



***Luppitt Packet
December 2025
January 2026***

Art by Will Chown

OPERATION RUDOLPH



Here to Help This Christmas

We're here to support anyone in East Devon who may find the Christmas season difficult, whether for financial or social reasons. Our community support is completely free and open to all.

• Community Christmas Meal

Join us for a festive meal at The Mackarness Hall (Honiton) at 12:30 on Christmas Day. Transport can be arranged if needed. If you can't attend, we can deliver a cooked meal to your home.

• Gifts from Santa

No one should wake up without a gift on Christmas morning. We'll ensure every person receives something special, thanks to generous community donations.

• Christmas Day Meal Boxes

Prefer to cook at home? We can provide a meal box.

To request support or volunteer, visit:
www.operationrudolph.com

(Honiton Library, James' Patisserie and Pebbles Cafe (Seaton) is also able to help those who need extra assistance, eg. those without access to the internet)



LUPPITT CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY 2025

SAVE THE DATE
14th December 11-1pm
at the Village Hall

Festive fun, entertainment,
Christmas competition, Prizes,
Father Christmas and hot lunch!!

Text or email Sarah to book:
07594 701338
sarahchown@hotmail.com

SUCCESSFULLY SELLING COUNTRY AND VILLAGE PROPERTY IN YOUR PARISH

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

HONITON
01404 42456 | devon@humberts.com

humberts.com
MOVING YOU SINCE 1842



THE LUPPITT PACKET

Merry
Christmas
and Happy New Year!

Here we are again with the end of another year rushing towards us much to our amazement. As we all realise there are only a few weeks left until Christmas arrives I am sure we are all rushing round getting the visits, presents and food sorted.

This double edition of the Packet is teeming with activities you can join to meet up with people, have fun, learn new things and help others through fundraising activities - there is plenty happening both in Luppitt and the nearby villages.

Those of us on the Packet team would like to thank all of you who have contributed news and articles through the year and our regular contributors including our front cover artists - without all of you we would not have the Packet!

Christine and I would also like to thank the team - they are tireless in producing material, organising fundraising, delivering, producing the final editions (and a special applause for Carolyn Earl who has readily picked up on production).

Inside you will find a host of items you can attend such as the Christmas party, articles on hangover cures and interesting recipes you can try your hand at.

The team are signing off for 2025 and will be back with the February 2026 edition. In the meantime, we wish you all an enjoyable, peaceful and fun festive season.

Christine Ryder, Michele Turner and the Luppitt Packet team



**COPY DATE FOR THE LUPPITT PACKET FEBRUARY 2026 ISSUE IS
19 JANUARY 2026 TO editors@luppittpacket.co.uk**

Editors & Adverts	Christine Ryder & Michele Turner	
Treasurers	Mary Hill / Carolyn Earl	luppittpacketads@gmail.com
Distribution	Mandy Riley	07817517425

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.



Luppitt Entertainments Committee Events

Coming up soon:

Saturday 13th December: Christmas Party
Festive Meal with Live Local Band

Events to look forward to in 2026:

Monday 5th January: Kids Movie morning

Saturday 28th February: Skittles Night

The Entertainments Committee would like to thank everyone for their support during 2025. We look forward to seeing you again at the varied events we are planning for 2026.

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

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Short Mat Bowls 7.30pm Thursdays

Friday Coffee / Market 11am until 1pm
except for last week of the month which is on Saturday

The Luppitt Inn Christmas Opening Hours

Special opening hours for December

Wednesday 10th December **Sing-along Carols** 6pm - 11pm

Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve 6pm - 11pm

Thursday 25th December **Christmas Day** 10.30am - 1pm

Friday 26th December Boxing Day 6pm - 11pm

Wednesday 31st December **New Year's Eve** 7.30pm - 12.30 am

LUPPITT AND HARTRIDGE COMMONS

Commoners with grazing rights on the above Commons who wish to bid for a hay or silage plot in 2026 please advise either Phil or David by the 31st December 2025 at the very latest.

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

DIRECTORY

Parish Council	www.luppittparish.gov.uk	
Chair	Michele Turner	07525 796197
Vice Chair	Martin Summers	01404 46845
		07748 780096
Clerk	Rosalind Buxton	01404 861565
	clerk@luppittparish.gov.uk	07944 625025
Village Hall		
Bookings	Jean Hooper	01404 892969
Luppitt Commons	Kate Jarman luppittcommons@gmail.com	
Parish Notices WhatsApp	Lucy Murray	07968 900349
Priest-in-charge	Nigel Candelent revnigel@dunkeswell.org.uk	01404 891306
Associate Priest	Jane Penn revjane@dunkeswell.org.uk	01404 841523
Mission Community Admin	Sara Bevan sara@dunkeswell.org.uk	07717 222404
PCC Secretary	Vacancy	
Luppitt Entertainments Chair	Phil Smith	07984 735663
Luppitt Entertainments Sec	Pat Bussey	01404 892720
Captain of Bellringers	Lorna Rocket Lornarockett@hotmail.com	07894 072133
Hartridge Buddhist Monastery		01404 891251
Surgeries	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

Location of defibrillators

Village Hall EX14 4RT

Lowmans Farm, EX14 4TX (near Red Doors)

GARDEN JOTTINGS

You hear a lot about climate change these days, change that is to warmer weather. Climate change can mean colder conditions too, and that according to climatologists has often happened in the past. Even today marine scientists are talking about the Gulf Stream drying up and that would mean chiller winters for the UK.

Mentioning chilly weather reminds me October did not leave much in the way of warm weather. Many days were grey and sunless with a rather dry easterly breeze. Recently rain and gales have returned but not brought much sun and warmth.

In the past deep ocean and glacier cores examined by scientists show long eras of cold and ice lasting thousands of years. Incidentally the late coining of the word thousand, thought to have meant a big hundred, suggests humans only learned to count big numbers only quite recently.

In the garden despite the rough weather white and pink nerines are holding up to strong November conditions. Low growing yellow chrysanthemums in pots are just beginning to open. I can see tall pink Japanese anemones flapping about in the wind. Showers of fallen leaves beech and oak and hazel, cover paths and lawn. Sweep them up and you turn round to find you have wasted your time.



Sometimes I look for early signs of next spring – green tips of new daffodils. And there are green leaves of snowdrops promising the still far off end of winter.

David Street



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE
3PM SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER
IN THE VILLAGE HALL
WITH REVD NIGEL

COLLECTING IN AID OF THE
CHILDREN'S SOCIETY



For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. **Isaiah 9:6**

St. Mary's services and some special local services are listed below. For a full list of Christmas services across our Mission Community please visit <https://www.dunkeswell.org.uk>

This Christmas we are again collecting for the Children's Society at our Christingle service on Sunday 7th December at 3pm in the Village Hall. Children (of all ages) will be invited to take a collection candle or giving envelope home to fill and return at either the Carol Service or Crib service. All monies collected will be passed directly to the Children's Society so please dig deep to help fund their work to support children who live in very difficult circumstances. To learn more about this very worthwhile cause or to donate directly <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk>

December Services

7th 3:00pm	Christingle in the Hall	Revd Nigel Candelent
14 th 11:00am	Morning Worship	Lay Led
18th 6:30pm	Carols by Candlelight	Revd Nigel Candelent
21 st 11:00am	Holy Communion	Revd Jane Penn
24th 4:00pm	Crib and Carol Service	Revd Nigel Candelent
25th 9:30am	All Age Christmas Communion	Revd Jane Penn

Special Services around the Mission Community

3 rd 7:00pm	Carol service at Dunkeswell Abbey	Revd Peter Horder
5 th 4:00pm	Friday @ 4 in the Throgmorton Hall	
24 th 11:00pm	Midnight Mass at Upottery	Revd Peter Horder
	Midnight Mass at Dunkeswell	Revd Nigel Candelent

January Services

4 th 3:00pm	Afternoon Tea Church in the hall	Revd Nigel Candelent
11 th 11:00am	Morning Worship	Revd Jane Penn
18 th 11:00am	Holy Communion	Revd Nigel Candelent
25 th 10:30am	Breakfast Church in the hall	Lay Led

Lest we forget ...

Thank you to everyone who donated to the collection on Remembrance Sunday in aid of The Royal British Legion. A total of £200.00 has been sent to the RBL.

The Bells and St Mary's Church - 2026 "The Fundraising Year"!

Further to my previous appeal for help to raise money for the Bell Tower repairs, (which came to light after a Bell Tower Inspection), the actual Church needs help too. Since discovering the issues in the Bell Tower, I have been made aware of the amount of work that needs to be carried out on the Church itself, so collectively we are joining forces and making 2026 **A Year of Fundraising for our Parish Church.**

The Bell Ringers have already arranged a "bash" on Friday 13th March 2026. Get your dancing shoes on and join us for a Ceilidh Dance. More details to follow, but of course there will be food, a bar and a raffle. The money raised from this event will go towards the Bell Frame repairs.

The overall drive for fundraising has been triggered by the 5 yearly Architect's inspection of the Church and Churchyard, which was carried out early this year. There are repairs relating to the entire Church building that includes the bells and tower. The Church itself has had a lot of repairs already, and great efforts have been made to raise money to continue with essential repairs however, as with all old buildings and rising material/labour costs, a lot more money is needed. Grants are available for some of the required work and are being obtained, but to be eligible for some of these grants 50% of the costs have to be raised first.

We are therefore asking for the support of the village (and beyond) to help make 2026 a successful fundraising year. Details are still being finalised but the line up so far is:

Saturday 18th April - Quiz in the Village Hall

Sunday 7th June - Concert with the Wyndham Singers in the Church

Aug/Sept - Garden Party (location to be decided)

Mid/Late November - Christmas Market

So if you are reading this and thinking "how can I help?" well.....

- **DONATE** - The "easiest" way to help is to make a donation towards either the Bell Fund or the Fabric Fund for the Church, (or both)
- **SPONSOR** - Do you own a company or think the company you work for would like to sponsor one of the events?
- **TIME** - Can you offer your help at any of the events?
- **SKILLS** - Do you have (or know anyone) that can offer skills or services at our events? Face Painting, having a stall and happy to split profits, bouncing castle etc etc. At the Garden Party we are hoping to have a Auction of Promises, so what promises can you offer that people will pay good money for?
- **PRIZES** - Are you able to offer prizes for the raffles?

If you can help with any of the above, then please contact me, 07894 072133 or Lornarockett@hotmail.com.

For those of you who don't know me or maybe wondering why I am involved, let me give you a bit of history:

I was born in Luppitt, (moved away at 19). I was a Crabb and lived at Calhayes Farm, daughter of Gordon and Shirley Crabb. Jim Crabb was my dad's Uncle and was renowned for his Bell Ringing throughout Devon. He was Bell Tower Captain in Luppitt for many years and actually rang in the village for over 80 years, he was the youngest Bell Ringer to learn back in 1928. I returned to Luppitt in 2022 and was invited to join the Bell Ringing Team after learning to ring in my 20's in Wambrook, near Chard. Being offered the Captain position, taking over from Pearl Pulman was a huge privilege. I enjoy ringing in Luppitt and without a functioning Church, I wouldn't be able to do it.

Thanks in advance of your support during 2026.

Lorna Rockett
St Mary's Church Bell Tower Captain



THE BELLS AND SAINT MARY'S

A YEAR OF FUNDRAISING FOR OUR PARISH CHURCH

Our First fundraiser is for bell specific repairs

13th March 7:30pm Celidh Dance in the Village Hall

**Further fundraisers are for repairs to the Church building,
tower and bells**

18th April 7pm Quiz in the Village Hall

7th June 2:30pm Wyndham Singers Concert in the Church

August / September 2:30pm Garden party

Christmas Event

Plus

September Devon Historic Churches Trust sponsored Ride + Stride

**If you can assist our efforts by running an additional event please contact
Lorna Rockett or scan to donate now**



Clerk's report of a Meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held at Luppitt Village Hall on Tuesday, 4 November 2025 at 8 pm

Present: Cllrs Martin Summers (Vice-Chair), Charles Murray, Paul Prettejohn, Brian Pulman, Susan Tucker, Colin Brown (EDDC) and Cathy Connor (DCC)

Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Michele Turner (Chair), Lindsay Hill, Andrew Tucker and Yehudi Levine (EDDC)

Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 7 October 2025, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record (proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Prettejohn).

Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

PLANNING

Applications (for comment, support or objection)

Pulshays, Combe Raleigh, EX14 4UJ

25/2163/FUL – Erection of a timber outbuilding, installation of an air vent on the front elevation of dwelling and new flue on chimney

25/2164/LBC – Installation of ecco stove, air vent on the front elevation and flue on chimney; replacement of flooring in dining room and erection of timber outbuilding

The Parish Council has no objection to these planning applications.

Appeal 6000978 and 6001090 – 25/0946/LBC and 25/0950/FUL – Pulmans Farm, Beacon, EX14 4TX

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of EDDC to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development. The appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations.

Decisions

Appeal Ref: APP/U1105/W/25/3367089 – Blackenfields Farm, Luppitt, EX14 4UB

Appeal dismissed.

REPORTS

Ward Councillor

- Cllr Levine had sent a report outlining the up-to-date position on Local Government reorganisation. He is unable to attend meetings because of personal circumstances.
- Cllr Brown also spoke about Local Government reorganisation. Final decisions will not be made until 26 November with submission of proposals by 28 November.
- Motorists will be able to park for less than **£2** at most of EDDC's car parks for up to two hours. Free parking will also continue to be offered on Sundays in Axminster, Honiton, and Ottery St Mary. Cllr Brown advised that he will not be available to attend the December, January or February meetings.

County Councillor

- Cllr Connor had sent a report but also joined the meeting where discussions on Local Government reorganisation continued. Devon County Council are still considering their options before submitting their proposals by 28 November but favour a single unitary authority to replace the County Council and eight District Councils.
- The clerk raised the state of the road by Jack's House and the reply received from Devon Highways that they recognise the road needs attention but that they have no immediate plans to carry out the necessary work. Cllr Connor said she would raise the matter. The clerk will email details.

HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

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

- Cllr Pulman reported that repairs have been carried out at Butkins.
- There is a dead tree in a hedge that needs attention. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the resident.

The clerk will report the following:

- State of the road by Hillend Farm
- Greenlands to Corner House – two potholes
- Subsidence above Goulds and below Messhayes
- Millrise – near parking places

Cllr Murray undertook to send the clerk relevant photos for her to send to Devon Highways.

Parish Maintenance

Grit Bins

Cllr Pulman had compiled a list of grit bins that need filling. The clerk will report.

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Pedestrian Gate

The clerk has followed up but has received no response.

Footpath 62

The clerk has provided Luppitt Landscape Partnership with documentation relating to this footpath.

ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Meetings at Honiton Town Council, East Devon District Council and Webinar with Devon County Council – Local Government Reorganisation

- Cllr Turner and the clerk had attended the meeting at Honiton Town Council and had found it to be a useful meeting. Honiton Town Council are keen to liaise and co-operate with surrounding parishes going forward. It was agreed that there is still much confusion and uncertainty over what will happen in the future but Town and Parish Councils must be prepared for more responsibilities to be devolved to them.
- The clerk attended the meeting at EDDC offices. Again, there is much uncertainty with final decisions not being approved until 26 November with a submission date to Government of 28 November.
- Cllr Turner had joined the well-attended webinar hosted by DALC in partnership with Devon County Council and felt that it clarified the County Council's position. Devon County Council favours the 1:4:5 model: Plymouth remains 'as is'. Torbay, South Hams, West Devon and Teignbridge form a south-west Devon Unitary Council. Exter, Torridge, North Devon, Mid Devon and East Devon form a north-east Devon Unitary Council. This would see a split of DCC functions and staff across the new unitary councils. However, Plymouth and Exeter (and latterly Torbay) are angling for solutions that favour them rather than the more balanced option.
- The lack of agreement overall would suggest that the final solution will be made by Government.

Remembrance Wreath

Cllr Pulman will collect a wreath from the Royal British Legion local representative and deliver it to Cllr Turner who will lay it on Remembrance Sunday.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Parish Scheme of Allowances

The clerk has established that any remuneration would be paid from the precept. It was agreed that this scheme would not be adopted by Luppitt Parish Council.

Correspondence

- An email about the Blackdown Hills Landscape Management Plan was noted.
- An email regarding the Blackdown Hills Design Guide for Houses was noted.

Banking Arrangements

The clerk has carried out research. NatWest offer a Community account and free banking if one of the signatories holds a NatWest account. The clerk was authorised to follow this up and bring the information to the next meeting.

Quarterly Check – internal financial controls

Cllr Murray has checked the cash book and reconciliation for the quarter ended 30 September 2025 and confirmed that all is correct.

Approve S137 donations for year ending 31.03.2026

The following S137 payments were agreed: TRIP £55.00; Devon Air Ambulance £100; Devon Freewheelers £100; British Heart Foundation £50.00; Hospiscare £55.00; Royal British Legion £22.50 (wreath); £175.00 towards the cost of the children's Christmas party (already paid).

Meeting Dates for 2026

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, 6 January 2026**.

Councillor Email addresses

The clerk will send Cllr Summers details of his new .gov.uk email address.

CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

There were no items.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

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

Tuesday, 2 December 2025

Tuesday, 6 January 2026





LUPPITT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Live Music

LOCAL BAND

DINNER BAR & RAFFLE

LUPPITT VILLAGE HALL

6:30 FOR 7PM

SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER

Tickets £30 per person from
Tracey Rosewell

dolishfarm@btinternet.com

or phone 891218 evenings

Book by 6th December

Places not confirmed until paid for
Please specify any dietary requirements



Rev Nigel writes...

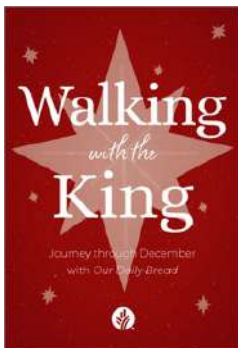
*The light that shines in the darkness and
The darkness has not overcome it
John 1:5*



As the days get shorter and our lights go on earlier, I have been reflecting again this year, on these words in the header of the image of light breaking into the darkness. They are words we hear at this time of the year in Carol and Christmas services taken from the opening verses of John's Gospel. The light represents Jesus who comes into the world to be the light that shines in the darkness. We light candles at our services to remind us, that Jesus is the light of the world. Jesus represented through light is a Christian beacon of hope for us all in a dark world.

Do join us for our **Monday Advent Bible study** which started on Mon 24th November, then 1st, 8th, 15th December – 2pm at Dunkeswell Village hall EX14 4XQ. This will be led by Sara Bevan, our Licensed Lay Minister who will be exploring the four Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and love. They are stand alone so go to one or all. Take you favourite Bible or borrow one on the day.

As we prepare for Christmas and all the joy it will bring, please do remember that Christmas for some is anything but joyful. Those who have lost loved ones, those on their own, those who are ill or struggling with life, those living in war torn countries and places of conflict and those who are affected by natural disasters. For them all, peace and joy seem far away. Please do hold these people in your daily prayers.



Do pick up one of our Advent devotionals, walking with the King to help us prepare our heart for the real meaning of Christmas in the busyness of all the activities. Copies are available in church.

There will also be plenty of opportunities to gather together at Christmas to experience the love and light of Christ with various Christmas events, Carol Services, Concerts and Christingle services across our community of Churches. Do see this edition for all the dates and times and also on our website. <https://www.dunkeswell.org.uk/>

However 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, the light of the world.

Christmas prayers and blessings to you all.

Rev Nigel Candelent Dunkeswell Mission Community



Friday@4... Christmas fun

Throgmorton Hall, Friday 5th Dec @4pm
Family time Food@4

Followed by craft/activities/fun
Followed by story time & song.

(For Pre- School and Primary School children. All children must be accompanied by an adult)

Barn Nativity...

Monday 22nd December 6pm ,
Connetts Farm , Dunkeswell EX14 4QZ

Come and join us for the Nativity Story brought alive, sing carols, enjoy refreshments and dress up as a Nativity character (optional) - for all ages



Advent Bible Study

You are warmly invited to join us on Monday 24th Nov, 1st, 8th & 16th December at 2.00pm – 3.00pm in the Dunkeswell Village Hall. EX14 4XQ

The studies are stand alone, so come to any or all. Week 1, Hope. Week 2 Peace, Week 3 Joy, Week 4 Love.

Please bring your favourite Bible or borrow one on the day



Christmas At The Rectory

Saturday 6th December 2025
14:00-17:00



The Rectory, Old Village, Dunkeswell
Parking in the Old Village

Come along and Meet Santa in his grotto

Christmas gifts

Local handmade crafts

Festive bakes

Christmas wreaths

Refreshments

Cash donations to the Food Bank



Luppitt Panto Time by Phil Smith

I've been asked to write a piece about Luppitt's famous panto. I pointed out the fact that there are better suited people to do this.

'Oh no there isn't'

'Oh yes there is'

'Oh no there isn't' I could carry on.

Personally I've only got four pantos under my belt, whilst others are much more seasoned professionals and actually know what they are doing!

During my time, I have -

- Been royalty (Jack and the Beanstalk)
- Confronted the corrupt sheriff (Robin Hood)
- Become a wise wizard, with long hair and itchy beard (Knight Fever)
- Captained a sail ship (Treasure Island)
- More memorably, I killed myself when I ran into a wall at speed! (also Treasure Island) (I had two parts that year!)

This time I'm.....wait and see.

Anyway, it's now full steam ahead for the next production. (February 2026)

There are costumes being made and fitted, scenery being constructed and painted, songs being learnt and practiced, choreography being perfected and of course there are lines being learnt!

We look forward to seeing you all in the audience, enjoying these evenings of fun and laughter, whilst supporting some deserving charities. Maybe next time you'll be on the 'boards' yourself (enthusiasm being more important than experience).



KIDS MOVIES

Monday 5th January

10:15 for 10:30 start

Big Screen at Luppitt Village Hall Entry £2

***** POPCORN *****

***** TUCK SHOP *****

***** SNACKS & DRINKS *****

Upottery Pre-School Presents

CHRISTMAS raffle



To be drawn on
Friday 19th December

GRAND PRIZE



**Barleymow's
LUXURY HAMPER**

Many more prizes including...
Festive goodies
Gift cards
Local treats

Raising funds for new resources.
To buy tickets or donate prizes, please contact Harry on 07527 517713



DUNKESWELL MISSION COMMUNITY
START A HAPPY NEW YEAR WITH A VISIT TO
**GRANMA'S NEW YEAR BAKE OFF
COMPETITION**
BETWEEN GRAND DAUGHTERS AND GRANDSONS OR OTHERS UNDER THE AGE OF 16
TO BE HELD AT THE SIDMOUTH ARMS SKITTELALLEY ON
SATURDAY 3RD JANUARY 2026 STARTING AT 2PM
JUDGING AT 3PM BY 2 SPECIAL GUESTS.
EVERYONE WELCOME

NO ENTRY FEE, DONATIONS PLEASE FOR SCHOOL FOR DEAF CHILDREN AT EXMOUTH
ENTRY FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS AVAILABLE ON DECEMBER 21ST FROM NICKI (JUNIOR CHURCH), ANN (DUNKESWELL YOUTH CLUB), SIDMOUTH ARMS OR THE PYM FAMILY

KATHERINE, PRINCESS OF WALES WILL BE NOTIFIED AS SHE IS PATRON OF ROYAL FOUNDATION CENTRE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD




Dunkeswell Pantomime Presents

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD



Friday December 12th at 7pm
Saturday December 13th at 3pm
Sunday December 14th at 3pm

THROGMORTON HALL
DUNKESWELL



Tickets: Adults £6 / Children £3 Available at Highfield Stores or email: barywsimmonds@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

Brought to you from Little Craft & Art Club Churchinford with Sandra & Sylvia



MONDAY,
THE 1ST OF
DECEMBER 2025
AT CHURCHINFORM VILLAGE HALL
6.30PM TO 8.30PM
TEA & COFFEE & SLICE OF CAKE INCLUDED

Cost £15 £5 deposit on booking
To reserve a space, call Sylvia 07843 899982
Parking available
Brought to you by Churchinford Arts & Craft Club, a nonprofit group run by volunteers

BARNFIELD FARM

Barnfield Residential Home, a long-established service in the heart of Luppitt, will be closing its doors in February 2026. For many years, Barnfield has provided a supportive and caring environment for people with learning disabilities, offering not just a place to live, but a place to belong.



The home has been an important part of the village community, and we would like to acknowledge the many individuals—people we support, staff, families, and neighbours past and present—who have contributed to its story over the years. Barnfield has been a place where people have built friendships, found stability, become part of the local community and lived with dignity and respect. As we prepare for its closure, we extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has been part of Barnfield's journey and who helped make it such a special home and valued part of Luppitt life.

Tina Gray, United Response Locality Manager Devon

Blackdown Hills Eco Hub - 6th December 2025 11:00-15.00 hrs

Join us at the Blackdown Hills Eco Hub for our much-loved Natural Wreath-Making Event — a festive, creative day using beautiful seasonal, natural materials to craft your own eco-friendly wreath. Enjoy good company, mulled wine, mince pies, and St Nicholas treats, all while helping reduce plastic waste this Christmas.

Your £12 contribution supports refreshments and helps fund our Eco Hub's work with organic, heritage seeds and compost for next year's projects.

Blackdown Hills Transition Group Meeting - 14th January 2026 @ 19:00 hrs at the York Inn Churchinford

Looking for a way to connect, contribute and make a real difference in the beautiful Blackdown Hills area? Join the Blackdown Hills Transition Group and become part of a passionate community working towards a sustainable, resilient future. We support local food growing, repair cafés, renewable energy projects and wild-space initiatives — and we believe your ideas, skills and enthusiasm matter. Whether you've got time to volunteer or simply want to lend your voice, there's a place here for you. Let's build a thriving, creative and caring future together!

Blackdown Hills Repair Cafe - 24th January / 21st March 2026 - Hemyock Village Hall

The next Repair Cafe will be held at Hemyock Village Hall on Saturday 24th January, 10am-1pm.

Bring along: Furniture, tools, bikes, sewing machines, textiles, clocks, and electrical items, to be fixed for a donation of your choosing. Tools will be sharpened for £3 each or 5 for £12.

There will be bacon butties, cake and refreshments while you wait.

You can also see upcoming dates and more information of all our events on our [Blackdown Hills Transition Group](https://www.blackdownhills-transition.co.uk) website
(<https://www.blackdownhills-transition.co.uk>).

ANSWERS TO NOVEMBER PUZZLE

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Coven | 12. Vines |
| 2. Fruit | 13. Lancaster |
| 3. Black Cat | 14. Alabama |
| 4. Macbeth | 15. Victor |
| 5. Harry Houdini | 16. Turnips |
| 6. Australian | 17. Salam
Saberhagen |
| 7. Scythe | 18. Ancient Rome |
| 8. Central America | 19. The Adams
family |
| 9. 2003 | 20. Ghost |
| 10. Scorpio | |
| 11. All Saints Day | |



SKITTLES NIGHT

SATURDAY 28th FEBRUARY
LUPPITT VILLAGE HALL FROM 7:30 pm

HOT SUPPER - BAR - £5 per head

Teams of 6 from different areas of Luppitt Parish (and beyond) are invited to pit their skills against each other

Please book by 21st Feb to confirm numbers:
email luppittevents@outlook.com or phone
Tracey Rosewell 891218 evenings



News from the Luppitt Landscape Partnership **Wildlife in Print & Stories**

Thank you to everyone who joined Jess Huffman and her team for the creative community printing workshop in Luppitt Village Hall on Saturday, 1st November. The event was a wonderful success, with over 30 people attending—16 of them children—and visitors coming not only from Luppitt but also from Farway, Dunkeswell, Combe Raleigh, Bolham Water, Uppottery, and Stockland.



The hall buzzed with creativity as participants tried their hand at monoprinting mammals, birds, insects, and other creatures found in the Luppitt Valley. Using leaves, ferns, berries, and bracken gathered from local hedgerows, we created textured prints that will form part of an artist-designed wildlife map of the valley showcasing the rich habitats and species that share our landscape.

Alongside the printing, we displayed five large wildlife montages, maps, and photographs, and shared quotes from oral history interviews capturing local wildlife sightings and stories.

The oral histories from Luppitt reveal a deep connection between farming traditions, nature, and changing landscapes. Farmers and residents recall barns alive with bats, swallows nesting under eaves, and hedgerows managed through age-old techniques like hedgelaying. Newer stories speak of beavers re-shaping waterways, dormice and butterflies being monitored on Dumpdon Hill, rare species like the Raft Spider benefitting from conservation efforts, and obscure insects like the tiny soft-winged flower beetle, *Kateretes pusillus* being found in old meadows.



Birdsong patterns and species diversity reflect broader environmental shifts—lapwings, curlews, and house martins seem to have gone, but skylarks are doing well, nightjars visit us, and blackcaps and chiffchaffs now overwinter here due to milder winter temperatures. Residents cherish sightings of hares, badgers and otters – and beavers – and remember childhood days chasing rabbits through corn stubble or gathering primroses for Mothering Sunday.

Water and soil stewardship emerge as vital themes, from sustainable practices to concerns over stream pollution and the loss of bullheads and lampreys. Orchards and the wet mires of the commons are celebrated as biodiversity havens, hosting orchids, butterflies, and sphagnum moss that forms peat and locks carbon in the soil. These community recollections remind us that “everything is connected—we are nature,” urging us to care for what remains, and help nature recover.

As Jess’s project draws to a close, we are finalising interview summaries, recordings, and photo archives. In the coming months, we look forward to sharing the results online, through exhibitions, and at community events. Jess’s work has added colour and culture to the ‘behind the scenes’ scientific survey and business-planning which forms the bulk of the Luppitt Landscape Partnership’s work, and which is not yet manifested in its final form. The LLP plans to submit its full proposals to Defra in February next year, and as that deadline looms closer we have agreed the broad content of environmental land management plans for 41 holdings across the Luppitt valley, including over on the eastern side of the parish down to the River Otter, and the part of Combe Raleigh parish below Windgate Hill. These together represent a huge, collaborative set of undertakings, which if we are awarded a contract by Defra, could secure the future of wildlife alongside sustainable farming here for the next 20 years. Landowner members of the LLP will be meeting on 3rd December in the village hall to hear about progress and take stock.

If you have any questions about the LLP and its plans, please email info@luppittlandscape.org

Best wishes from the Luppitt Landscape Partnership team

The Granary
Overday Farm
www.luppittlandscape.org

A Luppitt Stroll

Taking a refreshing walk around Luppitt in December and January is the perfect and ideal antidote to yuletide stress and also the welcoming of a new year in January. Midwinter is usually a curiously muted affair. With the days at their shortest, and the coldest season reaching its height, one might expect some spectacular show of force, there should be a huge storm, or days of snow or frost. But December is sometimes disappointingly dank and dismal, with short days of rain or fog, and interminable damp. However if you look outside in January the newly crowned January garden sometimes gives a few hints that a fresh year has begun. The grey skies and lifeless branches of December remain in place, and the days are still grudgingly short, and the light is still pallid and apologetic. Even the occasional frost covering the grass on the 1st January has effectively been donated from the year just past.

Its Midwinter and I am heading off on a stroll, I have looked outside and there is a mist like rain, that I hope doesn't turn into ice, and on rare occasions fall as snow.. Its not 'Bah humbug' but forced watching of the annual repeats of 'Love Actually' over the last few days and having definitely put on some weight, I really need to get out.

Turning left outside of my gate, I head up the hill passing Mount Stephens cross. Stretching out along church hill lane towards the crossroads, passing Gully lane and the egg box on my right. I cross over the junction heading towards Lakeview manor. Just before Lakeview manor there is a public footpath to my left. I did this walk in November and today there is a marked difference, back then there was a cacophony of noise, the migration of birds, they were packing up to depart for warmer climes, with some pitching up from icier spots up north. I stroll along the well maintained footpath paying attention to the woods on my right to see if I can spot any creatures or birds.



Its a cruel fact, but birds overproduce. Tits breed multitudes: from two parents may come ten eggs. Multiple-brooded Blackbirds and Robins are not far behind. By the end of the Autumn season they and their offspring are everywhere, each one a little bit of excess. Although many will travel and some will succumb in the early stages, there are still too many small bodies breathing each cubic metre of Autumn air and getting fat on that season's own overproduction. In Midwinter there is no room for anyone that isn't in first rate condition. For not only is winter a

killer, so is competition. Resources are limited, and must be fought over. Its a sad thought at this seasonal time. as people we are hoping for happier things. Yet as we sleep in our beds, tucked up against the cold in our heated homes, we are also tucked up against the harsh realities of life outside our back door. Only yards from us, on a midwinter night, the cold countryside is wild and brutal.

To the right of the footpath , I can see through some of the skeletal trees down towards the lake below. I spot something moving on the Lake, a light brown movement on the water. Its too dark to be an Egret. I edge down the slope, not wanting to go too far and trespass. I have a clear view of the lake. I can make out the shape of a pheasant type bird. After quietly watching for around five minutes I realise its not a pheasant that is serenely feeding on the lake. A pheasant will only go into the water as an emergency to escape a predator. Its a first for me this far inland in South west England. Its a Curlew! They are quite common inland on the moors in the North East. I have brought my camera bag with me, not expecting to see much, but I am in luck. A one in a hundred moment for this normally estuary wading long beaked bird. I walk on until the end of the footpath, where I reach a gate leading to a small field.



The weather is starting to clear up a little, but I decide to double back along the same route. I will repeat this stroll again later in January, and see if I can catch any changes and a turnaround in the fortunes of the small birds. There is still a bustle of to and fro and bickering in the trees , but the birds have their minds grimly preoccupied with bare survival. The days as short as they are, will slowly be increasing in length later in the month and hopefully this turnaround is a significant biological trigger. A starting gun for a breeding season to come. Although you cannot watch hormones buzzing around a birds system , you can certainly detect small hints of their activity. For birds, the most obvious sign that things are changing is song. Song is the coming together of birds notes to make phrases or sentences rather than monosyllabic calls, and is a certain prelude to breeding. The two note chime of the Great tit, ever-cheerful and simple, strikes the future death of Winter.

Trevor Bevan

HANGOVERS – ANCIENT AND MODERN

It is the Season to be Merry, but have you gone too far?

Throughout history man has sought to find ways to treat a hangover, and there is plenty of advice to be found!

Ancient civilisations believed in the curative powers of amethysts, and their ability to deal with hangovers. A relatively recent find of a seventh century gold ring bearing an amethyst found near a winery in Israel is evidence of this.

In the 10th Century the Iraqi's used a mixture of lemons, sugar, water, mint, and quince to solve the problem.

12th Century Greeks found that liquorice beans, and oleander mixed with oil and wine prepared before sunset and given to a man in the morning before sunrise and before he was kissed did the trick.

In the Middle Ages raw eel and bitter almonds were the cure.



Cowboys made a tea of rabbit poo; there was little else out there in the desert!

The Irish are of course famous for their drinking abilities. One of their cures was to go down to the river and immerse yourself in wet soil up to the neck. How many survived we do not know!

The Victorians poured a whole glass of vinegar down the throat of the inebriated before they had even finished drinking!

The Prairie Oyster came to light at the Paris World Exportation in 1878. It is a mixture of raw egg (the yolk must stay intact), tomato juice, hot sauce, vinegar, salt, and pepper. Well, if it worked for James Bond, it's worth a try!

There are some more gruesome remedies involving the private parts of humans and bulls, which cannot be mentioned here, as this is a family magazine, but these recipes can be found online!

Modern remedies abound and various pills can be purchased. The Green Goddess lists various cures including eating a banana before going to bed. Eating a greasy breakfast in the morning. A slice of toast spread with Marmite or taking borage oil capsules. Sadly, science suggests there is no cure for a hangover apart from drinking plenty of water and sleeping it off.

One pundit even suggested making up your own recipe!

Entries to the *Childrens Art Competition*

We had a great response to this year's Luppitt Packet front cover art competition. After much deliberation our two judges chose Will Chown as the winner so his picture is the front cover of this edition. He also won a £25 voucher. Well done to Will and all the other entries! It was a difficult decision to pick just one winner as all the drawings were so good - very colourful and really depicting the Christmas spirit.



Kate Summers



Fae Chown



Lily Crabb



Pippa Summers



Ailsa Murray



Freddie Murray



Reggie Crabb



Sam Murray



Izzy Summers



Grace Crabb



Holly Foxwell

Maligayang Pasko!

If you think Christmas celebrations start too early, then the **Philippines** are not for you! Filipinos love an extended festival and in a country where most of the population is Catholic, it is not unusual for things to start in mid-September. Formal celebrations commence on 16th December with the first of nine dawn masses (*Simbang Gabi*) - the last taking place on Christmas Day. Family gatherings take place throughout the period and celebrations include lanterns, decorations, and lots of music. The *parol* is a bamboo pole with a lighted star lantern, traditionally made from bamboo strips and coloured paper to represent the Star of Bethlehem.



The Christmas Eve feast, eaten at midnight (*Noche Buena*) is definitely an excuse for a banquet. The many dishes can include lechon (roasted pig), ham, fruit salad, rice cakes such as *bibingka* and *puto bumbong* and other sweets, steamed rice, and many different types of drinks.

Christmas Day is the occasion to pay respect to senior relatives. In a custom known as *págmamáno*, young people will take an elder's hand and press it against their forehead, whilst saying *Máno, pô* (your hand, please). In response they will usually receive gifts, or money in a sealed envelope.

Melkam Gena!

In **Ethiopia** it is traditional to dress in white on Christmas Eve (6th January) in cotton garments known as *Netela*, which often have highly coloured striped borders. Most will attend a church service which lasts until 3am and will take part in a procession around the circumference of the Church. The most devout



may travel to Lalibela which is considered the most sacred of cities, due to its rock-cut monolithic churches. Prior to Christmas Day they will have fasted for 43 days (following a vegan diet and abstaining from alcohol) in order to cleanse the body as they await the birth of Jesus Christ. The fast ends at midnight and families will gather to eat traditional dishes such as *Doro Wat* (a spicy chicken stew) and *injera* (a sour, spongy flatbread). The injera is used as the (often communal) platter upon which various stews and salads are placed and pieces are broken off to pick up the food.

After the feast it is common to play *Gena*, which is also the Amharic word for Christmas (derived from the Greek for birth). The game is a little like the Irish sport of hurling, with teams from opposing villages throwing a ball in the air and hitting it with curved sticks, in an effort to score a goal. According to legend it was first played by shepherds with their crooks as they celebrated the birth of Jesus.

The Luppitt Players

Present

The Good, The Bad & The Ugly Sisters

By Andrew Yates

A pantomime romp through the Wild West!

**12th, 13th & 14th FEBRUARY 2026
7:30pm at Luppitt Village Hall**

**Tickets:- Adults £10; Seniors £8; Under 16's £5
Box Office: 01494 891268**

**All profits will be shared to support two local charities.
Parental Minds & Hospiscare**

Recipes around the World



Lebkuchen

Ingredients

- 200ml runny honey
- 85g butter
- 225g plain flour
- plus extra for dusting
- 75g ground almonds
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- a pinch mixed spice
- 1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 125g icing sugar

Method

1. Warm honey and butter together in a small pan until combined.
2. Put the remaining ingredients, except the icing sugar, in a bowl, and pour over the melted butter. Combine until

a sticky dough forms, wrap in baking paper then chill for 1 hour

3. Heat the oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4. Roll the dough out on a lightly floured work surface to 1cm thick, then cut into 5cm biscuits using heart, star or round cookie cutters.
4. Transfer to baking-paper-lined trays with a little space around each one, and bake for 12-15 minutes or until golden and risen slightly. Cool completely on a wire rack.
5. Mix the icing sugar with 5 tsp of water to make a smooth icing, and spoon over the top of each biscuit. Leave to set for 1 hour. They will keep in an airtight container for up to four days, or wrap in recyclable gift bags to give as presents.



Swedish Glögg

Ingredients

- 1 orange
- 1 bottle dry red wine nothing expensive, but full-bodied
- 1/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 2 inch piece of ginger sliced into thin rounds
- 10 whole cloves
- 10 cardamom pods crushed (include both pods and seeds)
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- ½ cup aquavit such as the Linie brand (rum, brandy or vodka will also work)
- Golden raisins, blanched almonds and thin orange or clementine slices for serving optional)

Method

1. Remove the peel from the orange using a vegetable peeler and transfer

peel strips to a medium saucepan. Cut orange in half and squeeze juice into the saucepan with the peel.

2. Add all remaining ingredients to the saucepan and heat until mixture just comes to a simmer. Cover and remove from heat. Let steep for two to four hours at room temperature. Strain into a clean container. Mixture can be prepared up until this point up to a week ahead and stored covered in the refrigerator until ready to use
3. When you are ready to serve, return mixture to a saucepan. Add aquavit and a handful of golden raisins. Heat but do not boil (boiling will remove the alcohol). Serve immediately garnished with raisins, blanched almonds and orange or clementine slices if desired.



Ideas for feeding a crowd on New Year's Eve

By the time we get to New Year's Eve, the last thing we want is to spend hours in the kitchen yet again, so we need easy food which leaves us free to enjoy the evening and hopefully stay awake to welcome in the New Year!

Lamb Tagine (serves 6 or 8)

1 kilo of diced lamb shoulder

1tsp each of cayenne pepper, cinnamon and black pepper

1 tablespoon each of paprika, ground ginger & turmeric

3 cloves of garlic and 2 onions chopped

2 tins of tomatoes plus 1 pint of tomato juice

4 oz each of chopped dried apricots, dates, flaked almonds and sultanas

Generous pinch of saffron strands, soaked in hot water

1 pint of lamb stock

Tablespoon each of honey, chopped coriander and parsley

Method:

Mix all the spices together. Reserve half and rub the other half over the lamb. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Next day, heat some olive oil in a frying pan and add the chopped onions and garlic. Fry to soften then stir in the rest of the spices. Add half the tomato juice and turn into your casserole dish or slow cooker.

Oil and heat the pan again and working in batches, sear the lamb until it is browned on the outside and add to your casserole dish. Deglaze your pan with the rest of the tomato juice and pour into the dish.

Add in all the chopped fruit and herbs. Bring the tinned tomatoes and stock to the boil, turn into your dish, add the honey and herbs, add a tight fitting lid and cook in a low oven for 2 hours.

Then you can let it cool and reheat whenever you want, served with rice, creamy mash, or jacket potatoes



Chilli meatballs in black bean and tomato sauce (serves 4 to 6)

500 grams minced beef
2 finely chopped red chillies
Handful of white breadcrumbs
80ml milk
2 – 3 chopped garlic cloves
1 beaten egg
Salt, pepper and a tsp of ground coriander

Make the meatballs

Soak the breadcrumbs in the milk for 5 mins then add all the above ingredients. Work it together then roll into balls of whichever size you want.

Make the sauce

Finely chop one large onion and 2 cloves of garlic. Saute in oil until soft.

Add 2 tbsp tomato puree, 1 tbsp each of brown sugar and red wine vinegar and cook for 1 minute. Add 125ml beef stock, 2 tins of chopped tomatoes, 2 tins of drained black beans, 1 tbsp paprika and 100gms of chopped chorizo sausage. Simmer until thickened a little.

When you want to serve

Quickly brown the meatballs in hot oil, being careful to keep them in shape. Heat the sauce in a separate pan. Put the meatballs in a roasting dish and cover with the sauce. Bake in medium hot oven for 15-20 minutes.

Drizzle the dish with sour cream and grated cheese and serve with rice, pasta or spicy sweet potato wedges and a crisp salad.



Christmas quiz

1. What do the 3 Wise Men give to Jesus on his birthday?
2. 'Nadolig Llawen' is Merry Christmas in which language?
3. December 26th marks which Saints Day in Western Christianity?
4. What stick would you put into a mulled wine?
5. How many Only Fools and Horses Christmas specials are there?
6. What is the name of the little girl in the ballet 'The Nutcracker'?
7. Daniel Stern and which other actor played the burglars in the movie 'Home Alone'?
8. Which 2 reindeers are closest to Santa's sleigh?
9. What was the name of the penguin in the 2014 John Lewis Christmas advert?
10. In which country is Santa's home Lapland located?
11. What is the date you should traditionally have taken your Christmas decorations down by?
12. What is the name of the main character in the movie 'Elf'?
13. What is the name of the angel who appeared to the shepherds to tell them of Christ's birth?
14. In which country is it tradition to eat KFC on Christmas Day?
15. What words follow "Silent night" in the Christmas carol??
16. Who goes into labour in Shameless' 2004 Christmas special?
17. What is a 'Weihnachtsmarkt' in Germany?
18. What age was Kevin McAllister in 'Home Alone'?
19. Which member of Steps appeared in the Extras' Christmas special?
20. What did my true love give to me on the eighth day of Christmas?
21. A Christmas Eve carol concert from which university college has been televised by the BBC since 1954?
22. Traditionally in Europe what do naughty children find left in their stocking at Christmas?
23. In Only Fools & Horses, what do Del and Rodney dress up as for a Christmas party?
24. Who banned Christmas in England in 1647?



25. Saint Nicholas was born in which modern day country?
26. Which 2 Coronation Street characters had a child during a nativity play in 2011?
27. How do you say Merry Christmas in Spanish?
28. How many gifts were given in total in the song 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'?
29. What colour are mistletoe berries?
30. which children's book by Raymond Briggs was first published in 1978?
31. What animal does Ross dress up as in the Friends Christmas special?
32. Which UK monarch delivered the first Christmas Broadcast to the BBC in 1932?
33. In what year was the first Christmas card sent in the UK?
34. What do people in Norway hide on Christmas Eve?
35. In which South American country do residents go to church on roller skates on Christmas Eve?
36. Queen Elizabeth II delivered her first televised Christmas Day speech in what year?
37. Name the traditional festive cocktail which includes Advocaat and lemonade.
38. Isaac Newton was born on Christmas Day. True or false?
39. Who wrote 'A Christmas Carol'?
40. If you were born on Christmas Day, what is your star sign?
41. How many of Santa's reindeer names began with 'D'?
42. In 'Doctor Who' which Doctor made his debut in the 2005 special 'The Christmas Invasion'?
43. In Scandinavia it is known as the Christ Thorn. What do we call it in the UK?
44. What is the name of the skin that hangs from a turkey's neck?
45. Which company was the first to use Santa Claus in an advertisement?
46. In what ocean would you find Christmas Island?
47. Which department store created Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer?
48. Bethlehem is a tiny farming village in which UK country?
49. What name refers to a baby reindeer?
50. What were the names of Jesus' parents?



URGENT - YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU

Vacancy – Secretary to the Village Hall Management Committee

We are in need of a Secretary for the Village Hall Management Committee, if you are interested in helping our Village Hall which is central to our Community, then please contact me. It involves taking the minutes at our meetings which are held six times a year and dealing with any correspondence. No qualifications needed, just a keen interest in what goes on in our village hall that's all we ask. Thank you.

Tracey Rosewell

Chairperson of the Village Hall

01404 891218 or 07973289347 or dolishfarm@btinternet.com

Closure of Luppitt Commons to Public Access Notification of Discretionary “28 Day” Restriction under the CROW Act 2000

Please note that the Luppitt Commons (Hense Moor, Hartridge, & Luppitt Common) are **CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS** on the following dates:

4th, 11th, 18th December 2025

8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th January 2026

These closures are to permit rough shooting to take place over these Commons. Further information about open access land can be found on the following Natural England website;

www.naturalengland.org.uk/openaccess

Luppitt Commons Ltd

Church Cleaning and Flower Rota 2025 / 2026

6 December	Pat Bussey
13 December	Mary Joyce and Pearl Pulman
20 December	Mary Hill
	<i>Christmas decorations - all</i>
27 December	Sue Piechowiak

3 January 2026	Jean Gardiner, Joy Tofts & Pat Bussey
10 January	Mary Joyce and Pearl Pulman
17 January	Mary Hill
24 January	Sue Piechowiak
31 January	Jean Gardiner and Joy Tofts



A Bright and Busy Autumn at Upottery Primary School

The children at Upottery Primary School have enjoyed a vibrant and purposeful Autumn term, filled with learning, creativity, and community spirit. Our school polytunnel continues to be a hive of activity, with pupils taking great pride in nurturing plants and developing their understanding of sustainability and seasonal growing.

This term also brought important moments of reflection. Our Remembrance Day activities enabled pupils to explore the significance of remembrance with maturity and respect, culminating in thoughtful class work and a period of quiet reflection.

Sport has played a major part in school life, with children enthusiastically taking part in events organised across the Honiton Learning Community. Their teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship have been wonderful to see.

The PTF have, as ever, been fantastic in supporting the school. Highlights have included a lively Halloween disco and a hugely popular "Break the Rules" day in aid of Children in Need, both of which brought great fun while helping to raise valuable funds.



Across the school, pupils have continued to shine in our weekly celebration assemblies, where we recognise achievements of all kinds. Enrichment opportunities have also been plentiful, including an exciting visit to Farm Wise, where children gained hands-on insights into Devon agriculture and food production.

In the classroom, our focus on developing secure mathematical understanding continues, with children building strong foundations through our mastery approach. Early reading remains a strength across the school, supported by the excellent Little Wandle phonics programme, which is helping our youngest learners to grow in confidence and fluency.

Wren Class have embraced their forest school sessions with enthusiasm, enjoying outdoor learning and building teamwork, problem-solving, and resilience. We were also delighted to welcome Reverend Nigel, whose visit and the Harvest Festival service at the church provided a meaningful opportunity for reflection and community connection.

As part of the Devon Moors Federation, we continue to work closely with our partner schools, sharing ideas, resources, and opportunities that enrich pupils' experiences and strengthen our wider educational community.

With December approaching, everyone is looking forward to the festive season, including Christmas jumper day, nativity performances, and the many moments of joy that mark this special time of year.

Upottery Primary School has had a hardworking and happy term, and we are excited for all that the months ahead will bring.

Tom Pettifer
Head of School



Barn Nativity at Connetts Farm Dunkeswell



Monday 22nd December
6.00 pm
(The Nativity Story for all ages, brought alive in a barn)
Dress up, (optional) sing carols, and enjoy refreshments

Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's

A Traditional service of 9 Lessons and Carols

Thursday 18th December at 6:30pm in Church

Followed by Festive Refreshments at the Village Hall



INSPIRATIONS
HAIR & BEAUTY
01404 891133

Hair Colouring
Cutting & Restyling
Eyelash Extensions
Manicures & Pedicures
Nail Extensions
Waxing
Facials
Massage
Sunbed

Late night opening on Thursday's
Appointments not always necessary
Walk ins welcome

Unit 3, Culme Way
Dunkeswell
EX144JP



COAL DELIVERY

We are an family run Approved Coal Merchant.
We offer a complete range of Smokeless Fuels for all
appliances, at very competitive prices direct from stock.

Weekly / Fortnightly deliveries to, Somerset, Devon and Dorset.



01278 691199
www.coal-delivery.co.uk

MANOR ANTIQUES

RESTORATIONS

Specialist in Antique Furniture Restoration

Cabinet making, Inlay, Repairs, Veneering

French Polishing, Wood Finishing,

Bespoke Furniture made

CALL IAN WEDERELL

MOBILE 07732549414

OR 01404 891571

30 years in the trade

www.manorantiquesrestorations.co.uk

LOCAL MEAT FOR SALE

Higher Moorlands Farm

* Grass fed beef & hogget

* Free range pork, raised on
British grown peas and barley

For a price list please email:

HigherMoorlandsFarm@gmail.com

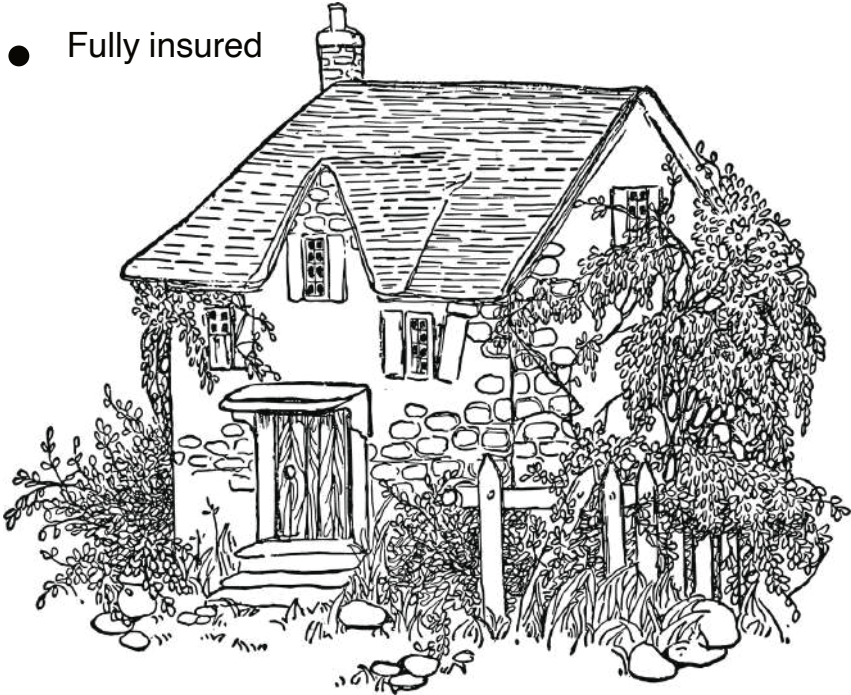
Or phone

Ollie 07527627296

Eve 07807305881

ED WEECH BUILDING SERVICES

- Older buildings handled with knowledge and care
- Lime, cob and stone alterations, rebuilding and repairs
- Lime rendering, repointing and plastering
- Fully insured



07500 838 725

edward.weech@gmail.com



React

Water Services Ltd

Serving the water industry
Domestic - Commercial - Industrial

- Treatment plant installation
- CCTV drainage surveys
- Civils/Groundworks
- Above/below ground water services
- Trenchless service laying
- Concreting
- Digger hire
- Clean water bowser hire
- Drain clearance/Jetting

Mob: 07582 233655 or 07806 764616

Email: reactwaterservices@gmail.com



Est. over 75years.

DELVE electrical

Approved engineers and contractors.

Free estimates

Domestic, Agricultural & Industrial Installations & Maintenance,
Economy 7 Heating, Spares & Repairs, Motors & Generators.

For all your electrical needs - large or small.

Unit 1, Devonshire Way, Heathpark, Honiton. EX14 1YF.

Tel: 01404 42958

Email: info@delveelectrical.co.uk

Website: www.delveelectrical.co.uk



ASHCULME LTD

07815146343
info@ashculme.co.uk

NPTC

Part of the City & Guilds Group

**QUALIFIED
WORKFORCE**

ALL TREE WORK UNDERTAKEN

- *Removals / Crown Reductions & Lifting / Deadwooding & More*

STUMP REMOVAL

GARDEN CLEARANCE WORK

LANDSCAPING

HEDGE REMOVAL & MAINTENANCE

Residential & Commercial
work undertaken by our
fully insured & qualified
workforce

Emergency Call Outs 24/7 - Paul Durman - 07815146343



ROSE PLANNING
PLANNING CONSULTANCY

PLANNING MATTERS MADE SIMPLE.

At Rose Planning, we take a client-led approach,
offering clear and honest advice to help secure positive planning decisions.

Our goal is to make planning matters simple,
whilst providing affordable expert guidance on application submissions, appeals, enforcement, and more.

E-MAIL: rose-planning@outlook.com. TEL: 07925-881-084. WEB: www.roseplanning.co.uk

Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
where reputation matters



★ **Trustpilot**



Everything
**Plumbing
& Heating**

Email: info@synergisw.co.uk Website: synergisw.co.uk

- ✓ **New Boilers**
- ✓ **Heating Systems**
- ✓ **Boiler Servicing**
- ✓ **Plumbing**
- ✓ **Heating Care Plans**
- ✓ **Boiler Repairs**

24 Hour Availability

Call: 01404 234 363





Plumbing & Heating

Southwoods Farm

Ashill

Cullompton

Devon

EX15 3NS

Phone: 01884 841130

Mobile: 07860 441510

No call out charge

- All aspects of plumbing & heating
- Boiler, Aga & Rayburn servicing
- Gas, Oil, LPG & Solid Fuel
- Bathroom installations
- Gas Landlord Safety Certificates
- Under floor heating specialists
- Free estimates
- All work guaranteed

Contact Neil Thomas



www.njtplumbingandheating.co.uk

CUTTING EDGE PAINTING & DECORATING

James Winter

All types of paint work undertaken
 Interior / Exterior
 Private / Contract
 No job too small
 Fully Insured

01404 890 214 ☎

07540 771705 ☎

Dunkeswell, Nr. Honiton 📍

CuttingEdge54321@gmail.com ✉





Finding the best beer in town
doesn't take a lot of investigating



OTTER BREWERY
www.otterbrewery.com



Upottery, Honiton, Devon, EX14 9QT
01404 861705
Charity Number 1157940

Experienced & qualified staff, including 2 Early Years Teachers

Purpose built building * secure outside play area & garden

2-5 year olds Monday to Friday from 9-3:30pm (term time)

Parent & Toddler group from 1:15pm-3:15pm every Thursday.

To find out more or arrange a visit please contact Abi Few on 01404 861705

upotterypreschool@outlook.com
www.upotterypreschoolcio.weebly.com



SA BOLAND LIMITED
BUILDING CONTRACTOR & CARPENTER

We take your ideas and designs and turn them into reality.

Specialising in :

- Extensions
- Barn Conversions
- Conversions
- Home Improvements
- Kitchens & Bathroom Renovations
- Roofing
- Carpentry & General Building

Contact Stuart to discuss your requirements.

T. 01404 42467

M. 07774 907733

saboland@btinternet.com

Mount Vets farm practice

Mount Farm Vets is an experienced farm vet practice serving Wellington, Taunton, Bridgwater, Cullompton, Wiveliscombe, Honiton and the surrounding areas.



Very competitively priced medicines delivered direct to farm

- ✓ A large team of specialist farm vets
- ✓ Our own laboratory for rapid and accurate results
- ✓ Regular varied Training Courses
- ✓ Very experienced in Health Plans and documentation



Wellington



Wiveliscombe



Broadhembury

Tel: 01823 662286

mountvets.com

DUNKESWELL AUTOBODIES

VEHICLE BODY REPAIR SPECIALIST

07825653832

Unit 1

Marcus Road

Dunkeswell

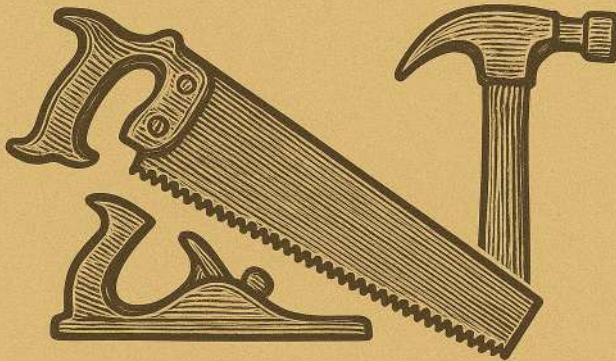
EX14 4LB



**Any repairs to your vehicle at low
cost prices**

- **Alloy Wheel Refurbs**
- **Bumper Scuffs**
- **Crash Repairs**
- **MOT Repairs**

From small scuffs to full repaints



LUPPITT CARPENTRY

07981330495

LUPPITTCARPENTRY@GMAIL.COM

Stuart's Sweeping Service



Support your local trades – use a local Chimney Sweep

A clean chimney is a safe chimney

Chimney, woodburner and range cooker sweeping.
Power sweeping, Bird's nest removal.
Camera inspections, Cowls and bird spikes fitted.
Wood-burners, multi-fuel stoves and liners installed.



07432 118318

Evening and weekend appointments available.



Member of The Guild of Master Sweepers.
HETAS Approved Chimney Sweep.
HETAS Registered Installer.
Sweep Safe accredited.
Thatch trained. NFU Insured.





Highfield Stores

& Post Office

Tel: 01404 891015

The village store offering so much more:

Situated in the Highfield Estate, Dunkeswell, we have a huge range of groceries, fresh meat, fruit & veg, newspapers and much, much more!



Our post office provides most services (excluding car tax).

You can deposit cash and cheques into almost every bank. 7 DAYS A WEEK !!

Why not avoid the queues in the high street and enjoy a browse in our spacious, well-stocked and friendly PREMIER shop with plenty of free parking and fantastic monthly offers!!

**SHOP & POST OFFICE OPENING HOURS:
MONDAY-SATURDAY 7AM-9PM
SUNDAY 8AM-8PM**

Unit 5 Culme Way, Dunkeswell, Honiton, EX14 4JP
Email: highfieldstores14@gmail.com

Need to rejuvenate old metal objects?

We provide a variety of services ranging from powder coating to hot zinc spray and shot blasting. We keep a range of about 100 colours in stock. Most are exterior polyesters, which provide excellent durability and colour retention on gates, railings and garden furniture.



Industrial Coating Supplies

Phone 01884 34506

Opening Hours Monday - Thursday 8 am - 5 pm or Friday 7 am - 1 pm

email coatingsupplies@aol.com www.industrialcoatingsupplies.co.uk

Units 1 + 2 Simmons Place, Kingsmill Industrial Estate, Cullompton EX15 1BH

Could a Personal Assistant make life a little easier?



The affordable alternative to home care, where you choose who supports you

Hub Personal Assistants can help with:

- Companionship
- Domestic tasks
- Meal preparation
- Personal care
- Shopping
- Respite
- Live-care
- Assistance to appointments



Call us today for a friendly no obligation chat.

exeter@hubcaresupport.co.uk

01392 982 832

www.hubcaresupport.co.uk

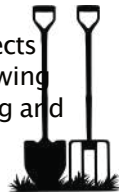
GAIA GARDENING

Local professional gardener with 30 years' experience available for regular garden maintenance or one-off projects.

Expertise in all aspects from weeding/mowing to pruning, planting and seasonal care.

Competitive rates.

References available.



For free initial visit/quotation contact:

Chris on 07701 357789

Email: widgit264@hotmail.com



Paul Prettejohn

Garden Machinery & Groundcare

Email: paul.prettejohn@btopenworld.com

www.paulprettejohn.co.uk

Honiton: 01404 890257

Wellington: 01823 662656



NEW PRODUCTS



USED PRODUCTS



REPAIRS



SERVICING



COLLECTION & DELIVERY



CUSTOMISATION

*Professional Gardeners
& Landscapers*



Goodlife
GARDENERS &
LANDSCAPERS

Grass cutting, hedge trimming,
tree surgery and planting.
Garden waste removal service.
Regular gardening undertaken
throughout the year.

.....
**WE OFFER A FRIENDLY AND
RELIABLE SERVICE**
.....

**PROFESSIONAL HARD AND SOFT
LANDSCAPING TEAM FROM
DESIGN TO COMPLETION ALSO
AVAILABLE**
.....

.....
Phone Rob or Shelley on 01404 881756 or mobile 07866 672150

www.goodlifegardeners.co.uk



MARK CURTIS ROOFING LTD.

ESTABLISHED IN 1986

BASED IN SOMERSET & DEVON

ALL ASPECTS OF ROOFING

TILING

SLATING

LOFT CONVERSIONS

GENERAL BUILDING

EXTENSIONS

REFURBISHMENTS

ALL TYPES OF FLAT ROOFING

FELT

FIBREGLASS

SINGLE PLY

MOBILE- 07702 820794

HOME- 01404 891071

WWW.MARKCURTISROOFING.CO.UK





DABBLING DUCK

RESTAURANT & BAR



Set in the enchanting surroundings of Lakeview Manor, immerse yourself in the charm of our beautifully crafted oak-panelled bar and restaurant, where warmth and elegance create an inviting atmosphere.

Open to locals, our restaurant offers stunning garden views, making it the perfect setting for any occasion. Whether you're indulging in a leisurely lunch, savouring a delectable evening meal, or simply unwinding with a refreshing drink, you'll find yourself surrounded by the tranquil beauty of nature. Join us for a truly memorable dining experience, where exceptional flavours, a welcoming ambiance, and breathtaking scenery come together in perfect harmony.



BOOK YOUR TABLE TODAY ★ CALL 01404 891287
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR OPENING TIMES AND TO BOOK WWW.LAKEVIEWMANOR.CO.UK/RESTAURANT/