

Awlíscombe

&

Weston Tímes



Spring 2021

Contact Numbers.

Ambulance, Fire, Police	999
Police non-emergency	101
NHS non-emergency	111
Flood line	0345 9881188
Fire Non – emergency	0800 0502999

St Michaels & All Angels Revd. Sue Roberts 01404 42925

Email: awliscombe@honitoncofe.org All church services listed here

Church Wardens	Nick Thwaite	01404 548467 / 07900 041174
	Roger Caudwell	01404 548113 – Deanery Synod Representative
PCC Secretary	Sharon Thwaite	01404 548467
Bell Captain	Roger Spriggs	01404 43814

Awliscombe School Penny Hammett 01404 42031 - Headteacher

Awliscombe Parish Council Sally Maynard 07810 442355 - Clerk

Awliscombe Village Hall Liz Gillingham 07811 675800 - Booking Secretary
01404 43551

Simon Rickets 07971 958691 - Chairman

Defibrillator Unit

As most people know, we have a defibrillator in Awliscombe. It is situated on the wall of the village hall, to the right of entrance.

This comes as a gentle reminder of what to do in an emergency situation.

If someone collapses with a cardiac arrest near you, then **speed of response is paramount.**

So ring 999 without delay.

If someone was able to fetch the defib unit, instructions will be very clearly heard once the unit is opened. There will be a repeat of training in the new year.

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Hello again!

Thank you so much for the kind words that have winged our way re the first issue. Again, many things have changed since that time.

Firstly of course, Spring has sprung! and we've already experienced a few days of that long awaited wonderful warmer air. Sheds are opening, lawnmowers emerging, seeds into pots, digging, pruning and planning or maybe delegating! As in nature, a busy time.

Unfortunately, it's hard to write this without mentioning Covid-19. We respectfully acknowledge that some people may be grieving or struggling in some way as a result of the long, long journey we've all been on. Hopefully solutions to all can be found and heavy hearts will lighten in time.

It has to be said ... Well done to the parents who have done such an incredible job of home schooling for so long, our hats are off, and to our school, where teachers have carried on bravely regardless. In fact it would be impossible to mention everyone here. We have all done our bit. With many having received the first 'jab', we can quietly hope we are almost out of the woods. Whilst dreaming of our post-lockdown plans, we may also be considering the paradox of it all... as so many countries are still fearful and at great risk. How fortunate we might feel. So, until July... take care, Happy Easter, Happy Spring, enjoy!

Allison



A time to weep,
And a time to laugh.
A time to mourn,
And a time to dance.

Ecclesiastes 3: 4

Gone fishing (in Awliscombe).



A story of Woolly Buggers, Tippetts and fishcakes!

What makes two Awliscombe residents spend their spare time standing beside a small lake all day long?

In recent years Mike Dent and Martin Davies have been known to enthusiastically expound the virtues of the gentle art of fly fishing to anyone that will listen, (and many that don't want to), so what is the attraction?

Enthused by the likes of 'Mortimer and Whitehouse – Gone fishing' (if you haven't seen these, they are highly recommended even if you have no interest in fishing), the two friends while away hours fishing whenever weather, work and family allow. Sometimes coming away with nothing other than the story of the one that got away – honestly; but often with bags of rainbow trout. The conversation isn't always as amusing or profound as on the TV series but they try their best.

Friends often ask if they take a good book with them to help pass the time as they wait patiently for the fish to bite! They both patiently explain that when flyfishing your body and mind are always active. Constantly casting and retrieving your fly, looking for signs of movement of fish, changes in water conditions, wind, temperature and insect activity. Choosing your equipment and fishing methods carefully to give you the best opportunity to attract a big fish. Fishing at the right depth, at the right speed and with the right fly is what it's all about. There are different lengths and weights of rods; floating, intermediate or sinking links; and sizes of tippetts and leaders that all add to your chances of catching a fish – or it could just be luck!





Buzzer



cat's whiskers



wooly bugger

The choice of flies is huge. Flies like the 'dog nobbler, cat's whiskers, zonkers or woolly buggers' which are fished as lurers to arouse curiosity and aggression in the fish. 'Buzzers' that imitate midge pupas that live in the water; or 'shuttlecock buzzers' that imitate the pupa hatching into a midge on the surface. Flies that look like shrimps, snails, caddis and beetles. Dry flies that are fished on the surface imitating Mayflies, Crane flies, flying ants, duns, hawthorn flies and the thousands of other flying insects whose life cycle relies on the waters of East Devon.

Both Mike and Martin tie their own flies (with varying degrees of success due to a combination of sausage fingers and failing eyesight!!!), utilising common and exotic materials such as pheasant tails, cock capes, hare's fur, elk's hair, marabou feathers, coloured threads, wires and tinsels, beads and eyes of all colours and sizes; all tied onto a range of barbed or barbless hooks of different shapes, sizes and weights. The ultimate satisfaction is to catch a fish on a fly you have tied yourself.

The hours spent on the banks of a lake or river are generally peaceful and tranquil. Time spent with nature quietly reflecting and marvelling at kingfishers flashing, green woodpeckers bobbing and dippers, well, dipping, as well as the wealth of wildlife that we are often too busy or noisy to notice. An adder, snaking its way across the surface of a lake is not a common sight unless you are in the right place at the right time. But this tranquillity is broken when your line goes tight and the adrenaline starts flowing. It's time to 'play the fish', an art of its own and one only really learnt with practice and lost fish (the one that got away). It is impossible to describe the buzz of hooking, playing and landing the fish.

For many people having carefully landed the fish it is then carefully returned to the water (catch and release), really important for natural wild fish in our rivers that are at such risk from pollutants and over fishing. When Mike and Martin are fishing 'stocked waters' they land the fish in the knowledge that it will be appreciated at their or friends' tables.



Breaking the ice to fish.

The skill of preparing, filleting and smoking the fish are the next challenges to be mastered. The more successful you are the more imaginative you need to be with the recipes.

Trout Pad Thai –

Ingredients – trout fillet; half a lime; 1 tsp sugar; 2 tsp fish sauce; 3 tsp oyster sauce; 2 tsp tamarind; 2 cloves garlic finely chopped; one spring onion chopped; 100g of bean sprouts; 200g of rice noodles (pre-soaked); 1 egg.

Squeeze the juice of the lime over the trout fillet and leave to stand for 30 mins. Prepare the other ingredients. Pan fry the trout in a little butter or veg oil until the flesh can be flaked. Place to one side. Stir fry the other ingredients for 2 - 3 minutes in a wok, adding the beansprouts for the last 30 seconds.

Serve immediately, flaking the trout on top. Serve with ground roasted peanuts and flaked red chillies to taste.

Smoked trout Pate

Ingredients: 400g smoked trout fillet, 280 g unsalted butter, softened, 2 tablespoons horseradish cream, pinch of cayenne pepper, 5 tablespoons crème fraiche or sour cream, 2 tablespoons lemon juice, 2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill.

Place all ingredients in a food processor and blitz until combined. Season with salt and pepper. Place in a bowl, cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes. Spread on toast.

Mike and Martin are very aware they have been very lucky to have been able to fish during the past difficult 12 months. Other than for the first few weeks of lockdown the Government has recognised fishing as a beneficial type of exercise. Restrictions have meant that you can only fish locally, but with Hollies Fishery being in Sheldon this has not been an issue. By its nature fishing encourages a form of social distancing in order not to spook the fish. There is however a strong comradery amongst the fishing community which ensures tips and encouragement are shared from across the lake or river.

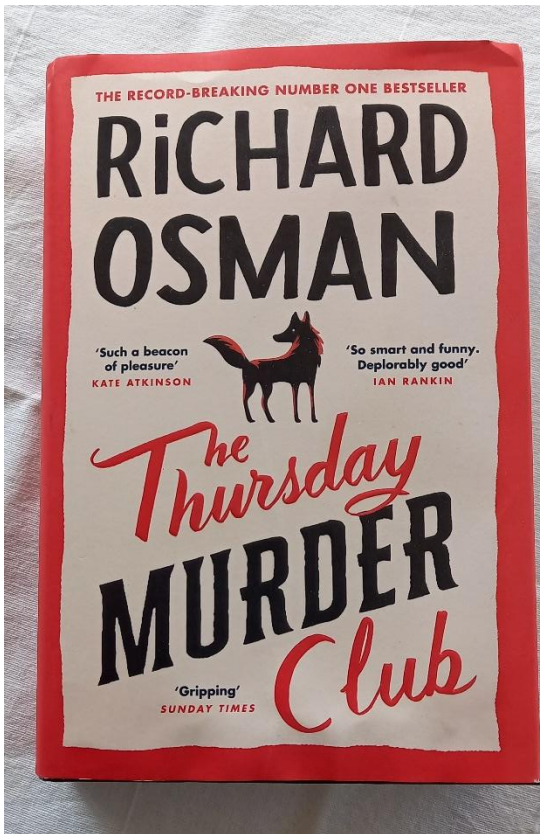
The Environment Agency has seen the purchase of rod licences in England increase by over 20% since Covid. A recognition of how beneficial the sport can be. Fishing is becoming recognised world wide as therapeutic for stress, depression and anxiety, with many formal fishing therapy services becoming available. Another good reason to Go Fishing!

So, what's next? With restrictions easing and hopefully being removed totally in the summer Mike and Martin are looking forward to exploring and fishing the rivers, lakes and reservoirs of the South West and who knows where else. The adventures will no doubt lead to many more stories they can bore their friends with!

Martin Davies and Mike Dent.

Book Review

The Thursday Murder Club.



Some of you will know Richard Osman from his T.V. programmes. He hosts The House of Games and co-hosts Pointless. He obviously enjoys solving puzzles and tackling quizzes. What is especially good about this book however is that as well as being a murder mystery, it is really funny, reminiscent of an old Ealing comedy.

It is set in an old people's home. One of the residents used to be in the police force and a small group gets together each week, on Thursdays, to review old unsolved cases. Then

one day there is a mysterious death in the old people's home. The hunt is on for clues and the residents rise to the occasion. The plot is clever and much of the humour comes from the wonderful sprightly and eccentric characters among the inhabitants of the home. A great read which is clever and will make you smile.

Caroline Coxon.

Mission To Europe

The above registered charity was founded in 1976 - their mission being to communicate God's love by word and deed. They have changed lives of the most vulnerable and marginalized children and adults in so many countries through prayer and humanitarian aid.

Therefore . . . Anne Gentry would appreciate donations of **GREETING CARDS** to recycle into craft material for young people with special needs in Romania. Any donations of **BUTTONS** and **WOOL** would also be very acceptable.

Anne has appreciated the great response she has had in the past. If you need to contact her re any of the above;

Please call: 01404 43226.

A Day in the life of....

Hello, I'm Eric, a Miniature Schnauzer, living with my 'Forever People' - FPG (Gill) and FPD (David). We're a small pack, you may have met (or heard says FPG!) me in the good times pre The Virus (TV). 'Shielding' and 'TV' 'are often mentioned but never explained. - I just know we **had** a social life, now sadly missed. However, TV does render it simple to choose a typical day to describe – they're all the same here! - routine apparently being vital to survival.



Posing perfectly

Here goes, FPD and I are up at 9am for breakfast. I then assist with bird feeding and checking 'my estate' (the garden outside my personal domain). To be frank FPD merely wanders, leaving me responsible for serious Savernake Security Services (collating evidence of uninvited overnight visitors; checking the river for alien ducks; encouraging voles back to their holes; and ensuring the dispersal of pigeons, rabbits, pheasants, etc – double points if the latter actually fly!). Pre-emptive vocal threats are also required to repel would-be invaders who might otherwise think me 'off duty'.

Sometime before 10 am I wake FPG – gently snuffling unless louder encouragement is needed. (The FPs generally enjoy my vocal range and vocabulary though not always its volume and longevity - of this more later!). FPG and I have brief 'fierce dog' growling games with 'dead hare', 'rubber chicken', or another of my 10 toys (yes I can count!). I ensure daily that all my toys are returned to the sitting room – to be honest they're rarely put away nowadays – the FPs having become very negligent of **their** duties.

FPG and I now have morning cuddles with tv (not TV!) medical dramas while FPD adjourns to 'his office' (or as FPG may be heard to mumble in **that** tone, the 'ex-dining room'). NB The FPs DO NOT SPEAK (to each other) before morning coffee! This imposes a considerable responsibility on me to share my company evenly. Not always easy as FPG is clearly 'pack leader' but FPD can be more fun. She (who must be obeyed?!) has called him 'Forever PUPPY David' in the past – especially when addressing our joint misdemeanours - his pack discipline apparently at fault. (No comment!). We boys are often jointly called 'D'Eric' - usually affectionately - so I must ensure FPG does not feel left out.

At 12.30 FPG does her 'Captain Tom' up and down the drive - boring and repetitive 'walking' I call it. As 'Private Pongo' I join her, but with occasional detours to deal with encroaching wildlife, etc, as earlier. (Pongo is a baby dragon from an ancient tv programme for children?!). Is it their age?! If it's not TV, tv, or me, conversation consists largely of their 'puppyhood' memories. While we're out FPD may join us if – **that** tone again - 'his computer can spare him'.

It's 1 pm and morning (?) coffee time. The FP's now SPEAK TO EACH OTHER – a weight off my shoulders! They 'do' the crossword now – for nearly 2 hours! The ensuing boredom

suggests several **cross** words to me! I now indulge my automatic ‘lap rights’ - if I need to dry off after rain there’s nowhere better.



Christmas guard duty

They lunch at 3.30 pm after which FPD and I (aka D’Eric) have our proper walk (i.e off the property). Sadly, since TV, it’s short and very local – but is followed by my dinner at 5.30 pm (joy!) after which the FPs begin crossword session 2!! I doze through this though FPD does indulge in cocktails now and may become too ‘puppyish’ to ignore. (‘puppyish’ is **not** how FPG describes it). After the FP’s dinner at 8 pm it’s tv all the way to bedtime; I still have duties though, not least tolerating their tv choices. And I am still required to share my attentions, in particular being sweet or amusing during ad breaks. If I am permitted a choice, Dogs Behaving Badly is it. We all enjoy being astounded at appalling canine rule-flouting and

downright disobedience. (Not to mention ‘pathetic pack-leading’ - a variation on **that** tone from FPG). I am always prepared, should there be an excessive barking issue, to avoid the exchanged glances and heavy sighs - roll over and look sweet - never fails!

12.30 am is our bedtime, D’Eric that is, FPG is fast asleep by now. Alone in my kitchen I reflect on my day, in particular whether I have executed my duties as taught by my breeder. (Mind you, she also taught me that breakfast is 6.30 am, coffee at 11 am, verbal communication between people is **not** time limited, and that FPs have daily duties too, such as housework!). The attentive among you will realise I consider ‘security’ my major and most suited role – given my auditory and vocal abilities. Sadly, neither the FPs nor neighbours are able to hear all potential threats, and thus do not appreciate my worth. The FPs tend to be overly loud themselves when remonstrating with me; what can I say – I am otherwise totally obedient but it’s a breed rule - ‘Schnauzers mean safety!’. A final word on this – has anyone seen any local invaders? I rest my case!

As both FPs seem happy with my other roles – entertainment, companionship, mediation, personal training, affection, etc – I feel able to relax and sleep soundly (the sleep of the just?).

Night night.

STOP PRESS: recent signs of positive routine change – I am finding indoor sunbathing spots, and the FPs are venturing outdoors more often. SPRING?

(GB 10.3.21)



Full frontal

SPOTTING FLOWERS AROUND AWLISCOMBE AND WESTON DURING LOCKDOWN.

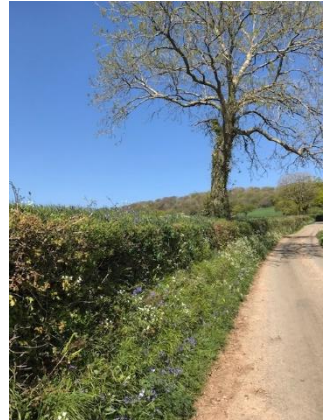
Many of us have been exercising during lockdown by walking around Awliscombe and Weston often on the same routes.

To give variety and time to catch your breath on Greenways Lane and up to The Knapp - why not stop and look into the hedgerows and see what flowers you can find? It is surprising just how many varieties there are.

It can be fun to spot and identify the many different varieties that are there which vary from month to month, with primroses and snow drops in early spring followed by bluebells and red campions, you might also be lucky enough to see the beautiful common orchid on Greenways Lane.

Identifying the flowers is now much easier than looking them up in books as there are free apps available such as PlantSnap, PlantNet, LeafSnap and PictureThis for android and I Phones. Just take a photo with your phone using the app and you will find out what the flower is and can surprise your friends later on by being able to name so many! Most of the apps can also be used to identify cultivated plants so great for garden visits.

Grace Gillard.



PictureThis



LeafSnap



Plantsnet



PlantSnap



Can you identify these plants?

If you write the first letter of these plant names in the correct order below, then you will write the name of a common local wild flower.

Answer on second last page



Art by Cicely Mary Barker.



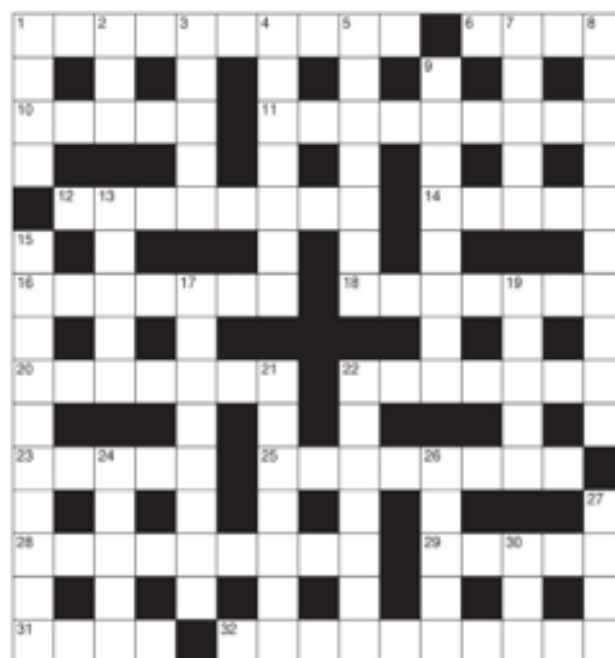
Crossword 3

ACROSS

1. Talkative person
6. Motorway off-ramp
10. Cathedral, ... Dame
11. Slanting lines
12. Ticketed
14. Japanese seaweed roll
16. Pierced with fork
18. Every evening
20. Annoyed
22. Nuclear process
23. Vanilla slice topping
25. Railway bridges
28. Take apart
29. Was gloomy
31. One-on-one fight
32. Carry out (crime)

DOWN

1. Dollar division
2. Appropriate
3. Here, ... & everywhere
4. Overrun (with disease)
5. Continually (2,3,2)
7. Bone photos (1-4)
8. Giving evidence
9. Delivers (goods)
13. In existence
15. Tolerant (4-6)
17. Weight unit
19. Discredit (reputation)
21. Dedicated admirer
22. Sudden outburst (5-2)
24. Agenda item
26. Unfulfilled
27. Rim
30. Ham & ... soup



We have all enjoyed walking in the area during lockdown.

One Awliscombe couple have put together this treasure hunt for locals to enjoy. This walk will take about 3 – 3½ hours depending on how long you spend chatting about the clues. At all times it follows either a tarmac road or a public right of way, at no time should you venture off permitted routes. At one point you do need to cross a main road so do watch out for younger treasure hunters.

All the answers will be printed in the next edition. The prize is the enjoyment of the challenge. See how many answers you can work out.



Awliscombe and Weston Walking Treasure Hunt 2021

Start at the Village Hall carpark. Head towards Honiton on the A373.

1. How old was Redwoods when Windhover was built (you may need to look at the gate next to the village hall)?

Passing the 'Wall of Awliscombe' on your left, admire the workmanship.

2. What country bonds the brick wall?

Continue to Laurel Bank.

3. What is the sum of **all** the numbers on the finger post?

Turn left and continue towards Weston.

4. You definitely won't find fine sport at this holiday spot?

Continue towards Weston.

5. The key to this clue may fit the sign. What business is this of ours?

Continue along the road towards Weston.

6. What must you not be when you cross the River Wolf?

As you cross the river look out for signs of animals.

7. What are they?

Continue around bend and uphill towards Weston, behave as you will be on camera.

8. Where would you find a 'magic' 'button'?

Immediately after Weston House turn left.

9. As you walk down the lane look out for Brian from the Magic Roundabout sneaking in through the back gate. Which house?

Continue to the next river crossing.

10. To the nearest foot how high is the bridge?
11. What are you warned to do before arriving at Wynford?

Proceed along the lane and around the bend under the shadow of the sleeping grey giant.

12. How many arms does the giant have?

Along the road to the stables.

13. Who is the cabinet maker?

Looking at the stables.

14. What daily tabloid oversees the riding ring?

Continue past Greenacres to the junction with A373, cross carefully to the opposite junction.

15. Decipher the calligraphy?

Head up the lane towards Awliscombe House keep an eye high on your left-hand side,

16. Here you may find the next answer 'or not'?

At Awliscombe House turn right and take a few minutes to take in the view at the right-hand gate way, looking out over Heathfield Industrial Estate.

17. What spherical small mountain can you see?

Continuing along the lane .

18. How many of our stars are there at Allington?

As you walk under the trees.

19. Which towering scarlet giant stands out (don't worry if you miss it, plenty more in Tracey)

Continue along until you find number 2a on the left-hand side, if you reach number 2 you have gone too far and need to retrace your steps.

20. Which animal lives in number 2a?

Continue along the lane to the T junction at Tracey, turn right and head downhill to Egland.

21. At Turnpike Cottage what number is your level of risk?

At the junction with the A373 leave the road and turn left through the gate onto the public footpath.

22. Before leaving the junction, have a look around, if you were in the USA, 66 might impress, what is it here?

The walk now takes you along a public footpath through a number of fields.

23. Make note of the number of opportunities when you could steal a kiss.

Having made your way through the corral take in the Otter as it flows under the road.

24. How many columns keep the bridge in the air?

Continue through another 2 gates following the yellow arrows turn left away from the river.

25. Who are also pointing the way?

Turn away from the river across the field keeping the pylons to your right, cross a stile, continue across the next field keeping the hedge to your right until you arrive at another gate.

26. Who can you thank for this gate?

Arriving at another stile which you may choose to go around, cross the field to the left opposite boundary and another stile.

1. What must you do before you dig here?

Cross the stile and walk diagonally across the field towards the white house – Worfield House. Here you will find another stile which takes you back onto a road. Heading away from Worfield walk up the lane past Torwoods to a T junction where you will turn left.

2. What is the latest time you could get here on a Monday if you needed to be in time for Pat?

Continue along the road and into the village.

3. Could this be a small mountain in Weatherfield?

Just before the church,

4. Could this be where Father Christmas lives?

Turn left at the church and before you proceed along the no through road,

5. This one isn't necessarily 'on the roof'.
6. Whose mother and sister could be said to be prudent?

Head along the road passing The Barton, a little further along,

7. If this was 'half as nice' would you really 'rather have you'?

Proceed up the hill.

8. Look for Robin Hood's armoury.

Further up the hill at a double wooden field gate on the left,

9. How many kisses?

Keep on up the hill not taking a detour to The Knoll, passing Mount Pleasant on the right proceed through the gate and follow the Public Byway.

10. What does the Public turn into?

Arriving at a small building, do not mistake for a convenience,

11. How many whole concrete steps?

Continue through the woods keeping to the main path on the level, enjoy the peace and bird song. As you leave the woods and turn back on yourself, look back to the horizon through the trees.

12. Could this be a miniature version of Cape Town's famous eating place? (a little research when you get home might help this one)

Follow the path around and back towards Awliscombe, passing through a gate and onto the tarmacked lane. Cut across the road.

13. Make sure you don't trespass on this pious man's land.

Head down Greenway Lane back to the village. On entering the village,

14. Look for the two that will give you the main two colours of the Devon flag.
15. Keep your eyes peeled and downwards for a foundry with a Royal connection.

If at all possible, call in for a well-deserved drink at the Honiton Inn.



Out in the garden.

During these past 12 months the majority of the population has spent a lot of time confined to their homes. It was no wonder then that thousands, if not millions of people turned to gardening in one form or another as a pastime and were soon realizing the joy of growing plants, be it one or two house plants to growing their own vegetables. Gardening has now been internationally recognized as a health-giving exercise and it has been proven that by spending even a short time tending to plants, many gain enormous benefit in so many ways, boosting both mental and physical health.

The air purifying qualities of house plants cleanse the air of toxins such as carbon dioxide and release oxygen. Some of the easiest examples of houseplants to maintain include Spider plants, Peace lily (spathiphyllum) & Aloe vera.

Out in the garden there is still the danger of frost in April so only hardy annuals should be sown directly into their flowering position. Prick out bedding grown from seed under cover into trays or pots when large enough to handle. Many vegetables can be grown in cell pots including root vegetables such as beetroot, to be planted out carefully when two true leaves show. Continue to sow vegetable seeds for a continuous supply through the season. If you have never grown vegetables try planting a few runner beans. Share a pkt of seeds with family or friends. Either plant out in the garden or in large pots. They will have to be staked but otherwise easy to grow and freshly picked beans taste so different.

Most of the winter pruning will have been done by now, with only plants like buddleia still needing to be pruned hard back and old hydrangea heads removed. Hardy fuchsias can also be pruned back to about 8" - 9".

Now is a good time to consider planting shrubs especially the variegated kind for all year round colour and to bring structure to the garden. These plants will also add brightness to a dull winter garden. Plants to consider include, Euonymus of which there are several species, variegated yellow or white, variegated Elaeagnus, variegated Griselinia, Ilex (holly) Golden King is the female plant with berries, Sarcococca (commonly known as Christmas box) has a wonderful perfume in winter, Choisya sundance (Mexican orange blossom) has the added bonus of white flowers that are loved by bees and for architectural plants Phormium (New Zealand flax) is a must and come in several colours.

Plant up hanging baskets and pots with summer bedding in May when all signs of frost are gone. Add water retention crystals and slow release granular feed to the planting compost to increase its ability to retain water & food for a longer period of time.

What ever kind of gardener you would like to be always take a little time in the day to sit with a cup of your favorite brew and admire your surroundings. An elderly gentleman gardener once said "Sometimes I sits and thinks and sometimes I just sits".

Pat Hughes



Each issue we will be inviting a person or a couple, to be cast away on the infamous desert island, asking them for the eight (or four) music tracks they would choose to take, a book, a luxury item and all the reasons why...



DESERT ISLAND DISC



Our next guest: **Cole Stacey**

Having been bought up and lived in Awliscombe for 20+ years, Cole Stacey is a songwriter, singer and musician who roams diverse echelons of contemporary folk, 80s pop and new romantic electronics. From Glastonbury Festival to The London Palladium, from Late Junction on BBC Radio 3 to touring the globe with Midge Ure.

“Soft, pop-aware voice describing a life alive with motion” – The Independent

As one half of unique folk duo India Electric Company alongside Joseph O’Keefe, Cole has recently been found on prime-time live sessions for BBC Radio 2 and BBC 6 Music as well as winning acclaim for their five records released.

“India Electric Co. are bursting with invention and full of surprises.” – The Telegraph

DISC 1: I’m a Survivor - Destiny’s Child I’d play this loud, every morning and pretend I was Beyoncé. This alone I think would earn me the respect of the island animals.

DISC 2: Song 44 - The Gloaming This song and album was the catalyst for everything India Electric Company did and aspire to do. From the muted piano and production of Thomas Bartlett to the genius of Martin Hayes and Iarla Ó Lionáird. Everything folk music should be.

DISC 3: Sumaro - Anda Union My favourite Mongolian band and the song I would wish to hear to prepare me for foraging for coconuts (and by foraging I mean waiting for them to drop out of the tree)!

DISC 4: String Quartet in F major – Ravel My go to piece of music when we started first, touring Australia and New Zealand in 2016 - as I’m a terrible flyer and needed something to help with all the early morning bumpy landings. It’s stayed with me as the piece I turn to whenever we’re on the road.

DISC 5: Steer Your Way - Leonard Cohen From his final album, just before he passed away. I don't remember being moved by a record as much as this and it may help me come to terms with my island predicament.

DISC 6: De Cara a la pared - Lhasa De Sela I remember vividly my brother introducing me to this track and it's stayed by my side for 20+ years. Her vocals on this are beautiful and timeless and would help me deal with the fact I may have to ration my avocado intake.

DISC 7: Cold, Cold Ground (live) - Tom Wait This track would see me through the nights, I don't normally go for live recordings but this is the ultimate performance.

Disc 8: Waking Up - A Course In Guided Meditation - Sam Harris Being alone on an island with my own narrative 24/7 will probably require some help and this 50 day guided meditation will be on loop.

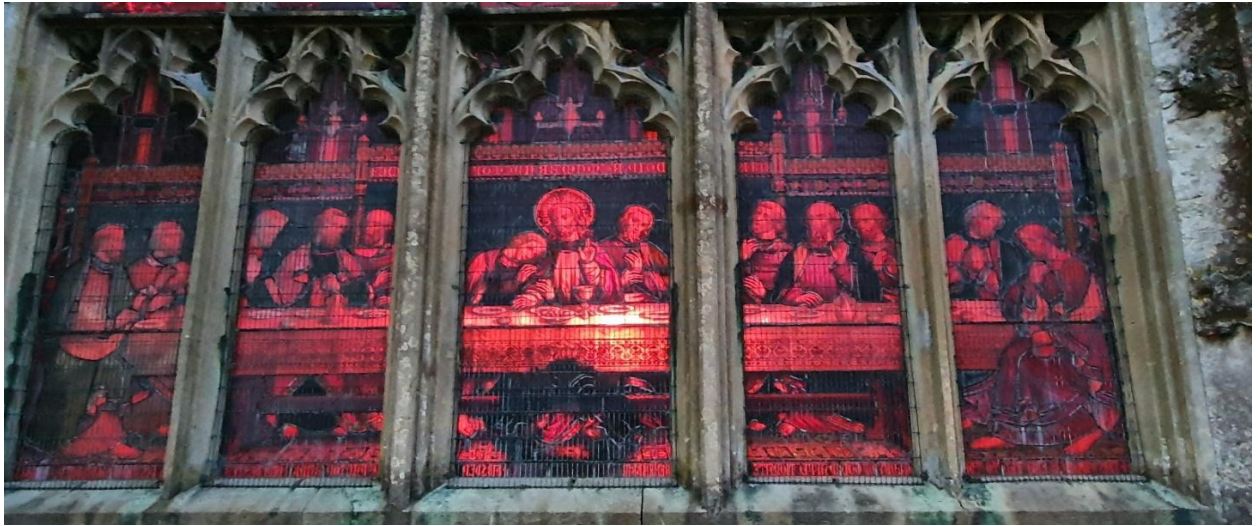
Having The Bible and the Complete Works of Shakespeare, which **BOOK** would you choose to take with you?

Infinite Jest - David Foster Wallace Simply because I still haven't read it yet, I know someone who quit their job and took four months of work to read this so a deserted island feels like the right place.

LUXURY ITEM - A humble speciality coffee setup to include a Lido2 coffee grinder and AeroPress, fellow kettle, peak water jug and filters, two years supply of Coffee beans from James Gourmet, giving me hopefully enough time to learn to harvest, wash and prepare the coffee cherries growing high up on the top of the island. A roaster would be included as part of the 'luxury item package' and ideally a weekly zoom meeting with a coffee roaster tutor but I'll admit this may be pushing it somewhat.
(Here at the editor's office, we have discussed and decided ... yes, it's definitely pushing it!!... but as it's you, we'll allow).

And finally, which track would you **SAVE FROM THE WAVES?** **The Gloaming – Song 44**

THANK YOU SO MUCH, FOR SHARING YOUR 'DESERT ISLAND DISCS' WITH US.



Church Matters.

It's so good to see this publication taking off again. Congratulations to everybody who has made it happen!

Communication continues to be so important as we very gradually navigate our way out of lockdown. Although the government's roadmap is great news, we cannot pretend that we are out of the woods and in the sunny uplands quite yet!

Having said that, warmer days and signs of spring are a joy to behold, and we do stand a bit more chance of seeing one another!

In all our local churches we are longing for the day when restrictions are fully lifted, but the current situation will not prevent us from holding some sort of service in each parish on Easter Day. Do keep an eye on the website www.honitoncofe.org which will keep you up to date with what is happening at St Michael's Awliscombe, along with the other 5 churches in the group.

With best wishes,

Sue Roberts

Team Rector

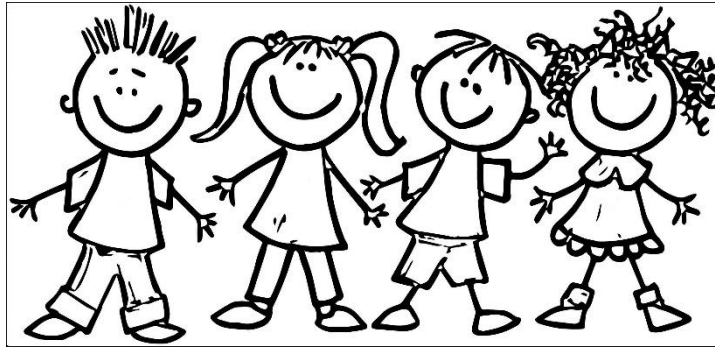
EASTER AT ST MICHAEL'S

Come and celebrate Easter as we hold our first service in church since January. Easter Eucharist at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday 4 April.

Covid protocols, including masks and social distancing to keep everyone safe. Everyone very welcome!

The Church Electoral Roll is due for revision before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 25th April.

Anyone in the Parish, who is not currently on the Roll and who wishes to be included, please contact David Chippington (43480) before 11th April.



We thought it would be fun to have a little input from the children of Awliscombe school. Listening to their responses when asked questions can often make us smile.

So we asked the big questions ...

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO WHEN YOU GROW UP? (yrs 1&2)

- I want to drive tractors and diggers and trucks, (followed by a detailed description of what tractors every farmer within a five mile radius is currently driving)!
- I'm not sure, I think computers. I like computers but I'm 6, so ... (shrugs shoulders and walks off).
- An engineer, I like building things especially Lego, (there follows a 15 min description of everything he has ever build. It's very technical)!
- Silence, accompanied by puzzled look ... well, a farmer of course. (Looks at interviewer as if she has asked the stupidest question in the world). She asks what he's going to farm. Cows, what else? Interviewer left feeling very silly indeed for even asking!
- I'm going to be a teacher like Mummy.
- I'm going to be a YouTuber and make Minecraft games (there follows a very detailed discussion of how to play and how well he plays). Interviewer is soon baffled.
- Another child says she wants to drive tractors too. A bystander takes issue ... girls don't drive tractors!
They can, can't they ...? (Appeals to interviewer, who nods). See, girls can do everything, says the girl ... tractors too.
- I'm going to an office, I'm going to tell people what to do and have meetings.

HOW DO YOU CHEER SOMEONE UP, IF THEY ARE SAD?

- You can sit next to them at lunch.
- You must give them a hug. You must tell them you are their friend.
- Sometimes people are sad and they want to be away from us but you must tell the teacher.
- You can make them a card. I made a rainbow card for my Mummy.
- You can play games. Or you can tell jokes.
- I make funny faces at my sister when she is sad. Then she laughs but sometimes she just hits me.



THE FATE OF OUR VILLAGE FETE

For many years our much beloved annual village fete has been one of the centre pieces of our village social calendar. Sadly, and rightly due to Covid19 we couldn't hold the event last year.

But with the great news of the vaccine and the impending staged easing of lock down we don't want another year to pass without this happy event taking place!

Yes we are all nervous and apprehensive of what the future holds,

But together, and with the utmost care and consideration of risk and safety, we can start to look at how might we plan to return to normal. Indeed is this not also an opportunity to bring our community closer and build on our great fete tradition, and if necessary adapting it to our new post-pandemic World?

We have all missed the wonderful events and social activities that make our village life so special, and together with care we can start to plan to move forward once more.

The Fete organising committee has already held a meeting (by Zoom, of course) and agreed that, if we can, we want to hold the village fete this year – in whatever format is appropriate, and we have some ideas how we might do this but we need your help and support.

We feel that June, the traditional date for our fete will be too soon following the easing of lockdown and therefore we are proposing that we move the event to

SATURDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER AT THE OTTER INN

This will still allow us to hopefully benefit from the best of the great British summer weather, whilst also giving extra time to check that we can hold the Fete safely.

If things do not improve, we will still look to run some elements such as the duck race, but we may use technology to create a "virtual duck race" and, hey, who knows maybe even an online fete! Now this is our Plan B so for all those who worry about technology we will find a way so you can join in if we have to do something like this, and let's hope Plan A of an almost normal Fete will be achievable!

So here is what we need you to do, first

SAVE THE DATE & HOPE WE THAT WE ALL CAN MEET SAFELY!

Second, YOUR VILLAGES NEED YOU!

We need people to help us organise the event, real or virtual. We need people to join and re-join the committee. We also need people who are willing to help on the day... we need people to run stalls, help organise the set up and assist in running activities ...and yes, this year we are going to have to do things differently so we need more people and some extra special skills too....

THOSE WITH DIGITAL SKILLS WHO CAN HELP US CREATE SOME ELEMENTS OF OUR FETE AS VIRTUAL PLEASE GET IN TOUCH

ANYONE WITH A CAMERA DRONE CAN YOU HELP US FILM THE DUCK RACE?

And to help those who aren't so hot on the old computer systems, we also need people to phone around and to take calls and help us make sure everyone gets involved, after all this is our village and we don't want anyone to be left behind or left out.

PLEASE – IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE AREA OR PERHAPS YOU HAVE NEVER GOT INVOLVED IN VILLAGE EVENTS BEFORE – TURN OVER A NEW POST-PANDEMIC LEAF AND HELP US RESTART THE AWLISCOMBE & WESTON SOCIAL CALENDAR SO WE CAN HAVE A FETE (REAL OR VIRTUAL) ON 4TH SEPTEMBER, THIS YEAR!

Please contact us if you can offer to help in anyway or if you would like to discuss the Fete. We will also be posting on the village Facebook page if you would prefer to contact us through that platform.

Sharon Thwaites nick.sharon.thwaites@mac.com or 014040 548 467 or 07748966436

Helen Wylde h.wylde@btinternet.com

What's in a name?

The name Awliscombe itself could be of British origin from CWM (combe) and AEL meaning ridge or brow of the hill, thus AEL-YS-CWM. There have been many different spellings: Aulescombe, Aulisomb and Aliscombe, sometimes it is pronounced 'Aliscombe' to this day. Sadly, although it has also been spelt Owlescombe, the romantic notion that this was because of the number of owls that lived in the combe would appear to have no basis in fact.

Weston comes from the Olde English elements "west" and "tun" meaning settlement or enclosure. So a settlement to the west.

We are hoping to include articles about local history in the future. If anyone has any photos and/or memories they are happy to share then please get in touch. We can arrange to meet up. Remember meeting with people? Hope we can do that again soon.

FULL MOONS

The moon produces no visible light of its own, so we can only see the parts of the moon that are lit by other objects. A small amount of light comes from distant stars and the reflection of light from the earth (known as earthshine), however the main source of light for the moon, as we all know, is the sun.

When the earth and sun are perfectly aligned a full moon occurs – roughly every 29.5 days, the time it takes for the moon to go through one whole lunar phase cycle. As our calendar isn't quite in line with the moon phases, sometimes we get two moons in one month. This is commonly known as a 'blue' moon.

2021

April 27th - 4.31am - **PINK** Moon - Called after a species of early blooming wildflower called wild ground phlox/the herb moss pink. Other names: (Sprouting grass, Egg, Fish moon).

May 24th - 12.13pm - **FLOWER** Moon - This name was given as thanks for the abundant blooming which occurs as Spring enters its growing stage. Other names: (Hare, Corn planting, Milk moon)

June 26th - 7.39pm - **STRAWBERRY** Moon - In native America the harvesting of strawberries at this time of year, gives this month its full moon name. Other names: (Rose, Hot moon).

Supermoons - When the moon is full and coincides with the moon's closest approach to earth in its orbit. This makes the moon appear brighter and closer than normal. It only happens occasionally, even as infrequently as once a year. This year it is happening twice! The **Pink** and the **Flower** are both supermoons.

March Equinox - (aka Spring or Vernal equinox)

Here in the northern hemisphere, this event, when the sun crosses the equator, heading north in the sky – marks the start of Spring. (Astronomically speaking). The northern hemisphere will now begin to tilt towards the sun, resulting in increased daylight hours and warming temperatures.

On the other side of the equator, the March equinox tilts to away from the sun, marking the southern hemisphere's start of Autumn.

The equinox, coming from the Latin words 'equal night', happens on the 19th.20th or 21st when the length of day and night is equal in all parts of the world.

Meteorologically speaking, the first day of Spring is 1st March, as meteor scientists divide the year into quarters, making it easier to compare seasonal and monthly statistics.



Equinox sunrise by Sarah Dent

Summer Solstice – 21st June

The summer solstice can be a magical event to experience, with many people believing it connects us with our ancestors and the land. It is the day that the Earth's North Pole tilts closest to the sun, resulting in the longest daylight hours of the year here in the northern hemisphere.

Rugby International spotted in the Awliscombe.

During the Summer we had a visit from David Flatman, English sports pundit and former rugby union player. Flatman represented England eight times between 2000 and 2002, playing club rugby for Saracens and Bath. Flats was filming for a Land Rover Advert ahead of the “behind closed doors” Premiership Final.

Land Rover Experience hosted flats and the film crew along with Genevieve Taylor (genevievetailor.co.uk) where flats went on a mini adventure to learn how to take a slice of the match day experience back to the fans. Flats is a Land Rover Ambassador and has visited the Experience centre many times over the years.



Having driven through some familiar lanes and setting up camp in the hills overlooking Awliscombe, Flats was shown by Gen how to cook up a Philly Cheesesteak Sandwich!

Have a look at the Video on the attached link and see if you recognise any of the stunning East Devon scenery.

<https://youtu.be/7UCCjWMepSQ>

The crew stayed and ate locally which is all good news for our local economy. Land Rover Experience has a history of attracting Rugby guests and events to the village. Back in 2015 the Rugby World cup made an appearance in the village and our local Exeter Chiefs are regulars at the centre.



You can follow future events at Land Rover Experience on Facebook @LREWC

Walking around Awliscombe – For Now!

Now that Boris has drawn us his Road Plan there appears to be a good chance of being able to roam more freely around our countryside. Until some 10 years ago we had a village walking group – known as the Awliscombe Amblers – which met on the last Sunday of the month to travel to North Devon, South Devon, Dartmoor, Dorset, Somerset (the Quantocks) for walks over very varied and attractive terrain. Brian Marshall was our founder and leader. He planned and led the majority of our walks, although other members of the group often planned and led walks.



For now we should still stay local for our exercise. In the village there are few circular walks, on or off- road. One is from Godford Cross up past Layzells to the Marlcombe turn, follow round to Ridgeway and straight across back to Godford Cross – a bit less than 3 miles. A bit shorter is to turn left at Three Corners Cross to Ridgeway. Also from the Hall car park up Greenway Lane to St Cyres and back is a bit more challenging. Hembury Fort is a pleasant amble, particularly now the bluebells are coming.



A good area fairly close to home is around Farway, Cotleigh and Northleigh.

where you can choose a number of circular walks around the lanes, parking is easy, eg by Farway, Netherton Hall or Cotleigh Village Hall. Woodbury Common also has plenty of choices of off-road walks of various lengths.

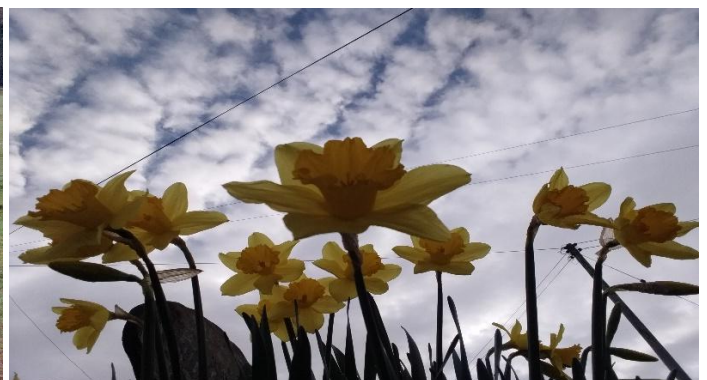
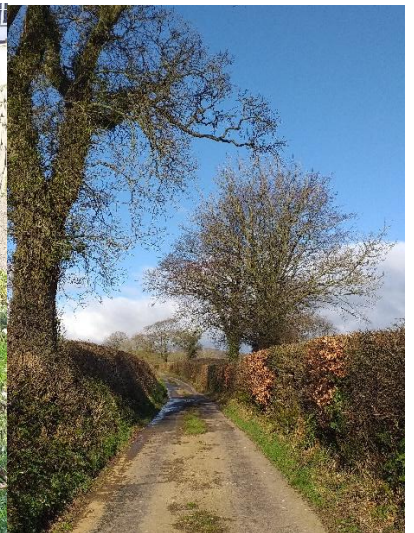
A good map is an essential for walk planning and navigating – the Ordnance Survey Explorer series (No 115) for Honiton is probably best, you might also manage with your smart phone app!

David & Doreen Choppington



Winter to Spring – In and around Awliscombe

Amanda Elliott





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WHAT'S ON

If it looks as if your event is a possibility for the **Summer** issue (July, August September), then please drop us an email.

The deadline for the **Summer** issue will be ... 14 June.

Autumn ... 13 September

Winter ... 15 November

ADVERTISEMENTS

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Answers : C – celandine, A – apple blossom, M
– May (common name for hawthorn) P – pine,
I – iris, O – old man's beard, N – narcissus

