

# The PARISHES' PAPER

May 2024

80p where sold

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



## MAY 2024

Date	Dalwood	Kilmington	Shute + Whitford	Stockland	Yarcombe
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St Peter's Church, Dalwood, EX13 7EQ				
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am Mission Community Holy Communion Hosted by St Michael & All Angels Church, STOCKLAND, EX14 9BP				
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St Giles' Church, KILMINGTON, EX13 7RF				
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm Confirmation Service with Bishop Jackie (Service for Ascensiontide and Launch of Thy Kingdom Come) Hosted by St Giles Church, KILMINGTON, EX13 7RF				
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>		13.00 Wedding			
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup>		12.30pm Baptism			
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> ROGATION Sunday NOTE Times and Locations	3pm at White's Farm, Dalwood	3pm meet at St Giles' Church for Village Walk and prayer	10am meet at Whitford Church for walk and prayer to SHUTE	11am Morning Worship in Church	11am All age worship in Church
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St Peter's Church, Dalwood, EX13 7EQ				
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Day of Pentecost	11am Holy Communion	9.30am Holy Communion	11am Worship in Whitford	11am Family service	6.30pm Evening Prayer
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am Mission Community Said Communion hosted by St Giles' Church, KILMINGTON, EX13 7RF				
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>		12 noon Wedding			
Sun 26 Trinity Sunday	11am Morning Worship	9.30am Morning Worship	6.30pm Choral Evensong	Join with Yarcombe at 11am	11am Holy Communion
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	10.30am Mission Community Holy Communion Hosted by St John the Baptist Church, YARCOMBE, EX14 9BN				

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



## DO YOU LIKE A CHALLENGE?

REV JULIE LOMAS

I LIKE to pick and choose the challenges that I accept, and if I am honest, I tend to go for those challenges which I am fairly confident I can achieve (which may be defeating the object but there we are!).

In January this year, I accepted a challenge at our local swimming pool in Axminster to swim 600 lengths in 10 weeks as part of a wider sponsored swim to raise funds for the pool. It appears that I was not the only one, and between us, if you add up all the 25 metres that have been achieved, we have swum far enough to circle the British Isles not once, but twice!

This month, the churches in our mission community are inviting you to take part in an exciting and difficult challenge – and you won't even have to leave your armchair if you don't want to!

We are asking you to join in with our Pray Through May initiative. Here are some ideas as to how you can join in, and as you read through this month's *The Parishes' Paper* you will see further articles which give you more information and hopefully some more inspiration.

There are 31 days in May, and the first part of the challenge is to commit to spending 31 days noticing when, where and how you pray.



To help you, we are sharing the resources from the Navigators website at [www.navigators.org/resource/31-days-of-prayer](http://www.navigators.org/resource/31-days-of-prayer), which offers a short verse from the Bible for each of the 31 days. Use the words to ask God to show you how you can apply this in your life. You might like to write the verses on note cards and place them around your house to memorise God's Word.

During the 10 days from May 9th to 19th, we will be encouraging everyone to pray the Lord's Prayer daily in as many different ways as we can – outside walking the dog; whilst doing the washing up; driving to school, work, the hospital; before a meal – whatever feels right for you please join in with lighting up the world with prayer.

Caroline Nunns tells us more about this and how to be part of the 12 hours of continuous prayer chain on Wednesday, May 15th in her article on page 7.

We also want to pray for all the families, children and young people in and across the five parishes, so every Tuesday morning from 11am-12noon, if you are able to then please pop into your parish church and either on your own, or with others who are gathered there, pray for God's blessing on families of all ages, and for those known to us in our parishes.

Juletta Obudo, our Rural Families Outreach Worker has put together a handy prayer guide to help us with this. Copies will be available in each of our churches.

Our younger readers might like to find out about what it means to pray by tuning into the Cheeky Pandas TV on youtube – there is even an episode all about prayer. Check it out at <https://cheekypandas.com/cheeky-pandas-series/>

Finally, if you like to be online, you can always click on our Five Alive website – [www.fivealive.org](http://www.fivealive.org) – or look at our Facebook page – [www.facebook.com/fivealivemced](https://www.facebook.com/fivealivemced)

As we step into the month of May, my hope is that this will be an exciting and rewarding time for us all as we Pray Through May!

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COVER: The beautiful bluebells outside Whitford chapel courtesy of Jim Skelton

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

# MY FAVOURITE HYMN

In this feature each month, a different person will share with us their favourite hymn and reasons why.  
This month, **Jim Skelton, of Whitford**, chooses **Morning has Broken...**

**JIM Skelton** lives in Whitford and is a regular attendee at the monthly services held at the village church of St Mary at the Cross, on Hampton Lane.

Jim has taken part in the recent group studying The Pilgrim Way and is one of the candidates who will be confirmed by Bishop Jackie on May 9th in St Giles's Church, Kilmington.

He said: "My favourite hymn is Morning has Broken. This is one of the hymns that Ellen and I chose for our wedding, and it reminds me of spring, the time of new life and growth.

"It also reminds me that God is the creator of all living things and makes me mindful to love and respect the great creation that we

can witness all around us. A creation that it is for us to respect, nurture and protect."

*Morning has broken like the first morning*

*Blackbird has spoken like the first bird*

*Praise for the singing*

*Praise for the morning*

*Praise for them springing fresh from the Word*

*Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven*

*Like the first dew fall on the first grass*

*Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden*

*Sprung in completeness where His*

*feet pass*

*Mine is the sunlight*

*Mine is the morning*

*Born of the One Light Eden saw play*

*Praise with elation, praise every morning*

*God's recreation of the new day*

*Morning has broken like the first morning*

*Blackbird has spoken like the first bird*

*Praise for the singing*

*Praise for the morning*

*Praise for them springing fresh from the Word.*

**Written by Eleanor Farjeon in 1931**

## Bible readings May

Date	OT Readings	NT Readings
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 6	Acts 10: 44-end	John 15: 9-17
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May Ascension Day	Acts 1: 1-11	Luke 24: 44-end
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> May Easter 7	Acts 1: 15-17, 21-end	John 17: 6-19
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May Pentecost/Whitsunday	Acts 2: 1-21	John 15: 26-27, 16.4b-15
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 6: 1-8	John 3: 1-17
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June Proper 4	1 Samuel 3: 1-10	Mark 2: 23-3.6

## From the registers...

### Funerals

The burial of ashes for **Elizabeth Mary Welch** took place on Saturday, April 6th at St Giles's Church, Kilmington.

The funeral of **Edward Samuel Jacobs** took place on Thursday, March 28th at St Michael's Church, Shute.

The funeral of **Marion Jill Every** took place on Wednesday, March 27th at St John the Baptist Church, Yarcombe.

The funeral of **Angus Falconer** took place on Thursday, April 11th at St Giles's Church, Kilmington.

*We extend our deepest sympathies to their families and friends.*





## Telling the Easter story

AT the end of March, the Open the Book team were welcomed into the three schools in the Five Alive East Devon Mission Community to tell the Easter story.

This year, it was told from the perspective of a Roman soldier who witnessed the events of Good Friday when Jesus died, and on Easter Sunday when he arose again. The storyteller asked the children if they sometimes stood at the edge of things and watched what happened, like a football match or standing in the playground watching other children playing games.

In a similar way, the Roman soldier stood by and watched what happened at Eastertime all those years ago. The children learned that the soldier didn't

understand why Jesus was being treated so badly when he hadn't done anything wrong. It wasn't until he saw Jesus alive again that he started to understand. The soldier wasn't happy about the bad things that were happening to Jesus. In his heart he knew it wasn't right. In a quiet moment of reflection at the end of the story, the children were asked to close their eyes and think about a time when their heart told them something wasn't right.

At the end of the presentation, this prayer was said and the children could make it their prayer if they wished.

*"Dear God, when our hearts tell us that something isn't right, help us to know what to do about it, Amen."*

**Martin Nunns**

## Chapel raises funds for RNLI

THIS year marks the 200th anniversary of the RNLI – those volunteers who put their own lives at risk to save others at sea.

Equipment has changed dramatically since the early days when they used to put to sea in large rowing boats propelled by nothing but muscle power and a determination to save lives.

As a youngster, I learned about the heroism of Grace Darling, daughter of a Northumberland lighthouse keeper, who, at the age of 23, went to sea in appalling weather with her father and three other men in a local rowing boat to rescue survivors from a ship that had foundered on nearby rocks and split in two.

As a result of her part in this rescue she became a national hero.

Nearer to home, the story is told of how, in 1899, the lifeboat in Lynmouth, North Devon, was unable to launch to go to the aid of a stricken vessel in the Bristol Channel because of the squally weather conditions.

The decision was taken to drag the 10-ton wooden boat the 13 miles up over Countisbury Hill, along the coastal edge of Exmoor, and then down into the small harbour at Porlock Weir, where it was more sheltered and the boat could be safely launched.

Those who have ever driven along this stretch of road you'll know what a mammoth task this must have been, taking 18 horses and 100 people to get it up the first hill.

Equipment and boats have improved tremendously since then, and continue to do so, and so we at the chapel have decided that our next two coffee mornings – on Wednesdays, May 8th and June 12th – will be in aid of the RNLI to help them with the important work they do.

Please come along and support us in these fundraising events.

The services this month are all at 11am, followed by refreshments, and we can assure anyone of a warm welcome.

**Roderick Ovey**  
Dalwood Methodist Church

## Helping children 'experience' Easter

THIS year, the Christian festival of Pentecost is celebrated on Sunday, May 19th. It is when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit after Jesus ascended to Heaven.

The activity page this month (see page 21) can be used when readers are out and about to explore aspects of the biblical story.

Near the end of the spring term, a brilliant team of volunteers engaged Hedgehog class from Shute Primary School in 'experiencing Easter', step-by-step going through key moments in the Easter story.

I also had a wonderful time attending Stockland Primary Academy's Easter service lead by Quantock class.

So much hard work must have gone into it. It was also a joy joining the

parents and carers as they worked together to get the staging packed away.

Easter events and trails were held in all five parishes, sharing the good news with so many families.

By the time you read this, I hope to have attended a workshop on using the outdoors to explore faith and worship as we consider other ways to 'do' church. I am looking forward to the Rogation 'farm church' service in Dalwood on May 12th.

If you would like more support in exploring faith with your children and young people or are interested in a parenting for faith or raising faith course, do get in touch.

**Juletta Obudo**  
Families Outreach Worker  
5alive.families@gmail.com

## Five Alive welcomes Very Reverend Bob Key

By Caroline Nunns

FIVE Alive East Devon Mission Community is delighted to welcome the Very Reverend Bob Key to the service on Sunday, May 5th at Stockland church to speak about Thy Kingdom Come.

Bob is the Anglican Communion lead for Thy Kingdom Come, a post which takes him to many countries across the world that join in this 10 days of prayer between Ascension Day and Pentecost – this year from May 9th-19th.

Bob has overseen the Novena being translated into many languages. Last year, he wrote and recorded the Novena (a daily reflection based on bible passages for nine days of prayer.)

Most people know the Lord's Prayer but how often do we think about what we are actually saying? In particular, what does it mean when we say: "Thy Kingdom Come?"

In 2016, the archbishops of Canterbury and York were moved to use the time between Ascension Day and Pentecost as a particular time of prayer to bring more people to come to know Jesus. This idea which was originally introduced into the Church of England has now spread across the world and into different



denominations and has grown into a worldwide 'wave of prayer'.

Tying in with our Pray through May challenge, during this 10 days we are called to identify and pray specifically for five people – family or friends – to come to know the love of God.

Resources will be available at the mission community service.

**Thy Kingdom Come Prayer**  
*Almighty God,*

*your ascended son has sent us into the world to preach the good news of your kingdom:  
inspire us with your Spirit  
and fill our hearts with the fire of your love,  
that all who hear your word  
may be drawn to you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
Amen.*

## Alison celebrates 30 years as a priest

ON April 17th 1994, Rev Alison Finch was ordained as a priest in the Church of England.

One of the very first women to be ordained, she shared some of her experiences of serving as a priest and as a chaplain during the service held at St Michael's Church, Shute, on Sunday, April 14th.

Times have changed since the early 1990s, and so have attitudes to women priests as Rev Julie Lomas was able to affirm having been ordained in 2017.

Rev Julie said: "I was delighted to invite Rev Ali to preach and preside at this service of Holy Communion, and to thank her for having stepped out in faith and followed her calling to serve people of all faiths and none in the way of Jesus."



REV Alison Finch, left, with Rev Julie Lomas at St Michael's Church, Shute

**Keep the Five Alive community thriving and in touch by sending your local news and views**

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

# Thoughts on recent pilgrimage... from the vicarage

By Rev Julie Lomas

READERS may have enjoyed watching the recent series on BBC2 called *The Pilgrimage*, in which a team of celebrities engaged in a pilgrims' walk around Wales, recording their highs and lows, their thoughts and their faith experiences. If you have not seen it then it is available on BBC iPlayer.

Here, in East Devon, an equally intrepid group of people set out during Lent to take part in *The Pilgrim Way* from the comfort of the living room at The Vicarage!

We started with 17 people, and then for reasons of holiday, family commitments and illness, 13 of us completed the journey on the Monday of Holy Week.

Julia and Andy Howard, of Stockland, said: "It was enjoyable to take time out on a weekly basis to meet up with Rev Julie (Lomas) and friends from the Five Alive churches and explore the cornerstones of our beliefs – Apostle's Creed, Lord's Prayer, 10 Commandments and the Beatitudes.

"We were all at different levels of understanding therefore making the discussions on each topic interesting and light hearted and we came away each week with new ideas, including areas to reflect upon and consider as we continue on our journey of faith."

Diana Sayer said: "A group of us met at the vicarage and were each given a booklet called *The Pilgrim*

*Way* which contained The Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Commandments and the Beatitudes.

"We were guided and encouraged by Julie to consider various questions, such as, 'Who is God?', 'When and where do we pray?', 'What is Holy Communion and what does it mean to us?' and many more. Initially, we talked to a partner before sharing our conclusions, which were personal and diverse. We also watched short videos in which ordinary people voiced their interesting and sometimes unusual views.

"I attended the course because I wanted to learn more about the Bible teachings and to reaffirm my Christian faith, but beyond my expectations I also gained inspiration from others in the group through their sincerely expressed thoughts and beliefs."

Nick and Mary Harrison said: "This course provided a very relaxed and informal way to look more closely at four parts of our Anglican liturgy that we often use in church and may not have thought about in detail before. The subjects covered were the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Commandments and the Beatitudes.

"We had the opportunity to really look at and think about the meanings of the words and phrases: it was most illuminating.

"There were no right or wrong answers, just our thoughts that we were encouraged to share. It was lovely to meet with others from the Five Alive churches and get to know them a little better. There was a lot of

laughter! Our thanks to Julie and Steve (Lomas) for opening their home to us and making us all feel comfortable and welcomed."

Watch out for the announcement of the next group meetings which will be using *The Bible Course*, produced by the Bible Society, and which will help those involved get to grips with the variety of books of the Bible, and how they all interlink. Dates to be announced shortly.

## Prayer chain

A PRAYER chain is an unbreakable sequence of prayer stretching from early morning to the evening of one day thus forming a 'wave of prayer.'

Each person on the chain commits to praying for half an hour at an allotted time during a certain day. Like a relay team, the 'prayer baton' is passed from person to person.

It only requires a willingness to pray and a telephone, (mobile or landline).

People who have taken part in the past have found the experience rewarding and very moving.

This year's chain will take place on Wednesday, May 15th as part of Julie's Pray through May challenge.

If you would like to join in or find out more please contact me on 07922106581.

Caroline Nunns



A free phone line of hymns,  
reflections and prayers



# DALWOOD NEWS

Parish correspondent Stephen Boyes-Lee – [stephen@burfords.co.uk](mailto:stephen@burfords.co.uk)  
Parish distributor Sue Drew– 01404 831365

## GARDENERS GO WILD!

AN intrepid team of Brian Eddy, Marjory Taylor and Nick Harrison have carved out an area from the grassland behind St Peter's church, in which they have planted the seeds of wildflowers.

They have certainly been watered in well and now prayers for some warm

sunshine to bring them on to mature plants. Other ideas popped up for the 'wild' area including a bug hotel, a hedgehog house and a log pile. If anyone has any suggestions of what might be added or would like to be a part of creating a wilder habitat, please let the team know. Thanks go to the gardening group for their hard work.

Mary Harrison



**Flower rota for  
St Peter's Church, Dalwood  
May 2024**

4th May - Grazyna Lilley  
11th and 18th May  
- Jo Flint  
25th May (& 1st June)  
- Laurie Lucas

## Dalwood Village Hall

Reg Charity no: 300809

### BIG BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

## MONDAY

6th MAY 9-11am

**£8.00** Full English

**£3.00** Bacon



Vegetarian Options



## DALWOOD

# MUSIC DAY

SATURDAY 29TH JUNE

11.30am - 10pm

150 Musicians and Vocalists  
from all over the West Country

All Styles of Music in 3 Venues



EVENING CONCERT

**Jeremy Huggett's  
60s Band**

**And Dancing**

Free parking

Free Programme

Stroller ticket £15

Children Free

Evening Concert £10

DALWOOD EX13 7EG NEAR AXMINSTER  
[www.dalwoodvillage.co.uk](http://www.dalwoodvillage.co.uk)



01404 831 280 : 01404 881 601

# DALWOOD NEWS

## Great British Spring Clean

Be part of the pick

Dalwood residents turned out to be 'part of the pick' on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, on what threatened to be a showery morning. Twelve routes were 'litter picked' by seventeen residents. It was lovely to see families joining in the pick. Thankfully, the weather stayed dry as the teams picked the litter. They all returned their collected litter to Dalwood Village Hall at various times in the morning. On their return many enjoyed a bacon and egg bap or bacon bap, or egg on toast with warm drinks of hot chocolate, coffee, and tea. Tony Benger took away bags of litter filled with some items that were surely 'fly tipped'

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2025.

Gemma, Chris, Nick, Kathy, and Marjory enjoyed a chat after their walk, litter picking, around the village.



DALWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

invite you to a

**COFFEE MORNING**

**AT THE CHAPEL**

**WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**10-30 AM - 12 NOON**

**WITH A "BRING AND BUY" STALL**

**IN AID OF**

**RNLI**

**DO COME AND ENJOY A CUPPA  
AND A CHAT AND SUPPORT  
THIS WORTHWHILE CAUSE!**



**Dalwood Community Shop and Post Office**  
**YOUR shop is here for your convenience, saving YOU time and petrol**  
**We accept cash and all major credit cards**

**email: dalwoodcommunityshop@outlook.com tel: 01404 881401**

## AGM

**TUESDAY MAY 21st 7.00pm**

**Dalwood Village Hall**

**All are very welcome**

Please join us if you can, and share your ideas for the shop as our new venture is launched

**YOUR Community Shop & Post Office needs YOUR support**



# SHOP LOCAL

### **SHOP OPENING TIMES**

**Monday- Friday: 8.30am - 5.30pm**  
**Saturday: 8.30am - 4.00pm**  
**Sunday: 8.30am - 12.30pm**

### **POST OFFICE opening times**

**FRIDAY 10.00am - 12.00pm**



**AXMINSTER  
GATE  
TO  
PLATE**



**FREE**



Silver Street  
Church Street  
Minster Green

**Bank Holiday  
Monday 27 May**

Supported by  
Axminster Town  
Council & East Devon  
District Council

[www.eatfestivals.org](http://www.eatfestivals.org)



# KILMINGTON NEWS

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

## Remembering Diana



By Rev Julie Lomas

ON Sunday, February 17th, locals gathered to remember former church warden and friend Diana Mellows at the dedication of the new noticeboards.

Her husband, John, was joined by their daughter, Carol Milliner, and

alongside Rev Julie Lomas and current church warden Christopher Thorne, prayers of dedication were said.

The new noticeboard for the church is now in use and the wording printed above reads: "Dedicated to St Giles in loving memory of Diana Mellows, church warden and lay chair, 2013-2022."

## Super swimmers help pool

CONGRATULATIONS to Elana-May Blackmore and Rev Julie Lomas for helping regular users of the Flamingo Swimming Pool in Axminster to swim around the British Isles.

Elana and Julie were sponsored to complete an enormous number of lengths over a three-month period, and they did it!

Well done to everyone else who took part in the challenge, and thanks go to all the sponsors – if anyone would like to contribute to helping keep the community pool up and running, cash donations can be made to either Julie or Elana, or donations via BACS to: Friends of Flamingo Pool; sort code: 20-85-26; account number: 60181900.



## Garden chatter

A TALK was held in Kilmington Village Hall on Friday, April 12th at 7.30pm for Kilmington Gardening Club.

The talk was titled All Year Round Colour in the Garden with the speaker being Alan Down who owned Cleeve Nursery for 35 years.

With Alan's background, he was well placed to advise on how to keep gardens looking good throughout the year.

There were Refreshments with a bar and a seed swap table too.

The next talk will again be held in Kilmington Village Hall and it will be at 7.30pm on Friday, May 3rd.

The talk will be Gardening without Plastic and the speaker will be Sally Nex.

UK gardeners currently get through approximately 500 million plastic pots every year as well as countless plastic plant labels and seed trays.

Sally has been working to reduce, and, where possible, eliminate the plastic from her garden and this talk will show all visitors how they can too.

Everyone is welcome. For non-members the charge will be £3.

*Lesley Rew*

## Supporting RBL

KILMINGTON Royal British Legion coffee morning on Saturday, April 6th was very well attended, which is no surprise as the village RBL branch always do such a wonderful job.

Thanks go to all those who help, mostly behind the scenes, to put this type of event together. There were many a delicious cake and Anton's Butchers, of Colyton, tempted visitors with sumptuous meat and other offerings.

Entry entitled everyone to a cup of coffee or tea and to a slice of cake. The raffle was great as always and the locals really do get behind the RBL in Kilmington and rightly so.

*Christopher Thorne*

# KILMINGTON NEWS



## Margaret is 90

CONGRATULATIONS go to Margaret Astbury who reached the age of 90 last month.

A card and flowers were presented to Margaret whilst she was at the village coffee shop event early in April. Margaret has supported St Giles's Coffee Shop for many a year and her range of different biscuits are legendary. She will have to tell everyone your secret to long life.

*Christopher Thorne*

## Lunches success

LENT Lunches, once again, seem to have been a great success this year with a final total of monies received around £700.

It will be confirmed at the next PCC meeting which charities the money will be donated to, and which charities have been selected.

Thanks go to all who have helped with regards to the six lunches that were held and to those who were able to support them. Thanks also goes to those who managed to distribute soup, rolls, cheese and butter to those within the village who were not able to make it to the cricket pavilion but whom still wished to receive a lunch.

Thanks also go to Rev Julie Lomas and her husband, Steve, for stepping in to help. There was no set charge for the lunches – donations were gratefully received.

*Christopher Thorne*

## New life with Lazarus

By Elana May-Blackmore

THE bi-monthly Celebrate Together service at St Giles's Church on Saturday, 13th April was attended by 36 people, including those with additional needs, parents, carers and fellow friends too.

As always, there was the drama and talk afterwards and this time the theme was Lazarus. There were tombs, bandages and plenty of tea towels.

Christine Mills and Greta Lidster played Mary and Martha, Gill Heighway was Jesus himself. John Thorne was helping the disciples take Jesus to the tomb and Christine Thorne did a wonderful job at making sense of the chaos. There was also a young lad who came and read a line, he did an incredible job.

Aleks Whitemore was asked to come up and help with the talk. He had a bandage wrapped around his hand to represent how Jesus heals 'wounds'

whether it is physical, mental or spiritual, and that death isn't the end – it is just the beginning.

The group sang, accompanied, as always, by the wonderful Margaret Hurford. Every time she is taken by surprise, she just knows what to do – such a wonderful asset to the team.

Barrie Lidster is an unsung hero of the team. He helps by working very hard behind the scenes with name badges, and is such a vital asset to the service.

Thanks also go to the tea ladies – each time they provide such a delicious spread of food.

This service is a safe place for all to come as they are and to feel welcome. For further information, please contact Christine Thorne on 07814 041059. There is level access and plenty of parking. The next Celebrate Together service in Kilmington is on Saturday, June 8th at 3pm. In May there will be a Celebrate Together service at St Paul's Church, Honiton, on Saturday, May 11th at 3pm.



## Great support for litter pick

THERE was a little concern over the numbers that might help with the village litter pick that had been arranged for 3pm on Sunday, April 7th.

It had not been advertised very much, however, no worry was necessary as many turned up that afternoon and a good deal of litter was collected which was then fed into the church black bins for disposal. Some areas were a lot cleaner than others which was encouraging in part. If only litter was a thing of the past. For now, work will continue to try to keep Kilmington as

picturesque as it is.

Thanks go to Christine Thorne who put on a wonderful spread – no one went home hungry or thirsty after stuffed rolls and hot cross buns.

Also, a number of cakes were enjoyed courtesy of the Royal British Legion coffee morning which had taken place the day before. Thanks go to all the helpers keeping Kilmington spick and span. The next litter pick date will be advertised when it has been decided and the team hopes for many more hands.

*Christopher Thorne*

# KILMINGTON NEWS



## ARTHUR THE PONY LEADS THE WAY

By Christopher Thorne

**WHAT** a wonderful Easter we had this year with lots going on either at St Giles's Church, at The Beacon (the baptist church in Kilmington) or up at Shute Beacon.

The first event was a Palm Sunday joint-service which was held at the baptist church.

Arthur the miniature Shetland pony made another appearance, and he accompanied many as they walked through Kilmington from the common until they arrived at the baptist church. Whilst many walked through the village, the bells rang out from St Giles's Church.

On Maundy Thursday, March 28th, a mission community last supper was held at St Giles's Church at 7pm. Very aptly, there were 13 in attendance as all gathered and were taken through the events that surrounded the Last Supper. There were silences, passages read, communion was taken and hymns were sung.

Rev Julie Lomas led the service, an unusual but very enjoyable evening with everyone leaving in silence as

they reflected on the meaning of Maundy Thursday. Next year, it would be great if two dozen could be present – if not more – as I believe that all would enjoy this different type of gathering.

Good Friday, March 29th, was the coffee shop event, as all enjoyed the refreshments offered. This was an informal gathering, as is normal for the coffee shop.

On Saturday, March 30th, the baptist church's Easter trail was joined. Two stations were located within St Giles's – the Garden of Gethsemane and the Last Supper table. Around 140 children, with parents, signed up for the Easter trail.

It started at the baptist church with families then crossing the car park to venture into St Giles's church.

Christine Mills, Greta Lidster, Elana Blackmore and Rev Julie were all in costume. They took the children through the events of what took place at the garden and at the Last Supper with Elana asking questions of the children following both of the different depictions. My hat goes off to Christine, Greta, Elana and Julie as they must have all been exhausted at

the end of the day. Christine created a wonderful garden – she will be called up to help with the pantomime next year!

On Easter Day – Sunday, March 31st – it was an early start for 10 people and five dogs as they climbed up the hill to Shute Beacon for 7am. There was a short service at the beacon with two Bible passages being read and two hymns being sung.

This format has been followed for a number of years, first started by dear Brian Lavender – it was great to see Caroline Lavender join the group once again.

The event finished with the words that Brian loved: "He is risen indeed, hallelujah, hallelujah."

Following the joyful service, the group made its way back down the hill with some later attending St Giles's where the 9.30am Easter service was led by the wonderful Rev John Lees.

Thanks go to John, whose service was very much enjoyed by all. Hymns sung were Jesus Christ is Risen Today, The Strife is O'er, At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing and Thine Be The Glory.





# STOCKLAND NEWS

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

## Laughing all the way ... to the village hall

STOCKLAND Village Hall reinvented itself as a top comedy venue for the first time in April.

Compèred by Daniel Fitzhenry, of Fitzofgiggles, over 100 people were treated to a night full of laughter from stand up comedians.

Louise Leigh, from Bristol, kicked off the night and to quote The Scotsman was "imaginative, brilliant and ever so slightly risqué". Many women found her totally relatable, myself included .

We were treated to dark musical comedy with no-holds-barred lyrics by Swansea-born Paul Dennis. His words had many people laughing, squirming and were, at times, thought provoking.

The headlining act came all the way from London. Don Biswas's brand of clever, political humour had the audience captivated from start to finish.

All comedians were very impressed with our village hall facilities, which reiterated how lucky we are to have such a great facility.

This event proved very popular and sold out 10 days before. Due to the success and excellent feedback, another comedy night will be hosted on Saturday, October 12th, with proceeds in aid of the village hall. Details will be posted on Stockland Village Hall's Facebook page and the treemail in due course.

*Claire Nuttall*



ONE of the stunning Easter flower displays in the church

# Village church wins eco silver certificate

By Andy Howard

**FOLLOWING** the award of an Eco Church bronze level last June to St Michael and All Angels Church, the team has been steadily making environmental improvements towards the next level.

Such improvements include the installation of bat and hedgehog boxes, bug hotels, use of fairtrade products, recycled toilet paper and environmental cleaning products as well as encouraging our congregation to make personal lifestyle changes and become involved in global campaigns such as last month's Earth Hour.

The effort involved has been worth it as the church has now been awarded the silver level award. The certificate can be seen hanging up on the left-hand column on entrance to the church.

The focus of the team will now move to find an affordable and acceptable carbon neutral replacement heating system for the ageing dual oil boilers.

An energy survey took place last year that recommended the oil-fired heating is replaced by low-carbon all-electric heating in the form of individually switch under-pew heaters, supplemented by infrared heaters (for non-pew areas such as the tea and coffee area at the back) and an over-door air heater to create a 'warm welcome' on entrance.

The rationale for under-pew heaters is that instead of trying to heat the entire air volume of the church, each heater will provide a curtain of warm air for the people sitting at the pew. As each pew is individually switched then only those pews where people are sat will have their heaters turned on. The other benefits of electric heating are that it is efficient, requires virtually no warm-up period, the



technology is well tested and the ongoing maintenance costs are low. It can also be easily expanded in phases as funds allow.

Over the winter, the team has visited a couple of churches that have had under-pew heaters and infrared wall heaters installed to get a feeling for the efficiency of these heating systems and to obtain feedback from their congregations and any lessons learnt that would be of benefit to design and installation.

The first phase will concentrate on providing under-pew heaters for the pews in the main front section, which will cover the normal winter services attendance numbers, with infrared heaters at the back of the church and the over-door air heater for the main entrance.

## PLEASE CONTRIBUTE: SEND US YOUR REPORTS AND PHOTOS

Please send your Stockland news, photos and event reports to  
village correspondent Gill Metcalfe: gilldog12@gmail.com

# STOCKLAND NEWS

## Church history: part two

*THIS final part of Bryan Drew's history of the local church reviews the stewardship of the church and the development of the churchyard. With the exhibition Stockland History: Past and Present in March still very much in mind, this edifice must be seen for its commanding significance on the growth and development of the village.*

**AMONG** the Vatican Documents (1195-1455) two notes of interest were found. A mandate dated March 1331 to the Bishop of Salisbury, issued at the King's request, to appropriate to the Abbot and Convent of Middleton the church of Stockland (Dorset) Value £13-6-8 a perpetual vicar being appointed. The Rectory was appropriated and a vicar appointed with the yearly stipend of four marks a year in 1335.

On June 17th 1401 is a mandate to the community and men of the village or hamlet of Dalewoode in the diocese of Salisbury. Grant – in consideration of the distance, about two miles of their parish church of Stokelonde, and of the difficulty of access – especially through winter floods – that they may enclose and have consecrated by any catholic bishop in communion with the apostolic see – a cemetery even if not contiguous to their chapel which chapel was once a parish church, but is now daughter to Stokelonde and in which from time immemorial they have had masses and other divine offices, sacraments and sacramentals – and to have burials there, as well as in the said chapel.

The Reverend FC Butters states: "The loss of status is possibly explained in this way. If in 1335, Milton through parsimoniousness served the church and that at Stockland with one priest (and it would seem that Milton did) the smaller church and parish might well have sunk to a chapelry. It would seem, however, that except for burials in Dalwood church itself, these took place at Stockland. The present Dalwood churchyard can then be dated from 1401. If yew trees, however, are any indication of the existence of a churchyard then I should consider the churchyard is older than 1401 because the present yew there is a remarkably large and handsome specimen of great age".

One of the earliest references to the

Stockland churchyard comes from a story in the Parishes' magazine, October 1885: "On Monday evening, as the parish sexton was digging a grave in the (Stockland) churchyard and when at the required depth, he noticed at what appeared to be a skull embedded in the soil. He lifted it carefully out and was surprised to find underneath a number of small coins, which proved to be 36 silver pennies of Henry III (1216-1272) and in excellent preservation. The possessor went to the village inn and gave some to his friends. As soon as the fact became known, the churchwarden laid claim to the coins and in his possession they now remain. The inscription on one side is Henruis R with a hand holding aloft a cross and a king's head in the centre. On the reverse side is the reading, LUND EXTRANFOM, with a cross in the centre." The grave was being dug for the body of William Scott, found dead on Broadhayes Hill. An inquest was held at 'Gorne' where Scott and his father lived. By August 18th, it was reported that "the coins were by now well distributed at 10s each and 20 in the hands of the vicar, are now found to be treasure trove and must be handed over to the police".

Let us consider the coffin route from Dalwood to Stockland church. The routes were planned to be mainly level and run along the valley floors. These routes are known in various forms such as coffin paths, bier roads, corpse roads or, as on Dartmoor, The Lych Way. The belief today is that the route survives as a public right of way, even over a field. Sometimes field names give a clue if they are called Church Way. There is such a field with that name on the possible route at Higher Rodway. It was usual for these routes to cross water at least once, intersect other paths and some are ghostly. It was the belief that the spirits couldn't cross water so coffin paths usually went through fords, river stepping stones or through marshy ground. Where did the pall bearers stop for a rest on the two to three—mile journey? They strategically placed large stones called 'coffin stones' along the route so they hardly had to lower the coffin to put it down, making it easier also to lift back up again. Has anyone come across such larger stones? I believe the route would have been towards Lower Corry

## Community and cake

**DESPITE** a miserable wet and windy morning, a sizeable group arrived for the Wednesday ladies' coffee morning, soon deep in conversation and very much into the morning fare of chocolate cake, Victoria sponge, lemon drizzle cake and biscuits.

By the time to leave, there was little left to prove that cakes had been on the table – possibly due to the chat and friendly banter enjoyed by all. It's strange but once sat down and hellos interchanged, a slice of cake become two! With one member of the group reminding that once adulthood is reached every subsequent 10 years, half a stone is gained – clearly this is an average figure but needless to say – well perhaps not to be mentioned as the second piece of homemade cake is devoured!

Again, the time spent together is informative, full of chatter and laughter. Who would have thought that a humble raffle prize of 'colour catcher' would have provoked such interest? As said, a fun and informative get-together. It is also a reminder of the pleasure gained from a village community – all either knowing the others or becoming known – not quite the London suburbs.

So, thanks are due all round for all who braved the rain and wind, for those who brewed the drinks, those who conjured up the more than tasty cakes and for the heating! A most enjoyable affair.

A donation of £45 to the church was made by the group.

The next event is the ladies' lunch at the Sidmouth Arms on Wednesday, May 1st. Menu available via [www.sidmoutharms.com](http://www.sidmoutharms.com) or from Julia Howard or Gill Metcalfe.

*Gill Metcalfe*

and after that up the valley to Higher Rodway and down one of the old tracks that led to the south door of Stockland church.

*Bryan Drew*

● Bryan's book, *A Journey Through the Hiistory of Stockland, and the publication A Short History and Guide add to the thousand-plus years of the church site. Apologies for the two errors in last month's article which should have been 1218-1219.*

# STOCKLAND NEWS

## Rewarding time

WHAT a season for Stockland Ladybirds skittles team – a few wins and several losses, or rather second places, but with the final match of the season played, the captain reflected it being an enjoyable and rewarding fourth season.

It was a wet, cold evening at the beginning of April when the team set off to Colyton Social Club for the final game, until the new season starts again in September.

The Ladybirds have, during the past seven months, had their ups and downs. Much to their delight though, they have had three wins, and some very close exciting games, which is a great encouragement. It was agreed that in September they will enter into the fourth year in the Colyton Skittles League. So onwards and upwards is the only way forward for The Stockland Ladybirds.

*Sue Miskin*

## PAUSE FOR PRAYER

### A Prayer for Pentecost from St. Bonaventure, 1217-1274

*Lord Jesus, as God's spirit came down and rested upon you, may the same Spirit rest on us, bestowing his sevenfold gifts.*

*First, grant us the gift of understanding,*

*by which your precepts may enlighten our minds.*

*Second, grant us counsel, by which we may follow in your footsteps on the path of righteousness.*

*Third, grant us courage, by which we may ward off the enemy's attacks.*

*Fourth, grant us knowledge, by which we can distinguish good from evil.*

*Fifth, grant us piety, by which we may acquire compassionate hearts.*

*Sixth, grant us fear, by which we may draw back from evil and submit to what is good.*

*Seventh, grant us wisdom, that we may taste fully the life-giving sweetness of your love.*

*Amen*

*Contributed by Philippa Wilks*

## EASTER WALK AND BRUNCH POPULAR

By Nancy Patch

THE annual church Easter Monday brunch and coffee morning was a great success.

Bacon, eggs, sausages, tomatoes, beans, hash browns and mushrooms were served to over 100 guests with juice, toast and tea or coffee to finish.

It was a real team effort with many locals involved and the eggs were very kindly donated by Fowlers Eggs. Followed by a successful walk, the event made a great profit of around £700. Thanks go to everyone who supported it.

After the delicious brunch enjoyed by almost 100 people and so ably cooked and produced by Nancy Patch and her band of helpers, 26 walkers and many dogs assembled in the Village Hall car park to walk a circular route within the parish. A slight drizzle had started but it didn't deter them from walking the 3 or so miles up North Hill Road, bearing left towards Lake Farm, across fields to Hornshayes, Huntshayes Turbary, where bluebells were starting to appear, down to Millhayes Mill by the stream to Seavington and Aller fields back to the newly opened Kings Arms Inn for a well-deserved drink.

*Nancy Patch, Bryan and Rowena Drew*



ABOVE left, Rosanne Bulmer in charge of toast at the brunch; top and above, the Patch family all get involved; left, the annual Easter walkers





# SHUTE & WHITFORD NEWS

Parish correspondent - Fanny Balcombe - fbalcombe@btinternet.com  
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## Flowerpot extravaganza comes to village

IT is amazing what you can do with flowerpots!

Take the trail and quiz to find numerous flowerpot sculptures around Whitford on June 1st-2nd, 10.30am -4.30pm.

There will be a table-top sale in the hall plus refreshments and ice cream, and on Sunday the bar will be open as well as a barbecue provided.

*Ros Hallworth*

## Big steps forward for hall

By Louise Fuller

AT the beginning of 2023, the new team of trustees at Whitford Village Hall embarked on a training programme to learn about current best practice in the governance and management of village halls.

The online training was run by the team at Devon Communities Together – an independent charity, which works with communities across Devon. One of its objectives is to support village hall committees to develop their spaces through the New Start Devon: Enterprising Halls Programme.

Little did the Whitford Village Hall team know what they were letting themselves in for. There were sessions on good governance, business planning, effective communication, financial management and fundraising, sustainable energy use, extending the use of the hall to support the community, and creating a recognisable 'brand' image for the hall.

In total, the trustees completed 24

hours of training over three months, and were awarded a certificate of achievement in June 2023.

But of course, it didn't end there. Now the trustees are working to apply all the new legal requirements and guidance to bring the governance of Whitford Village Hall right up-to-date.

Since June 2023, the team has developed a mission statement, a business plan, and a range of policies, including health and safety, finance, data protection, complaints, events management, safeguarding, equality and diversity, and environment and sustainability.

It has also set up the Friends of Whitford Village Hall – a core group of regular volunteers who support the trustees and the hall on an ad hoc basis. And the ongoing development of the bar must not be forgotten.

This extension of the use of the hall continues successfully to bring together people from within Whitford and from further afield. A true asset to the community.

## Floral delights

THE April Umborne Social Club meeting heard a beautiful description of Alma Swan's wildflower meadows through the year.

She showed wonderful slides of the various stages of floral delights, including early primroses, buttercups, pignut and orchids and then traditional haymaking in July or August. Members also heard about the many insects attracted by the pollen and how cows, given a choice will choose the wildflower hay over hay produced from farmed rye grass.

The statistics relating to the decline in traditional meadow was depressing, 97 per cent having been lost since the 1930s. But the Government is providing some help and encouragement for farmers with a stewardship scheme to encourage a more holistic way of farming and a Sustainable Farming Initiative with grants available. Members also heard of the newly formed East Devon Meadows Group which began in November and has over 100 members so far. It provides advice, seeds, practical demonstrations and an Open Meadows programme in May and June.

More information can be found at eastdevonmeadowsgroup@outlook.com

The next meeting is on May 2nd at Umborne Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

*Dr Phillip Ambler*



**PERCY and Billy Orsman came to the Easter trail and craft activities morning on Good Friday in Whitford Chapel with their family**

**For more information on the Five Alive Mission Community please visit the website: [www.fivealive.org](http://www.fivealive.org)**

# SHUTE & WHITFORD NEWS

## Ramping it up

AT a Whitford Village Hall trustees meeting last year, it was decided that the old concrete ramp to the Coronation Room and bar was no longer fit for purpose and unsuitable for wheelchair users.

Little was it known at the time that making some simple improvements for the benefit of the local community would take so long and be so costly.

It was pointed out that perhaps East Devon District Council (EDDC) should be informed of the intention to make some modifications. In hindsight, this was probably a mistake.

EDDC insisted on a full building regulation application, with drawings, specification and compliance with current building regulations plus an expensive application fee.

In April 2023, a full application was made which was reviewed by the building control office.

They required a number of modifications to be made, some of which were unworkable.

After discussions with the senior building inspector a more sensible and practical plan was agreed. A final amended design was submitted in October 2023 which was approved in January 2024.

Construction work started on April 2nd with local volunteers breaking up the old concrete slab with heavy rock breaking tools.

The team included Whitford villagers David Plowman, David Chidell, Steve Hallworth and Toby Fuller.

Timber shutters were then installed to retain the concrete and fix the profile of the sloping ramp to meet EDDC requirements. The ramp foundation used hardcore from the broken slab.

The main structure was concreted on April 5th. Just the handrails and a small dwarf wall on the left-hand side, to contain a wheelchair on the ramp, now needs to be constructed to complete the project.

The new ramp will now provide smooth access to the Coronation Room and bar for wheelchair users and the disabled.

*David Plowman*



## THE EASTER EXPERIENCE

**JUST before Easter, Shute church had a small makeover to become scenes from the story of Holy week leading up to the celebration.**

After several armfuls of plants, logs, brightly coloured cloths, rugs, arches and crockery were brought into the church and set up over the next couple of hours, there were six scenes from the story.

Hedgehog class from Shute Primary School arrived and listened to Juletta Obudo read the story from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. Then, divided into five groups, they travelled around the church and heard and experienced more of the story.

The first station was called 'hopes and dreams', a pathway strewn with 'palm' leaves and stones for children to draw their own hopes and dreams. So everyone can look forward to seeing astronauts, writers, entrepreneurs, vets, lifeboat crew, animal carers and carers of people from among them in the future!

Then the children moved on to the

'washing of the feet' – though only hands were dipped in water this time.

Next, they sat on the floor around the table for the Last Supper and witnessed bread being broken and 'wine' poured.

Round next to the Garden of Gethsemane, where the children modelled from playdough times when they felt alone or lonely.

On to the cross and 'crucifixion' next where children were invited to lay 'rubbish' at the foot of the cross to represent something for which they wished to say sorry. The class then gathered together in front of the 'empty tomb' and, whilst munching on the leftover grapes from the last supper, heard the wonderful story of Jesus's resurrection and the joy of Easter Day.

Hopefully it was a memorable occasion for them and gave them something to think about. Perhaps everyone could all do with revisiting the familiar stories with fresh eyes.

*Mary Harrison*

## Surprising cheer as WI folds

**THE March meeting of Musbury and Whitford WI was the final meeting. Everyone knew that this was coming: over the last few years there have been falling membership numbers and no new blood to re-invigorate the club and take over responsibilities.**

It was a surprisingly cheerful meeting considering. After the formalities of closing were over, members sat remembering past times and drinking tea and eating cake – very WI. There

were two photograph albums full of pictures of past good times, outings and parties so it was entertaining for everyone to see their younger selves having fun. The members' book club and tea and chat meetings will continue and there are plans to meet up for outings now and then. Several members are joining other local groups.

*Joy Burgess – Signing off for Musbury and Whitford WI*



# YARCOMBE NEWS

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## Passages and chocolate!

By Rebecca Bell

ON the afternoon of Wednesday, April 3rd, the rain and wind held off and the sun came out for a small number of participants who took part in the Easter trail, set up in the churchyard.

A dozen signs were followed and at each one a short passage was read and an activity took place, all relating to the Easter story. These included making a house that Jesus would have lived in out

of sticks; finding stones that looked like Easter eggs; making a desert in 40 seconds and a cross using two sticks.

At the final sign, there was a surprise to be found hidden inside the branches of a yew tree –chocolate eggs, of course!

After the trail, cold and hot drinks and a delicious selection of cakes were served in church, as well as more eggs.

The Easter trail remained in the churchyard for a further week for anyone who wanted to take part at a different time.



## A 'rescue' lunch

TRADITIONALLY the community lunch in Lent has been soup and bread, so that the profit and any donations can be given to a charity.

On the menu this month was a choice of mushroom or vegetable soup with crusty bread followed by a shortbread biscuit with tea or coffee.

This year, it was decided to support ShelterBox, the disaster relief charity which was started in Cornwall in 2000 and is dedicated to alleviating suffering by providing shelter and essential items.

Last year, 14 countries were helped across the world. No longer is the original green box part of the kit, but, according to the disaster, a tent would be given if required.

Survivors are asked what they most need and appropriate shelter kits are then sent, for example, the severe flooding kit, the earthquake kit or the tropical storm kit.

Included could be very practical items like an inflatable solar light, a water purification unit, blankets, or tools.

The group heard that of the 110 million people homeless in the world, 30 million are as a result of natural disasters, 30 million because of climate change and a shocking 80 million because of conflict. This was learned through a Zoom meeting with Martin Webster, a ShelterBox ambassador, showing excellent photos and graphics. Because of the generosity of those at the lunch – and others who contributed – a total of £300 has been sent to ShelterBox for use wherever there is the greatest need.

Mary Smith

For more information on the Five Alive Mission Community please visit [www.fivealive.org](http://www.fivealive.org)

# YARCOMBE NEWS

## Organ decade

ST John the Baptist Church, Yarcombe, is celebrating its organist being part of the team for 10 years.

To show grateful thanks and appreciation for such dedication, Rev Julie Lomas presented a card and gift during the Easter Sunday service.

So much thanks from everyone at St John the Baptist go to the organist for playing at Sunday services, weddings and funerals.

The church team all realise it takes much time preparing for all the services and the sometimes arduous journey driving to reach the church. The congregation feels very fortunate to have such an excellent musician play for them every week and thus enriching the worship.

*Rebecca Bell*



## An egg-cellent service

By Rebecca Bell

IT was lovely to see so many locals and visitors at the Easter Sunday service in Yarcombe at St John the Baptist Church.

Rev Julie Lomas began her talk on the Easter story by inviting the young members of the congregation to search for very large eggs!

When they were all found, their contents were revealed, one by one, with great suspense. Examples of these were a

long piece of linen, a bread roll and goblet, a toy donkey, along with a written passage describing an event in Holy Week.

After the service, refreshments, including a delicious cake – with thanks to Lin Box – were served and an egg hunt took place in church for some very eager children.

Heartfelt thanks go to all the flower arrangers for their hard work in making every area of the church look so beautiful with their many varied arrangements and displays.

## Rusty the pony leads the procession

A WELL attended joint-service with Yarcombe Baptist Chapel was held on Palm Sunday in Yarcombe.

The service started from the Jubilee Hall car park where about 20 people both adults and children, plus three enthusiastic dogs, walked with Rusty the 'donkey' (Shetland pony), in lovely March sunshine.

Thanks go to Nina and Tim Retter, bringing Rusty along to lead and with Lin Box carrying the cross.

Also, thanks go to Thelma Clarke from the chapel who stood in at the very last minute to lead the service.

Refreshments were served after the service.

*Rebecca Bell*



# PARISH FAMILIES

## Pentecost Thoughts for When you are Out & About

(Adapted from Muddy Church 'Pentecost')

*Who is with you?*

**GATHER**

Acts 2:1 'When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.'

*What are you expecting?*

What else is in this place?

**Pause to take a moment to think about where you are.**

**Acts 2:2 'Suddenly, a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.'**

*I wonder how the wind makes you feel?*

How is the Holy Spirit like the wind?

**WIND**

Can you feel the wind?

Can you see the wind?

Is there anything that has been changed by the wind?

Fire can be dangerous, it can destroy, but it can give us warmth and light too.

*Can you see dangerous spaces or things?*

*Can you see things that provide warmth?*

*I wonder how fire makes you feel?*

**FIRE**

*Can you see spaces that don't have any light?*

*Can you see colours that remind you of fire?*

Acts 2:3 'They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.'

I wonder why the Holy Spirit appeared like fire?

Acts 2:44,45 – 'All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.'

*Can you see anything offering a shadow for shade?*

*How could you share what you have with other people?*

**SHARE**

*If you could take a piece of this place with you, what would it be and why?*

I wonder how nature is sharing itself with you.

**CELEBRATE**

Acts 2:7 'Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.'

*What can you see praising?*

*Can you see anything feasting?*

*Can you see God's favour?*

I wonder how God celebrates.

*What can you see at a party?*

## Can you spare five minutes to tell us what you think?

By Kay Pike

TO make as much impact as possible on a realistic spectrum. That is the Mission Statement for Plastic Free Axminster. We work to free Axminster from single-use plastic with the plastic-free communities arm of the marine charity Surfers Against Sewage (SAS).

We achieved plastic-free status for the town in March 2023. This doesn't mean that the whole area is plastic-free but rather that we have shown a huge commitment towards trying to reduce the use of single-use plastic in the town and the surrounding EX13 area by achieving the five major goals set by SAS. We then build on this.

We have been sharing information and tips in this publication over the last two years and the team would love to know what you, the readers, think about the articles.

Would you complete the survey for us via the link? It should only take five

minutes of your time and would help to inform the work we do. Or you can scan the QR code which will take you to the website - <https://plasticfreeaxminster.org/survey/>

Thank you so much!

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has" (Eco with Em)*



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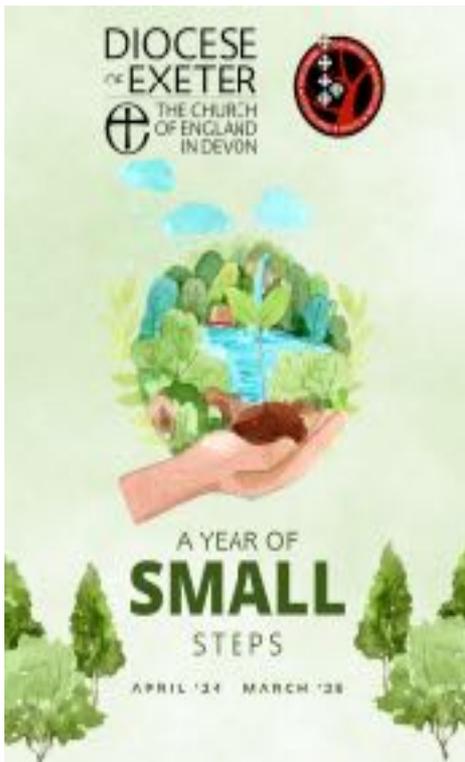
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## FIVE ALIVE COMMUNITY OIL SYNDICATE

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**PLEASE SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR EITHER AN EXACT AMOUNT OR IF REQUESTING A 'TOP-UP', A FULL TANK, THEN PLEASE GIVE ME AN ACCURATE ESTIMATE (100 LITRES) OF THE QUANTITY YOU REQUIRE. A MINIMUM REQUEST OF 500 LITRES APPLIES.**

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[COGSTEWARTCS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:COGSTEWARTCS@GMAIL.COM)**



*Creator God,  
the heavens declare  
your glory,  
and the earth your  
generosity.  
Forgive our exploitation  
of your gracious  
provision.  
Through your bountiful  
goodness  
guide our efforts  
to be better stewards of  
your creation.  
Amen*



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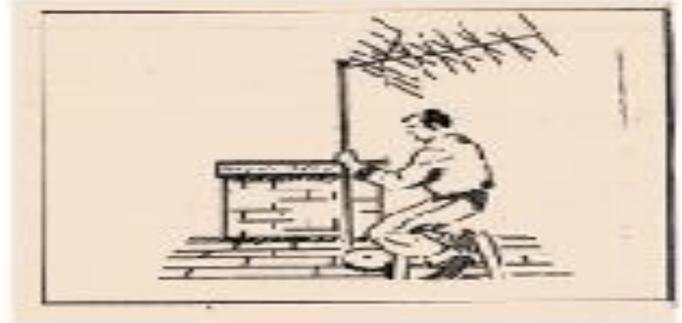


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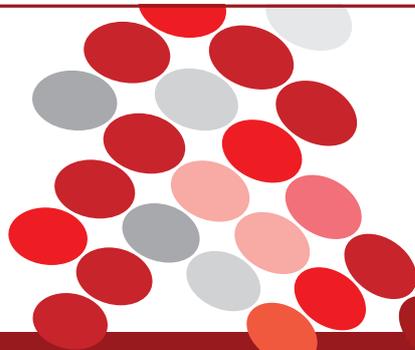
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# FUTURE EVENTS

WHEN	WHERE	WHAT'S HAPPENING
Mondays, 10am-12pm	St. Giles' Church, Kilmington	'Knit & Natter' Group.. All welcome. Bring own knits/crafts. Tea & coffee available for a donation.
Mondays 2pm-4pm Wednesdays, 10am-12pm	St Giles' Church, Kilmington	Baby group every week including school holidays. Contact Mary Tyler 01297 34958.
Fridays, 10am-12pm	St Giles' Church, Kilmington	Coffee Shop
Fridays, 9:30am-11:30am	Stockland Victory Hall	Stockland and Yarcombe Toddler Group - contact 07951 958327
Sunday May 5th 9am to 2pm	Yarcombe Village Hall	Big breakfast, Raising funds for Yarcombe village Hall, Price £10. £5 for under 14
Tuesday, May 7th, 2.30pm	The Minster Rooms, Axminster	MU Talk - 'Singing is Good for You' by Roger Gross. All welcome.
Wednesday May 8th, 10:30am-12pm	Dalwood Methodist Church	Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy in aid of RNLI
Wednesday, May 8th, 6:45pm for 7:15pm	Kilmington Village Hall	KCC The Holdovers (15) (Comedy/Drama) To book wattsjohn307@gmail.com
Thursday, May 9th, 1:45pm for 2pm	Kilmington Village Hall	KCC Holdovers (15) To book wattsjohn307@gmail.com
Saturday May 11th 10am-12noon	Whitford Village Hall	Whitford Produce Association Annual Plant Sale, Refreshments Cakes & raffle. Contact Christine 07872621094
Saturday, May 11th, 10am-12pm	Yarcombe Village Hall EX14 9AA	Second Saturday of each month. Homemade cakes, local honey, eggs, jams, plants, woodwork, cards, and bric-a-brac.
Sunday, May 12th, 10am	Stockland Village Hall	Volunteers needed to help with general clean up of the Village Hall grounds. Please bring spades, forks, strimmers, brushes etc. Coffee and Tea provided.
Wednesday, May 15th, 12:30pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Dalwood Community lunch. Bookings to be placed with Kathy Lalng 01404 881601
Sunday, May 19th, 3pm	Dalwood Village Hall	Pete Allen's Fabulous Octet - t.mackenny111@btinternet.com
Sunday, May 26th, 10am	Stockland	Fair set-up. Volunteers needed to set-up for Stockland Fair. Help appreciated. pearcott@btinternet.com
Monday May 27th From 1-30pm	Stockland Village Hall and Grounds EX14 9EF	Stockland Fair
Monday May 27th, 10am - 4pm	Silver St, Church St, Minster Green Axminster	Axminster Gate to Plate event. www.eatfestivals.org
Thursday May 30th 11am	Dalwood Shop	Official opening event for 'The Coffee Shop'. Please come and join us when we cut the red ribbon.

*Please submit upcoming Future Events via the online form. For details on how to do this please contact Kate Newman on [5alivemc@gmail.com](mailto:5alivemc@gmail.com)*

# THE PARISHES' DIRECTORY

## DALWOOD

**Badminton Club:** Derek Gould - 01404 831749  
**Bell Ringers:** Tower Captain: Donald Pike - 01404 881356  
**Community Shop:** 01404 881401  
**Corrydale Players:** Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193  
**Jubilee Field & Pavilion:** Bookings: Linda Langman - linda.langman@hotmail.co.uk  
**Parish Council:** Kathy Laing - 01404 881601  
**Methodist Church:** Pauline Ovey - 01297 442433  
**Raft Club:** Richard Seward - 07730 482919  
**Reading Room:** Richard Seward - 01404 881343  
**Recreation Trust:** Chair: Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193  
**Dalwood Crafters:** Meet 2nd & 4th Thursdays, village hall 2-4.30pm. Jane Smith - 01404 881533  
**The Corry Valley Community Land Trust:** Shelagh Fearnley - 01404 881193  
**Upholstery:** Laura Anderton - 07789 514269  
**Village Hall:** Bookings Secretary: Linda Langman - linda.langman@hotmail.co.uk  
**Hall Treasurer:** Gill Sutton - 01404 831545  
**Yoga:** Di Magrane - 07940 120221

## KILMINGTON

**Badminton Club:** Derek Gould - 01404 831749  
**Baptist Chapel:** Mike Hudson, Pastor - 01297 631638  
Email: admin@baptistchurchkilmington.org  
**Bell Ringers:** Celia Dunsford - 01297 33563  
**Cricket Club:** Secretary: D Lavender - 01297 631868  
**Country Dancing:** Gill Perkins 01297 32888 & Marie Thorne 01297 33906  
**Gardening Club:** Secretary: Bev Perkins - 01297 631801  
**Kilminster Players:** (Chairperson): D Lavender - 01297 631868  
**Parish Council:** Parish Clerk: Adrian Jenkins 07800 826657  
**Post-script:** (Editor): Janfryd Gordon-

Kerr - 01297 639115  
**Primary School & Pre-School:** Headteacher: Lee White - 01297 32762  
**Royal British Legion:** Commander Stafford Seward RN OBE (Ret'd) - 01297 33909  
**Table Tennis:** Jenny Nickolls - 01297 639758  
**Tennis Club:** Christopher Eastwood 07772 930411; Jane Chalk 07866 040310  
**The Hitchcock Pavilion:** Peter Huscroft - 01297 32243  
**Village Hall:** Louise Quincey (bookings) - 01297 32358  
**Kilminster Community Cinema:** J Watts 01297 639758  
**Church flowers:** Jenny Nickolls 01297 639758  
**Kilminster Short Mat Bowls:** Edith Turner - 01297 34090

## SHUTE – WHITFORD – UMBORNE

**Bell Ringers:** Maureen Davey - 01297 553195  
**Parish Council:** Chairperson: Ella Sweetland - 01297 553357 - ella.fernleigh@gmail.com  
**Clerk:** Carol Miltenburg - 01404 831080  
**Parochial Church Council:** Bijan Omrani - bijan.omrani@btinternet.com  
**Shute Community Primary School:** Headteacher: Martin Marriott - 01297 33348  
**Women's Institute Musbury & Whitford:** Lesley McGowan Lock - 01297 551556  
**Whitford Village Produce Association:** (Hon Sec): Christine Wyatt - 01404 830098  
**Village Hall:** Christine Plowman - 01297 552760 or bookings@whitfordvillagehall.org  
**Umborne Hall:** Sheila Townsend - 07818 662402  
**Umborne Ladies Social Club:** Ann Shepherd - 01297 553343

## STOCKLAND

**Bell Ringers:** Wendy Urquhart - 01404 881207  
**Book Group:** Paul Spencer - 01404 881819  
**Fair Committee:** Acting chair and stall

bookings: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983  
**Secretary:** Janet Fox - 01404 881591  
**Parish Council Chairperson:** Richard Switzer 07946 109203 richard.switzer@stocklandpc.org.uk  
**Parochial Church Council:** Secretary: Rozanne Bulmer - 07796 338332  
**Stockland & District Horticultural Society:** Secretary: Pauline Goodwin - 01404 881199  
**Stockland & Yarcombe Pre-school:** Rebecca Ades - 07934 610430 or info@stocklandpreschool.co.uk  
**Stockland C of E Primary School:** Headteacher: Miss R Bendall - 01404 881456; PTFA: Valerie Conlon - stocklandptfa@gmail.com  
**Tennis Club:** Chairperson: Serena Kerr 01404 861287; Secretary Jenny Whitley 01404 861 114  
**Victory Hall:** Chair: Justin Nuttall - 07767 875727 or justinnuttall3@aol.com  
Bookings secretary: Annie Williams - 01404 881521 or 07593 648983  
**Stockland Youth Club:** Mel Andrews - 07947 743278 mel@adventurebabies.co.uk  
**Friends of St Michael and All Angels:** Chair: Jane Wedlock - 01404 881817, secretary: Pat Shephard Walwyn - 01404 881511

## YARCOMBE

**Baptist Chapel:** Secretary: Thelma Clarke - 01404 861267  
**Bell Ringers:** Gareth Dear - 01460 68521  
**Children's Committee:** Julie Rich - 01404 861274 or 07967 965208  
**Parish Council, Chairperson:** Matthew Tomkinson - matthew.tomkinson@yarcombeparishcouncil.org.uk  
**Parochial Church Council:** Secretary: Rebecca Bell - 01460 234002  
**Jubilee Hall:** Debbie Carter - 07498 503316  
**Tuesday Club:** Co-ordinator Nina Simmons - 07882 827538  
**Yarcombe & District Young Farmers Club:** Roger Patch - 01404 881267  
**Yarcombe Flower Show:** Press secretary: Julie Rich - 01404 861274 or 07967 965208

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Tel: 01297 35004  
Mobile: 07488 278 483  
Email: revjulielomas@gmail.com

### **Associate Ministers:**

Alison Finch - 07762 744977  
alison.finch@gmail.com  
John Lees - 01297 551351  
johnleescareers@gmail.com

### **Licensed Lay Ministers:**

Gill Heighway - 01297 33951  
gillheighway@gmail.com  
Anna Crabbe - 01297 32777  
anna.crabbe@icloud.com  
Chris Shepherd -  
chrisshepherd202@gmail.com

### **FIRED UP project -**

**Families Outreach Worker:** Juletta  
Obudo - 5alive.families@gmail.com  
or 07764 152205

### **Mission Community Administrator:**

Kate Newman  
Email: 5alivemc@gmail.com  
www.fivealive.org

## **CHURCHWARDENS**

### **Dalwood**

Brian Eddy - 01404 831009  
bandceddy@outlook.com  
Gay Atkinson - 01404 44307  
gayabandon1000@gmail.com

### **Kilmington**

Christopher Thorne - 07870 114072  
chrisjonthorne69@gmail.com

### **Shute/Whitford**

Bijan Omrani - 07887 701336  
bijan.omrani@btinternet.com  
Fanny Balcombe - 07939 188292  
fbalcombe@btinternet.com

### **Stockland**

Rozanne Bulmer - 07796 338332  
rvbulmer@btinternet.com  
Bryan Drew 01404 881538

### **Yarcombe**

Jean Rich - 01404 861274  
jeanmaryrich@gmail.com  
Geoffrey Berry - 01823 601386  
geoffrey.whberry@gmail.com

## **PASTORAL TEAMS**

### **Dalwood**

Mary Harrison - 01404 831975  
Laurie Lucas - 01404 881495  
Caroline Nunns - 07922 106581  
Peter Major - 01404 831296  
Wendy Dods - 01404 831208  
Sarah Langrish - 07732 267240

### **Kilmington**

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## **Shute**

Peter Easton  
Bijan Omrani - 07887 701336  
bijan.omrani@btinternet.com  
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Zuzanne Bradbury - 01404 881530  
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Miranda Gudenian - 01404 861387  
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Heather & Tony Newman - 01460 234739  
Doreen Parris - 01460 64977  
Wendy Randle 01404 861648  
Nick Lewis - 01460 234138

## **PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES**

Dalwood - Caroline Nunns,  
carolinecunns@gmail.com  
Kilmington - Kate Yarwood  
katie\_yarwood@hotmail.com  
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Stockland: Rowena Drew - 01404 881538  
Yarcombe: Mary Smith - 01404 861541

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

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