

# CLYST VALLEY NEWS

## JANUARY 2021



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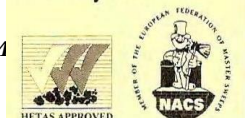
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## THE VICAR WRITES...

### Hope



By the time you read this article, the first Christmas under COVID restrictions will have taken place; or rather with them temporarily lifted. Will the 'hit' on our NHS be too great? Will we have to go back into lockdown in January, as with Northern Ireland? It's impossible to predict; but the signs aren't too good. The hope, on the horizon now, is that the vaccine(s) will provide the answer.

'Hope' is, of course, a fundamental Christian doctrine, and a sadly underrated one, in my view. (When we read 'faith, hope and love remain, and the greatest of these is love', how many of us think that 'hope' is the poor relation in the triad?) Hope is for the future, and for the 'eschatological' future too – ie for the end of the world; this is what we believe as Christians. C S Lewis talked of four stages of time which he defined as: 1) the past, 2) the present, 3) the future, and 4) the future yet to come. Then he said that the problem with us Christians in the twentieth century is that we spend too much time on 1 and 3 and not enough on 2 and 4.

One of the things lockdown has taught me, through something akin to mindfulness, is to be thankful for the small things in life. Enjoy what we can in the present. But don't neglect the long-term future, when we eventually will come to die. Whatever we believe about the after-life; surely most of us want to have made a difference, for the good, in our limited lifespan.

However, I have become a little serious. There is hope for our New Year; let's try hard to make it a better one, for all concerned. Perhaps a little more love, of our neighbour, and of God, might be a starting point.

May I wish you a Happy New 2021. God bless. Bill.

Bill and Daff Lemmey, Woodbury Vicarage

[revbillwhitecross@gmail.com](mailto:revbillwhitecross@gmail.com)

### WHITE CROSS MISSION COMMUNITY

The churches in the White Cross Community are open weekly for private prayer: *Mondays, Woodbury Salterton, 3 - 6 pm; Tuesdays, all closed; Wednesdays, Woodbury, 10 - 1 pm; Thursdays, Farrington, 2 - 5 pm; Fridays, Clyst St George, 4 - 7 pm; Saturdays, Clyst St Mary, 10 - 1 pm; Sundays, Exton, 2 - 5 pm.* Churches are open at these times for private prayer only.

Please also see the schedule of WCMC church services for January (subject to Government guidance) towards the end of the magazine, including two ZOOM services for those who prefer not to travel to church or feel more comfortable at home at the moment or would just like to join us. I will send you a link for these services (and advice if anyone needs it on how to access ZOOM) - just email me as I need your email address for the link. Jill Dupain (church admin officer) at [dupain@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dupain@hotmail.co.uk).

### WHY NOT ADVERTISE IN THE CLYST VALLEY NEWS?

If you are interested in advertising in the Clyst Valley News for 2021, now's the time to get in touch - with no obligation. We have a few spare slots still. Please contact the Editor, Peter Skelton, at [clystvalleynews@gmail.com](mailto:clystvalleynews@gmail.com) or on 01392 879857.

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**Contributions, photos and letters to the editor for the February 2021 issue of the Clyst Valley News should be sent, preferably by email, to the editor, Peter Skelton, at [clystvalleynews@gmail.com](mailto:clystvalleynews@gmail.com) or to 3 Brockwells Court, Frog Lane, Clyst St Mary, EX5 1BX by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at the latest, please. Please note that contributions may be edited.**

#### EDITOR'S NOTE



*Hello and welcome to this first edition of the Clyst Valley News for 2021 - still online only but we intend to resume printing and delivery as soon as it is safe to do so. Happy New Year to one and all! I know we're all hoping and praying for a considerable improvement on last year. Let's spare a thought for those intrepid, selfless frontline workers, NHS staff and community volunteers who have toiled away throughout this COVID crisis to get us all to this point.*

*Many, many of these unsung heroes will have been working over the Christmas/New Year period while we have been trying to capture a little of the festive spirit. We salute you all! Now that the vaccines are starting to be rolled out, we're daring to think that we can see light at the end of the tunnel; and you'll all get a well-earned rest.*

*Talking of community volunteers, what brilliant initiatives folk have taken to bring some Christmas cheer to our villages and towns! You'll see some reports and pictures in the magazine. Well done to everyone going the extra mile and bringing smiles to our faces in these trying times.*

*My grateful thanks to Ian Porter for this month's lovely cover photo. Ian tells me it was taken during a lockdown walk from Clyst St George to Clyst St Mary of the A376 old bridge over Grindle Brook from the new bridge/carriageway. A seductively tranquil scene.*

*Well, as we bid a not so fond farewell to 2020, we look forward to seeing what the next year will bring. We are certainly not free of continuing challenges: as I write COVID is pretty rampant still in most parts of the country (including a new, highly contagious variant) and the relaxation of restrictions over Christmas was revised as we faced raised fears of a new spike early in the New Year. I hope it doesn't come to that but by the time you are reading this, things may be a little clearer. Maybe we need to be more confident that we were sensible and did not take undue risks when celebrating a limited Christmas and New Year with our families and friends.*

*Then there is Brexit waiting in the wings potentially to cause some mischief. As of today, the government and the EU have agreed a trade agreement, which has got to be better than leaving on 31<sup>st</sup> December without one. I know we don't all agree on this contentious issue so let's see how things pan out over the first few months of our newly won 'sovereignty'. Against the background of a relentless pandemic, it's difficult to preserve much optimism and there are a lot of local businesspeople in particular having sleepless nights. Fingers tightly crossed. To end on a more positive note, here's an optimistic quote from 'Mehmet Murat Ildan: 'Sometimes a year has been so disastrous and so terrible that entering a new year will automatically mean entering a wonderful year!'*

*Enjoy the magazine and have a happy, healthy and peaceful 2021. Best wishes. Peter Skelton*

#### YOUR PHOTOS NEEDED FOR THE COVER OF THE CVN!



There must be a lot of photographers out there snapping away around our villages. After all, our neck of the woods is rather photogenic. Why not share your results with our readers? Most months we aim to put one nice pic on the magazine cover and we need yours! So please do send in your efforts to the editor, Peter Skelton, who will choose one each month. Try to use relatively high definition settings but that's not a must. Just email them across to [clystvalleynews@gmail.com](mailto:clystvalleynews@gmail.com) and we'll do the rest. Simple!

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#### CLYST ST MARY



##### Clyst St Mary Church

We welcome you along to the services for January 2021 listed at the end of the magazine. These are not going to be long drawn out services because they are for all ages but hopefully interactive enough to keep everyone involved!

We would like you to email [pat@cusa.org.uk](mailto:pat@cusa.org.uk) to book your seat or family pew in the church. Please give us your numbers of adults and children attending and your contact details. This will also help us with our Track and Trace requirements too. I realise these days there are a lot of things we all have to do but we hope you will think it worth it when you come along. Many thanks and God Bless.

#### Church Coffee Mornings



These have been suspended until further notice.

#### Clyst St Mary's Festive Fun



A simple request on a flyer went around all the residents of Clyst St Mary asking them to help spread some festive fun around our village this Christmas. This was to simply add a touch of Christmas to your house or garden for others to enjoy. WELL, YOU CERTAINLY DID THAT! As you walked around there were some amazing ideas, colours, lights, candles and even a gathering of penguins enjoying the front garden of a house in Frog Lane. You all surpassed expectation of this idea and put your

heart and soul into making it so uplifting for us all.

Thank you all so very much for giving the time to add some fun and light to what is quite a difficult time. I want to take this opportunity to now wish all of you a very Happy Christmas however you are able to spend it and good health and happiness in 2021. Best wishes. Pat Cusa

## Living Advent



Alongside the festive fun people were asked if they wanted to join in with a 'Living Advent'. It's an idea that came from the fact that many people have advent calendars in their homes and open a window each day as they count down to Christmas Day. Rather than being a solitary thing, Living Advent intended to promote a sense of community; instead of opening a window on our own, in our house, we put a display in a window (or outside) so that we could share together as we prepared for Christmas. Again, the village response was amazing: all 24 days had at least one display! A leaflet with map and a list of addresses was produced so that anyone could walk round the village in the evening and see the growing range of window/garden displays.



Many of the displays were being shared on social media so even if you couldn't get out you could still see what was happening! Thank you everyone that is helping to bring joy to the village in this way...



## Coppers!



Despite the lockdown, several packets of coppers have either been handed over in church or left with Don Axford in Frog Lane in support of church funds. Our sincere thanks to you all, you know who you are; it has helped to keep our heads above water financially in what has been a very trying time, in more ways than one. Shopping online means that there is not a lot of small change about but if you do have any that is weighing your pockets or purses down, it will be gratefully received. Either leave it in church at a service or with Don Axford at 34 Frog Lane. If in difficulty to deliver, Don will collect, obeying social distancing rules, etc, if you ring him on 01392 873615.

I am retiring as Cyst St Mary PCC Treasurer as from 1<sup>st</sup> January and Gill Fenwick is taking over but I will still be around to collect your loose change. Don Axford

## Cyst St Mary Primary School



Happy New Year! As 2021 begins with the roll out of a COVID-19 vaccine, this hopefully means that news regarding the pandemic will become increasingly positive helping us return

to a more normal lifestyle. In the meantime we will continue to provide the children in our school with a well-rounded education that goes beyond reading, maths and English, offering them as wide a range of opportunities as circumstances allow.

The spring term will start with a visit from M&M Productions who will be presenting a virtual pantomime for the children as one actor, present in school, interacts with the rest of the cast via a large screen. This will be a whole new experience for us and is a credit to the hard work and tenacity of people in the theatre industry as they find ways to adapt so that they can continue to offer children opportunities to experience literature through a medium other than

print on the page. We are looking forward to a fun-filled experience and much laughter as we view Peter Pan!



Our playground decorations are now packed away ready for next year and we hope they brightened your days in the run up to Christmas. Our thanks go to the parents who donated decorations and to Mrs Wilson and her husband for giving up their time to prepare and put up the festive greenery and lights that adorned our porch. The children enjoyed seeing their decorations on the tree and it seems likely that Pat Cusa and her team may have started a new Cyst St Mary tradition with their Advent walk about! Thank you, Pat.



## Bishops Cyst Parish Council



*Traffic and Parking Group.* Many of you will remember the Parish Council set up the Traffic and Parking Group (T&PG), following a public meeting in November 2018, to investigate the impact of increased traffic on the local community. The T&PG prepared a comprehensive report, containing recommendations for road network improvements, which was presented at Devon County Council's Full Council Meeting in February 2020. We have now received a response to our report and both documents are available on our website from these links: [Bishops Cyst Parish Council Traffic Report](#); [Devon County Council's response](#). The Parish Council is considering its response.

*Devon Carbon Plan Consultation.* The consultation of the Interim Devon Carbon Plan is now live! The plan is a collaborative roadmap to creating a net-zero Devon where people and nature thrive and is Devon's response to the global climate emergency.

The time has now come for you to offer further thoughts and feedback. Residents are asked to take part in the Interim Devon Carbon Plan consultation, which begins on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December and lasts for ten weeks. Devon Climate Emergency (DCE) partnership wants to hear your views on key actions that outline some of the transformational changes which are required to create a thriving net-zero Devon.

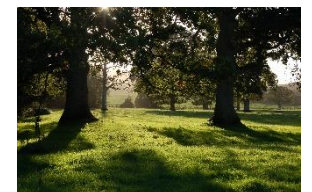
The Interim Devon Carbon Plan will be updated to a final plan after the Citizens' Assembly, now in 2021 due to COVID-19.

The actions cover a broad range of topics which will allow us to build back better. Addressing the climate and ecological emergency is an opportunity to create a fairer, healthier, more resilient and prosperous society.

DCE is requesting feedback from Devon's citizens to indicate to what extent they agree with the proposed actions. Have your say at: [www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/InterimCarbonPlan](http://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/InterimCarbonPlan).

*Cyst Valley Regional Park Public Consultation.* A public consultation on proposals for a new, public, green space around the Cyst Valley is taking place from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 until 12 noon on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021. The survey has been extended until January to allow for the national coronavirus restrictions currently in force.

The Cyst Valley is on the doorstep of a rapidly growing population to the east of Exeter. To make sure that local people can explore and enjoy the East Devon countryside, connecting with nature for their health and



wellbeing, the Clyst Valley Regional Park masterplan sets out ideas on how it can be improved in years to come. This plan will provide a basis to seek funding for these improvements. Some parts of the Clyst Valley are well known, such as National Trust Killerton. Other areas are not currently accessible to the public. The masterplan proposes to restore nature and historic buildings, create trails, tackle climate change and flooding.

Take the survey online to have your say by visiting [eastdevon.gov.uk/clystvalleypark](https://eastdevon.gov.uk/clystvalleypark). For queries about the masterplan, email [sbates@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:sbates@eastdevon.gov.uk).

Councillor Paul Arnott, Leader of East Devon District Council, said: *This exciting project is central to East Devon's commitment to conserving beautiful areas not protected by formal status as well as encouraging the return of the bio-diversity the world is in desperate need of in the 2020s. I would encourage everyone to take part in this consultation.*

Councillor Geoff Jung, East Devon District Council's Portfolio Holder for Coast, Country and Environment said: *Although the concept of the Clyst Valley Regional Park was agreed through the East Devon Local Plan in 2016 (Strategy 10), this consultation proposes many exciting and creative additions to help provide easier access for people to enjoy this wonderful countryside area on Exeter's doorstep. It will also improve and enhance the biodiversity and habitat, to protect this special area for the long term. Therefore, it is vital that you tell us how you would like to see this valuable 'green space blueprint' develop and grow. I would like all residents and businesses to help us define the priorities of the Park, as it takes shape over the coming years.*

Some of the ideas that are suggested in the Clyst Valley Regional Park masterplan are:

- Clyst Valley Trail linking the Exe Estuary Trail to the Exe Valley Way
- Extension to Cranbrook Country Park
- Land-based learning centre and café at Broadclyst Community Farm
- A new cycle trail linking Cranbrook to Exeter along a quiet route
- Renaturalising the River Clyst between Clyst Honiton and Cranbrook
- A major increase in trees through both planting and natural regeneration
- A new visitor hub at Ashclyst Farm and cycle/pedestrian links into the Forest from Cranbrook, Broadclyst and Killerton

A stakeholder consultation took place last year. As part of this, local groups and organisations were asked to help shape the draft masterplan. Now the public are being asked to share their views on the masterplan. Contact information: Anne Mountjoy [amountjoy@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:amountjoy@eastdevon.gov.uk). Contact the Parush Council. Karan Bennett, PC Clerk, working from the PC office in Clyst St Mary Village Hall on Monday to Wednesday, 9 am to 1 pm. Call 01392 874405 or email [bishopsclyst@gmail.com](mailto:bishopsclyst@gmail.com).

## Village Hall



Obviously this has been a difficult year for everyone - no less for the Village Hall and all those who use it! During the first lockdown the committee took advantage of the situation and arranged the complete redecoration of the interior and the fitting of new and much improved lighting

in the main hall. Various other work both inside and out has been completed so that the Hall is now looking 'as good as new'!

At the same time we recognised that our website, which had not been updated for a lot of years, needed a fresh look. This has been done by Bespoke Web Designs, looks fantastic and will be launched on 1<sup>st</sup> January. Within the website is a new diary and a booking form (by the hour!)

that can be completed and submitted online. Ali West has taken over the responsibility for booking from that date so that everything will be available electronically (preferred) although a new 'Buzz' telephone system will also come on stream meaning that anyone calling the Village Hall booking number will always get a reply - either from Ali or if she's not available, from one of the alternative 'responders' to whom the call will be relayed.

Karin Hurst who has done a great job over recent years, will continue as caretaker and key holder but, from 1<sup>st</sup> January, all enquiries should please be addressed to Ali - preferably by email using the booking form on our website <https://www.clyststmaryvillagehall.co.uk/>, sent to [bookings@clyststmaryvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@clyststmaryvillagehall.co.uk) or by 'phone on 01392 949088.

Thank you. With better news now beginning to filter through, we very much hope that all enjoy a much happier and healthier 2021 so that we can look forward to seeing you at the Hall very soon.

PS The lock on the hall door has had to be renewed. Would regular users who hold keys please contact Karin Hurst to obtain a replacement.

## Clyst St Mary Flood Defence Improvements: Progress Update



Following our update in October, when a major part of the works were completed, we have continued to reinstate the bank closest to the bridge. The timber and concrete capping beam to the steel sheet piles is now also complete, along with the king post and plank wall in the northern section.

Due to current high water levels, we have decided to leave the site for a few months during the wetter season. Completion of the earthworks, final reinstatement and landscaping elements

will then be reviewed in February/March, with a view to return and complete in spring 2021, when site constraints allow. Final completion is expected in summer 2021.

Defence levels will be maintained over the winter months to the pre-works standard. Despite further works being required to upgrade the scheme, the works to date already provide added benefits in protecting the village from flooding from the River Clyst floodplain, through installation of the sheet piles.

While we are away, during the next few months, the public right of way and stile at the north end of the site will be opened up and Kier will continue to monitor the site security. Kier's Public Liaison Officer, Jayne Johnson, will continue to be available to help you with any queries with the site works. Her contact details are 07716 223056 or [Exmouth.PLO@kier.co.uk](mailto:Exmouth.PLO@kier.co.uk).

Thank you again for your cooperation to date during the essential improvement works to flood defences at Clyst St Mary; it is appreciated. Wishing you all a good festive season and Happy New Year!

Becky Richards, Project Manager, Environment Agency

## Clyst Valley AFC – to Expand!!



With the likelihood of the football pitches at the old Winslade Manor recreation ground coming back into use, Clyst Valley AFC is making plans to take advantage of these exciting opportunities for the benefit of more of the community. Having been restricted to the use of only one football pitch for many years, the proposals by Burrington Estates to create two more adult pitches and two junior pitches in the village means that Clyst Valley can expand the club in order to offer football to more age groups of both sexes. At present we run

two adult and one Under 18 team but would like to consider running a third male team, a male veterans' team, ladies' teams and commence a youth section for all age groups of boys and girls. While we recognise that planning permission has still to be granted we would like to hear from anyone that would be interested in playing or in helping with this expansion. Please don't hold back; if you or your children have any interest please let us know as quickly as possible so that we can gauge the interest and start to formulate our plans. Our website is currently being rebuilt so please register your interest by emailing the Club Chairman at [petercain@fh9.co.uk](mailto:petercain@fh9.co.uk).

### Walking Group

Due to present meeting restrictions we are having to put the monthly walks on hold for now until the Government may make changes to the COVID rules.



### Clyst Valley Pre-School

**Clyst Valley Preschool - Clyst St Mary**  
 www.clystvalleypreschool.org - Phone: 01392 876615  
 Email: admin@clystvalleypreschool.org

**Places available for September 2020**

- Ofsted Outstanding
- Purpose built building on site of Clyst St Mary Primary School
- Highly qualified and experienced staff, including 3 Early Years Teachers
- High staff to child ratios
- 30 hours funding accepted
- Sessions available every day from 9:15am - 3:15pm

Easy access to M5, Seaton, Bishop's Clyst, Clyst Heath, Newcourt, Fishoe, Cranbrook and surrounding villages.

### Table Tennis Club



The Table Tennis Club has suspended all play for the time being but hopes to be back very soon! If anyone is interested in joining the club, please contact Pam Gardner either by telephone (07714 097220) or by email at [pamelamgardner9@gmail.com](mailto:pamelamgardner9@gmail.com).

*[For the tennis, short bowls and badminton clubs please look out for notices in subsequent issues of the CVN as to when activities will resume.]*

### CLYST ST GEORGE AND EBFORD



#### Clyst St George Church Services

We are very much dependent on COVID-19 guidelines but we are hoping to hold the services set out in the list for January at the end of the magazine. All are welcome to these services although there is a restriction on numbers so if you would like to join us please contact Jacquie Manser on 01392 874861 or at [jacquie@jmanser.co.uk](mailto:jacquie@jmanser.co.uk).

### Nature Garden

Clyst St George has a delightful nature garden by the side of the parish church. The aim of the garden is to grow local Devon indigenous plants and trees and to encourage a Devon meadow with local wild flowers. Should you wish to help develop this 'green' facility, you can come along on the first Saturday of every month from 9.30 to 11 am. (PLEASE CHECK IN ADVANCE.)

### Greetings Cards



We are always grateful to receive cards (except Christmas ones) for remaking and they can be left in the church which is normally open between 9 am and 5 pm each day. Visitors will also find boxes of made up cards for sale covering birthdays, get well, sympathy, new home, thank you, anniversary, etc as well as cards with no message or cards with no message or wording suitable for any occasion. Do call in and enjoy a few quiet moments browsing and perhaps buy a card. Linda Wilkerson (01392 873699). SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

### Norman's Weather Report



The extra lockdown month of November was rather boring weather-wise as in other ways. Rainfall at 67 mm (2.6 inches) was very much below the 20-year average of 93 mm here at Ebford.

Most of the rain fell during the second week of the month, with 18.5 mm recorded on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>. Colder, more seasonal conditions are now approaching, as I write at the beginning of December. Norman Cann

### Clyst St George Parish Hall



Clyst St George Parish Hall is open once more to anyone who wants to hire the Hall. We are not making the Ethel Cann Room available at the moment as it is too small to adhere to the social distancing rules. The Hall has been redecorated and is looking splendid.

There are hand sanitising units at strategic points in the building for the use of the hirers and hirers are asked to be responsible for making sure that they adhere to the government guidelines for holding gatherings in a COVID-safe way. Our cleaner will use PPE when working in the Hall and he has special cleaning fluids to make the area as safe as possible. We are not sure when we will resume the coffee mornings, Big Breakfast or the quiz evenings but we hope it will not be long before these things can resume. Watch this space! Enquiries to Claire Marks at [clyststgeorgeandebfordvhall@outlook.com](mailto:clyststgeorgeandebfordvhall@outlook.com) or 'phone 07834 234546. Pamela Diffey (Chairperson) 01392 877497

### Little Dragons Pre-School

We are pleased with the outcome of our Ofsted inspection in April 2018, where we were judged to be 'good'. We have now re-opened and have been operating at full capacity from September. We are based in Lady Seaward's School and open four days a week, from Monday to Thursday 8.45 am – 3.15 pm during school term times. Do come and visit and meet our highly experienced staff team. For more information please telephone Elly on 07939 995486 (in school hours), email [littledragons@live.com](mailto:littledragons@live.com) or visit our website [www.littledragonsclyststgeorge.com](http://www.littledragonsclyststgeorge.com).

### WOODBURY SALTERTON



#### Woodbury Salterton Church Services

Please see the list of services scheduled for January which you can find at the end of the magazine. COVID permitting, all are welcome to these services although there is a restriction on numbers so if you would like to join us it might be worthwhile contacting a churchwarden in advance.

## Masks

Fiona Vessey has been making and selling masks for church funds, for a suggested donation of £5. When the church is open, they will be available for purchase at the back of the church.

## Will You Help Our Village Church?

Like many other charities, our village church has had a significant reduction in income as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. However, the expenses have continued to come in and recent surveys of the fabric of the building have uncovered work that needs to be done on the lightning conductors, the roof and crumbling masonry, amongst other things. Despite the building being closed for most of the time, the church community has been there to help the vulnerable and needy in the village. If you would like to support our church and help financially to protect the fabric of the building for future generations please contact the PCC Treasurer, Nigel Dupain, for details. Single donations or regular giving would be very gratefully received and can be restricted to building repairs if you wish. Completion of a Gift Aid form would mean that we could claim a further 25 per cent of your gift from the government without any cost to you or the church. Bank details: 30-93-14, 02863238. Contact details: Nigel Dupain, Little Cannonwalls, Woodbury Salterton, Exeter, EX5 1PY. Email [dupain@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dupain@hotmail.co.uk) or 'phone 01395 232953.



## Festive Windows

This year people were invited to decorate their windows to brighten the village and bring some festive cheer. The theme was *Joy*. It was organised by Debbie Jung on behalf of the PCC and entrants were invited to make a donation to church funds. Entries could go up during December and the PCC will allocate a prize to the best entry after 19<sup>th</sup> December. Here are photos of some of the early entrants.



## Monthly Church Coffee Mornings



These have been suspended until further notice.

## Church Quiz

The annual church quiz, entitled *Britain in Bloom* has been selling well - £2 per copy for church funds. Copies can be obtained from Katharine Wheeler. There is a £10 prize and entries do not have to be in until 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

## Woodbury Salterton C of E Primary School

Happy New Year to you all! We hope that you had a blessed Christmas and want to share our December news as we prepared for the season's celebrations in our school community; doing things a bit differently this year because of COVID.



The School Council and Ethos Group had the pleasure of selling knitted Christmas animals in aid of Woodbury Salterton Church made by our own super knitter, Mrs Wheeler. There were elves, reindeer, snowmen and Santa Claus – all very popular with the children! They also held a Christmas card competition. The children made lots of cards for local people which were delivered to members of the community that support our school. The children and staff wanted to say Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year!

If you drove past school you would have seen the whole school who took part in a Santa Run led by Santa's special helper, Mr Fletcher, our sports coach who made sure the children had a very energetic time running laps of the playground with a visit from none other than Santa Claus himself! The children raised funds for ELF - no not Santa's helpers the Elves- this was for Exeter Leukaemia Fund. A very big thank you to all those who donated to this worthy cause. We were very lucky to have Becky Mason from Dartmoor School Sport Partnership visit school for a festive dance lesson. The children really enjoyed putting together routines, working collaboratively and displaying their super moves! Thank you, Becky, for an energetic afternoon!

Class 3 got creative and completed igloo constructions ensuring their learning about techniques of strengthening, stiffening and reinforcing was effective. They painted their igloos in an offset brickwork pattern to represent the construction of snow blocks and designed snowy landscapes of Inuits and arctic animals. Class 3 also practised using their watercolour skills and techniques to paint beautiful Christmas cards with a Christingle theme.



The children made Christingles from oranges and remembered what the Christingle represents. The orange represents the world, the red ribbon is for the blood of Christ, the cocktail sticks represent the compass points and the four seasons and the raisins represent sweetness and the fruits of the earth. They lit the candles, which remind us that Jesus is the light of the world. The children held a small Christingle service in their classrooms and reflected upon the true meaning of Christmas.

Class 2 enjoyed their session with Becky Mason (Dartmoor School Sport Partnership) with a nativity-themed dance lesson. After practising different aspects of the dance, they put together a performance, which was videoed and enjoyed when back in class. Class 2 also made Iron Age-themed brooches using air-drying clay. They shaped and patterned them

using a range of tools and decorated them with buttons and sequins.

Class 1 had some rather cheeky visitors overnight! Mrs Corlett came into school one morning and found a terrible mess in the classroom. She found a video on her laptop of some very naughty reindeer who had visited in the night and had been dancing on the tables! The children then got busy writing to the reindeers to try to teach them how to behave when they are in school. The children made reindeer hats and ate huge amounts of carrots just in case the reindeer came back for them!



Class 1 and the whole school are delighted to welcome Miss Brace as the new Class 1 teacher and know that she will be a fantastic addition to the team. Miss Brace is an experienced EYFS and Key Stage 1 practitioner, with interests in Science and Music. It was our sadness to say goodbye

to Mrs Tweedy and Mrs Corlett, two wonderful teachers who job-shared in Class 1 and who both made a very significant contribution to our school. We wish them every happiness in 2021 and thank them for all that they did with Woodbury Salterton children over many years. Our thanks to the PTA team who have been busy fundraising for school through various means as we were not permitted to hold our annual Christmas fair. They raised money to buy outdoor play things to make play and lunch time more fun. They also held a silent auction with local business lending their support. Thank you to all those involved and congratulations to Sara (chair) and her team for raising £900. We look forward to the new spring term ahead and extend an invite to those parents interested in finding out more about our school community to visit our website latest news page and contact the school office on 01395 232649 for further information.

### A Tree of Light



Our thanks to the Parish Council for their kind donation of Christmas lights to brighten the village. It was decided to use the lights on one of the yew trees in the churchyard as that is fairly central to the village so that as many people as possible could enjoy them.

### We Have a Village Shop Again!



The Digger's Rest has opened a shop selling bread, milk, groceries, fruit and vegetables, etc. This is a valuable resource for the village and we encourage everyone to support it. The last shop in the village closed 22 years ago.

### Village Hall Activities

#### Woodbury Salterton Village Hall



The Hall is a great asset to the village and is a great space for community and private events. We have a few regular groups open to all: community coffee morning, first Monday of the month, 9 to 11.30 am; Woodbury Salterton parent and toddler group, Monday mornings, 9 to 11 am; Woodbury Salterton WI, second Wednesday of the month, 7.30 pm; whist, third Tuesday of the month, 7.30 pm. *[Please check in advance when these activities will resume.]*

### Goodbye to an Old Tree



On 8<sup>th</sup> December workmen cut down an old horse chestnut tree on The Plantation. The tree still had some life in it and had flowered last spring but as the photos show the very centre of the trunk had rotted away to nothing.



~~~~~  
AND FINALLY...

### ATTENTION ALL POULTRY KEEPERS: Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)

*Poultry and Other Captive Birds.* An [Avian Influenza Prevention Zone](#) (AIPZ) has been



declared across the whole of England, effective from 5 pm on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020. All poultry keepers in England (whether they have commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard flock) are required by law to take a range of biosecurity precautions.

If you keep poultry (including gamebirds or pet birds) or other captive birds, you must act now to reduce the risk of disease in your flock by following the relevant biosecurity measures required within the AIPZ. Your stock needs to be feed and

watered under cover to prevent contamination from wild birds.

Good biosecurity improves the overall health and productivity of your flock by helping keep out poultry diseases such as avian influenza and limiting the spread of disease in an outbreak. All bird gatherings within the AIPZ are prohibited; therefore, the general licence that had permitted bird gatherings has been revoked.

For more guidance please visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu>. If you find dead wild waterfowl (swans, geese or ducks) or other dead wild birds, such as gulls or birds of prey, you should report them to the Defra helpline (03459 33 55 77).

Public Health England advises that the risk to the public's health is very low. Food Standards Agency (FSA) has said that on the basis of the current scientific evidence, avian influenzas pose a very low food safety risk for UK consumers. Avian influenza is unconnected with coronavirus (COVID-19).

*Voluntary Registration.* You can choose to register fewer than 50 birds, or birds you keep as pets. The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) encourages you to register even if you do not have to by law. By registering,

- APHA will be able to contact you if there's a disease outbreak (such as bird flu) in your area;
- You'll help prevent the spread of disease and protect the national poultry flock.

### Exmouth and District U3A Monthly Meetings



- Meetings have been suspended because of the coronavirus crisis but will resume as soon as it is safe to do so. Look out for our announcement and stay safe.

## Force Cancer Charity

The FORCE Cancer Charity Support & Information Centre is temporarily closed

**but we are still here to help**

Monday-Friday 09:30-16:30

|                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>For cancer support and information plus advice on claiming benefits</b><br>☎ 01392 406151<br>✉ support@forcecancercharity.co.uk | <b>For psychological and emotional support</b><br>☎ 01392 406168 / 406169<br>✉ help@forcecancercharity.co.uk |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

 cancer charity **force**  
Registered Charity No. 1046514  
www.forcecancercharity.co.uk

We are very keen to let as many people as possible in communities across the county know that FORCE is still offering support to people in Devon affected by cancer, despite the impact of COVID-19. The virus brings another layer of anxiety and distress for many of the people we support so we quickly adapted our services when the pandemic restricted our ability to offer the face-to-face contact so integral to our mission.

Our main Support Centre in Exeter was temporarily closed and our weekly outreach programmes in East, West and Mid Devon have been severely impacted. But our staff were on the end of a 'phone or video link to offer advice and information on all sorts of things like claiming benefits, accessing our counselling service, how to take exercise that can boost your immune system or just general guidance on coping at such a difficult time.

They were able to answer many of the questions posed in these uncertain times - and not just by cancer patients. FORCE is also supporting families and carers - anyone impacted by a cancer diagnosis in someone they love. Those online services are still available but we are delighted that our Support Centre is now open again, with strict COVID-safe measures in place to protect staff and visitors.

The nurses we fund at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital are also still able to deliver vital chemotherapy and we have worked closely with the RD&E to develop a new cancer hub in Ottery St Mary.

What has been considerably affected is our income. So many events have been cancelled or postponed and we have had to close our charity shop for significant periods. But we continue to get fantastic support from communities like yours. We still have a significant gap in our finances to plug, but every donation makes a difference and means we can continue to help local people affected by cancer.

Thank you for your continued support.

### Poetry Corner

by John Smith (of Clyst St Mary)

*'Where do the ideas come from?' This is a poem that I wrote several years ago to and for my wife. It is as good an explanation as I can find. JS*

#### *Gold Top*

*The words come fresh every day  
Like yesteryear's milk delivery.  
They sit on the doorstep of my sleep  
Waiting for my day to open,  
Take them in and pour them  
Onto the page.*

*There must be a creamery of words  
Somewhere inside my head  
Where strings of feeling are fashioned  
Into thoughts and words, then bottled  
Into phrases, fresh for use.*

*You are the making, never asleep,  
Working away inside my deep  
Sub-conscious, then I keep  
You ready for my morning pen.*

©John Smith



## QUIZ OF THE YEAR 2020!

See how much you can remember of this eventful year. Answers after Hogmanay Howlers.

1. On which date was the first lockdown declared in the UK?
2. Which two members of the Royal Family embarked on a train tour of the UK on 6<sup>th</sup> December?
3. Britain's longest running TV soap Coronation Street celebrated which anniversary this year?
4. Where did Boris Johnson's chief adviser Dominic Cummings drive with his family during lockdown to 'test his eyesight'?
5. England lost just once on their way to another Six Nations Championship. Which country beat them?
6. Which satirical show from the 1980s returned to our screens on BritBox this year?



7. Captain Sir Tom Moore became the oldest person to have a UK number 1 after he featured on which song performed by Michael Ball?



8. Who said, 'I was in the shower, thinking, I write raps in the shower. It hit me to say, "You're going to run for president," and I started laughing hysterically'?



9. In January, the impeachment trial of Donald Trump began. Including Trump, how many Presidents of the United States have been impeached?

10. Which two members of England's 1966 World

(Image: AP Photo/Evan Vucci) Cup winning squad sadly died this year?

11. Which was the first European country to go into lockdown?

12. Which film won Best Film at the 2020 BAFTAs?



13. Lewis Hamilton won a record-tying seventh F1 Drivers' Championship this year, but with whom does he share the record?

14. Which music legend would have turned 80 this year if not for his murder in 1980?



15. Whose statue was pushed into Bristol Harbour during Black Lives Matter protests over his involvement in the slave trade?

(Image: Ben Birchall/PA Wire)

16. Who said, 'After a blessed but troubled life, hopefully he'll finally find some comfort in the hands of God'?

17. Who was Joe Biden's running mate in the US Presidential Election?

18. Which film won Best Picture at the 2020 Oscars?

19. Before being forced to withdraw due to a positive COVID-19 test, which couple were set to become the first same-sex pairing on Strictly Come Dancing?

20. Who was appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer on 13<sup>th</sup> February?

21. Which golfer won the rearranged US Masters in November?

22. Jim Carrey starred as the villain in which 2020 film based on a video game character?



23. Who said, 'Never been more proud of my friend than I am today. We'll be together at 10am on This Morning'?

24. Which two teams contested the 2019/20 UEFA Champions League Final?

25. Radio 1 refused to play the original version of which popular Christmas song due to its controversial lyrics?

## The Exeter Forum



Meetings of the Forum have been suspended due to the coronavirus outbreak until further notice.

## Exmouth Mobile Library Timetable 2021

| Day      | Village            | Stop           | Arrive | Depart |
|----------|--------------------|----------------|--------|--------|
| Friday   | Aylesbeare         | Nightjar Inn   | 09.50  | 10.10  |
| Friday   | Clyst St Mary      | Cat and Fiddle | 12.10  | 12.30  |
| Tuesday  | Clyst St Mary      | Winslade Park  | 14.50  | 15.10  |
| Tuesday  | Clyst St George    | School         | 15.20  | 15.40  |
| Monday   | Exton              | Station        | 09.45  | 10.05  |
| Friday   | Woodbury Salterton | Kennels        | 12.50  | 13.10  |
| Woodbury | Woodbury           | White Hart     | 14.00  | 16.00  |

*Disclaimer: Due to operational circumstances, the mobile library may need to be off road and unable to visit on some dates. Details will be publicised closer to the time. These timetables may be subject to change.*



## Recycle Devon

A trial to boost re-use of electrical items is taking place at five Household Waste Recycling



Centres across Devon.

The project, funded by the electricals industry to encourage the re-use of electrical items, will initially focus on flat screen TVs, vacuum cleaners and lighting.

In 2018/19, over 7,200 tonnes of electrical items were recycled through Devon's recycling centres and the trial

aims to go one step further and capture any items that are still in good working order to keep them in circulation for longer.

The participating trial sites are:

- Pinbrook Recycling Centre, Exeter
- Ivybridge Recycling Centre
- Brunel Road Recycling Centre, Newton Abbot
- Knowle Hill Recycling Centre, Exmouth
- Bideford Recycling Centre

Residents arriving at participating recycling centres with flat screen TVs, vacuum cleaners or lighting will now be asked by site staff if the item is still working and in good condition. Items that can be re-used will be PAT- and function-tested by trained site staff and then made available in the site's re-use shop for the public to buy, along with furniture, bric-a-brac and other re-usable household items. Non-working electrical items and any failing the testing procedure will be recycled.

It is estimated that following the testing process, 33 per cent of TVs, 50 per cent of vacuums and 72 per cent of lighting/lamps will be suitable to re-use, meaning an additional 48 tonnes of electrical goods will be re-used per year at participating sites.

Recycling centre resale shops are popular with the public as they offer a range of household items at affordable prices. Public demand for resale shops to include electrical items has grown

as budget-savvy shoppers embrace the cost savings of buying re-usable goods, whilst also benefiting the environment.

The grant funding has helped provide workshop and testing facilities as well as staff training to allow re-usable items to be function and safety tested prior to resale. It is anticipated that the scheme will be self-financing going forward which will help keep it going.



## Estuary League of Friends

Working to improve the quality of life of those in need of care, comfort and support in our community since 1987

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December we took our first clients to the Westbank Practice in Exminster for their first coronavirus vaccine.

Our helpful volunteers are working extremely hard to get you to your appointments. If you or anyone you know are struggling to get to any appointments, please give us a call on 01392 879009 and we will be more than happy to help.

Thank you for everyone's support during 2020 and we hope that 2021 will settle down and be a more normal environment for us all.

We have donated lots of food parcels over the last 10 months to families in need living in our community. Please if you are struggling call us.



## Topsham Rings in a Busy New Year



A very Happy New Year to all Clyst Valley News readers from the Love Topsham volunteers - we look forward to welcoming you again to our town throughout 2021. We hope many of you enjoyed the festivities before Christmas including our spectacular lights, street singers each Saturday, and events such as *Dress Up to Help Out* when children in festive costumes were rewarded with treats. Our Estuary volunteers and businesses really pushed the boat out to make it a special time. These and other activities were all held in COVID-safe fashion, and that's how we enter the New Year too. January is of course a quieter month to visit our shops, cafes, bars and restaurants and we would love to see you here.

Ahead of a sneak peek at our future plans, a reminder that the hugely impressive and charismatic *Angel of the South* remains on display this month in the



grounds of St Margaret's Church - and if you haven't seen it in person, you absolutely must! The 12-foot driftwood sculpture by Zen Wood Designs' Brendan Rawlings has been a viral and media hit but is only with us for a few more weeks, so do come along.

Appropriately enough we have a new feature on our [lovetopsham.co.uk](http://lovetopsham.co.uk) website, added just a few weeks ago - a *Quick Guide to Topsham Churches*, which is a perfect accompaniment to a winter walk through the town. There are several other Quick Guides too, all family-friendly and ideal to blow away Christmas cobwebs.



Now on to our Future Plans. Please look out for *Topsham Characters* - this is a new series on [lovetopsham.co.uk](http://lovetopsham.co.uk) featuring ten of the town's most revered and loved characters over time, who have influenced how our beautiful location looks and feels today. Many of these 'terrific 10' will be known to people outside the town, too, and the pocket profiles of each of them will give an extra insight into what made Topsham tick in the distant and not-so-distant past.

We're also cranking up our *What's On 2021* section of our website, so please keep an eye on this to find our special plans for spring as we reveal them.

Finally, this month, a reminder that one way to help our beautiful town flourish is to get a *Love Topsham Card*. We love welcoming visitors as much as residents, so everyone has a stake in Topsham doing well even in our current challenging times. A £3 monthly contribution for a card gives you VIP discounts with many businesses, while also directly helping fund initiatives for all of us - those Christmas lights, the benches at the Quay, a string of special events like hosting the Angel of the South.

We really look forward to seeing you, this winter and beyond, and from all of the Love Topsham team, have a peaceful and prosperous New Year!



[www.healthwatchdevon.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchdevon.co.uk)

0800 520 0640

healthwatch  
Devon



## Vaccin-ace-tion - tennis site among first wave of GP centres to give lifesaving COVID-19 vaccination in Devon

Family doctors in Devon will begin giving the coronavirus vaccine to local people from Tuesday, 15 December, as the NHS continues its phased roll-out of the vaccination programme. GP practices are working in groups to set up local vaccination centres for their patients, which will open in phases over coming weeks.



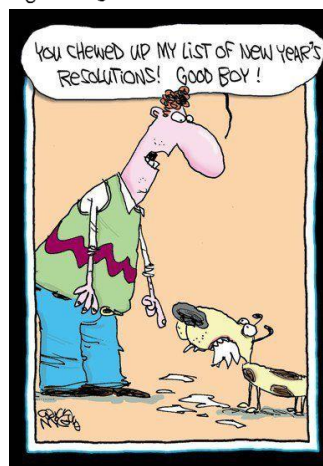
## Hogmanay Howlers



A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.

*Happy 2021! Spoiler Alert: We're still social distancing.*

'Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve. Middle age is when you're forced to.' (Bill Vaughan)



*My spouse still hasn't told me what my New Year's resolution is.*

Jemima was taking an afternoon nap on New Year's Eve before the festivities. After she woke up, she confided to Max, her husband, 'I just dreamed that you gave me a diamond ring for a New Year's present. What do you think it all means?'

'Aha, you'll know tonight,' answered Max smiling broadly. At midnight, as the New Year was chiming, Max approached Jemima and handed her a small package. Delighted and excited she opened it quickly. There in her hand rested a book entitled *The Meaning of Dreams*.

*Why did the boy take off his glasses as he reminisced about the year?*

*Because hindsight is 2020.*

I've already got a date for New Year's Eve: 31<sup>st</sup> December!

*Since my resolution is to read more, I'm watching a movie with subtitles.*

What did the New Year's champagne bottle say to its father? 'Pop!'



## Answers to the Quiz of the Year 2020

- |                                                |                                    |                                                            |                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1. 23 <sup>rd</sup> March                      | 2. The Duke and of Cambridge       | 3. 60 <sup>th</sup>                                        | 4. Barnard Castle                               |
| 5. France                                      | 6. Spitting Image                  | 7. You'll Never Walk Alone                                 | 8. Kanye West on running for US President       |
| 9. Three (Andrew Jackson, Bill Clinton, Trump) | 10. Jack Charlton and Nobby Stiles | 11. Italy                                                  | 12. 1917                                        |
| 13. Michael Schumacher                         | 14. John Lennon                    | 15. Edward Colston                                         | 16. Gary Lineker on the death of Diego Maradona |
| 17. Kamala Harris                              | 18. Parasite                       | 19. Boxer Nicola Adams and professional dancer Katya Jones | 20. Rishi Sunak                                 |
| 21. Dustin Johnson                             | 22. Sonic Hedgehog                 | 23. Holly Willoughby on Philip Schofield coming out as gay | 24. Bayern Munich and Paris Saint-Germain       |
| 25. The Pogues' Fairytale of New York          |                                    |                                                            |                                                 |

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 or on 01392 455555  
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## Westheat

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[clyststgeorgeandebfordvhall@outlook.com](mailto:clyststgeorgeandebfordvhall@outlook.com)  
[www.devonvillagehalls.co.uk/clyststgeorge](http://www.devonvillagehalls.co.uk/clyststgeorge)

  
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## WCMC CHURCH SERVICES JANUARY 2021

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas Week 1

|       |     |                 |                          |
|-------|-----|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 09:30 | WST | Holy Communion  | Rev'd Bill               |
| 11:15 | AYL | Morning Worship | Rev'd Bill               |
| 09:30 | CSM | Holy Communion  | Rev'd Chris Cant         |
| 11:15 | WBY | Holy Communion  | Rev'd Margaret Scrivenor |
| 18:30 | EXT | Evening Worship | TBA                      |

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January: Epiphany

|       |     |          |            |
|-------|-----|----------|------------|
| 18:30 | TBA | Evensong | Rev'd Bill |
|-------|-----|----------|------------|

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January: Epiphany 1 Week 2

|       |      |                 |                          |
|-------|------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 09:30 | EXT  | Holy Communion  | Rev'd Margaret Scrivenor |
| 09:30 | FAR  | Holy Communion  | Rev'd David Ireson       |
| 09:30 | CSG  | Morning Worship | Rev'd Bill               |
| 11:30 | ZOOM | Morning Worship | Rev'd Bill               |

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January: Epiphany 2 Week 3

|       |     |                 |            |
|-------|-----|-----------------|------------|
| 09:30 | CSM | All Age Service | Rev'd Bill |
| 09:30 | AYL | Holy Communion  | TBA        |
| 09:30 | WST | Family Service  | TBA        |
| 18:30 | WBY | Evensong        | Rev'd Bill |

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January: Epiphany 3 Week 4

|       |      |                            |            |
|-------|------|----------------------------|------------|
| 09:30 | WBY  | Special Ecumenical Service | Rev'd Bill |
| 09:30 | CSG  | Holy Communion             | TBA        |
| 09:30 | FAR  | Morning Worship            | TBA        |
| 11:30 | ZOOM | Children's Morning Service | Rev'd Bill |

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January: Epiphany 4 Week 5

|     |     |                       |            |
|-----|-----|-----------------------|------------|
| TBA | TBA | Whole Mission Service | Rev'd Bill |
|-----|-----|-----------------------|------------|

AYL Aylesbeare FAR Farrington EXT Exton WST Woodbury Salterton

WBY Woodbury CSG Clyst St George CSM Clyst St Mary

If you would like a link to the ZOOM services, please email Jill at [dupain@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dupain@hotmail.co.uk)



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