LUPPITT PACKET



MAY 2021

THE LUPPITT PACKET

In this edition we have a new Luppitt contributor exploring the many and varied characteristics of the willow tree. There are important notices from St Peter's Church as well our regular contribution from David Street.

We are also announcing our retirement - please see page 6 for full details.

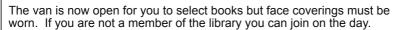
Nigel Hurst & Claire Stevens

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MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile library will call at Mount Stephens on Wednesday 26th May from 10:45am until 11:15am.





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GARDEN JOTTINGS

Hyacinths and daffodils are spring bulbs. They store up food in the summer, have a long rest and rush into bloom the moment mild weather arrives in the spring. Snowdrops and arums are the same. These plants keep stored food in different parts, some in their roots, some in rudimentary leaves, some in their stems. These storage areas are familiar as bulbs, corms, rhizomes and tubers. Here I'm lumping them all together as bulbs.

Not all bulbs flower in the spring. There are plenty that flower in the summer. Some wait for autumn, or should I say get in before winter sets in? One of the commonest summer true bulbs is the lily. Lilies are legion. They come in all shapes, sizes and colours. Many are heavily perfumed like the Regal Lily. Recently scarlet and messy lily beetles have been going for lilies, damaging their leaves and young stems. Lilies are also poisonous to cats. Even their pollen can be harmful, and they produce a large amount of pollen. So i have become less keen on growing lilies.

Galtonias or Berg lilies are summer flowering bulbs. South African Flowers for Gardens by Sima Eliovson (Cape Town) has an account (here edited) of the Galtonia. This stately plant has been in cultivation in English and American gardens for many years, where it has proved hardy out of doors. It has finger thick erect stems about four foot high bearing tiers of drooping white bells over one inch in length. The three outer petals are tipped with green. The buds open in mid December (ie June) and continue until the end of January. The leaves are stiff and erect, forming a tuft on the ground. The plants



die down in April. The bulb is large and should be planted in August just below the surface. In cold countries they may be planted several inches deep to avoid frost damage in winter. The berg lily likes good well drained soil. It can stand rain in winter if the soil is well drained. Galtonia candiicans is the best of the four species found in South Africa. It is an excellent subject for the herbaceous or informal border, where it combines well with red and orange Crocosmias.

THE WILLOW

I was walking the lanes of Luppitt in the gloom of February during lockdown for the official one hour exercise. In the dim light of a rainy day I was cheered up by the wonderful yellow willow flower in my neighbour's field. It occurred to me how I knew little about willows and on returning home commented on this to the husband. Only to be told in that matter of fact tone of voice "well, of course you do, willows are an important source of nectar for bees at this time of the year. And we need to plant more willow for the bees..."

Whilst drip drying in front of the Aga, I thought I should find out more. All I knew was that my favourite childhood book was The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame illustrated by E H Shepard. It is a delightful book.

It was the willow flowers of the willow that attracted my attention. They are in fact catkins and some species are in full bloom in February. The value of willows near bee hives can be scarcely overrated according to The Rev. C A Johns in the Forest Trees of Britain. And now I recognise my husband's superior knowledge.

Virgil wrote in the olden days that willows were planted in apiaries for the special purpose of nourishment at this critical season. On bright sunny days my neighbour's bees are busy swarming towards the fragrant catkins. I am very grateful for they are happily making Luppitt Gold.

The willows are native and grow in damp conditions...that explains a lot. The leaves are small and narrow and were used for animal feed in parts of the continent. In art the graceful weeping willows growing on watercourses inspired The Impressionists, particularly Claude Monet. William Morris's 'Willow Boughs' wallpaper and fabric remain in fashion and printed on most household items. The design was first produced in 1887 by Morris & Company and in 2020 updated in new colourways by Ben Pentreath.

The wood of the willow is soft, smooth and light. So has been used for a wide variety of purposes throughout history. I can imagine our Luppitt ancestors living on Dumpdon Hill using willows for baskets, fish traps, hunting tools and willow framed boats covered in hide known as coracles. Pliny mentions 8 species of willow, useful for vine props, cordage and osiers for fine and coarse basketwork and implements. Cato puts the willow as the most productive before oliveyards, corn and pasture.

The cricket bat is the most important product of willow. And I am grateful that organised sport has been allowed to resume after this current lockdown. Many of us are looking forward to heading to the nets for practice. J S Wright is the largest and oldest established company supplying English cricket bat willow Salix Alba caerulea. Apparently growing cricket bat willow is complicated and time consuming. The company is always looking for new growers, so if anyone wants to diversify into willow contact the company.

The willow used for basket weaving is usually called Osiers and shows up in field names and parish records. For those that drive the A30 east and pass the sign to Zeals in Wiltshire - this place name means sallow, willow tree in Saxon.

The willow bark was until the early part of the last century the only source of salicylic acid. This acid had a great medicinal value especially in the treatment

of rheumatism. Bayer the pharmaceutical company processed the acid and developed Asprin. The company held the monopoly and patent until the First World War.

The pussy willow with the silky catkin bearing twigs are called "palms" and used for church decoration on Palm Sunday. Willows are frequently mentioned in the bible. The earliest mention of the willow is to be found in Leveticus XXIII 40 '...Willows of the brook...' and the prophet Isaiah foretold the restoration of Israel 'They shall spring up as among the grass, as Willows by the water courses...' Isaiah XIIV, 4.

The willow then being associated as an emblem of deepest sorrow and sorrow for sins. Poets such as Spenser too have made the willow the symbol of despairing woe. Shakespeare represents the doomed Queen of Carthage standing "with Willow in her hand, Upon the wild sea banks'. Let's not dwell on this.

I wasn't aware that there were 400 species of willow – the goat willow Salix caprea is a common coppice and hedge willow seen around Luppitt. The crack willow Salix fragilis derives its name from the brittleness of the branches. The Royal Horticultural Society recommends Salix purpurea Pendula a small weeping willow with purple stems. It appears that there is a willow for every garden and field. I know, as the husband has been ordering a fine selection of willows from our nearest nursery. They will be planted in November and in flower by February ready for the bees.

I will leave you with a quote that sums up getting through a global pandemic.

"Notice that the stiffest tree is most easily cracked, while bamboo or willow survives bending in the wind" Bruce Lee.

JSH



REFLECTIONS ON A PRE-COVID HOLIDAY

In March last year we were due to go to Morocco for our annual holiday – after a couple of days sightseeing in Marrakesh, we had planned to travel across country, over the Atlas mountains and down to the edge of the Sahara. As our date of departure approached, and it was clear that Covid was slowly spreading across Europe, we were undecided whether or not we should cancel our trip. Would we end up being quarantined or worse still get sick and hospitalised in a foreign country? A couple of friends and ex-colleagues (one a retired infectious disease specialist) from Edinburgh were travelling to Morocco at the same time; we had several discussions and repeatedly checked the WHO reports of infection across North Africa and, in the end, as there were no reports of cases in Morocco, we decided to go. On arrival basic health checks were undertaken at immigration – temperature, a health questionnaire and record of our itinerary, before we were allowed to head off and have an excellent holiday.... until the last two days.

We stayed in touch with our friends but during our return leg to Marrakesh, they texted us to say that they had heard that there were a few Covid cases in the north and that all borders were to be closed within 24 hours. There was still over 48hours to our departure flight so we went straight to the airport to get some information. The place was in total chaos and packed with people trying to leave early. There was little we could do and no reliable information so we went to our hotel and feverishly checked the BA website every couple of hours which indicated that our flight had not been cancelled. After a very anxious 48 hours we turned up at the airport to find continuing chaos but relieved to see our flight was listed. Alongside our check-in queue was another huge queue of people who had literally just flown in from London and were trying to go straight back home again. The UK authorities must have known that Morocco was closing its borders so it was quite extraordinary that flights from the UK had not been cancelled!. As it happened our flight was literally the last flight out of Marrakesh before the airport closed. I have no idea what happened to all those unfortunate people who had just flown in. Once on our plane, we held our breath until we had left Moroccan airspace and then had a pair of very stiff G&Ts to celebrate our squeaky departure.

Arriving back at Gatwick on the 16th March was a surreal contrast - the airport was virtually empty there was no screening of incoming passengers and on the road home there were virtually no cars. Fortunately we had booked a Tesco delivery before we left and this arrived the next day, otherwise we might have been a bit stuck for grub. The following day the FCO issued advice against non-essential international travel and that was the starting gun for a year of self-isolation and lock downs.

Although the end is now in sight, at least in the UK, events overseas especially in India and Brazil, underline the importance of controlling infection world wide. We must not be complacent, each infected person represents another opportunity for viral mutation and a further outbreak.

PANARY SCHOOL

UPOTTERY PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT

Thursday 2 April marked the end of what has been an incredibly challenging Spring term for so many. Many times in recent weeks I have thanked our school community: parents and cares, for their ongoing support, understanding

and effort. However, once again we all headed into this Easter break taking time to reflect on the term just gone, and to take the opportunity to feel a sense of achievement and pride in how 'we all' as a school have responded to the covid 19 pandemic.

It is true that there have been difficult times for many and difficult conversations and situations to resolve, as each family has found individual and personal challenges to overcome. Yet together we have been united in working together, with cooperative resilience to ensure that all of our children here at Upottery have received the very best educational provision, based on the guidance provided, and at the same time have been kept as safe as possible, along with families and staff, throughout the term. I have been very moved by the messages of support and encouragement we have received, and which have been sent on our behalf too. Thank you to all of you for this support it has helped us all keep going and doing our best for your children.

We now look forward to a successful Summer Term and hope the sun continues to shine!



Best wishes, Chris Legg, Headteacher

BALLOON PER CHILD, MISS HENDERSON- PLEASE!"

TIME FOR CHANGE

Nigel and Claire will be resigning as editors with effect from the end of August. This gives adequate notice for a new volunteer or volunteers to be found in time to take up the reins for the September edition of the Packet. We are grateful to those of you who have offered their personal support or have made regular or one off contributions during our tenure. We will be happy to offer transitional support to enable the new editor(s) to settle in and would hope that residents would give the future editors their full support with whatever changes they propose to make.

Please indicate your interest via the Packet email address or phone Nigel (899504) or Claire (0777 594 9359) for more information.

LENDOLOGY - WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT?

East Devon District Council fund home improvements, repairs and adaptations by providing loans through Lendology

You may have seen the Lendology advert in The Packet and wondered what's that all about. Lendology were called Wessex Resolutions CIC. Lendology is the Council's loan company and is funded through the central government Better Care Fund.

The funding gives low interest rate loans for maintaining your home; funding repair, improvements and adaptation. So that you can stay safely in your own home. The loans are up to $£15\,000$.

Mrs C in Honiton contacted us about the roof on their listed home. They were worried about the cost of the repairs. We took a look at the roof which was leaking into the bedrooms. We referred them to Lendology. The owners got 2 quotes and then they were eligible for a loan. After getting listed building consent the roof was repaired. They are paying the loan back over three years.

The private sector housing team are happy to talk to you about your home improvement or repairs.

Please call 01395 571572. Email pshousing@eastdevon.gov.uk.

Or write to Environmental Health Private Housing, East Devon District Council, Blackdown House, Border Road, Honiton EX14 1EJ

You can see more information on the websites at East Devon District Council and Lendology.

FROM REV PENN'S PEN

There is a children's story by Arnold Lobel called 'The Great Blueness and other predicaments', which begins in a world which is all grey and what is not grey is black or white in this time of 'the great greyness' this wizard tells us "you can't tell the sunny days from the rainy ones". The wizard goes off to his cellar and is idly making potions when something happens in his mixing pot; he goes out and starts painting his house with it. The people are fascinated and want to know what it is "I call it blue" the wizard replies. Everyone wants some blue and very soon the whole world is painted blue, well this is all 'perfectly fine and glorious' for a time but soon everyone begins to feel sad and depressed living in all that blue. So off goes the wizard to do some more mixing and he comes up with yellow, the people are very excited and promptly go off and paint everything yellow which is all 'perfectly fine and glorious' for a time but eventually gives everyone headache, similarly with red which eventually makes everyone angry. However having made the three primary colours the wizard is unable to make any new ones but some of his pots of paint overflow and the colours mix and make an endless variety of colours which the people use to paint a multicoloured world, which is declared 'perfectly fine and glorious' and remains so.

A monochrome world soon ceases to delight. As winter gives way to spring we enjoy the vibrant colours of the spring flowers, the trees come into leaf and blossom, the colour of the new leaves is quite different from later in the year. The natural world goes through its seasonal changes and we enjoy each for the changes it brings. In the winter with its cold and long dark nights we yearn for the lengthening of the days, the warmer weather and the spring flowers. Without the seasonal changes we'd soon get fed up, there would be no change, no renewal, and no hope for a brighter tomorrow. We may not like winter but it certainly makes us appreciate spring and summer all the more.

We need change to help us appreciate what we have and we need the promise of change and renewal to give us hope for the future, never more so than now as we negotiate our way out of the latest, and hopefully last, lockdown. I sometimes feel that in the church we are in danger of losing touch with or watering down in some way our major festivals because, quite naturally, we want all the fun and jolly times, the Christmas presents and Easter eggs, the exciting anticipation of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, but we're not so keen on putting effort into preparing spiritually for them.

The church is dressed in different colours for its differing seasons, so for example purple is the colour for a penitential season, a time for preparation like Advent and Lent, but we don't pay too much attention to either of them these days as this is out of step with the secular world. Rather than preparing for Christmas during Advent we are already celebrating it, try inviting people to a Christmas party after Christmas and see what result you get! I should know, I tried it one year. By Boxing Day the celebrations are done and for many people the decorations are down. Similarly with Lent, we either ignore it or get so stuck at the cross that Easter day becomes less than it could or should be and of course whoever heard of Easter celebrations going on until Pentecost?

Maybe we could invent Christmas and Easter calendars, with a window to open each day of the festive seasons, a bit like the Advent ones but with joyful reminders of what we are celebrating.

The church, like the natural world, has its seasons and all are needed to bring contrast, light, shade and colour to our spiritual life. I don't have any easy answers but I do hope and pray that each one of us will find meaningful ways to dig a little deeper into our beliefs, a little deeper into our response to God's gift to us so that we appreciate better the seasons and changes that go on throughout the church year and we are prepared to really celebrate the next big festival at Pentecost. (May 23rd).

Jane Penn



NOTICE OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Parish of Luppitt

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in the Church

on the 16^{th} day of May 2021 at noon

Signed Revd Jane Penn, Associate Priest, Dunkeswell Mission Community

THE FUTURE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Are you willing to help shape the future of our beautiful Parish Church? Do you have ideas as to how the building and Churchyard can be used by our Community? Are you supportive of Sunday worship continuing?

The PCC (Parochial Church Council) is in need of your 'helping hands' to run the Church for the benefit of us all. If you are able to give of your time or ideas then please come along to the Annual Parochial Church meeting on 16 May at noon in the Church or contact Sara on 891040



Services at St. Mary's during May

2 nd 9 th	9:30AM 11:00AM	Holy Communion 'Open Church'	Rev Jane Penn Informal fellowship
		·	Bring your own cuppa
16 th	11:00AM	Holy Communion	Rev Jane Penn
	Noon	Annual Parochail Church Meeting	
23 rd	11:00AM	Family Service	Mr John White

Special services at St. Andrew's, Broadhembury

13 th	07:00PM	Ascension Day Service	Rev Jane Penn
30^{th}	11:00AM	Joint service	Rev Jane Penn

We pray for John Hayhoe and his family as he continues on extended sick leave. We are very grateful to Rev Jane Penn who is working hard to support our Parish

For details of dial-in services please contact Sara on 01404 891140

Visit <u>www.dunkeswell.org.uk</u> and find us on Facebook @sixworshiptogether

Please note!

If you are lonely and would like a friendly chat, are facing hardship, or are in need of any kind, we are here to offer help and support. Please do not hesitate to contact Rev Jane Penn 841523, Brian Pulman 891324 or Sara Gordon 891140

PARISH ELECTORAL ROLL

Residents of Luppitt are invited to be on the Electoral Roll of the Parish Church.

Forms can be acquired from Sue Piechowiak – susan.laupie555@gmail .com (07990070132/01404 891924) or the Mission Community Administrator Sara Gordon – admin@dunkeswell.org.uk (01404 891140).

The associated data protection notice is also available on request.

CLERK'S REPORT OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF LUPPITT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 7 APRIL 2021 AT 8 PM

Present: Cllrs Paul Prettejohn, Brian Pulman, Christine Ryder, Andrew Tucker, Michele Turner, Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)

Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs John Thorne (Chairman), Beth Hooper, Martin Summers, David Key and Colin Brown (EDDC), Iain Chubb (DCC and EDDC)

Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 2 March 2021, were unanimously agreed and signed* as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Ryder, seconded by Cllr Turner).

PLANNING

Applications (for comment, support or objection)

21/0709/FUL – Smithenhayes Farm, Luppitt, Honiton, EX14 4TR – erection of one glamping cabin for holiday let purposes

Cllrs Thorne and Turner had visited the site. The glamping cabin will not be visible from the road and will not impact on neighbours. The Parish Council supports this planning application.

Decisions

21/0372/FUL - Barn at Otter View Farm, Shaugh, Honiton, EX14 4TP

The Planning Officer had recommended refusal but both Ward members, Cllrs Key and Brown, had objected to the decision which was overturned at the Planning Committee meeting held on 7 April. The Parish Council had supported the application.

20/2738/VAR - Dolish Farmhouse, Luppitt, Honiton, EX14 4RT - variation of condition 2 of planning consent 19/2660/FUL

Approved. The Parish Council appreciated the efforts that the applicants had made to address the concerns that the Parish Council had raised.

Neighbourhood Plan Communications Programme

Cllr Ryder provided an update. Various documents concerning the Neighbourhood Plan have been mailed out to every household. Three Zoom meetings are scheduled to take place that will allow parishioners to ask questions and make comments on the Neighbourhood Plan. Anyone who would like to join the meetings should register with the clerk who will then send them an invitation. There is a dedicated website at www.luppittneighbourhoodplan.org.uk which Cllr Turner has designed.

Interim Devon Carbon Plan

Devon Communities Together had held a further remote meeting, which Cllr Turner

and Nigel Hurst had attended, about the carbon impact assessment tool. There were 67 participants and Cllr Turner had found it helpful. Another session will be held in June. Nigel Hurst has offered to attend a Parish Council meeting if required. Cllr Turner will forward details of the carbon impact tool web address to the clerk for circulation. Cllrs Thorne and Tucker provided Nigel Hurst with revised numbers of cattle and sheep in the parish. Using these figures, Nigel has produced a document looking at the carbon footprint, particularly from an agricultural point of view. Cllr Turner will forward the document to the clerk for circulation.

HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

Parish Highways programme – update on Items to Report

- Loose kerbstones at Millrise still no progress.
- Ford Bridge to Shaugh on the left-hand side of the second bend coming from Ford Bridge, one side of the road has sunk – clerk to report again as comment from Highways was that no fault could be found.
- Mattress dumped between Riggles Cross and Jack's House and damage to road at junction at Ringborough Cross – both items completed.
- Ringborough Cross to Coombeshead potholes & subsidence clerk to report again.
- New items to report large pothole mid-way on the left-hand side between Overday and Gully Lane and potholes near Barn Cross.

Parish Maintenance

Uxford Bridge

Cllr Thorne and the Chairman of Combe Raleigh Parish Meeting met the Neighbourhood Highways Officer, Phil Morgan, on site to discuss the problem. Combe Raleigh are willing to free the mouths of the drains and the NHO will then send in a jetter. It is believed that Combe Raleigh may be applying for funding towards the work.

Work at Tapsterwater

Cllr Pulman reported that work to replace two posts and a top rail has been carried out at Tapsterwater.

Road Sweeping

Cllr Pulman reported that the road sweeping in Shelves Lane and other locations carried out by Cllr Tucker's team was first-class.

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Footpath Wardens' Reports

There was nothing to report.

Work on footpath gate at Hillend

The resident at Hillend had contacted Ros Davies at Devon County Council to report a gate was not closing properly. Ros Davies had contacted the clerk to say that she had arranged with a contractor at Farway to carry out the work.

ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Play Area Inspection

The clerk had been quoted £236.00 plus VAT for ROSPA to carry out an inspection. The clerk had queried the cost and had stated that Stockland clerk only pays £86.00 for 7 seven items whereas there are only 2 swings in the play area. ROSPA carry out inspections in Devon in March each year at the discounted price of £68.50 plus VAT. The current certificate is valid until August. It was agreed that a notice should be put on the play area when the current certificate expires to explain that the play area will be closed until a safety inspection can be carried out in March 2022. Equipment is used at users' own risk.

Parish Council meetings

The legislation permitting remote meetings ends on 6 May 2021and the Government has indicated that there will be no extension to that date. A case has been taken to the High Court to challenge that decision. Guidance is that face to face meetings will resume from 7 May 2021 onwards.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

External and Internal AuditsAnnual Governance and Accountability Return must be submitted to the external auditor by 2 July 2021.

Correspondence

- 1) An email from the Royal British Legion giving details of a unique range of outdoor Tommy figures was noted.
- 2) The clerk had received two emails from residents of Beacon expressing concern at the planning application for a slurry lagoon at Aplins Farm, Monkton, and looking for support from the Parish Council in their objections. Whilst the Parish Council understood and noted the concerns of parishioners in Beacon, they also appreciated that legislation prevents farmers from spreading slurry for several months of the year and so farmers have to provide additional storage for the slurry. The Parish Council felt that the comments put forward by the Blackdown Hills AONB were very balanced in understanding the situation facing farmers yet suggesting measures, such as screening, to lessen the visual impact on the surrounding area. The Parish Council agreed that the concern of residents should be passed on to EDDC Planning together with endorsement of the Blackdown Hills AONB's comments.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions and the meeting ended at 9.20 pm.

Date for next meeting to be held at 8 pm: Tuesday, 4 May 2021 (Annual General Meeting)

*Minutes will be signed when Parish Council meetings resume.

Quaker Meeting for Worship Spiceland Quaker Meeting Uffculme EX15 3AZ

We Meet for Worship at Spiceland every Sunday at 10.30am till 11am – this is a blended Meeting also available on Zoom – All are very welcome.

Meeting ID: 865 5570 2735 Passcode: 498173

For more information phone Ali Dominy 07810768557 or use the "contact us" form on our website:

<u>www.spicelanduffculmequakers.com/</u> or email <u>spicelandnotices@btinternet.com</u>

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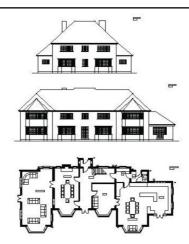
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East Devon District Council fund a not-for-profit loan scheme for homeowners and landlords.

We understand the expense of maintaining your home and we work with you to take the stress out of funding repairs, improvements or adaptations.

We see you as an individual, not a credit score. Our knowledgeable team of advisers will guide you through the process of applying for a home improvement loan.

> For a no-obligation assessment or more information visit www.lendology.org.uk or call 01823 461099 Heatherton Park Studios, Bradford on Tone, Taunton, TA41EU

> > *subject to eligibility

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Eve 07807305881

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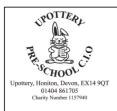
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Chair	Stephen Smith	01404 892839
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Luppitt Neighbourhood Plan		
Chair	Roger Hicks	01404 891579
Consultation	Christine Ryder	01404 892880
Luppitt Wives	Mrs Joan Beckett	01404 891308
Rector	Rev John Hayhoe	01404 515083
Associate Drivet	johnhayhoe@me.com	07864 048575
Associate Priest PCC Secretary	Jane Penn Sue Lauzier-Piechowiak	01404 841523 01404 891924
Church Administrator	Sara Gordon	07717 222404
Charon Administrator	admin@dunkeswell.org.uk	
Church Wardens	Brian Pulman	01404 891324
Luppitt Entertainments Cttee	e Pat Bussey	01404 892720
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