

# CLYST VALLEY NEWS

## JANUARY 2022



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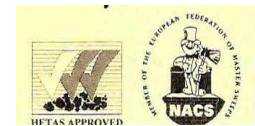
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## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE VICARAGE



I was listening to *Thought for the Day* a couple of weeks before Christmas, and it gave me the idea for a short talk for the Carol Service. The speaker was a Christian writer called Rhidion Brook who has written a book called 'Godbothering'. I've used his thought as a starting point...

The other day I was trying to get through to a utility company to complain about the rising costs of energy when I was put through to a 'robot'. After selecting various numbers, I was informed that the lines were 'experiencing an unusually high volume of calls' (it would *really* be unusual if they *weren't*) - and that it would take over half an hour to get through to a human being. Meanwhile there was canned music, and every so often a voice would tell me that my call mattered to them, and that I was, slowly, moving up the queue. Did anyone care? To start with I thought so, but the music began to grate. Did anyone care? The message told me that my call was important, but the more I heard this recording, the more, paradoxically, the opposite seemed to be true. 'Your custom is important for us'...is it?

I think about my power company; my power needs. I am informed by my robot that my power company has merged with another power company, making it bigger and therefore even more reliable. I spare a thought for the smaller companies; over 25 of them that have gone under. I also spare a thought for those in fuel poverty - over 1.4m of them, according to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

The upbeat music is by now oddly dispiriting. The whole process has made me *power-less*. So I start to think about where my power does come from. Is it from one of those ex-Soviet bloc countries that could just turn off the power?

How reliable is it? Can I afford its ever-increasing cost? Perhaps the energy companies aren't powerful, but are more like the Wizard of Oz - tucked at the back of a room somewhere operating a large machine, designed to make us think someone is in control.

If only there was a power that I could depend upon...One who didn't keep me waiting...Someone whose power never dies. Someone who knows who I am. Who won't keep me waiting and will speak to me in person...

In Advent we waited four and a bit weeks for such a person; the time between the end of the OT and the beginning of the NT is about 400 years. Does this put my 40 minutes' wait into perspective? At the beginning of February, we will come to the end of the Christmas/Epiphany season, remembering someone else who waited - most of his long life - to see the Saviour of the world - his name was Simeon (read about it in Luke 2: 22 - 35).

I am about to give up, thinking about waiting for the second coming instead, when a real voice says: 'I'm sorry you had to wait so long. How can I help you?'

How can God help us in this season? What have we been waiting for all our lives?? Seasonal blessings. (With thanks to Rhidion Brook for getting me started!)

Bill and Daff Lemmey, Woodbury Vicarage [revbillwhitecross@gmail.com](mailto:revbillwhitecross@gmail.com) 01395 232161

## WHITE CROSS MISSION COMMUNITY



### Important Announcement from the Church

\*Following new Government guidelines, mask wearing is now compulsory in church.

\*In particular, this is most important when entering, leading and moving around the church.

\*Hand gel should be provided and used as much as possible.

\*If involved in leading liturgy or music, masks can be removed, but it remains strong advice that congregation members should wear masks when singing.

\*As ever, there may be local suggestions about social distancing, etc.

\*For outdoor events, different rules apply; in most cases, the local church will provide its own guidelines, following a risk assessment.

### Church Services

Please see the schedule of services within the WCMC for December. Please note that there will be a Zoom service on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 9.30 am. Please contact Jill Dupain at [dupain@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dupain@hotmail.co.uk) or on 01395 232953 for information on how to join this service.

**Contributions, photos and letters to the editor for the February 2022 issue of the Clyst Valley News should be sent by email, to the editor, Peter Skelton, at [clystvalleynews@gmail.com](mailto:clystvalleynews@gmail.com) by Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at the latest, please. Please note that contributions may be edited.**

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### EDITOR'S NOTE



*Hello and welcome to the first edition of the Clyst Valley News for 2022. Can you believe it? I imagine some of us are already well into reconsidering our new year resolutions! (Well, it seemed a good idea at the time...)*

*My grateful thanks to Lynne Ashley for this month's atmospheric cover photo of Clyst St Mary's temporary 'lake', taken the evening after a night of heavy rain in late October. Absolutely stunning!*

*Well, you never know what's just round the corner, do you? Having come safely through two family Covid isolations, CVN Towers was just getting back into some sort of normal rhythm, the Christmas tree had just gone up when part of our hot water tank system decided to explode rather dramatically, leaving a good part of the house under water or at best, sodden; and rendering the electrics on a rather dangerous knife edge. Once the water and power had been switched off, immediate evacuation seemed to be a sensible option so your humble editor is writing this in the hotel room to which my wife and I have decamped. Friends, neighbours and villagers could not have been more generous in responding to our predicament, offering, among many kindnesses, temporary happy homes for son and dog while we sort things out with insurers, plumbers, electricians, plasterers and carpet specialists.*

*To be honest, people's responses have been overwhelming and we are greatly touched. It has brought home to me, once again, how, in times of trouble, the milk of human kindness flows so freely and generously. A huge thank you to everyone from the bottom of our hearts. By the time you are reading this, the situation should be a lot clearer; and I guess many of us will be waving a not so fond farewell to 2021 and welcoming in the fresh air of new beginnings in 2022. Let's retain that spark of optimism.*

*Have a good read. Best wishes and a very Happy New Year. Peter Skelton*

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

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### YOUR PHOTOS ALWAYS 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 Services in January

The Family Service with Breakfast will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, starting at 9.30 am. This is a very informal gathering for parents and children, lasting no more than an hour (including breakfast!) so that you have the rest of the day for other family activities. There will be a Family Communion Service on 16<sup>th</sup> January, at 9.30 am as usual. We welcome new families who would like to bring their children to join us in these services.

### Church Coffee Mornings



The January coffee morning will be held in church on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January from 10 till 11.30 am. Please come along and join us for coffee and a chat.

### Church Cleaning



Now that the church is open again, we are looking for volunteers to help with cleaning. It would involve about two hours of your time about every two months. If you feel you could help in this way, please contact Don Axford on 01392 873615.

### Coppers!



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 in support of church funds. Either leave it in church at a service or with me, Don Axford, at 34 Frog Lane. Although I am no longer Church Treasurer, I am still willing to collect your loose change. If you find it difficult to deliver, I will collect, obeying social distancing rules, etc, if you ring me on 01392 873615.

## Bishops Clyst Parish Council



*Queen's Platinum Jubilee.* We would be grateful for a volunteer to co-ordinate activities in Clyst St Mary for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. If this is something you would be willing to do, please contact the Clerk, Karan Bennett, at [bishopsclyst@gmail.com](mailto:bishopsclyst@gmail.com).

*Bishops Clyst Neighbourhood Plan Review – Questionnaire.* We have decided to hold open the questionnaire to allow more people to respond. We want to hear the views of everybody in the parish about the type and scale of development that you think is appropriate for our area and amenities that you would like to see in the parish. **This is your chance to influence what goes into the Review.** This is particularly important as we input into the development of the EDDC Local Plan revision.

The Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire can be found online at: [www.bishopsclyst.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan/](http://www.bishopsclyst.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan/). If you prefer, paper copies can be requested from the Parish Council at [bishopsclyst@gmail.com](mailto:bishopsclyst@gmail.com) or collected from The Stores at Clyst St Mary, the Cat and Fiddle Inn or Sowton Church (when open). We are also hoping to be able to include a copy in the paper version of this magazine. Completed paper questionnaires should be returned to the post box at Clyst St Mary Village Hall.

*Community Grants.* Community grants of up to £500 are available to groups, clubs and voluntary organisations based in the parish for non-commercial activities which benefit residents of the parish. Please see further details on our website ([www.bishopsclyst.org.uk/community-grants/](http://www.bishopsclyst.org.uk/community-grants/)).

*Parish Council Vacancies – Environmental Champion Required!* There are still vacancies for Parish Councillors on the Bishops Clyst Parish Council. If you would like to represent the residents of Clyst St Mary and Sowton Village on the Parish Council we would very much like to hear from you. We are particularly keen to recruit someone with an interest in the environment to be our Climate Change/Green Champion. If this appeals to you, or you have other areas of interest, please email the Clerk, Karan Bennett, at [bishopsclyst@gmail.com](mailto:bishopsclyst@gmail.com), with a personal statement setting out what skills and experience you would bring to the Council.

*Parish Council Meetings.* Parish Council meetings take place each month and dates, agendas and minutes are posted on our website ([www.bishopsclyst.org.uk](http://www.bishopsclyst.org.uk)) and on noticeboards in Clyst St Mary and Sowton Village.

*Contact the Parish 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).

## Clyst St Mary Primary School in Project with Tanzania



reduce the use of single-use plastic and to reuse and recycle plastics. This is in conjunction with COP 26. The School Council is democratically voted for on an annual basis at present, and each member represents their class (Class 2 - Class 6 have representatives).

Year 6 and the School Council are involved in an amazing project with the British Council and Surfers Against Sewage, with a school in Dar es Salaam, in Tanzania. We are looking at ways to

CSMPS and the School Council are looking at ways to reduce the use of single-use plastic in lunch boxes - plastics such as: cling film, food wrappers, yoghurt pots, non-reusable drinks bottles, etc. These cause harm to wildlife and their habitats and pollute the sea. The School Council have audited lunch boxes, sent an email to parents and carers requesting help in reducing the use of single-use plastics in lunchboxes and litter picked in the school grounds and the village play park.

Year 6 have had a number of Google meets with Class 3 at Milimani School in Tanzania, and have shared their herb growing project and the Tanzanian school have sent photos of their tree watering project. And three teachers, Ellie, Harriet and Mandie, have met Hanifa (the Milimani class teacher) via WhatsApp and GoogleMeet and are in contact via email. We have future dates to meet and talk about the mutual projects. Very exciting and beneficial for all the pupils in Clyst St Mary and Milimani!



## Clyst St Mary Flood Defences: Environment Agency Update December 2021



The Environment Agency's construction works to deliver the new flood defences for Clyst St Mary are now complete. The works provide a continuous line of defence, extending from high ground at the northern end of Frog Lane to the dual carriageway at the southern end of the village. A high standard of protection from river flooding is now afforded to the community.

Our contractors demobilised from site in early December, following the final elements of work at the 'Old Mill' and 'Old

Bridge', where demountable structures are to be used to provide the protection from flooding. Trial fitting exercises for these structures have successfully been completed and we are working with the local Flood Group to train community volunteers in their use. The project has provided improved monitoring of water levels in the floodplain adjoining the village, which will assist with the accurate provision of flood warning information and the need to trigger community involvement from our incident room.



Once again we would like to thank the people of Clyst St Mary for their patience and understanding during these works and we trust that the defences will be seen as a valuable asset to the community in the event of future flooding and climate change scenarios.

Should you have any questions or queries about the scheme, then please feel free to contact the Environment Agency's local enquires team on 0208 4747914; or email [DCISEnquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:DCISEnquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk).



## Clyst St Mary Village Hall



It's a great pleasure to see that the bookings for the Village Hall are again building as hirers find that they are able to operate within the guidelines particularly given that the Hall is spacious and can be well ventilated. Our new website <https://www.clyststmaryvillagehall.co.uk/> gives details of availability and prices but if there's anything else you'd like to know, please drop Ali West an email on: [bookings@clyststmaryvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@clyststmaryvillagehall.co.uk). We look forward to seeing you soon.

## Table Tennis Club



Please come and join us! We resumed play at the Clyst St Mary Table Tennis Club in May. New members always welcome. We play at the Village Hall every Thursday, 4- 6 pm. The minimal fee of £20 for a 10-week session includes use of all equipment and refreshments. For further details please contact Pam Gardner on 07714 097220 or by email to [pamelamgardner9@gmail.com](mailto:pamelamgardner9@gmail.com).



## Clyst Valley Pre-School



Another busy and challenging pre-school year draws to an end. Despite Covid-19 we have remained open for all our children this year, and were still able to enjoy a rearranged but rather belated summer trip to Bear Town and the Bear Trail, where everyone thoroughly enjoyed the mud! Our Christmas Nativity was a lovely way to end the year and the children's Christmas party was, as usual, great fun! We are now almost full at every session and are currently taking applications for the summer term and September 2022. Check us out on Instagram or visit our website, [clystvalleypreschool.org](http://clystvalleypreschool.org). You can also contact us on 01392 876615 or by email to [manager@clystvalleypreschool.org](mailto:manager@clystvalleypreschool.org).

## CLYST ST GEORGE AND EBFORD



### CSG Parish Council Chairman's Notes, January 2022

As mentioned last month, do please let our Clerk have your mobile number. The Council are pleased to launch a text alert system, run by the Government, so that local councils can keep you informed and safe. We had to jump through a number of hoops to set this up, including registering with the Information Commissions Office (ICO) and we will only store your mobile 'phone number. To join, please email your number to our Clerk at [clyststgeorgeparishcouncil@googlemail.com](mailto:clyststgeorgeparishcouncil@googlemail.com). The alert texts will be sent out to update you when the power is off; also, if anything that affects a number of people and could be either dangerous or highly inconvenient. So it's to keep the public informed and safe.

The PC are keeping our 2022 precept static. This is the part of the Council Tax that pays for our services. Happy New Year to all our residents. Stay safe. All the best.

John Manser

[john@jmanser.co.uk](mailto:john@jmanser.co.uk)

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## Norman's Weather Report



Rainfall here at Ebford in November was at a 20-year low of 15 mm (0.6 inch). Interestingly, only 25 mm fell in the Novembers of 2001 and 2004. This very low amount was preceded by 169 mm in October. In the spring of this year 16mm fell in April, to be followed by 177 mm in May; very wide monthly variations! The recent ten-year November average here at Ebford is 105 mm (4.1 inches); so normally a moderate to heavy amount would be expected. In our warming world, 'proper' seasonal weather seems to be becoming increasingly rare', in the words of the *Saturday Telegraph* of 6.11.21. Norman Cann

## Lady Seaward's C of E Primary School



*Whole School Author Visit – Mr Rob Holmes.* We booked an author to come into school in December to work with the children. Rob Holmes talked about his books and also mindfulness with the children as this is a theme from his stories. Each class received a workshop tailored to their ability and I hope you agree that this was a fantastic opportunity for our children to meet a 'real life author'. The children were able to ask lots of questions and purchase a *Master Owl* book if they chose to. *Royal British Legion Appeal.* A fantastic £261.57 was raised by our school for this very important cause, supporting our armed forces past and present! *Christmas.* We have been enjoying a wide range of festive activities leading up to the Christmas break, including the Christmas Market and Carol Service, both held outside, in line with Covid guidance. Plenty of hot chocolate was consumed to help keep us warm!

## Clyst St George Parish Hall



The Committee of Clyst St George Parish Hall is looking for some keen new members to boost their numbers - no special qualifications necessary apart from a desire to help the community in which you live. We would love you to help in the future proofing of the village hall and assist in building up some more community activities. We would welcome anyone from Clyst St George or Ebford and wanted to include all areas particularly Clyst Road or Odams Wharf for example, that may be interested in helping. We have approximately five meetings a year. For more information please contact one of our existing committee members who are Paul Bragg, Helen Cragg, Colin Pilcher, Claire Marks, Alan Marks or Donna Pagliero in Clyst St George or Pamela Diffey, Anna Smith or John Manser in Ebford; or ring our Chairman, Pamela Diffey on 01392 877497 or Vice Chairman, Paul Bragg on 01392 874599 for more information.

## 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.)

### 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.

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



#### Family Service

Mark Lovett conducted the November Family Service, talking about making choices. Paul Ayford led prayers. Before the service started people were able to enjoy some breakfast, served by Jill Dupain with assistance from two of her grandchildren, Scott and Lyla.

### Church Christmas Bazaar



This was held in the Village Hall on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December. The Christmas decorations were up in the Hall and it was good to see the room looking so bright and cheerful. Thanks again to those who decorated the Hall. Debbie and Geoff served coffee and bacon butties, Jill Dupain ran a cake stall and the raffle, Gill Bricknell had a tombola and Katharine Wheeler a bric-a-brac. Two tables had been rented out and Averil Blaber sold her knitted toys, her husband Mark had a 'guess the penguin's name' competition to raise money for the Little Valley animal centre and Christine Astill had a selection of her home-made jams. Some money comes in during the year through the school selling knitted items for church funds. This, added to the sum raised on the day, brings the overall bazaar total to £562.04.



### Church Quiz.



There has been another good response to the church quiz 'Feathered Friends' and copies of this have gone as far afield as America and the Falklands! Three completed entries had already been returned by the end of November. The closing date for entries is Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

### December Events

As the magazine goes early to press ahead of Christmas the village is looking forward to Festive Windows, the church carol service outdoors (weather permitting), carol singing round the village and the Christmas midnight communion which is to be taken by Rev'd Nigel Mason. There will be a belated report on these and some photos in the February magazine!



### Film Night in Church



what time it starts, etc.

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January there will be another Film Night. Come to church in your pyjamas and snuggle down with a pillow under your duvet and watch a film. Snacks will be available to purchase.

This event was extremely popular when we held one before and the children really enjoyed it and it raised some money for church funds. Nearer the time there will posters up with information on

### Woodbury Salterton C of E Primary School



**Class 1.** Class 1 has some budding builders who have been learning all about how to build strong structures. They put this learning to good use during the building stage of their design and technology sequence creating a stable structure. Using previous knowledge of cardboard attachments, the children joined boxes carefully thinking about which methods would make their structures strong.

In their art lesson Class 1 used their knowledge of different pencil techniques to help them draw features of a building. The children looked carefully at the detail in each feature of the school building and had a go at drawing them.

A special visitor came from Devon and Somerset Fire Service. The children learnt some really important lessons such as which number to call in an emergency, which hazards to look out for in the house and how to 'Stop, Drop and Roll!'. They also talked a lot about what the fire and rescue service do and how they help people. Now the children know how to be safe at home and know who to call if they need help.

**Class 2.** In ICT, Class 2 have progressed from learning what the word 'algorithm' means and progressed on to sing bee-bots to break problems up into smaller parts. They learned how to give a series of instructions to the bee-bots and how to stop and clear the commands.

As part of Interfaith Week, Class 2 have been learning that people of different religions worship in a variety of ways and in different buildings. They researched lots of different places of worship and created sunset silhouettes to celebrate many of the different places of worship that they learnt about.

As part of the Coastline theme in DT, Class 2 have been busy using all their construction skills to strengthen, score and join as they build mini-beach huts with nets. They then chose a suitable material to make cladding to cover the side of the beach huts and mixed bright colours to make them stand out and learned to make all the colours they needed using primary colours.



**Class 3.** Class 3 have been learning about the different biomes located around the world. They have used atlases to locate them and have researched the climate, fauna and flora found in each of the six main biomes across the world.

**Whole School.** Lunchtime happiness has been found through playing board games for a few of our pupils. Our Ethos Group have organised a



lunchtime club each day to promote friendship across the school; the photos are of Board Games Club!

*Christmas.* At the time of writing this we have lots planned for Christmas and hope that we can share this with you in the next edition we hope that these will include:

- 🌲 A closed Christingle service planned for Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30 pm in church.
- 🌲 *Boo to a Goose* theatre performance on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December.
- 🌲 Class 1 Nativity performances which we hope will be by invitation - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm in church.
- 🌲 Christmas Jumper Day, raising money for Save the Children and a Santa Dash - Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December.



**Governing Body. Do you have time to volunteer and help make a difference in your community?**



Our governing body is made up of members of the community across our five federated schools. We need your support and would welcome expressions of interest from ex-pupils, parents, carers and members of the local community to support the strategic running of our school. No previous experience

is necessary as there is free training available as well support from experienced members of the board. It's a great way to feel part of your community. If you are over 18 and want to support us, please get in touch with our school office via the website or call 01395 232649 and ask to leave a message for our executive head teacher, Mrs Gray, or the chair of governors to find out more about this rewarding role.

## POETRY CORNER

*The Nightwatch*  
by John Smith (of Clyst St Mary)

The self-confident burghers of Amsterdam  
Come marching straight out of their frame  
From the two dimensions of canvas  
Into the three dimensions of my mind  
As if mere pigment and brush stroke,  
Were not enough to hold them.

They carry with them their story  
And the history of their nation  
With its fight for freedom from Spain  
Infused in their self-belief.

And trade brought wealth  
And wealth brought power  
To break imprisoning bonds,  
Except for poor Rembrandt van Rijn  
Whose expert creative hands  
Were sieves when money touched them.

But wealth has little conscience  
And feels no obligation  
To past service, and so the Master  
Died, a bankrupt pauper.

Yet the glory of all Art  
Is that it cannot be owned  
Except by those who see meaning  
And not by those counting the cost.

We honour and laud our Rembrandt  
And ignore self-important nightwatch  
Who paid so little for his genius  
And thus the paymasters are repaid.  
©John Smith

~~~~~  
**AND FINALLY...**

## The Exeter Forum Talks Programme: 5<sup>th</sup> January to 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022



The Exeter Forum weekly talks take place on Wednesdays at the Mint Methodist Church in Fore Street, Exeter. Members assemble for meetings from 10.15 am. After time for coffee and socialising, the talk starts, usually at around 10.45 am.

| Date                     | Speaker       | Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> January  | Mark Norman   | <i>Beyond the Hound of the Baskervilles</i><br>This talk explores the folklore surrounding the phenomenon of sightings of phantom black dogs in the UK, their long history and folklore, and how they inspired Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to write 'The Hound of the Baskervilles'.                                                                           |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> January | Leigh Edwards | <i>The Human Microbiome</i><br>The human microbiome is the ecological community of micro-organisms that literally share our body space. Leigh will show the importance of this community for our survival and wellbeing and how we need a broad spectrum of probiotic bacteria in and on our bodies to promote good health and support our immune system. |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> January | John Allan    | <i>The Building of Exeter Cathedral</i><br>Consultant archaeologist John Allan will show how Exeter Cathedral developed and evolved from Norman to Tudor times.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> January  | Hugh de Souza | <i>The Work of Exmouth National Coastwatch Institution</i><br>NCI Exmouth works with HM Coastguard and the RNLI, keeping watch over the estuary and the beach 365 days a year. This talk will look at some of the hazards around Exmouth and the estuary and how people who get into difficulties can be helped.                                          |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> February | Mike Richards | <i>Humour in the Police Force</i><br>Mike's light-hearted talk will draw on his experience in the police force and the events over the years that made him chuckle or otherwise had a lasting effect on him.                                                                                                                                              |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> February | Lucy Mottram  | <i>The Challenge of Waste and Recycling in Devon</i><br>Lucy will look at what happens to Devon's waste, and the challenges of disposal and recycling.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

|                              |                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 16 <sup>th</sup><br>February | Brian Banks                                                      | <i>The Mystery of Bog Bodies and What We Can Learn from Them</i><br>Brian will look at where bog bodies are found, how they are preserved and what they can tell us about life in the past.                                                                                                                                            |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>February | Amyas Crump                                                      | <i>Odette - A Love of the Blackdown Hills</i><br>Local historian and author Amyas will talk about how Odette, a young mother of three from Devon, became a WW2 SOE Agent in France, being subsequently awarded the George Cross.                                                                                                       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>March     | David Jenner                                                     | <i>Orchids of the UK – a Photographic Celebration</i><br>David Jenner will make a welcome return to the Exeter Forum with another of his wildlife talks illustrated by his own photography. David has photographed nearly all of the UK wild orchids. His talk will particularly focus on the common and rarer species found in Devon. |
| 9 <sup>th</sup><br>March     | Kevin Cox                                                        | <i>Where Have All the Birds Gone?</i><br>Kevin Cox, Chair of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, will look at issues facing our bird life and ways of restoring species and diversity.                                                                                                                                      |
| 16 <sup>th</sup><br>March    | Dr Todd Gray                                                     | <i>Devon and African Enslavement at the Time of Emancipation: An Impartial Analysis of the Evidence</i><br>Devon historian and author, Todd Gray, will look at the evidence for Devon's connections with slavery and the effects on the county of slave ownership.                                                                     |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>March    | Devon & Exeter Medical Heritage Trust (Professor David Radstone) | <i>An Exeter Surgeon and his Mummified Mistress</i><br>The Devon & Exeter Medical Heritage Trust is a charity which looks after a collection of historical medical items. This talk will look at the unusual story of an Exeter surgeon and will be illustrated with examples of medical items from the time.                          |
| 30 <sup>th</sup><br>March    | Stephen Powles                                                   | <i>Otters – Coming to a River Near You</i><br>Stephen will follow up his wildlife photography talk with this celebration of the life of the otter in Devon. His talk includes rare videos of otters on a tributary of the Exe and insights into the life of these wonderful but elusive animals.                                       |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> April        | TBA                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 13 <sup>th</sup><br>April    | Martin Young and Jonathan Smith                                  | <i>Chernobyl and its Effect on the Local Environment</i><br>Martin and Jonathan will look at the legacy of the Chernobyl nuclear accident in 1986 and particularly its on-going effects on the local environment.                                                                                                                      |

### Exmouth Mobile Library Timetable 2021

| Day     | Village       | Stop           | Arrive |
|---------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| Friday  | Aylesbeare    | Nightjar Inn   | 09.50  |
| Friday  | Clyst St Mary | Cat and Fiddle | 12.10  |
| Tuesday | Clyst St Mary | Winslade Park  | 14.50  |



|          |                    |            |       |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------|
| Tuesday  | Clyst St George    | School     | 15.20 |
| Monday   | Exton              | Station    | 09.45 |
| Friday   | Woodbury Salterton | Kennels    | 12.50 |
| Woodbury | Woodbury           | White Hart | 14.00 |

*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.*

### It's Not Quite Over Yet! Here's How Topsham Celebrated



It's done and dusted - Christmas and New Year completed for another 12 months! Yet there's one last hurrah with this look back at Love Topsham's festive events.

Many of you may have visited our town to see these in person but in case you couldn't make it, here's a reminder. The celebrations began in late November with a (very wet and windy) Big Switch On to the sound of bagpipes, and concluded with a Children's Trail and street music throughout December too. In between there were



*Over 30 artisan stallholders, many in our town for the first time, were at Love Topsham's first Festive Market - a lovely evening of shopping, meeting friends and enjoying mulled wine. Our thanks to all at St Margaret's Church for allowing us to stage this community event - the first of many of its kind, we hope.*

competitions for the best shop windows and decorated houses, plus a brilliant Festive Market as part of Topsham's late night shopping experience. A very warm thank you from your Love Topsham team for all your support at these events and throughout 2021 - and of course all our good wishes for a prosperous and peaceful 2022. We hope to see you here soon. Happy New Year from the Love Topsham team!



*The Big Switch On! Remember Storm Arwen? We had everything it could throw at us for the start of our Christmas celebrations, yet hundreds of people still came out to see the Exmouth & Exeter Pipe Band, choir singers and of course Father Christmas. Thanks so much to all those braving the weather - did you dry out in time for New Year?*



*Over 90 children, plus parents and guardians, took part in Love Topsham's Christmas Trail. Collecting goodie bags outside Matthews Hall, they went to 16 different venues for sweet treats on a route through the town and to the museum. Many thanks to everyone who took part - and we know from all the feedback that the children absolutely loved it!*

## 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.*

**Needle Craft Group**

Held in the Bradbury Café at Nancy Potter House, Topsham.

**Wednesday mornings from 10:00am - 12:00pm.**

Why not come along and join in?

New members welcome!

**Jigsaw PUZZLES**

Choose from our catalogue of 60+ puzzles and book them out for either 1, 2 or 3 weeks for only 50p a time!

Please ask the receptionist at Nancy Potter House to browse our puzzle catalogue.

We have a range of large piece puzzles available!

**theWI Inspiring Women Topsham**

Come and join us on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January Nancy Potter House 7pm to meet Rachel Dunn.

Rachel designs and hand-creates bespoke fascinators, hats and bags in a range of styles, colours and fabrics. Each item is individually crafted to ensure a perfect colour match to complement and enhance any outfit. All her accessories are handmade to order in Devon using only the highest quality, locally-sourced materials.

**Shopping Trips**

The next shopping trip dates will be:

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February

If you would like to attend these shopping dates, please call us on 01392 879009 and we will get you booked in with George.

Thank you.

**THE BRUNCH CLUB**

Come along to our Brunch club and enjoy a freshly cooked full English breakfast!

Served with a choice of tea or coffee and a glass of juice.

**£7.00 per person.**

Held every Friday in the Bradbury café 10am - 12pm

**VOLUNTEER TODAY**

Estuary League of Friends are in search of volunteers who are willing to help with:

- Transporting clients to hospital appointments
- Providing assistance with IT
- Hot Meal Deliveries

If you are interested in the rich and rewarding experience of volunteering for a charity, look no further than Estuary!

Call us today on 01392 879009, we're eager to hear from you.

**Babies and Toddlers**

Phonics with Rachel Reg

09:30am mini 12months  
10:30am Preschool 2 yrs - 5yrs  
11:30am Babies 6months - walking

Every Tuesday @ Nancy Potter House

Got any queries or would like to book? Get in contact with us! We are happy to help...

Mail: friends@nancyreg.co.uk  
Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PhonicswithRachelReg/>

**Baby Massage**

To find out more or book in for a session please email: [sally@babymassage@gmail.com](mailto:sally@babymassage@gmail.com)

What are the benefits of infant massage?

- Encourage interaction between you and your baby.
- Help your baby relax and sleep.
- Positively affect infant hormones that control stress.
- Reduce crying.

**It's Tea Time!**

Please join us for a 'socially distanced' friendship group. We will be offering a 2 course meal and take home afternoon tea for £9 per person.

11<sup>th</sup> January 22<sup>nd</sup> January 6<sup>th</sup> February 22<sup>nd</sup> February

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New  
Year!**

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and can see you safely - Monday-Friday 09:30-16:30

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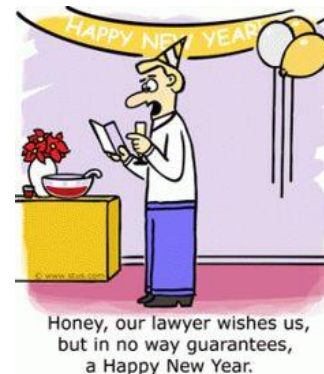
## Hogmanay (and Other) Howlers



*An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.*

On New Year's Eve, Daniel was in no shape to drive, so he sensibly left his van in the car park and walked home. As he was wobbling along, he was stopped by a policeman. 'What are you doing out here at four o'clock in the morning?' asked the police officer.

'I'm on my way to a lecture,' answered Roger.



Honey, our lawyer wishes us, but in no way guarantees, a Happy New Year.

'And who on earth, in their right mind, is going to give a lecture at this time on New Year's Eve?' enquired the constable sarcastically.

'My wife,' slurred Daniel grimly.

Three small boys were discussing their father's work. Said one, 'My dad makes ornaments and gets £100 for every one he makes.'

The second boy said, 'My dad writes for the papers and gets paid for every line he writes.'

The third said, 'Nay, that's nowt. My father is a minister and he preaches for half an hour and it takes two men to collect

Knock knock  
Who's there?  
Abby  
Abby who?  
Abby New Year

all the money for him.' [Thanks to Katharine Wheeler. Ed]

Last Wednesday a passenger in a taxi leaned over to ask the driver a question and gently tapped him on the shoulder to get his attention. The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the kerb and stopped just inches from a large plate glass window. For a few moments everything was silent in the cab. Then the shaking driver said, 'Are you okay? I'm so sorry but you scared the daylights out of me.'

The badly shaken passenger apologised and said, 'I didn't realise that a mere tap on the shoulder would startle someone so much.' The driver replied, 'No, no, I'm the one who is sorry. It's entirely my fault. Today is my very first day of driving a cab. I've been driving a hearse for 25 years.' [Thanks to Lesley Richardson. Ed]



*Not to brag, but I already have a date for New Year's Eve. 31<sup>st</sup> December.*

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## WCMC SERVICES JANUARY 2022

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas

|       |     |                          |
|-------|-----|--------------------------|
| 11-15 | AYL | Morning Worship          |
| 09-30 | WST | Holy Communion           |
| 09-30 | CSM | Breakfast family Service |
| 11-15 | WBY | Holy Communion           |
| 18-30 | EXT | Evening Worship          |

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January: Epiphany

|       |     |                            |
|-------|-----|----------------------------|
| 09-30 | EXT | Holy Communion             |
| 11-15 | FAR | Holy Communion and Baptism |
| 09-30 | CSG | Family Service             |

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January: Epiphany 2

|       |     |                          |
|-------|-----|--------------------------|
| 11-15 | AYL | Holy Communion           |
| 09-30 | CSM | Holy Communion           |
| 09-30 | WST | Breakfast Family Service |
| 18-30 | WBY | Evensong                 |

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January: Epiphany 3

|       |      |                 |
|-------|------|-----------------|
| 11-15 | CSG  | Holy Communion  |
| 09-30 | Zoom | Family Service  |
| 09-30 | FAR  | Morning Worship |
| 10-30 | WBY  | Café Church     |

### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January: Epiphany 4

|       |     |                                                                      |
|-------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11-15 | CSG | A celebration of Rev Margaret's<br>role as Honorary Associate Priest |
|-------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### Week 1

|                  |
|------------------|
| Carolyn Keep     |
| Rev'd Sid        |
| Rev'd Bill       |
| Rev'd Chris Cant |
| Christine Grist  |

#### Week 2

|                |
|----------------|
| Rev'd Margaret |
| Rev'd Bill     |
| Lay led        |

#### Week 3

|                |
|----------------|
| Rev'd Bill     |
| Rev'd Margaret |
| Lay led        |
| Rev'd Peter    |

#### Week 4

|              |
|--------------|
| Rev'd Sid    |
| Zoom         |
| Carolyn Keep |
| Lay led      |

#### Week 5

|            |
|------------|
| Rev'd Bill |
|------------|

AYL Aylesbeare FAR Farringdon EXT Exton WST Woodbury Salterton

WBY Woodbury CSG Clyst St George CSM Clyst St Mary

For all pastoral needs please ring Rev'd Bill on 01395 232161. For anything else, please contact Admin Officer, Jill Dupain at [dupain@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dupain@hotmail.co.uk) or on 01395 232953.



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