may need part time staff, only to discover the shop was being extended and becoming a Spar. So in May 2009, I started doing a couple of evenings a week, which snowballed into more hours a week. It was great to see the transformation, from small forecourt shop to Spar and Julian's commitment to making sure every thing was just right.

At Christmas 2009, I took over as manager, the rest is history. It has been lovely to see the shop grow, then taking on the Post Office. It also made me fall in love with Musbury all over again. It's been in the strangest of times that Musbury shines, the beast from the east, with snow wardens clearing roads, people looking after neighbours, transporting people to work, shopping etc. Then the even stranger time of Covid, and lockdowns, again people collecting prescriptions, doing shopping for neighbours. They were very weird times but again showed this village at its very best.

I will be popping up in the shop at various times, doing holiday cover so you haven't got rid of me completely. Although I will not miss the 5.30am alarm - cold dark wet winter mornings are not my favourite!

So Musbury, thank you for support and friendship in the last 13 years.

Theresa Stockman

Questions of Life and Faith

Following the Lent Course and Easter, the next sessions for Questions of Life and Faith will be on Thursday afternoons from 2 to 3.30 in Colyford Memorial Hall on 9th June and 14th July. All are welcome to come along with their burning questions about faith including the perplexed and doubtful. A donation of £2 is requested to cover the cost of the hall. There will then be a break over the summer months.

Revd Canon Karen Curnock

Ralphie's Bit

Back in the days of old, Monday evenings at the Golden Hind were labelled "Farmer's Night". For 'twas on this night that the local young farmers would descend upon us en masse. At the bewitching hour a convoy of old style Land Rovers could be heard clattering down the road and grinding to a halt, each eager driver striving for the pole parking position (the spot nearest the door). The bar door would be flung open and through a cloud of diesel fumes our thirsty farmers would make their entrance!

Anything could happen on these nights, and quite often the results could be surprisingly spectacular. On one of the most memorable evenings a sack bag was brought in by one of the group. Apparently earlier that evening a predator had been caught on his land and was going to be released on the journey home somewhere where it would do no damage. Why they brought it in, and why they chose to let it out in the pub I will never know, but I did learn on that eventful night that foxes don't take too kindly to being unceremoniously bundled into an old sack bag! On the first whiff of freedom the wretched thing took flight. And so there it was, a wild animal charging around the bar like a demented whirling dervish. Pictures and brasses came crashing down from the walls, knick-knacks on the mantelpiece and shelves went flying and absolute chaos ensued. Eventually it was ushered out of the door with the aid of a broom and was last seen running down Whitford Road and into the sunset like the clappers! When the drama had died down the lads tidied the mess and the evening resumed as if nothing had happened. There had been no real damage caused and the story is still told by the now not so young farmers to this very day!

In the cold winter months every farmer in a three mile radius modelled a knitted bobble hat made by my dear late mother. She would sit in the corner, needles click-clacking away churning them out by the dozen. It was my job to produce the pompoms. A soul destroying exercise as we all knew too well that they would be instantly pulled off and discarded. I did suggest to mother that it was pointless to make them but she was horrified with my impertinence, "A bobble hat must have a bobble, and if they choose to cut it off that's up to them"! Wise words? I think not, for it was a long and arduous task making those blessed pompoms! The farmers are now all of a certain age, settled down with grown up families and have become respectable members of the parish. But I often still see them, and we all remember those days with great fondness and laughter. Halcyon days!

Ralph

School Report

It's been a very busy start to the Summer term, the Year 6 children have been preparing for their SAT's. The children in class 2 have completed a project on World War II and are now looking at healthy eating and where their food comes from. Class 1 are looking forward to meeting the children who will be joining them in September when they come to school for our 'move up days' We have lots of sports events and the annual sports day to look forward to and 17 children from Class 2 are attending a residential in London where they will be sleeping at The Science Musuem, having a trip on the London Eye and a river cruise!

Sponsored Walk

The school has arranged a sponsored walk to Musbury Castle which will take place on Wednesday 25th May 2022. As it is the Queen's Jubilee we will be making the walk, and the cake sale, Jubilee themed, therefore the children will be wearing red/ white or blue clothing on the day along with Union Jack flags. We are also hoping to see some Jubilee hats for the event. We are really looking forward to the walk, and if there are any community members who would like to join us we would love to see you!. We are hoping that every child can raise £10.00, this would help us reach the target to complete the installation of the new play area in the EYFS area. The PTFA have been working really hard on fundraising and with a little extra push we hope to meet the target amount.

We will also be holding a cake sale afterwards, hopefully on the playground, if the weather is kind to us, where we will be selling the cakes for a small donation. Again all members of the school community are welcome.

Devon Air Ambulance

The electricians have been installing lighting on the school field as it is to be a night landing site for the Devon Air Ambulance. The works are now nearing completion and we will share photos and an update once the works are finalised. A huge thank you to the Parish Council for their help and support with this.

As a school we really feel that this will be an incredible asset to Musbury and the surrounding area, enabling paramedics to respond to emergencies in an extremely timely manner. We are very pleased to have been involved in this project.

The Devon Air Ambulance team have also offered to arrange a visit to the school at some point in the future to talk to the children and we are all really looking forward to this.

Nicky

Mrs Nicky Ingarfield
Administrator
Musbury Primary School
Church Hill, Musbury, EX13 8BD

Tel: 01297 552687

The Murky World of Carbon

Big companies and corporations seem to be able to carry on polluting and producing carbon with a complicated scheme of carbon offsetting and credits. These schemes give work to accountants and financiers, but I do not understand how they help reduce carbon emissions. Nothing is ever going to be simple in the battle to reduce CO2 emissions, especially if we want to maintain our present life style.

There is also a growing problem of a global food shortage and this was before the current situation in Ukraine. In the UK there have been discussion on re-wilding and taking land out of food production for reforestation. Tree planting is the new fashion and no doubt in the right place it can be beneficial. I remember the large scale planting of the FLo country in Scotland during the eighties, which encouraged by large tax breaks for wealthy individuals was an environmental disaster. I personally was involved in the home grown timber trade for forty years and saw a lot of badly managed plantations and woodland that had been planted merely to take advantage of public money that was available in the form of grants and tax breaks.

I was interested to read the following in Private Eye and reprint it in full with permission. I do not know if the argument presented is factually correct. There are clever publicity companies involved in the murky world of carbon and the environment but nothing is ever black and white.

Jolly

“Following Concerns that Welsh farmers are being displaced as big corporations buy up farms to plant “carbon sink” forests, similar worries are emerging in Scotland where large swathes of farmland are being sold in secret (“off market”, in land agent parlance) to corporations and foreign owners for tree planting. How much net carbon capture occurs when trees replace permanent pasture remains moot.

A Study by community Land Scotland, which campaigns for land ownership reform, has found that a main driver of Scottish land sales is now tree planting some of which is subsidised by government. Such forestry schemes, which also allow owners to sell carbon credits based on the CO2 the forests absorb helped boost land prices in Scotland by 31 percent last year. The value of poor quality grazing land and hill farms, ideal for tree planting, rose by a staggering 60 percent

The same trend is almost certainly underway in England (though less easily measured). With the Scottish and UK governments proposing to encourage planting of 75,000 acres of new woods and forests in Britain each year. The likes of Foresight Group, Standard Life, and Aviva have spent tens of millions of pounds in the last year buying land for “green finance” investments, which quickly price local farmers hoping to but the land to produce food, out of the market.

Not only are farmers displaced from the land by such tree planting, but it terminates food production and makes it harder for farms that do survive rip remain viable as livestock markets, farm vets and agricultural merchants decline in number.

There is also evidence that permanent pasture is a very effective carbon sink, and concern is growing that ploughing it up for forestry may not provide the secure carbon sequestration first thought. Research by the University of California and others suggests permanent pasture grazed extensively, rather intensively by livestock is remarkably effective at storing carbon: and there is a growing understanding that much of this carbon is stored at considerable depth within the soil. Some predict that as global temperatures rise, permanent pasture might be more secure as a carbon store as it is not as vulnerable to fire as forests are.

Should the rush to cover the UK's more marginal and farming areas with taxpayer-funded tree planting be paused? Should land really be taken out of food production when the world is running short of even basics like grain and edible oils? Is it right that tree planting is being used to offset the CO2 emissions of big corporations and wealthy consumers on frivolous things like jet travel when there are doubts about how little a new forest on what was once permanent pasture will achieve in long-term secure net carbon capture? Perhaps agriculture should be left to address its own challenge of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 without having its main resource - farmland- gobbled up by private equity investment managers, rock stars or brewers for tree planting”.

Reprinted from Private Eye issue no 1572

Positions Vacant

I really need someone to help me with editing the News. It is not a particularly difficult task, just requiring some basic IT skills with a knowledge of Word or Pages software. . This position is essential for the good of the Parish News as I should not be the only person who knows how it works .

Also there were no offers to the two positions mentioned in the last issue, for ideas and illustrations for the front cover and for someone who would like to use their journalistic skills interviewing local residents.

I await with anticipation

jolly.images@mac.com or ring me 07787188731 for more information

Musbury Heritage - News & Question Time

News

I've been fortunate to be contacted recently by many people with information about Musbury. Some have responded to my queries, some have seen the website and many who just have an interest in our village history. A selection of these follow.

Thank you to everyone who has contacted me with information and pictures. It is this and my research that enable me to produce the stories you read in the Parish News and see on the website.

Kevin Ford

Kevin, who used to live in the old Adcroft wooden bungalow for a few post-WW2 years and who told me much about the house history, has been in contact again. With his remarkable memory, he has supplied a fascinating list of people and places around that time. His recollections about his wanderings around Musbury as a young lad paint a fascinating picture of the village in the late 1940s. There are too many to list here, but they can be found on the Musbury Heritage website. Just search for "Kevin Ford" in the search box on the homepage.



Adcroft in 1971

Carol and Ron Hopkins

In the previous Parish News, I asked for more about Mount Pleasant Farm. Carol and Ron happened to be in Colyton Church (they live in Wimborne) and saw a copy of the Spring issue. It turns out Carol is the daughter of the Webbers who ran the farm from about 1955 to 1975! They have provided some great information and I hope to publish a history of Mount Pleasant on the website soon.

Tony Winter

Tony Winter contacted me in 2021, as he had spotted himself on the 1948 Musbury School photo on the website. He came to visit us in April this year and brought along many interesting photos. Janet Albano joined us, as she went to school with Tony (who she knew as Anthony). In no time they were reminiscing about the past and I was struggling to keep up!

Bob Hornsby

Bob, the owner of Bowhay on Combyne Road, contacted me recently. You may recall my earlier stories about the two artists, Charles and Evelyn Cheston, who designed the Art Deco house that burnt down in 1940. I had always hoped to one day see a picture of this house, also called Bowhay. Well, it turned out that Bob also wondered if a picture of the old house existed. As luck would have it, just a week earlier, Tony Winter



had kindly provided me with exactly that! I met Bob and his wife at Bowhay, and, in time, I hope to publish more about this house and the Wood and Munday families that he is descended from.

Devon Heritage Centre

I've made two very productive trips to Devon Heritage Centre in Sowton, a veritable treasure trove of information. Two very useful property surveys of 1910 and 1928 have been copied, along with the electoral registers of 1971. These all require transcription into digital format, so they can be easily accessed for research purposes. This is something I'll do when time permits (any volunteers?). A Musbury Churchyard survey from 1988 has also been copied and is now digitised. It is hoped to combine this with Church and other records to make a comprehensive analysis of burial records, complete with images for all to access.

Question Time

I started this in the Spring Parish News and I've had a good response, but would always welcome more! Please call me, email me or just stop and chat if you see me regarding any of the news, stories or questions I write. I don't bite, but could bore you to death with Musbury history!...

New Questions:

- This is a well-known picture taken inside the Lion Inn on Axminster Road in about the 1950s. Ed Russell is the publican behind the bar, but who are the 3 locals enjoying a pint? Any suggestions?... A larger version of the picture is on the website, just search for 'Lion Inn' from the homepage.
- We think the New Inn changed its name to "The Golden Hind" in the 1960s. Can anyone narrow that down? And what happened to the "New Inn" signage?
- Talking of signs, do you know what happened to the "Musbury Stores" sign (see picture) that used to adorn the wall above the post box? And what was the significance of the crest?
- Do you have any pictures of people and buildings in Musbury taken any time in the 20th century? Perhaps tucked away in a box in the attic? It is surprising what can be learnt from the most innocuous picture.
- The Platinum Jubilee celebrations will soon be upon us, but Musbury has a history of other festivities. There was an annual Michaelmas Fair in the village, with a market and sports events, which seems to have petered out around 1900. More recently there have been street fairs. Do you have any stories or pictures from the fairs in 1980s and 1990s?



Past Questions:

- *When was Northfields built?* - I have received suggestions that this was in the 1960s, maybe early 1970s, but nothing definitive as yet.
- *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?* – I've had a great response on this (see News).
- *When was the last service held in the Chapel?* – No answers yet...
- *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?* – Thanks to a very helpful reply, this has been resolved. Search 'Parish Map' on the website.
- *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?* – No answers yet...

I will be very grateful for any help you can give on the above.

Martin Minter / *Musbury Heritage* / martin@musburyheritage.co.uk / 553325

You can now also follow or message us on Facebook – just search for "Musbury Heritage"

Musbury Parish Council Annual Report

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Roads

As always, there seem to be more cars parked on the roads of Musbury The Council has worked to improve this and will continue to request Parking Enforcement visits to monitor parking on the double yellow lines by the Garage.

The installation of VASS (Vehicle Activated Speed Signs) in the village to try and raise awareness of speeding through the centre of the village occurred in 2021. Please do let the clerk or a councillor know if you notice the signs not working.

There have also been three new grit bins placed around the village – and of course we have had no real cold weather this winter!

Devon Air Ambulance Local Landing Site

This project has moved forward in the last year with the site at Musbury Primary School being agreed as the best location for the Night Landing Site, funding has been secured thanks to the Libor fund and the generosity of both local residents and businesses and the planning application was granted in April 2021.

The Light Column has now been installed in the School field.

Trees

Work has been carried out on the tree on the verge outside Musbury Garage and an English Oak has been planted in the allotment field to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

To round up his report The Chair gave his thanks to all Musbury Parish Councillors and to the Clerk for their help and assistance over the past year.

FINANCIAL REPORT AND INTERNAL AUDIT

This year, it was decided that the Reading Room Trust was no longer required for its original intention as the groups it had previously supported no longer existed and the interest payments received were too small to be of any use to any other group of similar direction.

The units were sold and the monies are held in a separate account (still called the Reading Room Trust) which the Council agreed to earmark for any works done to improve the Playing Field which they deemed the closest aligned option to the original intentions of the Trust.

The balance of the Treasurers Account as at 31st March was confirmed:

Lloyds Treasurers Account No 1063790

Balance bought forward as at 1st April 2021 £

14,376.10

Add receipts £10,119.88

Precept Apr & Sept £8,000.00

P3 £1,100.00

Allotments £ 650.40

VAT Reclaim £ 369.48

£24,495.98

Less payments £11,648.36

Balance to carry forward to 1st April 2022

£ 12,847.62

The VAT reclaim was submitted on the 4th April for the past year: 2021/22
£875.94

Lloyds Reading Room Account No 7502761

Balance on the Deposit Account (investment sold and proceeds transferred to Lloyds)

As at 31st March 2022 - £1,336.03

We spent £11,648 this year – this included: £3,100 on staff, £2,100 on playing field, £2,600 on P3, £350 on allotments, £285 on charities, £970 on benches and noticeboards, £360 on tree work. The chair thanked Martin Minter for his work as internal auditor of the Parish

OFFICER'S REPORTS

Musbury Playing Fields - The recent annual safety inspection has reiterated the areas of the playground in need of attention and as each year passes, the need for work grows. Annie Stark, who runs Musbury Movers, is keen to drive the regeneration of this area forwards with the help of as many locals as possible. A recent open meeting to discuss potential ideas was well attended and elicited some exciting suggestions. Questionnaires have been printed and distributed around the village and responses are being collated. Many thanks to all those who completed a survey – the priorities can now be identified and although there is no quick fix for this area as it is an expensive task and one that needs careful planning, we hope to ensure the best result for our community now and in the future.

Musbury Allotments – The Chair was pleased to confirm that all allotment plots are taken, there are now just two people on the waiting list. If anyone knows of anyone in the village who would like to be added to the list, please contact the Clerk. In these times of rising food costs, growing your own is more important than ever.

The main expenditure in the past year has been the payment of water bills. To counter this, the water is turned off for the months of December, January and February when there is less requirement for water and more likelihood of pipes bursting or leaks going undetected. The Clerk and Mr Parkman liaise regularly to monitor the plots and any ongoing maintenance needs. The allotments have a very healthy balance of £2,231.28 thanks to prompt payment of rents and deposits, some generous waiving of returns of deposits and accurate meter readings meaning accurate water bills.

The Chair thanked all those involved in the maintenance of this great asset to the village, especially Mr Allen Parkman.

Musbury Planning & Development

Applications – There were 10 applications reviewed in the past year. The majority of applications had the support of the Parish Council and there were several requests for advice from EDDC planning. One application was in regard to tree felling.

Mountfield – The planning application for Mountfield House finally arrived four days before Christmas 2021 and after serious consideration from the Council, support for the scheme to return it to a family home was given. Along with many in the parish, the Council hope to see this property of historic significance in the village returned to its former glory.

Baxter's Farm – There has been no change in the situation regarding Baxter's Farm with EDDC and DCC locked in stalemate. The Council received this update in response to queries about the progress / use of the site in February

The County Council has been working with the Local Planning Authority (LPA) to agree a design code/brief for the site's potential development, given the site falls within a conservation area.

It is frustrating that discussions with the LPA have taken far longer than anyone ever envisaged but Devon County Council anticipates reaching an agreement with the LPA for the site's potential inclusion within the emerging Local Plan and for the design code within the next 6 months.

It would therefore not be appropriate to consider letting the farmstead at Baxter's Farm to a third party to store vehicles on as a temporary and very short-term solution to the current parking problems within the village.

The Chair informed the meeting that EDDC has been told by Natural England along with around 70 other local councils across England, that it should no longer grant planning permission to any development that could increase phosphate levels in the River Axe, which are said to be causing a "significant issue."

Natural England has informed the District Council that levels of phosphates in the River Axe are having a detrimental impact on local wildlife, and areas designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and Special Area of Conservation are of particular concern.

This means that EDDC – the local planning authority – can no longer approve any developments in the area that would increase the discharge of phosphates into the river.

For more information, see: <https://eastdevon.gov.uk/planning/phosphates-on-the-river-axe>

Footpaths

In July 2021, a new DCC approved contractor was found and we could begin our planned improvements.

As well as the annual inspection, Cllr Smith has carried out many minor repairs such as fixing gate latches and handrails. Paul has also carried out extensive strimming duties such as the whole length of Fp 5, Marlborough Rd to Dead horse Lane – recorded as 650m.

Cllr Smith and I discuss the annual survey, DCC forms are completed and bids are made for improvements. This task has been a bit more difficult this year as prices and availability of materials have been fluid. 2:1 gates have been installed on Fps 38, 11, 7 and 32 and self-closing gates to replace stiles 2 on Fp 20 and one Fp10 and Fp32. Finger posts have been replaced on Fps 10, 1 and 2 on Fp 15. Many of you will have seen the new steps at the top of Mounthill leading to Fp 32 along the top of the castle. These were funded directly by Public Rights of Way, and will make a fitting route to the Jubilee beacon. At the end of the 2021-22 financial year, we have spent all the P3 budget.

Access to our footpaths have been much improved this year and I again ask that any problems are reported to either the clerk, Cllr Smith or to me, please do not wait until a parish council meeting-it helps us to plan repairs with the contractor.

Finally, a thank you to Col. Drake for allowing his equipment to be used by Cllr Smith for footpath maintenance.

Musbury Village Hall

Thank you to all who come and support the weekly and regular events held in the Village Hall, such as Badminton, Zumba, Dance, Table Tennis, Short Tennis, Keep Fit, Bowls, Children's Parties, WI Meetings, Church Coffee Mornings, Axe Vale Conservation Society meetings, Autistic Support Group meetings, Parish Council meetings and various ad-hoc activities as and when required.

The AGM for the Village Hall was held on Monday 21st February 2022, we would like to thank all that spared their valuable time to attend, **however we are looking for a New Bookings Clerk and New Committee Members for the Village Hall Committee. If you are interested please call the Secretary: Michelle on 07793711600 or 01297 551545**

The charges to hire the Village Hall are £12 per hour for the main hall (including kitchen) and £10 per hour for the committee room and £21 per hour for the entire hall, includes kitchen, lighting and heating, very competitive compared to similar halls locally. **Enquiries to hire the Village Hall to musburyvillagehallbookings@gmail.com**

Thank you for supporting your Village Hall in every way you can, again I would like to thank the tireless efforts of our committee, thank you all.

Michelle Craker

Recycling

If you are a little confused about your recycling these hints from East Devon District Council may help:

You can leave the lids on plastic milk bottles when you put them in your recycling sack

It doesn't matter how small your pieces of clean foil are, there is a machine that can pick them out.

For safety it isn't recommended squashing a baked bean tin for example, but for extra room in your sack you can squash a coke can if you want to safely.

You can now recycle soft plastics such as bags and soft packaging at the Co-op in Axminster. It does not matter where the products have come from, just collect your items in a plastic bag and drop into the collection bins provided in either of the shops.

Axminster Food Bank

May we extend our very grateful thanks to all who have donated to the Food Bank in these exceptionally difficult times. As you can imagine our numbers are increasing again and we are giving food to more than 70 people and getting new referrals every week. This isn't surprising given the current situation with rising prices and we are rather concerned that food donations are not always meeting our needs. There is a basket in Musbury Garage shop and Church as well as collection points at the supermarkets in Axminster.

Some of the basics we need regularly are long life semi-skimmed milk, pasta sauce, baked beans, soup, tinned fruit, tinned custard and rice pudding, tinned tomatoes, jams or marmalades, tinned ham or corned beef, tinned vegetables and biscuits. We are also pleased to receive dog and cat food as pets are very important to some of our clients, especially to those who live alone, and owners will go without rather than let their pets go hungry.

Can we make a plea for long life bags? We desperately need them in order to continue to give out food and do not want to have to use funds, which are set aside to buy food or support people in fuel poverty, to pay for bags. If you have them hiding in your house or garage may we have them please!

Thank you again everybody for continuing to support us and we know that those whom we help share in this gratitude.

Sheila



Allotment news

The allotments are, of course, a hive of activity at this time of year. Friendships are renewed as the more fair weathered gardeners meet up with the stalwarts who have been visiting regularly whatever the weather.

A walk round the allotments demonstrates the many aspects of recycling and re-purposing that gardeners are so good at. You can spot:

Shower screens and old doors used as windbreaks

Paths covered in off-cuts of membranes that builders use

Bird scarers fashioned from lines of CDs (remember them?) and aluminium pie tins; white plastic bags; and plastic bottles and tin cans that rattle on sticks in the ground

Cardboard rings around the bottom of cabbage plants to defer root fly

Flexible plumbing piping holding up netting to protect crops

Scraps of sheep wool round the base of plants to deter slugs and snails

Milk containers or plastic bottles with their bottoms cut off, upended, and buried next to plants like tomatoes so that, when filled with water, the water reaches the roots

Growing the plants on a window sill or greenhouse before planting in the allotment allows for other ingenious recycling:

Long rooted plants come ready prepared for planting in the ground in their toilet roll middle containers where the cardboard will rot away

Seedlings have been cosseted in the cells of a cardboard eggbox

Plants are labelled with strips cut from milk containers and named with marker pen

Other plants have wooden lolly stick labels. And if there are too many plants for lolly consumption, then the renamed 'wooden craft sticks' from craft shops will set you back about £1 for 100.

An Allotmenteer

Summer Saturdays to the West

There are many properties in Musbury where you can see or at least hear the trains running from the other side of the valley. In the main they are class 159s which are currently under the South Western Railway ownership and all these units are in a nice green livery although there are still just a few in the former red livery of Network South West. These trains are very functional but many think they are characterless and boring, so I often wonder what it must have been like watching steam trains going up and down the line from my garden.

One of the regular trains that use to run out of Waterloo at 11am was the ACE, Atlantic Coast Express. Although the London South Western Railway of pre 1923 ran express trains to the south west as far as Bude and Padstow, it was not until after the grouping of railways that the new Southern Railway decided their main train service to the west should be given a new image. The rival to the west was the famous and glamorous Cornish Riviera operated by the Great Western Railway, so in determination the Southern held a competition in December 1925 for their staff to come up with ideas and a catchy name for their new train service to Devon and Cornwall. The winning entry was won by Mr Rowland who was a guard at Woking station and his prize was 3 guineas! The first ACE ran at 11am on July 19th 1926.

Passenger traffic was quite seasonal but the busiest periods were summer Saturdays. On some of these days up to 5 trains would be departing Waterloo for the west within 40 minutes. According to Mr Bradshaw there were trains leaving at 10.36, 10.40, 10.47, 10.54 and 11.00. Can you imagine all that traffic and excitement? Today we have one train per hour regardless of any seasonal or time of day demand. What is more the express service in those dim and distance days took 2hrs 56minutes to go from Waterloo to Exeter Central but the trains would only stop twice whereas the trains today stop at most stations and take 3hrs 24 minutes.

One of the fascinating things about the ACE was that for a period of time some of the coaches were decoupled at stations along the route including Seaton Junction and in that situation the coach would then be taken to its final destination of Seaton town.

Since we are about to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee there is a special, local to us time table illustrated here which was published in the year of the Queen's Coronation. It's an interesting read and hopefully the original can be displayed at some time in the old Post Office/shop window.

Michael Pritchard



The Atlantic Coast Express passing through Seaton Junction at 85mph on its way West July 1962
 Picture Ian Davey part of the Guy Vaigncourt-Davey collection

BRITISH RAILWAYS

EXCURSIONS

EVERY WEEKDAY
 APRIL 7th to JUNE 6th, INCLUSIVE
EXCEPT MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY

To Sidmouth, Exmouth, etc.

From	To	Single		Return		Notes
		1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
Exmouth	Sidmouth	1.00	0.75	1.75	1.25	
Exmouth	Seaton	1.00	0.75	1.75	1.25	
Exmouth	Lyme Regis	1.00	0.75	1.75	1.25	
Exmouth	Seaton Junction	1.00	0.75	1.75	1.25	

To Lyme Regis, Seaton, etc.

From	To	Single		Return		Notes
		1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
Seaton	Lyme Regis	1.00	0.75	1.75	1.25	
Seaton	Seaton Junction	1.00	0.75	1.75	1.25	
Seaton	Exmouth	1.00	0.75	1.75	1.25	

WHIT MONDAY

ASK FOR HANDBILL AT STATIONS OR AGENCIES

Musbury Moles

Musbury Moles has been growing over the last few months and have been very busy welcoming new families. The children have been enjoying the beautiful weather while exploring themes such as traditional tales, transport, and dinosaurs. The children have been enjoying local walks around the village and it has been wonderful chatting with members of the local community. We are planning many more trips out and about so if you see us please stop and say hello. Musbury Moles loves using the local area for activities such as teddy bear picnics at the playing field, visiting the church, and the cows on the way to the castle.

We have been fortunate enough to have had visits from spring lambs and chicks before Easter, which all the children loved and learned about the changes of spring.

Our outside area has had a mini refurbishment, where we've added a canopy area to protect the children from the rain and sun to ensure we have full access outside at all times. We are currently fundraising for a wooden climbing triangle to provide opportunities for gross motor play. We are selling a tea towel made by the children and are looking at future events to raise the funds. Our Moles love the outside and we have been looking at ways to increase our outside provision. We continue to work alongside the school and build upon our partnership. We are hoping with Covid-19 rules relaxing we shall restart our joint activities/events shortly.

The future of the preschool looks strong, and we are looking into Charitable incorporated organisation status to allow Moles to continue. This will enable better operational management for the preschool and secure its future. We would love members of the community to be a part of this exciting and promising move forward.

In July Claire our Early Years Manager aof nearly 10 years will be leaving to embark on new ventures. She is off to retrain as a Midwife at Bournemouth University. Claire will continue as a trustee of the preschool which she has built up over the past decade. Beth a senior member of staff has successfully been appointed as Preschool Leader, alongside Annie as Deputy, and Emma Harris continuing as the preschool's business administrator.

We shall continue to provide families with a holistic and natural approach to childcare while ensuring each child receives the best care at Moles.

We thank all our families and the local community for their support and look forward to another successful year.

Claire Brookes - Early Years Manager

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Mobile: 07814 481 833

m23

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

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MUSBURY PLANT & CRAFT SALE 2022

Oh what a lovely morning for the return of a full blown Plant Sale held to subsidise our annual Musbury Show in August. We could not have got another plant on our tables and the Village Hall was bursting at the seams with customers. Thank you all for coming to support the Plant Sale.



Our biggest thanks must go to all the helpers who gave their time on the day, selling the plants, the wonderful bacon butties, teas and coffees and raffle tickets, all those who helped on the stalls, and those who grew and donated plants and garden items and those in the background who do all the hard work on the preparation side.

We are looking forward to seeing all your entries for the Vegetable Plot/Allotment Competition in July (open to Musbury residents only). Does your vegetable plot or allotment receive compliments? Then why not enter the Musbury Vegetable Plot Competition. Entry is free and entry forms will be available at the Spar Shop from 1st July. Judging will take place on 27th July.

This year the Musbury Show will be on Saturday 13th August in the Village Hall. The full schedule will be available in the Spar Shop from 25th July. Entries are open to all parishioners and those with links to Musbury through the School, Clubs, Allotments and Church. Tea and cakes will again be served in the Committee Room.

Look out for posters around the village with more details of these two events.

Many thanks again for all your support.

Valerie Nicholls on behalf of the Musbury Show Committee
Valerie.bnicholls@gmail.com / 01297 552131

PS If anyone who kindly bought plants at the Plant Sale would like to return the pots and module trays, these will be gratefully received for use next year.

Musbury Garage and Spar

Well, here we are, nearly halfway through the year already. Like me, do you wonder where the time goes? In your local Spar we're now gearing up for summer, but first up is the Long Bank holiday at the beginning of June to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Let's hope the weather is glorious, so Musbury can enjoy the picnic outside. We will be open all the way through, so anything you need or have forgotten, we should be able to provide. We may even be seen wearing decorated hats to join in the fun!

We have some new faces at Musbury Garage. Welcome to Irene in reception and Mell in the shop. Mell has been with us before so it's a welcome return. We're also pleased to have Tom back in the shop, helping us out with holiday cover.

I think that the shop looks fantastic after the refit; it was a bit chaotic at times whilst the work was completed but never boring; I'm sure you'll agree that the end result was worth the upheaval. The new freezers look great, and so much easier to work and shop. I think we have finally remembered where everything is now! We still sell Khushi Curries; with many being sold it's difficult to keep them fully stocked, but Mina often comes to the rescue. There are more new dishes arriving from Cook, including a Sticky Toffee Pudding. I enjoyed the Apple and Blackberry Crumble, so I'll certainly be looking forward to trying it.

I'm sure most of you know that Jane and I are retiring in June, I may have mentioned it once or twice! So, Morag has taken over as Store Manager, with Debbie continuing as Post Office Manager. There will be a new team member joining as well, and I will be popping up occasionally to cover holidays and absences. I will miss seeing people and it will be good to be back once in a while. I definitely will not miss the 5.30am alarm call on cold, dark and/or wet winter mornings. I know you will give Morag the same support that you've given me over the last 13 years.

Coming up to retirement, it has made me reminisce on the last 13 years and how far the shop has evolved, from a small forecourt shop to the Spar, then the Post Office as well. It has grown beyond what most of us first imagined and Julian works hard to keep it fresh and growing. The last two years have been particularly challenging, but thanks to all your support in those strange times it showed Musbury at its best. Hopefully, we are now getting back to 'normal'. So, this will be my last offering for the Parish Magazine as I now pass the baton to Morag.

Best wishes

Theresa

Footnote from Debbie Rees, Post Office Manager

As well as the more 'traditional' Post Office services, did you know that your counter at Musbury Garage can offer you the following?:

- * Euros in stock
- * Pre-order service for all other currency
- * Banking - cash deposits
- * Over the counter cash withdrawals
- * Health Lottery
- * Phone top-ups
- * Fishing Licences

League of Friends of Axminster Hospital

As you are probably all aware I have now retired as Secretary of the League of Friends of Axminster Hospital but I am still a trustee and just want to give Musbury an update on the work of the Friends.

Firstly the hospital is NOT closing and is in fact becoming even more active despite the lack of beds. The Clinics continue to grow and ophthalmic surgery is now being performed 5 days a week. Much of the equipment used in this clinic has been funded by the League along with X-ray, and dermatology to name but a few. The League AGM on the 26th May will have passed by the time you get your magazine but I do hope some of you will have been able to attend and that a new secretary has been found. The chairman, Dr Phil Taylor is resigning at the AGM and hopefully will have been replaced by Steve Holt, our current Treasurer and long term member of the League. Steve has been nominated by all the Trustees.

Negotiations are still underway with the R.D. & E. to provide Home Nursing and end of life care in our district. This does come at a considerable cost as did the H@H service but it is a service desperately needed since the retreat of Hospiscare@Home. We need every penny that can be raised, not easy in these difficult times.

I will continue to do my bit for fund raising and this year the proceeds from my jams on the carport will be donated to the League of Friends. Please support if you are passing by buying, the jams that are slowly beginning to appear in the carport.

If there is anything you can do in the fund raising stakes or by giving a little time please let the League know. Thank you.

Ann Veit - Trustee of the League of Friends Axminster Hospital.
01297 552376
AnnVmus@aol.com

The Hind

PLEASE NOTE

Our Kitchen is closed temporarily

Our chef has broken his wrist but we are still able to cater for functions so please do not hesitate to contact, us if we can do it we will! In the meantime our bar is open:

Tuesday & Wednesday 7pm - Late
Thursday - Saturday 5.30pm - Late
Sunday 12-3pm

3rd June - Jubilee Quiz & BBQ
9th July - 80's Disco Night
17th September 'HindFest' (our 6th birthday bash)
15th October - Live Music from Wholly Funk
5th November - Quiz & Sausage Night
26th November – Live Music from The Vinyl Monkeys

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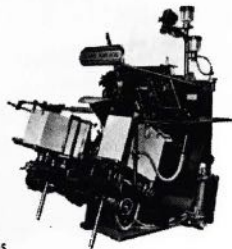
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READ EASY

Some of you may have seen the BBC 1 programme recently about Jay Blades (the Repair Man) and his struggle to learn to read. Adults who struggle with reading are often embarrassed to join a group or class of learners and need a 1 :1 opportunity to improve their skills. Life can be very limited if you lack these basic literacy skills, and there are great disadvantages if, perhaps, you are not able to read simple instructions, read or send texts, use a computer to apply for a job or benefits or respond to medical or other important letters.

Fortunately, free help is available locally for anyone who needs to improve their reading skills. **Read Easy**'s local branch covers Axminster, Seaton and surrounding areas including Chard, Lyme Regis, Honiton and Sidmouth. It has a bank of trained coaches who are personally matched with readers, and it uses venues where they can work together comfortably and in confidence.

The evidence tells us that there are more adults in our communities who would like, and would benefit from, 1:1 coaching but who may be unable to access information about **Read Easy**. You may know someone who needs help with reading. It could be a relative, friend, an acquaintance or someone with whom you come into contact through your work. If you do know anyone who needs help, you or they can contact us either by phone on 01297 552847 or by email - sheila@readeasy.org.uk

Sheila (Coordinator, Read Easy Axminster & Seaton)

P.S. We are at present looking for someone who might be interested in being the Chair of our local Management Team. If you would like information in supporting the group in this way please do contact me using the details above.

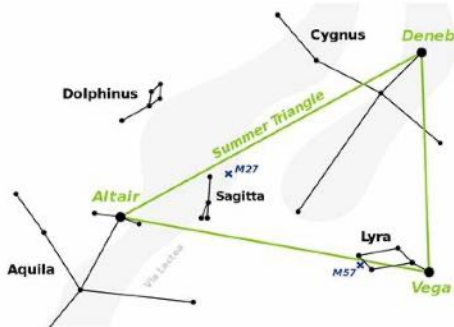
The Sky at Night

Now we are back to the summer months when constellations, with exception of those in the summer triangle, are not so clear or well known as the winter one. Despite that there is a lot you can see with the naked eye, binoculars or a small telescope.

During the first few days of June the crescent moon is very clear in the evening skies alongside the stars of Gemini. At the end of the month the moon highlights the morning skies along with Mars, Jupiter and Venus. And if you have a very good western view, you may also be able to see Mercury around the 26 – 27 June.

By July, Cygnus, Aquila and Lyra are higher in the sky and it should be possible to make out the three stars of the summer triangle clearly. (Vega, Deneb and Altair.) In the constellations of Lyra, you will find the Ring Nebula M57, between the two lower bright stars. It is a very nice ring shape and with a telescope you should also be able to make out the middle star. There is also the dumbbell nebula, M 27. It is in the constellation of Vulpecula, which is just below the constellation of Cygnus the small. If you travel left from the lowest star of Cygnus, (which looks to be the middle of the summer triangle), using a small telescope you should be able to find what looks like a little smudge. That is the dumbbell nebula. (It is much more than a smudge if you have a larger telescope.)

The highlight of these three months of course is in August, when we can view the Perseid meteor shower. This is a long shower that occurs each year, beginning on July 17th and ending on August 24th. The maximum is on August 12 – 13 when there can be a rate as high as 100 meteors per hour. Saying that, this year's shower maximum occurs with a full moon which is not good for seeing conditions. The Perseid's are the debris from the Comet 109/P/Swift-Tuttle (the Great Comet of 1862.)



The Observatory is again open on Thursday evening for visitors, so check out www.normanlockyer.com and come up and visit us.

Trill Farm Garden

We have had an incredibly busy time in the market garden this Spring. We have taken on a new field to grow more autumn and winter vegetables, which for this year will mainly be kale and chard on an extra half an acre, but we will look to cultivate another half an acre for next year too.

This extra growing space will allow us to also grow some of these crops in a slightly less intensive way, and although it will take a lot of effort to get going and control weeds such as docks and couch grass, hopefully in the longer term it will be fairly productive, whilst not taking up too much of our time. We plan to undersow most of the crops with low growing green manure mixes and flowers once we have hoed a couple of times. This will not only provide flowers for pollinators, but also help to build soil health longer term.

We have had a good Spring in terms of favourable weather, and although it has been an exceptionally dry April and May we have had rain just at the right time to get crops established well so far. We are looking forward to our tomatoes this year - of which we have over 30 varieties growing, and we will be celebrating this diversity with a Tomato Day in the market garden. This will give people a chance to have a garden tour, look at the diversity of tomatoes and other crops that we grow, have tastings, see how we process tomato seed to save each year and much more. Keep an eye out for more information on this which will be on the 31st July (booking required).

In other news we feel very grateful to have received some funding from East Devon Council through the Innovation and Resilience Fund to build a small barn and some equipment, fencing and materials for the new field. The barn will be used not only for a tea and lunch break space for everyone who works in the garden, but also to run the courses that we teach here. We are starting to grow more seed crops for small seed companies such as Real Seeds in Wales and Vital Seeds in Devon, and we will be using the barn as an area to process and dry this seed too. One end of the barn will be used for storage.

As always, you can order veg bags or just salad from us through our online shop (www.trillfarmgarden.co.uk) and Musbury Garage continue to stock our salad bags too.

Ashley Wheeler

Trill on The Hill

Over the past couple of weeks, Trill on the Hill has burst into life. The woodland is thick with a purple haze of bluebells and the bright yellow gorse is going strong.

We have been planting trees this winter - over 300 - and it feels like we've only just started. We set up a volunteer group who came together every fortnight to plant a mixture of hazel, oak, downy birch, silver birch, holly and rowan. It was a real treat meeting so many brilliant people. We'd like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who turned up come rain or shine to get the trees in the ground, and also thanks to East Devon AONB for helping us to make it happen. Along with the trees in the ground, we are very excited at the arrival of nine beautiful Gotland lambs - a great addition to the Trill on the Hill team.

Trill on the Hill is a family team effort and as our ideas progress we are finding our natural roles....

Lara has been busy formulating products for spring, summer and autumn. We are planning to launch a gorse spring salt scrub very soon, but it's not quite finished. It's going to be worth the wait though.

Tamsin has been sorting out the family camps, planting trees and working some new projects which we hope to announce soon.

Romy has been settling into her new home, with its incredible views of the Jurassic coast. Recently she has been working with Lara on the product formulations and creating a new vegetable and herb garden.

This year we are running three Family camps and number of small one day events. Maybe you'd like to join us? The camps dates are 28th-31st May, 25th-31st July (both for families) and 25th-29th August (all welcome). Our other events are still to be finalised so watch this space.

If you're interested in keeping up to date you can join our mailing list www.trillonthehill.co.uk

TRILL ON THE HILL
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Musbury Short Mat Bowls Club

Our Bowls Club has gone from strength to strength since returning to normal after lockdown. Our Friday afternoons are very well attended and we often enjoy full capacity on the mats. We are still using precautions against infection and being careful.

We held our AGM recently before the afternoon's play. Christine Pomeroy was reelected Chairman, Kay Short was reelected Secretary. Ken Short retired as treasurer after many years in the post. He was thanked by members and presented with a gift. Bryan Groves was elected the new treasurer and Barrie Field and Stuart Heal were elected on to the committee. Everyone had an opportunity to say anything on their minds about the club but most reiterated what a friendly club it is. Those joining from other clubs seem glad they have 'found us'.

We have applied to enter an afternoon team if a league is formed in the Autumn and arrangements are to our satisfaction. Nothing is definite yet. East Devon Short Mat Bowls Association meet in June to make their decisions. Our thanks to Christine and her committee who keep the club running and help to make it an enjoyable afternoon for everyone.

Kay Short

Update from Axminster Medical Practice

For those patient's eligible for a covid vaccine as part of the Spring Booster Vaccination Programme you will be contacted directly by the surgery to book your appointment. The vaccination clinics will be taking place at Axminster Medical Practice. Alternatively, patients can contact the national booking system by calling 119 to book at a mass vaccination centre.

We now have a sample collection box in the surgery. This is a yellow box affixed to the righthand side wall as you enter the medical practice. We hope our patients find this a convenient way to drop in their samples to us. To ensure the samples are correctly processed they must be clearly written with the patient's name and date of birth. Only clearly written sample labels will be accepted.

The dispensary will be utilising their collection hatches and will ask people who have come to collect medications for the following identifiable information, patient's name, DOB and address. This is to ensure patient safety. Please have this information available.

Our final update is to inform you of some expected building works that we have planned for the practice. This is due to start in June. We thank you all for your patience during this time.

And Finally

“You've got to laugh in the face of disappointment” .

June Brown 1927-2022

“People make mistakes and I've probably made a few more than others, but unfortunately mine are also a bit more public. That's the way it is. You've just got to get on with life. After all, it's not a rehearsal” .

Shane Warne 1969-2022

It looks like a busy summer ahead starting with royalist celebrations , and the return of the Axminster Show. There is a welcome return to live music events with a full programme at the Marine Theatre in Lyme, the Beehive in Honiton and other venues . This Summer sees the Sidmouth Folk Festival return in the usual full format 29th July to 5th August.

In the village the Musbury show returns on the 13th August and the vegetable/allotment plot competition as well. So now is the time as I write after a few welcome showers to get outside and tackle the weeds that have sprung up over night .

Thank you to all contributors , for helping produce a very full issue.

So full there is no room for quizzes or anagrams , so make the most of the pub Quiz on the 3rd June

Jolly

**Contributors please note
Deadline for next issue 19th August**

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Musbury Diary Summer 2022

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

June

Sunday 5th	Village Praise / Civic Service	10.am	Ch
Sunday 5th	Village Picnic	12.30pm	Vh
Wednesday 8th	Coffee and chat	10.30am	Vh
Sunday 12th	Holy Communion BCP	11.15am	Ch
Monday 13th	Parish Council Meeting	7.30.pm	Vh
Saturday 18th	Axminster Show		
Sunday 19th	Showground Trafalgar Way		
Sunday 19th	Common Worship with Holy Communion	11.15am	Ch
Saturday 25th	Open Gardens Musbury Barton	1.30-5.00	
Sunday 26th	Open Gardens Musbury Barton	1.30-5.00	
Sunday 26th	Evening Prayer	6.30pm	Ch

July

Sunday 3rd	Village Praise	10.00am	Ch
Saturday 9th	Eighties Disco Night		Hn
Sunday 10th	Holy Communion BCP	11.15am	Ch
Wednesday 13th	Coffee and chat	10.30am	Vh
Sunday 17th	Common Worship with Holy Communion	11.15am	Ch
Sunday 24th	Evening Prayer	6.30pm	Ch
Monday 25th	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm	Vh
Sunday 31st	No Service		

August

Sunday 7th	Village Praise	10.am	Ch
Saturday 13th	Village show		Vh
Sunday 14th	Holy Communion BCP	11.15am	Ch
Sunday 21st	Common Worship with Holy Communion	11.15am	Ch
Sunday 21st	Songs of Praise Branscombe Beach	6.00pm	
Sunday 28th	Evening Prayer	6.30pm	Ch