The PARISHES' PAPER January 2023



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



JANUARY 2023

DATE	Dalwood	Kilmington	Shute/ Whitford	Stockland	Yarcombe
Sun 1	10.30 am Mission Community Holy Communion hosted by St Michael's Church KILMINGTON (NB New time)				
Wed 4	9.30am Said Communion				
Sun 8	11 am Family Service	11 am Morning Worship	11 am Holy Communion (BCP)	11am Morning Worship	11 am Family Service
Tues 10		9.30am Said Communion			
Sun 15	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion		11am Family Service	6.30pm Evening Worship
Wed 18	9.30am Said Communion				
Sun 22	11am Morning Worship	9.30am Morning Worship	6.30pm Choral Evensong	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion
Tues 24		9.30am Said Communion			
Sun 29	10:30 Mission Community Holy Communion hosted by St Peter's Church, DALWOOD (NB New time)				
Wed 1st Feb	9.30am Said Communion				
Sun 5	10:30 Mission Community Holy Communion hosted by St Michael & All Angels Church, STOCKLAND (NB New time)				

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11'



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THE GIFT OF THE NEW YEAR

REV JULIE LOMAS

HAPPY new year! As the chimes of Big Ben fade into the night sky and January 1st 2023 rolls forward, may I take this opportunity to wish you all our readers a peaceful and happy new year.

If you are feeling particularly bright and perky on New Year's Day please do join us at St Giles's Church, Kilmington at 10.30am for a Mission Community service to welcome in the new year.

I observe that time is one of those things that we often talk about as if it is ours, as if it is a possession.

We talk in terms of having "not enough time", or that time is going "oh, so slowly" or that "their time was up".

As Christians we believe that God is the creator of time which we as people, mark with our clocks and calendars, but which ultimately remains first and foremost a gift from God.

As the clock face of St Giles's Church reminds us, "Time is in His hands", taken from Psalm 31:15. When we remember that time, like everything else, is a gift, a present, a treasure, then maybe that helps us to

appreciate all that we have been given, use it wisely, and share it generously with others, especially those in need.

I am so grateful to all our readers and supporters who offer the time they have been given in support of the church and the community.

During the coming month I am looking forward to hearing how the Warm Welcome Spaces that are up and running are going, as we encourage folk to come together in our village spaces to stay warm and cheerful.

During Covid we had to stay apart — now this energy crisis is bringing us back together over hot drinks and homemade cakes, to play board games, chat and just enjoy company.

There are lots of things happening across our villages so please do pop in to one of them, and better still, bring someone with you who might otherwise be stuck inside, feeling cold and lonely.

So, thank you for all your good wishes and I hope and pray we will meet up soon in January and share our God given time together — the very best way!



BRINGING in the new year with the chimes of Big Ben

CREDIT: Steve Lomas

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FRONT AND BACK PAGES: Both images by the great, late Tim Phillips

WISHING ALL OUR READERS A VERY 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

PSALMS 6 & 143 — chosen by DAVID WILSDON

PSALM 6 is one of the seven socalled 'penitential' psalms.

We have already featured five of them in Psalm of the Month (palms 32, 38, 51, 102, and 130 — psalms 51 and 130 being the most well-known). There remains psalm 143.

PSALM 6

- 1. O Lord, rebuke me not in thy wrath; neither chasten me in thy fierce anger.
- 2. Have mercy on me. Lord, for I am weak; Lord, heal me, for my bones are racked.
- 3. My soul also shakes with terror; how long, O Lord, how long?
- 4. Turn again, O Lord, and deliver my soul; save me for your loving mercy's sake.
- 5. For in death no one remembers you; and who can give you thanks in the grave?
- 6. I am weary with my groaning; every night I drench my pillow and flood my bed with tears.
- 7. My eyes are wasted with grief and worn away because of my enemies.

- 8. Depart from me, all you that do evil, for the Lord has heard the voice of my weeping.
- 9. The Lord has heard my supplication; the Lord will receive my prayer.
- 10. All my enemies shall be put to shame and confusion; they shall suddenly turn back in their shame.

My soul gasps for you like a thirsty land

As mentioned, Psalm 143 is the seventh and last of the so-called 'penitential psalms'. In his anguish, the psalmist pleads with God for deliverance.

PSALM 143

- 1. Here my prayer, O Lord, and in your faithfulness give ear to my supplications; answer me in your righteousness.
- 2. Enter not into judgement with your servant, for in your sight shall no man be justified.
- 3. For the enemy had pursued me, crushing my life to the ground, making me sit in darkness like those long dead.

- 4. My spirit faints within me; my heart within me is desolate.
- 5. I remember the times past; I muse upon all your deeds; I consider the works of your hands.
 - 6. I stretch out my hands to you;
- 7. O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; hide not your face from me lest I be like those who go down to the pit.
- 8. Let me hear of. Your loving kindness in the morning, for in you I put my trust; show me the way I should walk in, for I lift up my soul to you.
- 9. Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies, for I fly to you for refuge.
- 10. Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; let your Kindly spirit lead me on a level path.
- 11. Revive me,O Lord, for your name's sake; for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.
- 12. In your faithfulness, slay my enemies, and destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for truly I am your servant.

Bible readings January 2022

Date	OT Readings	NT Readings
Sun 1 st	Psalm 8	Matthew 25: 31 – 46
Sun 8 th Baptism of Christ	Isaiah 42: 1 - 9	Matthew 3: 13 – 17
Sun 15 th Epiphany 2	Isaiah 49: 1 - 7	John 1: 29 – 42
Sun 22 nd Epiphany 3	Isaiah 9: 1 - 4	Matthew 4: 12 – 23
Sun 29 th Candlemas	Micah 6: 1 - 8	Matthew 5: 1 – 12
Sun 5 th Feb Epiphany 5	Isaiah 58: 1 – 12	Matthew 5: 13 - 20
		4

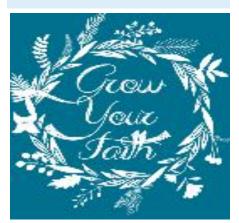
From the registers

Funerals

The funeral of **Tim Phillips** took place on December 15th at Taunton Crematoirum, followed by a service of Thanksgiving at St Michael and All Angels Church, Stockland

The funeral of **Joan Beville** took place on December 19th at St Michael's Church Shute.

We extend our deepest sympathies to their families and friends.



New year brings host of new chapel activities

By Roderick Ovey

AS we enter another new year I thought I would draw your attention to three of the activities on offer at Dalwood Methodist Church.

The first is the Art Club, which has been running in the same format for some 18 years — firstly at the Axminster church, and then, when the latter closed, here at the Dalwood Chapel.

It is a friendly group working on a self-help basis, sharing talents to help each other get the most out of drawing and painting. A charge of just £2 per session is made, and this includes tea and biscuits.

If you are new to painting we don't guarantee to make you a Constable or Picasso after just one meeting, but we can provide basic tuition to set you on the road to starting an enjoyable, and at times addictive, hobby.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 18th at 2pm, and if you would like to come along and give us a try please contact me on 01297 442433 or via email at rod.ovey@btinternet.com, we would love to see you there.

After a break of around three years because of Covid, we are restarting our meeting called Breaking News!. This will be held on the last Monday of

each month at 10am, starting on Monday, January 30th, when we will discuss a surprise topical subject, chosen by our minister, who leads the meeting.

He enjoys ferreting around the numerous news programmes and coming up with subjects which might have missed the headlines but which are, however, worth discussing.

It is quite surprising how it seems to encourage even the most bashful to join in.

If you enjoy a good chat about topical matters this is the meeting for you. Meetings are free, with tea and biscuits provided, and this year there is the added bonus that you can come and share our heating, thereby saving on your own!

Lastly, don't forget the monthly coffee mornings which are held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next one will be held on Wednesday, January 11th at 10.30am, at which we always raise funds for charities which operate in this area.

Do come along for a coffee or tea and biscuits and a good old gossip.

The Sunday services are at 11am, followed by refreshments, and we would love to see you at any or all of them

May I close by wishing you all, on behalf of the chapel, a very happy and peaceful new year.



Come down and join the Follow the Star mystery

DURING the Christmas school holidays, you will find our Follow the Star trail In each of the parish churches and in the grounds of Whitford Chapel.

The star takes you through nine trail signs with the bonus of collecting letters at each stop which make up a mystery word.

Come on down, open the church door and enter in — a completely free activity suitable for all ages and especially children.

Where are the Christmas card designers now?



WHILST in the vestry at Shute, St Michael's Church, I came across these cards and it got me wondering, "Where are the designers now?"

The cards, from left, are by the following: Emily Bristol from Stockland Primary School, she was age nine; Estella Corr from Shute Primary School, she was only six; Toby Simeons from Kilmington Primary School, there is no age attached; Charlie Davies from Dalwood Primary School, he was also age nine.

Please do get in touch with any news update!

Rev Julie Lomas

Keep the Five Alive community in touch by sending your local news to your parish correspondents or direct to the editor — see page 31 for contact details

CONFIRMATION NEWS



RT Rev Jackie Searle, Bishop of Crediton, welcomed 10 candidates for confirmation at the Church of St Michael and All Angels, Stockland. The group is pictured together, above. Below, married couple Ashley and Carol Davies from Membury are confirmed in Stockland





SIBLINGS from Yarcombe were amongst the group. From left, Ellie Rich, Bishop Jackie, Katie Rich and, front, Daniel Rich

CONFIRMATION NEWS



ON Sunday November 6th, 10 candidates were presented to Bishop of Crediton, Rt Reverend Jackie Searle, at the Church of St Michael and All Angels, Stockland, for confirmation.

People from across the mission community and further afield gathered for the first confirmation service in over three years at the church.

Each candidate 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.

Rt Reverend Jackie, who was supported by Rev Paul Avis and Rev Julie Lomas, chose in her parting words for each of the candidates to "shine as a light in the world".

PICTURED left, are, from left, Rev Julie Lomas, Rebecca Spiller, Bishop Jackie and, front, Summer Spiller



ABOVE, Stockland sisters are confirmed. From left, Sally Bright, Bishop Jackie and Harriet Bright. Right, Benjamin and Holly Rich, from Yarcombe, were confirmed at Upottery church. From left, Holly Rich, Bishop Jackie, Rev Jane Penn and Benjamin Rich





DALWOOD NEWS

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

Charity concerts

DURING 2022, monthly coffee concerts were held in St Peter's Church, Dalwood, on the last Wednesday morning of the month.

The ever-popular female duo Shiraz is no stranger to performing in Dalwood and the ladies' beautiful harmonies, very witty and cleverly written songs and their relaxed, engaging performance in November.

Not only have these concerts provided a treat for those who came, donations of just over £850 were collected at the concerts during the year and given to the Exeter-based charity Force. The coffee concerts will resume in January 2023 and I can thoroughly recommend these wonderful mini-concerts on our own doorstep!

Mary Harrison

PARTY OF THANKS

DALWOOD Community Shop and Post Office committee invited volunteers to the annual pre-Christmas thank-you party.

Nearly 50 volunteers, family and friends gathered in Dalwood Village Hall for a lovely evening.

The hall was decorated, hot food, desserts, wine, and soft drinks were served and enjoyed by all.

A Twelve days of Christmas quiz generated much discussion. An impromptu rehearsal of the Christmas Alphabet was sung — after some encouragement — with gusto, as Kathy Laing accompanied the singers on the piano.

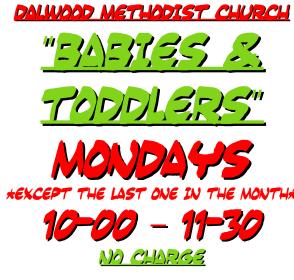
Shelagh Beak has collated the shop's story in a shop scrapbook, which she brought to the party. It was read with interest by many on the night.

Photographs accompany the text that record the shop's evolution from digging the footings some 20 years ago to this year's Ukraine appeal. It is available for anyone to see.

The shop could not survive without the wonderful team of volunteers, who offer their time and energy to manage their shifts in the shop. Their commitment and support are really valued and appreciated.

There is always a warm welcome, help, and a smile from our volunteers to all our valued customers. Please let any of our volunteers know if there is a product you would like us to stock. We are always looking to introduce new lines. Wishing all our customers and volunteers a happy and healthy new year, and all the best for 2023.

Dalwood Shop Committee





FOR DETAILS PHONE 01297 442433 OR JUST TURN UP. DALWOOD METHODIST CHURCH invite you to a

COFFEE MORNING

AT THE CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY 11TH JANUARY

10-30 AM - 12 NOON

WITH A "BRING AND BUY" STALL

IN AID OF

CHILDREN'S HOSPICE SOUTHWEST

DO COME AND ENJOY A

CUPPA AND A CHAT!

DALWOOD NEWS

St Peter's Church tied up in red wool



21st and 28th - Jane Mottram



By Caroline Nunns

DECEMBER'S Christingle saw the congregation of St Peter's Church, Dalwood, passing a ball of red wool around the whole church.

With everyone holding some of the wool, we were reminded that God loves everyone there who had hold of a piece of the wool.

We speculated about wrapping the whole village in wool and then even the entire world, to illustrate God's love for everyone.

As usual, it was beautiful to see and hear the children singing Away in a Manger by the candlelight of the Christingles. Already looking forward to next year.

Phoebe Long, eight, pictured, shows off her lit Christingle in the church.



Dalwood Community Shop and Post Office

We wish ALL our CUSTOMERS, VOLUNTEERS and their loved one's a HEALTHY and



Your continued support during 2022, as we moved out of the Pandemic, has been truly valued. To help keep our community shop if you can, please buy 1 more item when you shop, it will help. Thank you

SHOP OPENING TIMES

POST OFFICE opening times

Monday- Friday: 8.30am - 5.30pm Saturday: 8.30am - 4.00pm FRIDAY 10.00am -12.00pm

 Saturday:
 8.30am - 4.00pm

 Sunday:
 8.30am - 12.30pm

YOUR shop is here for your convenience, saving YOU time and petrol email: dalwoodcommunityshop@outlook.com tel:01404 881401

DALWOOD NEWS



A place for them

THE draping of a chair with a piece of red cloth and the notice 'A place for them. No to domestic violence' was a sight that appeared in many churches and other places throughout this country and around the world between November 25th and December 10th.

St Peter's Church, Dalwood, hosted one, organised by myself as a Mothers' Union (MU) member, the group being a firm supporter of the United Nations' 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence and Abuse campaign.

This tries to highlight the scale and depth of the problem of violence and abuse against mostly, but not exclusively, women and young girls, that estimates one-in-three of every woman in the world is affected in some way at some time by these issues. Not a statistic that does us credit as a human race.

Neither is the fact that "globally, every 11 minutes a woman or girl dies at the hands of an intimate partner or family member". These issues are difficult to talk about, but change is needed, which is why this campaign aims to bring it to our attention.

MU and the church provide a list of organisations and people you can turn to if you or anyone you know needs help. Details are on the church notice boards.

By Mary Harrison

The Christmas Festival

By Caroline Nunns

DECEMBER'S Christmas festival was the sixth organised by the combined talents of Sue and Karen Drew.

Beginning with a very traditional tree festival in 2016, it was decided that other themes should be chosen in subsequent years and so, since then, the village has enjoyed:

- Christmas Nativity Scenes 2017
- Christmas Carols 2018
- Christmas traditions around the world 2019
- and Christmas upcycle/recycle 2021

The most recent theme was Christmas Films. The displays were made by individuals, families and groups from the village and surrounds. Each display was very different even though there were four Polar Expresses, two Bishops Wives, two A Christmas Carols and two The Snowman!

Visitors enjoyed solving some of the puzzles set by exhibitors — for example, how many cats were there in the Deck the Halls display?

There was also an opportunity to win one of three well-stocked Christmas hampers and other prizes as well. The festival closed on Sunday evening with a carol sing-along.

As usual, many thanks go to those who exhibited, stewarded, donated raffle prizes, and of course, special thanks go to Sue and Karen for organising this event and for their tireless enthusiasm.

An impressive £436 for was raised for church funds.

Karen and Sue have already selected a theme for next year. Are you ready for UK Christmas traditions?











KILMINGTON NEWS

Parish correspondent - Chris Thorne - chrisjonthorne69@gmail.com Parish distributor - Anna Crabbe - 01297 32777

New team, New Inn

By Rev Julie Lomas

RETURNING to Devon, Spike Phillips has thanked everyone for his and his team's welcome to Kilmington village.

He said, "We've been after this pub for a while and now we are here we have been made so welcome.

"The area is fantastic and we are encouraged by all who have come

along so far. We are looking forward to getting to know more people in the new year."

Landlady Vikki Phillips explained: "As well as fine real ales, we offer home cooked food.

"Get in touch by calling us on 01297 33376 or via the New Inn website at www.thenewinnkilmington.co.uk."

We wish them well in their new life and business.



THE new team at the New Inn, Kilmington. From left, Molly James, Spike and Vikki Phillips

Village green

KILMINGTON Village Hall is planning to go greener.

The village hall's committee has taken the step of deciding to install solar panels and battery storage on and in the hall.

The aims are:

- To generate and store electricity
- To reduce electricity costs
- To keep down hall hire charges for users
- To help the planet

The cost is estimated at £23,000 which will be raised from public donations.

The fundraising has started in earnest in Kilmington with residents invited to donate. Envelopes have been posted through every door and can be returned to the Baptist Church letterbox. For those who are lucky enough to be tax payers, gift aid can be applied to donations.

If you would like to contribute to this scheme and have not received an envelope, please contact solar@kilmingtonvillage.com or phone 01297 35159. Together, we can make a difference.

Rev Julie Lomas

Warm welcome

WARM Welcome Wednesdays is starting again on Wednesday, January 4th between 2pm and 4pm, then weekly until the end of February.

Visitors will find a warm welcome, hot drinks, cake and a friendly chat all for free.

There will be newspapers and crafts, or you can bring your own book or just yourselves. All are welcome so do bring family, friends and neighbours.

This is offered alongside the usual weekly Friday Coffee Shop from 10am to 12noon. We look forward to welcoming you at St Giles's Church.

Glenis Squire

KILMINGTON NEWS

By Elana-May Blackmore

ON a cold and very frosty Saturday afternoon at St Giles's Church, Kilmington, we gathered in the lovely warm church and held an amazing Celebrate Together service.

The theme this time was The Shepherds and the church was decorated with socks and snowflakes hanging between the pillars. Socks I hear you ask? Yes! They were part of the drama.

Huge thanks to Anna Crabbe for leading the service and Christine Thorne for leading the drama. The adults with additional needs took part; some of them played shepherds, one played Mary and another played Joseph.

Prior to the service, we asked if volunteers could be found to play Mary and Joseph, and the staff and residents sounded so excited! It turned out to be wonderful.

We were very blessed to have not one but two sets of special guests with us — Kilmington's very own handbell ringers!

They played the well-known carol, Silent Night, ringing it first and then when they rang it for a second time everyone joined in with the words.

Thank you to Celia Dunsford and to Rob Stacey for being so keen to play, not forgetting the rest of the team. We also had a surprise visit of Archdeacon Andrew. He came to sit amongst us with his wonderful wife and daughter; it was a great pleasure to have him take part in our sharing of the prayers. We are blessed that he can see what goes on in our wonderful church.

I led the talk; and spoke about the shepherds being like some of us. How they were considered outcasts and that they were even shut out from society. Despite this, they were the ones that the Angel Gabriel went to and they were the ones to tell the very good news of Jesus's birth.

After my talk I was very excited to

Celebrating together this Christmastime



do something a little different — a quiz. I tested everyone on their knowledge on the nativity; they all did very well. I really enjoyed preparing my talk and the quiz. During the service we celebrated three different people's birthdays, so, we had cake; as was requested!

We also wanted to thank the helpers. Their tireless work behind the scenes and on the day of each service does not go unnoticed. We would be unable to continue without their help.

As a 'thank you', we handed out ornaments to this group of ladies for providing and serving the teas, which forms a very big part of the services. We think everyone who helps is amazing and we love how they do what they do out of the kindness of their hearts.

Some props were provided by Rev Julie Lomas and her husband, Steve. Julie helped me make sense of my talk, for this I am so very grateful.

It's been an absolute blessing to put on these services; it has really given me the chance to gain confidence and to put into practice what I have been taught.

I am so blessed that the team and myself can carry on the legacy that was left by our dear departed friend Diana Mellows. I know that she would have been smiling down on us that day.

The next Celebrate Together service will be held on Saturday, February 11th. The theme is yet to be decided. For more details then please contact Christine Thorne on 07814 041059.

Keep the Five Alive community thriving and in touch by sending your local news and photos — we want to hear from our readers

Email your contributions to your parish correspondents – see page 31 for contact details

KILMINGTON NEWS









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 discssion 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 guestions you have, you can ask them at Alpha.

A Place to explore... Together.



STOCKLAND NEWS

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

PAUSE FOR PRAYER

Winter Now By Samuel Longfellow

'Tis winter now; the fallen snow Has left the heavens all coldly clear; Through leafless boughs the sharp winds blow,

And all the earth lies dead and drear. And yet God's love is not withdrawn; His life within the keen air breathes; His beauty paints the crimson dawn, And clothes the boughs with glittering wreaths.

And though abroad the sharp winds blow,

And skies are chill, and frosts are keen,

Home closer draws her circle now, And warmer glows her light within. O God! who gives the winter's cold, As well as summer's joyous rays, Us warmly in thy love enfold, And keep us through life's wintry days.

Contributed by Philippa Wilks

100 club winners

STOCKLAND 100 Club winners have been picked for November and the December bumper draw.

Winners are: number 101 Chloe (Doble) £20; number 61 Maureen Hembrow £10; number 17 Nigel and Emma Parris £5.

Winners of the December bumper draw are: number 83 Tom and Jane Bright £50; number 81 Mike Sarsfield £20; number 25 Peter and Penny Walmsley £10; number 6 Loops Curnoe £5; number 37 Peggy and Richard Pearse £5.

Congratulations to the lucky winners! The 100 Club has benefited the Victory Hall funds by £575 in 2022, your support is much appreciated.

For more information contact monica.parris@outlook.com 01404 881535.

Monica Parris

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

The big man visits preschool children



ON Saturday, December 3rd at the Stockland Christmas Market, locals were lucky enough to get a visit from Father Christmas himself.

Stockland and Yarcombe Preschool was transformed into the most magical of grottos where every child had the opportunity to take a 'selfie with an elfie', dance around in snow, spend time with the big man himself, make reindeer food, decorate themselves with tattoos and create some lovely Christmas

pictures. It was a truly magical start to the festive season, with Father Christmas seeing over 40 little ones.

The event managed to raise a fabulous £190 for Stockland and Yarcombe Preschool. Thank you to all that supported both the Stockland Christmas Market and Santa's Grotto.

Alice Foster-Key Stockland and Yarcombe Preschool Vice Chair



STOCKLAND NEWS



ST Michael and All **Angels Church hosted** Stockland and Yarcombe Preschool's Christmas play, Little Robin Red Vest. The children were brilliant and sang with gusto to some of their all-time favourite Christmas songs. Teachers also **baked Christmas** treats which were enjoyed after the play, raising funds for the preschool. The preschool would like to thank Rev Julie Lomas for making it happen at the church

Community pulls together again

THE Stockland Village Christmas lunch was held on Sunday, December 4th with a hall full of jolly Stocklanders lined up for an afternoon of festive cheer.

The hall beautifully decorated with seasonal foliage made for a very inviting welcome before the feast began. It was a very successful day with a happy, Christmassy atmosphere, but it really couldn't have happened without the endless help from so many lovely folk.

Firstly, as always, a fantastic turn out on Saturday afternoon with many wielding knives and peelers, meant the veg prep was completed in no time! Thanks must go to everyone who helped out to make the lunch such an enjoyable success.

Thanks go to Mike and Emma Barnes for a generous donation towards the afternoon's proceedings.

Tanks also to the amazing ladies in the kitchen — Amanda Buckley, Diana Saso, Jenny Whitley, Julie Doble, Mel Pym and Lucy Bartlett, so efficient, hardworking and always with a smile, it really couldn't have been achieved without you. How lucky to live and be part of this wonderful Stockland community.

Kim Harvey and Emma Parris







STOCKLAND NEWS

A busy term

IT has been a very busy few weeks at Stockland Primary Academy.

Firstly, I would like to say I am delighted to have been appointed as Head of School. Leading Stockland for the last six months as Interim Head has been a wonderful privilege and I am looking forward to continuing our journey together.

We have taken part in a Christmas card competition with all the other schools within The Redstart Learning Partnership. One of our very talented children won the competition and their design will be turned into the official Christmas Card of The Redstart Learning Partnership this year.

Three of the children took part in a public speaking event at one of the schools in Stoke-Sub-Hamdon recently. They spoke articulately and confidently about how children can have a positive impact on the environment.

B Bendall Head of SchoolStockland Primary Academy

New year walk

THE Stockland Annual New Year's Day Walk will take place on Sunday, January 1st leaving Stockland Victory Hall car park at 10.30am.

It will be a circular walk to the Shorebottom area and back to the hall for lunch.

Bryan Drew



December lunch was 'amass of good cheer'

By Gill Metcalfe

For the Stockland ladies' December lunch, the directive was 'Wednesday, December 7th — meet in the bar.

By 12.30pm, the bar area was packed out, the tables festooned with full glasses — not for long — and then 27 for lunch. What a fabulous group of people — everyone chatting and everyone warmly greeted on arrival. Again, to repeat such a great amass of good cheer.

All 27 comfortably seated in the festively decorated Kings Room, understated and just befitting the ambiance of the King's Arms. The starters were delicious — the sage and onion beignets were just outstanding.

The main courses were showered with praise and then the desserts — spiced sticky toffee pudding or gingerbread gelato. Doggie bags were useless: the plates were emptied.

Then the raffle. With a 4-1 odds on



winning a prize who wouldn't take a punt? Perhaps not with two of the group drawing three winning tickets — consensus put them back in the hat!

Prizes included a £25 voucher from The King's Arms, whilst the over-lucky winners were bombarded with tangerines — even booed! But what an atmosphere and indeed what pleasure.

Thanks go to all who have supported this venture throughout the year.

Outstanding flower event

HOW often must the floral arrangements in Stockland church — so stunning — cause the breath to be caught?

The church flower group so often amazes with the variety of floral tributes, that a small few such as themselves, can create to transform the aisles, the pulpit, small chapel and the church interior for multiple occasions.

Despite being a talented group, they have been keen to learn more and challenge themselves with their work. As such, they were excited to arrange a church flower demonstration, inviting Julia Harrison, the area demonstrator and a national judge, to present an evening of floral artistry with Stockland church, of course, as the venue.

Over 40 people joined the group for an evening or pure floral magic. Much floristry work has had to adhere to the changing commitment to environmentally-friendly products.

The foam-based green oasis with which many are familiar is only used sparingly in the more intricate displays — mainly the classical/traditional pedestal arrangements. Much ingenuity is needed in order to comply with the changing materials used to exhibit the flowers. This issue was fully addressed by Julia who importantly pointed out the need to eventually source only environmentally friendly material.

The evening was rounded off with a raffle, many questions and avid discussion — made all the more memorable with the generous provision of wine and nibbles.

Many thanks to all who supported the evening. The proceeds of the demonstration came to a huge £153 and was divided by donating £100 to King's House Hospice and £53 to the Church Flower Fund.

Annie Williams The Ladies Church Flower Group

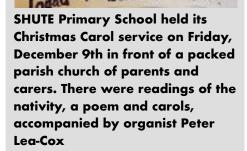
Stockland correspondent Gill Metcalfe: gilldog12@gmail.com

















A TRUE TALENT

By Editor Kate Williams

IT is with great sadness that I heard of the passing of Tim Phillips, of Stockland.

The Parishes' Paper has been brightened with a more professional appearance thanks to Tim's photos over the years.

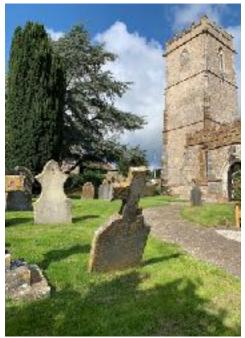
He has kindly allowed the magazine to print his wonderful images at no charge for many issues, for which this publication has been all the more richer.

Here is just a small selection of Tim's images that I was lucky enough to receive. His talent will be sorely missed.

















YARCOMBE NEWS

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

WARM HEARTS ON A FROSTY MORNING FOR CAROL EVENT

By Maggie Lane

A VERY cold and frosty morning set the scene for the Yarcombe Chapel Christmas Carol Service and, fortunately, the congregation was not deterred from making its way to the chapel to celebrate, sing carols and share in the theme, The Christmas Candle.

The congregation was warmly greeted and ushered into a lovely warm space. The singers had assembled early to warm up their voices and as they sang, the seats soon filled up for the 11am start.

The service began with the welcome and notices and then Once in Royal David City was sung. After prayers, a reading from Isaiah 9 — "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light...for unto us a Son is born...and He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace..."

After those familiar words, an upbeat carol in Calypso style was sung, See Him Lying on a Bed of Straw.

Maggie's Remix then sang the lesser known but much loved by the singers Let Us Light a Candle in the Darkness. It's a real 'gem' found in the Anglican Hymn Book called Common Praise and written by Richard Shepard and Robert Willis.

It begins: "In a world where people walk in darkness, let us turn our faces to the light, to the light of God revealed in Jesus..." Then to an uplifting chorus, "For the light is stronger than the darkness..."

The Collection was then taken, while Maggie Lane played See Amid the Winter Snow.

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, a whopping £240 will be sent to the UNICEF Yemen Appeal Fund.

Another reading of that wonderful

passage from John, Chapter 1: "In the beginning was the word... in Him was life and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it..."

The congregation then sang O Little Town of Bethlehem after which the singers sang The Candlelight Carol, a beautiful, inspiring piece written by John Rutter. With attention to its emotive words and sung tenderly, it certainly speaks to the heart!

The poem, I Love Christmas, was read, which was written by a local farmer, John Osborne, who farmed in North Somerset and often contributed to Radio 4's religious programmes. He was also a talented baritone and used to sing to his cows!

Ann Weller, a Chapel Trustee, and descendant of Abraham Spiller, one of the founders of the chapel, then read the next reading from Luke 2 telling of the birth of Jesus.

That most popular of carols, Silent Night, was sung next and with the chapel so tastefully decorated — the stars, the sparkling Christmas trees and candles and greenery and the centrepiece of the beautiful tapestry of the Nativity which Pat Bright had so skilfully done, all helped to make the most special atmosphere.

The congregation then settled in their seats for a talk which began with a reference to the ever-popular and very amusing Two Ronnie's sketch about fork handles/four candles!

With four different types of candles in front of her, the speaker went on to say, "When St John wrote his Gospel, the people of the day had only small oil lamps to lighten the darkness.

"They were unreliable as a puff of wind could extinguish them in a second. The only reliable light was the sun or moon.

"When Gospel writers wrote their accounts of the birth of Jesus, the image of a bright light as prophesied

by Isaiah, captured the imagination of the audience.

"In today's brightly lit society we are used to seeing clearly, but nonetheless we have the brightest light ever to come into the world, if only we seek it out.

"Times are very dark at present as we look around the world, so the motto of Amnesty International is quite pertinent, 'Not all the darkness in the world can extinguish the light of one small candle'."

The final carol was another chapel favourite, It Came Upon a Midnight Clear, which was written as the snow fell one cold December day in 1849. The music was based on an old English melody and arranged by Gilbert and Sullivan, and the words written by the Rev Edmund Hamilton Sears, a Massachusetts' minister, newly returned to his parish after serious illness.

A blessing brought the carol service to a fitting end:

"May love come alive within your heart

As Christmas time draws near

May hope fill each room you decorated

And bring joy to those you hold dear May peace be before you at every meal

And faith ring through every song
For Christ is alive, the light of the
world

May He bless you all season long."

The quote from amnesty sent the congregation away in very good heart, But, it wasn't finished yet! One member was surprised with a chorus of Happy Birthday before the group then assembled at a local home to enjoy warm hospitality with a roaring fire and mince pies and good conversation — all the elements of a great pre-Christmas celebration!

Many thanks to all who helped make this such a happy and blessed occasion.

YARCOMBE NEWS

POEM

Thanksgiving

We walk on starry fields of white And do not see the daisies; For blessings common in our sight We rarely offer praises.

We sigh for some supreme delight To crown our lives with splendour, And quite ignore our daily store Of pleasures sweet and tender.

Our cares are bold and push their way

Upon our thought and feeling. They hang about us all the day, Our time from pleasure stealing.

So unobtrusive many a joy We pass by and forget it, But worry strives to own our lives And conquers if we let it.

There's not a day in all the year But holds some hidden pleasure, And looking back, joys oft appear To brim the past's wide measure.

But blessings are like friends, I hold, Who love and labour near us. We ought to raise our notes of praise While living hearts can hear us.

Full many a blessing wears the guise Of worry or of trouble. Farseeing is the soul and wise Who knows the mask is double.

But he who has the faith and strength To thank his God for sorrow

Has found a joy without alloy To gladden every morrow.

We ought to make the moments notes

Of happy, glad Thanksgiving; The hours and days a silent phrase Of music we are living.

And so the theme should swell and grow

As weeks and months pass o'er us, And rise sublime at this good time, A grand Thanksgiving chorus.

By Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Tuesday Club's buffet lunch is festive affair

By Rebecca Bell

THE Yarcombe Tuesday Club meeting in December, takes the form of a bringand-share Christmas buffet lunch and this year the group met in Yarcombe Jubilee Hall on December 13th.

A relaxing, candlelit get together was enjoyed with a wonderful spread of food, with carols and Christmas music playing in the background.

Thanks go to everyone for all their

help, in every form, for making this a very enjoyable and festive occasion.

During the afternoon, co-ordinator for 2022 Rebecca Bell was presented with a beautiful planter full to the brim with an assortment of shrubs and daffodils in bud, as a 'thank you' from everyone. Nina Simmons is the new co-ordinator for 2023 and the group is very thankful to her for agreeing to take on this role.

The next meeting will be lunch at The Sidmouth Arms, Uppotery, on Tuesday January 10, 12.30 for 1.00pm.







Football match distracts skittlers

By Rebecca Bell

ON a cold November evening, seven ladies from Yarcombe Tuesday Club met at The Sidmouth Arms, Upottery, to play a friendly skittles match against the Bishopwood-based Blackdown Ladies Club.

A few were slightly distracted by the England v USA FIFA World Cup match that was being watched in an adjacent room but, unfortunately, we were unable to celebrate any goals being scored by England, with the 0-0 result.

Yarcombe lost by seven points but a very entertaining evening was had by all and even though it was a 'friendly' event both teams were trying their very best to win!

Following the game, a tasty supper of sandwiches and chips was enjoyed.

Thanks goes to Janet Grabham for organising the match.

YARCOMBE NEWS

Attitude of gratitude: there is always much to be thankful for

By Rebecca Bell

THE November Songs of Praise at Yarcombe Baptist Chapel was led by Rebecca Bell and had the title, An Attitude of Gratitude.

To start with, everyone thought about why they should say 'thank you' more often:

- It is the simplest form of expressing gratitude
- People feel appreciated and loved
- Making others feel good brings good back to us in unpredictable ways
- Saying thank you makes us feel happier and healthier
- It brings abundance to your life

The Bible readings were Psalm 100 and Luke 17:11-19, The Ten Lepers. Poems were read about why we should be thankful.

Two passages were read from the book As Time Goes By by Marie Kane Dudley, recalling people who had showed incredible gratitude and how we can all learn to be more grateful.

The author also recommended a solution to being unable to get off to sleep, instead of counting sheep she would count her blessings from A to Z thanking God for something or someone beginning with each letter. Interestingly, she never reached Z.

The hymns sang included Now Thank We All Our God, Count Your Blessings and We Shall Go Out With Joy.

The overall theme was that even in the hardest of times there is much for which to be thankful.

Thanks go to all who took part in the service and to the members who provided drinks afterwards.

Senior citizens' Christmas lunch returns at last

AFTER a three-year break, the Yarcombe Annual Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch took place on December 4th.

Yarcombe Jubilee Hall, decorated beautifully with Christmas Tree and new Christmas bunting, was full to bursting with happy folk delighted to be at this very special occasion once again.

The guests were greeted with an appetiser of scotch eggs and sausage rolls and wine or juice, before sitting down to pull crackers and enjoy a sumptuous and delicious Christmas Dinner, with all the trimmings.

For dessert, there was Christmas pudding or peach pavlova — the latter being a very popular choice.

Tony Newman gave a sincere vote of thanks to Cindy and Sean Vining and their team for providing such a splendid feast and a wonderful time that was had by all.

Rebecca Bell

YARCOMBE WEATHER NOVEMBER 2022

	2022	2021	2020
Average Max. temperature	11.9°C	10.6°C	11.2°C
Average Min.	7.4°C	5.6°C	6.6°C
Average Overall temperature	9.6°C	8.1°C	8.9°C
Rainfall	232.8 mm	25.4mm	89.9 mm
Wettest Day	14th 33.4mm	24th 12.9mm	14th 24.3 mm
Sunniest Day	18th 8 hrs	25th 7 hrs	6th 8 hrs
Warmest Day	13th 16.5°C	13th 14.0°C	1st 15.4°C
Coldest Night	19th 2.6°C	12th -0.1°C	4th 1.0°C
Sunshine hours	90 hours approx	81 hrs	70 hrs

November was warm and sunny, but after such a dry year the rain started to fall and we only had a total of three dry days in the month.

Tony Newman

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! PLEASE SEND ALL YOUR YARCOMBE NEWS AND PHOTOS TO PARISH CORRESPONDENT

Rebecca Bell - email: rebecca.e.bell@outlook.com

Striving to save energy this year

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

Week 1 — This week, think about ways you can reduce using electricity and gas at home.

Week 2 — Turn off lights in all the

rooms you are not using — making sure you include any corridors or hallways — and buy LED bulbs ready for when you need to replace a bulb.

Week 3 — Unplug electric appliances when you aren't using them or switch them off at the wall. Even turned off, many appliances keep drawing power.

Week 4 — Put on a jumper and turn your central heating thermostat down by a degree or two. This will make a difference

Week 5 — Wash lightly soiled clothes at 30 degrees instead of higher temperatures, and air dry instead of using the tumble dryer.



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Getting to grips with recycling rules

WHAT a great way to start the new year by welcoming *The Parishes'* Paper as a Community Ally of the group.

Thanks to Rev Julie Lomas and the team for supporting Plastic Free Axminster work and to the magazine readers for perusing the eco tips each month. It is hoped that they have been and will continue to be an encouragement to readers to try and make small sustainable changes in their lives and to encourage friends, family and neighbours to do so too. Everyone is in this together!

Does recycling make you glassy-eyed?

Glass recycling — what do we know? Are we sure about what can be put in our green recycling box — information specific to East Devon — and what can't?

First of all some fun facts....

- Glass is 100 per cent recyclable and the only material that can be recycled repeatedly without losing quality.
- The average UK household uses 500 glass bottles and jars every year but we only recycle around 50 per cent, which leaves around 28billion glass bottles and jars ending up in landfill every year
- It takes less energy to recycle glass than it does to make new glass from raw materials
- The UK's largest glass furnaces produce more than a million glass bottles every day!
- Glass recycling level in the UK saves enough energy to launch 10 space shuttle missions.

But, did you know that you cannot recycle in your green box the following: Drinking glasses (take to tip)

• Pyrex dishes (take to tip)

- Glass cookware (take to tip)
- Window glass, mirrors, light bulbs (take to tip)
- Ceramic/porcelain plates and mugs (take to tip or break them up and use them to line your plant pots for drainage)
- Broken glass or any of the above items which are broken (wrap in newspaper and put straight in the general/non-recyclable bin to prevent injury to the crews)

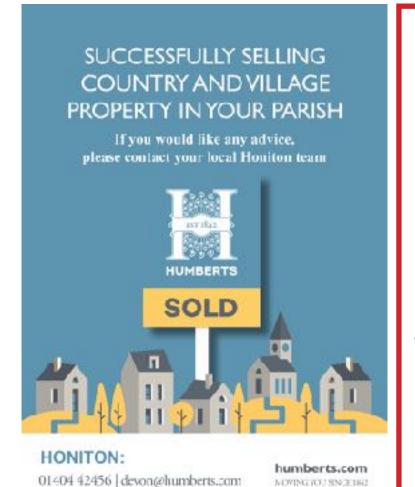
The above items do not melt at the same temperature and other materials are used in the manufacture of some of them.

So everyone needs to stick to putting out washed glass jars and glass bottles to be collected at kerbside. Best to stick to what is printed on the side of the box.

Or try this useful link: A-Z of recycling and disposals — East Devon

SEND GROWING GREENER NEWS

to your parish corespondent. Details on page 31



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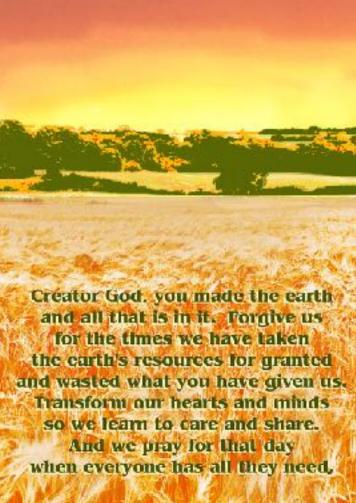
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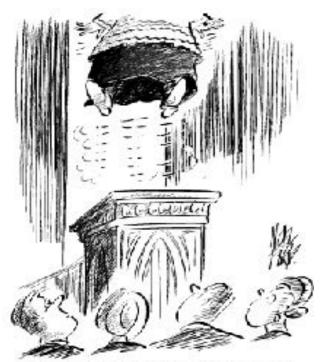
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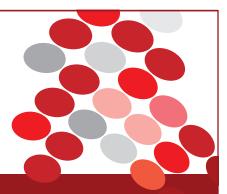
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WHEN	WHERE	WHAT'S HAPPENING	
10am-11.30am 9th, 16th, 23rd	Dalwood Methodist Church	Tea & Tots Baby Group - All are welcome	
10am-12noon Tuesdays	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Post Office Services	
10am-2pm Tuesdays	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Warm Welcome Space	
10am-12noon Wednesdays	St Giles's Church Kilmington	Baby group every week including school holidays, contact Mary Tyler 01297 34958	
9.15am-10.45am Wednesdays (term time only)	The Baptist Church, Kilmington	Toddlers & Tinies - A group for toddlers and tinies with their parents/carers. Suggested donation £1	
2-4pm Wednesdays	St Giles's Church, Kilmington	Warm Welcome Wednesdays	
10am – 12noon Thursdays	St John's Church, Yarcombe	Coffee Stop with Stay and Play for under 5s – contact Mary Smith 01404 861541 for further information	
10am – 12noon Fridays	St Giles's Church, Kilmington	Coffee Shop	
9.30am – 11.30am Fridays	Stockland Victory Hall	Stockland and Yarcombe Toddler Group – contact 07951 958327	
6.30pm 6 th & 20 th January	Stockland Victory Hall	Stockland Youth Club – every other Friday evening	
Wednesday 3 rd January 10.30am	Kilmington Baptist Church	Messy Sparklers	
Tuesday 10 th 10am	Kilmington Baptist Church	Craft Group	
Wednesday 11 th 10.30am	Methodist Chapel Dalwood	Coffee Morning	
Saturday 14 th 10am-12noon	Yarcombe Village Hall	Yarcombe Market	
Tuesday 17 th 12.30pm	Kilmington Baptist Church	Community Contact Lunch - all welcome	
Wednesday 18 th 12.30pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Community Lunch - all welcome – contact Fiona Fraser (01297 639338)	
Wednesday 18 th 12.30pm	Yarcombe Village Hall	Community Lunch	
Wednesday 18 th 2pm	Methodist Chapel Dalwood	Art Club	
Thursday 19th, 7pm for 12 weeks	Kilmington Baptist Church	Alpha 12 Week Course with a hot meal	
Saturday 21st at 8.00am	Kilmington Baptist Church	Men's Breakfast	
Please send Five Alive Mission Community upcoming events details to 5alivemc@gmail.com			

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Tennis Club: Bev Bailey - 07577 488656: Sue Wells - 07912 272102

The Hitchcock Pavilion: Peter

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DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE IS JANUARY 12th

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

