

# The PARISHES' PAPER

December 2022

60p where sold

## GLORY to the new-born KING

*The magazine for St Peter's Church, Dalwood; St Giles's Church, Kilmington; St Michael's Church, Shute;  
St Michael & All Angels Church, Stockland; and St John the Baptist Church, Yarcombe*

# ALL CHURCH SERVICES



## December 2022

DATE	Dalwood	Kilmington	Shute/ Whitford	Stockland	Yarcombe
<b>Sun 4th Advent 2</b>	11am Mission Community Holy Communion hosted by SHUTE, St Michael's Church				
<b>Sunday 4th</b>	Community Carols @ 5pm				
<b>Tuesday 6th</b>		9.30am Said Communion			
<b>Saturday 10th</b>		3pm Celebrate Together			
<b>Sunday 11th Advent 3</b>	3pm Family Christingle service	9.30am Morning Worship	11am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Christingle service with school	Joint service with Stockland Church
<b>Wednesday 14th</b>	9.30am Said Communion				
<b>Saturday 17th</b>		4.00pm Christingle Service			
<b>Sunday 18th Advent 4</b>	11am Village carol service at the Methodist Chapel	6pm Carols and mulled wine		7pm Carol service	11am Carols, and Communion
<b>Tuesday 20th</b>		9.30am Said Communion			
<b>Wednesday 21st</b>					7pm Carol service with nativity
<b>Saturday 24th Christmas Eve</b>	3.00pm Posada service for all the family  9.30pm Carol service and Christmas Communion	9.30pm Carol service and Christmas Communion	5pm Christmas Eve service at Whitford Chapel		
<b>Sunday 25th Christmas Day</b>				10.30am Christmas Day service with Holy Communion	10am Christmas Day service with Holy Communion
<b>Thursday 29th</b>			6.30pm Sung Evensong: Saints and Martyrs of Christmas		

*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time,  
we will reap a harvest if we do not give up' Galatians 6v9*

The paper used in the printing of The Parishes' Paper is made using raw materials from FSC certified sources and manufactured using a certified process with an EU ECO Label. It achieves a 4 star Green Star Rating



# MORE TO CHRISTMAS, MORE TO LIFE

REV JULIE LOMAS

I HAVE a calendar. You may have one too! As I turn the page of the calendar to a new month, I not only see a new picture, but in my case, I also see a new Bible verse — a verse for the month ahead. In December, it is this: "She will give birth to a son, and you are

to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." *Matthew 1: 21 (NIV)*

These 25 words encapsulate the Christian story, and for me they will be prominent in my house, catching my eye most days, familiar in many ways and yet also challenging.

In amongst the TV and radio adverts, the Christmas jumpers, the preparation of meals, the drinking of mulled wine and other seasonal beverages, and the sheer joy of meeting up with others and having a good time, I am drawn back to this simple truth — there is more to Christmas and because of Christmas, there is more to life itself.



This is one of the reasons why during December you will see that I am visiting each of the five churches in our Mission Community for two hours of prayer.

This is part of my December, and I invite you to join me. Come with me into the

churches and slow down, take time out of the festive season to be still in the presence of God. We are so blessed to have fine buildings which are dry and warm, welcoming and free to enter without fee or fear.

Here we are able to pray for the needs of the world (and there are many), the needs of our community and our neighbours, for our families and those we love, and for ourselves.

We are able to do this because of our faith and experience of the love of God, made known to us through the life of Jesus, because if we read on in Matthew's Gospel, Mary did indeed give birth to a son, Joseph did give him the name Jesus, and Jesus did go

on to save people from their sins.

The 25 words worth reading and thinking about at this time of year.

May God bless you and those you love this season of Christmas.



## Growing in prayer during Advent

Drop in to join Rev Julie for prayer for the life of the church, the village and the wider community, or pray at these times in the comfort of your home. Parish by Parish Prayer in church...

Yarcombe: Thursday 1st December 1pm-3pm

Dalwood: Wednesday 7th December 9.30am-11.30am

Shute: Thursday 8th December 9.30-11.30am

Stockland: Thursday 15th December 10am -12noon

Kilminster: Tuesday 20th December 10.30am-12.30pm.

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**WISHING ALL OUR READERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

The Parishes' Paper is the magazine of the Five Alive Community. Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the opinion of the editor or the Five Alive Mission Community. Submissions should be sent, preferably by email in text, Microsoft Word, Pages, jpeg or PDF format to the respective contributor — contact details are on page 31. We welcome photographs and request that these are sharp images and at least 1MB in size. The editor reserves the right to delay or refuse publication of articles for reasons of decorum, space, practicality or libel. Inclusion of advertisements or articles does not imply or suggest any form of endorsement.



# PSALM OF THE MONTH

## PSALM 147 — chosen by DAVID WILSDON

THE last five psalms in the psalter (Psalms 146-150) are all devoted to praise.

Among them, Psalm 147 does not falter in fulfilling this aim. Its three sections (vs. 1-6, 7-11 and 12-21) seek to inspire praise for everything in heaven and earth, including, as you might expect to find in the Hebrew scriptures, praise for God's special relationship with Israel.

### PSALM 147

1. Alleluia. How good it is to make music for our God, how joyful to honour him with praise.

2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem and gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

3. He heals the broken hearted and binds up all their wounds.

4. He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

5. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his wisdom is beyond all

telling.

6. The Lord lifts up the poor, but casts down the wicked to the ground.

7. Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the lyre;

8. Who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth:

9. Who makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve our needs.

10. He gives the beasts their food and the young ravens when they cry.

11. He takes no pleasure in the power of a horse, no delight in human strength.

12. But the Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their trust in his steadfast love.

13. Sing praise to the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion;

14. For he has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blest your children within you.

15. He has established peace in your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

16. He sends forth his command to the earth and his word runs very swiftly.

17. He gives snow like wool and scatters the hoarfrost like ashes.

18. He casts down his hailstones like morsels of bread; who can endure his frosts?

19. He sends forth his word and melts them; he blows with his wind and the waters flow.

20. He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and judgements to Israel.

21. He has not dealt so with any other nation; they do not know his laws. Alleluia.

### Bible readings December 2022

Date	OT Readings	NT Readings
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Advent 2 (Purple)	Isaiah 11: 1 – 10	Matthew 3: 1 – 12
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Advent 3 (Purple)	Isaiah 35: 1- 10	Matthew 11: 2 - 11
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Advent 4 (Purple)	Isaiah 7: 10 - 16	Matthew 1: 18 - end
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Communion And Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Day (White)	Isaiah 52: 7 - 10	John 1: 1 - 14
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2023 New Year's Day Naming of Jesus (White)	Psalms 8	Luke 2: 15 - 21

### From the registers

#### Burial of ashes

The ashes of **Anthony Larcombe** were buried at St John the Baptist Church, Yarcombe, on Tuesday, October 25th.

#### Funerals

The funeral of **Jean Sweetland** took place on November 9th at St Michael's Church, Shute.

The funeral of **Mary Jarvis** took place on November 15th at St Peter's Church, Dalwood.

#### Confirmations

The following Mission Community parishioners were confirmed by Rt Revd Jackie Searle, Bishop of Crediton, on November 6th at St Michael and all Angels Church, Stockland: **Josias Drew; Carlotta Drew; Harriet Bright; Sally Bright; Rebecca Spiller; Katie Rich; Ellie Rich; Daniel Rich.**

**Ashley and Carol Davies** from the parish of St John the Baptist, Membury, were also confirmed during the same service.





THANKS goes to those who took part in Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal this year. Dalwood and Stockland together donated 32 boxes. Kilmington and Yacombe also donated boxes and people gave online. Rev Becky Lovett is pictured with some of the donated shoeboxes

## Village to come together for carol event at chapel

By Roderick Ovey

NOVEMBER and December are two months where 'remembrance' plays a major part in everyone's lives.

November with Remembrance Sunday and all it stands for, and December when we remember the birth of Jesus and celebrate his coming to Earth.

I always find the service around the Dalwood war memorial particularly moving, especially as it is somewhere where the silence that would have been experienced after the ceasing of hostilities in 1918 can be really appreciated.

The run-up to Christmas, however, takes a different form, where silence does not usually form a major part of the festivities. Instead, our time is filled with sending Christmas cards, buying

and wrapping presents, going to parties and singing carols, always looking ahead to Christmas Day when we remember and celebrate our Lord's coming into this world.

As part of this celebration the Village Carol Service this year is being held at Dalwood Methodist Chapel on Sunday, December 18th at 11am and is open to absolutely everyone, and not just members of the two village churches.

The service will be followed by refreshments, so do come and join us if you can. As an added bonus you can come and share our heating, thereby saving on your own!

The November coffee morning raised £139 for the Poppy Appeal, and grateful thanks goes to those who came and supported us.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and stress-free Christmas.

## Service to remember loved ones

THIS year, the Five Alive Mission Community memorial service took place in Kilmington, where around 45 people gathered to remember their loved ones who had died.

The service was co-led by Lay Minister Gill Heighway and Rev Julie Lomas, and included hymns, prayers and silence for reflection.

On arrival the congregation were invited to choose wither a dried leaf or a rose petal, which were used during the service as symbols of leaving the person being remembered in the safe and loving care of God. May all those whom we remembered that evening rest in peace.

## Church weddings

DID you know, church weddings are still very much a 'thing'?

In 2022, we had the pleasure of conducting the weddings of seven couples, and we continue to wish them every happiness in their married lives.

We have already made arrangements with a further seven couples to be married in 2023 and there are a few enquiries that may yet also turn into firm bookings as far in advance as 2024.

If you know someone who is engaged or thinking about getting married, please mention Devon Church Weddings to them, and suggest they get in touch. There is a brilliant website — [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org) or send me a text or an email for an initial conversation.

Rev Julie Lomas

## Volunteers call

OPEN the Book is looking for people across the Five Alive Mission Community to join the team.

Every month a group acts out a Bible story and take part in a short act of worship with children from the three primary schools.

Some children have never heard any of the exciting stories from the Bible and some don't know about Jesus. There is no need to learn lines as all material is provided by the Bible Society.

This is a really enjoyable and rewarding role. Those interested will need an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Certificate for this role which can easily be arranged. If you think this may be for you, please contact me at [gayabandon1000@gmail.com](mailto:gayabandon1000@gmail.com).

Gay Atkinson

## Handbells team

A TEAM in Kilmington are taking up the challenge of learning how to ring a few carols using handbells, practising every Saturday at St Giles's Church, at 10am.

The team has been working hard learning well-known carols such as, Silent Night and O Little Town of Bethlehem; amongst others. It takes real concentration and a focused mind.

The aim is to play a few tunes at the next Celebrate Together service, which will take place on Saturday, December 10th. They may even play at one of the many advent church services.

Celia Dunsford has done a brilliant job organising and Rob Stacey, together with Celia, are very able teachers.

Elana-May Blackmore

## School poppies

REV Julie Lomas, the Royal British Legion branch chaplain, and volunteers Jean Falconer, secretary, and Peter Wood, vice-chairman gave an assembly talk to local primary schools in Kilmington, Shute and Stockland.

The talk included explaining about the poppy and the Royal British Legion and listening in total silence to the Last Post whilst standing smartly to attention.

The children were given a 'stick on' poppy to wear on Armistice Day as the schools had said that they would take part in the two-minute silence.

## Quiz raises £400

THANKS go to everyone who attended the 'quiz and chips' event recently at The Tuckers Arms.

Over £400 was raised which will be used to help local charities. Thanks also to all who donated raffle prizes and Kathy Laing for her regular raffle hat, Hannah, Liz and Howard Turner for their warm welcome to the pub skittle alley, David Dower for baffling everyone with his diverse questions and club members for the 'nitty gritty'.

Catherine Seward

# Author releases new book on local birds

LOCAL naturalist, wildlife author and Kilmington parishioner Michael Tyler has written another book, **Birds of the Lower Axe Valley, including the renowned Seaton Wetlands.**

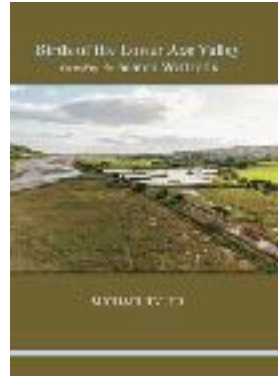
The book has been produced in partnership with East Devon District Council (EDDC) with over 300 species of birds recorded and referred to in the book. The status of each species is listed, together with colour photographs and migration details of many birds ringed or recovered in the area.

After careful research of 19th Century literature, the author gleaned considerable information on the status of the local birdlife, especially along the River Axe and its hinterland, which had not been published more recently.

The book covers a geological area extending from Branscombe to the Undercliff, north along the river valley to the Dorset and Somerset border. This book will be of interest to local people who are proud of the local environment and its birdlife, as well as, the historical ornithological information going back more than two centuries.

Michael Tyler has written several books and articles on natural history, including: The Birds of Devon, a complete avifauna of Devon; and award winning British Oaks - A Concise Guide.

The hardback book is expected to be available from early December and copies priced at £15 can be purchased from the author via email: mwtyler2@googlemail.com and from EDDC at the Lookout at Seaton Wetlands during office hours.



the beehive		Honiton's Community & Arts Venue
<b>DECEMBER 2022 EVENTS</b>		
<b>EMILY (15)</b> <b>Thu 1 Dec 7.30pm Adult £7.50, U16 £6.50</b> Emily tells the sensuous and loosely biographical life story of one of the world's - most famous authors, Emily Brontë.		
<b>THE HISTORY OF SOUL</b> <b>Fri 2 Dec 7.30pm £24 (seated)</b> A celebration of Soul through the decades with an exceptional live band. Aretha Franklin, James Brown, Marvin Gaye and more.		
<b>THE UNRAVELLING WILBURYS</b> <b>Sat 3 Dec 8pm £18 (seated)</b> Celebrating The Traveling Wilburys - Roy Orbison, George Harrison, Bob Dylan, Tom Petty and Jeff Lynne.		
<b>LIVING (12A)</b> <b>Fri 9 Dec 2pm with subtitles, 7.30pm £7.50/£6.50</b> Bill Nighy stars as a bureaucrat in 1950s London who attempts to break out of the monotony of his life, before it is too late.		
<b>ROYAL BALLET: THE NUTCRACKER (12A)</b> <b>Sat 10 Dec 4pm Adult £17, Student £11</b> Live on screen, discover the enchantment of ballet with this sparkling festive treat for the whole family.		
<b>ST. AGNES FOUNTAIN</b> <b>Thu 15 Dec 7.30pm £20 (seated)</b> Carols with a curve from Chris Leslie (Fairport Convention) and BBC Folk Award winners Chris White and Julie Matthews.		
<small>*All details correct at time of print. Please check website for updates. Ticket prices include a £1 admin fee.</small> <b>The Beehive • Dowell Street • Honiton • EX14 1LZ</b> <b>Box Office: 01404 384050 www.beehivehoniton.co.uk Charity 1162412</b>		
the beehive		Honiton's Community & Arts Venue
<b>DEC 2022 &amp; JAN 2023 EVENTS</b>		
<b>BEEJIVE</b> <b>Fri 16 Dec 7pm in advance £6.50, on the door £7.50</b> Hosted by Richard Huish college students, featuring solo acts & bands Ash, Lucille, Loren, Syncopation, Placeholder & Mismatch!		
<b>MAD DOG MCREA SUPPORT THE DILLY BOYS</b> <b>Sat 17 Dec 8pm £21</b> Mad Dog Mcrea blend a unique mixture of folk rock, pop, gypsy jazz, bluegrass and 'shake your ass' music.		
<b>HANSEL AND GRETEL - PADDLEBOAT THEATRE</b> <b>Wed 21 Dec 11am &amp; 2pm £12/£8, Family of four £30</b> An interactive Christmas treat for families and anyone who would enjoy a relaxed, inclusive theatre experience.		
<b>BEEHIVE ACOUSTIC NIGHT</b> <b>Wed 21 Dec 7.30pm</b> <b>NOSTALGIC CINEMA: MIRACLE ON 34th STREET</b> <b>Thu 22 Dec 2pm £4.50 includes hot drink &amp; biscuits</b> The 1947 comedy. A subtitled & dementia-friendly screening.		
<b>6 &amp; 7 Jan</b> <b>Sat 7 Jan</b> <b>Fri 13 Jan</b> <b>Sat 14 Jan</b> <b>Wed 18 Jan</b> <b>Thu 19 Jan</b> <b>Sat 21 Jan</b> <b>Thu 26 Jan</b> <b>Thu 26 Jan</b> <b>Fri 27 Jan</b> <b>Sat 28 Jan</b>	<b>MATILDA (PG)</b> <b>ANDRÉ RIEU IN DUBLIN (U)</b> <b>SHE SAID (15)</b> <b>AN EVENING WITH REG MEUROSS</b> <b>THE BEEHIVE FOLK CAFÉ</b> <b>ROYAL BALLET: LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE (12A)</b> <b>ARMAGEDDON TIME (15)</b> <b>NOSTALGIC CINEMA: VIVA LAS VEGAS (U)</b> <b>NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: THE CRUCIBLE (12A)</b> <b>STEVE KNIGHTLEY</b> <b>I WANNA DANCE WITH SOMEBODY tbc</b>	          
<b>The Beehive • Dowell Street • Honiton • EX14 1LZ</b> <b>Box Office: 01404 384050 www.beehivehoniton.co.uk Charity 1162412</b>		

ON Sunday November 6th, the Church of St Michael and All Angels, Stockland, was packed to capacity as people from across the mission community and further afield gathered for the first confirmation service in over three years at the church.

A group of 10 candidates were presented to Bishop of Crediton, Rt Reverend Jackie Searle, who called them each by name, laid her hands upon them and anointed them with oil.

Each received a commemorative candle, and card, and a copy of the Youth Bible as gifts from the churches in the Five Alive East Devon Mission Community.

Following the service, corks were popped, and a party ensued to welcome the newest members of the church community.

Some of the new communicants shared their thoughts.

Lottie Drew said: "It was a big event, with the church full of people

# The first confirmation at Stockland in three years

By Rev Julie Lomas and Gill Metcalfe

and lots of singing. It was lovely to have my family, and my Godmother all the way from Wales, all there to see me be confirmed and to do so with my brother and friends. I felt kind of special."

Josias Drew said: "The service was enjoyable and made me feel part of the church community and closer to my family. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces from the surrounding villages and parishes there to support me/us. Grandad leading a number of us to the top of the church tower, to see Stockland in the sunlight, was the final 'cherry on the cake.'"

Katie Rich said: "Getting confirmed has been an amazing opportunity to confirm my faith in God.

"I would like to say a big thank you to Revd. Julie for teaching us more about God and also to the 5 alive mission community for the Bibles and for coming to support me on such a special day."

Ellie Rich added: "I will remember this special day forever, it was particularly special spending my day with godparents, family and some friends from Stockland.

"Bishop Jackie was really lovely. It was an experience taking communion for the first time. I very much feel part of the Christian Church. It was a nice keepsake receiving a lovely bible and Confirmation candle."



**You're invited**

**Starts Thursday 19th January @ 7:00pm  
(at the Beacon, Kilmington).**

Alpha is a place to come and explore life, faith, and meaning in an open minded and welcoming environment. There's no cost, no pressure, just great conversation, and space to think.

Each session involves a meal and refreshments, a short video, and a time of discussion where you can share your own thoughts on what has been explored.

Whether you are new to faith, exploring faith, or unsure about faith, Alpha is the place for you. Whatever questions you have, you can ask them at Alpha.

**A Place to explore... Together.**





# DALWOOD NEWS

Parish correspondent Michael Dods - drmichaeldods@gmail.com  
Parish distributor Sue Drew- 01404 831365

DALWOOD Country Fair 2022 boasted record-breaking visitor numbers — exactly 1,000 adults paid at the gate, as children enter free, and it is estimated over 2,000 visitors.

Dalwood Fair Committee could not have planned and delivered the event without teams of volunteers. Whilst everyone cannot be thanked personally, mention and huge thanks must be given to Martin Farrendon and Mr and Mrs Humphries, as without the use of the field there would be no fair. Fair opener Stafford Seward also did us proud alongside Nick Goodwin, Axminster Town Crier.

On the day, over £11,000 was raised with DFC having held a reserve fund towards costs for next year such as insurance and booking fees. A £2,000-plus float is needed for all the stalls on the day. There is a need to repair, maintain or replace and purchase new

## Fair: good to be back

equipment as required. Looking to the future, the old trailer must be replaced, which is necessary to store all the large stall equipment, games, and more safely and securely.

Keeping the reserve means at the recent annual meeting we were able to distribute £7,525 to the following:

Dalwood Country Fair 2022 beneficiaries: £250 Martin Farrendon; £50 Donated — request from those that kindly allowed the use of their generator to Children's Hospice Southwest.

External 2022 nominated charities: £462 Axminster Care Services; £462 Axminster Food Bank.

Village charities and organisations: £1,260 Dalwood Village Hall Trust 20 per cent; £1,197 St Peter's Church 19

per cent; £1,008 Dalwood Recreation Trust 18 per cent; £945 Reading Room 15 per cent; £945 The Methodist Chapel 15 per cent; £378 Raft Club 6 per cent; £315 Badminton Club 5 per cent; £252 Corrydale Players (formally Corrydale Singers) 4 per cent.

Copies of the full financial reports are available from Nick Harrison and are on the parish website.

New members are always welcomed to the committee, please talk to any committee member if you are interested in joining to plan 2023.

Also, if anyone has a local charity that could be one of the nominated charities next year, please let Kathy Laing know so they can be considered.

Thanks go to all who supported the fair. Organisers hope to see readers at next year's fair on August 19th.

**Follow The Star**  
**THE GREAT INVITATION** at St Peter's Church Dalwood

Sunday 11th December @ 3pm  
Christingle Service  
for all the family

Sunday 18th December @ 3 pm  
Joint Carol Service at Methodist Chapel

Saturday 24th December  
@ 3 pm Posada Service

@ 9: 30 pm Carols  
& Christmas Communion

**DO COME AND JOIN US  
FOR THE  
VILLAGE  
CAROL  
SERVICE**

**WHICH THIS YEAR IS HERE  
AT THE CHAPEL**

**SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER  
11AM**

**FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS**

**COLLECTION FOR THE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE SOUTHWEST**

**WE OFFER A WARM INVITATION TO  
YOU ALL, SO DO COME AND JOIN US  
IN THIS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION.**

# DALWOOD NEWS

IT was a pleasure to be entertained by three talented teenagers at the St Peter's Church Coffee Concert on the 26th October.

The Eddy Boys — Barnaby, 17, Tobias, 15, and Josiah, 13 — are the three grandsons of Dalwood villagers Brian and Chris Eddy who must be very proud grandparents.

Watched by over 50 audience members, enjoying cakes and drinks, The Eddy Boys, as they styled themselves, confidently performed a very mixed repertoire of music.

Barnaby hopes to pursue a career as a music teacher and so organises

## Eddy Boys: a talented trio

By Caroline Nunns

things while Tobias is the humorous spokesman.

Barnaby opened the programme on piano with music from Beethoven and Brahms, but egged on by Tobias to play "something more jazzy to wake the audience up!" He went on to play Swanee River and a boogie number — we did not sleep through that, I can assure you!

Tobias then joined in with saxophone, and the place was swinging. Tobias explained that he used a different mouthpiece on the saxophone, depending on the type of music he was playing and the sound he wanted to produce. The duet soon became a trio as Josiah joined in playing the bass guitar with House of the Rising Sun and some jazz pieces.

Barnaby and Tobias then changed instruments to violin and clarinet to play some folk dance tunes joined by grandad Brian on accordion.

They rounded off a very varied programme with a rousing version of Hava Nagila that had us all clapping along.

It was a delight to see such talented youngsters, who had given up a morning of their half-term holiday to play for us and we hope that they will not leave it too long before they come back and entertain us again.

Generous donations were made in aid of the FORCE cancer charity, our chosen charity for this year. Donations to date total £775.

Thanks go, as always, to Tina Mackenney for organising the monthly coffee concerts.



**Dalwood Community Shop and Post office wishes A**

**Merry Christmas**

**To ALL our valued customers and volunteers**

**Are you looking for that gift with a difference? Dalwood gifts: mugs, towels, calendars, wine, biscuits, and cards. Come in and see more...**

### SHOP OPENING TIMES

**Monday- Friday: 8.30am - 5.30pm**  
**Saturday: 8.30am - 4.00pm**  
**Sunday: 8.30am - 12.30pm**  
**Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day**

### POST OFFICE OPENING TIME

**FRIDAY 10am -12.00pm**

**If you can please buy 1 extra item when you shop**



# DALWOOD NEWS

## Dalwood Village Hall Trust

Registered Charity Number: 300809

Christmas Street Market

## Fundraiser

December 3rd SATURDAY

from 4.00pm



Village Christmas  
Lights turned on  
5.00pm

Market stalls include Christmas  
Cakes, Good as New, Games, Mulled  
Wine, Mince Pies and more



Please  
join us if you can



## Corrydale Players

## Charity Christmas Evening 2022

Supporting The Raft Club and  
Devon Air Ambulance



Presents 'The Vicar of Dalwood'

Date: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Dalwood Village Hall



Live music, a sing-a-long. Christmas Carols and songs  
with mulled wine and mince pies, a raffle and more.



A time to gather before the Christmas  
Festivities begin.

Look forward to seeing you  
on the night

## Donate a Poinsettia

If you wish to donate a Poinsettia for our  
Christmas flower display to celebrate an event or in  
memory of a loved one this Christmas please leave it in  
the church porch at St Peters Church, Dalwood, by the  
December 17<sup>th</sup>. Any colour would be suitable.

If you wish, please put the event or your  
loved one's name on a small card.

*Caroline Nunns*



## A DISPLAY OF CHRISTMAS FILMS



Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>  
December



10am-5pm



in

## DALWOOD CHURCH

Christmas Hamper Raffle

Finishing with a carol

sing-a-long at 5pm on

Sunday







# KILMINGTON NEWS

**Parish correspondent** - Chris Thorne - [chrisjonthorne69@gmail.com](mailto:chrisjonthorne69@gmail.com)  
**Parish distributor** - Anna Crabbe - 01297 32777



**ABOVE,** Chris Thorne, left, with Arch Deacon Andrew showing the Eco award plaque; right, litter pickers at St Giles's Church; below, litter collected at the event



## Litter pick team shows off eco bronze award

By Christopher Thorne

KILMINGTON'S very first Eco Fayre took place on Saturday, October 22nd and we were delighted that this event took place within St Giles's Church — enabling us to show off the Eco Church Bronze Award which arrived just a few days prior.

Organisers were very pleased to have Plastic Free Axminster join the event. They laid out an information table so that everyone could take away ideas of how to reduce the reliance on single-use plastics.

Thanks go to Kay Pike, who is the Community Leader of Plastic Free Axminster, and to her friend, who were able to join and support the event on the day.

Thanks also go to Elana Blackmore, who produced a wonderful slide show which was projected onto the large screen, with appropriate musical accompaniment, to make the

audience think how they might individually help the glorious world with regards to climate change, pollution and nature.

Thanks go to Rev Julie Lomas and her husband, Steve, for the supply of liquids which people were able to take away and try, which are used within homes, thereby reducing the purchase of unnecessary plastic containers — by filling empty containers that otherwise would have just been thrown away.

Thanks also to Christine Thorne for her tireless support and for bringing some of the food and drink which were enjoyed by all on the day, she truly is the 'hostess with the mostess'.

Thanks also to all who supported this event, they all deserve a huge pat on the back.

Thanks for supporting the litter pick that took place on the day, a huge amount of rubbish was collected from within the village boundary, where does it all come from and how does it get there?

If only these events were unnecessary, but unfortunately, they are not so rest assured St Giles's Church will continue to support keeping the village spick and span.

More events will happen with the next one possibly being in the spring — please watch this space.

Kay also regularly organises litter picks around Axminster, so, if anyone would like additional information then please make contact with Chris Thorne who will provide Kay's details.

The organisers thank God for the weather that day, especially when looking back on the conditions for the last litter pick back in the spring — it was truly wet and windy.

# KILMINGTON NEWS

## Bible story time

ON Friday, October 15th the Open the Book team was back in action.

What a delightful day it was. The group visited Shute Primary School and then later Stockland Primary School, then Kilmington Primary School the following week.

For all three schools, the story of Noah's Ark was presented. It was great fun each time and the kids loved every moment. The pupils were very enthusiastic, they especially loved being able to interact by making the sound of rain and by copying actions. They did extremely well with signing. When you see a rainbow remember — God is love.

All of the Open the Book team agree that we are very blessed to be able to go into these local schools and be able to present stories from The Bible and to act them out in front of such a young audience. Thanks go to all who enable us to do this.

*Elana-May Blackmore*

## Warm welcome for everyone this winter

By Rev Julie Lomas

**WARM Welcome Wednesdays** is a new idea, starting at St Giles's Church on Wednesday, December 7th from 2-4pm, and then again on Wednesday, 21st December, for anyone to drop into the church.

You will find a warm welcome, the kettle boiling, a slice of cake and a friendly chat all for free.

Bring a book, the newspaper, your preferred craft activity or just bring

yourselves! Stay for as long as you wish, bring your friends and neighbours.

Our intention is to then be open for Warm Welcome Wednesdays on a weekly basis from January.

This is offered alongside the usual Friday Coffee Shop in the church, open from 10am-12noon.

We are delighted to be partnering with The Baptists Church and, as the weather turns more wintery, complementing their warm welcome days on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

## 'Shepherds' celebrate service for all

A **SPECIAL Celebrate Together** service will take place on Saturday, December 10th where the theme will be The Shepherds.

This is one of the regular Celebrate Together services where all are invited

with special emphasis on those with learning difficulties, their support workers, their family and friends and those who are on their own. We will have our renowned tea after the service.

## We're in!



Come and enjoy a warm and welcoming space this winter. Our building is open most days for those that wish to drop in, as well as for our usual weekly activities. But there will also be specific activities running for our community over the colder months this year. All activities, facilities, and refreshments are free of charge. If you need help getting to us, get in touch and we will see what we can do.



**Every Tuesday - 10am - 2pm**



Drop in for a community cafe. There will be places to meet friends or make new ones. Hot/cold refreshments and snacks. Activities, crafts and games to enjoy (or bring your own). Quiet reading and reflective spaces. Our weekly pop up post office will also be here. On the third Tuesday of the month there is a community lunch at 12:30pm for anyone who would like to enjoy a two course meal. On other weeks there will be a warm soup lunch available. There is also work space available for those that work from home and would like to do so from the Beacon. (Wifi & printing facilities available)

Check out our website and social media pages to keep up to date with what else is happening this winter.



BaptistChurchKilmington

www.baptistchurchkilmington.org

**Follow The Star**  
**THE GREAT INVITATION** at St Giles Church Kilmington

**Saturday 17th December @ 4 pm**  
Christingle Service

**Sunday 18th December @ 6 pm**  
Carol Service followed by mulled wine, mince pies - & Christmas light switch on @ the village Hall

**Sunday 25th December @ 9:30pm**  
Christmas Eve Carols and Communion



# KILMINGTON NEWS



**RBL Vice-Chairman Peter Wood, above; Pastor Mike Hudson and Rev Julie Lomas, inset**  
Credit: Steve Lomas

## Act of Remembrance with new 1st Kilmington Guides group present for first time

By Rev Julie Lomas

ON an unusually warm and sunny day, crowds gathered at the war memorial in Kilmington for the annual Act of Remembrance.

Led by Royal British Legion (RBL) Kilmington Branch Chaplain Rev Julie Lomas, the service included Pastor Mike Hudson reading the names of those who died during the first and second world wars.

The call to remember led by Commander Stafford Seward, under

the watchful eye of RBL standard bearer Richard Norman.

Wreaths were presented on behalf of the village and laid at the foot of the memorial by RBL Vice-Chairman, Peter Wood.

Earlier in the day St Giles's Church hosted the joint-service of remembrance with The Baptist Church, Kilmington, and members of the Royal British Legion in attendance.

For the first time, members of the newly-formed 1st Kilmington Guides were present with their flag, and two guides read the lesson.



## Advent, a time for Prayer

During Advent this year we will be having a time for prayer in each of our parish churches.

The times and location are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> December 1pm-3pm at St John's Church, Yacombe

7<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am – 11.30am at St Peter's Church, Dalwood

8<sup>th</sup> December 9.30 – 11.30am at St Michael's Church, Shute

15<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 12noon at St Michael's and All Saints Church, Stockland

20<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am – 12.30pm at St Giles Church, Kilmington

Everyone is welcome.

### Christmas Services

at the Baptist Church Kilmington 2022

**All Age Nativity Service**  
Sunday 18th December - 10:30am

Come and join us for a unique retelling of the Christmas story on a virtual trip to Bethlehem. Come and watch or get involved as the story unfolds! There will be puppets, drama, and fun for all ages!

**Blue Christmas Service**  
Tuesday 20th December - 2:30pm & 6:30pm

A quiet and reflective service for those who find Christmas difficult or are grieving loved ones. Come and find space to reflect, remember, and discover hope.

**Community Carol Service**  
Thursday 22nd December - 6:30pm

A lively and fun service for all ages. Enjoy your favourite festive songs and treats. Activities for children, quizzes, puppets and a best Christmas jumper competition!

**Christmas Day Celebration**  
Sunday 25th December - 10:30am

A short fun filled celebration to help you celebrate Christmas day! Bring your favourite gift along to show everyone, and sing festive songs!





# STOCKLAND NEWS

Parish correspondent - Gill Metcalfe gilldog12@gmail.com  
Parish distributor - Rowena Drew 01404 881538

## PAUSE FOR PRAYER

An Advent Canticle from  
Lindisfarne.

Into our world of darkness,  
Into our places of strife,  
Into our troubles and weakness,  
Come, Lord, come among us.

Into our joys and celebrations,  
Into our homes and our loved ones,  
Into our work and our achievements,  
Come, Lord, come among us.

To those who are in need,  
To those who are in sickness,  
To those who are in despair,  
Come, Lord, come among us.

Christ is the Morning Star who,  
when the darkness of this world is  
past,  
brings to us the promise of  
the light of life  
and opens everlasting day.

*Contributed by Philippa Wilks*

## 100 club winners

**STOCKLAND 100 Club winners for August to October have been drawn.**

Winners for Stockland 100 Club – August: No. 7 — Ben Walker £20; No. 32 — Dot and Martin Johnson £10; No. 42 — Pat and Tim Shepherd Walwyn £5.

September winners: No.62 — Annie Williams £20; No. 34 — Jerry Walsh £10; No. 68 — Dawn and Brian Gosden £5.

October winners: No. 93 — Janet Fox £20; No. 94 Frank and Mary Bartlett £10; No. 35 — Pat Jackson £5.

Congratulations to all winners throughout the year with a reminder about the December bumper draw will take place at the Christmas Market on December 3rd and a further reminder to check for already due subscriptions for 2023 on 01404 881535.

*Monica Parris*

**Photos sent to The Parishes' Paper must be at least 1MB in size please. Thank you.**

## Youngsters learn all about remembrance

By Rachel Smith

STOCKLAND Primary School were lucky enough to have Rev Julie Lomas and delivering an assembly all about Remembrance Day.

It was wonderful to have a spokesman alongside her who had served first hand for many years sharing his experiences with us and the children learnt so much from him and were incredibly interested in his medals.

When speaking to the children afterwards about what they enjoyed and what they learnt, lots of them said they enjoyed making the poppy and also listening to the spokesperson talk so joyfully about his time serving for our country.

Children in Reception Class "learnt about poppies... they are for the soldiers who died in the war". One child explained that she "really liked that we made a poppy and I learnt that the leaf has to point at 11am, I didn't know that, so that was new for me."

On Remembrance Day, the whole school stood to attention at 11am. Every



child was incredibly respectful, fully understanding the importance of coming together for such a poignant moment.

## Local fitness team proud finalists at prestigious national awards

**MANY locals will have been supporting the Milhayes family on their route to the finals of the National Fitness Awards 2022, recognised as one of the most prestigious events in the fitness industry.**

They had been nominated in three of the award categories — Member Achievement, Customer Service, and South West Gym of the Year — awards open to over 7,200 fitness centres across the country so being short-listed as one of the finalists was a massive achievement.

Judging took place recently and the business team was invited to the final results day held at the Leicester Athena

on Friday, November 18th where they shared the night with the final 300 shortlisted.

To have reached thus far was a huge accolade in recognition of the outstanding business they have built and how their clients have applauded and voted for them.

Disappointingly, they were just pipped at the post for South Gym of the Year — unselfishly, they magnanimously offered their congratulations to all the winners, surely realising that they too were equal winners themselves. Warm congratulations are well deserved by this 'local team'.

*Gill Metcalfe*

# STOCKLAND NEWS

## Ladies skittles challenging and frustrating

PERHAPS an invite to play skittles at 7pm the night before the match was not on the agenda.

However, despite protests of incompetence, the arrangement for the following evening was agreed — probably because there was nothing on telly and the company was perhaps more than welcomed. It was somewhat foreboding that the team had not won a match all season!

The pick-up time of 8pm warned that this would prove a lengthy session. King's Arms Ladies v Axemouth Harbourites — the latter unexpectedly all men. An explanation followed that there are very few ladies' teams so generally all-male opponents seem the norm. The latter proved most welcome and the match was soon underway.

The six players had mixed fortunes — some starting well and others not so well — but as the match progressed,

the King's Arms came into their own with stars emerging: with a consistent scorer and a 'wonder' striker.

Another followed suit with the others contributing middle score results.

However, the team was no match for the opposition. By the end of the evening, the scores were in the past — a supper followed with lots of bonhomie, fun and banter.

Kings Arms Ladies did themselves proud — skittles were fun, challenging, sometimes daunting and frustrating but thoroughly enjoyable — really makes the wish to play and have fun. A real invitation.

Surely there are some more out there who might like to play or even just fill in when the team is short? Matches every Friday evening, alternately home and away. Home base is the King's Arms, Fridays 8pm onwards.

*Ladies Skittles Team*



Stockland correspondent Gill Metcalfe: [gilldog12@gmail.com](mailto:gilldog12@gmail.com)



## Stockland Christmas Market

Stockland Victory Hall  
Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
10am – 12 noon

- ❖ Festive Crafts
- ❖ Food Stalls
- ❖ Refreshments
- All Welcome

For information and bookings  
Tel: 01404 881535



**Follow The Star**  
**THE GREAT INVITATION**

at St Michael's Church  
Stockland

Sunday 11th December @ 11 am  
Christingle Service  
for all the family

Sunday 18th December @ 7 pm  
Carol service with wine & mince pies

Sunday 25th December @ 10:30 am  
Christmas Day Service  
with Communion



# STOCKLAND NEWS

## Ladies a-buzz

**WHAT** a fantastic turnout for Stockland's ladies' coffee morning on Wednesday, November 2nd.

Over 20 participants came to enjoy the tea and coffee, walnut cake and chocolate brownies. The King's Room was a-buzz with everyone chatting and enjoying the camaraderie which has certainly sprung up on the monthly get togethers.

This time it was a joy to welcome two ladies who both recently celebrated important milestone birthdays — one 93 and the other 90. Both totally involved in all the chat and banter that the occasion invariably promotes. Happy belated birthday wishes to you both.

There were also lots of notices to break up the hum of voices — reminders of the communion service on Sunday in Stockland church, the Tennis Club's Wisdom and Wine Quiz, the floral demonstration, the Stockland lunch, now revived and the Ladies' Christmas Lunch to look forward to and to sign up for asap — menu to be advertised shortly.

Please note this is a special lunch — not the pub's Christmas menu but one designed just for the group.

And then after the notices, the raffle draw. Some lucky and happy people did not go home empty handed. And yes, there will be a Christmas draw but with a difference — an enjoyable, even puzzling one. So do make sure that you book with as soon as possible.

Even though the menu has not been published as yet, the numbers committed already are in excess of 20 so thank you all for the support given to this venture throughout the year.

Then to 2023 — given that Christmas and New Year's Day will have just flown by leaving exhaustion in its wake, the first ladies' get-together will be a coffee morning scheduled for Wednesday, February 1st 2023.

But back to our December festive get-together — really looking forward to the lunch, the chat, the fun and, of course, the raffle — not forgetting to raise a glass to us all, wishing health and happiness for 2023.

*Gill Metcalfe*



## VICTORY HALL REFURB IS REAL 'PROPER JOB'

By Gill Metcalfe

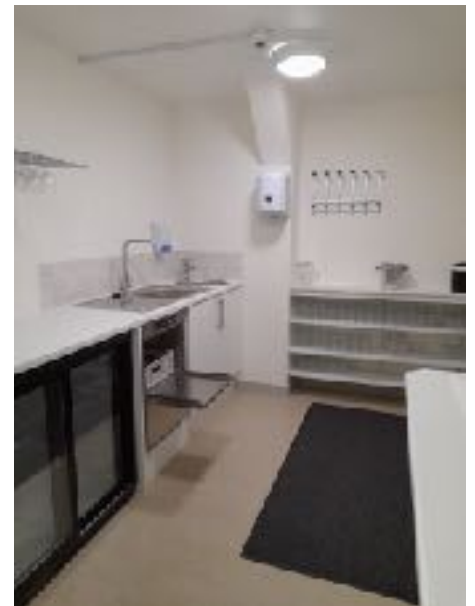
**ALL** inhabitants of Stockland and its surrounding hamlets know Stockland Victory Hall, without doubt.

The hall is where the Christmas lunch, the harvest lunch, quiz nights, local craft markets, fish and chip evenings and indeed many more of such have been held. It is the pivotal base of the Stockland annual event — the Stockland Fair and, along with the King's Arms, it provides a focal point for the community and, like the pub, the hall has been updated to high specifications.

Take the familiar entrance — spot the re-siting and significant expansion of the bar and kitchen opening, so much easier access. The bar is now so much larger — and much easier to work behind. Behind the hatch, a sparkling new kitchen with plenty of space and storage, all squeaky clean and so fresh. Then the small lounge, once an over-spill area for teas, coffees for various events or a somewhat hived-off separated area for meetings with perhaps an austere feeling but now a cheerful carpeted lounge furnished with brightly upholstered comfy seating.

The main kitchen has increased storage, refrigeration capacity and the so much necessitated brighter lighting. The small rooms off the main hall have given the extra storage capacity warranted to house the newer usage of the hall for the youth club, for example.

Then there is the outside patio —



again a new addition — and also giving people the additional outdoor space to congregate and view the activities taking place in the adjacent field.

The benches in this area were donated by Stockland Cricket Club — a generous gesture but sadly out of their funds left through the club's closure. So, thanks to the cricketers due here in enhancing the hall's facilities.

The organisers of the refurbishment have met a remit of change and forward thinking in order to support the community activities. What is that saying, apart from 'well done' and 'thank you'? Indeed, a 'proper job'.





# SHUTE & WHITFORD NEWS

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Parish distributor Betty Harris - 01297 34199

## Devon Historic Graffiti Survey team pays a visit to Shute's church

By Bijan Omrani

IN November, a team of volunteers from the Devon Historic Graffiti Survey, led by archaeologist Dr Pru Manning, visited Shute to record traces of ancient graffiti in the parish.

Shute, containing as it does many old buildings, is rich in historic graffiti. The survey recorded over 90 examples, some of which may date back hundreds of years.

The survey is mainly concerned with Devon churches, but in the case of Shute it was given the opportunity to examine a number of structures. This included Shute Barton, Shute Gatehouse, and Shute Piers, as well as the church.

Shute Gatehouse offers some of the most visible examples of historic graffiti. The stones on either side of the gate include initials and designs along with dates, some of which go back to the 1600s. Some initials can be tentatively identified. "JGP" on the right hand side of the Gatehouse may be Sir John George Reeve de la Pole, 8th Baronet of Shute — he did not acquire the middle name of "Reeve" until later in life.

Inside Shute Barton, the survey identified a number of medieval taper burn marks in the timbers. These were made with the intention of protecting the house, based on the premise that if timber is burnt once it could not be burned again. The burn marks may also have been seen as providing protection from other harms.

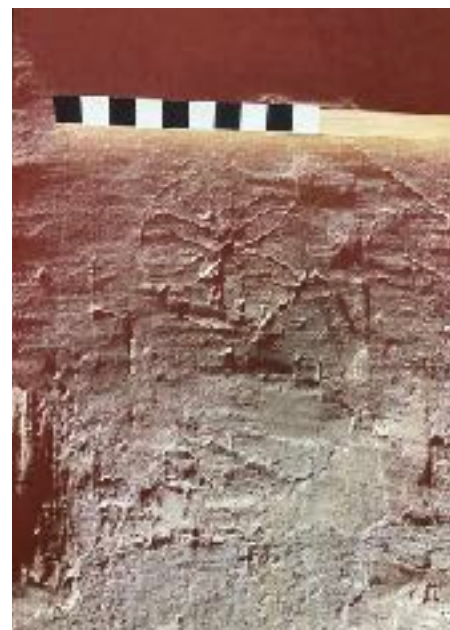
Around a number of doors, openings and windows in the Church and Shute Barton, "V V" marks were identified. The symbol is often referred to as a 'Marian mark' as it has traditionally been associated with the medieval cult of the Virgin Mary. The Vs are thought to have once stood for 'Virgo Virginum'



— Virgin of Virgins or inverted, as M, for Maria, possibly deriving extra significance from having the same meaning whichever way up it was. The mark is thought to have had a protective function.

By the west door of the church, a daisy-wheel or hexafoil design was also found. This is thought to have had a protective function. On the south door, there is also a conspicuous Mass Dial, which was likely used in the manner of a sundial before the Reformation to indicate the time for the daily offices.

A considerable amount of the graffiti in the church is more recent. Behind the organ, the blowers who operated the bellows have left not only their names and lengths of service, but also caricatures of previous vicars, and also messages. One marks the first year anniversary of the start of the Second World War. Moreover, in the bell tower, normally kept locked, generations of bell ringers have inscribed their names. These inscriptions will be of considerable interest to local historians and genealogists.



**LEFT, a hand, with date 1633, at the west door of Shute church, the V V mark — one of several — can be seen within it; the hexafoil, or daisy-wheel mark, above, also at the West Door of the Church**

*Credit: Devon Historic Graffiti Survey*

The graffiti in the church and around Shute form an important and visible part of its rich history. Be sure to look out for it the next time you visit!

## Christmas choir

ST Michael's Church, Shute, will be offering a service of Sung Evensong on Thursday, December 29th at 6.30pm.

The service will commemorate the Saints and Martyrs of Christmas, who are celebrated around the time of Christmas, but sometimes forgotten. These include St Stephen, the first Christian Martyr — usually celebrated on December 26th — and the Holy Innocents — December 28th.

The service will be sung to Plainsong by the choir, and the organ will be played by Peter Lea Cox. Mulled wine, mince pies and refreshments will be served after the service. Everyone is welcome to join us for this contemplative service.

# SHUTE & WHITFORD NEWS

By Maureen Davey

THE Produce Association team was overwhelmed with the support that the Whitford Autumn Show received recently.

Despite the challenging weather, the judges were impressed with the quality of the flowers and vegetables entered.

The children's section was very well supported and we are grateful to Shute Primary School which encouraged the children to enter. The judges agreed that it was really difficult to choose which ones to give the awards to and much discussion took place over the final decisions.

Thanks go to everyone who either entered the show or who came along and supported the event in the afternoon. We were also pleased to see many of our new residents to Whitford, who expressed their delight at seeing such a colourful rural autumn show for the first time. It was a very successful day which was rounded off with the auction of prize winning produce.

## Team 'overwhelmed' at support for recent autumn produce show

### Cup winners

Colyton Agricultural Society Cup:  
Chris Loud

Overall winner of vegetables and fruit — Donald Baker Cup:

Chris Loud

For the vegetable section — Mr and Mrs FWR Laverack Cup: Chris Loud

Homemade wines and beer: Maureen Davey

Ladies Trophy: Wendy Mitcham

Cookery Class — Nancy James Cup for Children under 7 years: Seth Snowdon

Betty Gardner Cup for Children 8-12 years: Jasmine James.



**Follow The Star**  
**THE GREAT INVITATION** at St Michael's Church Shute

Friday 9th December @ 2.30 pm  
Shute Primary School Carol Service  
- all welcome

 Sunday 11th December @ 11 am  
Communion service from the Book of Common Prayer for Advent

& at Whitford Chapel

Saturday 24th December @ 5 pm  
Christmas in the Chapel  
a service for all ages followed by mulled wine and mince pies







WHITFORD flowers and produce displayed at the recent autumn show

Credit: Maureen Davey





# YARCOMBE NEWS

Parish correspondent - Rebecca Bell - rebecca.e.bell@outlook.com  
Parish distributor Mary Smith - 01404 861541

## CHURCH FILLED WITH SPECIAL REMEMBRANCE DAY POPPIES

By Rebecca Bell

ON a glorious sunny November morning, we gathered in church for the Yarcombe Remembrance Service.

Chard Band played with its usual enthusiasm and empathy on this very special occasion. The church pews were full and the window sills were covered with poppy displays, including a lovely display of knitted poppies encircling the font.

The children coloured in poppies and then used them to decorate glass jars with a night light inside.

Miranda captivated the congregation as she read the very poignant and moving poem, Violets from Plug Street Wood. Thanks go to Anna Crabbe, who led our worship, and to everyone who helped to make it such a special service of remembrance.

### POEM

#### Violets from Plug Street Wood

*Violets from Plug Street Wood,  
Sweet I send you oversea.  
(It is strange they should be blue,  
Blue, when his soaked blood was  
red,  
For they grew around his head:  
It is strange they should be blue.)*

*Think what they have meant to me.*

*Life and hope and Love and You  
(and you did not see them grow  
Where his mangled body lay  
Hiding horrors from the day:  
Sweetest, it was better so.)*

*Violets from oversea,  
To you dear, far, forgetting land,  
These I send in memory  
Knowing you will understand.*

*by Roland Leighton*





## Archaeological project records church 'graffiti' across Devon

By Rebecca Bell

THE Devon Historic Graffiti Survey is a Devon Archaeological Society project, aiming to identify and record the historic graffiti in Devon's churches.

The surveys are showing how widespread the phenomenon of church graffiti is and challenging formerly held beliefs about it.

The findings are fascinating and provide, among other things, a rare insight into the concerns and beliefs of ordinary parishioners, through something that was created directly by them.

There are more than 600 parish churches in Devon, some 475 of which

are ancient. Investigations to date indicate the vast majority of churches have surviving graffiti, and that much of it is of considerable interest. Information can be found at [devonhistoricalgraffiti.org.uk](http://devonhistoricalgraffiti.org.uk).

On October 13th, Geoffrey Berry welcomed representatives from the graffiti survey to St John the Baptist, to highlight some of the historic graffiti that had been identified.

They took 98 photographs, with the majority of graffiti on the porch door arches as well as the tower stairs door arch. There was also graffiti on the pillars and pews and a little external graffiti. Most of the graffiti was old but the majority impossible to date.

Three examples are:

a) W, crossed I, 1678?

b) Writing, possibly name, maybe upside-down – inner porch door, east side

c) Hexafoil, a ritual protection mark – tower stairs door arch, west end

It is hoped that the findings at St John the Baptist will be added to the project website, the Devon Historic Environment Record and eventually fed into a national database.

The website is very interesting and shows graffiti from other Devon churches and information on how the graffiti can be interpreted.

You may already know of some graffiti in your church or perhaps you could start a graffiti search! You never know what you may find...

**Follow The Star**  
**THE GREAT INVITATION**

at St John Church  
Yarcombe

**Sunday 18th December @ 11 am**  
Carols and Communion

**Wednesday 21st December @ 7 pm**  
Carol service and nativity  
with wine & mince pies

**Thursday 22nd December @ 11 am**  
Crib service for under 5s & Carers

**Sunday 25th December @ 10 am**  
Christmas Day Service  
With Communion



**DEVON Historic Graffiti Survey representatives visited iSt John the Baptist Church, Yarcombe, recently, to view some of the historic graffiti**

## Focus service is all things bird related

By Lesley Sutton

THE anxious time of the climate change conference and the devastating effect of avian flu makes us all aware of the frailty of nature and gives us respect for the wonderful world around us, so Maggie Lane's last Focus service about birds gave food for thought.

She managed to include nearly all of the congregation in having something to say about our feathered friends.

The Allsorts had been practicing tunes from Red Red Robin to Flamingo, Little Jazz Bird and Larks in the Clear Air or in the Morn for before and after music, whilst they played John Rutter's version of All Things Bright and Beautiful, O For the Wings of a Dove, His Eye is on the Sparrow and the Mix's perennial favourite, On Eagles Wings during the service.

Clifford Sochon told about ravens and also read passages from the bible telling

how Noah released first the raven and then the dove when the Ark came to rest, whilst Angela Robinson was mentioning quails and John Robinson robins, owls and blackbirds.

Maggie showed her recently purchased tea towel bought on her holiday in Wales where she was entranced by those comical little puffins now in danger of becoming another endangered species due to the carelessness of mankind.

Pat Bright who led the final part of the worship read a piece about eagles. Lesley Sutton told how the harbinger of spring, the swallow, could fly 800 miles in a night. Phyllis Manning read a prayer about the sparrow whilst Nick and Wendy Randle lead prayers bringing this act of communal worship to a close.

These thoughtful lay led services take place on the fifth Sunday of the month and take the opportunity of including ideas and participation of all in choosing themes, hymns and description of the subjects in unexpected ways.

## Last community lunch this year

OVER 40 people sat down to a delicious meal of honey mustard sausage bake courtesy of a recipe in a Tesco magazine for Yarcombe's November community lunch.

Lin Box and her team of helpers prepared a large quantity of vegetables, interesting other ingredients topped with sausages, all cooked in one dish in the ovens.

After apple crumble and ice cream and a hot drink, we settled back to listen to Rev Julie Lomas's talk entitled Meet the Vicar.

Julie linked her talk to the theme of the first Friday Faith Forum, Death – the Beginning or the End? by giving her personal eulogy!

We heard about her childhood, upbringing, coming to faith, employment, marriage and motherhood and her journey to being our ordained vicar.

This was a fitting end to our last community lunch of the year. The next lunch will be on Wednesday, January 18th in the village hall.

Mary Smith

## YARCOMBE WEATHER OCTOBER 2022

	2022	2021	2020
Average Max. temperature	16.3°C	15.3°C	13.6°C
Average Min.	10.4°C	9.7°C	8.2°C
Average Overall temperature	13.3°C	12.5°C	10.9°C
Rainfall	166.2 mm	237.8mm	109.4 mm
Wettest Day	21st 30.2 mm	28th 48.3mm	30th 25.6 mm
Sunniest Day	10th 10 hrs approx	11th 10.0 hrs	14th 9.0hrs
Warmest Day	19th 18.6°C	7th 19.1°C	20th 16.0°C
Coldest Night	11th 3.7°C	12th 6.3°C	10th 3.7°C
Sunshine hours.	122 hours approx	118 hrs	82 hrs

### DROUGHT

I read an article in *The Times* dated October 19th by Paul Simons regarding drought and forecasts. After reading that article, I checked the rainfall that I had recorded over the last thirteen years, the average has been 1193mm. The driest year was 2011 when only 836mm fell and then drought warnings were issued across the country. Here in the Blackdown Hills the following year was very wet, a total of 1517mm rain fell causing many a flood but making sure the aquifers were topped up. Therefore if history repeats itself next year could be very wet.

Tony Newman

Please send all your Yarcombe news to parish correspondent  
**Rebecca Bell - email: [rebecca.e.bell@outlook.com](mailto:rebecca.e.bell@outlook.com)**

# Hopes for a greener Christmas

REV Julie Lomas provides The Parishes' Paper's Going Greener campaign for December...

Week 1 — Choose your tree carefully. If real, consider buying one that can be replanted, or check out where you can recycle it or compost it. If artificial, treasure it and reuse it for as many years as you can. Wait until after dark to turn on your Christmas lights and turn them off before bed.

Week 2 — Give gifts that people

actually want! Ask people for ideas, gifts they would really like, and buy things they will enjoy using rather than festive novelties likely to be discarded within days or agree to exchange 'experiences' instead.

Week 3 — Source gifts that are ethically made or Fairtrade or give a subscription or a charity gift. Set your family and/or your friends a Charity Shop Christmas Challenge, attempting to purchase all or some of your gifts this year.

Week 4 — Buy recyclable wrapping paper. Try to avoid shiny metallic or foiled paper. Reuse all the brown paper that comes in packaging and tie it up with attractive ribbons or string, which can then be reused. If you can't manage without sticky tape, then plastic-free tape is available locally from Axminster Printers in West Street.

Have a wonderful greener Christmas and a carry on into the new year!

Rev Julie Lomas



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# Deck your halls the eco way this year

HOW are the plans for 'decking' your house for Christmas going?

With 125,000 tonnes of decorations and 68,000-plus miles of Christmas lights going to landfill or incineration each year, maybe we need to re-examine our seemingly insatiable desire for all things sparkly and glittery.

Who doesn't love a bit of twinkle! However, so much of the tinsel, the baubles, and garlands, many glitter-splattered, are made from environmentally-unfriendly plastic and we need to think about the harmful chemicals that go into making them and also from where they are

transported.

Don't bin your plastic decorations though; keep re-using what you have for as long as you can. It's at the point of being 'fed up with them' or 'wanting a change', we need to stop and think and resist the lures and wiles of the high street shops.

Could you, for example, make indoor garlands from dried oranges, or from popcorn (you will need to leave the popcorn out for a day to go stale to make it easier to thread), pine cones (no glitter though!), paper, mistletoe, holly. What about using salt dough and add spices perhaps? A great idea for a

family arty afternoon round the table. For those handy with crafting needles, how about knitting, crocheting or sewing brightly coloured garlands to festoon the house?

Decorations for the tree: well there's wooden ornaments, glass baubles, shapes cut from hessian or fabric plus all the ideas above.

What's more, there are a host of videos on YouTube to help you on the way to a more personal and home-made Christmas.

*Plastic Free Axminster wishes you a peaceful, contented and, of course, sustainable Christmas!*



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*to your parish correspondent. Details on page 31*

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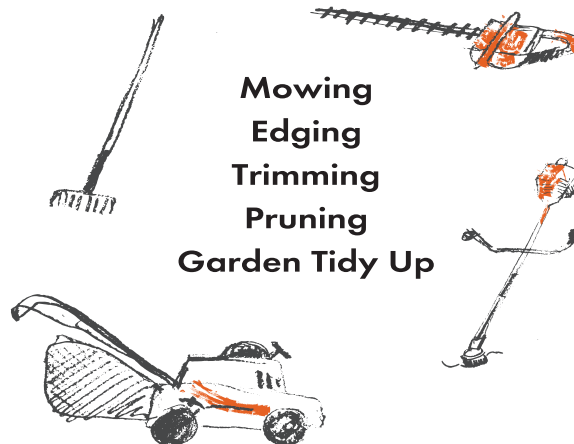


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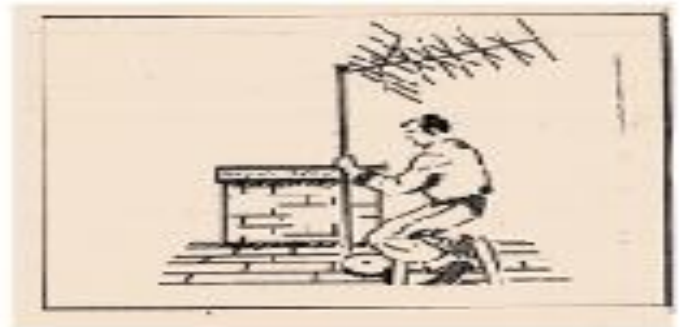
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# FUTURE EVENTS

WHEN	WHERE	WHAT'S HAPPENING
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10am-12noon Each Wednesday	St Giles's, Kilmington	Baby group every week including school holidays, contact Mary Tyler 01297 34958
9.15am- 10:45am Wednesdays	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Toddlers & Tinies - A group for toddlers and tinies with their parents/carers. Term times only. Donations of £1
10am-12noon Thursdays	St John's Church, Yarcombe	Baby & Toddler Group - contact Mary Smith 01404 861541 for further information
9.30am-11.30am Each Friday	Stockland Victory Hall	Stockland Toddler Group - Contact 07951 958327
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> December 6:30pm	Stockland Victory Hall	Stockland Youth Club - every other Friday evening To book email watsjohn307@gmail.com
2 <sup>nd</sup> December 7pm	Umbourne Village Hall	Christmas meal
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> 10am - 5pm December	St Peter's Church, Dalwood	Christmas Film Displays with Christmas Hamper Raffle, please see advert for more details
3 <sup>rd</sup> December 10 - 12noon	Kilmington Village Hall	Royal British Legion Christmas Fayre
3 <sup>rd</sup> December 10 - 12noon	Stockland Victory Hall	Christmas Market please see advert for more details
9 <sup>th</sup> December 2:30pm	St Michael's Church Shute	Shute Primary School Carol Service - members of the local community welcome to join
10 <sup>th</sup> December 10 - 12noon	Jubilee Hall, Yarcombe	Yarcombe Market
12.30pm	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Community Christmas Lunch - all welcome
10 <sup>th</sup> December 3pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Dalwood Jazz Club Louise Parker (jazz singer) + Trio £12.50p t.mackenny111@btinternet.com
14 <sup>th</sup> December (6:45pm) & 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec (1:45pm)	Kilmington Village Hall	Kilmington Community Cinema - The Railway Children Return (PG) Booking essential email watsjohn307@gmail.com
14 <sup>th</sup> December 12:30pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Community Lunch Please contact Fiona 01297 639338 to book.
15 <sup>th</sup> December 10:30am	St Peter's Church Dalwood	Dalwood Coffee Concert "Shiraz" singer/song-writer Duo from Dorset Free concert t.mackenny111@btinternet.com
17 <sup>th</sup> December 7pm	The Minster Church, Axminster	Axminster & District Choral Society, Christmas Concert Vaughan Williams Fantasia of carols
22 <sup>nd</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10am-6pm	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Warm Welcome Space for families and people of all ages. Various activities will be available.
Please send Five Alive Mission Community upcoming events details to 5alivemc@gmail.com		

# THE PARISHES' DIRECTORY

## DALWOOD

**Badminton Club:** Derek Gould - 01404 831749  
**Bell Ringers:** Tower Captain: Donald Pike - 01404 881356  
**Community Shop:** 01404 881401  
**Corrydale Players:** Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193  
**Jubilee Field & Pavilion:** Bookings: Linda Langman - linda.langman@hotmail.co.uk  
**Parish Council:** Kathy Laing - 01404 881601  
**Methodist Church:** Pauline Ovey - 01297 442433  
**Raft Club:** Richard Seward - 01404 881343  
**Reading Room:** Richard Seward - 01404 881343  
**Recreation Trust:** Chair: Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193  
**Dalwood Crafters:** Meet 2nd & 4th Thursdays, village hall 2-4.30pm. Jane Smith - 01404 881533  
**Stitch & Bitch (craft group):** Meet 2nd & last Thursday Tuckers Arms, Dalwood, 8pm Mel Gosling - 01404 831481  
**The Corry Valley Community Land Trust:** Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193  
**Upholstery:** Laura Anderton - 07789 514269  
**Village Hall:** Bookings Secretary: Linda Langman - linda.langman@hotmail.co.uk  
**Hall Treasurer:** George Marshall - 01404 881442  
**Yoga:** Di Magrane - 07940 120221

## KILMINGTON

**Badminton Club:** Derek Gould - 01404 831749  
**Baptist Chapel:** Mike Hudson, Pastor - 01297 631638  
Email: admin@baptistchurchkilmington.org  
**Bell Ringers:** Celia Dunsford - 01297 33563  
**Cricket Club:** Secretary: D Lavender - 01297 631868  
**Country Dancing:** Gill Perkins 01297 32888 & Marie Thorne 01297 33906

**Gardening Club:** Secretary: Bev Perkins - 01297 631801  
**Kilmington Players:** (Chairperson): D Lavender - 01297 631868  
**Parish Council:** Parish Clerk: Adrian Jenkins 07800 826657  
**Post-script:** (Editor): Janfryd Gordon-Kerr - 01297 639115  
**Primary School & Pre-School:** Headteacher: Lee White - 01297 32762  
**Royal British Legion:** Commander Stafford Seward RN OBE (Ret'd) - 01297 33909  
**Table Tennis:** Jenny Nickolls - 01297 639758  
**Tennis Club:** Bev Bailey - 07577 488656; Sue Wells - 07912 272102  
**The Hitchcock Pavilion:** Peter Huscroft - 01297 32243  
**Village Hall:** Louise Quincey (bookings) - 01297 32358  
**Kilmington Community Cinema:** J Watts 01297 639758  
**Church flowers:** Jenny Nickolls 01297 639758  
**Kilmington Short Mat Bowls:** Edith Turner - 01297 34090

## SHUTE – WHITFORD – UMBORNE

**Bell Ringers:** Maureen Davey - 01297 553195  
**Parish Council:** Chairperson: Bill Marshall - 01297 551077  
**Clerk:** Carol Miltenburg - 01404 831080  
**Parochial Church Council:** Bijan Omrani - bijan.omrani@btinternet.com  
**Shute Community Primary School:** Headteacher: Martin Marriott - 01297 33348  
**Women's Institute Musbury & Whitford:** Lesley McGowan Lock - 01297 551556  
**Whitford Village Produce Association:** (Hon Sec): Christine Wyatt - 01404 830098  
**Village Hall:** Christine Plowman - 01297 552760  
**Umborne Hall:** Sheila Townsend - 07818 662402

**Umborne Ladies Social Club:** Ann Shepherd - 01297 553343  
**STOCKLAND**  
**Bell Ringers:** Wendy Urquhart - 01404 881207  
**Book Group:** Paul Spencer - 01404 881819  
**Fair Committee:** Acting chair and stall bookings: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983  
**Secretary:** Janet Fox - 01404 881591  
**Parish Council Chairperson:** Ian Morgan - 07923 067383  
**Parochial Church Council:** Secretary: Rozanne Bulmer - 01404 41907  
**Stockland & District Horticultural Society:** Secretary: Pauline Goodwin - 01404 881199  
**Stockland & Yarcombe Pre-school:** Anna Horner - 01404 881450 or info@stocklandpreschool.co.uk  
**Stockland C of E Primary School:** Interim Headteacher: Miss R Bendall - 01404 881456; PTFA: Valerie Conlon - stocklandptfa@gmail.com  
**Tennis Club:** Chairperson: Cathy Derryman - 01404 881398  
**Victory Hall:** Bookings secretary: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983  
**Stockland Youth Club:** Mel Andrews - 07947 743278 mel@adventurebabies.co.uk

## YARCOMBE

**Baptist Chapel:** Secretary: Thelma Clarke - 01404 861267  
**Bell Ringers:** Gareth Dear - 01460 68521  
**Children's Committee:** Julie Rich - 01404 861274 or 07967 965208  
**Parish Council, Chairperson:** Steve Horner - 01460 234342  
**Parochial Church Council:** Secretary: Rebecca Bell - 01460 234002  
**Jubilee Hall:** Debbie Carter - 07498 503316  
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Mobile: 07488 278 483  
Email: revjulielomas@gmail.com

### **Licensed Readers:**

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### **Mission Community Administrator:**

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## **CHURCHWARDENS**

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### **Kilminster**

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## **PASTORAL TEAMS**

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Peter Major - 01404 831296  
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Sarah Langrish - 07732 267240

### **Kilminster**

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Suzanne Bradbury - 01404 881530  
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Peggy Pearse - 01404 881426  
Philippa Wilks - 01404 881366

### **Yarcombe**

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## **PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES**

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Yarcombe – Mary Smith,  
brianmarysmith@btinternet.com

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*We are grateful to our advertisers for their continued support which ensures The Parishes' Paper continues to serve the community*

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## **DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE IS **DECEMBER 7th****

*It would be much appreciated if contributions could be received as early as possible. Thank you.*





Luke 2:14