

Awliscombe and Weston Times



Autumn 2025



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Contact Page.

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 honitoncofe.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	Nigel Boulton	07730926809 - Chair
Awliscombe Village Hall	Liz Gillingham	07811 675800 - Booking Secretary
		01404 43551
	Anna Beard	07748 635503 - Chair
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
Friends of St. Michael's	Kathryn Empson	07979697487

Emergency Contact Numbers.

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

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. There is also one on the wall as you enter Heron Farm in Weston, directly ahead of you.

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 heard very clearly once the unit is opened.

What's On.

Monthly

regular dates in the Village Hall or the committee room in the hall.

Mondays - Garden Club 7.30pm – 10pm 2nd Monday in month

Tuesdays –

Wednesdays - Short mat bowls 2 pm - 5pm & 7pm - 10pm
 Knit and Stitch 7.30 – 9.30 alt. Wednesdays

Thursdays - Honiton U3A Hist. 8 am – 1pm last Thursday in month
 Awliscombe Ladies 7.30 pm - 2nd Thursday in month

Fridays - Slot car racing 7 pm - 10pm
 Honiton WI Art 1 pm – 4pm 2nd & 4th Friday

SAVE THE DATE.

Details of these events are elsewhere in the magazine.

Sunday 7th September
Saturday 13th September

Monday 22nd September

Monday 22nd September

Friday 26th September

Sunday 28th September

Sunday 28th September

Saturday 4th October

Monday 27th October

Saturday 22nd November

Monday 24th November

Tuesday 25th November

Saturday 6th December

Saturday 6th December

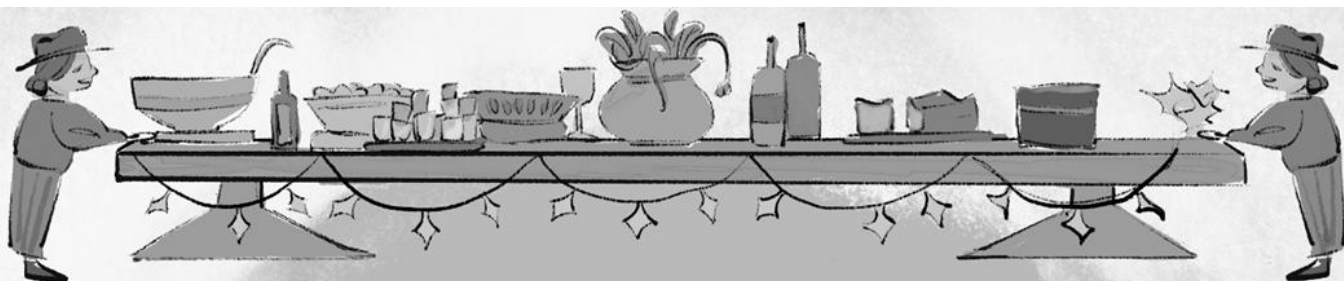
Cream Tea in St. Michael's
Screening the Last Night of the
Proms in the Village Hall.(pub night)
Whist Drive in the Village Hall
Parish Council meeting cttee room
Harvest Supper in the Village Hall
Harvest Festival in St. Michael's
Farewell Revd Sue in St. Paul's
Open Mic Night in the Village Hall
Whist Drive in the Village Hall
Ceilidh in the Village Hall
Christmas Bingo in the Village Hall
Whist Drive in the Village Hall
Christmas Market in the Village Hall
Screening of The Polar Express.

Church Matters.

Services at St. Michael's are on the first, third and fourth Sundays of each month. Everyone is welcome. Information about these services is on honitoncofe.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.





Awliscombe And Weston Harvest Supper

Friday, 26th September
Adults, £10
Children, £5

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!***





Update for Friends of St Michael's July 2025



Everyone is invited to our annual **Summer Cream Tea** which has been arranged for the afternoon of **Sunday 7th September**. If the sun is shining, we will aim to be in the churchyard. If, like last year, the weather is wet we will move into the church, which was just as popular. Everyone is welcome; - just turn up on the day. There will be a donations pot for those having refreshments so don't forget to bring cash!

We are still ongoing with our fund - raising efforts. Despite recently having to pay for the Faculty, amongst other expenses, we are able to proceed with the plans for the new loo!!

This very exciting news means that we are into the last leg of the Faculty application process for the churchyard toilet. Having now received the planning permission from EDDC we have submitted the formal Faculty Petition and put up the Public Notice on the 26th June. This notice needs to be displayed for 28 days inside and outside the church. At the end of that period (any day soon) the Faculty should be granted.



We have just booked a date for our **annual Autumn Churchyard Clear Up** which will be on **Sunday 12th October 2025**. We encourage everyone to join us in the churchyard to help out in the morning and then join us for a meal at lunchtime. Closer to the time I will ask for numbers for the refreshments so we can plan accordingly. This is always a most enjoyable and rewarding community event so don't miss out! If you

want to find out any more please contact me, Kathryn Empson, at email: kathrynaempson@gmail.com / phone 07979697487.

Finally, following our discussions with **Jim Causley**, whose concert last December was unfortunately cancelled, we are aiming for another date early next year (hopefully in Feb 2026). We will keep you posted as soon as we have a confirmed date so you can put it in your diary.

AWLISCOMBE YOUNG WIVES

CHARITY CEILIDH NIGHT

Dancing to Mary Marker & Marylea Shed Folk Band

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start 10.30 pm finish

AT AWLISCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

Dancing and Buffet Supper

Tickets £10 per person inc Supper

Tickets from Sarah Ricketts - sarahjricketts@gmail.com

All Proceeds to Hospiscare

Draw & Licensed Bar (card or cash)





This year the village Fête was again blessed with sunshine. The usual stalls were there – cakes, plants, books, cream teas, tombolas for adults and children, bric a brac, competitions and raffles with exciting prizes. There was a stunning range of vintage cars, tractors and bikes, Gittisham Forge were demonstrating their skills and of course the ever-dramatic duck race. Thank you to Michelle and the team who worked so hard to bring such an enjoyable day together. This year I would like to draw attention to what the younger people were enjoying on the day....



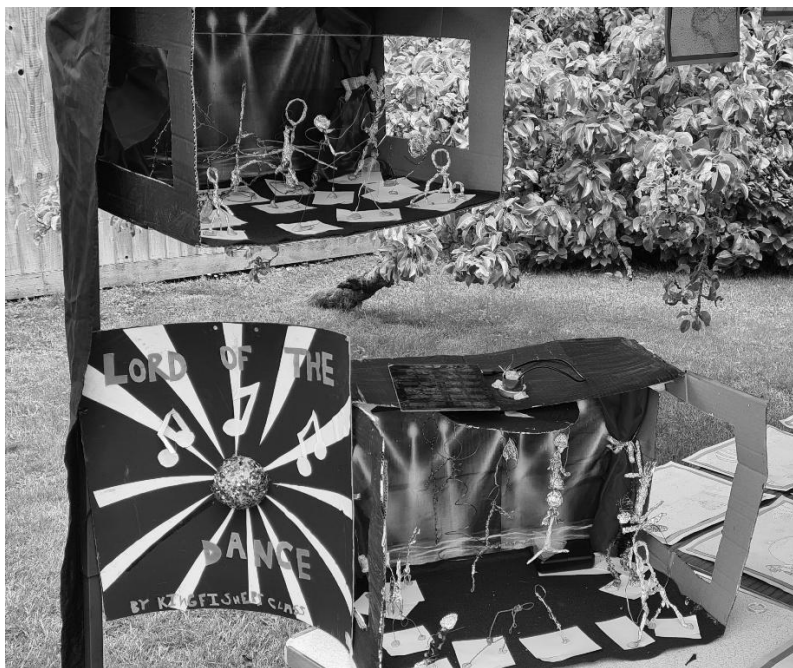
Some children from the primary school came along and sang us three wonderful songs.

Thank you!



Some members of the band called King Ceruleon, who were playing locally, entertained us with a few songs.

Thank you!



The children at the primary school created a wonderful art display based on hymns. The models in The Lord of the Dance were solar powered to dance! 'Who put the colours in the rainbow?' was the theme for the colourful fish.

'How Great Thou Art' is all about the beauty of Nature and we had some amazing Pointillism landscapes.

For 'Shine Jesus Shine' they made stained glass windows.

Thank you and Well Done!!





There was an opportunity to get a face painted or try out a tattoo.



Plenty of chances to hone those fishing skills!



Skittles is always popular.

Thank you to the footballers who run this.



Fierce concentration
To Crash all the Cans



C C



Fabulous homemade crafts.



Every child loves to soak a grown up!
This potential victim got away!





Scarecrow competition

My name is Bo Beeken and I'm 12. Years ago when I was little I loved creating the scarecrows and hoping that I would win! I thought this village was missing it and so we brought it back for 2025!



Many of you would have seen different scarecrows dotted round the village on the 7th June for our Disney theme competition. A week went on by and it was time for judging, a very difficult job done by our judges the Clarke family (Imi, Issac, Kate and Dan) and Jadie Ford.

We had 15 entries in total and the winners are:

Age 5-10yrs we had Molly and Archie McKean with Snow White & the 7 dwarfs.

Age 11-16yrs we had Beth Reed with the Genie from Aladdin.

Adult's category we had Tim and Mandy Reed with Dumbo

Overall winner was awarded to Helen and Charlie Mashin with Kaa and Mogli from the Jungle Book.

Thanks to everyone who took part, they were all amazing and it was hard to pick a winner. I hope you enjoyed seeing them all around our Village.

£80 was raised towards the Fete funds.

All of scarecrows are on the Awliscombe and Weston facebook page in glorious colour. Do scroll down and have a look. Thank you to the Beekens for organising. It was great to drive around and spot them all.

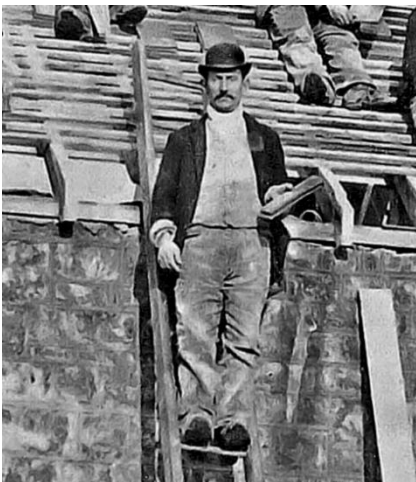




For many local people these signs are very familiar. How many of us have dumpy bags like this in our back gardens? Although other parts of the business will be continuing as usual, the builder's merchants part has now closed. A familiar spot at the north end of Awliscombe, which has been there for a few generations.

It is a good moment therefore to look back at the years since the start of Layzell's in Awliscombe.

The Awliscombe Layzell Family



Jeremiah on Horton Church roof 1897

James Roy Layzell, always known as Roy, was born to his parents Jeremiah & Rosa Emily Layzell (Nee Arlidge) on 26th December 1903 at Horton, Nr Ilminster. He was one of nine children and grew up and learnt his trade in his father's Building & Funeral Business, J Layzell & Sons.

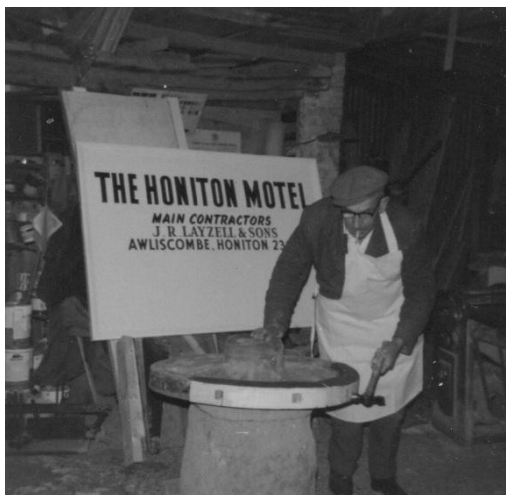
Roy married Lily Billett on 14th January 1928 at Horton Methodist

Church, Nr Ilminster and on the same day moved to Godford Cross, Awliscombe with a motorbike and sidecar. Here he set up his own Building & Funeral Business (Also in 1928) whilst also assisting his brother Harold Layzell, who already had a building business in Hale Lane, Honiton.



Roy and Lily on their wedding day.

During the second world war Roy & Lily took in a family of evacuees from London, they stayed friendly for a great number of years after the war had ended and often visited them in London. After the second world war Roy helped his brother Harold with rebuilding the bomb damage in Exeter, also doing work for local farmers repairing wagons.



Roy, being a wheelwright would make the wooden wagon wheels and fit the metal tyre on the wheel which had to be heated up on a fire to expand the metal, fitted to the wooden wheel, then cooled very quickly to shrink the metal to the wheel.



Roy & Lily had five children Joyce, Les, Rosemary, David & Derrick who all contributed in helping out with the business, Roy & Lily celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on January 28th 1978.



Roy loved an ice cream.

Roy retired at the age of 65 around 1968. Les, David & Derrick were all involved in the company, with Les taking on running the business on Roy's retirement, with the help of his two brothers David & Derrick. Joyce and Les' wife Thelma helped run the office.



Les Layzell in the 1940s



Joyce Layzell painting the office roof in the 1940s (more than just running the office!!)

In 1970 J R Layzell & Sons were the Main Contractor for building of The Honiton Motel for the Harris family who owned Honiton Garage on the adjacent site in Turks Head Lane Honiton. Many extensions and alterations were carried out there over subsequent years before the Harris family sold off the site to Premier Inn and the Motel was demolished.

During the seventies and eighties some of the grandchildren started working in the business, Les' sons Greg, Paul and Terry; David's sons Ian and Colin and Derrick's son Michael.

The business always sold building materials to local farmers, but around 1984 it was decided to expand the business to also include a builder's merchants.



Old Godford Cross

In 1991 the Layzell family business purchased the next-door property, The Rosary, together with the field on the opposite side of the River Wolf. The family modernised The Rosary before selling it. A bridge was then put across the river to expand the DIY business into the field.

On Les' death in 2001, Paul took on running the building and funeral sides of the business and Greg running the builders' merchants. David, Derrick and Ian continued to work in the business until their retirements. Derrick still continues to work part time and be a great help within the business.

In 2015 Greg & Paul purchased The Old Magistrates Court in Dowell Street, Honiton and developed it as it is today, expanding the funeral business considerably with the help of Sandra, Paul's partner in the office.



With the closure of the DIY business in May 2025 the running of the funeral and building businesses will continue from Dowell Street. This also heralds a new chapter with the development of the Godford Cross site into two dwellings, Greg retiring at the end of September and Paul's son Jack joining to become the fourth generation in the business.

Derrick Layzell.

Open Mike Night At The Awli – The Second Set!



On the 5th July, we held our second open Mike night at the Awli, (in Awliscombe Village Hall). The event was well attended by both performers and audience members, and included some new contributors!



The evening was a great celebration of local talent regardless of age or background, showing the wealth and quality of musical talent in our community. Some played their own songs and others some great covers from a wide musical lexicon, making for a very enjoyable evening out.

The event was topped off with the Pizza Van providing delicious freshly cooked pizzas in addition to our very own Awli bar, so people could relax, listen and socialise!

Thank you to all our wonderful performers who put themselves out there and to everyone who came and listened, as well as to those who helped us organise the event. we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



AND YES.... THERE IS A THIRD SET PLANNED

Our next Open Mike that will take place on Saturday 4th October - 19:00 to 23:00

We would love more people to perform. If you want to get in touch to discuss your performance needs call Helen & Stephen at Studio Wolf 07739 423 047

What else is happening in Awliscombe?

Just as we were getting used to the heatwaves and bugs, topping up on sunscreen and buying new swimming costumes that will ultimately be lost when the next beach trip rolls around, summer has packed its bags and left for another year. Now autumn is on our doorstep, and with it a delightful range of new berries to forage, new weather patterns to discuss and, most importantly, plenty of new events to look forward to over the coming months.

There will be another pub night (Awli Night) on the 13th September. Later on is the Harvest Supper, taking place on Friday, 26 September and starting at 7pm for 7:30pm. This well-loved tradition includes a sit-down ploughman's supper followed by apple crumble and an auction of local produce. Donations for the auction are welcome; anything from firewood to tomato plants to homemade marmalade. All proceeds will go to St Michael's, so please remember to book your seats and come along for a night of celebration and good food. For more details, please see the poster.

We have another Open Mic night on the 4th October and the whist drives are continuing monthly. The annual quiz has been postponed until after Christmas.

On a more sombre note, the annual Remembrance service will take place on Sunday, 9 November. The service will take place at the war memorial in Awliscombe, starting from around 10:45am. Traffic through the village will be paused at 11am to allow for the 2-minute silence.

We have a Ceilidh on the 22nd November in aid of Hospiscare and a Christmas Bingo on the 24th.

Lastly, though it is still pretty far in the future, the Awliscombe Christmas Market will take place at the Awliscombe Village Hall on Saturday, 6th December, from 10-12. There will be more on this in the coming months and issues, but there will be local produce and crafts alongside a Christmas café for anyone and everyone to enjoy. If you want to set up your own stall, please message Sharon Thwaites at 07745257455.

In the afternoon of the 6th December, they are screening The Polar Express. This is for children with their parents. More details will be forthcoming through the school.



CHRISTMAS BINGO NIGHT

Monday 24th November in Awliscombe Village Hall.

Doors open 6.30 ... Eyes down 7.30

As always, excellent seasonal prizes, full houses chicken dinners and cash fliers.

Run by Awliscombe Ladies group.

Farewell to Revd. Sue Roberts

There are undoubtedly students starting at university this month who were held, wriggling, over the font by Revd. Sue in her early days in the Honiton Mission Community. She took over as rector of Honiton in 2006, and she has baptised - and married and buried - innumerable Awliscombe folk since then.

For many of us, these are the occasions when we come into contact with our parish priests: perhaps we take it for granted that they will be on duty to supervise our arrivals and our departures. For Sue this has always been more than a duty. Baptisms in particular - that a family, who might not be regulars in church at other times, particularly want their most precious new joiner to be at the centre of this ancient ceremony - crossed and blessed and welcomed by all "into the fellowship of faith", standing around our 600 year old font: this has always given her special joy.

When she was appointed as Honiton team rector, Awliscombe of course had Father Allan in residence, later succeeded by Revd. Jane, but the combining of parishes into benefices (or Mission Communities, as they are known in this Diocese) meant that Sue's role was to lead a team serving five (now six) parishes.

So she has had to act as CEO and COO, head of marketing (an essential job in today's church) and of 'people', and R&D (always experimenting with new ways of conveying that eternal message), and ultimately responsible for finance. All that on top of the job that people think is the rector's only concern: ministering to the souls of Honiton and the surrounding parishes as preacher, teacher, scriptural authority, consoler, confidant and guide.

[For parts of her tenure she has been the only employed priest in the Mission Community - with invaluable help from our loyal retired clergy it is true, and the many, many volunteers who are the lifeblood of the church. But running, essentially solo, a multi-branch business with crumbling assets and naturally declining revenues is a tough gig. Particularly when the prevailing myth is that your organisation is fabulously wealthy.]

Sue herself would say that while she likes to keep on top of the management role, the calling is a spiritual one. It came as no surprise to learn that over the last few years she has felt increasingly drawn to the teachings and spirituality of St Ignatius of Loyola. Do look it up if you are a little hazy on St Ignatius or his *Spiritual Exercises*. Sue will work as a spiritual director - guiding people through the Exercises - alongside a part time role as a priest in the Tiverton benefice. It is work that she was made for and, while we will be sad to lose her, we will know that she is doing what she has been called to do. Our great gratitude and very best wishes go with her.

There is a farewell choral evensong for Revd. Sue at St Paul's, Honiton at 3pm on Sunday 28th September. It would be great to give her a rousing send-off and all are very welcome.

Church events

7 September, 2.00: Friends of St Michael's Cream tea in the churchyard (inside if wet).

Sunday 12 September, 11.00 - 14.00: FoSM churchyard tidy, including lunch.

Friday 26 September, 7 for 7.30: Harvest Supper in the Village Hall (contact Sharon Thwaites)

Sunday 28 September, 9.30: Harvest Festival: lay-led service in St Michael's

Sunday 28 September, 3.00: farewell choral evensong for Revd Sue at St Paul's, Honiton

Sunday 9 November, 10.45: Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial

Saturday 6th December, 10.00 - 12.00: Christmas Market in the Village Hall

Sunday 21 December, 7.00: Carol Service in St Michael's with mulled wine and mince pies afterwards organised by FoSM

Wednesday 24 December, 3.00: Christingle service in St Michael's

Christmas Day, 10.00: Christmas Day Eucharist in St Michael's

There is always a Eucharist on the first and third Sunday, and a lay-led service on the fourth Sunday, of each month, with refreshments afterwards. All are very welcome.



The Knit and Stitch group are
coordinating a Poppy Net for the
village.



In addition to the traditional red poppy, the symbol of remembrance and hope for a peaceful future, we would like to include purple and white poppies.

The purple poppy is a symbol of remembrance in the UK for animals that served during wartime.

The white poppy represents remembrance for all victims of war, both military and civilian.

If you would like to contribute to the Poppy net, you can:

1. Crochet or knit poppies. You can find a pattern on the Royal British Legion website [RBL - Knit or crochet a poppy \(britishlegion.org.uk\)](http://britishlegion.org.uk). If you would like to a pattern but are unable to access the website, please let me know.

2. Donate red, white or purple wool.

If you have any spare wool or have any questions, please contact Liz Gillingham on 07811 675800 or Alice Lloyd on 07969 192812.

Autumn

I love the fitful gusts that shakes
 The casement all the day
And from the mossy elm tree takes
 The faded leaf away
Twirling it by the window-pane
With thousand others down the lane

I love to see the shaking twig
 Dance till the shut of eve,
The sparrow on the cottage rig
 Whose chirp would make believe
That spring was just now flirting by
In summer's lap with flowers to lie

I love to see the cottage smoke
 Curl upwards through the naked trees
The pigeons nestled round the cote
 On November days like these;
The cock upon the dung-hill crowing
The mill sails on the heath a-going
The feather from the raven's breast
 Falls on the stubble lea,
The acorns near the old crow's nest
 Fall pattering down the tree;
The grunting pigs that wait for all
Scramble and hurry where they fall

Excerpt from 'January Jumps About'

September lies in shadows
of the fading summer
hearing, in the distance,
the silvery horns of winter
and not very far off
the coming autumn drummer.

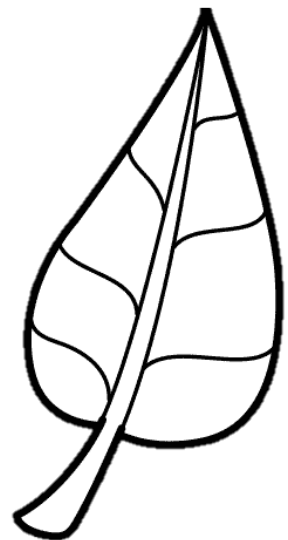
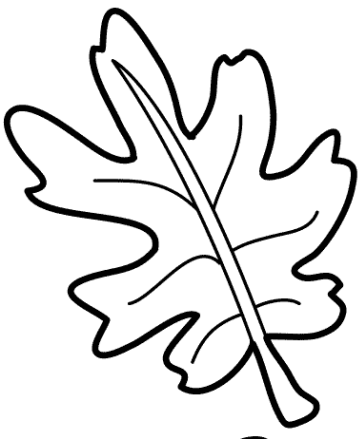
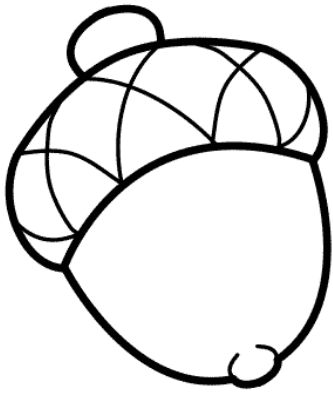
October, October
apples on the tree,
the partridge in the wood and
the big winds at sea,
the mud beginning in the lane
the berries bright and red
and the big tree wildly
tossing its old head.

November when the fires
love to burn, and leaves
flit about and fill the air
where the old tree grieves.
November, November
its name is like a star
glittering on many things that were
but few things that are.

George Barker

John Clare





Recipes for a bumper crop of blackberries!

Here are a couple of ideas to make the most of the amazing crop of blackberries this year. The following recipes are easily adapted to make use of whatever you have available.

Sausages, Plums and Berries

Serves 4

8 good quality sausages

2 x medium onions (red or brown)

6 garlic cloves

2 x leeks

1 x tin butterbeans

1 x tin tomatoes (crushed if whole) or use fresh tomatoes

8 x plums

100g blackberries

Olive oil

Turn the oven to 200 C.

Twist each sausage in the middle and snip the skin so that you have 16 small fat sausages. Skin the onions and cut into wedges. Put the sausages, onions and garlic (unpeeled) in a roasting dish. Drizzle over a couple of tablespoons of oil. Put in the oven for about 20 minutes, depending on your oven, until the sausages are starting to brown. You might want to shake the dish to prevent sticking.

Add the butterbeans (with the liquid from the tin) and the leeks. Cook for another 10 minutes. If the garlic is soft, you can squeeze out the flesh and dispose of the skins (or do this later if not roasted enough yet).

Then add the tomatoes, plums and berries. Gently mix together but get the sausages on top to continue browning. Put back in the oven for another 20 minutes until the plums and berries have collapsed into a lovely sticky goo and the sausages are cooked through and brown all over.

Very good with potatoes and beans from the garden!

Blackberry Almond Cake

This recipe makes a 24cm round cake. It comes from the Honey & Co recipe book.

200g caster sugar

250g ground almonds

70g self-rising flour

Pinch salt

150g melted butter

3 eggs

Zest of one lemon and one orange

300g blackberries

Turn the oven to 170C (fan). Line a 24 cm round cake tin with baking paper.

Mix all the dry ingredients (sugar, flour ground almonds and salt) in a large bowl. Add the lemon and orange zest. Pour over the melted butter and mix a little until it forms clumps. Break the eggs into a small bowl and beat lightly with a fork and then add to the cake mix, stirring with a large spoon to form a smooth mix.

Using a spatula, transfer the mix into the lined cake tin and smooth down. Top with the blackberries and sprinkle over two tablespoons of sugar.

Bake at 170C for about 50 minutes until the cake is golden and bouncy. Best left to cool in the tin.





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO JOIN

WOLF WATCH - Protecting Our River, Together

I am pretty sure that most of us love the River Wolf and all its tributaries that flow through our villages of Wolverstone, Awliscombe and Weston. A hidden bubbling musical thread rising quietly on the southern edge the Blackdown Hills, before joining the larger River Otter, and flowing through the heart of East Devon's wonderful countryside. Its gentle course winds through Wolverstone, Awliscombe, Weston, and surrounding farmland, shaping the landscape and supporting a rich mosaic of wildlife. The River Wolf is also ecologically significant.

The River Wolf's catchment is part of a wider network of Culm grasslands, wet meadows, and riparian woodland, supporting a wide range of flora and fauna including otters, kingfishers, brook lampreys and brown trout in its cleaner stretches; marsh marigold, meadowsweet, and yellow flag iris bloom along its banks; and the river is a vital habitat for seasonal visitors like dragonflies and, dippers. Recently we have even seen the arrival of a few beavers moving upstream from the Otter.

However, as we all know nature is under pressure and we need to work with it as a community to protect and help it flourish. The first step is understanding its status and getting professional help to build a community plan, paving the way to dealing with issues and providing improvements wherever we can.

West Country River Trust have agreed to help us **undertake a year long programme of Citizen Science Monitoring on the River Wolf**. The first programme involves monthly water sampling measuring phosphate, turbidity, temperature, and total dissolved solids (particle matter in the water), over the course of a year. Once we have this information, we will look to run other Citizens Science Programmes looking for the presence of invertebrates such as mayfly larvae, caddisfly larvae and freshwater shrimps, in the river to get an indication of river health.

Alongside the testing we would like to run some supporting activities to help the river health across the seasons such as river clearance after storms to reduce flooding, - and seasonal removal of Himalayan balsam, as well as a series of activities such as walking and mapping the river and its wildlife, tracking small mammals and making specific species counts.

The West Country River Trust are currently working in the Honiton area and will help us set this up, and they have asked if we could also test the nearby River Gissage and help promote Citizen Science testing programmes more widely in East Devon.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED – EVERYONE WELCOME!

- Join us at the Awliscombe Village Hall on 25th September at 19:00 to hear more about the plans for Wolf Watch with The West Country River Trust providing us with information on the testing programme.
- Join the team to take 12 samples on the River Wolf at specific dates over the next year and share the results, no previous experience required, and everyone can have a go.
- Get involved in the additional activities and help us help our river.
- If you have any environmental skills or experience in these types of activities and can act as guides and knowledge providers, please let us know

Want to know more about Wolf Watch – call 07739 423 047 or 07565 799 795

Join the Wolf Watch. Heal the River.

U3 A

Members of Honiton u3a are looking forward to an interesting and varied Autumn, featuring a wide range of speakers and a record number of Interest Groups.

Honiton u3a will also be holding a street stall on Saturday September 20th during the town's High Street market, to meet local people and tell them what u3a has to offer.

The first main meeting of the new season will be at The Beehive on Wednesday September 17th, when Stephen Powles will give a talk entitled "Otters: Coming to a River Near You". Stephen's talk will include, he says, their "design features" and their behaviour.

On October 15th, Honiton u3a will be welcoming Tony Aston, to tell the story of "The Bomber and the Weather Vane." In his talk, Tony links the discovery in 2009 of an old weather vane fashioned in the shape of a wartime Lancaster bomber, and the downing of Lancaster JB453 on 3rd January 1944 during the bombing campaign over Berlin.

Then on November 19th, the group is looking forward to spending a "A Tudor Christmas" with Rosemary Griggs. Rosemary promises to appear in full period costume, and will bring the festivities, feasting and fun of a Tudor Christmas to life.

Doors open for all these talks at 1.30 p.m. and the meetings start at 2 p.m. Honiton u3a warmly welcomes non-members to attend one of its monthly meetings, to sample what it has to offer and to meet members of the Committee and other u3a members.

As well as the monthly talks, Honiton u3a offers over 40 different Interest Groups covering a very broad range of subjects, from history, languages and nature appreciation, to walking, writing and wine tasting. There are book groups and a chance to learn and practise a wide variety of craft skills. Other groups cover music, art, card games and photography.

One new member recently commented: "It's amazing what u3a provides - such a wide range of subjects and interests."

Another member added: "It was easy to join after coming to a monthly talk. A great way to meet people when new to the area. Friendly and welcoming."

Groups like u3a provide friendship and the sharing of experiences which improve wellbeing, and help older people to live a more fulfilled third age. Honiton u3a encourages its members to develop and share their interests, to try something new and to socialise with like-minded people.

The Chairman of Honiton u3a, Richard Spoerry, said: "Honiton u3a is enjoying a very successful year with a record number of members and the establishment of new activity groups. We are always delighted to welcome new members."

To find out more about Honiton u3a, and how to join, go to their website: honiton.u3asite.uk

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Caroline – 07775931735

Julia

Next Issue: The deadline for the next issue will be 23rd November.

Send your article to awliscombeandwestontimes@gmail.com

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