


*Luppitt Packet*

*December & January 2023*





**SUCCESSFULLY SELLING COUNTRY  
AND VILLAGE PROPERTY IN YOUR PARISH**

If you would like any advice, please contact your local Devon team:

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MOVING YOU SINCE 1842

# SPECIAL LUPPITT AWARDS

It's time to celebrate the incredible individuals that make our village a special place to live. Based on your suggestions we are pleased to announce nominations for the first *Special Luppitt Awards*. Now we need your help to find the winners. To vote you can:

Email your votes to [luppittentertainmentcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:luppittentertainmentcommittee@gmail.com) (scan the QR)

Tear out this sheet and drop it into the sealed box located in the village hall.

Spare forms are available by the box.

Deadline for votes is Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Awards will be presented at the Christmas Party on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

**VOTE  
NOW!**



## Mover of Mountains

- Andrew Tucker ☐
- Lucy Murray ☐
- Sally Twiss ☐

## Glamorous Granny

- Margaret Jarman ☐
- Mary Hill ☐
- Tracey Rose ☐

## Groovy Grandpa

- Martin Crabb ☐
- Mervyn Gardner ☐
- Paul Prettejohn ☐

## Hidden Hero

- Brian Pulman ☐
- Pat Bussey ☐
- Tracey Rosewell ☐

## Sexiest Farmer

- Adam Crabb ☐
- Claire Crabb ☐
- Phil Smith ☐
- Ralph Rosewell ☐

# THE LUPPITT PACKET

Welcome to the December and January edition of the Packet. The New Year sees Chris Ryder and Michele Turner leading a new editorial team supported by Mary Hill, Jacky O'Malley and Lesley Goode. The three superb artists whose designs have featured on this year's covers will be staying with us, as will John Hayes as Treasurer and Mandy Riley with her all important distribution team. Contact email address for submission of editorial or advertising material, or for any general queries, will stay the same and we hope to further develop [www.luppittpacket.co.uk](http://www.luppittpacket.co.uk) to bring you even more stories and pictures. Our first issue – February 2024 – will present us with a few challenges but we will aim to achieve as smooth a handover as possible so that The Packet continues to be an up-to-the-minute source of information on 'what's happening' and glimpses of life in Luppitt.

This month's cover art is by the winner of the children's competition, Lily Crabb. Other entries on the centre pages and displayed in the Village Hall.

Trevor, Martin & Luppitt Packet team

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Serving: Luppitt, Wick, Beacon, Shaugh and Shelvin

**COPY DATE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE IS 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**[editors@luppittpacket.co.uk](mailto:editors@luppittpacket.co.uk)**

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## !THE LUPPITT PACKET ONLINE!

We have created a Luppitt Packet website [www.luppittpacket.co.uk](http://www.luppittpacket.co.uk), so that from time-to-time we can share more colour photos and background.

Our archive of PDF copies of The Packet dating from 2010 up to the current edition will continue on the website [www.luppitt.net](http://www.luppitt.net), which is hosted by Peter Sage, and contains a wealth of information about Luppitt – its history, people, photos, family trees etc.

### DISCLAIMER

The Editorial Team take no responsibility for the information given or views expressed in the Luppitt Packet and will not be liable for any direct, indirect or consequential loss arising from the use of the information and advertisements contained in this publication. Although every endeavour is made to meet the requirements of advertisers, no responsibility can be accepted for failure to insert an advertisement upon any specified date. The Editorial Team reserve the right to refuse or amend any advertisement without assigning any reason.

## WHAT'S ON

Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	The Luppitt Packet ' Big Breakfast'
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Christingle service in aid of the Children's Society, 3pm(page 18)
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Luppitt Children's Christmas Party, 11am - 1pm.
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Advent tea at Newmans House, 3pm
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Party
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Traditional service of lessons and carols, 11am
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Kids Christmas Movie Matinee
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Carolling and Lantern parade 4pm start (page 7,8)
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Crib and carol service, 4pm

## COMING EVENTS

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan 7:30pm: Ladies Film Night  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 7pm: Burns Night  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 7:30pm: Pub Games Night

## REGULAR EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Village Hub Pub	7:30pm every Wednesday and Friday
Short Mat Bowls	7.30pm Thursdays
Friday Coffee / Market	11am until 1pm
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup> Coffee / Market	11am until 1pm

### **Luppitt Entertainments Committee Events**

#### **Coming up:**

**Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7:00 for 7:30pm: Christmas Party**  
**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec, 3pm: Kids Christmas Movie Matinee (Arthur Christmas)**

#### **And into next year:**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January, 7:30pm: Ladies Film Night (Magic Mike)**  
**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 7pm: Burns Night**  
**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 7:30pm: Pub Games Night**

**Please note – all events are CASH ONLY!**

The Entertainments Committee would like to thank everyone for their support during the year. We look forward to seeing you again at the varied events we are planning for 2024.

We would like to wish you all a very  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



# The Christmas Party Around 1955/56

(Possibly organised by the W.I.)



Photo submitted by Norman Pulman and names recalled by Jean Gardiner

Starting from the bottom row (a “?” means uncertain or not known)

**1st row:** Olive Clapp with Eric ,Jean ( Ewins) Gardiner ,Bernard Clapp,Rosemary Carter ,Ruby (Broom) Grigg, Mary (Wilson) Joyce, Alan ?, ?, Mark Robjohns, Lawrence Kinnersley, Christopher Tottle.

**2nd row:** David Manley, Susan Fern, Lester Mountford, Fredrick Pulman, Bob Broom, Fredrick Squance, Francis Crew, Donald Churchill, Margaret (Pulman) Young, Nicolas Robjohns, Rosemary (Valentine) Wensley, Margaret( Coles) Hawker.

**3rd row:** ?, ?, Roland Mountford, Dorothy Crew

**4th row:** Mrs Winsome Crabb, ?, Mrs Hooper, Mrs Drew, Mrs Kinnersley, ?, Mrs Edna Crabb, Mrs Annie Corrick, Mrs Osbourne, Mrs Fryer, Mrs Valentine?,Mrs Griffen,Mrs Marker,

**5th row:** Tont Clapp, ?, David Clapp, ?, Edric Broom, Lionel Crew, James Mountford, ?, Mary Robjohns, Valerie Kinnersley, Iris (Broom) Selway, Pearl (Thorne) Pulman, Mrs Florrie Sage.

**6th row:** Mrs Mary Manley, Barbara (Manley) Pulman, Syliva Pulman, Brian Pulman?, John Thorne, Herbert Churchill, Sylvia Crabb, Gordon Crabb, Mary (Sage,) Sansom, Marion (Drew) Stamp,Geraldine (Coles ) Uniack, Joyce Valentine, Pat (Manley) Bartlett, Mrs Buck. Jean Valentine?, Jennifer Fern (front), ?, Ann Fryer, Janet Fryer.

**7th row:** David Thorne, Fredrick Sage, Ralph White, ?, Patrick Carter, ?, Arthur Sage, Mrs Crew, ?.

## TIRIDATES

This piece was written some 15 or more years ago for The Packet about early Christians. I offer it in a near gardenless season.

The sun was coming up clear and bright. All Rome was in turmoil of excitement. Tiridates King of Armenia was coming in state. The spectacle would be sumptuous. The Emperor Nero was to install him formally as King of Armenia.

Every street every square – Cassius Dio tells us – was decorated with lights and bunting put up during the previous night. Suetonius says the celebrations had to be put off at the last moment for several days because of the weather. People were bursting. The city was packed. The Forum thronged with Roman citizens ranked by social class, all dressed in white carrying branches of laurel. Everywhere there were soldiers in shining armour, military standards gleaming and weapons glistening. Crowds climb onto roofs to get a better view, so you can't even see the tiles.

The sun rises. Surrounded by the massed phalanx of the Praetorian Guard, with a host of senators, in the uniform of a triumphal general the Emperor Nero strides into the Forum. He takes his seat on the rostrum. Then the King Tiridates and his retinue appear and a mighty roar goes up from the assembled multitude.

During the ceremony Tiridates the King kneels before Nero the Emperor "I am come to you", he announced "to worship you, as I worship Mithra my god".

So during the reign of Nero the Armenians worshipped the Persian

god Mithra. Armenia lies right next to Persia, and they borrowed not only gods from the Persians, but also many Iranian words for their language. Armenian is basically an old Indo-European language – Armenian for cow is cov - full of Persian words.

It's a bit like English, an old German language loaded up with French and Latin words. In the field the English peasants kept cows (German, kuh) and swine (German, schwein). In the castles at table, the posh Norman French ate beef (French boeuf) and pork (French, porc). Nowadays we use both sets of words for these animals.

In 407 AD Bishop Mesrop invented the Armenian alphabet and translated the Bible into Armenian. So the Armenian Christian Church goes back to times long before the Protestant Reformation and long before the great split between the Eastern Orthodox Church and Church of Rome. Then there were several independent churches – at Alexandria, Antioch and Constantinople.

Armenia lay on the eastern edge of the Roman Empire. Every so often a



Roman Emperor took a fancy to Armenia and sent the legions in. Communications were stretched and it was soon lost to Persia again.

Despite all the Roman interference Armenia remained an oriental country. I believe there are few borrowed Latin words in Armenian apart from Caesar. The Armenian historian Moses Khorematsi tells us what the local VIP of his time wanted to show off – and it was not two “Jags”. The King granted the valiant and honoured Argam the insignia of the second order, as he had been promised, He was allowed to wear a

pearl diadem and two ear pendants, and a purple slipper on one foot. Unfortunately we do not know who among the Armenians, if any, was allowed purple slippers on both feet. And he had the right at banquets to eat with a knife and fork of gold. Forks mind you, didn't come in even for the under civilised aristocracy of Europe for at least another five hundred years. And he could drink from a golden goblet. These honours were Argam's reward for helping the King wrest the country back from Roman occupation.

D. Street

### **Goodbye From The Current Editors**

We were told it would be simple, ‘don't make too many spelling mistakes and keep the font-size large enough to read without a magnifying glass’. Undoubtedly the content is really what matters, and Luppitt has a wealth of gifted regular contributors, along with an inspired team of LP reporters. While we may be biased (yet independent), we believe the Luppitt Packet is a truly exceptional local magazine.

Over the last two and half years our goal has been to encourage contributors, facilitate subtle improvements, and welcome ideas our readers might enjoy. Now feels like the right time to handover and allow for a fresh perspective to guide the magazine's evolution.

If you've enjoyed reading the Packet and feel that you could contribute to articles please contact Christine & Michel:  
**[editors@luppittpacket.co.uk](mailto:editors@luppittpacket.co.uk)**.

### **Coming soon - Open the Book**

Open the Book (OtB) is an exciting storytelling project where Bible stories are shared with children in a way that is fun, interactive and memorable. As invited guests in school, storytelling teams use the Open the Book programme to prepare and present a 10–15-minute scripted Bible story to a school assembly, involving the children as much as possible.

It's a really fun group to be part of and we will be setting up our own team(s) early in the New Year. See the February edition for more details or if you can't wait until then contact Rev'd Jane on 01404 841523 to find out more.



# CAROLLING AND LANTERN PARADE

FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER  
4PM START

JOIN US TO SING CAROLS AS WE PROCESS THROUGH THE  
VILLAGE WITH HOMEMADE LANTERNS STARTING FROM THE  
PRESCHOOL BUILDING

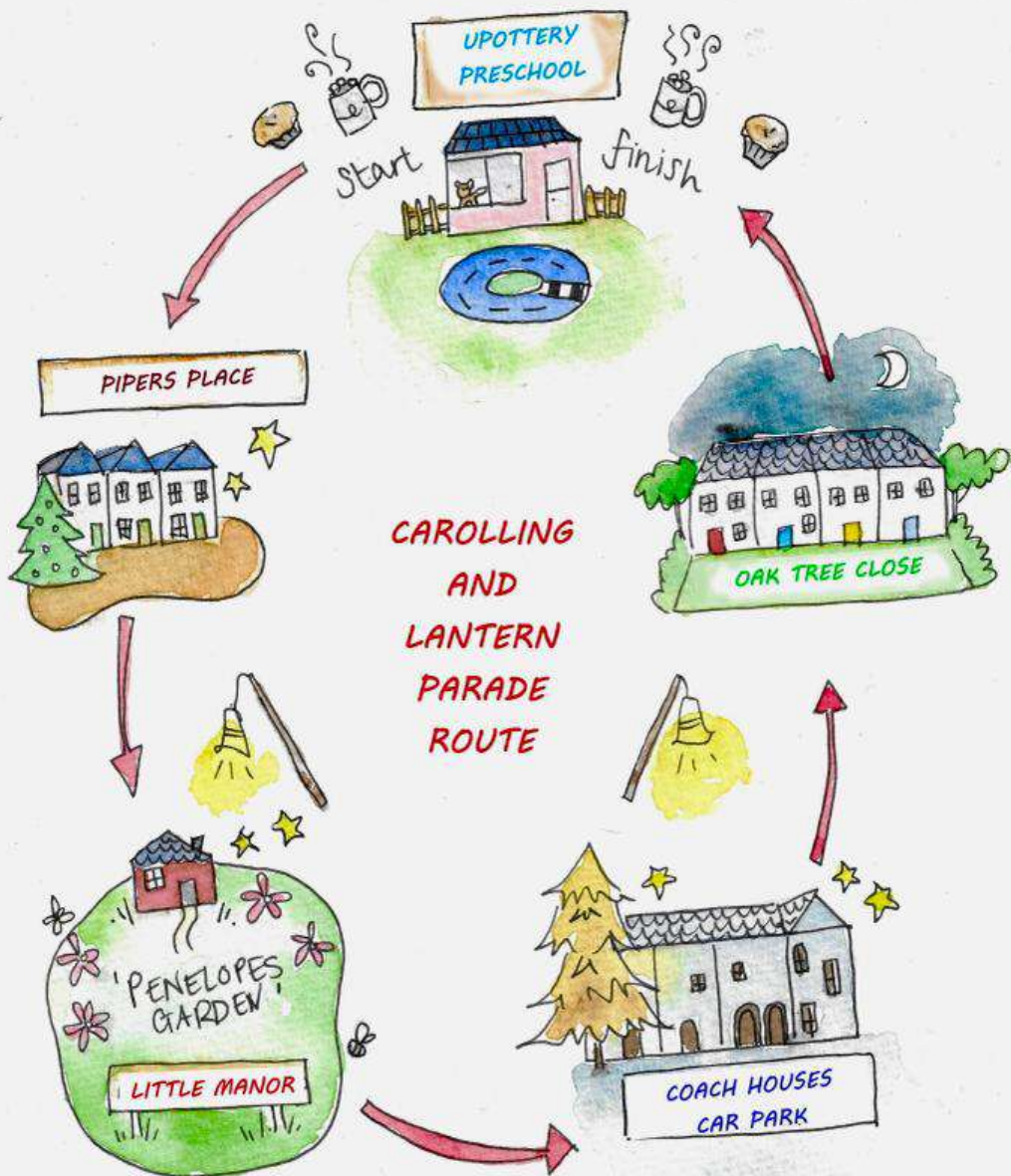
MULLED WINE, HOT CHOCOLATE AND MINCE PIES  
TO FINISH AT PRESCHOOL

ALL WELCOME



BATTERY-OPERATED TEALIGHTS ONLY PLEASE





# UPOTTERY PRESCHOOL Christmas Workshop

Create your own beautiful festive table centre piece

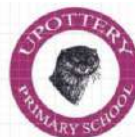


**14TH DECEMBER**

**£40** ALL MATERIALS SUPPLIED  
SIDMOUTH ARMS, UPOTTERY  
10AM -12PM

Jacalyn Arscott 07540971953

**Upottery Primary School**  
**November 2023**



I have been busy showing other heads of schools around Upottery Primary this week and all have complimented the calm feeling of the school.

This week I would like to congratulate our year 5 and 6 netball team who represented the school this week at a local tournament. Once again, I am immensely proud of how our children have conducted themselves to be fantastic ambassadors for our school.

I wanted to also take this time to so a big thank you to the PTFA for organising such a fantastic Halloween disco for our children, we really are so lucky to have such an organised and passionate PTFA to provide these opportunities for our children. I was pleased to see our children having such fun in their fantastic costumes, especially after a fun day of learning in school. I would also like to thank Mr McCollum for providing the music and lights to make the event such a success.

The rest of November will be a really busy time for everyone with the Y6's attending the Mental Health Ambassador training at Littleton Primary School, Y1's attending the Multi Skills Event at Honiton Community School, after school clubs and then we will be ready for the Christmas events to start in December

I look forward to another busy week of learning next week!

**Tom Pettifer, Head of School**

## **LUPPITT AND HARTRIDGE COMMONS**

**Commoners with grazing rights on the  
above Commons  
who wish to bid for a hay or silage plot in  
2024 please advise either Phil or David  
by the 31st December 2023 at the latest.**

**Phil Smith Tel: 07984735663**  
**David Barlow Tel: 07939083742**



## Upottery Preschool Update

As a pre-school we are absolutely passionate about the arts, and providing opportunities that allow children to explore their creative side. We had a wonderful treat when Charlotte (Branwen's mummy) loaned us her keyboard for the day. Charlotte stayed for a little while introducing the children to the keyboard but it didn't take them long to master the buttons. The staff were then exposed to a huge variety of tastes in music from soft calming tones to some very upbeat dance music, at points it was bordering on a potential rave! It was brilliant and provided an opportunity for all of the children to 'have a go'.

We have had a busy month with improvements including the exciting

## Forest school

The children have been back to forest school and enjoying fun sessions learning about building a fire. Each week we start our session with our forest school rules and the children are amazing at these now. Each week we adhere to the rules around the fire, even if we don't light it, we respect the area in which it is located. After the initial discussion



addition of more sand in our sand pit. Exactly one ton of sand was craned over the fence and then a couple of fabulous committee members used wheelbarrows to transport it all the way down in to the garden. It has been a real treat to be able to start digging and scooping again, this proves to be a very popular area at the preschool.



about what is needed to build/create the fire the children went off to find the sticks.

At snacktime we came together again and we lit the fire while the children were sat around it. The children were introduced to the 'lighting sticks', cotton wool and dried orange peel which are all used to create the fire before the sticks are added. It wasn't the greatest success however as the ground was very damp but the children seemed to thoroughly enjoy it all the same.

We have lots of events happening throughout December including our annual raffle, creating a Christmas table arrangement and finishing with carolling and a lantern parade on 22nd December. We hope there's something for everyone.

More Information from Sarah on 07872834814.

## **A Quiz for this time of year**

1. December – The twelfth month. So why is it called December – the tenth month?
2. Bethlehem is near Jerusalem. There is a Bethlehem in Europe. Where?
3. Why was there no room at the inn?
4. What is a manger?
5. 'We Three Kings of Orient'. Who were they?
6. What is myrrh?
7. Some of our Christmas traditions have their origins in pagan celebrations of mid-winter. The Romans had one such celebration – what was its name?
8. The Vikings also had a mid-winter feast, lasting 12 days. What did they call this?
9. Where did Good King Wenceslas look out?
10. There are Christmas Steps in Bristol – a very steep narrow alley. Where are the Christmas Islands?
11. Is Father Christmas real?
12. What about Santa Claus? Is he real?
13. Swans and peafowl were popular Christmas birds for the very wealthy in the Middle Ages. When did turkeys become popular?
14. Roast potatoes are a favourite to go with turkey. Where did potatoes come from?
15. Do brazil nuts come from Brazil?
16. Apart from carrots at the fireplace what do reindeer eat?
17. In Britain, who made popular the tradition of the Christmas Tree?
18. Where were the first recorded Christmas trees?
19. Glass baubles are a popular tree decoration. How did this happen?
20. How did January get this name?

Good Health! DS.

For answers see page 45



## In A Spot? Talk to Auntie Dot!

Luppitt's  
Dottiest advice  
column...

Dear Auntie Dot,

The Christmas party is very soon and I am eagerly awaiting the Luppitt Awards. I was wondering if you would share who you have voted for? I think that one about being community minded is wonderful and shows just the right kind of appreciation so many kind hearts deserve. What do you think of the awards? Do you think there's anyone that should definitely win one of them?

Dear reader,

I too am thrilled at the idea of this Luppitt Award Ceremony. What better way to pay tribute to some of the most generous souls in our community, while still having fun and judging all the farmers bums to figure out who has the nicest? Not that I'd ever be so inappropriate, I just know what some of you are like! I've been thinking far harder on who I believe should be crowned our Mover of Mountains or Hidden Hero. All those people who care that extra bit for their next-door neighbours, or provide tea and cakes for our coffee mornings, and what about the people who put their energy into planning these parish wide events for us? Superstars, the lot of them. Now I will be keeping my vote secret so as not to sway anything, but I shall say is that there is a certain farmer in the valley who always manages to catch my eye when he passes by...

Dear Auntie Dot,

I don't know what to get my son for Christmas this year and I think I'm going to go mad trying to figure it out. Every year I struggle to buy for him and every year he is of no help at all when I ask him for ideas. Do you have any recommendations as to what to buy for someone who is impossible to buy for? I have no idea what to do and time to plan is running out!

Dear Reader,

I understand your struggle, gift giving is hard enough but when the recipient is a tricky customer it feels that much more overwhelming. Some tips I have picked up over the years are as follows; experiences are more valuable than valuables, practical gifts are always useful, and, if all else fails, we could all do with another pair of socks. Now, let's apply these tricks to your son. Maybe he likes cars so you could purchase a ticket for the Stock Car racing at Smeatharpe (there's the experience). Next, it's winter, so he'll need an appropriate coat (bingo, we've got our practicality). And finally you can buy some novelty socks to tie the whole gift together. Something to do with car crashes or concussions should work! And there you have it, a cautionary and meaningful present in minutes. Of course if your son likes origami instead of cars, or lives in the Maldives instead of Devon, I'm afraid you're back at the drawing board, but the socks will always be a good idea, although he may get sand in them...

Dear Auntie Dot,

Do you have any good ideas for any new year's resolutions? No matter how hard I try I will never be able to give up eating chocolate or fish and chips for good. How can I keep to my resolutions and use this time of fresh beginnings to make a positive change in my life?

Dear Reader,

I think we all struggle when it comes to setting our goals for the new year. The New Year is a time for staying gathered cosily together indoors. This do not naturally stir us up for great achievements. So, I have decided to put together a list to look to for attainable resolutions, so we may feel some triumph as we welcome in 2024. First, I resolve to always have breath mints handy, incase someone has eaten fish or horseradish recently. Next I promise to learn the dance to 'Thriller' by next Halloween so I can impress everybody with my abilities. After that, I vow to always keep a bottle of water in my car, some change in my pocket, and a spare pair of socks in my bag. That way, if I ever need to go on the run I'm all set and won't need to worry about a toothbrush because I'll have those mints too!

## Puzzle Page

Christmas Songs and Carols

E.g. M B C = MARYS BOY CHILD



- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. THATI    | 14. AIAM       |
| 2. WC       | 15. OLTOB      |
| 3. DTKIC    | 16. WTKOOA     |
| 4. RATCT    | 17. OIRDC      |
| 5. SCICTT   | 18. HNSN       |
| 6. JB       | 19. WITA       |
| 7. IBHFC    | 20. AIWFCIMTFT |
| 8. WACIB    | 21. RTRR       |
| 9. MAW      | 22. LIS        |
| 10. IDB     | 23. HYAMLC     |
| 11. IWICBCE | 24. WW         |
| 12. LC      | 25. TFN        |
| 13. TDOC    |                |

### Last Months Answers

- |                |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Attic study | 2. Cream jelly | 3. Music songs |
| 4. Scent aroma | 5. Shrub bush. |                |

*Submitted by Jacky Omalley*

## Blackdown Hills Repair Cafe

Our first event in 2024 is on **Saturday 27th January** at the Hemyock Parish Hall EX15 3QW between 10am and 1.0pm.

Please do come along and have all your broken items repaired and fixed by our Volunteer Repairers, and while they are carrying out your repairs enjoy some refreshments in our tearoom café.

We are now able to take on extra, larger and more extended repairs due to us now also having a workshop facility

Stephan Lehner

Coordinator of the Blackdown Hills Repair Cafe

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 07715460783, or at  
sfelehner@aol.com



fc  
**CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**  
**3PM SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER**  
**IN THE VILLAGE HALL**  
WITH REVD NIGEL

COLLECTION IN AID OF THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

## **BULLETIN BOARD**

**FESTIVE ADVENT TEA**

**SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER**

**FROM 2:30PM**

**AT NEWMANS HOUSE, CHURCH HILL**

**ENTRANCE £3**

**RAFFLE \* MULLED WINE**

**FUNDRAISING FOR ST. MARY'S CHURCH**



++++  
Barnfield: We welcome neighbours and friends to Barnfield on a Wednesday evening 6-8 for a cup of tea and chat the first Wednesday in each month. All welcome, on Wednesday 6 December.

If you would like to join the Parish WhatsApp group, please contact Lucy Murray on 07968900349

There are still a number of Luppitt Village Maps available in A2. Please contact the Luppitt Packet editors at the email address below if you are interested. Cost £5, towards the printing costs of the Packet, Thank you .  
editors@luppittpacket.co.uk



Christmas Greetings

Brian and Pearl would like to wish all our friends and neighbours a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year



## REV NIGEL WRITES....

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas....

I don't know about you, but TV adverts and Christmas merchandise seems to get earlier each year. I saw some Christmas decorations in a shop at the end of August! More time to get prepared, I hear you shout. There is a lot to prepare. Buying presents, organising the food, sending Christmas cards out in good time, decorations inside and for some there are the outside lights to put up, and of course – a family favourite for us, decorating the Christmas tree.



This year, Liz and I are very excited as it is our first Christmas in Dunkseswell. We are looking forward to all the different 'Christmas' events in the lead up to the big day in all of our Church communities. So much time and preparation goes into these different events, so please do support them if you are able to. We will certainly try to get along to as many as we can.

For Christians, it is a very important time of the year as we prepare for the birth of Jesus in a period we call Advent.



During Advent, some churches have an Advent Wreath and light a candle each week, from Advent Sunday until Christmas day, each with a different meaning – Hope, Peace, Joy and love.

Rev Jane Penn and I will be hosting some reflective Advent sessions where, through word, silence, song and prayer we will be exploring each theme as we prepare our hearts and minds to journey together towards Christmas. Do join us, if you are able to (Details follow)

There will also be plenty of opportunities to gather together to prepare for Christmas with various Carol Services, Concerts and Christingle services. Please do see all the dates in this magazine and we look forward to seeing you at one or more.

As we prepare for Christmas and all the joy it will bring, please do remember that Christmas for some is anything but joyful. For those living in war torn countries, peace and joy seem far away. Please do hold these people and the countries affected in your daily prayers. Christmas can be a difficult time, particularly for those who have lost loved ones and those who now find themselves on their own. Let us play our part in making this Christmas as special a time as it can be. For those who are struggling, the greatest gift this Christmas may be a card, a phonecall, a visit, an offer to do shopping or even an invite to share a meal.

How ever you will be spending Christmas this year, let us remind ourselves the real meaning of Christmas is all wrapped up in the birth of Jesus Christ, saviour of the world.

***For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6***

Christmas prayers and blessings to you all.

**Rev Nigel Candelent  
Dunkeswell Mission Community**

## Advent Reflections

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> December; 7.00pm -8 .30pm  
Dunkeswell Village Hall.**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> December; 10.00am – 11.30am  
The Tower Room, St Andrew's Church Broadhembury.**







St. Mary's have donated £320 to the Royal British Legion from the collection taken at the Remembrance service and £60 profits from the cash bar at the Remembrance Lunch.

Thank you to Steve Berry for running the bar and calculating the profits.

A huge thank you to Barbara and John Thorne for donating and preparing the food for the Remembrance Lunch. £291 was donated towards Church funds, hall hire costs will be deducted from this amount.

## Church Services for December and January 2024

### December

3rd	3pm	Christingle Service Luppitt Village Hall	Revd Nigel Candelent
10th	11am	Holy Communion	Revd Nigel Candelent
17th	11am	Traditional carol service	Lay Led
24th	4pm	Carols and Crib service Followed by refreshments	Revd Nigel Candelent
25th	11am	Christmas Communion	Revd Jane Penn

### Mission Community Services

31st	11am	St. Nicholas Dunkeswell	'New Year, New Hope'
	11am	St. Mary's Upottery	Prosecco, Praise & Prayers

### January 2024

7th	9:30am	Holy Communion	Revd Nigel Candelent
14th	11am	Holy Communion	Revd Jane Penn
21st	11am	Songs of Praise (more details to follow)	Lay Led
28th	11am	Café Church at Newmans House	

## Christmas services at St Mary's

**17<sup>th</sup> December at 11:00am**

Traditional carol service

**Christmas Eve at 4:00pm**

Carols and Crib Service

followed by mince pies, mulled wine, hot chocolate

**Christmas Day at 11:00am**

Christmas Communion



### **Volunteer required to maintain the Church composting toilet**

The PCC would like to thank Danek for maintaining the Church lavatory over the past couple of years. Is there anyone willing to take over from Danek please? If so please contact him directly or call Winter on 07903 032890

### **Can you help with building maintenance of St. Mary's?**

Our historic Church building is in desperate need of volunteers to help run various maintenance projects including lighting, heating, cleaning of windows, fixing slipped roof slates and replacing failed lime plaster. If you are willing to step forward to run or help please contact Sara on 891140

## **Church Cleaning & flower rota**

2 Dec Jean Gardiner & Joy Tofts

9 Dec Pat Bussey

16 Dec Mary Joyce & Pearl Pulman

Christmas Decorations - all

30 Dec Sue Piechowiak

6 Jan Jean Gardiner, Joy Tofts  
& Pat Bussey

13 Jan Mary Joyce & Pearl Pulman

20 Jan Mary Hill

27 Jan Sue Piechowiak



Dunkeswell Mission Community

Dunkeswell, Broadhembury, Luppitt, Sheldon  
Upottery and Plymtree

# UPOTTERY PLAYGROUP

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Book by 9<sup>th</sup> December**

*\*Tables of 8 – 10 \**

*\* Places not confirmed until paid for \**

*\* Please specify any dietary requirements*





## Christmas in Luppitt - Junior Artists Entries



Issy Summers  
Aged 5



Martha  
Clibbs  
Aged 8



William Chown  
Aged 6



Willy Crabbs  
Aged 9.



Florence  
Richards  
Aged 6



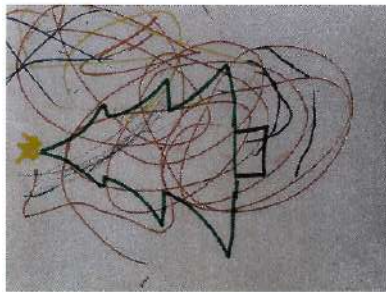
Romy Page-turner  
Aged 9



Grace Crabbs  
Aged 8



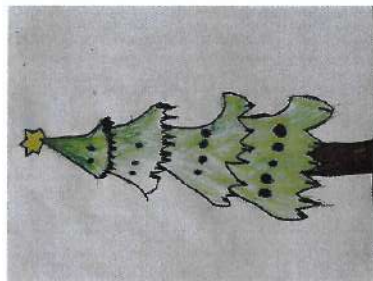
Harry Stone  
Aged 4 yrs.



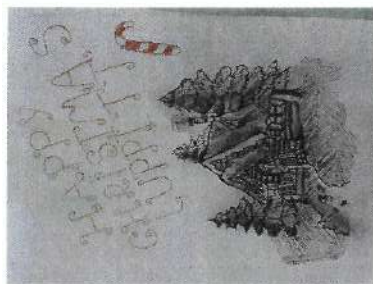
Kate Samways  
Aged 7.



Jack Stone  
Aged 7



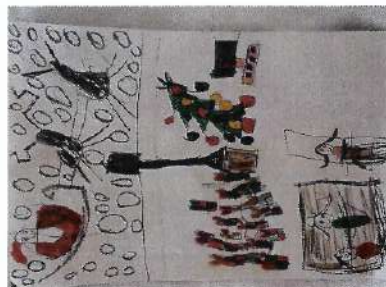
Reggie Gardo  
Aged 5



Tom Page-Turner  
Aged 12 yrs.



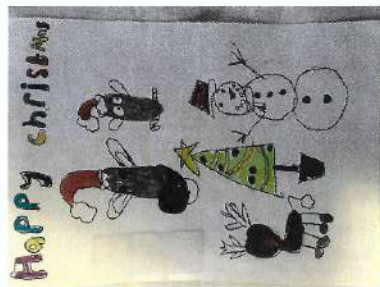
Ben Stone  
Aged 9



Faye Clown  
Aged 6



Sam Murray  
Aged 7



Pippa Summers  
Aged 8

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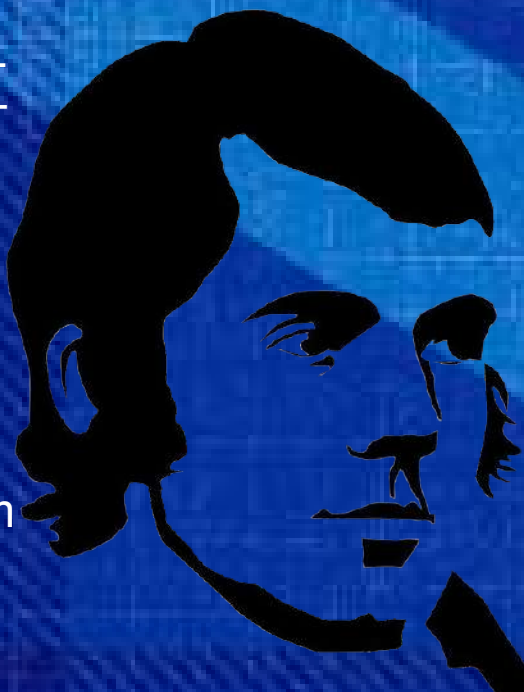
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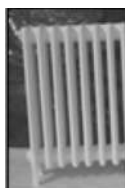
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# **LUPITT VILLAGE HALL**

## **Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.30pm**

The Chairperson welcomed all those present – 16 people in all.

**Apologies** – Mr John Thorne

### **Minutes of the Last Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.30pm were circulated, discussed, and signed by the Chairperson as a true record.

### **Matters Arising**

- **Constitution**

This matter is on-going.

- **Electrical Report**

The Treasurer has negotiated a new 12 month contract with Smart Energy starting on the 9<sup>th</sup> November with a considerable reduction in the standing charge from £5.57 per day to 37p per day. Unit rates remain high, and care will still be needed when electricity is used. The committee thanked Steve Berry for his efforts.

- **Internet Connection**

Mrs Rosewell has been in negotiation with Gigaclear for the past year who initially offered free installation and free connection for 12 months. After many months of negotiation Gigaclear finally offered free use for 12 months but asked for a £1000.00 installation fee. The committee did not think this was justifiable given that broadband connection is constantly improving. Mrs Rosewell is in discussion with EE and Voneus in a search for a better provider.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported that it had been a good year with revenue comparable to 2022 once the National Lottery Grant of £10,000.00 for new doors had been taken into consideration. Hall hire had increased by 25% and Bank interest rate had increased.

Electricity costs rose by 18%, Water by 30% and Insurance by 10%.

A projector & screen was purchased for £4401.00, as well as PA equipment and a stage extension. The games room lights have been upgraded and fire and smoke alarms fitted.

There are plans to improve insulation and heating.



## **Adoption of the Accounts**

The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Mrs Pearl Pulman and seconded by Mrs Jean Hooper.

## **Chairperson's Report**

Mrs Rosewell (Vice Chairperson) has been acting as Chairperson since the resignation of Mr Stephen Smith, for which the committee is incredibly grateful. She reported that events had been well attended.

## **Entertainments Sub- Committee –Chairperson's Report**

Thanks to an enthusiastic committee there were numerous fund-raising events during the year including a Quiz, Christmas Party, New Year's Eve Party, Family Pirate Footpath Fun, Bingo, Coronation Celebrations, Skittles, Pudding Tasting, Movies launch, Murder Mystery play, Pub Games Night, Flower Show & Fete, and a Ukraine Night.

## **Election of Committee for 2022/23**

### **Elected by their organisations:**

Parish Council	Mr Martin Summers
Parochial Church Council	Mrs Pearl Pulman
Commoners	Mr Bernard Clapp
Bell Ringers	Mr John Thorne

### **Election of more people from the floor**

Mrs Tracey Rosewell seconded by Mrs Lucy Murray	proposed by Mrs Wendy Clapp and
Mr Steve Berry seconded by Mrs Pat Bussey	proposed by Mrs Lucy Murray and
Mrs Lucy Murray seconded by Mrs Pat Bussey	proposed by Mr Phil Smith and
Mr Phil Smith seconded by Mrs Tracey Rosewell	proposed by Mrs Lucy Murray and
Mrs Mary Hill seconded by Mrs Tracey Rosewell	proposed by Mr Phil Smith and

All unanimously elected.

## **Appointment of Auditor 2023/24**

Batchelor & Co was unanimously elected.

## **Any Other Business**

### **Heating**

The Treasurer reported that modern storage heater is 30% more efficient. Modern infra-red heaters are more efficient but do not provide the background heat needed in an older building. He queried whether the large air vents were necessary any longer in a No Smoking Hall.

A new storage heater costs between £700-£800, and as many as thirteen may be needed.

Further investigation is needed. Mrs Murray is to consult other local Village Halls including Upottery, Stockland, Offwell, and Cotleigh. Mrs Rosewell is to consult Broadhembury.

At a meeting following the AGM the officers were elected as follows

**Chairperson:** Mrs T Rosewell

proposed by Mr S Berry and seconded by Ms L Murray

**Vice Chairperson:** Mr M Summers

proposed by Mrs L Murray and seconded by Mrs T Rosewell

**Treasurer:** Mr S Berry:

proposed by Mr P Smith and seconded by Mrs Tracey Rosewell

**Secretary:** Mrs L Murray

proposed by Mrs P Pulman and seconded by Mr M Summers

**Assistant Secretary:** Mrs M Hill

proposed by Mrs L Murray and seconded by Mrs Pearl Pulman

**Booking Secretary:** Mrs J Hooper

proposed by Mrs Pulman and seconded by Mrs M Hill

**Co-opted Members** – none available.

## **Entertainments Sub-Committee**

Mr P Smith, Mr S Berry, and Mrs T Rosewell re-elected en-bloc.

**Date of the next AGM – Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.30pm.**

## **Clerk's report of a Meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held at Luppitt Village Hall on Tuesday, 7 November 2023, at 8 pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Michele Turner (Chair), John Thorne (Vice-Chair), Charles Murray, Brian Pulman, Paul Prettejohn, Christine Ryder, Martin Summers, Andrew Tucker, Colin Brown, Yehudi Levine (EDDC), Iain Chubb (DCC)

### **Receive apologies for absence**

There were no apologies.

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 3 October 2023, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Summers and seconded by Cllr Murray).

### **Declaration of Interest**

Cllr Prettejohn declared an interest in the planning application at Yarde Lodge as he supplies and looks after equipment at that location.

## **PLANNING**

### **Applications (for comment, support or objection)**

#### **23/2133/FUL – Primrose Farm, Upottery, EX14 9QE – construction of equestrian manège for private use**

Cllrs Turner, Ryder and Summers had attended a site visit on Wednesday, 25 October. Also present were Roger Hicks and the clerk. Particular concerns over drainage and location were addressed. It was agreed that the Parish Council would support the planning application with the following conditions:

The proposed screening is a requirement before the manège is brought into operational use (Neighbourhood Plan policy NE1).

- Suitable measures of mitigation should be introduced to rebalance biodiversity (Neighbourhood Plan policy NE2).
- Assurance that any surface water run-off is diverted away from the lakes and water course (Neighbourhood Plan policy NE2).
- Agreement not to erect external lighting and to submit examples of all materials to be used (Neighbourhood Plan policy ND2).

#### **23/2301/FUL – Yarde Lodge, Luppitt, EX14 4TA – loft conversion incorporating a raised ridge and dormer windows and the construction of a garden building (loft to house bats)**

The clerk was asked to arrange a site visit. The clerk will also request an extension to the closing date for comments.

### **EDDC Emerging Local Plan**

The autumn update from the Planning Policy team on progress with the emerging Local Plan includes an invitation for Town and Parish Councils to take part in an online survey of neighbourhood planning activity and intentions. Cllr Turner undertook to complete the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

## **Decisions**

There were no decisions.

## **REPORTS**

### **Ward Councillor**

Cllr Brown reported that the popular green garden waste service collects from 19,896 homes in East Devon, where the charge per green wheelie bin is £50 per year. This is set to increase to £52 next year.

Currently East Devon do not have a required 5-year land supply which makes it easier for developers to build new homes that would not normally gain approval at the planning stage, potentially leading to inappropriate development in the wrong places.

From 1 November 2023 until 31 March 2024, everyone will be able to park all day until midnight for a flat rate of £2 in all car parks owned and operated by East Devon District Council.

The Friends of Honiton Station have won the gold award, for the second year running, for the Community Planters on the station. They are now working on a project with the Thelma Hulbert Gallery, Honiton Primary school, Honiton Town Council, South West Trains and Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership to install children's artwork relating to Honiton Lace and the 'Honiton Hippos' on the inside of the footbridge at the station.

For those with a smart phone, Cllr Brown suggested downloading the East Devon app from the Apple App Store or Google Play store, see <https://eastdevon.gov.uk/website-help/east-devon-mobile-app/>.

This is a very effective tool and easy to use. There are a number of functions that are very popular on it, including the 'Report It' section for all sorts of things from fly tipping to litter and the waste collection section. It can also remind users about collection days and which containers to put out.

### **County Councillor**

Cllr Chubb reported that Devon County Council is going through a major restructure currently of how the 'business' operates, so that it can best serve the needs of the residents of Devon with the physical and financial resources available to it. There is a lot of publicity currently about the financial health of Local Government and a number of Councils issuing what is called a section 114 notice. In effect, this is a declaration that they cannot meet their obligations in producing a legally required budget and 'handing back the keys' to central government to send in commissioners to run services at the minimum legal level. There is often no one single reason for this but certainly growing demand for services, children's in particular, combined with inflation, are major factors in many instances.

Devon County Council took early steps to address this and reorganise and, as part of this, are currently in advanced negotiations with the Department for Education for a very significant financial settlement (called the 'safety valve') and not currently at risk of having to issue a section 114 notice.

Setting a balanced budget early next year is going to be very difficult, resulting in some very difficult choices having to be made where core spending power has reduced in real terms by 27% since 2010/11 as Councils remain firmly in the eye of the inflationary storm and finances are under pressure like never before.

The Levelling up & Regeneration Bill recently received Royal Assent and a raft of new measures came into force which the government says will "put local people at the heart of development". County and District Councils will be expected to work with a faster and less bureaucratic planning system, with developers held to account.

Cllr Chubb said that DCC Highways teams have taken an absolute battering this year where climate change flooding events in particular have decimated planned maintenance, but despite that are pressing on with as much of the programme as possible when not dealing with 'risk to life' events or clearing up after flooding, fallen trees and damaged buildings.

They are doing their best to keep all of the plates spinning and Cllr Chubb would ask that residents understand that they must prioritise those 'risk to life' events whilst not diminishing the priority of things residents have reason to contact them for.

## **HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC**

**Parish Highways programme** - update on Items to Report as follows:

- The potholes at Ringborough Cross have been repaired.
- The clerk had reported the potholes at Fieldhead but had received a message that this was an invalid location and not maintained by Devon County Council. Cllr Summers wondered if roads not maintained by Devon County Council were for sale. The clerk will follow up with Cllr Chubb.
- The clerk will report potholes and road deterioration between Pound Cottage and Mohuns Ottery; between Pound Farm Bungalow and Maple Cross; pothole near Shelf Farm.

## **Luppitt Signs**

The clerk had received an email and telephone call from the person dealing with signage at Devon County Council who told the clerk that the £300 that had been taken from Cllr Chubb's budget was for one sign only (the one that has been replaced at Luppitt Cross). Cllr Chubb checked his emails and was quite clear that the money was to cover the missing sign at Luppitt Cross and the one at Mathayes Cross. The email from DCC also implied the same. Cllr Chubb undertook to follow up.



## **Parish Maintenance**

Cllr Tucker was asked to clear the culvert by Maple Cross and the grating by David's corner.

## **Sign at Beacon**

The clerk had received an email from a resident at Beacon drawing attention to the sign that had been knocked down by a lorry. Cllr Tucker was able to give some background information and explained that the lorry driver apparently took a wrong turning during very difficult weather conditions and confusing diversion signs. Cllr Tucker said that a few residents went to help the driver and put him on the right road, thus avoiding any more damage. The signpost has now been reinstated.

## **Overhanging Hedges**

The clerk will continue to send letters to landowners about overhanging hedges.

## **Grit Bins**

Cllr Summers was thanked for repairing some of the grit bins. The clerk will order grit for the bins that need filling.

## **FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS**

### **Slow Ways – national walking network**

The clerk had received comments from two of the Footpath Wardens but, after discussion, it was decided not to pursue further.

## **ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

### **Beacon noticeboard and gate at Village Hall**

Cllr Summers reported that he has repaired the noticeboard at Beacon and the gate has now been installed at the Village Hall.

## **Children's Christmas Party**

It was agreed to donate £175 towards the costs of the children's Christmas party (proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Thorne).

## **Luppitt Packet**

After discussion, it was agreed to reinstate the Parish Council's contribution of £160 to the Luppitt Packet (proposed by Cllr Tucker, seconded by Cllr Summers).

## **Quarterly check – internal financial controls**

Cllr Ryder has checked and signed the cash book and reconciliation for the quarter ended September 2023 and has confirmed that everything is in order.

## **S137 Payments (donations) for 2024/25**

The following S137 payments were agreed: TRIP £55.00; Royal British Legion £20.00; Devon Air Ambulance £100; Devon Freewheelers £100; British Heart Foundation £50.00.

The clerk reported that the East Devon Citizens Advice Bureau had again failed to bank the Parish Council's cheque. It was decided that no S137 payment would be made for the coming year (proposed by Cllr Tucker, seconded by Cllr Thorne).

### **Meeting Dates for 2024**

It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue to meet on the first Tuesday of each month. The first meeting of the new year will be **Tuesday, 2 January 2024**.

### **Code of Conduct**

The clerk has compared the new Code of Conduct with the Parish Council's current version. It was agreed to continue to follow the existing Code of Conduct which has worked well in the past.

### **Secure Email System**

The clerk had researched the cost of a .gov.uk email address which would be £135 for 2 years and then £65 per year. Vision ICT can set up an email address for the clerk linked to the Parish Council website for £18 per annum. This would be sufficient to meet the requirements for next year's external audit. It was agreed to adopt this option.

### **Parish Council Website Accessibility Webinar**

The clerk had attended the online webinar run by Vision ICT which had been helpful. Some small alterations will be made to the Parish Council website to make it fully compliant.

### **Correspondence**

- An email from the Blackdown Hills Parish Network was noted.
- The clerk had received an email from the internal auditor thanking the Parish Council for the voucher.
- Cllr John Hart, Leader of Devon County Council is hosting a series of online meetings with Town and Parish Councillors. Cllr Turner will attend the East Devon one on 11 December from 6 pm to 7.30 pm.
- Information from DALC about EV charge-points was noted.

### **CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION**

The clerk had just received the safety inspection report from EDDC for the play area at the Village Hall. EDDC had passed on details of a discounted scheme run by RoSPA for Town and Parish Councils. The clerk will follow up. A copy of the report was handed to Cllr Summers.

### **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 10 pm.

**Dates for next meetings to be held in Luppitt Village Hall at 8 pm:**

**Tuesday, 5 December 2023**

**Tuesday, 2 January 2024**

## Answers to 'A Quiz for this time of year'

1. We follow the Roman name. Their year started in March, so their tenth month was December.
2. It is in Wales. There are also Bethlehemms in the USA and South Africa.
3. Judaea was a Roman province. The governor had ordered a census to be taken.
4. A manger is just a box or trough for animals to eat from.
5. They are not named in the Bible, but Bede (673 – 735 BCE) names them as Balthazar, Caspar and Melchior.
6. Like frankincense, it is a gum resin used in the Near East in perfumery, medicines and incense.
7. Saturnalia.
8. Jol. We call it Yule, which today just means Christmas. Hence Yule logs, today more commonly just a cake.
9. Bohemia. He was Duke of Bohemia (907 – 929 BCE), and is the Patron Saint of the Czech Republic. He was murdered by his brother.
10. They are 200 miles south of Java in the Pacific. They were not discovered at Christmas but this is when they were named (1643).
11. Of course. You can all write to him at the North Pole. You will get a reply from his Elves in the sub-office in Rovaniemi, Finland.
12. Santa Claus (Saint Nicholas) was a bishop in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. He is the Patron Saint of Greece, Russia, sailors and children. He is reputed to have brought back to life three boys pickled in a barrel.
13. They were first brought to England in the mid 16<sup>th</sup> century. They had been domesticated by the Aztecs in Mexico.
14. The Incas (and pre-Inca cultures) cultivated many varieties of potato in the Andes of Peru and Bolivia, and the Spanish brought them to Europe in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century.
15. No, mostly Bolivia. If yours came from Brazil, don't eat more than three a day, or you will glow in the dark. (This is because many grow in soil containing uranium).
16. Lichens. Reindeer are the only mammals able to digest them easily. They also eat hallucinogenic mushrooms.
17. Queen Victoria's Consort. Prince Albert brought them to England from his native Germany.
18. The first documented trees are in Alsace and Livonia, at Strasbourg Cathedral (1539 BCE) and town squares in Tallin (1441) and Riga (1510). Each of them claims to be the first.
19. Red glass baubles were originally replicas of real apples which were hung on trees. A Mr F Woolworth invented them in the 1880s in the USA.
20. After Janus, a minor Roman deity. He is god of gates and doorways – hence beginnings. He is often depicted facing both backwards and forwards.

Wes Hall DS.

## DIRECTORY

<b>Parish Council</b>	<a href="http://www.luppittparishcouncil.co.uk">www.luppittparishcouncil.co.uk</a>	
Chair	Michele Turner	
Vice Chair	John Thorne	01404 891412
		07748 780096
Clerk	Rosalind Buxton	01404 861565
		07944 625025
<b>Village Hall</b>		
Secretary	Mary Hill	01404 891160
Bookings	Jean Hooper	01404 892969
<b>Commoners' Secretary</b>	Kate Jarman 01404 892767 <a href="mailto:luppittcommons@gmail.com">luppittcommons@gmail.com</a>	
Parish Notices WhatsApp	Lucy Murray	07968 900349
Priest-in-charge	Nigel Candalent	01404 891306
	<a href="mailto:revnigel@dunkeswell.org.uk">revnigel@dunkeswell.org.uk</a>	
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	<a href="mailto:revjane@dunkeswell.org.uk">revjane@dunkeswell.org.uk</a>	
Mission Community Admin	Sara Bevan	07717 222404
	<a href="mailto:sara@dunkeswell.org.uk">sara@dunkeswell.org.uk</a>	
PCC Secretary	Winter Newlands	07903 032890
Luppitt Entertainments Chair	Phil Smith	01404 891318
Luppitt Entertainments Sec	Pat Bussey	01404 892720
Captain of Bellringers	Pearl Pulman	01404 891324
Cricket Club	Steve Berry	01404 891268
Hartridge Buddhist Monastery		01404 891251
<b>Surgeries</b>	Blackdown Dunkeswell	01823 681720
	Honiton Medical Centre	01404 548544
	Honiton Minor Injuries Unit	01404 540540
Devon Air Ambulance		01392 466666
East Devon District Council		01404 515616
TRIP (community transport)		01404 46529
Citizens Advice Bureau		0344 411 1444
<b>Location of defibrillators</b>		
	Village Hall EX14 4RT	
	Lowmans Farm, EX14 4TX (near Red Doors)	



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