

focus

on thorverton



CHARITY WALK RAISES £2500
SEE INSIDE...

SEPTEMBER 2023

£1.00

| | |
|-------------------|---|
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At the present time **Focus** is produced each month **except January**.

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 at thorvertonfocus@gmail.com

PLEASE SEND COPY BY THE 20th OF THE MONTH DEADLINE.

TEXT should be as plain text in an email, or as unformatted TEXT in a Word doc file.

PHOTOS should be sent separately and preferably in JPEG or otherwise PDF FORMAT.

ADVERTISEMENTS AND POSTER TYPE NOTICES should be prepared as near as possible to how it is intended to appear, with pictures supplied as required. Please consider A5 LANDSCAPE format for posters to ensure inclusion and readability. **NB: We cannot guarantee a full page for your poster.**

All items received are acknowledged, so if you don't receive an acknowledgment within a few days, please assume not received. Check your item thoroughly before sending, especially dates and contact details.

Focus reserves the right to refuse any advertisement or notice at its sole discretion for any reason whatsoever. Check with editor if you wish to discuss the design of an advert. (Quarter & Eighth page minimum 3 months).

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS

| 11 ENTRIES PER YEAR | B&W | | COLOUR | |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| PRICES From 1st January 2023 | PER ENTRY | FULL YEAR | PER ENTRY | FULL YEAR |
| Full page (18.2 cm x 24.4 cm) | £30.00 | £330.00 | £44.00 | £484.00 |
| Half page (18.2 cm x 12.2 cm) | £15.00 | £165.00 | £22.00 | £242.00 |
| Quarter page (8.5 cm x 12.2 cm) | £7.50 | £82.50 | £11.00 | £121.00 |
| One-eighth page (8.5 cm x 5.8 cm) | £4.00 | £44.00 | N/A | N/A |

LOCAL ORGANISATION and CHARITIES, ADVERTISEMENTS FREE OF CHARGE (for up to 3 months)

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

Front Cover Photo: Thorverton Cricket Club

Welcome to the September edition of Focus.

I can remember vividly, when I was in my early teens and we were living on the edge of Dartmoor, the summer holidays spent within a mile or two of our bungalow but always outside. The sun was out from May to September, or so it seemed, and the seasons were always well defined.

During the holiday season, my parents would put a home-made B&B sign on the side of the lane where we lived and a number of unknown visitors would arrive for short stays. The bedroom I shared with my brother was required for the visitors so we were moved out to the summerhouse, with an old mattress covering the floor, to practically fend for ourselves for the duration.

For a few years, the summerhouse was our base which was actually brilliant. We were close to fields, woods and a stream and we had the opportunity to spend our days being inventors, makers, builders and explorers. I don't ever recall being bored or not having something to do. As long as my brother and I turned up for dinner we were obviously fine and, of course, we were.

I count myself fortunate to have experienced those early sixties summers and of growing up in the countryside with very few boundaries.

I think the freedom to become creative in my early teens provided much of the basis to my interests and my working life as an Art Teacher, but that is another story.

I very much hope this year's summer has been good for you all.

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DIARY OF EVENTS 2023

Please notify the Editor of additions or changes. Email: thorvertonfocus@gmail.com
 Details of most events are in the Notices Section of *Focus*.

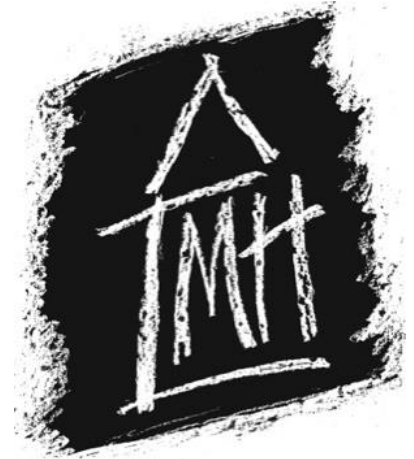
SEPTEMBER

- Mon: 4th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Tues: 5th WI Meeting, WI Hut, 2:30pm, Redcoat Talk - Stairways to the Stars
 Wed: 6th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Sat: 9th Market and Big Breakfast, Memorial Hall, 9.30 – 11.00am
 Mon: 11th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2.30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Wed: 13th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Thur: 14th Parish Council Open Meeting, WI Hut, 7pm
 Mon: 18th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Wed.: 20th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Wed: 20th The Earth in Turmoil, Dr Christopher Southgate, Newton St Cyres Church, 7 – 9pm
 Fri: 22nd History Society, Beavers in Britain, WI Hut, 7.30pm
 Fri: 22nd Film Night, Local Hero, Thorverton Memorial Hall, 7:30pm
 Sat: 23rd WI Coffee Morning and Market WI Hut 10 o'clock to about 11 o'clock
 Sat: 23rd Thorverton Church Tidy-Up from 10am to 4pm. Please come for any of that time!
 Mon: 25th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Wed: 27th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Fri: 29th Quiz Evening, Brampford Speke Village Hall, 7:30pm. See flyer in Notices.
 Sat: 30th Neil Maya Jazz Quartet, Thorverton Memorial Hall, 7:00pm

OCTOBER

- Mon: 2nd Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Tues: 3rd WI Meeting in WI Hut, 2:30pm, Maggie Roberts – Ex Mayor of Dartmouth
 Wed: 4th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Mon: 9th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Wed: 11th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Sat: 14th Market and Big Breakfast, Memorial Hall, 9:30 – 11:00am
 Sat: 14th Traditional Village Harvest Supper, WI Hut, 6:30pm. See notice. Please book at the P.O.
 Mon: 16th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Wed: 18th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Fri: 20th Film Night, The Day Of The Jackal, Thorverton Memorial Hall, 7:30pm
 Mon: 23rd Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone
 Wed: 25th Seated Yoga, WI Hut, 10am
 Sat: 28th WI Coffee Morning and Market, WI Hut, 10 o'clock to about 11 o'clock
 Sat: 28th Family Theatre: Stories from the Dust, Crediton Arts Centre.
 Mon: 30th Welcome Café, WI Hut, 2:30pm, tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone

THORVERTON MEMORIAL HALL



August was a fairly quiet month in the hall as was to be expected, although it was good to have big turnouts both for the Film Night and for Big Breakfast. The three winners of the draw at Big Breakfast were Maggie Harrison, Kate Vought and Sarah Addicott.

We are pleased to welcome Noel Tancock as a new Trustee – Noel has already proved his willingness to get stuck in, by helping out on a regular basis behind the bar. He'll be a real asset to TMH.

Coming up – our regular monthly film, **Local Hero**, is on Friday 22nd September. Directed by Bill Forsyth in 1983, this gem of a film is set on the wild coast of north Scotland, and is a wonderfully wistful and charming comedy, with gorgeous scenery and a memorable soundtrack. This is a chance for many of us to go on a trip down memory lane and for those who didn't get to see Local Hero first time around (possibly because they had not yet been born!), a chance to catch up with this quirky British Cinema classic.

TMH CINEMA

FRIDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER

PRODUCED BY DAVID PUTTNAM WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY BILL FORSYTH
LOCAL HERO

Doors open 6.45pm
Programme Starts 7.30pm

BAR - ICE CREAMS - DRINKS
Adults £5.00 U18 £4.00

Thorverton Memorial Hall

Book tickets @ thorvertonmemorialhall.co.uk

The Neil Maya Quartet presents
Cartoon Jazz
Playing the best in jazz from the cartoons

including:
Flintstones
Someday my Prince will come
LET IT GO
(from Frozen)
PINK PANTHER
SPIDER-MAN
& many, many more...

Villages in Action

Thorverton Memorial Hall
Silver St, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5LT
Saturday 30th September, 7pm
Ticket Price Adults £12 - Child £8
For more information and to book tickets visit
www.villagesinaction.co.uk/performances/the-neil-maya-quartet
www.neilmayaquartet.co.uk

Jazz in the hall is always popular and so it's great that the **Neil Maya Quartet** will be coming to perform on **Saturday 30th September at 7.00pm**. This Devon-based quartet has been described as one of the region's finest – their latest programme takes tunes from the cartoons and gives them the jazz treatment. We are in for a treat. Tickets can be booked online now, just go to the TMH website 'What's On' page and click '**Book tickets.**'

thorvertonmemorialhall.co.uk

There will also be some tickets available on the night.

THORVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

A very short report this month as the PC doesn't meet in August.

An important date for your diary – there will be an Open Meeting to which everyone is invited on Thursday, 14th September at 7pm in the WI hut.

The meeting is to discuss plans for the replacement of some of the existing equipment at the Rec Ground which is now in need of repair after many years of hard service. We want to make sure that all sections of the community have their say in this project, ensuring inclusivity and installation of equipment that will be used by all age ranges. We have spoken to several specialist playground supply companies and expect to be able to give details at the meeting in September.

If you are a regular user of the play area, or would be if a wider choice of equipment was available, please come along and have your say!

ANDREW FOSTER

Thorverton Parish Council



Look after our Churchyard

After feedback on how we could look after this village green space, I am asking for anyone with ideas, interest, or enthusiasm and time, to get in touch with me,

Tina: email ayre.ratcliffe@gmail.com or phone 01392 860434 so we could meet at the Church as a group and look at the feasibility of ideas. There is so much that we could do to help and encourage nature.

Churchyard tidy-up

Saturday 23rd September from 10am to 4pm

Please help!!

Once again we are having a day in the Churchyard to tidy those areas the regular grass-cutter can't get to. We need volunteers to cut, prune, strim, rake-up, sweep-up, wheel-barrow away and generally just help with the tidy up.

We will be there from 10am to 4pm, but please come for as little or as long as you can.

Tea and coffee available, but bring a packed lunch if you want to help all day.

Phone Tina 860434 ...if you want to know more.

Tidy the Churchyard

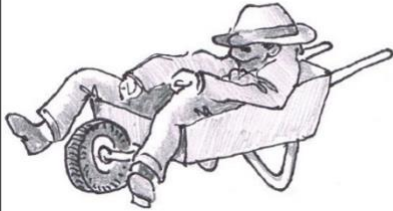


Thorverton Royal British Legion

A very big "Thank You" to everyone who supported our 11th^h annual "Cream Tea" delivery service on Saturday 12th August - another great response again this year.

261 cream teas were made, packed and delivered; we really hope you all enjoyed them. Also, a very kind thank you to all the people who generously gave donations and to those who gave a bit extra for their cream teas, it was very much appreciated. Thank you to Penny and all the team who worked so hard on the day. A fabulous total of **£1,025** was raised of which £400 will go to the Royal British Legion "Poppy Appeal" £300 to Thorverton "Defibrillator Community Trust" £250 to the village food bank "Lucy's Larder" and £75 for Winter flowers and compost in the four granite troughs at the village green and extra daffodils.

From Alex & Penny Fice and all the team, thank you.



Rewe and District Gardening Club

Meet every third Monday in the month usually
at Rewe Village Hall opposite the Church

Information: mandsgriffin4@gmail.com

With a programme of summertime garden visits or garden centre visits and wintertime talks or demonstrations, we welcome anyone interested in gardening. Visitors fee of £1

LUCY'S LARDER

For those in the local community
with difficulty accessing food and other items.

As well as food/other items freely available from the boxes in the church porch, request slips may also be used to indicate what you most need. Limited supplies can then be directed more effectively.

Pick up a slip from the porch or from the Rev'd Tim Collins
tel: 07449 111663.

DONATIONS WELCOMED

The Larder's existence depends on the generosity of individuals and organisations which is much appreciated. Donations of food/other items/money are always needed as demand exceeds supply.

Please pass to Peter Colebrook tel: 0751 4561406
though food/other items may be left in the boxes.
Payments including regular donations may also be made through the Parish Church Treasurer using the following account details:

PCC Thorverton
Sort Code: 30-93-14 - A/c no: 00436138
Ref: Lucy's Larder



Programme of Talks for September 2023

The weekly programme of Exeter Forum talks for September 2023 is shown below. Meetings take place in the Mint Methodist Church, Fore Street, Exeter, EX4 3AT on Wednesday mornings. The talks start at 10:45am, while coffee is available from 10:15am. Full descriptions of talks and speakers appear on the Exeter Forum website www.exeterforum.org and in the weekly newsletter sent to Forum members and to visitors who wish to be so notified. Visitors are welcome subject to a small charge for each talk. Any programme changes will be shown on the Exeter Forum website.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Wed. 6 Sept 2023 | Davy Johnston | <p>Ceremonial Exeter</p> <p>Davy Johnston is one of the Mayoralty's Mace Sergeants and is the Beadle of Tuckers Hall. His talk will look at his Ceremonial Duties, including Civic processions and welcoming visitors, featuring the customs and regalia of the City.</p> |
| Wed. 13 Sept 2023 | Candy Atkins | <p>Spitfire Girl</p> <p>Candy's lively talk is about her mother Jackie Moggridge who wrote the book <i>Spitfire Girl - My life in the Sky</i>, reprinted in 2014. Jackie joined the Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA) in World War Two and was a pioneer for women in aviation. She flew up to 5 different warplanes every day with only a map and a compass to help her. The ATA was a civilian organisation set up to ferry new, repaired and damaged military aircraft between factories, assembly plants, depots and squadrons.</p> |
| Wed. 20 Sept 2023 | Aylwyn Bowen | <p>Making his mark in Exeter</p> <p>Popularly known for his public artworks across Exeter, Aylwyn will give a colourful and entertaining talk on his fifty years working as a designer/illustrator for many local and national companies. Aylwyn's professional career, since studying at Exeter College of Art in the 1970s, spans the use of traditional skills and more recent digital art techniques, all of which he will present on screen as well as in hand produced examples.</p> |
| Wed. 27 Sept 2023 | Lt Col Tony Clark | <p>Mapping Dartmoor</p> <p>This talk will cover the development of the mapping of Dartmoor from Queen Elizabeth I's reign to the present day via the creation of Ordnance Survey, the use of triangulation, and aerial surveys. The accuracy of early maps drawn by hand is incredible, especially as local guides had to be engaged before venturing into the wilderness of Dartmoor. Lieutenant Colonel Tony Clark OBE, late of the Parachute Regiment grew up in Okehampton and via military service around the rest of the world returned to Dartmoor 27 years ago to look after the military training area for 17 years. He is chair of the Dartmoor Trust and assists with the organisation of Ten Tors.</p> |



QUIZ EVENING



BRAMPFORD SPEKE VILLAGE HALL



FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2023, 7.30 P.M.



TEAMS OF UP TO FOUR – prizes for the winning team

If you don't have a team of four don't let it deter you, we can fit you in!

TICKETS £8.00 EACH

INCLUDES SUPPER OF BAKED POTATO with CHICKEN/VEGETARIAN CASSEROLE FILLING

BRING YOUR OWN WINE/BEER/NIBBLES

In order that we may organise the seating/supper arrangements we should be grateful if all budding competitors would telephone their numbers by Tuesday 26th September, to Pat Brazil telephone 841475

Newton St Cyres Church – Community Association

The Earth in Turmoil

An introduction to Ecological Theology and Climate Change

A conversation with

Dr Christopher Southgate

Professor of Christian Theodicy, University of Exeter

Wednesday 20th September, 7pm – 9pm

Newton St Cyres Church

This is a free event. Refreshments available

The first in a series of lectures and discussions that seek to explore our relationship and understanding with life, the world and one another.

In association with:



Jack Andrews
 4-5-1929 to 16-8-2023

 Funeral Service on
 Wednesday 6th September
 at 12:30

 St Peter's Chapel,
 Exeter & Devon Crematorium
 Topsham Road
 Exeter EX2 6EU

FAMILY FLOWERS ONLY PLEASE

UPTON PYNE & DISTRICT  GARDEN CLUB

All events are held in the Upton Pyne Village Hall and everyone & anyone is welcome to join us.
FOR MORE INFO ON ANY OF THESE EVENTS PLEASE CONTACT June 01392 841272

Monday 18th September  our speaker is
PAUL RENDELL (popularly known as Dartmoor Paul)
'THE SECRET WILDLIFE OF DARTMOOR'


 Monday 16th October our speaker is
BEN CANDLIN 'PLANTS OF THE CANARY ISLANDS'
 The Canary Islands are packed full of wonderful and unusual plants, many of which are found nowhere else in the world.

Saturday 25th November ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER
 A VERY ENJOYABLE & RELAXED EVENING WITH FESTIVE FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT
 (everyone welcome to join us) 


Monday 4th Dec 10am at the LOCAL COFFEE MORNING
MAKE YOUR OWN XMAS WREATH

Monday 15th January 2024
 @ 3pm our A G M
 Followed by refreshments and a talk by
TIM ELLIS on CRETE

Thorverton & District History Society



BEAVERS in BRITAIN



BRYONY COLES

Bryony is Emeritus Professor of Prehistoric Archaeology, University of Exeter and an expert in wetlands and the environmental contribution made by Beavers.

Friday 22nd Sept 2023 7:30pm
Thorverton WI Hut.

Welcome Café

Every Monday
(except Bank Holidays)

2.30pm in the WI Hut
Thorverton

Tea, coffee, cake and company.
Everyone welcome

the
mortgage
shop



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www.themortgage-shop.co.uk

Berry Dairy

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GENERAL STORES**

Re-established 2016

Welcome and pop in for...

Award winning cheese, ham, bacon and deli produce.

Locally sourced produce, fresh fruit and vegetables, Creedy Carver chicken and duck

Locally made cakes, delicious brownies and flapjacks

Freshly ground coffee, hot drinks and tea to take away

Local artisan bread, Hot pasties, sausage rolls and freshly made sandwiches

Local milk refill station, Eco refill station

Wines, spirits, local beers and ciders

Everyday essentials, Artisan and classic ice creams and treats, Cards and gifts

Card payments accepted and cashback

Open 8.00am - 6.00pm Monday - Saturday

01392 861060

THORVERTON CHURCH : MUSIC



Do you enjoy singing? Your village has a choir which could include you!

You are always welcome to come to hear the choir or to join in. We usually sing at services twice a month. The choir has weekly Thursday evening practices in Thorverton Church from 7.45 – 9.00pm. We sing a wide range of music and have FUN!

Do you play an instrument? Yours would be most welcome in our band.

We have instrumentalists accompanying some services, so please get in touch if you'd like to be part of the band. No audition required!

The full list of upcoming services is elsewhere in this Focus edition, but those at Thorverton Church with the choir singing, are listed here:

Sep 17th Choral Morning Prayer: **9.30am**

Oct 1st Communion service : **9.30am**

Oct 15th Harvest Festival informal service **time TBC**

Nov 5th Communion service : **9.30am**

Nov 12th Remembrance Day service : jointly with Cadbury Church: **9.30am**

Heather Kershaw Music Director and Organist Thorverton Parish Church
heather@kershaw25.eclipse.co.uk 01392 860419

Organ Recital

with a difference!

4.00pm at Thorverton Church
 Sunday September 24th 2023

The Trials and Tribulations of a Village Organist

Given by 3 local organist members of The Exeter & District Organists' Association:

- Andrew Millington - former Director of Music, Exeter Cathedral
- Piers Howell - former assistant organist, Crediton Parish Church
- Peter Johnson - former organist Wilmslow Parish Church

A variety of music and anecdotes about the life of an organist, plus tea and cake

FREE ENTRY: donations welcomed for 'Pipe Up' and Thorverton Church

'Pipe Up' is a charity that provides financial support for organ students

CHURCH SERVICES & INFORMATION SEPTEMBER 2023

The Netherexe Parishes - A Mission Community in the Diocese of Exeter

Sunday 3 September Trinity 14

| | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|-------------|---------|
| 09:30 am | Holy Communion | Thorverton | KR |
| 10:00 am | Morning Worship | Stoke Canon | Lay Led |
| 06:00 pm | Hymns & Pimms Service | Cadbury | Lay Led |

Monday 4 September

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|------------|---------|
| 09:00 am | Chattertots | Thorverton | Lay Led |
|----------|-------------|------------|---------|

Sunday 10 September Trinity 15

| | | | |
|---------|----------------|------------|----|
| 10:30am | Holy Communion | Upton Pyne | GC |
|---------|----------------|------------|----|

Sunday 17 September Trinity 16

| | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------------|---------|
| 09:30 am | Holy Communion | Brampford Speke | TC |
| 09:30 am | Choral Morning Prayer | Thorverton | Lay Led |
| 10:00 am | Messy Church | Stoke Canon | Lay Led |
| 10:30 am | Harvest Service | Upton Pyne | Lay Led |
| 11:15 am | Holy Communion | Cadbury | KR |
| 05:00 pm | Holy Communion | Stoke Canon | MSS |

Sunday 24 September Trinity 17

| | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------------|----|
| 09:30 am | Holy Communion | Newton St Cyres | TC |
| 11:15 am | Holy Communion | Rewe | TC |

Thursday 28 September

| | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 06:00 pm | Evensong [BCP] | Netherexe | Revd Ben Rabjohns |
|----------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|

[Service at Netherexe led by Rev'd Ben Rabjohns, St Michael's & All Angels Church, Heavitree, Exeter]

Evening Prayer: Every Tuesday 6:00 pm in Rewe Church

This information will also be available via our website at www.netherexe.org see "Services" section.

We also have a calendar for services & latest events are under "news".

Who's Who? Abbreviations Key

| | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| TC | Revd Tim Collins | LF | Laura Ford [Licensed Lay Minister] |
| JH | Revd Julia Hocking | KR | Revd Preb Kathy Roberts |
| TL | Revd Tony Lane | MSS | Revd's Michael & Sharon Simpson |
| GC | Revd Preb Graham Cotter | TBC | To be confirmed. |
| SN | Sheila Newton [Licensed Lay Minister] | | |

Revd Tim Collins Rector Tel: 01392 860767 tim.collins@netherexe.org

For more information about the Netherexe Parishes please see www.netherexe.org or contact:

Mrs Juliette Lea [Administrator]
 Tuesday & Thursday [09:00 – 15:00]
 Tel: 07594 714590
 Email: administration@netherexe.org

Mr Peter Shepherd [Administrator]
 Monday & Wednesday [09:00 – 13:00]
 Tel: 07551 844321
 Email: administration@netherexe.org

Correspondence: The Netherexe Parishes, Church Office, St Mary Magdalene Church, Stoke Canon, Exeter, EX5 4AS.

Parish Letter

New Beginnings

September, for students of all ages, generally involves some sort of new beginning. Primary School children may face a new teacher or a new classroom, while those who have spent the last school year in Year 6 will be meeting the challenge of a very different situation at their new Secondary School. Older students may be off to University or to their first role in the workplace, perhaps leaving home for the first time.

These are exciting times but challenging too and sometimes traumatic for parents as well. Leaving the security of a village Primary School after six or seven years - where you know, and are known by, everyone - to attend a large Secondary School where you feel invisible, can feel daunting. As a Primary School headteacher in my working life I regularly saw both parents and children in floods of tears on the last day of their summer term at our school. And yet, that particular 'new beginning', that dreaded transition from Primary to Secondary quickly fades into the past once September is underway.

In the Netherexe Mission Community we are fortunate to have four good village Primary Schools. I know how well they know and understand the children in their care and how the Year 6 teachers will have supported those children through their SATs in preparation for their 'new beginning'. So, I was very moved by a letter I found online, written several years ago by the headteacher of a Primary School in Lancashire to her pupils, following their SATs tests. It speaks volumes about recognising and valuing the whole person, a lesson for us all. I have amended it slightly, but these are her words:

"We are concerned that these tests do not always assess all of what it is that makes each of you special and unique. The people who create them and score them do not know each of you the way your teachers and I do, and certainly not the way your families do. They do not know that many of you speak two languages, that you can play a musical instrument or can dance or paint a picture. They do not know that your friends count on you to be there for them or that your laughter can brighten the dreariest day. They do not know that you write poetry or songs, participate in sports, wonder about the future, or that sometimes you take care of a little brother or sister. They do not know that you have travelled to a really neat place, you know how to tell a great story or you really love spending time with special family members and friends. They do not know that you can be trustworthy, kind and thoughtful, and that you try, every day, to be your very best ... the scores you get will tell you something but not everything. So enjoy your results and be very proud of these, but remember that there are many ways of being smart."

The children who received this letter will be at University or at work now (this was written in 2014), but I hope these letters will have helped them to not only recognise their own strengths and talents, but also to encourage others to recognise theirs.

My Christian belief means that every new day is a 'new beginning' - a chance to do better, a chance to begin again, a new time of freedom and forgiveness, God-purposed and blessed by Him, full of opportunities. How about this for a morning prayer:-

Thank you, God, for opportunity.

Here is a new day, untouched by my hand, but held in yours.

I need you, and you have chosen to need me.

Together, we can bring to fruition some of life's endless possibilities. Thank you, God.

Michael Forster

'Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.'

(Martin Luther King Jr)

Gwynneth Keehner

A Quintessential English Summer Afternoon...

The weather was kind (well mostly); the people gathered; and the tables were laden! What a wonderful afternoon of chilling and chatting and eating was had! About 80 people gathered in the Rectory Garden at Thorverton, bringing with them a whole smorgasbord of puddings from the classic to the experimental; from the relatively healthy to the deliciously decadent!

What can be more English summer than strawberries and cream, fruit trifle and summer pudding? And alongside this, a cornucopia of cream-filled delights, mountains of meringues and lip-smacking flavours – baklavas, roulades and streusels; oranges and almonds steeped in lashings of alcohol; apricot cake and treacle tart. And who would have thought that a combination of pistachios, Nice biscuits and coffee could taste so amazing!

All of these delicious desserts helped down with that essential summer accompaniment of Pimms (or coffee and tea for those more genteel folk...)

This was an afternoon when calories didn't count, when sugar levels were extremely high, and no-one minded just how many different puddings one could consume in an afternoon. And even when the inevitable little shower arrived, no-one moved from their seats, no-one stopped eating, no-one stopped chatting – 'It's ok, it'll quickly pass...' – and it did! Spirits definitely not dampened!

But such a wonderful, relaxed afternoon wouldn't be possible without a huge amount of preparation and support – so, deep and grateful thanks go to Karen, Tina and Michael, Lorraine and Pete, Nick and Judy, and Beverley. And, of course, many thanks to all who contributed a pudding and their presence to such a wonderful afternoon.

And who knows what 2024 will bring!

Revd Tim Collins



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NEWTON ST CYRES TENNIS CLUB

September Update

The summer did come again in August and hopefully we will have a dry September. Still time to get the rusty tennis rackets or any other rackets out.

Sarah Statton and Jana Garnsworthy from Newton St Cyres Tennis Club were selected to represent Devon Over 35 Ladies in the County Cup on the famous grass courts in Eastbourne. The conditions were tricky, with high winds and rain showers, which meant that short sets were played in order to complete all the matches. Sarah and Jana played three doubles together, winning two out of three, a great result for our girls!



We had two very successful Rusty Rackets mornings. I will be running another one soon. I have already two very rusty rackets enthusiasts coming. Are you coming as well? Let me know: (frederiekmaddock@gmail.com)

On Wimbledon's final day, the mini Club Tournament was a big success and a large group went to the Beer Engine to watch the Men's finals.

Our courts are being painted as I write this (mid- August) and will be in action from the third week in August so they will look fantastic and will be great to play on.

On September 17th we will have finals day of our Club Tournament from 11 to 5 pm. Do pop over to meet some member and watch great tennis all at your local club.

If you are ready for some tennis, try the club for a couple of sessions and then you can decide to join. Just contact our membership secretary Laura Leigh on 01647 24259.

Junior coaching, run by our club coach Jon Wills, is well-attended and takes place on Wednesdays after school during term time. If you would like to enroll for the autumn term, please email juniors@newtonstcyrestennisclub.co.uk for further information and put your name down.

Jon also offers adult coaching both individually and for small groups, so if you feel you need to brush up your skills or learn more about the doubles' game, just get in touch with Jon Wills via our website.



The Tennis Club now has a super-duper ball machine which means you can practice all by yourself. A number of members are now trained in using the machine so if you would like to have a go, please contact the Club. www.newtonstcyrestennisclub.co.uk.



WI Report for August 2023

There was no speaker arranged for the August meeting, but instead two members spoke about things in their lives they thought the rest of us did not know about. One member spoke about her mother, who spent much of her life in Germany working as a Nanny. She brought along the beautiful blue checked uniform her mother had worn whilst at work. Another member spoke of her school days whilst living in the Midlands – not an enjoyable time for her. She explained she had been sent to a boarding school at a young age and really hated it – so much so that she ran away three times!!

Several Members brought photos of themselves at an earlier age, some of these were from Pantomimes staged in the WI Hut.

Dates to Note:

Tuesday, 5th September, 2:30pm – Redcoat Talk – Stairways to the Stars

Saturday, 23rd September – WI Coffee Morning and Market, 10 o'clock to about 11 o'clock in the WI Hut

Tuesday, 3rd October, 2:30pm – Maggie Roberts – Ex Mayor of Dartmouth

Every Monday, except Bank Holidays, Welcome Café from 2:30pm until about 4pm in the hut. Tea, coffee and cake. Open to everyone.

All monthly meetings are in Thorverton WI Hut starting at 2:30pm. New members are always welcome; visitors can also join meetings.

Judy Bright

Supporting the village church

Thorverton Parish Church invites you to a

Traditional Village Harvest Supper

Saturday 14th October
WI Hut 6:30 pm

Tickets from Thorverton Post Office (a limited number)
 £7.50 for two courses of delicious local produce including:

- beef kindly donated by Fortescue Farm
- apples from Fair Oak
- vegetables from Dave the veg

Under 10s free of charge

Raffle prizes of local produce Table harvest quiz (optional)

Our harvest festival service of thanksgiving is on Sunday 15th October at 9:30am.
*We will donate harvest offerings (monies collected at the service and suitable goods brought to the service) to Lucy's Larder.
 Offerings of fruit and vegetables will be auctioned after the service.*

An Apple a Day

Few days go by without us hearing a news story about certain foods lengthening or shortening our life. One week we are supposed to be eating red meat alongside a glass of wine, the next week we hear the advantages of being vegetarian and teetotal. This occurs because there are so many large studies recording information about what we eat. The computer analysis of the results continually looks for patterns that might help direct the next phase of study. The scientific marker of significance is that there is less than a 1 in 20 chance of the correlation occurring by chance alone. This is roughly equivalent to the chance of rolling two dice and getting two ones or a one and a two. So, with so many large studies across the world there are lots of correlations that are initially thought to be significant but we will ultimately find are just down to chance. To be proved true the correlation needs to occur consistently in all the studies, i.e. the two dice roll scores three or less every time. However, the journalists do not wait for this scientific proof - they are happy to write about what sounds interesting.

The truth is that if you eat a broad, balanced diet, low in saturated fats and with enough fibre and fruit to ensure a regular bowel habit then there are very few other dietary manipulations that will genuinely affect your mortality. However, there is one consistent scientifically-accepted food choice that studies clearly show will help prevent heart disease plus reduce your chances of developing Type 2 Diabetes and dementia. This is eating foods rich in flavonoids. These are the chemicals that are responsible for giving colour to fruits and vegetables. They interact with our biochemical systems at a cellular level, affecting enzyme interactions, altering production and destruction of certain proteins that protects the immune and cardiovascular systems. Decreased blood pressures are seen in populations who ingest more flavonoids.

As a generalisation, foods high in flavonoids have strong rich colours. There are plenty around at this time of year: apples, blueberries and grapes are all great sources. One research project in women in Australia showed that eating apples regularly lengthens your life by a significant number of years. They showed that it does not matter how the apples are prepared; stewed, baked or picked direct from the tree are equally as good. The skin does contain a lot of the goodness but it is not essential. It is eating apples regularly that counts. There is therefore a scientific truth to the well-known aphorism. So, enjoy and profit from the apple season this year - we have a plentiful supply from a tree in our garden. As the winter then draws in, get baking some apple crumble but go easy on the cream. Other good sources of flavonoids are dark chocolate and green tea, so maybe round off your meal with one of them!

*Anthony O'Brien
Wyndham House Surgery*





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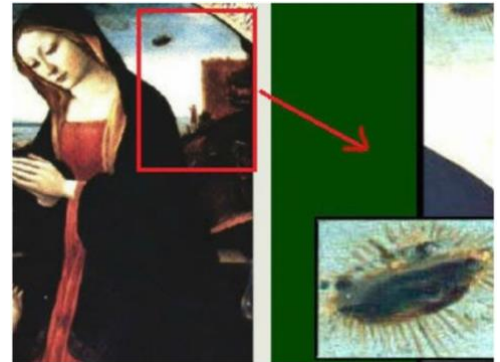
Aliens 2: Friend or foe?



And just because you're paranoid, it doesn't mean they're not out to get you!

We haven't heard much from our galactic neighbours. Or have we? Visitations to Earth, as suspected long, long ago by Fermi, should have left some traces! The famous lines of Nazca in Chile provide ancient, ambiguous signs of large scale construction (re: Von Daniken). Then there's the huge faces of Easter Island (CNN, see

picture above) and the magnificent pyramids, otherworldly in concept (mind you, Professor Brian Cox describes their construction as simplistic!). Try Googling 'UFOs in historical paintings' and you'll see a bevy of lenticular clouds hovering awkwardly in the sky, painted badly, and looking like UFOs to the untrained eye - except one. Yep, now search for 'The Madonna with Saint Giovannino' (or "Madonna dell 'UFO", Palazzo Vecchio, see picture to right) and you'll see what seems for all the world to be a UFO suffering a particularly bad hair day...or maybe an exploding bacterium!



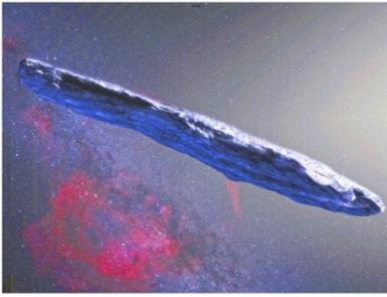
Alien spacecraft and conspiracy theories, a la 'Roswell incident', are great copy and someone will be making money out of it. The skeleton of a shockingly distorted foetus in the Chilean desert speaks to alien goings-on. But most 'occurrences' have an Earthly explanation. The foetus was human. A cursory playback of 'Close encounters of the third kind' reminds you that the whole concept of other civilisations can be heavily and ridiculously romanticised. However, look at eye-witness accounts to make yourself think again (try Googling 'UFO whistle blower'). Any search of the internet will yield troublingly realistic and credible content. To say that these accounts, often corroborated by many co-witnesses, are compelling, is to underestimate the sheer weight of the consequences of accepting that "what they say they saw is clearly what they think they saw and that indeed is what they saw"!

An object, possibly a scout (there, I've said it), passed through our Solar System recently and only 60



Earth-Moon lengths away! Reminiscent of the monolith 'transmitters' in 2001 Space Odyssey, the object, named Oumuamua (first distant messenger, Stuart Rankin, see picture to left) passed around the Sun and then sped off at the wrong speed and in the wrong direction: unless...who knows? Its speed (54 miles per second) and small size (400 metres) made it so difficult to track. Faster than a normal comet and in the wrong plane, it was probably an extra-fast comet from another solar system 'boosted' by the spewing of much more hydrogen than the usual amount of gases, ice and water vapour.

How civilised might aliens be? It's an absorbing question. But questions are all we have. Surmise. Are they physically well-developed, well-evolved? Or minimally intelligent, at an evolutionary dead-end, much like the Woolly Mammoth. Or like the Octopus? But surely, an octopus is pretty intelligent, AND it looks alien! Humanoid? Three eyes would be ideal, but no eyes?



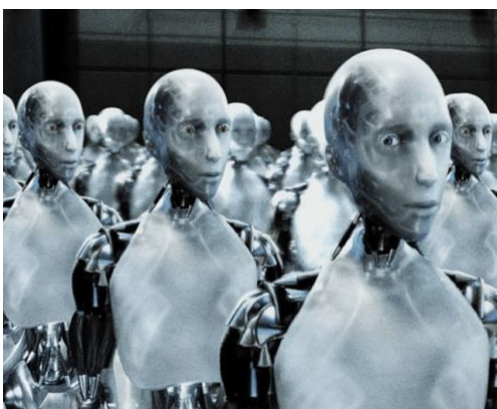
Face? Head? Two legs? or more? Mouth? Some animals might resemble an alien, such as the tardigrade or octopus (see pictures above, courtesy of Nautilus Live then Shutterstock).

We only speak because we have vocal chords, a diaphragm and a speech centre in our brain. Apparently, if you change the speed of a dolphin's voice then it sounds just like a wolf. Would ET speak to us with a Babel fish inserted in one ear, as in Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy? Or shall we just ignore all these pesky details as in Star Trek and get on just fine, American accents included? Other than human speech how else might aliens try to communicate? Writing? Vibrations? Or clicks, like the !Kung tribes around Namibia? We've used smoke signals, semaphore and Morse code, but for long distance it has to be something wave-like, like radio or gamma rays or visible light.

Physical limits have constrained the place, time and speed at which organisms could have evolved from the primordial soup. The bacteria and algae needed one or two billion years to really get going. Plants colonised the land after the sea and animals followed likewise, some eventually, like whales' ancestors, even re-entering the sea. The variety of lives that evolved on Earth, adapted but ultimately perished, is humbling. What variety existed here? And what might be 'out there'? Presumably intelligence will always evolve. But is intelligence restricted to beings the size and shape of humanoids? Could it be more of a community of tiny creatures like forest ants (see picture to right, AntWeb.org). Or alternatively a lumbering elephant/turtle, the Great A'Tuin, as conceived in Terry Pratchett's Discworld.



Artificial intelligence follows. That much is surely inevitable. The aliens we are considering are the organisms that, for 100-200 years, produced a technologically advanced, robust civilisation, much like



ours. But that would have been thousands, probably millions of years ago, measured as a mere moment in the 13billion year timespan of the Universe's lifespan. Some stars are 2billion years older than ours. Could any ancient civilisation still exist into their own far future, our present? Pollution, diminished resources, warfare: so many ways for any advanced community to destroy itself. Now surely all that is left of those societies is going to be a bunch of machines/robots. But why would these automatons be answering us? Out of empathy or a self-centred desire to fulfil some dastardly imperatives? Or have the machines created new aliens in their own image (see picture to left, Twentieth Century Fox)? This is not so far-fetched for those who consider that we live in a type of pre-ordained 4-D hologram projected from the surface of a spinning black hole!

It's fun to guess what aliens might seem like, but the hard graft is being done by those astrophysicists who have been sending a fusillade of signals out into space...more next time.

Peter Hargood

NATURE NOTES

In July my husband and I spent a few days in Aberystwyth visiting our daughter and of course I just had to walk along the beach to see what I could find among the strandline. Jeff found a dead pigeon and dogfish and a mermaid's purse. I found a golf ball and child's seahorse-shaped toy. My little collection of child-related things from beaches is growing and I will pass them on to my great niece and great nephew who have a sand pit.

Our daughter took us for a walk along the beach at Borth, a little way up the coast. She showed us what is known as the submerged forest, preserved stumps of oak, pine, alder, birch, willow and hazel that were until recent times beneath the sea. It is believed that sea defences built in 2012 and the effects of Storm Hannah revealed this amazing spectacle that stretches for a couple of miles all along the beach. We explored the puddles of sea water left by the tide among the preserved stump roots and spotted tiny fish, tiny shrimps or prawns and a tiny Hermit crab carrying its equally tiny shell. We also came across a dead member of the auk family, probably a Guillemot. There was a report on the news on TV on 28th July about dead seabirds being washed up on beaches in Wales, the cause being avian flu that has returned to a lesser extent at present. On the return walk we climbed up the pebble ridge to reach a path. Sections of the pebble ridge were fenced off to protect nesting Ringed Plover and other ground nesting birds.



Around 2:30am of the morning of 20th May I was unable to sleep and looked out a window and saw a line of many lights crossing the clear night sky. Anyone I mentioned it to could not offer an explanation of what I had seen and I assumed it was military aircraft. It was only during a dinner conversation in Aberystwyth with parents of other students that all was revealed and I've no idea how the conversation came about and certainly was not started by me. What I had seen was Elon Musk's Starlink string of Internet satellites!

On Saturday 29th July I was out to the moth trap in the garden at 5:15am to record the species and number of moths in and on the outside of the trap. At 5:40am I heard a sound and immediately thought 'deer'. I quickly went indoors and upstairs to look out a window and in the wheat field (now cut) was a buck Roe deer barking away. He was fairly mature carrying a good set of antlers. Mid-July to mid-August is the time of the rut for Roe deer when males become aggressive. That morning I also heard the distinctive call of a Green Woodpecker and the sweet trilling of a Willow Warbler. I counted 278 moths, and then there are those that got away, a good number helped by the warmth of the night. I also had deposited on the side of the trap and on three egg boxes a total of 12 moth eggs. I placed them in a plastic box covering the top with cling film. The next day I found another five eggs stuck to the shed wall where I run the trap. These were placed in the box. Exactly two weeks later the eggs hatched. I hurried around the garden collecting various tree leaves and grass and put in the box. I didn't know the species of moth that laid the eggs so had to watch what the baby caterpillars hopefully chose to eat.

They chose grass so that is one clue but I still don't recognise what they are yet. I have raised caterpillars from eggs before but then I knew the parent as the moth was resting beside the laid eggs.

The following Saturday morning I was out to the trap later than normal and something had got there before me. A Wren was flapping about stuck inside the trap trying to eat the moths and I quickly released it. Luckily this did not seem to have affected the majority of the moths.

There are an extraordinary number of House Sparrows around and they must have had a good breeding season. They have been raiding farmer Michael's wheat for weeks from the same field in which I saw the Roe deer!

Lin Balkwill and I took another trip to Lynmouth on 1st August to search for mermaid's purses (eggcases) along the sandy beach. We found four Nursehound Shark and one Small Spotted Catshark eggcase.

Three of the Nursehound Shark cases were attached to the same stem of seaweed so that was an interesting find.



Eared Leaf Hopper 07/08/2023

On 7th August I took my normal local walking route and as well as stopping in other gateways I looked in the one where I photographed the lizard on the gate shown in July *Focus*. Peering at the gate I saw something I first thought was a moth or perhaps a bird dropping as it was quite well camouflaged. Then I suddenly realised it was the weird looking Eared-Leaf Hopper *Ledra aurita*. As I drew close to take a photo it started to move, "please don't go". It stopped and I got a few good shots. On 17th September 2018 I happened to trap my first ever one in my moth trap in the garden and reported it in October 2018 *Focus*. It feeds on oak trees and is our largest leaf hopper and as well as hopping can also fly.

There must be something mystical, magical or perhaps just practical about this gate as on 10th August to my surprise were four baby lizards on a right-angle section of the gate so creating a little platform. Three skedaddled and one remained for me to take a photo. Lizards and insects are cold-blooded so will obtain warmth from metal. The gate is old and made of wrought iron and, as mentioned before, has been named the gateway with a view. The gate leads into a field called Big Valley because all of its sides slope down into a valley, as informed by Tina Ayre.



Baby Common Lizard 10/08/2023

THORVERTON CRICKET CLUB

September 2023 Update

September will see the end of the season for TCC and it's been a great summer on the pitch, bar the rainy days. Both Devon Cricket League teams have finished in the top half of their leagues and the Women's Softball and junior sides have also had great seasons. You can find all the latest match reports here - <https://thorvertoncc.co.uk/blog/>



Dan's Coast-2-Coast Challenge raises £2,500

65 miles, 90,700 steps & 1,246 minutes of walking whilst fully padded up. That's what Dan Robbins managed to push through across 3rd & 4th August, raising vital funds for Thorverton Cricket Club.

Dan's sponsored challenge was for the 65 miles between North Devon CC & Exmouth CC to be walked in 24 hours. He did it with 13 minutes & 6 seconds to spare.

Congratulations and thank you to Dan for his monumental fundraising effort for the club. You can read more about it here - <https://thorvertoncc.co.uk/2023/08/10/dans-coast-2-coast-review-interview/>

We need your help! – Volunteer and be part of TCC

We are on the look-out for more volunteers at the club in a range of roles, including:

Grounds Maintenance – jobs around the club such as painting and strimming – be part of the grounds team that make the Station Ground look so good!

Junior Coaching – support our thriving junior section. We can put you through an accredited coaching course over the winter.

Bar/Catering – we are always in need of more volunteers to be behind the bar or helping with food on busy match days and junior nights.



If you can help with any of the above, please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing seniors@thorvertoncc.com You can find out more information about everything going on at the club, including all fixtures, on our website – www.thorvertoncc.co.uk.

We also have a monthly newsletter you can subscribe to and a very active Facebook page!
Alex Jopling

TARTS NEWS from July and August

Thorverton Amblers Ramblers and Trampers

The group has been enjoying a variety of walks lately, very local ones on weekdays and also some others on Saturdays, although bad weather and holidays have influenced the frequency of the latter.

Heather and Royston have been leading local walks once a fortnight and recently we explored to the north and west of Crediton, revisiting Cromwell's Cutting, an amazing cut through the rock making a gorge. This was reputed to have been created by Cromwell's troops. We also passed through some very old farms and were intrigued by The Top Deck which is a view point to the north of Crediton built especially for veterans of the First World War to take the air.

We have managed to find some unusual routes on the edge of Exeter so were very pleased with one from **Stoke Hill** down through Duryard and back up along the edge of the university campus.

Another started at Pinhoe Church and after going down into the Beacon Heath area, followed an old green lane back over the hill and down the other side close to Poltimore.

A record number of fifteen walkers and five dogs came to Sweetham one morning in mid-August to walk five miles from there to the east of **Shobrooke** and back through the orchards at Shute. In spite of walking quite a bit on lanes, we saw interesting birds, plants, moths and butterflies and enjoyed some stunning views in every direction.



Then on Saturday August 19th Heather and Royston were very pleased to join a Saturday walk again at long last and they led the group in a six-mile circuit from **Budleigh Salterton** along the coast path to Sandy Bay and Littleham, returning along the old railway line.

The weather was glorious after an initial shower and we finished the afternoon with refreshments on the beach accompanied by a ukulele group and singers who entertained us with lots of golden oldies we could sing along with!

Weekday walks are usually quite local and about 4 -5 miles in length. Saturday ones are farther afield and the length can vary.

Walks to come :

Thu August 31st morning (+ weekdays fortnightly not always on the same day) led by Heather + Royston

Sat September 2nd led by Neville

Sat September 16th led by John and Fiona

Sat September 30th led by Graeme

Caroline Prince (07749 775304) and Graeme Culshaw (01392 860203) keep the group informed by e-mail but there is also a Whats App group. Heather and Royston's (01392 860419) walks are usually advertised in this way too. If you'd like to be on the mailing list, please contact any of us. We usually meet by Thorverton Church and share lifts as appropriate.

TARTS are a friendly bunch with a wide range of ages and interests! Four legged members are also welcome. Hope to see you soon.

PHOTOS by Mike Stannard who also regularly provides excellent chocolate biscuits for TARTS' enjoyment and sustenance!

Heather Kershaw





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- a squeeze of lemon juice

Mix the oats, grated apple, and honey with enough yogurt to produce a soft creamy consistency, stir in the blackberries and lemon juice. Refrigerate overnight in a covered basin and enjoy for breakfast!

Paul Cleave

Dear Lord,



So far today I am doing alright,
I have not gossiped, lost my temper,
been greedy,
nasty, grumpy or over-indulgent.

However,

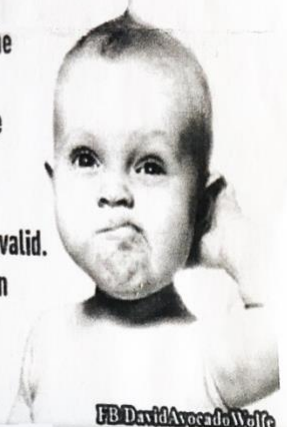
I am getting out of bed in a few minutes and I may need some help after that.

Amen.



ENGLISH IS HARD

1. The bandage was wound around the wound.
2. The farm was used to produce produce.
3. The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
4. We must polish the Polish furniture.
5. He could lead if he would get the lead out.
6. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
7. Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
8. A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
9. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
10. I did not object to the object.
11. The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
12. There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
13. They were too close to the door to close it.



FB DavidAvocadoWolfe

Sent in by Mavis Beaumont

The Joy of Andrew Wyeth

I first came across the art of Andrew Wyeth in an article in Time magazine in 1963. He was, for many years, the most famous American artist with his painting “Christina's World” (1948) being bought from him by the Museum of Modern Art in New York for \$1800 (about \$16,000 modern dollars). His “Day Dream” (1980) was auctioned for \$22m in 2022, so if Christina's World ever came on the market, it would probably fetch more than \$50m.



There is an other-worldly feeling about his paintings which are realistic and painted with egg tempera and dry brush with much fine detail. You can almost see every blade of grass. This genre is sometimes referred to as “Regionalism”. The images contain more than a photograph; I find them fascinating. Wyeth discounted criticisms that he was trying to do a photographic representation of the scene. As quoted in a 1965 interview in Life magazine: *“(it) makes me laugh when the critics say I'm photographic. I'm not photographic at all; nothing against the camera but it doesn't work*

with me.” “My people, my objects breathe in different way; there's another core, an excitement that's definitely abstract.” Often his compositions are strangely off-key with the subject placed near the edge of the painting (see “Brown Swiss”). His painting techniques require a high degree of skill, and time. Most of his work is done in the studio away from the subject, creating his special feeling of loneliness or desolation and even abstraction. His fellow American artist Edward Hopper also exhibits this extra something (an unease?) beyond the actual subject of the painting. Wyeth also acknowledged the similarities (but not influence) in Hopper's work.

Andrew and Betsy, his wife, lived the winters in Chadd's Ford, Pennsylvania and the summers near Cushing in Maine. His muse in Pennsylvania was a “cruel” German farmer, Karl Kuerner whose farm was close to the level crossing where N.C. Wyeth (his father) was killed by a train in 1945. The paintings often show Karl with hanging meat, skins or guns. In 1979 the Wyeths bought Allen Island, and then Benner in 1990, off the coast of Maine. Andrew's latter years were spent in the sole house (which they built) on Benner Island. He died in 2009 and Betsy lived on the island until 2020. His artist son, Jamie, lives on Monhegan Island further to the south. Benner and the neighbouring Allen Island have now been purchased by Colby College, Maine, to be used by students and the lobster fishermen who use the quay built for them by Betsy Wyeth as a way station.



During Andrew's summers in Maine, Betsy introduced him to his farming neighbour Alvaro Olson and his disabled sister Christina. She was the subject of many of his summer paintings and even when the subject was her environment, her presence can still be felt. Despite her being unable to walk, she refused to use a wheelchair and crawled everywhere, seldom leaving the house. In Christina's World she is pictured picking blueberries in front of the Olson farmhouse. Betsy posed in the pink dress, in the place of Christina, during the painting process. Hence the more youthful appearance, but note the unnaturally thin arms and legs. Our favourite Wyeth painting is "Master Bedroom" which shows his white Labrador dog, Rattler, asleep on the double bed with his head resting on the pillow. (A print of this hangs on the wall, appropriately, above our dog's bed.) If you Google Andrew Wyeth /images you can appreciate his output of paintings over his 91 years of life.

Fifty years after he painted Christina's World, here is a photo of Ros picking blueberries in the same place. We ate the berries for breakfast the following day. When you compare the painting with the photo you can see that Wyeth increased the distance between the barn and the house, and in the intervening years trees have grown in front of the house. We visited the Olson house following a visit to the Farnsworth Art Museum in Rockland which has a large collection of Wyeth paintings by Andrew, his father (N.C. Wyeth), and his son (Jamie). The Museum was holding a major exhibition of all three artists in 1998. Included in the entrance fee for the museum was a ticket to visit the Olson house in Cushing, a few miles outside the town. The house had been restored to the condition when Wyeth visited in 1940s and 50s. Copies of his paintings were displayed close to the original subjects. We were lucky to have the house to ourselves during the visit. We were really delighted to be able to see where he sat to make so many of his creations. At the bottom of the slope in front of the house, in a small copse of trees, we discovered the graves of Alvaro and Christina.



We spent several weeks in N. America after doing a house and van exchange with friends in Halifax, Nova Scotia. We drove down through Maine partly to visit the Wyeth collection, and then continued through New Hampshire and Vermont and back into Canada. We returned to Halifax after a loop round Lake Ontario, visiting Niagara Falls, then following the St Lawrence seaway to Quebec (where the van's back axle collapsed* as we were crossing the bridge over the river) and New Brunswick. (*but that's another story!)

Ros at the Olson House

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Legal Eagle

This month, a tale of one city, Exeter, and two acts of deliberate damage to property. On Sunday 6th August, a group campaigning against sports utility vehicles (SUVs), damaged tyres on at least 60 cars at the Jaguar, Land Rover dealership on Marsh Barton. A group, Tyre Extinguishers, claimed responsibility and said that the attack on the vehicles was in 'retaliation' for a crash in which a Land Rover Defender drove through a fence at Study Prep Primary School in Wimbledon, during an end-of-term tea party on July 6th. The car ran over a picnic table. Nuria Sajjad and Selena Lau, both eight, died and at least 16 other people were injured.

Tyre Extinguishers issued a statement claiming that SUVs are eight times more likely to kill children in crashes than smaller cars. The group went on to say, in relation to the attack on the cars at Marsh Barton, "This act of retaliation is intended as a peaceful, non-violent demonstration to draw attention to the presence of grossly inappropriate private vehicles in our towns and cities."

The second incident is rather more parochial. Police are said to be investigating a number of incidents in the Heavitree, Whipton and Polsloe areas of the city where traffic bollards installed as part of a highly controversial traffic management scheme were damaged.

Both the damage to the tyres and to the bollards raise a prima facie case of criminal damage contrary to the provisions of **s1(1) Criminal Damage Act 1971 (CDA 71)**. The offence is committed where a person, with lawful excuse, intentionally or recklessly destroys or damages property belonging to another. The incidents outlined above clearly fall within the requirement of intentionally damaging property belonging to another.

The term "without lawful excuse" relates to two specific defences contained in **s5(2)(a)** and **s5(2)(b)**. Neither of the two available defences embraces acting for what the accused believed was in the public interest. At best, such an argument goes to mitigation and may be reflected in the sentence imposed by the court.

In 2000, five people were found guilty of criminal damage after destroying GM crops. The five pulled up and bagged £2,000 worth of oil seed rape, planted for research at a farm in Hutton Magna, County Durham, by AgrEvo UK.

The five admitted destroying the crops but denied causing criminal damage. They said removing the plants was necessary to prevent gene pollution which could damage crops, farmland, the environment and public health.

District judge Paul Firth conditionally discharged the five for 12 months and ordered them to pay a total of £1,500 in costs. He did not, however, order them to pay compensation to either AgrEvo or to George Richardson, the farmer whose land was involved.

The judge said, "I am accustomed to dealing with many defendants who damage property belonging to others. Almost without exception, the damage caused is wilful, disruptive and negative. I say almost because this is the exception. I accept the honesty of [these defendants'] motives in so far as they believed they were doing this for a positive purpose."

So, in the event that the persons responsible for damaging the tyres are apprehended and brought to trial charged with causing criminal damage a not guilty plea is unlikely to be successful. Their best hope will be that the court will take the view taken by judge Paul Firth that their honest belief that they were acting in the public good should be reflected in the sentence imposed by the court. Similarly, if a plea of guilty is entered.

As to the persons damaging the traffic bollards. One can only guess at their motive, but the most obvious is simply a means of registering their objection to the scheme.

Having a good motive for acting unlawfully does not, of itself, make the act lawful. Robin Hood, despite his laudable motive, was nonetheless, guilty of theft.

Clive Hamblin

BONJOUR LA FRANCE (Episode 6)

More Perambulations

(Last month we looked at some of the interesting places we visited around and about Orange during the term I spent teaching in the lycée there over 50 years ago. In particular I described a couple of fascinating examples of Gallo-Roman remains in Orange itself, the Théâtre Antique and the Arc de Triomphe. A little further afield there were various others...)

Most people have heard of Nîmes or Arles for their Roman remains, but nearer to us, about 20 miles away, was the smaller town of Vaison-la-Romaine. It was split into three parts. One of these was fenced off and comprised the excavated remains of the Roman theatre and houses. The walls of the houses were about waist-high in most places, so you could see clearly into them. There were still wash basins and baths and the fireplace which provided a form of central heating. There were gaps under the walls of the rooms for the heat to flow through. There were also several magnificent mosaic floors, one of which, in coloured marble, was particularly impressive. You even had the remains of a Roman toilet.

Perhaps the most striking monument of all was the amphitheatre, which commanded an excellent view of the surrounding countryside. It had been re-made over the old stones so that it could be used again now, but a part of the original had been conserved for interest, and here the huge stone steps had worn into an almost continuous slope. A dressing room, which still had a roof, contained some original wall carvings.

The middle part of the town was inhabited and modern, and the third was up the side of a steep hill. This part was medieval rather than Roman and somewhat reminiscent of Clovelly: steep, winding, narrow, cobbled - but with shutters on the houses. At the very top of this hill was the gaunt ruin of a castle, which afforded a magnificent panorama of hill after hill rolling away in all directions with the river running round and between them. Beyond them rose

the majestic snow-covered peak of Mount Ventoux whose ski slopes attracted both locals and visitors for winter sport activities.

Arles was somewhat further afield but, using one of the cars that kind friends put at our disposal, we ventured forth one sunny Saturday to explore. However, our first stop-off was at Tarascon, which we found so fascinating with its impressive castle dominating the town some 160 feet upwards, and the moat which we could see through grills in the floor lapping up to the walls down below, that it was quite late when we got to Arles. So late, in fact, that all the interesting Roman attractions such as the arena (where they still hold bull-fights) and amphitheatre were closed. There was a consolation. Our landlady had given us the name and address of an old friend of hers 'we might like to call on' and so we knocked on this lady's door and introduced ourselves. Madame Gallet was charming and so welcoming that we stayed for over an hour, during which time she showed us her late husband's museum of exquisite stuffed birds. We left with an invitation for a return visit on a Sunday accompanied by her old friend our landlady. In the end, we never did go back because our landlady rather demurred at the thought of visiting Arles and braving the biting wind of winter when she could go in the warmth of summer.

On another Saturday we visited Nîmes. This was the beginning of the hot days (although it was only March) and we seemed to cook as we walked from one set of Roman remains to another. The arena was absolutely huge and, in my opinion, a worthy rival to the Colosseum in Rome. It was very impressive inside and, besides the traditional bullfights, was still used for concerts and various other social activities. In the evening we hunted out a Vietnamese restaurant in the back streets. It looked a bit of a dive from the outside but was exquisite inside, and the Vietnamese proprietor, with his quaint French, was charming. In fact, we were so taken by the place that we decided to have a meal there and make it our wedding

anniversary celebration which was coming up on 2nd April.

Not all our outings involved Roman remains. One day one of the elders of the church took us out for the afternoon. He was an area manager for the local authority supervising motorway construction and we accompanied him on one of his tours of inspection. He made a detour to visit a troglodyte village high up and overlooking the Rhône valley. It was fascinating. The caves were formed from the bare, chalky, crumbling rock but led from room to room and even had second storeys. There were bed-ledges in little bedrooms, stairs,

shelves, fireplaces in the kitchens, chimneys and doorways and windows. There was even a church with a big stone altar, and a tree growing out of the roof! Apparently, it was only a few years before that the last old man had died and left the place empty.

During the same tour - as a great contrast - we also saw a hydro- electricity plant and an atomic factory, both rather hush-hush, although in later years I was to become very well-acquainted with the latter. I'll tell you about that next time...

Maurice Harrison



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Puzzles

Last month I asked how many cars would be needed to transport 13 members of TARTS to and from the start point of a walk between Newton Abbot and Shaldon. I think that the answer is **five cars**. I don't think that four cars would be enough because, while they could happily transport all of the TARTS to Newton Abbot, if the four cars were then driven to Shaldon ready to take TARTS home at the end of the walk, one car with the four drivers in would need to come back to Newton Abbot and that would leave only three cars at Shaldon, insufficient to carry 13 people (remember that I had said that no car could carry more than four people including the driver).

As it turned out the walk was postponed anyway!

a) Su Doku

Each horizontal and vertical line and each 3x3 square must contain each of the numbers from one to nine:

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | 3 | | 7 | | 1 | | |
| | 1 | 4 | | | | 7 | 6 | |
| | | 1 | | | | 6 | | |
| | 4 | | 8 | | 9 | | 1 | |
| | 7 | 5 | | 6 | | 2 | 9 | |
| | 9 | | 6 | | 3 | | 4 | |
| | | | 9 | | 2 | | | |
| | | | 7 | | 4 | | | |

b) How well do you know Thorverton's roads?

I had intended to run this competition a few months ago before several pothole repairs had been carried out. Nevertheless, I think that there are still enough imperfections in the road surfaces to allow me to set a suitable challenge. Can you identify the roads in the following photos? Please send your answers to *Focus* or direct to me at 2 The Glebe or by email to nevilleslane@gmail.com.



1.



2.

3.



4.



Happy puzzling.

Neville Lane



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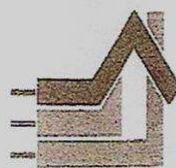
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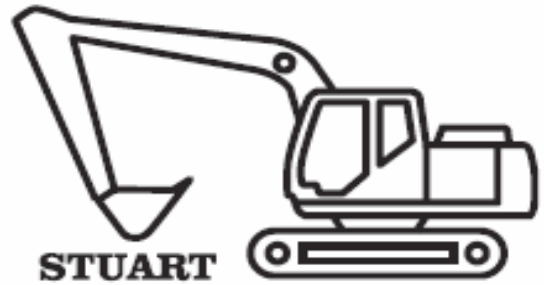


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THORVERTON PARISH INFORMATION

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, 01392 860034 <i>Carers Support Group Lunch, Exe Valley Farm Café, 4th Tuesday of the month, 12:30</i> <i>Contact Trish Jones for details 07484 377298</i> |
| Church (C of E) | Administrators: Juliette Lea, Peter Shepherd Netherexe Parishes Administration, administration@netherexe.org |
| Church Wardens | Edwin Greed, Fortescue, Netherexe, 01392 841231 Royston Kershaw, 25 The Glebe, Thorverton, 01392 860419 |
| Church Choir | Heather Kershaw, 25 The Glebe, Thorverton, 01392 860419 |
| PCC Treasurer | Jean Brown, Rydal Cottage, Bullen Street, Thorverton, 01392 861176 |
| Friends of Thorverton Parish Church Trust | Royston Kershaw, 25 The Glebe, Thorverton, 01392 860419 |
| County Councillor | Margaret Squires, 01363 84337, margaret.squires@devon.gov.uk |
| District Councillor | Cllr Rhys Roberts, 07515 437373, Rroberts@middevon.gov.uk |
| Doctors | Redlands Primary Care 01363 727111, Wyndham House Surgery 01392 860034 |
| Electricity | Report a loss of power 0800 6783 105 (replaces 0800 365 900) |
| (Western Power) | EDF bill enquiries 0800 365 000, street lights 0800 197 6763 |
| Gas Emergency | 0800 111999 |
| Leonard Trust | <i>Supporting local people's needs with small grants, elspeth.holmes@btinternet.com</i> Secretary: Elspeth Holmes, Drill House, Lynch Road, Thorverton, 01392 860535 |
| Library (Exeter Mobile) | <i>Every 4 weeks 3:45–4:20pm Thursdays, Quarry Car Park (See page 52 for dates.)</i> |
| Member of Parliament | Mel Stride MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, 02072 197037 mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk |
| Parish Council Chairman | Cllr Andrew Foster 01392 759560 |
| Parish Clerk | Jim Roberts 01392 202692 or 07768457590, thorvertonpc@gmail.com |
| Parish Council Meetings | 2nd Tuesday of the month (except August), at 7pm in the Memorial Hall <i>(See Notice of Agenda on the Parish Council Notice Board in School Lane.)</i> |
| Parish Allotments | <i>Contact the Parish Clerk, 01392 202692</i> |
| 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, 01392 860455 <i>Mon–Fri 9:00–1:00, 2:00–5:30; Sat 8:00–12:00 (PO opens 9:00);</i> <i>Sun 9:00–10:30(for newspapers only) Business Management Team 01392 860419</i> Royston Kershaw, Heather Kershaw, Helen Ratcliffe Chair and Company Secretary: Heather Kershaw, 25 The Glebe, Thorverton, 01392 860419 |
| Public Telephone Kiosk | <i>Opposite the Church, outside the former Bell Inn, Dinneford Street, Thorverton</i> |
| Thorverton C of E Primary School (Part of the Exe Valley Federation) | Executive Headteacher (Exe Valley Federation): Mr John Jolliffe Head of School (Thorverton): Mr Chris Holding 01392 860374 School Office (Thorverton) 01392 860374 Chair of Governors (Exe Valley Federation): Jackie Enright 01392 851859 Clerk to the Governors: Mrs Heidi Last hlast@exevalleyfederation.org.uk |
| School PTFA | Chair: Wendy Coles Vice chair: Elaine Green Secretary: Amy Crebo Treasurer: Peter Stevens thorvertonptfa@exevalleyfederation.org.uk <i>Please contact any members of the PTFA via the school office 01392 860374</i> |
| South West Water | 24 hour emergency 0800 169 1144, helpline 0800 169 1133 |
| Thorverton Community Defibrillator Trust | Chair: Di Foxford Secretary: Maggie Dunlop 01392 861185 |
| Thorverton Millennium Green Trust | Chair: John Spivey 01392 861324 Secretary: Peter Hargood |

THORVERTON ORGANISATIONS

Amateur Dramatic Society (TADS)

Chair: Sheena Hunter-Hedges 01392 860843

Treasurer: Simon Hedges

Minutes Secretary: Mary Ette

For details of meetings please contact sheena@marhaus.co.uk or by phone.

Association Football Club

Chairman: Jorga Wilson 07801 984 462

Secretary and Treasurer: Paul Webb 07944 533372 grecianwebb@blueyonder.co.uk

Bridge Club

Graeme Culshaw 01392 860203 *New members always welcome, no partner needed.*

Contact Graeme for more information.

Cricket Club

Chair: Charles Kislbury 07971 880421

Andy Pitt 07980 789813, andy-91-pitt@outlook.com

Fixture Secretary: James Meredith, 07972 547609, j.meredith51@hotmail.com

Focus Magazine

Chair: Michael Ayre, Ratcliffe Farm, Raddon, Thorverton, 01392 860434

Editor: Russ Clarke, Wagon Works, Jericho Street, Thorverton, 01392 860279

Secretary: Geoff Bulley, 17 Broadlands, Thorverton

Treasurer: Lynda Crossley, 8 Silver Street, Thorverton, 01392 860690

History Society

Chair: Richard Pocock 01884 855450

Secretary: Karen Marshall 01392 860831

Ladies' Group

Meets 2nd Thursday of month (See Focus Notices for venue and time.)

Saturday Market

2nd Saturday of the month at the Memorial Hall, 09:30–11:00am

Thorverton Pre-School 01392 861707, thorvertonpreschool@gmail.com

Mondays to Fridays during term-time at Thorverton Primary School site

8:45–11:45am, 12:45–3:30pm, Lunch Club 11:45–12:45pm

Thorverton Ambling, Rambling and Tramping Society (TARTS)

Caroline Prince 07749 775304 or Graeme Culshaw 01392 860203

See notices of walks in Old Post Office Window, Bullen Street.

TMH Committee

Chair: Penny Wiles, 07884 312627, penny@apwiles.co.uk

Secretary: Mike Baldwin, 01392 860853, sjml@hotmail.com

Bookings: thorvertonmemorialhallbookings@gmail.com

Website: thorvertonmemorialhall.co.uk

Toddler Group

Liz Armstrong emcarmstrong@outlook.com

Thursdays during term time at the Memorial Hall, 9:30–11.30am, £2 per family, healthy snacks for children and tea/coffee for adults included

Royal British Legion

Chairman/Honorary Secretary: Alex Fice, Lynch Cottage, Thorverton, 01392 861136, srbf@hotmail.co.uk

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs Felicity Cashmore

Women's Institute

Bookings: Sue Maguire 860631

WI Meeting: 1st Tuesday of the month, WI Hut, 2:30pm

WI Market & Coffee: 4th Saturday of the month, WI Hut, 10:00–11:00am



(formerly New Valley Practice)

Drs. Saunders, Griffiths, Harris, Kirwan and Cook.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Newcombes Credton EX17 2AR | The Surgery, The Bury Thorverton EX5 5NT | Chiddenbrook, Threshers Credton EX17 3JJ |
|-------------------------------|---|---|

Main telephone: 01363 727111 Press 2 for direct line to Thorverton Surgery

<https://www.redlandsprimarycare.nhs.uk/>

| | Credton | GPs available | Thorverton | GPs available | Nurses at Thorverton |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Monday | 08.30 – 18.00 | Drs. Harris & Saunders. | 08.30 - 13:00 | A doctor will be available. | |
| Tuesday | 08.30 – 18.00 (closed 1-2pm) | Drs. Cook, Saunders & Harris. | 08.30 - 13:00 | A doctor will be available. | |
| Wednesday | 08.30 – 18.00 (closed 1-2pm) | Drs. Griffiths & Kirwan. | 08.30 - 17:00 (closed 1-2pm) | Dr Lesley Weiss | Nurse 08.30 – 13.00 |
| Thursday | 08.30 – 18.00 (closed 1-2pm) | Drs. Harris, Saunders & Kirwan. | 08.30 - 13:00 | A doctor will be available | Nurse 08.30 – 17.15 |
| Friday | 08.30 – 18.00 | Drs. Griffiths, Kirwan & Cook. | 08.30 - 13:00 | A doctor will be available | |

Thorverton surgery dispensary is open at the following times:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 08.30 – 18.00 (closed 13.00 – 14.00)

Wednesdays 08.30 – 17.00 (closed 13.00 – 14.00)

Extended surgeries are offered on weekday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays in Credton (pre-bookable appointments only).

GP and nurse (blood tests only) can be booked through SystmOnline.

Please ask at reception for details.

Our doctors can also be consulted online through **eConsult**.

This service lets patients request advice and treatment from our practice online and get self-help advice for hundreds of common conditions.

Please see our website for information and the **eConsult** link.

Please note we do NOT take prescription requests over the telephone or by email.

Repeat prescriptions (Monday-Friday) – You can request your repeat prescriptions by using our online repeat prescription request at www.redlandsprimarycare.nhs.uk

Please note that 48 hours' notice is required for all repeat prescriptions.

Wellbeing Co-ordinator Update

All the Activities and Services below are subsidised by the generosity of the Friends of Wyndham House Surgery, and are open to anyone who lives in the Exe Valley area.

The Silverton Memory Café meets every Thursday in Silverton Community Hall between 2 and 4 pm. It is aimed at supporting people who are having difficulty with their memories or would just like some company. Admission is free and we offer a variety of stimulating activities, lots of chatter, a delicious tea and often singing. The café welcomes everyone who would like to come along, alone or with their partner or carer.

I am offering **home visits** to anyone who has memory loss or dementia. I can give advice about the condition and where help can be found. Caring for a person with dementia can be quite a challenging undertaking and I am happy to give confidential and practical advice, so do give me a call if you would like some support.

The Carers and Ex Carers Lunch Group meets on the 4th Tuesday monthly in a variety of local venues. Financial help can be given to pay for care while the main carer has a few hours off. Please contact me if you are a care provider and would like to join us.

For people who need help with getting started to use the **Internet or computers, iPads or smart phones**. Joan Povey can help you with online shopping, ordering prescriptions, making video calls with family and friends and researching all sorts of information; she may even lend you an iPad or mobile phone so that you can try before you buy.

Joan's telephone is:- 07958 190554 email :- wyndhamdsp@gmail.com,

or you can leave your contact details at the reception in Wyndham House Surgery.

Befriending. If you are feeling isolated and lonely or have no local support and would like someone to talk to either on the telephone or with a visit, please do get in touch with me as I might be able to help. If you would like to become a Befriender and help people in this situation also please contact me.

There are still a few places remaining on the next course of **Balance Classes** which start on Thursday 14th September and again on 9th November. The Classes are designed for people who have lost confidence in their balance or have had a fall. They are held in the Silverton Community Hall and are free. They will help with leg strength, balance and co-ordination and they are also fun.

Retired Ladies and Men's Keep Fit Classes will restart after the summer break on Monday 18th September at 10.30 am in the Silverton Community Hall. Cost £5.00. For more details please contact Margaret Clough.

Telephone: 07745 565 351 or email:- margaret.mcassoc@outlook.com

Tai Chi restarts in the Community Hall on Friday 8th September at 10.30 am.

The classes are easy and gentle and are a great help for core strength and balance. They can be done seated or standing. Current cost £5.00.

Telephone Bill Croome on 01392 861264 or Email :- billcroom1@gmail.com

The Silverton Film Club meets on the 3rd Wednesday each month, excluding August, at 2.15 pm in Silverton Community Hall. The film show is free, though there is a charge of £2.50 for tea and cake. All the films have subtitles and the interval tea provides an opportunity to meet and socialise. A list of films to be shown is displayed on the Hall notice board and on the door.

I have a list of **local Care Providers**, if you need help or advice with this.

if you would like more information about anything in the above article please do get in touch.

Trish Jones - Wellbeing Co-ordinator Friends of Wyndham House Surgery.

tel:- 0748 437 7298 Email: silverwellbeing@gmail.com

Wyndham House Surgery

Wyndham Road, Silverton, EX5 4HZ
Telephone: 01392 860034

www.wyndhamhousesurgery.co.uk

Currently rated as an **OUTSTANDING** Practice by the CQC

| Day/Dr | Dr Anthony O'Brien | Dr Catherine Burkill | Dr Jeff Solman | Dr Griff Thomas |
|-----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday | 09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30 | | 09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30 | |
| Tuesday | | 09:00 – 11:30 14:00 – 17:30 | 09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30 | |
| Wednesday | 09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30 | 09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30 | | |
| Thursday | 09:00 – 11:30 14:00 – 16:00 | | 09:00 – 11:30 | 09:00 – 11:30 15:00 – 17:30 |
| Friday | | 09:00 – 11:30 | 09:00 – 11:30 14:30 – 16:00 | |

Please note: Consultations are all currently initially by phone. It is frequently more convenient to use e-Consult to let the surgery know your medical issue – this is available on the front page of our website.

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

Dispensary hours: Monday - Thurs. 08.30 - 18:00 There is no closure for lunch and prescriptions
Friday 08.30 - 17:00 may be collected all through the day.

Repeat prescriptions can be ordered online via our website.
We also operate a home delivery service for housebound registered patients.
Please contact our reception or dispensary for more information.

Flexible appointments at beginning and end of day if required - just ask

Bus Services

Dartline 675 and Country Bus 678

Tuesday - Dartline 675 (from Cheriton Fitzpaine)

To Exeter

10:09 at the Berry only, Thorverton.

Scheduled to arrive Exeter (via Latchmoor Green and Poltimore) at **10.48** in Sidwell Street, stop 40 outside Cancer Research.

To Thorverton

13.35pm from the same stop.

Wednesday and Friday – Country Bus 678
(from Witheridge)

To Exeter

10:09 at The Berry and Broadlands.

Scheduled to arrive (via Brampford Speke and Upton Pyne) at **10:48** in Sidwell St. stop 40 outside Cancer Research.

To Thorverton

13:35 from the same stop.

(Neither of these bus routes use the Exeter Bus Station.)

Stagecoach (and some Dartline) service 355

Monday-Saturday (except Bank Holidays)

To Tiverton and Silverton (from Exeter)
at Thorverton, The Berry and Broadlands:

07:55, 09:15, 11:31, 13:46, 16:06, 17:31, 18:21

To Thorverton from Tiverton Bus Station:

06:34, 07:30, 08:35, 09:55, 12:10, 14:25, 16:45,
17:45 (Dartline)

To Exeter Bus Station (via St David's Railway Station)

from Thorverton, The Berry & Broadlands:
08:00, 09:06, 10:27, 12:42, 14:57, 17:17, 18:10

To Thorverton from Exeter Bus Station (via St David's Railway Station): 07:30 (Dartline from Sidwell St.), 08:45, 11:05, 13:20, 15:40, 17:05, 17:55

Stagecoach 55 service runs about every half hour in each direction along the Exeter–Tiverton road, from 05:45 to 22:15 and stopping at the Ruffwell (Thorverton turn). Please consult Stagecoach 55 timetable for details of this service.

Sunday and Bank Holidays (except Christmas, Boxing & New Year's Days):

09:30–20:00 at 1h30m intervals

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 <http://stagecoachbus.com> or <http://devon.gov.uk/devonbus>

Devonbus Timetable information: 0871 200 2233
Timetables are available at the Post Office.

Waste Collection Dates

Collections are on Mondays, unless stated otherwise. <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/collectiondaylookup>
(These collection dates apply to most of the village, but outlying parts may have different collection days.)

Food caddies every Monday except after Bank Holidays

General refuse in black wheelie bins every three weeks on Mondays: Sept 18th

Recycling boxes fortnightly on Mondays: Sept 11th & 25th

Chargeable garden waste fortnightly on Mondays: Sept 4th & 18th

Mobile Library

Thursdays 3:45–4:30pm in Quarry/Post Office Car Park every 4 weeks

2023: Aug 3 & 31, Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 23

Road works

If you want to see up-to-date information on road works, visit: <http://roadworks.org/>



Bridge House, Jericho Street

Thorverton was once a thriving, self-sufficient community. In 1850, there were four bakers, three blacksmiths in the cottages along Bullen Street. One of the blacksmiths also covered any dentistry requirements. There were three butchers, one of which was located at the prominent stilted building in the centre of the village next to the green, built in 1763 in the local style of the time.

Wikipedia

BACK COVER PHOTOS: Heather Kershaw

THORVERTON PHOTOS: Russ Clarke



THORVERTON AMBLERS & RAMBLERS AUGUST WALKS – SEE INSIDE

