The Editor welcomes interesting news items, reports etc. for publication. Items for inclusion in Focus should be accompanied by the name of the originator, which may be withheld from print if requested. The aims of Focus are:

- To produce a non-political monthly magazine serving the people of the parish of Thorverton, providing them with information on activities in the parish;
- For the magazine to be one that villagers are proud of;
- To provide a window for those outside Thorverton to see what the village has to offer;
- To promote local businesses through advertising; and
- To run at a small annual profit, but with surplus funds put to support village organisations for the benefit of Thorverton residents.

Items for publication, adverts, changes to adverts, Diary entries, changes to Thorverton Information lists should be sent to the Editor, preferably as plain text in an email, or as a Word doc file or a pdf file email attachment (to thorvertonfocus@gmail.com) by the 20th of the month prior to publication please. All items received are acknowledged, so if you don’t receive an acknowledgment within a few days, please assume not received.

Computer file formats: We prefer plain text files: .ODT files, .DOC files, .RTF files and .WPS files because our team have software that can read such files. BMP and JPEG files are preferred for advertisements and pictures.

Advertisements and Notices

Poster Type Advertisements: maximum size is half an A4 page. Text for advertisements should be prepared as near as possible to how it is intended to appear. Pictures must be supplied as required on the advertisement.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS

The following advertising charges apply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum dimensions</th>
<th>COST per ENTRY</th>
<th>FULL YEAR (11 entries)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Half page</td>
<td>18.2 cm x 12.2 cm</td>
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<td>8.5 cm x 5.8 cm</td>
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LOCAL ORGANISATION and CHARITIES ADVERTISEMENTS

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<tr>
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<td>£3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarter or one-eighth page</td>
<td>free of charge</td>
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Cheques made payable to “Focus”

Front Cover: Above Eastern Down (see Short Walks on page 19)

The opinions and views expressed by contributors within the magazine are not necessarily those of Focus producers or of the Focus Committee.
Editorial

Should we spend a greater percentage of our money in Thorverton? I ask the question having recently read books by Bob Hopkins who started the Transition movement and is a leading figure in that movement in Totnes. At first my answer to my question was that it was impractical because there was so much that we couldn’t get locally, but looking back over the last week I am having second thoughts.

The week started with Richard’s car needing to go into the garage to see if we could understand why it was losing water. We left it with C&R, near Thorverton Bridge, before I dropped Richard at the office in Upexe. I was working from home that day, so managed to put in my normal hours without the need to start off quite so early. Apart from saving on transport costs, this meant that I could take my bike round to the person whose local advert I had picked up in the village (and whose advert is now in *Focus*) - who turned out to be George Wills - for repair work on the brakes.

At the end of the day Richard returned with his car having been passed fit and I got a call from George about my bike, so all very efficient.

I drew out some cash at the Post Office; bought a newspaper from TCT; and went next door to Not The Village Shop for some bread, dog food, firefighters and milk. Later in the week I picked up some vegetables from the Farm Shop.

Ah, I sense you thinking, but what about entertainment? Well, on Friday I went along to an excellent talk by an archaeologist about excavations of Roman remains at St Loye’s and finished the evening off with a drink in the Exeter Inn. I could have gone along to the Arts Exchange meeting the previous evening and, had I not been away the previous weekend, also to the 50/50 Auction at the Memorial Hall.

I am sure that many others could give a more impressive list, and I didn’t start the week thinking that I would be accounting for my actions so I may well have omitted some things. It did reassure me, though, that I could actually spend quite a fair percentage of my money in and around the village.

Meanwhile, I hope that you will find items of interest in *Focus* this month. While I have some regular reports and articles covering some areas, I am aware that there are a few gaps in the coverage of village activities. Therefore, I would be very pleased to receive reports from organisations not currently featured with any regularity.

*Neville Lane*
Listed below are some areas I hope will be of interest to you following the Parish Council meeting held on 13th January 2015. You can view a full set of the minutes on the notice board in School Lane.

Should you have any questions or feedback for the Council please do not hesitate to contact me.

PLANNING:
1) Conversion of barn to dwelling and erection of a detached garage NGR 292103 106323 Bowden Hill Cadeleigh Devon. 292103 / 106323.
2) Erection of single storey extension to rear and two storey extension to side of 53 Silver Street, Thorverton, Devon. 293196 / 101805.

SPEED WATCH:
Our local Police Community Support Officer, Anna Roberts, is looking for volunteers to support her in setting up a village ‘Speed Watch’ with the aim of encouraging vehicles passing through our village to slow down and stick to the speed limits. This would involve some basic training and 2 – 3 hours of your time per month. If you are interested in keeping our streets safe contact Anna on anna.roberts@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

THE DEVON COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM:
If you are interested in the ‘improvement of public access to land for the purposes of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the area’ then you may wish to find out more about this group which is run by Devon County Council who are seeking new Forum members. To find out more go to www.devon.gov.uk/dcaf

TIVERTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION & MID DEVON SHOPMOBILITY:
This charity, now being supported by Thorverton Parish Council, is offering a voluntary car service to aid those in need of access to suitable transport solutions to essential appointments and services. This excellent service runs seven days a week from the Thorverton area and provides a lifeline for those who are not able to use public transport. For more information or to book your journey contact TDCTA on 01884 242099. Any feedback on this service would be appreciated.

ALLOTMENTS:
The Parish Council currently have Allotments for rent at £10.00 per year. If you are interested, and are a Parish resident, please contact the Clerk.

HEDGES:
The Parish Council would like to thank all the residents of Silver Street who responded to the request to cut back their hedges to make the pavements a safer place for everyone. Please can the last two home owners who have yet to trim up their hedges do so without delay.

BROADBAND:
Upottery Parish Council will hold a Public Meeting on rural Broadband on 6th February at 6pm in Upottery Manor Rooms chaired by Neil Parish, MP for Tiverton and Honiton. For more information visit www.upottery.com

Alison Marshall
Clerk to Thorverton Parish Council
Telephone 01392 861228 or Email thorvertonclerk@AOL.com
Thorverton Memorial Hall Committee
Reg. Charity No. 203778

50/50 Sale
A very successful, well attended 50/50 sale was held in the hall on Saturday 17 January. In the previous days a wide assortment of goods ranging from a yucca plant to garden tools and household furniture were brought to the hall where they were catalogued and set up ready to be viewed and auctioned.

On the Saturday evening a good crowd attended and responded generously to the expert auctioning of Colin Marshall. Although a few items were left unsold the vast majority of the 233 lots were snapped up. Everyone seemed to enjoy the auction that went on for nearly three hours.

The Hall Committee would like to thank the many people who helped with the preparations beforehand and the clearing up afterwards, particularly to Carol, Jim and Grace Pearn for their sterling work and Clive and Jane King for drawing up the catalogue. The proceeds (which haven’t been calculated at the time of writing) will go towards the hall renovation fund.

Saturday Market
The post-Christmas January market was a relatively quiet affair presumably because many people had exhausted their taste or resources for shopping for a while.

January draw results
1st prize: a chicken dinner – John Mortimer
2nd prize: a tin of biscuits – John Taverner
3rd prize: an orchid – Lee White
4th prize: a bottle of wine – Eileen Mason

Hall closed from 17 February
The work on renovating the hall is due to start on 17 February so the hall will be unavailable for any events or activities until the work is completed which is due on 20th June. The progress of the work will be regularly reported in Focus. Bookings for use of the hall after 20 June can be made at any time by contacting the events secretary
jeff.grace@tiscali.co.uk
or any other member of the committee.

Memorial Hall Committee
The following are the members of the Committee: Roger Fieldhouse, (Chair), Sarah Addicott, Roseanne Benn, Lisa Browning, Jeff Grace, John Hodge, Bob Hyde, Colin Marshall, Clare Roberts, Mike Shelton, Graham Sims, Caroline Taverner and David Waldron.

Memorial Hall website.
If you wish to browse the hall website it can be found at www.thorvertonmemorialhall.co.uk

Letters

From Claire Lancaster
IN MEMORY OF WENDY JACOBS
Owen, Robin, Helen and Claire would like to take this opportunity to thank all of their friends and family who have sent them cards and letters of sympathy following the loss of Wendy from their lives on Monday 8th December. They would also like to thank the Reverend David Carrington for conducting a memorable and moving service and extend their thanks to all those who joined them to celebrate Wendy’s life at Thorverton Church on Tuesday 23rd December.

They are also very grateful for the wonderful care that Wendy received from the Health Team at Wyndham House Surgery, together with Hospice Care who helped to ensure that her final days at home were comfortable and peaceful whilst she was lovingly supported by her family.

From David Salter, Lealands, Rewe (on behalf of TADS)
The kind mentions of the November production of Gunshots in Sarajevo in your columns have referred to it as a TADS production. We would like, however, to give due credit to the important and moving contributions of the Thorverton Church Choir, and the unfailing help given by Mary Thomas and Heather Kershaw. As one of those who helped with the liaison between choir and actors, I have some awareness of the many hours of rehearsal put in to achieve an outstanding performance. TADS would like to put on record our grateful thanks and appreciation.
Notice Board

**TAG**
Thorverton art group
MEETS FRIDAYS
FROM 09:30
@ THE WI HUT
NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME
TRIAL WEEK FREE – JUST TURN UP!

**Thorverton Post Office & TCT newsagents/stationers**
Quarry Car Park, Lynch Road
Thorverton 01392 860455
offering a very wide range of post office services, newspapers, magazines, stationery, posting and packing materials, laundry service, photocopying – service with a smile!
Mon–Fri 9.00–5.30 (closed 1.00–2.00) Sat 9.00–12.00
Sun: 9.00–10.30 TCT paper shop only

**Mum and Toddlers/Baby Group**
Normally held every Wednesday morning, the group will be suspended temporarily due to the closure of the Memorial Hall for renovations.
If you would like any further information please call Wendy Coles on 01392 861283 (Toddler Rep.)

**Thorverton Arts Exchange**
Once each month at Arts Exchange meetings, we share with one another our enthusiasms for writing, music, painting, dance and film based on various themes.
The meetings take place in members’ homes normally on Thursdays at 8:00 pm. The next meetings are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Theme</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 19</td>
<td>Cubberley* (Rob Dightam)</td>
<td>Rivers</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>25 The Glebe (Kershaw)</td>
<td>Purpose</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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New members are always welcome. For further information, contact Becky Stannard, 7 The Glebe 860 737

*Rob Dightam is hosting at the Cousins’ home.

**Seven new affordable homes in Upton Pyne**
Might you be interested in renting one?
Might you be eligible?
Please come to our ‘Lettings Event’ on 19th March to find out more.

These new homes will be available this autumn – two 1-bedroom, four 2-bedroom & one 3-bedroom.
Priority goes to people who are in housing need and who have a local connection - first to people connected to Upton Pyne & Cowley, next Brampford Speke, then neighbouring parishes.
The ‘Lettings Event’ is an informal opportunity to find out more about the homes, about eligibility and about how to ‘bid’ for them through Devon Home Choice.

**Upton Pyne Village Hall,**
**Thursday 19th March 2015**
any time from 3.00 to 7.00 pm.

Sarah Scott 01392 841250
sarah@sarahscottjewellery.co.uk
The Brampford Speke Twinning Association recently celebrated its 10th anniversary and is now hoping to increase its membership as it looks to the future. People living in the Upton Pyne and Thorverton areas are invited to join as well as any new members from the Brampford Speke area, of course.

You do not have to speak French – but for those who do it is a great way to practise. Brampford Speke is twinned with Commes in Normandy, which is close to the Normandy beaches, Bayeux and the lovely little fishing village of Port-en-Bessin. Visits to and from France take place in alternate years. The next visit, to Commes, is likely to be in May 2015. Call Pat Brazil (841475) or Stuart Luxton (841094) for information.

The Great Pancake Challenge
Supported by Brampford Speke Twinning Association
Shrove Tuesday February 17
Upton Pyne Village Hall 6 – 8 pm
FREE entry and refreshments
Pancake tossing competitions for all ages
Pancake stall - all your favourite delicious fillings

Fun with a French flavour

The Welcome Café
Opening Monday 2nd March 2015
from 2.30 to 4.00pm
every Monday (except Bank Holidays)
at the WI Hut
Meet old friends …… Make new friends
Tea, coffee, biscuits, cakes and a warm welcome!

SILVERTON LINK UP
Voluntary Drivers Scheme for Wyndham House and Exe Valley Surgeries Patients

The VOLUNTEER DRIVERS are
Jean Hawkins 860849 John Kiely 861545
Doreen Beer 860731 Stephen Roach 861042
Mary Smith 861916 Dave Sleep 860678

LINK UP service takes patients with medical appointments from home to surgery or hospitals in the area. If you require transport contact one of the drivers mentioned above, giving them as much notice as possible. If you use the service a realistic donation towards the drivers’ expenses would be appreciated.
Payment is paid direct to the driver who issues a receipt. It may not always be possible to arrange a lift, as all our drivers are volunteers and cannot be expected to turn out on every occasion, although they will do their best.
Roger Higman (Link Up co-ordinator) 860571
roger.higman@homecall.co.uk
The Women’s World Day of Prayer will this year be held at the Baptist Church on Friday, 6th March at 11.00 am, followed by a Soup Lunch. All welcome.

Thorverton Church Consort Practices
(Thursdays at 7.45 – 9.00 pm in the Church)
February 12th and 26th
March 12th and 26th
April Wed. 1st and Thurs. 9th
New members always welcome.

Thorverton Church Junior Consort Practices
(Mondays, usually in school, 3.30 to 4.30 pm)
February 23rd
March 9th and 30th
April 1st and 9th
New members always welcome.

More information about both Consorts from Mary Thomas 01392 860730

The Culm Valley Sports Centre offers you more...
Fitness Suite & Vibrogym®, Astro turf, Fitness Class Studio, Squash Courts, Sauna, Badminton Courts, Meeting Room, Sports Hall, Refreshments & social area.

A varied programme of health & fitness classes, personal training, fitness assessments, clubs, junior activities; Teen Gym, ballet, birthday parties, trampolining, holiday activities, gymnastics and much more... for the whole family.

Meadow Lane, Culmstock EX15 1LL
Tel: 01884 234320
www.midddevonleisure.org.uk
www.facebook.com/culmvalleysportscentre

Do you live in
Brampford Speke or Cadbury or Cowley or Huxham or Netherexe or Newton St Cyres or Poltimore or Rewe or Stoke Canon or Thorverton or Upton Pyne or anywhere in between...?

Why? Youth Group
Who? Year 6s, 7s, 8s, 9s, 10s...
When? Mondays 7.30 - 9 pm every fortnight

Monday 2 Feb 2015 Movie Night*
*Extra night for year 9+ at 21 Broadlands

Monday 9 Feb 2015 Survival
Monday 23 Feb 2015 “Food of the desert” (or is that dessert?)

Where? WI Hut, Thorverton

What else? there’s always food!
Contact: Revd. Dave Carrington
Tel: 01392 841672
Email: david.carrington@netherexe.org

UPTON PYNE & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB
Monday 16th February – 7.30 pm
Upton Pyne Village Hall
Sarah Chesters TV presenter and Education Officer at RHS Rosemoor
will give us an illustrated talk on ‘Rosemoor through the Seasons’
Everyone is welcome to join us - non members £3 - Refreshments
Parish Church Services and News

FEBRUARY 2015 SERVICES & INFORMATION
The Netherexe Parishes - A Mission Community in the Diocese of Exeter

Sunday 1 February 2015 Presentation of Christ

10:00 am  Service with a Smile ☺ Brampford Speke LF
10:00 am  Service of the Word Cadbury Lay Led 
10:00 am  Holy Communion [C] Poltimore DD
10:00 am  Service of the Word Stoke Canon Lay Led 
10:00 am  Holy Communion [C] Thorverton MSS
11:15 am  Holy Communion [C] Rewe DC
05:00 pm  Service of the Word Newton St Cyres DC

Sunday 8 February 2015 Second Sunday before Lent

10:00 am  Family Service with Holy Communion [C] Newton St Cyres DC
10:00 am  Holy Communion [C] Stoke Canon HW & LF
11:15 am  Holy Communion [C] Upton Pyne DD
05:30 pm  Evening Prayer [BCP] Huxham DD

Sunday 15 February 2015 Sunday before Lent

09:00 am  Holy Communion [C] Brampford Speke DD
10:00 am  Holy Communion [C] Cadbury SS
10:00 am  Service of the Word Poltimore Lay Led 
10:00 am  Family Service & Baptism Thorverton DC & Lay Led 
11:15 am  Holy Communion [C] Rewe DD
05:00 pm  Holy Communion [C] Stoke Canon DC & HW

Wednesday 18 February 2015 Ash Wednesday

09:30 am  Holy Communion [BCP] Thorverton DD
07:00 pm  Prayer for the Mission Community & Holy Communion [C] Stoke Canon DC

Sunday 22 February 2015 Lent 1

09:00 am  Holy Communion [C] Huxham DC
10:00 am  Holy Communion [C] Newton St Cyres DD
10:00 am  Service of the Word Upton Pyne Lay Led 
11:00 am  Joint Service Thorverton Baptist Church BOF
11:15 am  Service of the Word Rewe Lay Led 
05:00 pm  Evening Prayer [BCP] Cadbury DD

Sunday 1 March 2015 Lent 2

10:00 am  Service with a Smile ☺ Brampford Speke LF
10:00 am  Service of the Word Cadbury Lay Led 
10:00 am  Holy Communion [C] Poltimore DD
10:00 am  Service of the Word Stoke Canon Lay Led 
10:00 am  Holy Communion [C] Thorverton DC
11:15 am  Holy Communion [C] Rewe MSS
05:00 pm  Holy Communion [C] Newton St Cyres DC
Services in the Netherexe Parishes
Your parish churches aim to provide a variety of service types to meet the needs of the whole community. Most Sunday services except those early in the morning include hymns and music. Everyone is welcome at all services.

Service With A Smile ☺
These services are designed for all ages and with the needs of young children especially in mind. They are informal and contemporary in style often including a children’s activity at the beginning; without communion and are led by lay teams. Services usually last about 35 minutes and are followed by refreshments.

Family Service
Family services are suitable for all ages, may be with or without Holy Communion, are contemporary in style and are often followed by refreshments.

Holy Communion [C]
Traditional service in contemporary language [one hour]

Holy Communion [BCP]
Traditional service in traditional language [one hour]

Morning Prayer [BCP]
Traditional Morning Service [Mattins] from the Book of Common Prayer [about an hour]

Evening Prayer [BCP]
Traditional Evening Service from the Book of Common Prayer [about an hour]

Common Worship [CW]
Common Worship Service

Daily Morning & Evening Prayer in the Netherexe Parishes
For daily services the format is generally Book of Common Prayer at Thorverton and Common Worship elsewhere, and the timing is about 20-30 minutes. All are welcome.

Morning Prayer is said on Mondays at 9.10pm in Stoke Canon church (during the school term, this takes the form of Collective Worship for Stoke Canon C. of E. School); on Tuesdays at 9.15am in Stoke Canon Chapel; In Thorverton at 7.30am on many weekdays and at 9.00am on Saturdays. For a list of the days this month on which Morning Prayer will be said at Thorverton, please see the notice posted in the church porch at Thorverton and on the website [go to churches section then select Thorverton] NB: Morning Prayer at Thorverton will cease from March 2015.

Evening Prayer is said on Thursdays at 5.00pm in Newton St Cyres church.

Variations:
- Mon 16 Feb Morning Prayer in Stoke Canon church [not school]

Who’s Who …..? Abbreviations Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Full Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DD</td>
<td>The Revd Preb Douglas Dettmer</td>
<td>Rector</td>
<td>01392 860332 <a href="mailto:douglas.dettmer@netherexe.org">douglas.dettmer@netherexe.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS</td>
<td>The Revd Preb Sue Sheppard</td>
<td>Associate Minister</td>
<td>01392 841284 <a href="mailto:sue.sheppard@netherexe.org">sue.sheppard@netherexe.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC</td>
<td>The Revd Dave Carrington</td>
<td>Assistant Curate</td>
<td>01392 841672 <a href="mailto:dave.carrington@netherexe.org">dave.carrington@netherexe.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LF</td>
<td>Mrs Laura Ford</td>
<td>Reader</td>
<td>01392 841753 <a href="mailto:laura.ford@netherexe.org">laura.ford@netherexe.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Associate Ministers
- CH  Revd Christopher Hughes
- MSS Revd’s Michael & Sharon Simpson
- HW  Revd Harold Whitty
- BOF Baptist Officant

For more information about the Netherexe Parishes please see [www.netherexe.org](http://www.netherexe.org) or contact:

Mrs Margaret Lowe [Administrator]
Tel: 07594 714590 - Tuesday & Thursday [08:30 – 16:30]
Email: margaret.admin@netherexe.org
Correspondence: The Netherexe Parishes, PO Box 734, Stoke Canon, Exeter, EX5 4WP

Would you like a lift to church? May we offer you a lift to the parish church or to a joint service elsewhere?
For transport to Sunday services from locations in Thorverton parish, please ring Steve Rendell on 01392 860780.
For transport to weekday Holy Communion at Thorverton please ring Margaret Turner-Warwick on 01392 861173.
For transport from locations in Newton St Cyres parish please contact Mrs Charlotte Dyer on 01392 851618.
For transport from Rewe parish please contact Guy Sheppard on 01392 841284.
Mission Community & Farewell Service for Douglas Dettmer
Sunday 8th March 2015, 11:00 am Thorverton Church
Followed by “Bring & Share Buffet Lunch” in The Thorverton Arms

Douglas Dettmer’s final service as Rector of the Netherexe Parishes will be at 11:00 am at Thorverton church on 8th March 2015.

The service will be followed by a “Bring & Share” buffet lunch in the Thorverton Arms and we hope that as many people as possible will attend to thank Douglas for his outstanding work and to wish both Douglas and Chloe farewell, with best wishes for their future.

Donations of finger-food for the buffet lunch can be left at The Thorverton Arms from 10:30 am.

Parish Letter
A difficult beginning...

In her letter last month Sue wrote of endings and beginnings. Sue could not have been thinking that the beginning to 2015 would be as experienced in France on 7-9 January with its worldwide repercussions.

I was at my last residential Reader weekend in Plymouth from 9-11 January and at the beginning of the week had been asked to prepare prayers of intercession for the Sunday Eucharist. What do we do and what do we say in the face of such events? We can, of course, pray for the families of those who have been killed. We can hope that the pouring out of people onto the streets of France can, by their unity, soften the hardened hearts of those who might be considering similar acts of violence.

World leaders came together in Paris reported in the papers as an “act of defiance”. Perhaps this would better be reported also as an act of unity – a coming together in support of those who died. It would be most unhelpful for such acts to be seen as aggressive or laying down a challenge that might be taken by another as an excuse to perpetuate violence. We need to pray for wisdom and imagination in our world leaders to prevent further escalation.

As we remember those in France, we also need to continue to pray for those in Nigeria and in several countries in the Middle East that suffer under extremist leaders and organisations on a daily basis. These people have had to flee their homes; they lack shelter and food and have seen members of their families killed as a result of their beliefs.

Much has been written in the newspapers of freedom. What is freedom? Is it freedom to say what we want? Is it freedom to say what we want and offend others? Can we expect not to be offended? Should we be prepared to accept others might not agree with us or laugh at our expense? Is freedom a free for all? Can freedom exist without regard to broader social goals and regardless of any responsibility for our obligations to others?

God longs for us to be free - free to be the person that he created us to be - rather than feeling we have to conform or mould ourselves to what the world requires. There are many references in the Bible to being free in Christ. This one from Galatians 5:13-14:

“For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself’”.

The need to centre our lives on Christ and his teachings is all the more important at times of crisis. In putting others before ourselves we avoid falling into the trap of forgetting our responsibility to others and to the world; to our neighbours both near and far. Sue wrote that God brings hope – a hope that is not a flight from reality. Sadly we have started 2015 with a heavy dose of reality. We may feel unable to do anything to change the situation but we can pray and we can be – be the people God intended us to be. We can in our own lives consider those around us and ensure a better day in place of a bitter day, a day for understanding instead of stirring up discord and a day to search out the good instead of the bad.

Laura Ford

Lent Prayer Gatherings
As Douglas Dettmer leaves the Netherexe Parishes in March to become Archdeacon of Totnes, our churches enter a time of change and challenge, let us gather together to pray for the Mission Community as
Focus on Thorverton

18 Feb  Stoke Canon (7.00pm start) Dave Carrington
[Including Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday]

25 Feb  Rewe Sue Sheppard

4 Mar Thorverton Michael & Sharon Simpson

11 Mar Bramford Speke Laura Ford

18 Mar Newton St Cyres Harold Whitty

25 Mar  Netherexe Dave Carrington

Baptist Church

"All human life is there."

In fact, this slogan of the old News of the World was never true. Most of the time, only part of human life was there, the sleazy and the sordid. The decent and the positive had very little place. But the catch phrase is a very fitting one for the Bible, in that you have between its pages every aspect of our human condition - our joys and our sorrows, all our experiences of life and of death. All the themes that dominate our headlines are to be found there - politics, drama, war, murder, romance, sex, marriage, adultery, divorce, dysfunctional families and so on. The list is endless!

The reason for this is that the Bible is not primarily a theological treatise. It gets its message across rather by situations and relationships. It is a record of examples to follow and examples to avoid. This is particularly true of the psalms, whose authors think - and sometimes shout - out loud, expressing their bewilderment, their hurt, their suffering. At other times they express joy and praise. Truly, all human life is there.

Psalm 139 is perhaps the most beautiful and intimate of them all. It has been described as "one of the summits of Old Testament poetry." And since it is a poem, it is divided into stanzas.

The first describes how God knows me. Whatever I am doing, whether standing, sitting, lying down, staying at home or going out, he is aware of it. He even knows what I am thinking and the very words I am going to use in order to express those thoughts. He surrounds me behind and before with his protection. No wonder the psalmist can hardly take it in: "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me."

The second stanza demonstrates how God surrounds me. After his feeling of wonderment, the psalmist experiences an urge to flee from the presence of this awesome, overwhelming being. Adam had this reaction in the garden of Eden and went and hid himself. Jonah was commissioned for Nineveh but took a one-way ticket to Tarshish, in the opposite direction. Yet neither a change of geography nor a change of element - from light to dark - can conceal him from God's presence.

On to stanza three, where I see how God made me. "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Many doctors, surgeons and other medical experts have written in detail about the intricacies of the human body, all the complexities of hand, eye, ear, brain. How the psalmist would have marvelled at modern technology that enables us to observe the unborn child in the womb. The "secret place" he refers to is secret no more. He speaks of "my unformed body." The amazing thought is that when he was just an embryo God saw him. From the very beginning of life, that mysterious second of fusion that creates a new human being, God was there. From conception to death, a human life is God's handiwork. Surely these verses have something to say to a society which can accept the snuffing out life in the womb and is debating bringing it to an abrupt close in old age.

Finally, how God tests me. After launching an attack on the evil he sees around him, the author turns his attention to the potential evil within. He invites God to look into his heart, to test him, to give him a spiritual check-up in the light of all that has gone before. He realises his shortcomings and that he needs God's help to keep him on the right path, not the one that leads to disappointment and destruction but the way everlasting that leads to eternal life.

The missionary statesman and theologian James Edwin Orr wrote a hymn in 1939 which expresses the concluding aspiration of this psalm. Here is the first verse:

"Search me, O God, and know my heart today.
Try me, O Saviour, know my thoughts, I pray;
See if there be some wicked way in me;
Cleanse me from every sin and set me free.

Maurice Harrison"
Ladies Group
The next meeting is a theatre outing on Thursday 12th February. Please meet in the Bury at 6.45pm. Any queries please ring Beryl on 860489.

Elsbeth Holmes

Women’s Institute

Meetings 2015:-
(All meetings are on Tuesdays.)

3rd Feb, 2.30pm Community Policing - PCSO Anna Roberts

3rd March, 2.30pm Educational Music Quiz - Antony Powell

7th April, 7.30pm Owls R US - Live birds

5th May, 7.30pm Resolution and AGM

2nd June, 7.30pm Fursdon House; talk by Catriona Fursdon

7th July, 7.30pm Waterways of Europe (To be confirmed)

4th August, 7.30pm (To be confirmed)

1st Sept, 7.30pm How to find more energy - talk by Peter Taylor

6th Oct, 2.30pm The Man who Never Flew – life in the RAF as a nurse - talk by George Williams

3rd Nov (To be confirmed)

1st December Trip - Exeter Carol Service; shopping; lunch (t.b.c.)

Poetry

Restoring Jerusalem
And will young feet in future times
Walk upon England’s pastures green?
As surely their creator did,
To glory in his country scene;
And if that countenance divine
Shone forth upon these hills so fair
It seems “Jerusalem” was builded here
For all its populace to share.

Bring me my pen that I might write,
Bring me the words – that hearts inspire;
Bring welcome fields and pathways free,
Bring children’s voices through our shire.
I will not cease from writing verse,
Nor shall my pen sleep in my hand,
Until “Jerusalem” is restored
In England’s green and glorious land.

Doreen Beer
(with apologies to William Blake)

The new Barliabins

This shows Barliabins open space above the Car Park. It has now been cleared of brambles. We need to think of a use for this valuable village asset. Suggestions please to a Parish Councillor or to Alison Marshall, the Parish Clerk.

John Spivey

As the area has now been cleared and cut back could the resident who feels it acceptable to dump used cat litter into the area please clear up the mess and start to use the proper bins provided by the council in future.
The Tivoli Cinema, Tiverton

While the Exeter Picturehouse Cinema is a valuable asset for Exeter, getting there from Thorverton can be a struggle. Battling traffic in town to reach the theatre is rewarded by almost non-existent parking with a few very tight spaces adjacent to the theatre. As a result, we are infrequent visitors.

Every time we walk along Fore Street in Tiverton, we notice an old sign for the “Tivioli” at storefront level and wonder what happened to the cinema. As we are relatively new to Devon, we finally discovered what probably everyone else knows: The Tivoli is a going concern featuring daily screenings of current films such as “Unbroken”, “Imitation of Life” and “Paddington”. Operated by Merlin Cinemas, with theatres throughout the West Country, they are actively saving and operating old, local venues such as the Tivoli. The Tivoli is also blessed by the active support of Dame Helen Mirren.

There is a dreary passageway from 32 Fore Street but once inside the Tivioli, one sees a well-stocked ticket and refreshment area with popcorn, essential to a USA theatre-goer like me. Tickets are priced at £6.50 for adults and £5.00 for children and seniors. The toilets are clean and well-maintained and the theatre itself is spacious with comfortable seating, lots of legroom and robust sound. Ample parking is available throughout the town centre.

Dan Taylor, the general manager of the Tivoli, tells me that future plans include a bar and a restaurant in the lobby area. Despite rumours in 2014 that the cinema would be demolished to make way for Fore Street remodeling, these plans have been scrapped and the future looks bright for Tivoli. For screening times call 01884 255554 or consult their web site at www.merlincinemas.co.uk.

Becky Stannard

Speed Watch is a scheme that empowers communities, to help the Police in our quest to drive down the speeds of vehicles in your area, where the speed limit is 40mph or below.

As your local officer, I receive many complaints about the speed in the village and surrounding areas. This is a great opportunity to come together to make your community safer.

Speed Watch aims to engage and educate drivers, rather than issue fines and court appearances, using a warning system.

The speed watch volunteers will stand at the roadside, in a designated risk assessed location and monitor traffic with a speed gun. Details of speeding vehicles will be recorded and warning letters sent to the registered owner together with educational information.

If you would like more information or are interested in becoming involved in this exciting and valuable Police Volunteer role, please do not hesitate to contact me.

PCSO Anna ROBERTS 30587
anna.roberts@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk
Phone 101
Legal Eagle

Section 23 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 creates the offence of unlawfully and maliciously administering or causing to be administered to or taken by any other person any poison or other destructive or noxious thing, so as thereby to endanger the life of such person, or so as thereby to inflict upon such person any grievous bodily harm.

Recently the Court of Appeal was required to rule in the case of, Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority –v- First-tier Tribunal (Social Entitlement Chamber); In re CP [2015] on the meaning of the term, ‘any other person’ as used in s23.

A mother who drank excessive amounts of alcohol during her pregnancy caused her child to be born with permanent damage from foetal alcohol spectrum disorder. The child brought a claim for compensation and the claim was denied by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority.

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority administers a scheme which considers claims for compensation from people who have been injured physically or mentally because they were the victims of violent crime. The claim on behalf of the child alleged that the mother was guilty of unlawfully administering a poison to any other person so as thereby to inflict grievous bodily harm contrary to s23.

It was accepted that the mother had administered to the child a poison by reason of her consumption of excess quantities of alcohol during her pregnancy. It was also accepted that as a result the child had suffered grievous bodily harm. The issue then turned on the meaning to be given to the term, ‘any other person’ for the purposes of s23, given that the child was a foetus at the time the alcohol was ingested.

In A-G’s Reference (No.3 of 1994) [1997] the appellant stabbed a pregnant woman intending to cause her grievous bodily harm. As a result of the stabbing her child was born prematurely and died 121 days later. At first instance the trial judge directed the jury to acquit the appellant of both murder and manslaughter because the foetus, at the time of the attack, was not a live person. The doctrine of transferred malice was not applicable because, “the intent to stab the mother (a live person) could not be transferred to the foetus (not a live person).” The Attorney-General referred the case to the Court of Appeal and the appeal was allowed on the ground that the foetus is part of the mother so that an intention to cause grievous bodily harm to the mother is equivalent to the same intention towards the foetus. In essence the court was saying that the doctrine of transferred malice was irrelevant to the question of liability.

The appellant appealed to the House of Lords. The appeal was allowed. Lord Mustill, in rejecting the view of the Court of Appeal, explained that the mother and the foetus were two distinct organisms living symbiotically, not a single organism with two aspects. Unlike the Court of Appeal, Lord Mustill’s judgment is rooted firmly in the notion of transferred malice and its non-applicability to the circumstances. According to Lord Mustill, there must be “some compatibility between the original intention and the actual occurrence”. What was intended was grievous bodily harm to the mother - what actually occurred was the death of the child who, at the time of the attack, was not a legal person.

Regular readers will recall that the definition of murder is, ‘the unlawful killing of a reasonable person who is in being and under the Queen’s peace with malice aforethought.

So, in order to be a victim of murder a child must have acquired an existence independent of its mother in order to satisfy the ‘in being’ requirement.

Is the position the same for the s23 offence? The offence requires proof that the actus reus (the guilty act) and the mens rea (the guilty mind) coincided. So, unless the foetus could be regarded as, ‘another person’ at the time the noxious substance had been administered, the offence could not have been completed at that time.

The judgment of the Court of Appeal was delivered by Lord Justice Treacy. The time at which the grievous bodily harm had occurred was whilst the child had been in the womb. At that stage the child had not acquired a legal personality and was therefore not capable of being regarded as “any other person” for the purposes of s23. Consequently the Upper Tribunal had been correct to conclude that, for the purposes of s23, there was no link between the administration of the alcohol and the born child.

In the result, therefore, the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority had been right to deny the child’s claim to compensation.

Clive Hamblin
Give and Take Fortnight

From 6th to 21st February from 10.00am till 4.00pm, except Sundays, Sustainable Crediton will have a Give and Take Pop Up Shop on Crediton High St (opp Boots). Everything on display will be FREE to take away up to 5 items. The project has been made possible by grants from the Big Lottery Awards for All and Devon County Council Local Amenities Fund. They will be paying all the shops overheads and rent. However in order to make it the success it also relies on members of the public, and that includes YOU, bringing along all their unwanted household items to give away. Please note you do not have to bring along goods to take things away, but it does help!!

Anything you have that is in reusable condition, can be carried by one person and that you no longer need, can be brought along. Toys, clothes, garden equipment, kitchen equipment, household linens, ornaments, household furnishings, books, CDs and DVDs are all welcome.

If you have big items such as beds, tables, wardrobes etc. you can bring a description/picture plus your contact details to be displayed on a special noticeboard in the shop.

If you bring mains powered electrical items these will be passed on to the new Refurnish shop next to Morrisons where they have an electrician who can PAT test them, but everything else, including battery powered items, will be kept at the shop for others to take away.

If you would like to help in the shop during that time we would love to have you. It will take a lot of people to keep it covered for the full 14 days, so if you can spare a few hours it would be very useful. Please let us know by contacting Esther on esthermann174@yahoo.co.uk as soon as possible.

Crediton Seed Share

Old Town Hall, Searle Street, Saturday 21st February 11:00am to 14:00pm.

Why?
Seed sharing has become increasingly popular over recent years. Apart from saving money it is a way of trying different or Heritage varieties that cannot be bought in shops because of UK law that says you can only sell certain varieties, which is why all the garden centres and shops sell much the same stock.

Commercial seeds stocks are licensed by government and it is illegal to sell other kinds of seed varieties not on the list. This list is quite limited and costly to add to, so allows big seed companies to dictate what we can grow. In addition, the F1 seeds sold by seed companies are not capable of being collected and used again after the plant has flowered, so for the first time in history growers have to buy new seed every year.

How does it work?
Everyone is welcome whether they have seeds to share or not. If you take seeds this year we hope you will come back next year, having saved a few seeds yourself. If you have saved seed, please write the variety and year on a packet, for example, "Tomato Moneymaker 2011" or just "Tomato Cherry Type 2011" if you do not know the name. You can also bring seeds in commercial packets that you have not used, providing they are less than 3 years old. Come and find out how to save seeds - save yourself money, try new varieties and help save heritage seeds.

Entry is free but please consider a donation to cover the costs of the day.

What else will you find?
Information about composting and other gardening related stalls. For example, Once Read Books will be bringing their usual interesting selection of gardening, cookery and sustainability related books and Tiverton Beekeepers will be there to answer your questions about bees. Sustainable Crediton will be selling a delicious range of chutneys and jam.

You are also welcome to bring some plants for sale or swap. There will also be a tasty lunch for sale which is a nice chance to sit and chat to friends old and new.

Sustainable Crediton

Bridge Success

Congratulations to Ian Stoyle for winning the Crediton Bridge Club Championship for the fourth successive year. The championship is decided by cumulative points over the year, so this is a testimony both to Ian’s skill and his regular attendance.

If you are interested in playing bridge then why not come along to Thorverton Bridge Club which meets on the first, third and fifth Thursdays of the month from 7.15pm in the WI Hut? The Club welcomes players of all standards, including absolute beginners. Details from Graeme Culshaw on 01392 860203.
Point-to-Point Success

Local trainer Robert Chanin has made an excellent start to the point-to-point season. At the Silverton Hunt meeting at Black Forest Lodge on 18th January he trained two winners: in the Confined (Welstonedruid ridden by Ian Chanin and owned by Mr and Mrs Knox) and in the Ladies Open (Byerley Bear ridden by Leanda Tickle and owned by Roger Knowles). For Byerley Bear, this followed up a win the previous weekend in the Ladies Open at Wadebridge where the horse is something of a course specialist.

As I write, Robert has a total of 5 winners this season, which places him second in the national point-to-pointers trainers’ list.

Thorverton and District History Society

The committee has again done a very good job in putting together such a varied programme for the year. It would be great to see some new members taking advantage of listening to what are almost always first class speakers. Ed.

Programme 2015-2016

Friday 27 February
Keith Weedon
Poltimore House, Past & Present

Friday 27 March
Dr Mick Atkinson
The Industrial Archaeology of Dartmoor

Friday 24 April
Dr Roger Smith
Devon Cyder, Whimple & Whiteways

Friday 22 May
Keith Badman
Discovery of South Australia - Part 2

June Outside Visit - TBC

Friday 25 September
Member of DA&LSS staff
The South West Heritage Trust and the Future of Archives and Local Studies Collections in Devon

Friday 23 October
Mark Baker
Grand Western Canal

Friday 27 November
Rob Wilson-North
Recent advances in our understanding of the archaeology of Exmoor

Friday 22 January 2016
AGM and Robin Blythe- Lord
Boney St Helena with a bit of Ascension

All meetings start at 7:30 pm

Newton St Cyres Tennis Club

Icy courts and torrential rain are a winter tennis hazard, but so far this year we have not seen too much of either and play at the club has continued relatively unhindered. Low sun has often made visibility difficult, but no one is complaining too much about that! A recent Sunday afternoon club session saw 13 people arrive, all keen to work off some of the Christmas excess.

So if your new year’s resolution was to get fit and have fun, why not think about joining? You can come along for a couple of taster sessions before making up your mind. Our membership year starts on 1 April so now is the time to start thinking about it in order to get a full year for your money.

Our membership secretary is Laura Leigh, telephone 01647 24259, or check out our web-site: www.newtonstcyrestennisclub for information about club sessions, coaching etc.

Sally Baldwin
Rainfall Record

I promised to give a note of the rainfall recorded by Gus Christianson in Silver Street, Thorverton, for the whole of 2014. In fact I can go one better and provide the following chart which compares 2014 with 2013. It will be noted that for most months, and for the year as a whole, 2014 was wetter than 2013. Even the “lovely summer” that we had in 2014 was significantly wetter than the summer of 2013.

The total annual rainfall in 2014 was 1136 mm, which compares with the yearly average that Gus has recorded of 975 mm. You hardly need reminding that last January and February were particularly wet. It can also be seen from the chart below that November 2014 was also a very wet month.

*Neville Lane (from Gus Christianson’s recordings)*

![Monthly Rainfall Recorded in Thorverton in 2013 and 2014](chart.png)

Thorverton Parish Church – photo by John Spivey
Short Walks in and Around Thorverton

Walk 2 (Chapel Farm and Ashley)

I was pleased to get some feedback from Maurice Harrison who enjoyed last month’s Fair Oak walk. He advised of the need for good boots, preferably wellingtons at this time of year in particular. This month’s walk is mostly along roads, although it does contain a short stretch which is often muddy so again boots are strongly recommended.

Start outside the Thorverton Arms and head up Bullen Street, taking the right fork towards Crediton, along Lynch Road. Continue along this road for almost ¾ mile, passing Lynch Farm (pictured right), until Chapel Corner. Turn right, signposted to Eastern Down. Go uphill past Chapel Farm, along a sunken lane with much burrowed banks.

If my interpretation of WG Hoskins’ account in “The Making of the English Landscape” is correct, this sunken lane is part of a 7th Century Saxon boundary between the Monkton Estate which belonged to Exeter Abbey, and the royal estate of Silverton. The double-ditch would have been dug out by 7th Century slave labour. I would be interested if any readers can confirm or even expand on this.

Continue for about ¼ mile to Eastern Down and then carry on the track, which opens out with splendid views to the east far across Thorverton to the Sidmouth Gap. Take your time along this beautiful tree-lined stretch. You will come to a gate on the main track. Don’t go through this, but take the path downhill, through another gate after about 20 yards. The path is marked “County Road”. Follow the signs which will bring you out onto the road. Turn right on the road and right again after 200 yards to go past Ashley Farm (which you would have seen earlier from the higher track – pictured below left).

Follow the road for about a mile into Thorverton, forking right where it joins the road from Fursdon. Just by the Thorverton sign look to your right across Dinneford Meadow back towards the high point of your walk (pictured below right).
Nature Notes

Here is part two of my round up of 2014. This month I have also written about premature awakening of hibernating butterflies, village nature round-up and a new gadget.

**July** was one of the hottest on record and yet again we had some spectacular thunderstorms. On 24**th** July the office in Exeter where I work was struck by lightning and it sounded like an explosion. In all my life I have never experienced anything like it. As the storm moved around the area to my sister’s at Wyke, lightning struck a Lodgepole Pine and Larch, both around 20-25 feet in height and also knocked out the telephone system.

During the month I spotted ‘our’ Grass Snake fishing again for our goldfish. This is a photograph of the thief from 2013, taken by Alan Balkwill. An injured Brown Long-eared Bat was found out in the lane but sadly died overnight. This is the second sighting of this species hereabouts and there most definitely is a colony somewhere in the area. July saw an influx of jellyfish to English waters, especially around the Cornish coast.

The first week of **August** was warm and summery but soon deteriorated to become cool and rainy, indeed one of the coolest August months on record. I saw the Grass Snake take another goldfish from our pond.

**September** was declared the fourth warmest and one of the driest. Weather conditions encouraged more moths from the Continent to our shores and on 20**th** I was delighted to find a Convolvulus Hawk-moth had been attracted to my moth trap, my first ever. One was found at Thorverton Farm Shop on 10**th** September back in 2010.

**October** was a mild month, unseasonably warm around 19**th** and especially 31**st** which was the warmest Halloween on record. The mild weather encouraged very late sightings of native moths. On 28**th** October I light-trapped a pristine Swallow-tailed moth. The normal flight season for this moth is late June to July.

**November** was generally dull with the odd sunny day. The first decent frost was evident on the morning of 24**th**. Whilst on the TARTS walk on 29**th** near Nymet Rowland, to our surprise we found a fruiting wild strawberry. We were tempted to eat it but left it still attached to the plant.

The night of the 28**th** **December** the temperature plummeted to produce a sparkly frost which lingered all day on the 30**th** and into the morning of 31**st**. On 30**th** I walked down the garden and there was a loud rustling in our large bramble patch. I assumed I had disturbed a fox but it was a Roe Deer who bounded out into the middle of the seedling corn field and stood there looking a bit bewildered. I potted up our Christmas tree and brought it into the house on 20**th**.

Over recent years an insect of some description has been found inside the living room having come out of the tree, usually a micro moth. This year I found crawling up the television a red and black bug with the Latin name *Corizus hyoscyami*. It overwinters as an adult and used to be confined to the coasts of Southern Britain but has spread inland.

**Butterfly Hibernation.**

I received a phone call from Annette Mawson who had a butterfly fluttering around inside her house that had prematurely awakened from hibernation and Annette wanted advice on what to do with it. I had had little success in preserving the life of butterflies I had found in this predicament.

Since our conversation I have received a Butterfly Conservation e-newsletter that gives advice on this topic which I will share with you. Catch the butterfly and place in a cardboard box or similar. Place this somewhere cool and allow the butterfly to return to a sleepy state. It should have calmed down after half an hour. Now you can place the butterfly in an unheated shed, outhouse or similar to resume hibernation as long as the butterfly has a means to get out when it wakes up in spring. I have been able to do this recently having found a Peacock butterfly unexpectedly fluttering around in our conservatory. I placed the calmed butterfly on a shelf in an outhouse. After a few days I checked the place where I had left it and it was not there, I think it has tucked itself into a hideaway of its choosing.

Local Round-up

On 30**th** December my daughter and I walked the local lanes. We spotted a flock of some 14 Lapwing overhead and disturbed a Snipe from the roadside ditch near Three Limbed Oak. During week commencing 12**th** January Great Spotted Woodpeckers were heard drumming in the vicinity of The Glebe and the school. Wild Primroses were spotted in flower on 3**rd** January by Kim Lee along...
the track that leads to Shepherds Cot, the earliest there he has seen them flowering. Little Egret is still to be seen in Ford Meadow and the sheep dip area of the village.

Beginners Luck
I now have a trail cam to discover the secrets of our garden. Here is a picture of what was captured by cam during the first night it was deployed.

![Image of a bird](image)

Jenny Garne
01392 860875
jenny.garne2@tiscali.co.uk

Golf Society

Sunday 21st December
We had 11 golfers out today, escaping from the Christmas preparations! The scoring was comparatively low, everybody seemed to be short (perhaps that was because it was the shortest day). The winner today was Phil Oram with an impressive 17 points which earned him a handicap cut of 1 shot despite his attempt at protection by not scoring on the last hole. Runner up was Jim Chappelle with 16 points and joint third with 15 points were Scott Hasler, John Mann and Paul Richards. Rear gunner was Nigel Austburger with 6 points.

There were a few nominations for the Donna-y trophy with the top two being Phil Oram’s second shot on the 9th, where after a good drive he hit his second, held the pose looking anxiously towards the green to no avail. His playing partners were laughing at this point as he somehow managed to get the ball to go about 5’ into the air and it landed about 18” in front of him. The winner though was Jim Chappelle who leaning down to pick his ball out of the cup on the 5th green lost his balance and went down onto the green. All the parachute military training was not wasted though as in one movement he went onto his shoulders and back onto his feet.

Boxing Day December 26th had to be played on Sunday 28th due to the weather. It is now several years that we have not managed to play on Boxing Day due to the weather. This was a cold but dry and sunny day. We only had a small field so played a team game in threes of 1-2-3 (scores to count on each hole).

The winning team was David Harlow, John Mann and Chris Harlow with a score of 38 points. The runners up were Paul Richards, Steve Gidley and Phil Beasley with a score of 29 points.

John Mann managed a two on the 3rd hole winning the £50 pot (his partners could hardly bear to watch as he took on the 18” putt!), but did enjoy the drink back at the Exeter Inn. David Harlow achieved the shortest drive on the par 3 third and Chris Harlow was the winner of the Donna-y trophy. On the 8th hole after a superb drive he pulled his second shot to the left into the trees and close to out of bounds, so played a provisional ball. After a look around for the first ball he decided he had better go and play his provisional, but then could not remember where that had gone (it was hiding under a leaf and was covered in mud). It was eventually found and played, then walking up to the green he discovered his first ball that was so plugged it was almost invisible.

New Year’s Day January 1st
This was a 3 club competition, so the first problem for the golfers was to decide which clubs to take onto the course - quite a difficult problem with a hang-over. There must have been a lot of Gspotters not feeling that well as only 7 players turned up.

The scores were all quite low due in part to the ability to focus on the ball, the weather which was overcast and windy and of course the difficulty of only having 3 clubs. We had joint winners who were Rhys Roberts and Phil Oram both with 14 points and a handicap cut of one shot. Runner up was David Harlow with a score of 12. Bringing up the rear were Jim Chappelle and Paul Richards both with 9 points. The shortest drive looked like it was going to Ken Galvin for a 10 yard effort on the first, but Paul Richards topped that with a 5 yarder on the 4th hole. The Donna-y trophy went to Geoff Bulley who when about to tee off on the first realised he had not picked up a score card. There were echoes from several others at this point!

Sunday 11th January
A good turnout today with 12 players taking part, on a blowy but dry day.

Our winner today was Chris Harlow with 18 points and a handicap cut of one shot. Runner up was David Harlow with 17 points, third was Steve Gidley with 16 points and John Mann was fourth with 15 points. Jim Chappelle won the two’s pot of £50 with a two on the par 3 third hole.
Sholto Moger made his first appearance as a GSPOT and managed to win the Donna-y trophy. He narrowly missed a putt on the third and then gave himself the last couple of inches by knocking his ball away. His playing partners reminded him that you had to hole the putt to score, result - no points on this hole!

The shortest drive had a clear winner today as Rhys Roberts on the second tee managed to mishit his drive putting so much spin onto the ball it finished a couple of inches behind where it started. To compound his error he then placed the ball back onto the tee and in effect played 3 off the tee when he could have played the ball as it lay as a second shot.

Review of 2014
GSPOT’s have had another successful year with over 30 players taking part in our competitions. Some highlights are:

The winner of the Russell Ball Cup (singles knockout) was Chris Harlow who beat Geoff Bulley in the final.

The Golfer of the year was David Harlow with a score of 19.6 (average over best 5 rounds). A further 3 players had better than par, namely Paul Richards (19.2), Scott Hasler (18.8) and Mark Cummins (18.4).

The Texas Scramble was won by Mark Cummins, Ken Galvin and Scott Hasler with the runners up being Chris Harlow, Geoff Bulley and David Harlow.

The winners of the Pairs competition were Bandit and the Drug Dealer (alias Colin Anderson and Nigel Austburger) with Phil Beasley and Dave Whalley as runners up.

The winners of the inaugural Couples competition were Paul Richards and David Harlow with the runners up being Ken Galvin and Mark Cummins.

Winner of the Money List in the year was Paul Richards with £114. Three other players won over £100, namely Chris Harlow (£106), David Harlow (£105) and John Mann (£103). We all pay a small amount into the prize fund every time we play and the total won this year was £1082.

The dates arranged for February will be Sundays 8th and 22nd. For March they are Sundays 8th and 22nd. It will be The 10th Birthday of GSPOT’s on Good Friday 3rd April.

All aspiring golfers welcome, details from the Exeter Inn.

G S Potter

The Garden in February 2015

It is rather damp outside at the moment and if it remains so, leave your plots until the weather dries up, especially if you have to tread over your lawn to reach flower and shrub borders. Similarly, if the veg. plot is very wet, let it dry out before you start to dig it over. However, if you were unable to add manure or well rotted compost to the potato plot and the pea and bean plot, try to get manure onto these as soon as possible so that they can be dug and prepared when necessary. The bean plot will be first with broad beans. I am just about to get my broad beans going in pots in the glass house. I would have done it earlier but the weather was very cold and nothing would germinate in frosty conditions. If it remains cold, a warm inside window sill will help get things started. Be warned at either leaving them in the warm too long so they grow well but too quick and become lanky before you are ready to put them out; or you move them from a warm inside position to a cold glass house and its too much of a shock. If you start them inside in the warm gradually, move them into colder conditions and remember not to let them get too damp.

Now is a good time, Neville, to work out your veggie plot plan for the year and write it down. It really is helpful to consult later. In my veg. plot, I have made 4 beds to work from and will rotate the beds each year in the same order to prevent disease building up. My order is 1—alliums; 2—peas and beans; 3—root-crops; 4—potatoes and brassicas.

There are other variations of this but stick with one. When you have chosen, just move them round each year. Some crops are not a problem with disease, such as lettuce, and these can be slotted into spare space on any plot. Just remember they are not tall plants and if you plant them next to something like runner beans they can be quickly over-shadowed!

Potatoes are now in the garden centres. From lack of space and the threat of blight I am going for first and second earlies again as I know that I should get a good crop of potatoes. These are at the moment chitting, spread out in a dry, open box in a cold bedroom. Not a lot is happening but that is fine as I don’t want them to chit too soon. I would hope to get them in the ground during March or early April.

This month, I shall be sowing cabbage seed in modules then transferring them to 9cms pots once they have a good root system. I shall also sow my first sowing of leeks. These get spread over general purpose compost in a bucket. The soil comes at least half way up the bucket and has been gently patted...
down to form a firm but not compacted flat area to lay the seeds on. These I spread as evenly as possible and then sprinkle compost lightly over them so that they are not visible to the eye. Do not bury them deep as they are only little seeds and need to be near the light. Keep on a table in the glass house or an inside window or table close to the light. Keep moist but not damp and stop watering outside if it becomes icy. Parsley can also be sown now in a seed tray but I have found the easiest way to get new plants is to buy a small pot of parsley from the supermarket and divide it into 9cms pots. I have 12 super little eager plants from my last divide and they have come through the winter well.

Peas can also be planted in pots now. 4 to a 9cms pot will give you a nice bushy plant, especially if you cut it back once or twice if it becomes too long before planting out. None of these veg. seeds need heat but the peas need mouse protection or you will lose the lot!! Put them up on overturned big pots and make sure nothing can stretch across to them. Do not panic if nothing seems to be happening at first. It does take time and gardeners have to learn to be patient. Do check them over to make sure the compost is moist but not too much and check that the compost has not been disturbed! If you have used healthy seed, eventually it will grow.

Peas can also be planted in pots now. 4 to a 9cms pot will give you a nice bushy plant, especially if you cut it back once or twice if it becomes too long before planting out. None of these veg. seeds need heat but the peas need mouse protection or you will lose the lot!! Put them up on overturned big pots and make sure nothing can stretch across to them. Do not panic if nothing seems to be happening at first. It does take time and gardeners have to learn to be patient. Do check them over to make sure the compost is moist but not too much and check that the compost has not been disturbed! If you have used healthy seed, eventually it will grow.

Sorry all garden plant lovers as this is a very veggie month and unless the weather permits there is less to be getting on with but your turn will come!! If the weather dries and warms up slightly, take every opportunity to tidy where necessary and get into areas which have weed that needs digging out. It’s a good time now as it comes out easily and you can reach the back of the borders.

Roses can be planted in late February if the weather is suitable. Check you have enough room for your chosen rose when it becomes full grown. They need space to look spectacular. If planting more than one rose in a space, again think of the final effect of fully grown roses. This will give you a good idea of the spacing needed and it’s often more than you think. Next prepare your dormant rose by cutting it back to 3 or 5 healthy buds on each stem. This helps it to grow vigorously and prevents it becoming lanky. Dig a hole big enough for the roots without disturbing them and just deep enough so it is planted to the same level it has already been in the ground. Too deep and you have problems with the graft throwing up runners and too high it will suffer from wind rock and dry out quicker. Make sure the rose is upright when the soil is put back and if a stake is needed, that it is in place. Roses like rich soil and will take kindly to plenty of extra well rotted manure or garden compost around them. Try and keep the area clear around the rose as they don’t like to jostle for space.

Herbacious border plants can be moved and divided at this point so long as you are not damaging the soil around them. So again not too cold or too damp. There are always ways to protect soil and grass so use cardboard or planks or walking mats to protect the garden if you are working on it.

Whatever your tasks, Neville, enjoy getting out in the garden again and happy gardening.

Lorraine Colebrook

The answers for the Xmas quiz were as follows------
1—Ilex aquifolium 2—Taxus baccata 3—Pyracantha coccinea
4—Rubus cockburnianus 5—Yucca gloriosa 6— Mahonia japonica
7—Sarcocca hookeriana 8—Cornus alba ‘Sibirica’
9—Hamamelis mollis 10—Euphorbia pulcherrina
11—Skimmia japonica 12—Helleborus niger
13—Acer pensylvanicum ‘Erythrocladum’ 14—Abeliophyllum distichum

There were just enough clues given to chose these particular varieties from others but it was not easy so well done to all. The seasonal message was ‘Happy Christmas’. Ann Parkinson and Russell Powell submitted fully correct answers, so there will be a bottle of wine for each of them, well done.

Upton Pyne and District Garden Club News

The Annual General Meeting was held on 19th January and it was reported that it had been another successful year with all the variety of talks arranged by Nick Baker being enjoyable and well received. Sadly Pam Keen, our Chairman, had to resign during the year but Nick had stepped in very adequately as Vice-Chairman. It was decided to leave the annual subscription at £10 as the finances of the club were very healthy.

Nick outlined the talks arranged for the forthcoming year which again should prove to be very interesting starting with Sarah Chesters who is coming on the 16th February to talk about the history of RHS Rosemoor. Many people will have been there and no matter what time of the year you go it always proves to be worth the visit with a great variety of things to see so do come along if you are interested.
In February we are hopefully going to visit Snowdrop Valley – again if anyone would like to join us then please give Pat Overton a call on 841 599. Last year we sadly had to cancel because of dreadful weather so we hope to be lucky this time.

The following officers and committee members were then elected:

1) Nick Baker – Vice-Chairman – nominated, seconded and voted in.
2) Ros Rowlerson – Secretary – nominated, seconded and voted in.
3) Jane King – Treasurer – nominated, seconded and voted in.
4) Nick Baker – Programme Secretary – nominated, seconded and voted in.
5) Chris Grundy – Show Secretary – nominated, seconded and voted in.
6) Pat Brookes, Mary Furner, Pat Overton and Pam Stoneman were then nominated, seconded and voted in en bloc as committee members.

Our Spring Show this year will be on Saturday 25th April and details will be published in Speke Up later on. It is always a very enjoyable and informal day with many interesting exhibits and open to non-members, with those attending doing the voting.

Later on during the summer Nick and Jilly Baker and Simon and Chris Grundy will be opening their gardens at Cowley to the public - cream teas will be served and details will again be published later during the year.

If anyone would like to know more about the Garden Club please do give me a ring on 861 205. We are a very informal group and you can be assured of a warm welcome.

Ros Rowlerson

Thorverton Churchyard – photo by John Spivey
Recent TARTS walks:

Saturday 27th December 2014

We set out from the village, which is some 7 miles northwest of Tiverton, pausing for a group photograph at the Trinity Well that once supplied Rackenford with water. This is a rare example of a village spring protected by its own cob-and-thatch shelter.

We followed muddy footpaths west across fields past West Backstone Farm, admiring its unusual statue of the goddess Fortuna next to the path. Coming to a country lane, which is part of the Two Moors Way, we hiked northeast to Toll House Farm admiring views of Exmoor to the north and Dartmoor behind us. The Way continued as a wide leaf-covered avenue of beeches suggestive of an old drove-road. Lichen-draped trees shone in brief bursts of oblique, winter sunlight.

Turning east and then south, we followed fields and lanes back to Rackenford, stopping for a moment to be photographed among a herd of electronic Yuletide reindeer at the entrance to the farm of Worthy Folly. Escaping a brief shower of rain at the end of our walk, we repaired to the fine, old Stag Inn for lunch, reserving our post-Christmas dietary resolutions for some more appropriate time.

Saturday 17th January 2015

The day started off with a wintery shower en route to the start point at Yeoford. Fortunately the weather improved greatly and by the time we set off it was sunny, although still very cold.

Our route followed much of the Devonshire Heartland Way along quiet country lanes and some muddy tracks. We stopped for coffee at the chapel in Posbury where we met a lady attending to the church flowers who gave us a fascinating insight into the nuns of the Franciscan community at Posbury. After coffee we ascended gradually, and had the most wonderful views across the rolling Mid Devon countryside. The eagle-eyed among us (pardon the pun) spotted at least 6 buzzards in one field. After stopping to watch them for a while we continued our route, taking in a beautiful old sunken lane with centuries of leaf mould underfoot and copious amounts of holly overhead. (Wrong season I know but I might venture there for my Christmas decorations this year!). Lastly we stopped for a late lunch at the railway overbridge, and were in time to see one of the Tarka line trains approach. We all waved in at the train as it passed under the bridge, and were delighted to see the driver wave back. Now, where did I put my red petticoat...

Future walks and events

Saturdays
31st January – walk led by Jerry & Anne
14th February - local walk led by Jenny
28th February - longer walk led by Caroline
14th March - walk led by Heather and Royston
28th March - Approximately 5-6 mile walk around Sampford Courtenay and Honeychurch led by Mike
11th April - walk led by Jean
25th April - walk led by Graeme

Monday 13th April - TARTS meeting 8.15pm at the Exeter Inn

All walks meet opposite the church at 09.30, and are suitable for dogs unless otherwise stated. Shorter walks are usually 4 – 6 miles in length and longer walks 6 – 9 miles, however precise details of each walk (length, gradient, lunch information etc) will be displayed approximately a week before the walk in the Old Post Office Window and on the village notice board. If you would like to be included on the email list contact Caroline (01626 865465) or Graeme (860203).

Caroline Prince
Thorverton Parish Information
AIR AMBULANCE EMERGENCY - QUOTE NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE
RECREATION GROUND - Sheet 192 SS 923019 MEMORIAL HALL FIELD - Sheet 192 SS 926019

Carers’ Support Group  Anne Higman, Wyndham House Surgery, Silverton. 860034.
Meetings - 3rd Wednesday of month, Wyndham House, 2.30-4.30 p.m.

Church (C of E)
Revd Douglas Dettmer, The Rectory, Thorverton. 860332. douglas.dettmer@netherexe.org
Revd Sue Sheppard, Associate Minister, Autumn Haze, Rewe. 841284. sue.sheppard@netherexe.org
Revd Dave Carrington, Assistant Curate. 841672. dave.carrington@netherexe.org
Mrs Laura Ford, Reader. 841753. laura.ford@netherexe.org
Mrs Margaret Lowe, Administration Manager, 07594 714590. margaret.admin@netherexe.org

Church Wardens  Edwin Greed, Fortescue, Netherexe. 841231.
Consort  Mary Thomas, 1 The Glebe, Thorverton. 860730.
P.C.C. Treasurer  Jean Brown, Rydal Cottage, Bullen Street. 861176.

Friends of Thorverton Parish Church Trust  Royston Kershaw 25 The Glebe 860419

Church (Baptist)
The Revd Maurice Harrison, 966861.
Secretary Phyllis Langdon, 860932.

Church Wardens  Edwin Greed, Fortescue, Netherexe. 841231.

County Councillor  Margaret Squires
District Councillor  Cllr. Mr. R. M. Deed. 01392 861258.

Doctors: Thorverton/Silverton  Dr Jon Wride & Lynne Anderson / Drs O’Brien, Ziegler & Keysell

Church Council Chairman  Cllr. Stuart Crang,
Church Clerk  Mrs Alison Mashall, Dinneford House, Dinneford Street, Thorverton, EX5 5NU. 861228.

Church Council Meetings  2nd Tuesday of month, at The Memorial Hall, 7.30 pm.
Church Allotments  Contact the Parish Clerk - 861228
Church Council Notice Board  Situated in School Lane, opposite the Thorverton Arms.

IMPORTANT!- PLANNING APPLICATION NOTICES ARE DISPLAYED HERE
Planning notification applications at http://data.gov.uk/apps/planningalerts alert via email when a planning application is published in one’s street, neighbourhood or wider area.

Pension Service  PO Box 93, Plymouth PL6 5WJ. 0845 60 60 265
Police  Non-emergency number: 101.

Post Office Portacabin (TCT Ltd)  Quarry Car Park, Thorverton EX5 5NG Tel: 860455
Mon. to Fri : 9 am-1.00 pm, 2 - 5.30 pm. Sat: 9 am -12 noon, Sun: 9 - 10.30 am for newspapers only
Business Manager:  Jan Hamilton 07764461575
Chair and Company Secretary: Heather Kershaw, 25 The Glebe, 860419

Public Telephone Kiosk  Opposite the Church, outside the former Bell Inn, Dinneford St.

Thorverton C of E Primary School (Part of the Exe Valley Federation)
Executive Headteacher (Exe Valley Federation): Mrs Heather Perry 01392 250821
Head of Teaching and Learning (Thorverton): Mr Olly White 01392 860374
School Office (Thorverton): 01392 860374
Chair of Governors (Exe Valley Federation): Marian Beresford 01363 866112
Clerk to the Governors: Ms Jessica Benger: 07795 515048

School P.T.F.A.  Chair: Julie Davie 1363 772309, Vice-Chair: Pippa Eyles 861767,
Secretary: Annette Emanuel, Treasurer: Carol Pearn 860653.


Thorverton Millennium Green Trust
Chair: Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick, Pynes House, Silver Street, 861173.
Secretary: Lin Balkwill, 860663, web address: www.thorverton.org.uk
Thorverton Organisations

Amateur Dramatic Society (TADS)
Chairman: James Muirden, Vice Chairman: Bob Hyde, Treasurer: David Salter, Secretary: Sally Salter. For meetings and events contact Sally Salter on 01392 841740.

Art Group
Barrie Phillips, Crossmead, School Lane, Thorverton. 860529
Meet Fridays during term-time at the Memorial Hall, 9.30 am-12.00.

Arts Exchange
Becky Stannard, 7 The Glebe, 860737.
Monthly meetings in members' homes at 8.00 pm.

Association Football Club
Chairman: Andy Harris, 01392 851664,
Secretary: David Gregory, 2 The Orchard, Brampford Speke, 841803.

Bridge Circle
Graeme Culshaw, 3 The Glebe, Thorverton 860203.
Meets 1st/3rd/5th Thursdays at the W.I. Hut from 7.00 p.m..

Brownies
Contact Hannah 07925 981786 or Lisa 860609,
Meet Fridays during term-time, 5-6.30pm Thorverton School Hall.

Clarinet/Saxophone Group
Contact Peter Mason 860727. Meets every Thursday morning.

Cricket Club
Chair: Charles Kislington,
Secretary: M C Denford, 14 Moorlands, Tiverton EX16 6UF 01884 255076
Fixture Sec: J Meredith, Grayley, Dinneford Street.

Focus Magazine
Chair: Michael Ayre, Ratcliffe Farm, Thorverton.
Editor: Neville Lane, 2 The Glebe, Thorverton. 861062.
Secretary: Geoff Bulley, Broadlands, Thorverton.
Treasurer: Bob Swaffield, Schiehallion, School Lane, Thorverton 01392 860309

Friends of Silverton & Thorverton Surgeries
Coffee Mornings in the Lamb Inn, Silverton.
Held at 10-12 noon on the last Thursday of every month except December

Golf Society Players of Thorverton
Care of Exeter Inn, 01392 860206

Guides
Contact Lisa 860609, Meet Wednesdays during term-time, 7-9pm Memorial Hall

History Society
Chair: Barrie Phillips, Crossmead, School Lane, Thorverton. 860529
Programme Secretary: Beryl Coe, 5 The Glebe, Thorverton 860876.

Ladies Group
Meet 2nd Thursday of month, (Venue and time - see Focus Notices).

Memorial Hall Committee
Chair: Roger Fieldhouse, tel. 860768. r.fieldhouse@exeter.ac.uk
Secretary: Roseanne Benn, tel. 860768. r.c.benn@exeter.ac.uk
Events Secretary/bookings: Jeff Grace, tel 860489. jeff.grace@tiscali.co.uk
Website: thorvertonmemorialhall.co.uk

Memorial Hall Market
2nd Saturday of the month, at the Memorial Hall, 9.30 - 11.00 am.

Thorverton & Exe Valley Community Choir
Anne Vardy 01392 861184 amvardy@hotmail.com

Thorverton Pre-School
Rachel Mildon (Chair) - 861707 / thorvertonpreschool@gmail.com
Mon 9.00-11.45am, & 12.45-3.15pm & Lunch Club 11.45am-12.45pm,
Tues/Weds 9.am-11.45am & Lunch Club 11.45am-12.45pm,
Thurs 9.00-11.45am; 12.45-3.15pm & Lunch Club 11.45am-12.45pm during term-time,
at Thorverton Primary School site

Thorverton Ambling, Rambling and Tramping Society (TARTS)
Caroline Prince 07749 775304 or Graeme Culshaw 860203
See notices of walks in Old Post Office Window Bullen Street.

Toddler Group
Contact : Wendy Coles, 861283
Wednesdays at the Memorial Hall, 9.30 - 11.30am

Rainbows
Contact Jean 860105 or Penny 861136,
Meet Tuesdays 3.45-4.45pm Thorverton School Hall

Royal British Legion
Chairman/Hon.Sec. P Furneaux, Hillcrest, Thorverton 860227,
paf@furno.co.uk
Hon. Treasurer: Alex Fice

Women's Institute
Secretary and Bookings: Sue Maguire 01392 860631
W.I. Meeting: 1st Tuesday of the month at the W.I. Hut, 7.30 pm.
Whist, 4th Tuesday of the month, at the W.I. Hut, 7.30 pm.

W.I. Market & Coffee
4th Saturday of the month at the W.I. Hut. 10.00 to 11.00 am.
Doctors’ Surgeries

The Exe Valley Practice
Dr JON WRIDE and Dr LYNNE ANDERSON

We are now accepting new patients

The Surgery, The Berry
THORVERTON EX5 5NT
01392 860273

The Surgery, 3 Coach Road
SILVERTON EX5 4JL
01392 860176

www.exevalleypractice.co.uk
exevalleypractice@nhs.net

Opening times

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Surgery times

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There are no surgeries on Saturday or Sunday, but a doctor will be on call for emergencies only on 0845 6710 270.
Early surgery on Wednesday, late surgery on Thursday

REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS (Monday to Friday) – You can request your repeat prescriptions by calling our in-house dispensary on 01392 861622, or by using our online repeat prescription request www.exevalleypractice.co.uk
Please note that 48 hours’ notice is required for all repeat prescriptions.

We accept credit/debit card payments for NHS and private prescriptions

We now operate a home delivery service for housebound registered patients. Please contact us on 01392 860273 for more information.
Wyndham House Surgery
Fore Street, Silverton, EX5 5HZ
Telephone: 01392 860034
Outside surgery hours please ring 0845 671 0270
To access the Emergency Out-of-hours Service
Fax: 01392 861165
www.wyndhamhousesurgery.co.uk

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*Please note:* The doctors are happy to speak to you on the phone instead of an appointment. Please request this from reception when you telephone.

**Surgery hours:**
Monday - Thurs. 08:30 - 18:00
Friday 08:30 - 17:00

**Dispensary hours:**
Monday - Thurs. 09:00 - 12:00 and 14:30 - 18:00
Friday 09:00 - 12:00 and 14:30 - 17:00

Repeat prescriptions can be ordered online via our website. We now accept credit/debit card payments for prescriptions.
We also operate a home delivery service for housebound registered patients.
Please contact our reception or dispensary for more information.
Waste Collection Dates for 2015

*Generally on Mondays unless stated*

- **a)** General refuse and recycling (ie black sacks and black boxes)
  - February 9th and 23rd
  - March 9th and 23rd
  - April 8th (Wed.) and 20th

- **b)** Brown bins
  - February 2nd and 16th
  - March 2nd, 16th and 30th
  - April 14th (Tues.) and 27th

**Mobile Library**

The service provided in Thorverton is monthly, in the Quarry Car Park on Thursdays between 3.35 and 4.20pm.

Next dates:
- February 12th
- March 12th
- April 9th
- May 7th
- June 4th

**Flag Flying days in February**

- 6th – Anniversary of Her Majesty’s Accession
- 19th – Birthday of the Duke of York

**Road works**

If you want to see up to date information on road works, visit: [http://roadworks.org/](http://roadworks.org/).

**Bus Services**

- **Turner’s Tours / Carmel Coaches** (bus 678) Mon-Fri. 10.09 from The Berry and the Baptist Chapel. Return 13.35 from Exeter bus station, Stand 5.

- **Stagecoach** *(service 55B)* Mon-Sat (except Bank Holidays)
  - To Tiverton: 07.55, 10.10, 12.10, 14.10, 16.10, 17.29 (this is the 155 service; on Saturdays it is the 55B and runs at 17.10), 18.10 from The Berry and Broadlands.
  - Return from Tiverton Bus Station: 07.40, 08.35, 10.45, 12.45, 14.45, 15.55 (Mondays to Fridays term-time only), 16.45, 17.45.

  - To Exeter: 08.05, 09.00, 11.10, 13.10, 15.10, 16.20 (Mondays to Fridays term-time only), 17.10, 18.10 from The Berry and Broadlands.
  - Return from Exeter Bus Station: 07.30, 09.45, 11.45, 13.45, 15.45, 17.05 (this is the 155 service; on Saturdays it is the 55B and runs at 16.45), 17.45.

- **Stagecoach** 55 service runs pretty much every half-hour in each direction along the Exeter-Tiverton road, stopping at the Thorverton turn (the Ruffwell). Please consult Stagecoach 55 Group timetable for details of this service.

- **Stagecoach** free service to the Co-Op, Broadclyst, from Broadlands on Tuesdays 9.20am.

- **Stagecoach** offers a variety of concessions for regular commuters, shoppers, children, students and jobseekers as well as one-day unlimited-use Explorer tickets. Further details from Stagecoach: 01392 427711 or 01803 664500 or www.stagecoachbus.com or www.devon.gov.uk/devonbus.

- **Devonbus** Timetable Information: call Traveline 0871 200 2233 Timetables available at the Post Office
Diary 2015

Please notify FOCUS Editor of additions or changes.
(Email: thorvertonfocus@gmail.com or phone Neville Lane on 861062)

FEBRUARY
Mon 2nd Youth Group. *Movie Night for year 9+* at 21 Broadlands. 7.30 – 9.00 pm.
Tues 3rd WI meeting – Anna Roberts – *Community Police*, WI Hut 2.30pm
Thurs 5th Backgammonites. Rewe. 841227.
Mon 9th Youth Group. *Survival*. WI Hut. 7.30 – 9.00 pm.
Tues 17th The Great Pancake Challenge, Shrove Tuesday, Upton Pyne Village Hall, 6 – 8 pm.
Thurs 19th Arts Exchange, *Rivers*, Cubberley, Rob Dightam is hosting at the Cousins’ home, 8.00 pm.
Sat 21st Creden Seed Share, Old Town Hall, Searle Street, 11.00am to 2.00pm.
Mon 23rd Youth Group. *Food of the desert*WI Hut. 7.30 – 9.00 pm.
Fri 27th History Society, Keith Weedon - *Poltimore House, Past and Present*, 7.30pm WI Hut

MARCH
Mon 2nd The Welcome Café opens in the WI Hut, 2.30 to 4.00 pm
Tues 3rd WI meeting – Anthony Powell – *Educational Music Quiz*, WI Hut 2.30pm
Friday 6th The Women’s World Day of Prayer. Baptist Church. 11.00 am followed by soup lunch.
Sunday 8th Farewell Service for Douglas Dettmer. Thorverton Church, 11.00 am, followed by Bring & Share Buffet Lunch in the Thorverton Arms.
Thurs 19th Lettings Event, Upton Pyne Village Hall, any time from 3.00 to 7.00 pm.
Thurs 19th Arts Exchange, *Purpose*, 25 The Glebe, 8.00 pm
Fri 27th History Society, Dr Mick Atkinson – *The Industrial Archaeology of Dartmoor*, 7.30pm WI Hut.

APRIL
Tues 7th WI meeting – *Owls R Us – Live Birds*, WI Hut 7.30pm
Friday 24th History Society, Dr Roger Smith, *Devon Cyder, Whimple & Whiteways*, 7.30pm WI Hut.

MAY
Tues 3rd WI meeting – *AGM and Resolution*, WI Hut 7.30pm
Tues 12th to 45th East Devon Arts Festival at Thorverton Parish Church
Sat 16th Tuesday to Friday from 10.00am to 8.30pm, Saturday from 10.00am to 4.30pm.
Friday 22nd History Society, Keith Badman, *Discovery of South Australia – Part 2*, 7.30pm WI Hut.