

To Jean & Ken Carter

Congratulations, To a very special Mum and Dad, on celebrating your 65th Blue Sapphire wedding anniversary! On 22nd of September 2024.

Love from Sandra, Nick, Lindsey, Mo, Holly, Joe, Adam, Hanna, Ellie, Ashley, Luna & Evie xxx



THE LUPPITT PACKET

Welcome to our first Autumn edition with a lovely fruity cover by Julia Sparks. We have plenty of 'news and amuse' articles for you, including more fascinating stories from World War II. Dudley Sparks has also contributed an intriguing article comparing reality with expectations. We have all the usual features and puzzles, news of a very special anniversary and an update from the Luppitt Landscape team on the first round of studies which we will hear more about as the months progress.

News, too, of two 'not to be missed' events coming up in September. First off, our very own Packet fundraiser – a 1950's themed tea party in the Village Hall on September 8th. This will be our last fundraiser of the year and we do hope lots of you join us and have a great afternoon. To help get you 'in the mood' we have a timeline article looking at major events in the 50's. Lots of us were probably there....but for the younger members of the community, it should be an interesting look back into history.

To round off September, we have the revival of the Harvest Supper event and the Auction of Harvest Produce.

On a more serious note, please can everyone read the news about the upcoming Housing Needs Survey which will shortly be arriving by post to all residents in Luppitt. You don't have to complete it – but it would be really helpful if you could because it will help identify whether there is a need for social housing in our Parish.

And finally – a big 'Congratulations' to Jean Gardiner for winning the Village Hall Perpetual Cup for the most points won at the Flower Show. It was a superb event, as you will all see from our centre spread photographs, and all of the classes attracted a very high quality of entries – so Jean really is a star for being our ultimate winner.

Christine Ryder, MicheleTurner and the Luppitt Packet team

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Luppitt Entertainments Committee Events

Coming up soon:

Monday 30th September: Harvest Supper & Auctio

Time: 7:00 for 7:30pm

Joint event with St Mary's Church

Events to look forward to:

Friday 25th October: Autumn Bingo

Fun for all the family!

Friday 15th November: Quiz Night Get those grey cells working!

Saturday 14th December:

*** Save the Date ***

For the Luppitt Christmas Party

Please note - all events are CASH ONLY!

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Ball Race, which raised an amazing £900 for the Devon Air Ambulance

Pat Bussey

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Village Hub Pub 7:30pm every Wednesday & Friday

Short Mat Bowls 7.30pm Thursdays Friday Coffee / Market 11am until 1pm

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THE LUPPITT PACKET IS ALSO ONLINE

Additional information and photographs can be found at www.luppittpacket.co.uk

All archive PDF copies of The Packet dating from 2010 to the current edition can be found on www. luppitt.net (hosted by Peter Sage) which also contains a wealth of information about Luppitt – its history, people, photos, family trees etc.

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Devon Air Ambulance East Devon District Council TRIP (community transport) Citizens Advice Bureau		01392 466666 01404 515616 01404 46529 0344 411 1444

Location of defibrillators

Village Hall EX14 4RT Lowmans Farm, EX14 4TX (near Red Doors)

Let us have your views – do we need affordable housing for local people in Luppitt?

One of the actions contained in the Luppitt Neighbourhood Plan was the commissioning of a survey to establish whether there is a need for social housing – the term given to subsidised housing offered to people who currently live in a Parish and do not want to move away from it but who are unable to secure property of their own. Typically, that might be young people looking for a home of their own, or ove-60's looking to downsize.

The survey is commissioned, on behalf of the Parish, by East Devon District Council and is carried out by Devon Communities Together, an independent not for profit organisation. Only a handful of these surveys are commissioned each year, and this year Luppitt has been fortunate in securing one.

The survey questionnaire will be posted to all residents in Luppitt in mid September. Only those who believe they need an affordable home need to complete the whole form. However it would be very helpful if everyone could fill out the sections relating to the overview of the Parish and the specific needs of older people. Your individual responses will be confidential with data held by Devon Communities Together in line with their data protection policy.

The general information gathered on the level and type of need will feed into a report that will help clarify whether there is a requirement to plan for additional houses to be built in the Parish to allow local people to stay within their community.

When you receive the survey questionnaire, if you have any questions, contact Luppitt Parish Clerk Rosalind Buxton on 07944 625025.

For reference, you can read the relevant clause in the Neighbourhood Plan by going to the website – www.luppittneighbourhoodplan.org.uk. The relevant clause is Community Action CA13 on Page 66.

Clerk's report of a Meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held at Luppitt Village Hall on Tuesday, 2 July 2024 at 8 pm

Present: Cllrs Michele Turner, Charles Murray, Paul Prettejohn, Brian Pulman, Andrew Tucker, Iain Chubb (DCC) and one member of the public

Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs John Thorne, Lindsay Hill, Martin Summers, Colin Brown and Yehudi Levine (EDDC)

Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 4 June 2024, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record (proposed by Cllr Pulman and seconded by Cllr Tucker).

Declaration of Interest

Cllr Tucker declared an interest in the planning application at Millrise because he carries out work there.

Register of Interests

Parish Councillors present confirmed that they had reviewed their register of interest forms and confirmed that there had been no changes. The clerk will check with Parish Councillors who were not present at the meeting.

PLANNING

Applications (for comment, support or objection) 24/1094/FUL – Valley Heights, Luppitt, Ex14 4SU – replacement of car port

24/1094/FUL – Valley Heights, Luppitt, Ex14 4SU – replacement of car port with single storey extension

The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application.

24/0857/FUL – Land at Millrise, Luppitt – general purpose agricultural building

After discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council would support this application but would expect the surrounding buildings to be removed.

The meeting was then suspended to allow the member of public to speak.

Enforcement Order at Higher Wick

The parishioner advised that he has been informed that the wording of the original Enforcement Order and subsequent case put to the planning inspectorate has several weaknesses and that EDDC will not be proceeding with the case. The Parish Council was unaware of this development and the clerk will speak to EDDC to obtain clarification.

The meeting then resumed.

Urbanisation (for discussion)

The clerk had contacted Angelá King at EDDC who had no examples to share. It was agreed that this would be discussed when all Parish Councillors are present.

Decisions

There were no decisions.

REPORTS

Ward Councillor(s)

No reports were received as Cllrs Levine and Brown are restricted in the comments they can make before the General Election on 4 July.

County Councillor

Cllr Chubb advised that a new Leader has been appointed at Devon County Council. James McInnes has replaced John Hart who has been Leader for 15 years and is now Chair.

HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

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

- Subsidence at Hillend has been repaired.
- A large area has been repaired at Jack's House.
- Cllr Tucker reported that repairs have been carried out at Coombeshead.

It was agreed that the clerk should write to the Neighbourhood Highway Officer to pass on positive comments on the work that has been carried out.

Parish Maintenance

Clerk to report severe road deterioration towards Mathayes from Hartridge on the right-hand side.

The clerk had received an email from a parishioner regarding trees near Ford Bridge needing attention. After discussion, the clerk was asked to forward the email to the Chair of Luppitt Commoners.

Overhanging Hedges – Devon Wildlife Trust

The Parish Council has arranged for the overhanging hedges at Dumpdon to be cut. Cllr Turner signed a letter advising Devon Wildlife Trust of this and enclosing Cllr Tucker's invoice.

Drainage Project for School Lane

This item will be deferred to allow Parish Councillors to consider and decide on a plan.

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Nothing to report.

ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES D-Day Anniversary Event

It was agreed that this had been a successful event and had been well attended. The clerk will finalise figures and circulate to all Parish Councillors. An amount of £28.05 was collected on the night for the Royal British Legion. It was agreed to make up this amount to £50.00, proposed by Cllr Murray, seconded by Cllr Turner.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Renewal of Insurance for millennium bench

The value of the millennium bench has increased to £7,425 (including VAT) and the insurance premium for 5 years is £358.00. It was agreed to renew the insurance which is provided by Stoneguard.

Updated version of Financial Regulations for approval

The clerk has reviewed the Model Financial Regulations 2024 issued by NALC. The present system used for online payments needs to be strengthened. The clerk will follow up with the Co-Operative Bank.

Parish Council gov.uk domain

The clerk is attending a series of webinars being held to explain more fully the process involved in adopting a gov.uk domain. The clerk will continue to keep the Parish Council informed.

Correspondence

- An email had been received from EDDC regarding a series of meetings to be held where issues and concerns over site allocations in the new Local Plan can be aired. It was agreed to ask the Ward members, Cllrs Brown and Levine, to keep the Parish Council informed of developments.
- The clerk had received an email from the chairman of the newly formed Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group of Plymtree Parish Council seeking any guidance we might be able to give. Cllr Turner undertook to speak to Roger Hicks.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Clerk's report of a Meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held at Luppitt Village Hall on Tuesday, 6 August 2024 at 8 pm

Present: Cllrs Brian Pulman, Lindsay Hill, Charles Murray, Martin Summers, Andrew Tucker, Yehudi Levine (EDDC)

Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Michele Turner, John Thorne, Paul Prettejohn, Colin Brown (EDDC) and Iain Chubb (DCC)

Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 2 July 2024, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record (proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Tucker).

Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest. All Councillors have now confirmed that they do not have any alterations to their Register of Interest forms.

PLANNING

Applications (for comment, support or objection)

24/1249/LBC – Barbers Farm, Beacon, Luppitt, EX14 4TX – replace existing conservatory with green oak framed structure on rear elevation; remove west buttress on south elevation; remove window and wall in living room to create new opening between new conservatory and living room with the addition of steps within depth of wall and construct walls to create new WC in old kitchen

The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application.

Enforcement Order at Higher Wick

The Enforcement Notice has been quashed as EDDC's wording had not been correctly drafted and was ambiguous. Costs have been awarded to the appellants, J Y Hooper & Sons. The Parish Council feels that EDDC's failure to correctly draft the wording brings the enforcement process into disrepute and, as a result, will be following up with EDDC for further clarification.

Decisions

24/1094/FUL – Valley Heights, Luppitt, EX14 4SU – replacement of car port – approval with conditions

24/0857/FUL – Land at Millrise, Luppitt – general purpose agricultural building – approval with conditions

REPORTS

Ward Councillor

Cllr Levine explained that, with the Government's aim to build 1.5 million houses over the next 5 years, EDDC's allocation (target) has been increased by one-third. Cllr Levine reported back on the Local Plan Member Working Party held by EDDC and advised that there is no impact on Luppitt. To meet the Government's target, planning rules will have to be relaxed.

County Councillor

There was no report.

HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

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

- The clerk will report the road deterioration from Hartridge to Mathayes using the What3Words app for location.
- Along Greenway Lane near Yard Farm entrance, ridge needs to be checked..

Parish Maintenance

Cllr Tucker was asked to clear the vegetation between Hillend and Sharcombe.

Trees at Ford Bridge

The clerk had received some helpful information from the Chair of the Luppitt Commoners. Cllr Tucker undertook to look on behalf of the Parish Council to see what can be done.

Overhanging Hedges at Dumpdon

Cllr Tucker has carried out the work. The clerk has forwarded Cllr Tucker's invoice to the Devon Wildlife Trust for payment.

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Nothing to report.

ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES D-Day Figures

After expenses, the Barbecue held on 6 June for the D-Day event made a profit of £261.73. This amount counted towards the cost of the fireworks (£450.00). It was agreed that it had been another successful event.

VE Day 2025

The 80 anniversary of VE Day will take place on 8 May 2025.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Quarterly Check - internal financial controls

Cllr Murray has checked the cash book and reconciliation for the quarter ended 30 June 2024 and confirmed that all is correct.

Correspondence

An email giving details of a campaign on the safety of lithium batteries and their disposal was noted.

CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

In answer to a question from Cllr Pulman, Cllr Hill confirmed that the ash tree at Millrise has not been dealt with. The clerk will follow up.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

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

Tuesday, 3 September 2024 Tuesday, 1 October 2024

WAR MEMORIES BY ANN FRANKLIN

I have many memories of World War 2, but I can also go back to World War 1. My mother was born in 1891 and after a late marriage I was born in 1939 when she was 48. She spoke bitterly of the Germans as her fiancé and youngest brother, to whom she was very close, both died in WW1. My second cousin has done extensive work on both of them, so I have many details.

My mother's fiancé, a Jack Hodges, was killed in 1914 when bravely taking charge of his section and telling them when to shoot, not worrying about his own safety. I have a copy of a letter sent to his parents by his best friend who was next to him. Jack was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry and his name is on the Ypres Menin Gate Memorial. He was aged 21.

My mother's brother William was also 21 when he died in a POW camp at Flavy-le-Martel of ill treatment and starvation. The camp was in France overcrowded and dysentery rife. The camp Commandant was an evil, perverted man called Emil Muller. He was charged with War Crimes in 1920, found guilty, served a 6 months' imprisonment, and released! William is buried in a beautiful communal cemetery at Annois in France.

My mother's father worked for Lord Derby and once played his accordion to Florence Nightingale when she visited the Derbys. She gave him a sovereign. I still have the accordion!

I also have letters from William to my mother before he was badly treated in the POW camp. Also, a beautiful kind letter from Lady Derby to the family when she heard William had died.

My earliest memories of WW2 were of hiding under the large kitchen table after the air raid siren at Ascot sounded. It was situated on top of the library, next to Ascot Racecourse. We lived in North Ascot about two miles from it. Searchlights would cross the sky and the sound of aircraft, both German and British droned overhead.

Unfortunately, next to our smallholding was a munitions factory, which the Germans knew of and wanted to hit. One night, which I will never forget, there was a huge explosion in our orchard, a hundred yards from the house. Surprisingly, the windows didn't shatter, but a huge hole was blown in the ground. Naturally, my brother wanted to look for shrapnel!

I remember he and I would collect the silver shreds of paper dropped across the countryside to destroy the enemy radar. A lot landed in our woods.

My mother, despite having three small children took in three evacuees, but I was a baby, and I don't think they stayed for long.

My father died suddenly in 1945. He had met my mother at Ascot Church where he sang in the choir. After serving in WW1, he had purchased land which consisted of small paddocks, a large wood and he planted hundreds of fruit trees. He had built a lovely house in the middle of it all. His brother lived in an old gamekeeper's cottage at the other end of the land. He too had served in WW1, and his eldest son was lost at sea in a Lancaster bomber, which was never found. His name is on the Memorial to the R.A.F at Runnymede.

When my father died my mother was left almost penniless with three children aged 12, 8 and 5. She couldn't manage the pigs and goats, so they went, but she kept the chickens, and we lived on the money she made from selling apples, eggs etc. She also took in two Land Girls who worked locally, they were both educated and introduced us to art, books etc. One saved my life as I suffered from bronchitis and had pneumonia three times. Once double pneumonia, and the doctor who had seen me in the morning refused to come again, so she cycled to his house and told him that she would sit on his doorstep until he came. He did and somehow saved me.

We had an amazing poor but happy childhood running free in the woods and fields, and all became ardent naturalists on the ground, definitely not "twitchers"!

We all went to Ranelagh Grammar School in Bracknell and my sister went to Reading University. My mother, after her terrible experience, was an amazing woman. She died aged 85 in 1973. I think of her every day.

I wanted to recreate my childhood home here, but alas from the beginning we always seemed to have people who wanted to destroy our privacy by poaching, hunting, or abusing the right of way. However, we have been fortunate to know many good, kind people in Luppitt.

P.S. I am still frightened of fireworks, thunderstorms, and low flying aircraft!

Submitted by Mary Hill

THE SMEATHARPE HEINKEL

At 1am on the 26th July 1940 a Heinkel 111 returning from a magnetic mine laying mission in the Bristol Channel crashed into a field at Longfields Farm, Slough Lane. Of the five men onboard only, the pilot survived.

Robin Gilbert researched the incident and wrote an interesting booklet entitled 'The Smeatharpe Heinkel.' In it he reviews the various accounts of the incident ranging from a local newspaper account, a Home Guard report and letters written by the pilot George Strickstrock to Clifford Vincent (researcher) in 1973. It is interesting how they

differ!

police station two miles away.

In the newspaper report it is claimed that the pilot was seen staggering up the lane at Middle Loxton Farm, Upottery. The farmer, Bertie Parsons a WW1 veteran, and member of the Home Guard grabbed his shotgun and gave chase capturing and disarming him before taking him to the farmhouse where Bertie lived with his wife and ten children. Mrs Parsons bathed his wounds and put his arm in a sling before giving

A Home Guard report by Capt. T.A. Bushell states that 'a dawn patrol of the Church-Stanton Home Guard Platoon' was responsible for the pilot's capture!

him tea and cake. At first light Mr Parsons walked his wounded prisoner to the village

In his letters (written 33 years later) George Strickstrock claims that he threw his pistol into a hedge as he was anxious to give himself up and get help to his stricken crew members. Robin Gilbert wondered why his gun was never recovered! George was interrogated at the police station where he was told that the plane had been rammed by a German plane and the rest of the crew had died. However, he praised the way he was treated by everyone who dealt with him.

In fact, the Heinkel was shot down by Pilot Officer J R Cock, DFC, an Australian Hurricane pilot with a distinguished war record, this would account for the bullet holes in the tail of the plane, which caused the plane to spiral out of control, and gun shots in the body of one of the crew.

The dead airmen were buried in Upottery churchyard. In the early 1960's their bodies were exhumed and moved to The German Military Cemetery at Cannock Chase.

Whilst in captivity as a POW George Strickstrock worked in a lime quarry in Wales and spent time in Canada before returning to Germany at the end of the war.

For a more detailed account of this story visit The Nissen Hut Museum at Smeatharpe

Submitted by Mary Hill

NEWS FROM THE LUPPITT LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP

Many parish residents attended the event at Greenway Manor in June to launch the Luppitt Landscape Partnership project. Louisiana Lush, Fred Sage and Gavin Saunders spoke about the project and its context and everyone enjoyed Eve Vergano's wonderful baking and Louise Summer's lovely beef in the sunny setting of the Greenway gardens.

In July we held two evening events on land belonging to members of the project. First at Calhayes, David Crabb took a group of us across part of the farm to look at the hedges and talk about hedge management and grant support through the Sustainable Farming Incentive. Then at Little Shelvin, Roger Hicks hosted a group led by Gavin Saunders looking at the wildflowers of springline mires.

Meanwhile ecologists from the firm Ecologic have been surveying hundreds of acres of land on the holdings of the 40 landowners, plus the Commons, who are members of the project. Their work will be used to map out where the existing wildlife habitats are across the area, so that ideas for how to secure, enhance and possibly extend those habitats in appropriate places can begin to be discussed with landowners later in the year. This will be in the context of talking more widely about maintaining environmentally sustainable farm businesses through the project in the long term.

Alongside this we are also undertaking detailed work on the soils of the valley, to understand their condition, carbon content and scope for enhancement; and beginning to study the River Love and its fish populations, so we can gauge what might be done to improve the river's condition in the future. We're also beginning to look at land-based education and training opportunities for the future.

We will be planning some further events for the autumn, and we're keen to develop ways for interested parishioners to take part in activities to improve our shared knowledge of the nature and wildlife of Luppitt. We'll keep you posted as these ideas and plans develop.

Meanwhile please remember we can still accept further land into the project between now and the autumn. If you own or manage land within the parish and have not yet signed up, you're welcome to join – for further information please contact Gavin Saunders on gavin.saunders@luppittlandscape.org or phone 07760 665378.

Rev Nigel writes...

I lift up my eyes to the hills. W here does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:8

I do hope that you have all had a blessed summer and enjoyed some quality down time. In July, Rev Jane and I were really pleased to be part of the end of the School academic year in the three Primary Schools within our communities. There was a wonderful selection of summer fayres and school concerts. Thanks to all the parents and staff who put in so much hard work to make them all such wonderful events.

There were also the Year Six leaver's services. An opportunity for the children to celebrate their time in the school and look forward to a new season in their secondary education. These occasions are always very special for all involved and for the children as they reflect on leaving the School where they have spent their formative years. The end of this School term saw some of our teachers move on to pastures new. We thank each one of them for the time, dedication and service at their respective Schools and wish them well for the future.

In one of our summer Messy Church sessions we looked at new beginnings, new doors opening. We produced a lovely footsteps collage, reminding us all of our journey through life where God travels with us every step of the way.

This idea of journeying is not just for our children as they embark on their new beginnings at the start of the September, whether new school or new class, but for each one of us. September always feels like a new start after a summer break as we walk into autumn.

For our farming communities, we have Harvest which is such an important time of the year. Do come along to one of our Harvest services and suppers where we give thanks to God for the Harvest season. Why not join us as well on Sunday 29th September for our Autumn Praise Cafe Church. We look forward to seeing you at one of our Church services this autumn.

Every blessing, Rev Nigel Candelent, **Dunkeswell Mission Community**





CHURCH BUILDING UPDATE

The Church electrical inspection was carried out on 13 August. There are a couple of issues that will need to be addressed but otherwise the building should be safe for another 5 years!

Volunteers are still urgently needed to help manage and maintain the Church building. Please speak to Sara if you are able to help in any way. Thank you.

01 September	9:30am	Holy Communion	Rev Nigel Candelent
08 September	6:00pm	Sung Evensong	Lay Led
15 September	11:00am	Holy Communion	Rev Peter Horder
22 September	11:00am	Morning Worship	Lay Led
29 September	11:00am	Harvest Festival	Rev Nigel Candelent

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE AND SUPPER

Popular before Covid the Harvest supper and auction of produce will be reignited this year as a joint event with the Village Hall and Jean Hooper. Ralph Rosewell will be running the auction so do come along and enjoy this traditional event.

Revd Nigel will be leading the Harvest Festival service at 11am on Sunday 29th. All suitable produce brought to the Church will be included in the auction. If you would like to donate an item or a promise to be auctioned these may also be brought along to the supper.

Any suitable items not sold will be donated to the Honiton Veg and Food banks

HONITON FOOD BANK TALK

Unfortunately Caroline was very poorly so this talk will be rescheduled for later in the year. Nonetheless a whopping £50.00 was collected at the impromptu service that replaced the talk which was very gratefully received. Many thanks to all who donated.

The Treasurer would be delighted to receive donations towards the cost of maintaining our Parish Church

Parish Giving forms are available in the Church

Or Scan the QR code

Or Donate directly to the bank: Luppitt Church 53-50-55 05107032 ref: FabricFund

Or contact our treasurer Sara (891140) about setting up a regular donation



GARDEN JOTTINGS

Beans are a favourite crop for many vegetable gardeners. I first came across beans when I was ten or eleven at Kew. The lawns opposite the orangery had been dug for allotments. There were tall bamboos in upturned V's. My father said they were growing beans.

Beans and the very similar peas and lentils have been found by archaeologists in the remains of early settlements. In Greek and Roman times beans were used for voting purposes, white for yes and brown for no.

The first seed beans I grew myself were given to me by my father. They were in a paper bag, actually bought as food, but we planted them in the garden. Each July at that time I was sent up to my grandma's in Bradford to get away from the bombing for the summer, when I got back that year I was delighted to find my beans had grown up their canes and were full of white flowers and long green beans. I expect we had them for dinner, but I don't remember that.

There are many types of beans you can grow in our summers. Runner beans are the most popular bean to grow. They like coolish summers and plenty of water. A neighbour of mine in Lincolnshire remembers hosing his runners each evening. The soil should be rich and retain water. Some writers recommend digging in old newspapers to retain moisture. An open sunny site is best.

In our poly opposite the tomatoes Jackie grows another popular bean, the French bean. They do very well there and they are easier to prepare for dinner. They like warmer conditions than runners.

Another favourite bean crop is the broad bean. These can be grown outside in autumn or spring. I once tried growing broad beans in a greenhouse, but they failed to produce many beans.

Worldwide there are many sorts of beans – adzuki, haricot, mung, cannelloni, lima to name but a few. Plant breeders are trying to breed a soya bean suitable for our short cool summers. The soya bean provides the richest diet of all beans. I have tried some soya beans available, but with little success so far. I shall try again.

David Street

Upottery Pre-school

On Tuesday 9th July past and current staff, pupils and committee members of Upottery Preschool held a garden party to celebrate our recent Ofsted inspection where we were graded "outstanding" in all areas. Copious amounts of lemonade and tea were flowing, and scones and cakes were enjoyed by all. We were delighted to be joined by David Key, one of our original trustees who was responsible for the construction of the preschool building before it's opening in the 1979, and his wife Susan.

Although we were sorely tempted to copy the entire Ofsted report into this update, as it makes for lovely reading, we will restrain ourselves to just the highlights! To read the full report (please do!) visit https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/ and search "Upottery Preschool".

Ofsted began by stating that "children flourish in this extremely welcoming and warm pre-school" where "staff are highly knowledgeable and demonstrate high-quality teaching that ensures children make the best possible progress." They went on to comment that "children show a deep curiosity for how the world works. Staff expertly harness this curiosity and skilfully inspire children to think for themselves and to ask questions."

When discussing children's attitude to their learning, Ofsted said that "children are extremely motivated to take part in the challenging, fun and engaging activities that staff thoughtfully plan for them" and that children "show remarkably high levels of pleasure and concentration throughout the day." They added that "children's behaviour is exemplary" and that they "show respect and affection for staff."

At Upottery Preschool, we are proud of our inclusive and caring provision for all children. We are delighted that Ofsted described our support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities as "exceptional".

In terms of our wonderful staff, Ofsted noted that "staff know all the children extremely well. They use their exceptional knowledge of each child to plan and provide activities to spark children's interests and to engage their imagination and curiosity. The manager is extremely passionate about the range of opportunities she wants children to experience." They continued to say that "The staff are superb role models for children. They have created an extremely positive environment that enables children to be emotionally secure, develop healthy relationships and reach their true potential."

Ofsted finished by noting that "Parents truly value the care and learning experiences that their children receive." The preschool management committee, which is entirely made up of parent volunteers, would like to take this opportunity to echo this sentiment and thank Abi, Becky and Elaine from the bottom of our hearts for the phenomenal job they do for our children and for all those who are lucky enough to start their education at Upottery Preschool.

Upottery Preschool welcomes new enquiries from families looking for a nurturing, inspiring early years education for their children from 18 months of age. To arrange a visit, please email upotterypreschool@outlook.com or call on 01404 861705.





Join the Dunkeswell Mission Community for afternoon tea and cakes at our CAFE CHURCH AUTUMM PRAISE



Sunday 29th September The Manor Room, <u>Upottery</u> Refreshments from 3pm

JOIN US FOR TEA ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH

The summer hols are over, the kids are back at school, the gardens are beginning to go to sleep for the winter.....so why not treat yourselves to a Sunday afternoon cream tea, with some nostalgic music to get your feet tapping and....maybe....get up you and dancing!

That's what the Packet Team have on offer for Sunday September 8. Our theme will be retro 1950's, but don't worry....we won't be serving Spam sandwiches!

We will be serving home made scones with cream and jam, a selection of sandwiches, cup cakes and endless cups of tea. For the children, we are putting together special little picnic boxes with mini-sandwiches, mini-cup cakes, little yoghurt pots and squash. And if you are still hungry, there will be yet more cakes and sausage rolls on offer too.

We will be organising some games for the children, and for the adults, Steve and Maggie will be running the Bar. There will a chance to win prizes in the Lucky Dip and we are hoping to have a bring and buy stall too.

If the weather is nice, bring a blanket to sit on and enjoy the sunshine while you eat your tea outside but if you want to enjoy the music, we will have a special compilation of 1950's rock, jazz and ballads playing inside the Hall at regular intervals throughout the afternoon with space cleared for anyone who wants to dance.

If you want to totally enter into the spirit of the retro theme, then come along in 50's outfits – there will be prizes for the best ones. But you don't have to dress up to enjoy the afternoon – just relax, enjoy the food and have some fun.

Hope to see you there. You can pay on the door but it would help us enormously if you could let Mary Hill know in advance if you are planning on coming. Just call or text her on 07565 369503..

Time line of the Fifties





1950

- C.S.Lewis published The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe.
- * British troops were sent to Korea.

1951

- * Winstone Churhchill became Conservative Prime Minister aged 77.
- * The UK's first National Park, the Peak District was introduced. This was soon followed by the Lake District, Snowdonia and Dartmoor. National Parks protected by the government, allow the public to visit areas of great natural beauty, plants or animals.

1952

- * King George V1 died, Britain's wartime monarch. Elizabeth, his eldest daughter became Elizabeth 11, our longest reigning monarch.
- * 4.000 people die in London's 'Great Smog'.
- * Britain tested an atom bomb in the Monte Bello Islands off the coast of Western Australia.

1953

- * James Watson and Francis Crick discover the structure of DNA and how it served as the "building blocks" of life.
- * The first James Bond book Casino Royale was published.
- New Zealander Edmund Hilary and Nepalese <u>Tenzing Norgay</u> are the first reach the summit of Everest.
- New addition of the Highway Code was published as there was more cars on the roads.

1954

- * Medical student Roger Bannister ran a mile in under 4 minutes.
- * Rationing ended.

1955

- * Anthony Eden takes over as Prime Minister due to Churchills ill health.
- * Television with adverts begin, the first commercial channel was ITV.
- * Mary Quant opened her first shop, "Bazaar ' in Chelsea.
- * Mary Ellis was the last women to be hanged in Britain.
- USŚR forms the Warsaw Pact, in response to NATO.

1956

- * The Clean Air Act was introduced in response to London's Great Smog of 1952
- * Britains first nuclear power station at Windscale
- * Elvis Presley has his first hit in UK, Heartbreak Hotel.

1957

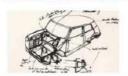
- * New Prime Minister Harold MacMillan who said " most of our people had never had it so good".
- * The Gold Coast became the first African state to become independent of Britain, renamed Ghana.

1958

- * 22 out of 40 people on board BEA Flight 609 died on take off from Munich airport. Those killed included 8 members of Manchester United's football team nicknamed "The Busby Babes".
- * Britains first motorway opens, the Preston Bypass, a section of the M6.
- * Britains first parking meters introduced in Mayfair London.
- Europe feared nuclear conflict in the 1950s. CND, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament was launched in London.

1959

- * The first Mini motor car was built by British Motoring Corporation, became an icon for the 1960s.
- * The first postcodes were introduced by the Post Office in Norwich.
- Stevenage was the first new town built in Britain. It had a traffic free shopping zone which was officially opened by the Queen











JOIN US FOR AFTERNOON TEA SUPPORTING THE LUPPITT PACKET 50'S DRESS - PRIZES FOR BEST OUTFITS! SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH VILLAGE HALL 2PM - 5PM Contact Mary Hill for Tickets - 07565369503







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Full show results and images can be found online at Luppittpacket.co.uk

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HARVEST SUPPER

Monday 30th September

LUPPITT VILLAGE HALL

7pm for 7:30pm start

Bar, 3 course meal

Cost: Adults £12.50, Children £7.50



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donated for the **Harvest Festival** at **St Mary's** on 29th September at 11am

Proceeds will be split between the Church, Children's Hospice SW, and the Village Hall

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1 All over the world	2 Children in need	3 Flat Iron
CCCCCCC	PPPPPP BU	r b n i
4 High Seas	5 Peace be with you	6 Round Robin
boy → yob	ccrreeaamm	ever ever ever ever
7 Altar boy [Alter boy!!]	8 Double Cream	9 Forever and a day
Henry bored	Read Read Read Read Read Read	EACK
10 Man overboard	11 Read all about it	12 Cake mix
BUS BUS	Dust Dust	CHESS
13 Double decker bus	14 Dust to dust	15 The game is up
MOTHER	Lounge	gluttony greed gluttony ANGER pride anger greed sloth envy sloth anger
16 Maximum [Maxi Mum]	17 Room at the top	18 A multitude of sins

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Expectations... and Reality

A few days ago, I picked up a couple of windfall apples under one of our trees. There were many apples in the long grass, and I thought it was a shame they were not being used. As a friend once said 'I can't stand waste'.

This reminded me that some years ago I offered windfall apples to people where I worked. I had some takers, and I brought six or seven bags the next day. I gave one bag of perhaps six or seven lbs to a man who had seemed very keen to have some. His reaction on looking into the bag was clearly disappointment. I was mildly miffed by this. He had wanted windfalls; I'd given him windfalls.

Later, I thought about this, and realised it was foolish of me to have felt that way. The man lived in a Taunton suburb where he had a very small garden. I guess he had never picked apples from a tree, or picked up windfalls. He was probably expecting the apples I'd given him to be like ones he would buy in a supermarket; perfect apples, same shape, same size, no blemishes. Not at all like random windfalls. His expectations were just not realistic.

This led me to think of other expectations that people might have had, and whether or not these were realised, or perhaps exceeded. And then I thought maybe I could write an article about this, and so I did.

I then remembered an instance which happened a long time ago. We had bought a freezer, and I had then ordered a whole pig from a butcher. When I arrived home with it, jointed, frozen and in boxes, I said to J 'I've got the pig'. On hearing this our six-year-old was very excited and wanted to know where it was and could he see it. He was very disappointed not to find a live pig in the back of the car, (or possibly tied to the back of it).

So now to the other side, where reality far surpassed what had been in mind. I have had to rely on my own experiences for these.

We were on the eastern coast of Oman, where we had camped close to the shore. I wanted to to look across the ocean towards Iran. I thought about Iran; I had found it to be a country of open, friendly, tolerant people,

but they were subjugated under a succession of oppressive regimes. With these thoughts, I decided to walk the short distance across the sands to the sea. It was dusk, and as I approached, I expected to see gentle waves quietly lapping the shore.

I was astonished by what I saw. The disturbed water was shimmering with a myriad of tiny sparkles, each of which appeared and faded away to nothing almost immediately. I gently splashed my hands in the water. It was magical; I had a thousand tiny bright stars slipping through my fingers. It was entrancing.

All along the shore there were constant lines of little bursts of light, as far as I could see. It was an unexpected delight, added to the simple joy of watching the surf. Then I looked towards the horizon. Was there a similar phenomenon over there in Iran? Were there people having similar moments of pleasure?

And now finally, to a completely different scale of expectation and reality. I had read about the Grand Canyon in Arizona. I had looked at the guidebook, I'd seen photos, and I'd seen film about it. So I knew what to expect.

We stayed in a motel in a nearby town. We then drove for hours and hours through the flat country of the Kaibab National Forest, with endless ponderosa pines. It seemed interminable. And then, quite suddenly, we were there. It was astonishingly unexpected. We had arrived at the South Rim.

Absolutely nothing can prepare you for what you see. The Grand Canyon is just unbelievable. No touristy hyperbole can do it justice. You stand on the edge, look down, look across and look along. Stare down, and a mile below you is the silver ribbon of the Colorado river. There is no sound. The canyon is a vast colourful chasm, stretching up to 18 miles wide. It is about 270 miles long. There are countless bends and twists and gulleys. The eroded cliff faces show multicoloured strata, all cut by the Colorado over the past ten million years. At the bottom are relics of rock nearly two billion years old. The canyon is truly astonishing; no expectations can ready you for this reality.

As I began to write this article, my expectation of it was that it would have a proper ending, maybe a summary or perhaps a rounding off. You may have thought that too. Expectations, eh? Well, this is nearly the end, and I have absolutely no idea how it's going to finish.

DS

Blackdown Hills Repair Cafe

Our Fifth Repair Cafe event in 2024 will be held on the Saturday 28th September in the Hemyock Parish Hall EX15 3QW between 10am and 1pm

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

Please note, that we are also able to take on extra, larger and more extensive repairs at our local Workshop.

Repair Café events for the remainder of 2024 All on Saturday's from 10am to 1pm

28th September, 23rd November

Stephan Lehner, Blackdown Hills Repair Café Coordinator sfelehner@aol.com

2024 Flu vaccinations

The Blackdown Practice will be offering Flu vaccinations in line with NHS guidance to:

- patients aged 65 years and over
- patients aged under 65 years in defined clinical risk groups
- patients who are residents in care homes
- patients who are carers
- close contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- pregnant women

We will have plenty of Flu Vaccines available and will be able to arrange appointments for all of our patients who are eligible.

We do not yet have details of the Autumn Covid vaccination plan – but we hope to offer eligible patients their Covid boosters during the flu clinics.

Our booking process will open during mid-September and we expect to start vaccinating from early October onwards. We will hold vaccination sessions across all three of our surgeries. Bookings will be a combination of direct to mobile text booking, online booking, and by telephoning the surgery flu line number. The easiest way to book an appointment if you have a smart phone is by SMS booking – but we cannot send these if you have declined SMS messaging.

Further details of the booking process will be made available at the beginning of September– please do not contact the surgery with queries regarding flu until this information has been made available.

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