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Contact Page.

If anyone would like to contribute to our printing costs, then you may do so on line, our bank details are:

AWLISCOMBE AND WESTON TIMES

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- Thank you.

To contact us at Awliscombe and Weston Times, send an email to awliscombeandwestontimes@gmail.com

Emergency Contact Numbers.

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

St. Michael's Church, Awliscombe school, Parish Council , Village Hall, and club contacts.

Incumbent	Revd. Sue Roberts	Email: sue41260@gmail.com
Honiton Team Office	01404 44035	office@honitoncofe.org
The Honiton Mission Community website, on honiton.org , has information about services in Awliscombe.		
Church Wardens	Nick Thwaites	01404 548467 / 07900 041174
PCC Secretary	Sharon Thwaites	01404 548467
Bell Captain	Roger Sprigg	01404 43814
Awliscombe School	Penny Hammett	01404 42031 – Executive headteacher, Fort Federation.
Awliscombe School	Vicky Morris	Head of School
Awliscombe Parish Council	Sally Maynard	07810 442355 - Clerk
Awliscombe Village Hall	Liz Gillingham	07811 675800 - Booking Secretary
		01404 43551
	Kevin Coxon	07796 132238 - Chairman
Young Wives	Sally Lawrence	01404 42825
Garden Club	Pat Hughes	01404 841170
Short Mat Bowls	Kelvin Briscoe	01404 549047
Awliscombe Ladies	Rosemary Sprigg	01404 43814
Knit and Stitch	Sarah Dent	07540 110965

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 the 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 next summer.

Next Issue

The deadline for the next issue will be **15th November.**

Send your article to awliscombeandwestontimes@gmail.com

What's On.

To help everyone keep their diaries up to date, you can now go onto the Awliscombe Parish Council website, click on What's On and see all of the public events for the village. If anyone has an event which they would like advertised on this calendar, then please let Sally know on lawrencesally@hotmail.com

For any people who are new to the area, they should know that new members are always welcome to any of the various clubs and events mentioned in the magazine. Details of people to contact are on the contact page at the beginning of this magazine.

Monthly

regular dates in the Village Hall

Mondays -	Garden Club	7.30pm – 10pm 2 nd Monday in month
Tuesdays –		
Wednesdays -	Short mat bowls Knit and Stitch	2 pm - 7pm & 7pm - 9pm 7.30 – 9.30 alt. Wednesdays
Thursdays -	Honiton U3A Hist. Awliscombe Ladies	8 am – 1pm last Thursday in month 7.30 pm - 2 nd Thursday in month
Fridays -	Drama Tots Slot car racing Honiton WI Art	8am – 1pm. 7 pm - 10pm 1 pm – 4pm 2 nd & 4 th Frida

SAVE THE DATE.

Monday September 25 th -	Whist Drive in the Village Hall.
Tuesday November 28 th -	Whist Drive in the Village Hall.
Friday September 29 th -	Harvest Supper in the Village Hall.
Sunday 1 st October -	Harvest Festival at St. Michael's.
Saturday 18 th November -	Village Quiz in the Village Hall.
Monday 27 th November -	Awliscombe Ladies' Bingo.

Church Matters.

Services at St. Michael's are on the first and third Sundays on each month. Everyone is welcome. Information about these services is on honiton.org in a newsletter called **Around The Parishes**.

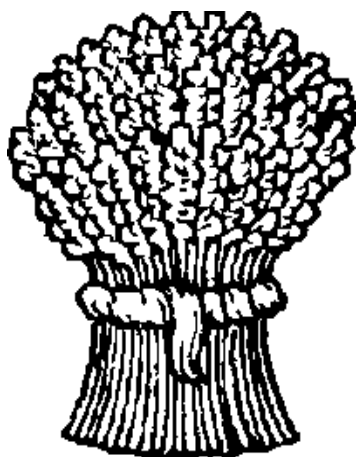
The group of people who like **classic cars** that used to meet at The Honiton Inn now meet on the first Thursday of each month at **The Otter Inn** in Weston. Anyone welcome.



The Village Hall committee would like to thank **Sally Holmes** for her hard work

looking after the flower bed in front of the hall. It is looking wonderful.





awliscombeandwestontimes@gmail.com

Allison 07507949412

Caroline 07775042735

Hi, ... Harvest is always celebrated the nearest Sunday to the full moon. Coming from the Old English word 'haerf-est'. Here in Britian we've always given thanks as we did in Pagan times, for crops grown and gathered. Our modern Harvest Festival Service doesn't always draw the people in as it was once celebrated but it's a beautiful service. The churches are still decorated with fruit and flowers, we sing our thanks and are quietly grateful for our farmers and fishermen in this bountiful season, for which we are so fortunate.

You may have already enjoyed the Harvest Supper whilst reading this. To begin ... Grace is said, shared tables, plentiful food with much fun and laughter to be had, especially once the annual auction of produce begins. Paddy and his team provide an experience not to be missed! So we thank the willing and hard working helpers Karen, Sharon and their team, who enable us to all enjoy for yet another year!

I think we will all agree (especially the parents) that it has been a challenging summer, weather wise, yet as I write - we are enjoying an extremely hot week which means, of course, the children are back at school! Wanting to prune and start the autumn garden tidy up, I am very aware of the bees still gathering the last of the nectar, so a few garden jobs put on hold – giving us time to relax for a little longer.

The long established village map, (for Awliscombe) which is outside the village hall, is now in the centre of this edition. There have been a few changes since it was first printed, if you know of any changes we can ensure they are applied, so please call us or send an email and we will gladly update, many thanks. Perhaps there is someone brave enough to create one similar for Weston?!

As always we would like to thank our amazing team of distributors, you are stars! Big thanks also to the lovely folk who have contributed to this edition.

Remember, we are always looking for your stories and photos (pumpkin carvings, Summer reading review, wildlife on our rivers?) ... so please contact us. That just leaves us to say 'Happy Autumn', enjoy this beautiful, wistful time - before the Winter greets us again, all too soon.

.....



Awliscombe Ladies' **BINGO NIGHT** Awliscombe Village Hall

As always, excellent prizes and cash flyers!

Doors open 7pm ... Eyes down 8pm.

Monday 27th November

Little Otters toddler group is starting again at the village school on Mondays at 9.00.

Defibrillator update evening.

On 20th July there was an evening called 'Defibrillator training' in our village hall in Awliscombe. It was a very worthwhile evening and I recommend to everyone who missed it to attend the next one, which will be held next year. The evening was led by Jessica Courtney, a community responder with the ambulance service for the NHS.

It is good to be reminded of how to respond in a crisis.

Check that the area is safe. Shout for help and call an ambulance straight away. As the call may not be answered at once, put the phone on loudspeaker and prop it up beside you as you help the casualty. (Good tip!) Put your hand on their forehead and tilt the chin up to help them breathe. (many people forget this and chin often drops again). If they are indeed breathing then roll them onto their side in the recovery position. (check chin again)



One only needs to consider more than this if the person is not breathing. A defibrillator will not work where it is not needed; where the casualty has a regular heartbeat.

She gave a talk first of all on how to administer CPR. This is Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. The procedure where one tries to get the heart beating again as in the picture. It is worth the training on a dummy as the real thing is tiring and I hope I never have to do it. However it could save a life – worth knowing.



In conjunction with CPR, a defibrillator is used to shock the heart into beating regularly again. In our villages the Parish Council has provided two defibrillators. One is outside the front door of Awliscombe village

hall; to the right under the covered area. The other is at Heron Farm; directly opposite you as you drive in, before you turn right to the parking area.



Both of these defibrillators are rented from and maintained by the NHS. This means that one does not need to spend valuable time phoning for a code to open the box. They should only be used if a person's heart has stopped beating regularly and/or if their breathing is extremely shallow. If it does not appear to work, it means that it is not needed.

There are very clear instructions in the pack and it will talk you through what to do step by step. We have an allocated person in the villages whose job it is to check the defibrillators regularly. If anyone uses one, then it is important to notify someone on the village hall committee or parish council (numbers on the contact page) so that it can be replaced in working order. There are pads which are stuck to the body when in use which need to be replaced after use.



Young Wives' walk.

This was a gentle 3 mile walk starting and ending at The Sidmouth Arms pub in Upottery.

It was very pleasant to amble along through some beautiful countryside, beside the river Otter now and then. Good company and thankfully, only spits of rain.

Always a bonus to end up with a good meal as well. Thank you Liz for planning it.

Here is a map in case anyone else wants to try it out before a visit to the pub.



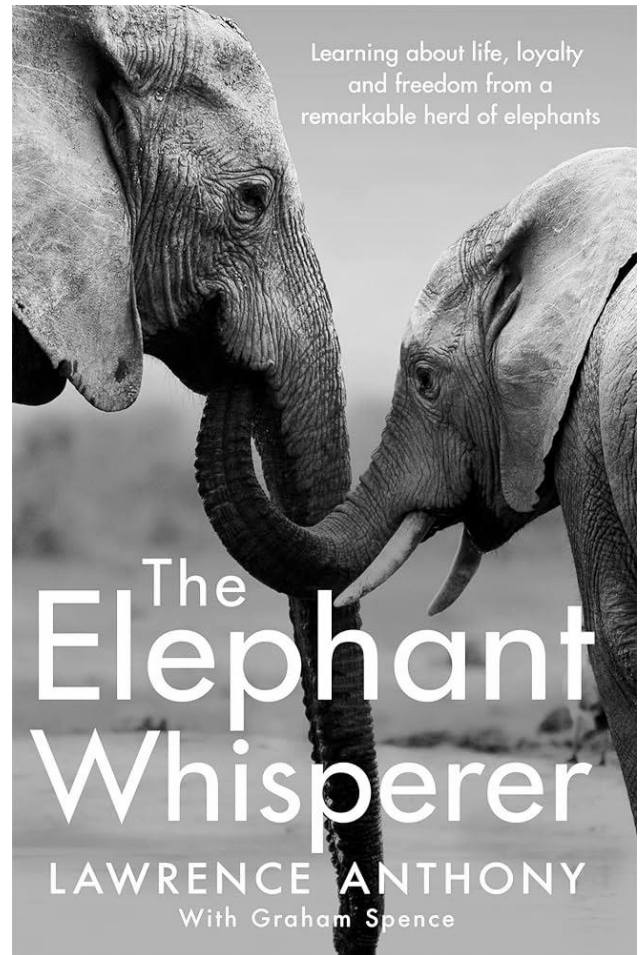
The Elephant Whisperer by Lawrence Anthony.

This book was first published over ten years ago. However I reread it this summer and absolutely loved it, if possible more than the first time I read it.

It is a true story. The author Lawrence Anthony was lucky enough to be the owner of a game reserve called Thula Thula. This reserve is about 5,000 acres of bush in Zululand, South Africa. Thula Thula is home to a wide range of indigenous wildlife, including the white rhino. Cape buffalo, leopard, hyena, giraffe, zebra, wildebeest, crocodile, many species of antelope and many others. When he first took on the reserve, there were no elephants, although many had previously been living there about a century ago.

Out of the blue one day, he received a phone call asking him if he would be prepared to take on a herd of 'rogue' elephants. Understandably he hesitated at first; elephants need to be handled by experts and these ones were reputed to be 'dangerous and unpredictable'. However he was their last chance. If he could not give them a home, then they would have to be killed. So he agreed to take in this troubled family.

This book is all about how he worked and risked his life to create a bond with the elephants and to persuade them to stay in the safety of his reserve. As a bonus there are colour photos as well!



Over many trials and adventures, he learnt so much about the wild animals in his care, and most especially about his beloved elephants. The journey is not easy and frequently frustrating or even terrifying. At other times events are hilarious or astonishing. As the story progresses, we are shown so much to wonder at about the animal kingdom and the many ways animals have of communicating and understanding.

"Many years ago, I watched a hunter stalking his prey. He had a permit to target only an impala ram from a bachelor herd. Yet the only males he encountered that day were those with breeding herds of females. Even more incredibly, these non-shootable studs stood nonchalantly within range, eyeing him without a care in the world, while in the background bachelor herds were running for their lives. Maybe it is a bit mystical, maybe the message is in the wind. Whenever you want to shoot or dart an animal they are never to be found."

I don't want to give away any spoilers about the incredible intuitive powers and understanding revealed by the elephants. Anyone who loves and works with animals will have an idea of what this may be. The reader is left with a sense of such awe at the complexity of nature and the animals who live in the wild.

"To understand how they (the elephants) taught me so much, you have to understand that communication in the animal kingdom is as natural as a breeze. Elephants possess qualities and abilities well beyond the means of science to decipher. They have communication and understanding, physical and metaphysical, which makes our mouths drop open."



Awliscombe Young Wives

A good time was had by all,
the rain held off, a beautiful
July evening - on sunny
Branscombe beach.

Friends old and new ... caught up, cooked, sampled
homemade cider and two braved a swim! A parting
birthday glass for Simon with much storytelling and
laughter. Thank you Sally for organising.



Awliscombe & Weston HARVEST SUPPER 2023

Awliscombe Parish Hall

Friday, 29th September

19:00 for 19:30

Adults: £9, children £4

Please book tickets in advance

Call or text Sharon Thwaites

077489 66436 or email

nick.sharon.thwaites@mac.com

Donations of produce for the
auction welcome!



Harvest Supper

For any newcomers to the area, the Harvest Supper takes place in the village hall and all are welcome – as long as you have booked your ticket; it is popular so do so in good time!

People are invited to bring along any produce – this can be fruit or vegetables, cordials or fruit gins, cakes, breads, jams or pickles, plants or anything made from local produce. We enjoy a ploughman's meal and then the goods are auctioned off to the highest bidder. The younger fitter people act as runners and there is a bar to keep everyone refreshed. It is all great fun and a worthy celebration of harvest.



Cream Tea at St. Michael's

The Friends of St. Michael's (FOSM) held a cream tea in the church on Sunday 10th September. The morning weather looked ominous with gathering clouds but luckily by the time our volunteers had gathered the tables, chairs and paraphernalia the churchyard was bathed in glorious sunshine. The urn was filled, home-made scones cut and we awaited the crowds. At 3 O'clock the

first visitors arrived followed by a steady flow of hungry folk. Tea, scones, cream and delicious home-made jam were duly provided, and all settled down in the sunshine or shade for a very enjoyable couple of hours. Those with big appetites were invited to have seconds and not surprisingly business was brisk. The younger children also had a lovely time with a teddy bears' picnic in a shady gazebo.

A very big thank you for all the visitor donations which totalled £181.90 and to everyone who helped organise the afternoon. A special thank you to Mary Wilmington for providing her home-made jam. We would also like to thank the Village Hall committee for allowing us the use of the tables, chairs and crockery.



Harvest with the children at Awliscombe Primary School.

The children of Robins and Woodpeckers had a fabulous time in St. Michael's with Rev. Sue Roberts and a team of volunteers. They explored various aspects of HARVEST through a range of activities.

This is Harvest of the Earth.

The children looked at handmade bowls and vases and talked about the people who made them. Often one can see the potters' hand prints on the bowls. They then made small clay pots of their own to keep.



Here we have the Harvest of the grain.

They looked at various grains and seeds as well as flour and baking equipment. They talked about all the things made with fruit of the grains.

The children then had fun tasting the various types of bread and croissants.

This is the Harvest of the flock. They looked at wool, talked about how it was spun and what it could be made into.

The children all had a go at weaving some wool onto the little loom you may be able to make out on the woolen rug.





Here we have the Harvest of the oceans. Plenty to see there with shells of all shapes and sizes as well as a real lobster pot. The children talked about the fishermen and fish (as well as big discussions about fish fingers!) They made little origami paper boats as a fun reminder of this aspect of Harvest.



Lastly we have the Harvest of the garden. Here the children looked at seeds of various flowers and vegetables. They talked about their own experiences of growing flowers, fruit and veg. They then all planted a bean seed to take home and grow themselves.

All of this was wonderfully thought provoking for the adults, the children had fun and hopefully have a few thoughts and memories of what Harvest is all about. They came together at the end to think about being grateful for our farmers and fishermen. Then they thought about the Harvest of the spirit. Attributes such as peace, humility, generosity, patience, perseverance, kindness and so on were talked about and the children hung up little fruits with these words on, symbolising the fruits of the spirit. As ever they were well behaved and full of ideas and thoughts. Such fun! Thank you Rev. Sue.

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TO
HEATH PARK & HONITON

David Lloyd

CABINET MAKER



Our Talented Village Folk

When contemplating the many skills we have in our two villages, it seemed to be a good idea to let people know of the combined talents that lie so close to us. Many of you will know David well but there will be a few people who don't, so I asked David if he would mind us doing a short article, to which he agreed. David has his own superb website, which I have to say, cannot be matched or improved on for information and photos! So do take a few minutes to look, you will be amazed.

One morning in August, I took myself off to see David at his workshop, curious to see his creative space and to ask a few questions.

The workshop nearby, set in the Blackdown Hills, was a delight to find. With a huge array of different woods of all lengths and sizes stacked around, a woodburning stove stood in the middle (made from an old aga), the gentle warmth only adding to the amazing essence of wood filling the air.

The first question I asked was, if David had any family connections to wood, was his skill one that had been passed down for example, by his Grandfather? This appeared not to be the case, his maternal grandfather was an orthopaedic surgeon, in Exeter! David lived in Hatfield, Hertfordshire, with his parents until he was 25. There he took his first job as a motorbike mechanic. After a change of career, David took a full time Furniture Making and Design course at the prestigious 'Rycotewood' college in Oxfordshire. But it was the happy memories of family farm holidays that eventually led his family to living in Devon, from 2000 onwards and starting his own small business in 2003.

Did David have a favourite wood? He explained that whilst most clients' popular choice of wood, would be Oak ... Ash is his favourite to use, followed closely by Elm (now harder to source). When probed to find out his favourite item to make, David said

that chairs are the most satisfying but an expanse of beautiful wood, used for a table, gives him a good feeling.

His finished projects are practical, rather than artistic – and although not practised himself, he very much admires carving and marquetry.





David explained that so many woods are imported now, ie European Oak, which is cheaper by 1/3rd. It is still possible to source British wood but so expensive and harder to source that often it will just not get made.

I wondered if David worried about future generations losing these skills? Yes, for sure, was the answer. It's difficult to compete with machinery as people will naturally look at the price, which for example, on the internet will be cheaper, admittedly there is a certain skill

in design by machine, as there is, of course the human input but turning to buttons and operators – where is the craftsmanship?

David, for example, talks with his client in their home, designing to fit if needed, making, finishing, then delivers and fits! He believes being directly connected with customers generally is important as with any other job, mankind needs to be busy interacting, this is part of - and builds our social structure. How true!

On a very different note, I asked if he had a favourite woodland. The New Forest in Hampshire was a special place for him and he also loves Arboretums in general.

With his faithful Spaniel Rhona, not far from his side, the radio playing and cup of tea in hand, David tells me that after 20 years here, he now will be 'winding down' – and closing the door on his business for the last time, next year but, ideally, would like to pass it on to the next generation. He knows he will miss this happy place of solitude – and that was plain to see.



Thank you so much David for sharing and giving us insight to your working day and your thoughts.

22.11.23

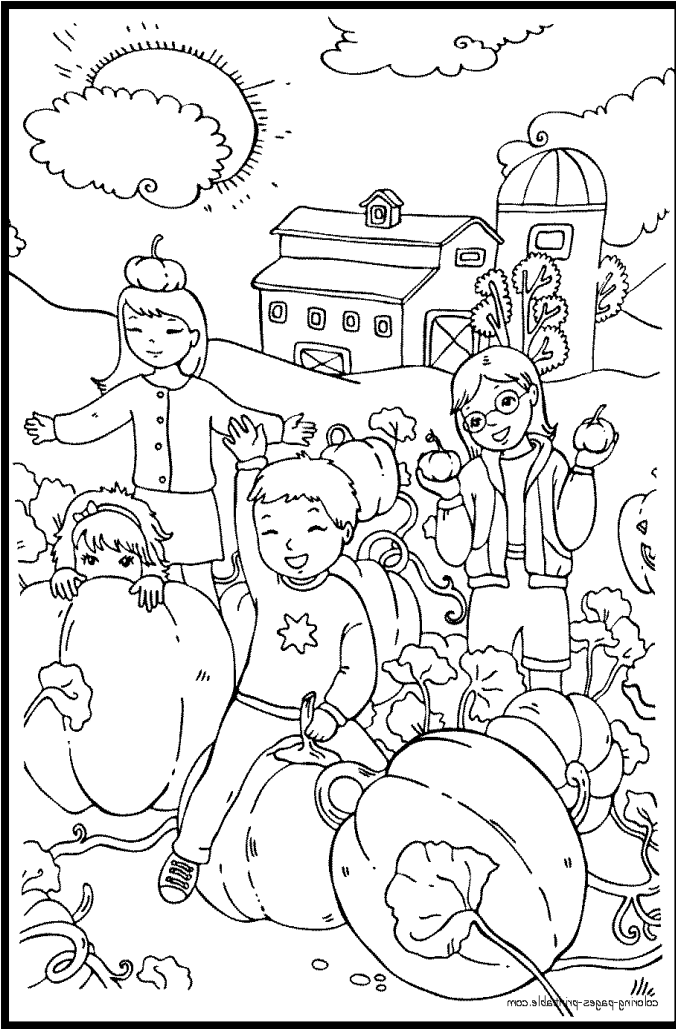


Dear Rosemary

Congratulations on your 80th Birthday!

- Wishing you the happiest of days –
with a happy and healthy year ahead







Devon's Best Young Landscape Artist Competition 2023

Are you aged 7-11 or 12-18?

To celebrate the natural beauty of Devon's coast and countryside, Devon CPRE's 'Best Young Landscape Artist' competition is inviting young artists to submit a painting, drawing or mixed media artwork capturing a landscape of their choice. Anything goes as long as it's in Devon - a favourite beach or beauty spot, a local park or green space, somewhere visited on a day out or even the artist's own garden.

**PRIZES: £100 for the winning entry in each age category
and £25 runner-up prizes.**

Closing date: Saturday 30 September 2023

PLUS some of the best entries will be on display
in Okehampton at The Museum of Dartmoor Life.



**Museum of
Dartmoor Life**

DEVON **CPRE**
The Voice for Devon's Countryside
www.cpredevon.org.uk

To enter, simply post us your artwork which must be A3 or A4 size, clearly marking your name, full contact details and age to: Devon CPRE, PO Box 26, Beaworthy, EX21 5XN.

For full details visit cpredevon.org.uk

Visit from the Environment Agency.

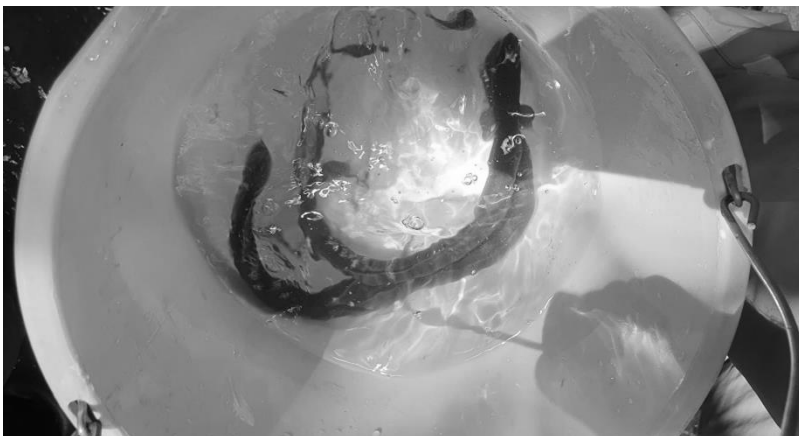
With all the talk at the moment about the quality of water in our seas and rivers, we were intrigued when people from the Environment Agency came and asked us if they could access the river Wolf from our garden to do some tests. We live at the north end of Awliscombe, near Godford Cross.

They duly turned up with all sorts of equipment for electro fishing. This is a fishing technique that uses direct current electricity flowing between a submerged cathode and anode. This affects the movements of nearby fish so that they swim toward the anode, where they can be caught or stunned.

Electrofishing is a common scientific survey method used to sample fish populations to determine abundance, density and species composition. When performed correctly, electrofishing results in no permanent harm to the fish, which return to their natural mobility state in as little as two minutes after being caught. (Wikipedia)



During their visit they caught quite a few little trout and one of a good size – just over a pound?



They also caught about half a dozen eels of various sizes. They measured them and recorded everything. We were told that the good number of eels would indicate that there could be otters this far up the river. (has anybody seen any?)

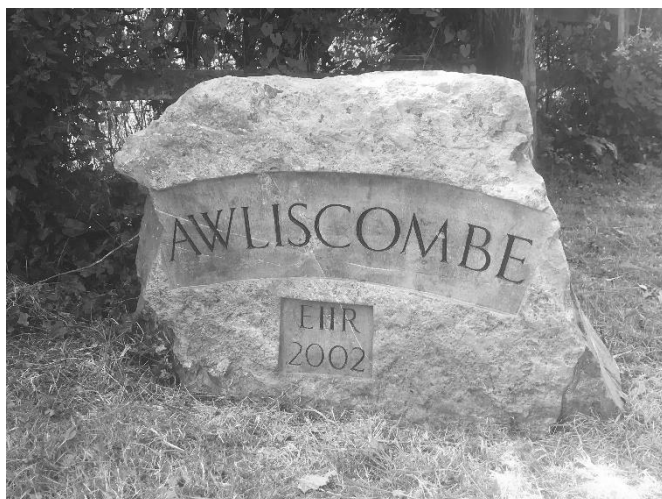
We haven't seen any signs of otters, but we have seen teeth marks made by beavers in many places. I know beavers have been seen further down the river towards the river Otter.



It would be good to hear from anyone who has spotted otters, beavers or indeed any wildlife along the rivers in our area. Especially if they have photos as well.

The people from the Environment agency confirmed that the health of the river was quite good, room for improvement but not as bad as some.

Good to know. Let's make sure we keep it that way!



The Parish Council would like to thank Andy Real of A.G. Real & Son, Monumental Masons & Memorials, Honiton, for giving up his valuable time and at no charge to professionally clean the "Jubilee" stones.

Positioned alongside the A373 at either end of the village, these stones have been in place since the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002.

Harvest recipes.

It is a good year for blackberries, apples and all hedgerow fruit. I can remember making this jelly with my father years ago. It is a bit onerous but well worth it. The quantities of fruit are approximate.

Hedgerow Jelly

Ingredients:

3lbs (1,360g) apples, 3lbs (1,360g) blackberries, 1lb (450g) each of haws, hips, sloes and elderberries.

1 ½ pints (850 ml) water.

About 4 kg sugar.

Boil together the haws, hips and sloes in 1 ½ pints of water. In a pressure cooker boil for 30 minutes. Otherwise boil until the fruit is soft.

In another open saucepan, with a pint of water, boil the blackberries and elderberries.

Combine both pans and boil for a further 30 minutes to reduce the fluid.

Pour into a jelly bag and leave to strain.

Chop up the crab apples and put them in 1 ½ pints of water to simmer for an hour.

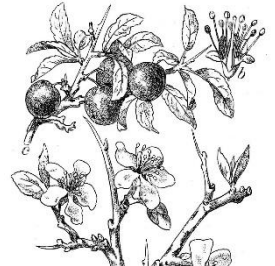
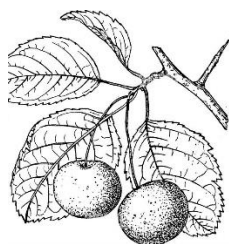
Add the apple mixture to the other fruit in the jelly bag.

Leave to strain overnight.

Put the combined juices (should be about 9 ½ pints, about 4.5 litres) in a pan. Add sugar, 1lb (450g) for every pint (570 ml) of liquid.

Boil rapidly until setting point is reached. This is about 30 minutes.

Pour into jars and enjoy on toast or on cold meats or cheese.



If all that seems like too much hard work, then try this simple blackberry coulis. Fabulous on ice cream or on pancakes. Freeze some and get a vitamin C hit in the middle of winter.

Blackberry Coulis.

250g blackberries, 50g caster sugar, ½ tsp vanilla extract.

Put the blackberries and the sugar into a small pan with 100ml water.

Boil and simmer for 5 minutes.

Stir in the vanilla extract, remove and cool a little.

Tip the contents of the pan into a food processor and whizz to a purée. Then strain this through a sieve, rubbing it through with a ladle or spoon. Keeps in a fridge for 3 days or in a freezer for up to 3 months.

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—0000000—

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Saturday 21 October 10 – 4 - lunch included

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or joinus@wyndhamsingers.org.uk

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Stuck for an original gift idea? Make something special or how about a voucher?

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Then select your paints and sponges, roll your sleeves up and get cracking!

You paint the item and we will glaze and fire it for you.

We have character mugs, photo frames, money boxes, ornaments, plain mugs, plates, pet bowls that can be personalised.

Prices start from £15 and includes studio time, paint, glazing and firing.

At the Pottery we also have clay workshops for all age groups.

Refreshments available from our café while you paint.



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Served ALL DAY until Sold Out

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GARDEN/PLAY AREA

Huge garden on the River Otter

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14 week courses perfect for total beginners to improvers

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