

The Awliscombe and Weston Times

Autumn 2026





HONITON HEARING CENTRE

Independent Hearing Professionals Since 1999



OUR PROFESSIONAL TEAM OFFER PERSONAL CARE FOR YOU

Did You Know?

Hearing loss is the third most common long-term health condition.

- Hearing Aid Consultations
- Hearing Aid Repairs
- Earwax Removal
- Tinnitus Assistance
- Hearing Tests
- Speech Mapping



Our team continues to provide our customers with excellent services for all types of hearing related issues.

Need your hearing aid repaired?

We offer warranted repairs to all makes and models of private hearing aids.



Make an appointment online via www.honiton-hearing.co.uk

Call us **01404 47070** to discuss your requirements with one of our team members

New Street
VETS
Your local vets



62 New Street, Honiton EX14 1BZ

please call for an appointment on **01404 42750**

or book via our website www.newstreetvets.co.uk



Contact Page.

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

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	07900 041174
	Timandra Burford	07946869251
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	Sally Lawrence	01404 42825
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

Awliscombe and Weston Times.

awliscombeandwestontimes@gmail.com

Caroline Coxon – 07775 931735

Next Issue: The deadline for the next issue will be 20th November.

Send your article to awliscombeandwestontimes@gmail.com

If anyone would like to contribute to our printing costs, then you may do so online, each magazine costs about £1.00. Our bank details are:

AWLISCOMBE AND WESTON TIMES

Bank Sort Code 20-87-94

Account No: 03166260

What's On.

Monthly

regular dates in the Village Hall.

Mondays -	Whist Drive	7.30 in hall. (Last Monday)
Tuesdays -	Community Lunch	12.30 for eating 1.00. (2 nd Tuesday)
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	7.00 pm - 2 nd Thursday in month
	Garden Club	7.30 pm - 3 rd Thursday in month
Fridays -	Slot car racing	7 pm - 10pm
	Honiton WI Art	1 pm - 4pm 2 nd & 4 th Friday

SAVE THE DATE.

Details of these events are elsewhere in the magazine and on the village website Awliscombe.com/page/events

Tuesday 8 th September	Community Lunch 12.30
Saturday 19 th September	Harvest Supper
Monday 28 th September	Whist Drive
Saturday 10 th October	Film @ The Hall.
Tuesday 13 th October	Community Lunch 12.30
Monday 26 th October	Whist Drive
Saturday 31 st October	Awli @ The Hall
Saturday 31 st October	Morning clear up of the churchyard
Saturday 7 th November	Concert at The Old Rectory
Tuesday 10 th November	Community Lunch 12.30
Monday 23 rd November	Whist Drive
Saturday 28 th November	Village Quiz Night
Monday 30 th November	Christmas Bingo
Saturday 5 th December	Christmas Market
Tuesday 8 th December	Community Christmas Lunch
Thursday 31 st December	New Year's Eve party

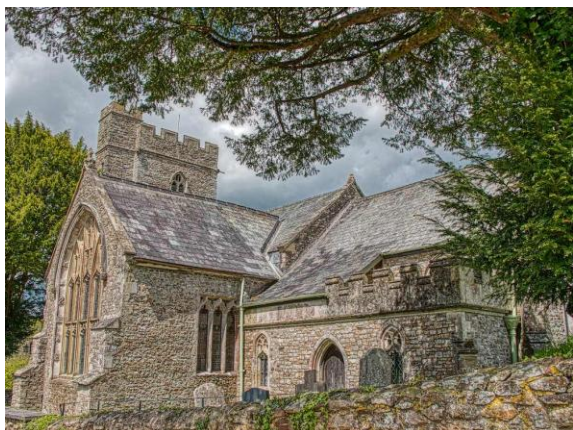
Church Matters.

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** meet on the second Thursday of each month at **The Otter Inn** in Weston. Anyone welcome.



St Michael and All Angels, Awliscombe.



The Fete was held on 13 June and marked the start of a long, hot summer. The Fete committee takes no credit (or blame!) for the weather, but it was a perfect day and the sunshine certainly brought out the crowds. The funds raised (£3,387) help to ensure that St Michael's is open every day of the year.

In September, Michael Farley will be coming in to overhaul the St Michael's organ, which has been suffering in the heat as much as the rest of us. The work can be carried out thanks to a generous bequest from the late Margery Read.

Upcoming events

Harvest is approaching and the **Harvest Supper** will take place on **Saturday, 19 September** (see details on the back of the Times). The Harvest Festival service, led by Revd. Tracey, is in St Michael's the next day.

Looking further ahead, the **Christmas Market** is on **Saturday 5 December** in the Village Hall. If you would like to have a stall, please message Sharon Thwaites (0774 8966 436).

Sunday Services. There is a Eucharist at 9.30 am on both the first and third Sundays of every month and a lay-led service on the fourth Sunday. Everyone is very welcome and (proper) coffee and tea are served after every service.

There is a weekly **said Eucharist** in the Lady Chapel on Thursdays at 10.00am.

Sharon Thwaites

Awliscombe United FC off to a good start!



TheFA					
DIVISION 5					
29/08/26 15:00 GREENWAY LANE PLAYING FIELD					
FT					
Awliscombe 1st		2	0		Chagford 1st

Keep up with the results and fixtures at <https://awliscombe.com/page/activities>

Date / Time	Home Team	Away Team	Venue
05/09/26 15:00	Awliscombe 1st	VS	Bradninch 1st GREENWAY LANE PLAYING FIELD
19/09/26 15:00	Awliscombe 1st	VS	Priory 1st GREENWAY LANE PLAYING FIELD
26/09/26 15:00	Bradninch 1st	VS	Awliscombe 1st KENSAM FOOTBALL FIELD
03/10/26 15:00	Awliscombe 1st	VS	Exmouth Albion 1st GREENWAY LANE PLAYING FIELD



Visit from our MP.

How refreshing to have an MP who is prepared to come and listen to people. Our local MP, Richard Foord, invited the villagers to an informal meeting at the village hall on the 20th July.

Richard talked for the first couple of minutes and then he listened to us and answered our questions as best he could.

The discussion was wide ranging and covered all sorts of topics concerning local people.

The first question was about defence and Richard emphasized the importance for him of backing up the promises made by the government to fund our NATO commitments.

The next question was about South West Water and their frequent overflows of human sewage into the Wolf and Otter, as well as the many leaks in the supply system. Richard said that a new water treatment plant is scheduled near Honiton but that is down river from us. He feels that we need a new body with some clout to monitor water quality nationally. He favoured a new model for water companies which is more like a mutual company. The discussion then moved on to the environment in general. This was before the droughts had really begun to bite. There was wide concern in the room for quality of water and protection for the environment. Richard agreed and pointed out that renewable sources of generating power are a good future employer in the South West.

We went on to discuss the poor broadband reception in many rural areas. The remote areas are being left behind compared to built up areas. Two villagers in the room described their woeful experiences trying to get a good internet connection – a particular concern for those who need to be on a reliable phone line.

This led on to an expression of people's deep concerns about the Devon County Council reorganisation. As part of the very large solely rural area, we will be left out of the main sources of funding and investment which will be held in the 3 city areas of Plymouth, Exeter and Torbay. Richard did agree fully with our concerns, however as news of this new development was only recent at the time of the meeting, there are many questions still to be answered and he undertook to represent our worries.

Discussions also went on to cover the state of the roads, particularly Honiton High Street.

There was a question emphasising the need for a good football pitch for the younger teams in the area, currently being proposed and blocked up near the golf club. Richard has a son who plays football and was aware of the issues there as well as the value of good facilities for young people to access sport.

The meeting concluded with a discussion about extending the 30 mile an hour limit on the A373 towards Honiton and past Godford Cross in the Cullompton direction. There have been quite a few accidents on the A373 approaching Godford Cross from Awliscombe largely due to people driving too fast and hitting a garden wall on the first corner. Richard advised people to approach the Parish Council about that.

Almost everyone in the room had a chance to say what they wanted although the meeting had to end after just over an hour. Richard was clear and precise with his answers and concerns and obviously understands the issues which are causing concern for people locally.

Caroline Coxon

Unfortunately, the FOSM application to the Lottery Fund for a grant towards the cost of the Composting Loo project was not successful - this time! Hopefully the feedback will help with future grant applications. As most grant funders won't consider projects on which work has already begun, the start of the project has been delayed but the FOSM Committee remains confident that it will get underway soon.

Sadly the annual cream tea in the churchyard had to be cancelled as a family emergency called away some of the key organisers. However, in a truly heart-warming gesture, we received a very generous donation to compensate for the amount that would normally have been raised through donations on the day.

The churchyard has continued to do well as a nature friendly environment with butterflies and grasshoppers living there happily. There will be a churchyard clear up on the **31st October**. This will be in the morning and cake and refreshments will be on offer for everyone.

Sharon Thwaites



CHRISTMAS BINGO NIGHT

Monday 30th November in Awliscombe Village Hall.

Doors open 6.30 ... Eyes down 7.30

Excellent prizes, chicken dinners and cash fliers.

Raffle

Run by Awliscombe Ladies group.

AWLISCOMBE WHIST DRIVES

We meet on fourth Monday of the month starting at 7.30pm in the village hall.

£4 entry + raffle (inc. Cuppa/biscuits)

Dates for 2026:

September 28th, October 26th, November 23rd, NO WHIST IN DECEMBER.

If anyone would like a refresher or to learn how to play whist, please give Mandy a call on 07918685428.



Record turnout in August!

Village Hall News.

The big screen in the hall came into its own during the football world cup when 5 of the 6 England matches were shown. This was well attended with between 25 and 40 people turning up.

Maybe next time?



Film @ The Hall

Following a recent poll on Facebook and further consultations we have selected Stardust, an excellent light hearted and entertaining film which will really make you smile. This will be shown on 10th October. The bar will open at 7pm, screening at 7:30. A 'hydration' break will be included.

Under the terms of our licence, we are unable to display the name of the film publicly without incurring significant costs. We will limit publicity to the AWT and the Awliscombe & Weston Facebook group.

We have created a new Awli @The Hall WhatsApp group which you can join for news and discussion of all hall events moving forward.



Please encourage as many people as possible to join this. The easiest way to join is to scan this QR Code using your phone camera and clicking the link.

The Awli @ The Hall

There will another Awli@The Hall pub night on the 31st October. Not themed in any way. Bar open from 5pm until late. No sport! Families very welcome. Pizza from 5pm. Spend the evening with friends for chat, music and games! Some games provided but please bring your own.

We will be partying on New Year's Eve so please factor that into your plans.

All events are listed on the website at <https://awliscombe.com/page/events>



Pub Salvage

We went on a reccy to see what we may salvage from the pub before demolition. Several people had mentioned carvings and while most had been removed in the previous refurb, we did find a carved mantel piece which is now fixed above the bar hatch. We also removed one of the carved posts but are unable to decide quite what to do with it.

We are hoping to secure the large lantern from the corner and use this on the outside of the hall.

Other

Following a recent fire inspection, among a long list of things, we have to fireproof the stage curtains, change the locks on the front door to allow them to be opened from inside without a key and the boiler needs to be fully enclosed. As part of this work, the storage area at the back of the hall will be reorganised and refurbished to provide much needed additional storage space.

The electrical installation is being upgraded to comply with new regulations and this includes replacing all the consumer units.

Following the very successful launch of the community lunches, we are looking to extend storage in the kitchen to accommodate the additional items and to include a much-needed fridge.

Sally has been co-opted as the Village Hall Representative for the Garden Club.

A very big THANK YOU to Sally and John who have kept the garden area outside the hall looking wonderful despite the hot dry weather.

Kevin Coxon

Village Hall Community Survey

In March a survey was sent to the residents of Awliscombe and Weston to help the hall committee understand what people think about the village hall and what they'd like to see in future. This is a summary of the 20 responses received.

Most people already enjoy a wide mix of activities — from Garden Club and Knit & Stitch to pub nights, whist drives, concerts, open mic nights and village fairs.

There was lots of enthusiasm for new ideas too. Popular suggestions included coffee mornings, afternoon teas, film nights (including children's showings), gentle exercise groups, craft sessions, art exhibitions, local history talks, dance events, farmers-market-style stalls and themed suppers with guest speakers. One resident suggested "*small local producers selling food – like a farmers' market,*" while another hoped for "*a gentle exercise group for the elderly including a coffee break.*" Many respondents were interested in the Community Lunch, with several offering occasional help — from running the bar to assisting with catering.

Community Lunches have now started and the first film showing will be Stardust on 10th October.

A few people mentioned barriers such as limited free time, difficulty attending evening events, or not driving. Others said they'd like more daytime activities or events aimed at families and newcomers.

Overall, the limited responses showed a strong appetite for more community-focused events, daytime activities and opportunities for people of all ages to come together. Although these ideas will help shape future plans for the hall, the committee is very small and therefore will need to rely on support from Awliscombe and Weston residents to make new activities happen.

If you would like to join the village hall committee, please contact Anna 07748635503.

Sarah Dent



Awliscombe & Weston Community Lunch

What a wonderful start we've had to the new Community Lunches in the village hall. Since kicking off in July, the support has been absolutely fantastic — from the brilliant volunteers who make it all happen to the many people who simply come along to enjoy a good meal and a chat. The hall has been full of buzz, laughter and plenty of conversation.



For just £5, everyone enjoys a tasty main meal, a homemade dessert and tea or coffee. July treated us to sausage and mash with chocolate brownies, and August brought a delicious fish pie followed by Eton mess. Both months saw around 40 meals served and the bar has been open too for anyone fancying a little tipple or a soft drink with lunch.

It's been a lovely way for newcomers to meet people and for friends to catch up — a real community moment each month.

Above is everyone tucking into bangers and mash. To the right is one of the delicious fish pies arriving by wheelbarrow!! Meals on wheel!

A huge thank you goes to our amazing team of volunteers. Their hard work, kindness and enthusiasm are what make these lunches possible.



Sally has been producing delicious desserts.

Thanks to the success of July and August, the lunches will continue on the **second Tuesday of each month**. Upcoming menus are:

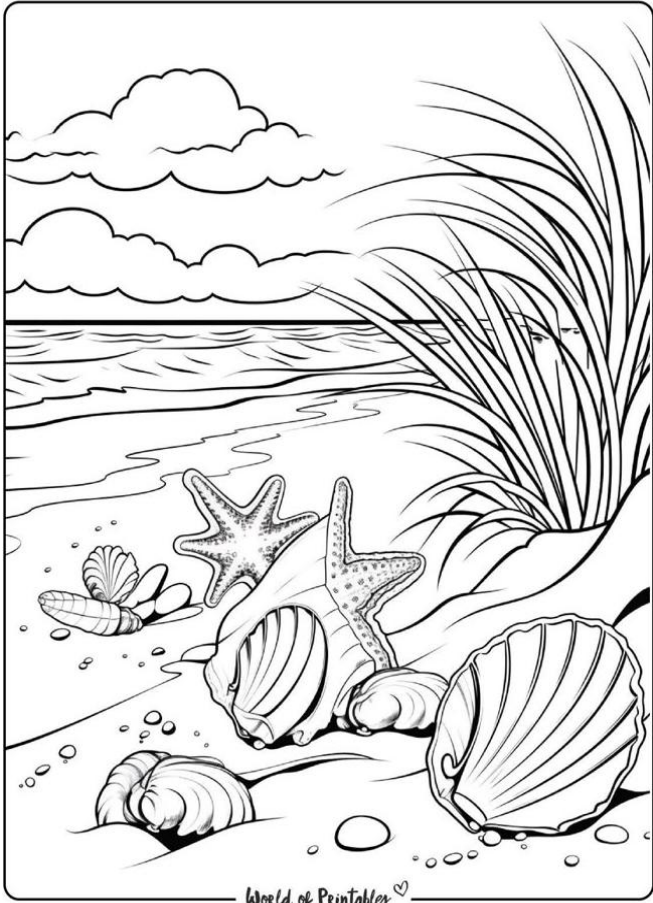
- **8th September:** Chicken & ham pie, strawberry cheesecake
- **13th October:** Lasagne and garlic bread, apple crumble
- **10th November:** Stew and dumplings, Trifle
- **8th December:** Christmas dinner, Christmas pudding

If you'd like to book a place for any of these lunches, please ring **Sarah on 07540110965** or **Liz on 07811675800**. We can help if you need transport.

We'd love to see you there.

Sarah Dent





Clubs around the village.

The Aptly named Young Wives have had a range of activities to celebrate their 35th year since they started. We donned hard hats and enjoyed a very informative tour of the Quarry Caves at Beer. This is the best place to be on a hot day – it never gets above 9 degrees down there.



We also managed to find a cooler evening for a lovely walk along the Otter ending with a delicious meal in Tipton St. John.

Next we have a tour of a vineyard in Dalwood and then an experience in the Escape Rooms in Exeter.



Despite the hot dry summer where so little gardening could take place, we were able to enjoy our visit to Burrow Farm Gardens – always a lovely place. Our garden party at Egland was wonderful – big thank you to Sian who hosted us all and gave us a guided tour of the gardens there. Thank you to everyone who baked.

Another big thank you to Malcolm and Kay who organised a really great quiz evening for us all. Very unusual and enjoyable.

In September we have a demonstration on Willow weaving and in October a talk about orchids. In November we are out for a visit to Combe Raleigh to learn all about poinsettias just in time for Christmas.

The Awliscombe Ladies are organising a Christmas Bingo on the 30th November.

As always, details of all of these events and others going on in the village are available on the village website – Awliscombe.com click on events.

So many local women already enjoy and benefit from the various classes up at Nprovefitness.co.uk. (near Hembury Fort)

Now finally, Nicki is introducing a men's club. It starts in September and all the details are on her website.

No excuses Gents!

Do join us for an evening of top-class, colourful, Latino music

Following the sell-out concert with Matt Woosey from Germany, we have more top international musicians coming to Awliscombe. On Sat 7th Nov, in the Creative Beings studio, there will be a performance of varied exotic music from Latin America. Hear Colombian Francisco Correa, "one of Colombia's top classical guitarists" and international prize-winner Emily Andrews, "a fine flautist with a rich mezzo voice and a great deal of dramatic presence." They are really lovely people and are very welcoming.

We're fortunate to be able to attract such talent to our village. And there's a **special offer**. The full ticket price is £24 but there's an **earlybird price of £18** for all bookings made before Oct 3rd. You can get your tickets at www.creativebeings.uk/events

From the land of 1000 rhythms

As heard in Wigmore Hall, St Martin-in-the-Fields and across Europe



Join for an evening of varied exotic music, full of bold colours, lyrical depth and distinctive musical chemistry, in a beautiful modern studio, nestled in nature.

International prize-winners **Emily Andrews** and **Francisco Correa** perform gorgeous South American music on guitar, flute and voice. Hear heartfelt songs and virtuosic tunes from Francisco's native Colombia, as well as Latin-American inspired pieces by contemporary Welsh composer Stephen Goss.

Sat 7th Nov, 7:30 pm (bar from 7pm)
Old Rectory Studio, Awliscombe, EX14 3PJ

Francisco Correa: "Wonderful, a truly remarkable performer." - BBC Radio 3
"One of Colombia's top classical guitarists, highly recommended!" - Classical Guitar Magazine

Emily Andrews: "Clearly a multi-talented performer. As well as being a fine flautist, she has a rich mezzo voice and a great deal of dramatic presence." - Lark Review

£24 £18 earlybird if booked before Oct 3rd
Book online at: www.creativebeings.uk/events

 **CREATIVE BEINGS**
Cultivating creative practices for wellbeing



Sue and Martin would like to thank those who visited their Open Gardens at The Old Rectory earlier in the summer. Everyone made the weekend so much fun and importantly, their generosity raised £1150 for Hospiscare!!

Honiton u3a talks, Autumn Programme

The University of the Third Age (u3a) is designed for lifelong learning and social engagement, primarily targeting people in their "third age," which refers to the period after full-time work and parental responsibilities.

Talks take place monthly at the Beehive, Dowell St, Honiton; doors open 1.30PM for a 2.00pm start. The talks run for about an hour. Visitors are welcome to attend a talk as a 'taster'.

September 16th: Mayday in July by Jim Rider, an author and musician who lives in Honiton. The talk describes the forced landing of a Vickers Viscount airliner near Ottery St. Mary in 1980.

October 21st: Fur, fins and feathers by Rupert Kirkwood, describes some of the wildlife he has seen while kayaking around South West England.

November 18th: The Real World of Jane Austen by Stewart Raine. A look at the world of the late 18th and early 19th century, when there was much social unrest, industrialisation, fighting against Napoleon's France, the slave trade and transportation to Australia.

.....

King awards CBE to inclusion champion.

Many of you will have seen an article in The Midweek Herald on July 8th about an Awliscombe resident being awarded the CBE. Martin Davies received the award for 'a lifetime dedicated to breaking down barriers' to employment for disabled people.

Naturally we had to ask Martin all about this, and here are his answers...

You have been awarded the CBE for 'For services to Employment Provision for People with Disabilities'. What does that really mean?

It's really hard to explain without going into a lot of detail but for nearly 30 years I have been involved in trying to level the playing field for people with disabilities when it comes to the world of work. A thing that most people take for granted but for many is often not even considered. Currently 37% of the working age population of the UK report having a disability or long-term health condition. If you have a disability statistically you have slightly over 50% chance of being in work compared to over 80% for the total population. It's even worse for different types of disability with under 5% of people with learning disabilities in work. This doesn't need to be the case. There is no reason why, with the right support for people and employers, anybody who wants to work should not be working. I've been very fortunate to work with many amazing people locally and nationally to change people's perceptions and attitudes; create employment; to develop strategies and support programmes; and hopefully influence Government thinking. All very wordy but basically helping people into work.



How did you get involved in the first place?

In the 90s my wife Jane set up and managed a local befriending scheme promoting inclusion for people with learning disabilities. As a volunteer this was my first experience of getting to know people who had a disability. In fact, I met a very good friend through the scheme, Robbie Mathews. Many people from the village will remember Robbie, who is sadly no longer with us. Robbie and I used to go to church together and the village pub - once you met Robbie, you never forgot him! This volunteering gave me an insight into the barriers that disabled people face every day of their lives and inspired me to look for a job where I might be able to make a difference. So, it was all down to Jane {and Robbie} really.

How did you find out you had been nominated for the CBE?

I received a formal letter through the letter box last November. The envelope had a Buckingham Palace postmark and a return address of 'Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood'. So I knew it was important before I opened it! It didn't feel real and the first reaction is to think there must be a mistake. You go through your working life with 'impostor syndrome' and I definitely felt like an imposter at that moment as there are so many more deserving people out there. It was also difficult as I could only speak to Jane about it - we couldn't share with anyone until 10pm on 30th December when the New Year's Honours List is published in the London Gazette. We did however cheat slightly and told our girls and their families a little earlier.

How about the award ceremony, how did that go?

There was a lot of toing and froing to arrange a suitable date to receive the award. Buckingham Palace was not an option this year so it had to be in Windsor Castle. You are allowed three guests to join you on the day. So, I was very proud to ask my daughters Samantha and Carla to join Jane and I on the day.

It was a very hot day, something like 34 degrees, so a little sticky in a suit! It is an impressive drive up The Long Walk to the King's Gate of the Castle and once through the security checks we were taken care of 'royally'. You don't know until the day if The Princess Royal, The Prince of Wales or the King will be presenting you. For me it happened to be the King.

Along with over a hundred other recipients we were escorted through the royal residence to waiting rooms. You have a brief rehearsal where it's explained what you should expect, what to do and how to bow (or curtsy – I bowed) and how to address the King.

I was then invited into the Grand Reception Room (the castle staff call it 'the bling room') to receive the award from the King. Jane, Samantha and Carla were able to join me in the room.

It was a great privilege to meet the King, who showed an interest in and knowledge of disability employment issues and was very down to earth. It was all over too quickly.

After all the ceremony is over, has being awarded the CBE sunk in yet?

I think so, because it's not really about me. I'm just the fortunate one who was put forward. The award is really about recognition of the cause; highlighting the importance of inclusion and of everyone having an opportunity to work and progress in work. It is also about the many amazing people I have worked alongside over the years and about the work that continues to go on. That's why I'm proud to be able to contribute, as Chair, to the work of Cosmic whose aim is that nobody is digitally disadvantaged at any stage in their lives (this includes getting into employment and making progress in a career). As someone who is often challenged by the digital world, I understand how important this is!

Just out of curiosity, how does one address the king?

I was tempted with 'Alright, me 'andsome' or 'Alright Butt' but I was advised against that by Jane. The formal advice was that it is no longer necessary to formally address the King by title but if you wanted to you could use 'Sir'. I'm not sure if I did or not, but I definitely did heed Jane's advice.



Proud moment with family

HISTORY OF AWLISCOMBE & WESTON.

Some of you may have noticed the road works on Church Hill in Awliscombe. This is to improve the drainage on the hill as water was getting in behind the wall of the playground and the wall was deemed to be dangerous. There are also new windows going in to the school. This is long overdue as some of the windows being replaced were in a sorry state. It seemed timely therefore to look back at the history record compiled by local historian Valerie Cann and see what she wrote about the school.



The photograph was taken about 25 years after the school was built.

When the Governors and staff were preparing to celebrate the 100th anniversary in 1975 it was discovered the foundation was older than they thought. The Governors wrote to the National Society for the Promotion of Religious Education (always known as the 'National Society', which reflects its status as the first 'Society' formed for a particular purpose) to ask for a certificate to mark the centenary. Back came a certificate for 1819 and the unexpected news that the school was 156 years old!

At the beginning of the C19th the Church of England led a movement to provide regular education for the less well-off people; before this education was sketchy to say the least. Where the school was sited in 1819 is not known. The Diocesan Board of Education was founded in 1839 and after this, grants were made for teachers' salaries, provided the School Managers (Governors) contributed at least double this amount. In 1850 the Diocese founded St Luke's College for teacher training in Exeter; the 1851 census records Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Jarman as the school master and mistress, so the village was contributing a rate to pay the Jarmans, he a certificated teacher. By this time the school was held in the old Poor House opposite the church gates; in 1861 the parish felt the school building needed an addition to the master's dwelling. This was carried out and during the building the children were educated in the skittle alley at the pub, the Honiton Inn.

After the Elementary Education Act of 1870, the village agreed to continue paying for the school by voluntary rate – hence the name 'Awliscombe Voluntary Aided Primary School'. However, the Governors have more autonomy than if it had become a 'Board School' and not a voluntary church school. Of course, today our taxes pay for education.

The old building was definitely inadequate and it was decided to build a new school. The site was given by Mrs. Notley, who owned land in the village, and the cost of £457. 12s. was paid for by Government grant, parish rate, Diocesan and local private donations and a grant from the National Society. The stone from the old building was used to build the new one. Once again, the school carried on in the skittle alley.

The site where the school stands contained a cottage, linhay and mow plot (rick yard) and the Tithe Barn, still in the C19th being called the Abbot's Barn, a reference to Dunkeswell Abbey and its interests in the church in medieval times, until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1539.

In 1875 the new school building provided an infants' classroom and a big room, in which two classes could be held with a teacher at either end. This big room was used by the village for dances, bazaars and jumble sales. The room is still there; its windows are the two in the central block. The wing on the left was the infants' room and that on the right was the headmaster's house. In 1890 Mrs. Martha Jarman was still living in the school house and presumably teaching in the school.

After the Parish Hall was built in 1902 the school was only used occasionally by the village. In the photograph, the playground surface was gravel, and remained so until the 1930s. I have it on good authority that if a child fell over, he/she received nasty grazes!

In 1919 Miss Anne Jones came as Headmistress and stayed until her retirement in 1956. She was joined in the school house by her friend Miss Lee, who was Headmistress at Honiton Primary School.

In 1956 Miss Mona Inglefield was appointed Head Teacher. The number of pupils was low and there had been talk of closing the school. Miss Inglefield soon increased the numbers on the roll and the idea of closure was dropped.



In 1971 it was decided that a new temporary classroom should be installed. It was not 'new', having been used elsewhere, and it was certainly not 'temporary'. Twenty-four years later, it was dismantled and taken away to be used at yet another school! It had served its purpose by providing a large classroom for the older pupils, and a small library. The two retired Headmistresses lived in the school house. Miss Lee died and when Miss Jones moved away the School Governors (with great difficulty) persuaded the LEA to allow them to take the house into the main building. This was not any easy task. They were allowed just £2000 to carry out the alterations, which provided a Staff Room and Head's office upstairs and another classroom downstairs.

Miss Inglefield retired after 26 years: she and subsequent Head Teachers had pressed for the removal of the outside toilet block, and for the Stable Block to be leased for school use.

This finally happened and later, when the extension to the main school was built, the outside toilets disappeared.

Since then, another classroom has been added at the back of the school and the Stable Block has been altered again to provide separate accommodation for the Reception class.

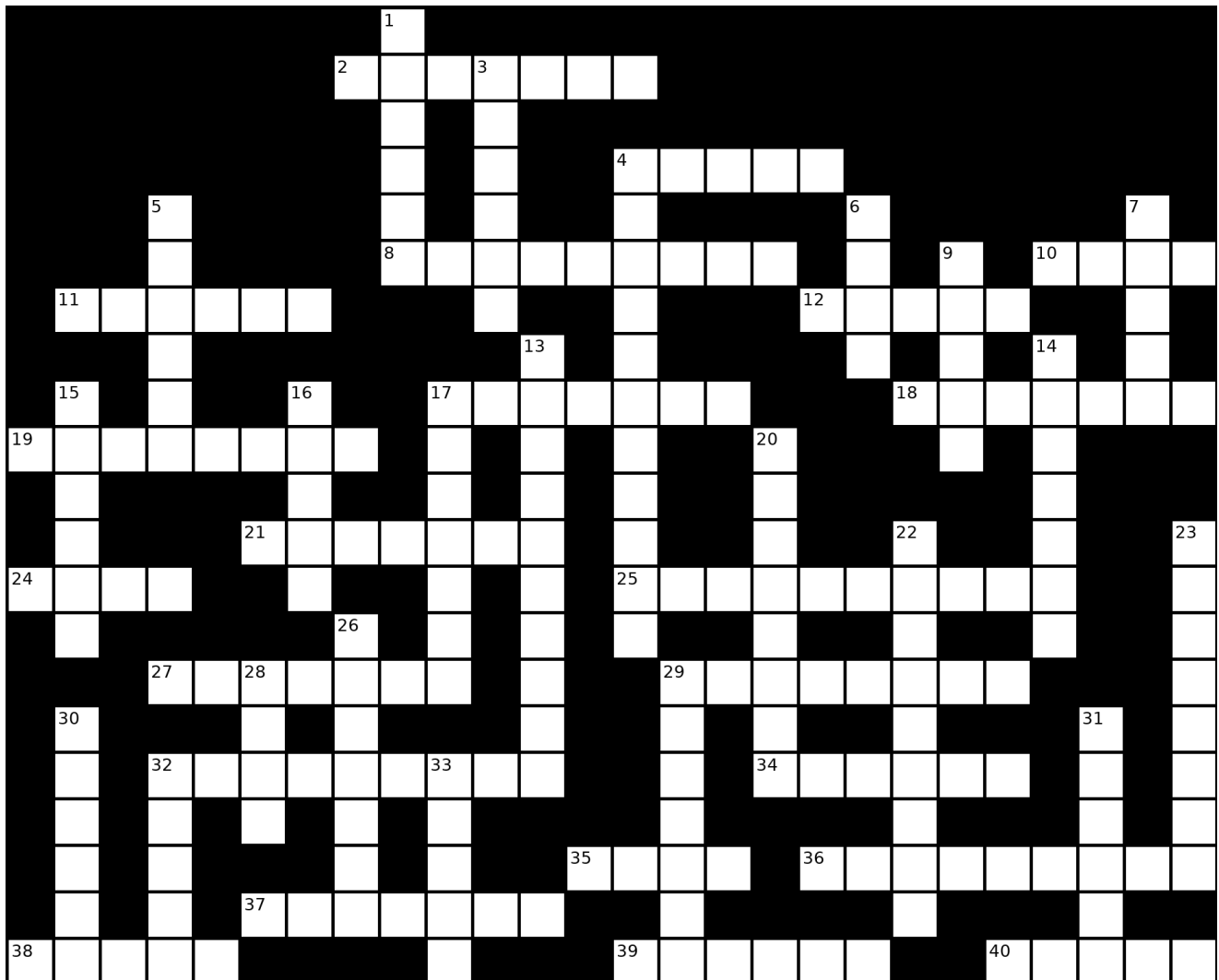


So after 207 years the school still supplies a good education for village children and those who come from outside, and the Diocese, the Vicar, the governors and the PCC continue to provide support for staff and pupils.

Valerie Cann

AWLISCOMBE & WESTON TIMES CROSSWORD

Clues and answers are based on the Autumn 2026 magazine content.



ACROSS

2. First name of the late Read whose bequest funded the organ work (7)
4. Food available from 5pm at the October pub night (5)
8. These are due in May 2027 for the new authorities (9)
10. First word of the club called Knit and Stitch (4)
11. Second word of the club called Knit and Stitch (6)
12. One of the rivers mentioned in the sewage discussion (5)
17. Large object hoped to be salvaged from the pub (7)
18. Town named in several local events and services (7)

DOWN

1. Included with Whist Drive entry (6)
3. Club meeting on the third Thursday (6)
4. Flowers the Young Wives will learn about in November (11)
5. November lunch dessert (6)
6. Event that raised £3,387 for St Michael's (4)
7. Game night organised by Awliscombe Ladies (5)
9. County mentioned in the local government reorganisation discussion (5)
13. Mona _____ became Head Teacher in 1956 (10)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 19. Place visited in Dalwood by the Young Wives (8) | 14. First name of the saint at the village church (7) |
| 21. July's lunch was _____ and mash (7) | 15. Material used in the September weaving demonstration (6) |
| 24. The other river mentioned with the Otter (4) | 16. Instrument Michael Farley will overhaul (5) |
| 25. Village named in the magazine title (10) | 17. October lunch main course (7) |
| 27. Venue for Honiton u3a talks (7) | 20. Church Hill work is improving this (8) |
| 29. Film being shown at the Hall on 10th October (8) | 22. Word describing the school's aided status (9) |
| 32. Poor _____ reception was discussed (9) | 23. Dessert served at the July lunch (8) |
| 34. City where the Young Wives tried Escape Rooms (6) | 26. Castle where Martin Davies received his CBE (7) |
| 35. Defence commitment discussed with Richard Foord (4) | 28. August lunch dessert, _____ mess (4) |
| 36. Season associated with the market and bingo (9) | 29. Alley used as a temporary classroom (7) |
| 37. Festival celebrated with a supper in September (7) | 30. Word used in the name of the local council (6) |
| 38. Card game played on the fourth Monday (5) | 31. Surname of the school master and mistress in 1851 (6) |
| 39. Village paired with Awliscombe in the magazine title (6) | 32. Short Mat _____ meets on Wednesdays (5) |
| 40. Community _____ takes place on Tuesdays (5) | 33. Dunkeswell _____ is mentioned in the school history (5) |

Defibrillator Units.

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 or 112 and ask for an ambulance without delay.**

A defibrillator is only needed when someone is unresponsive and not breathing normally.

If someone was able to fetch the defib unit, instructions will be heard very clearly once the unit is opened and switched on.



Council commits to protecting local services following Devon reorganisation decision

Published: 16 July 2026

East Devon District Council commits to supporting the transition to a four unitary model for Local Government in Devon, following a decision on the future of local authorities in the county from the Ministry of Homes, Communities and Local Government.



The Government has accepted the four unitary proposal put forward by Exeter and Plymouth. The four new councils will be made up of:

- A new Exeter council, including 15 parishes from Teignbridge, 28 parishes from within East Devon and 6 parishes from within Mid Devon
- A new Plymouth council, including 13 parishes from South Hams
- A new Torbay council, including 22 parishes from Teignbridge and South Hams
- A new Devon Council covering the rest of Devon

This was not the favoured option of East Devon District Council which, along with seven other district authorities, had proposed a three unitary “Reimagining Devon” model.

The accepted proposal will see the current East Devon geography split between two new unitary authorities covering a new Greater Exeter area and a large rural and coastal council footprint. The existing district council will now focus on working on ensuring that East Devon’s communities, services and staff are fully represented as the new authorities are designed and implemented.

Cllr John Loudoun, Deputy Leader for East Devon, said:

"I am disappointed in this decision. This was not the preferred outcome for the majority of district councils in Devon, including this one. For East Devon, a split of our services will come with significant challenge and cost.

However, our priority now is clear – ensuring that we protect local services, staff and democratic representation for East Devon residents as we transition from an existing East Devon across into the new unitary authorities. It is vital that we support the transition to the new authorities to ensure a smooth transfer and to minimise disruption for our residents and businesses".

Elections for the new authorities will take place in May 2027. These "shadow" authorities will run alongside existing councils to support the transition until April 2028 when the new unitary authorities will take formally take over.

The Awliscombe and Weston Times.

If anyone would like to advertise in the magazine, all rates are for a year and payable in advance.

A full page is £300 for a year.

A half page is £150 for a year

A quarter page is £75 for a year

A twelfth of a page (business card) is £25

Contact awliscombeandwestontimes@gmail.com



BERWOOD

TREE AND FORESTRY CARE

TREE REMOVAL  SITE CLEARANCE  EMERGENCY WORK

HEDGE TRIMMING  TREE PRUNING  STUMP GRINDING

WOODCHIP & LOGS  TPO APPLICATIONS

NPTC QUALIFIED AND INSURED

EMAIL: BERWOOD.INFO@GMAIL.COM CALL: 07375 623919



Pumpkin recipes.



Pumpkin Cake

Ingredients:

300g self-raising flour	300g light muscovado sugar
3 tsp mixed spice	2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
175g sultanas	½ tsp salt
4 eggs beaten	200g butter melted
Zest of 1 orange	1tbs orange juice
500g (peeled weight) pumpkin or butternut squash flesh, grated.	

For drenching and frosting:

200g pack of soft cheese	85g butter, softened
100g icing sugar, sifted	zest of 1 orange and juice of ½

Method:

1. Heat oven to 180 fan, 160 C gas 4. Butter and line a 30 x 20 cm baking or small roasting tin with baking parchment. Put the flour, sugar, spice, bicarbonate of soda, sultanas and salt into large bowl and stir.
2. Beat the eggs into the melted butter, stir in the orange zest and juice, then mix with the dry ingredients till combined. Stir in the pumpkin. Pour the batter into the tin and bake for 30 minutes, or until golden.
3. To make the frosting, beat together the cheese, butter, icing sugar, orange zest and 1tsp of the juice till smooth and creamy, then set aside in the fridge. When the cake is done, cool for 5 mins then turn it onto a cooling rack. Prick it all over with a skewer and drizzle with the rest of the orange juice while still warm.
4. When the cake has cooled completely, give the frosting a quick beat to loosen, then, using a palette knife, spread over the top of the cake. Keep it in the fridge. It will keep, covered, for up to 3 days

Pumpkin and bacon soup



Ingredients:

1 tbsp vegetable oil	50g butter
1 onion finely chopped	150g cured bacon cut into pieces
500g pumpkin flesh cut into chunks	1 litre chicken stock
100 ml double cream	3 tbs pumpkin seeds
Maple syrup	

Method:

1. In a large heavy bottomed pan, heat the oil with 25g butter. Add the onion and a pinch of salt and cook on a low heat for 10 mins or until soft. Add 60g bacon and cook for a further 5 mins until the bacon releases its fat. Then increase the heat to medium, add the pumpkin and stock and season. Bring to the boil, then reduce the heat to a simmer, cover with a lid and cook for about 40 mins until the pumpkin is soft. Pour in the cream, bring to the boil again and remove from the heat. Set aside some of the liquid, then blend the remaining pumpkin until smooth and velvety, adding liquid back into the pan bit by bit as you go. Strain through a fine sieve, check the seasoning and set aside.
2. Melt the remaining butter in a pan over a high heat and fry the rest of the bacon with black pepper for 5 mins. Divide the bacon between 4 bowls, reheat the soup and pour over. To serve, sprinkle over the pumpkin seeds and drizzle with maple syrup.



Sept events 2026

FOREVER QUEEN

Fri 4 Sept 7.30 Tickets: General Admission £22

Forever Queen – the ultimate tribute to Queen. An electrifying stage show that pays homage to the greatest band of all times – QUEEN.

Booking fee £2



AN EVENING WITH JOANNA COOKE & HER BAND

Booking fee £2

Sat 5 Sept 7.30pm Tickets: £17. On the door £18

With a voice that transcends genres, Joanna Cooke is increasingly becoming an exciting name in music. Soulful & emotionally charged vocals..



SHREK THE MUSICAL

Wed 9 Sept 12.45pm Tickets: £9 Book direct with Ticket Source

Sense Otterhayes present their yearly performance. This year we head to rescue Princess Fiona and return her to the 'not so nice' Lord Farquaad



ZZ TOPPD

Fri 11 Sept 7.30pm Tickets: General Admission £22. On the door £25

This show is the ultimate tribute to the Texas Blues legends, complete with multiple costume changes and the iconic, furry spinning guitars.

Booking fee £2



SUNNY DANCER (15)

Sat 12 Sept 7.30pm Tickets: Adult £8 Under 16s £7

Unexpected friendships, experiences first love and the confidence to embrace life

Booking fee £1



THIS FLIGHT TONIGHT: THE SONGS OF JONI MITCHELL

Thurs 17 Sep 7.30pm Tickets: General Admission £26

Acclaimed singer/songwriters Zervas & Pepper present 'This Flight Tonight' an intimate five-piece acoustic live tribute to the music of Joni Mitchell.

Booking fee £2



SERIOUSLY COLLINS - A TRIBUTE TO PHIL COLLINS & GENESIS

Fri 18 Sept 7.30pm Tickets: General Admission £27

Get ready to be transported back in time as we celebrate the legendary hits of Phil Collins and Genesis! It isn't just a tribute show, it's an electrifying journey

Booking fee £2



A SHOT IN THE DARK

Thurs 24 Sept 2pm Tickets £5

Includes a hot drink, biscuits & a chat after the screening
Inspector Jacques Clouseau falls in love with murder suspect

Booking fee £1



NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: THE MISANTHROPE

Booking fee £2

Thurs 24 Sept 7pm Tickets: Adult £18. Under 18 £13.

Award-winner Sandra Oh (Killing Eve) plays the title role in this razor-sharp reimagining of Molière's classic dark comedy



October events 2026

HUDSON & HUDSON - MARRIED AT FIRST SLEIGHT

Sat 26 Sept 7.30 Tickets: Advanced £16. General Admission £19

The couple that tricks together, sticks together! They said marriage was magical —these two took it literally. A feel good magic show from a real-life couple

Booking fee £2



EXHIBITION ON SCREEN: JAMES MCNEILL WHISTLER

Thurs 1 Oct 2pm / 7pm Tickets: Adult £13, under 16s £10.

Optional Lunch + £7

In an era of great change and great beauty emerged the character of James McNeill Whistler

Booking fee £1



ADAM SWEET BAND

Fri 2 Oct 7.30pm Tickets: Advanced £16. General Admission £20

The Adam Sweet Band deliver brooding blues and roots-rock, balancing expressive guitar work, soulful vocals and a powerful live dynamic.

Booking fee £2



EMMELINE PANKHURST: ANGEL OR ANARCHIST ?

Sat 3 Oct 7.30pm Tickets: £18

This powerful one-woman show, starring acclaimed actress Liz Grand, brings to life the extraordinary story of Emmeline Pankhurst.

Booking fee £2



A BRIEF CASE OF CRAZY

Thurs 8 Oct 7.30pm Tickets: £18 Winner of an OFFIE Award

A heart-warming and hilarious physical comedy told through slick choreography, mime, clowning and puppetry.

Booking fee £2



THE BIG SOUL NIGHT

Fri 9 Oct 7pm Tickets £10

Get ready for a great night of Soul music, hosted by the fantastic DJ John Bongo! Come along, hit the dance floor and enjoy all your favourite classics

Booking fee £1.50



LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS WITH THE STAN HACKING BAND

Sat 10 Oct 7.30pm General Admission £12. Under 16s £5

This special evening will be packed with uplifting Proms classics — from stirring marches and joyful medleys to enduring favourites.

Booking fee £1



HOLY DAYS

Thurs 15 Oct 2pm / 7.30pm Tickets: Adult £8 U16s £7+ Optional Lunch £7

When a grieving young boy meets three unconventional nuns, they embark on an unexpected road trip, proving family can be found in unlikely places

Booking fee £1



THE ZOOTS: SOUNDS OF THE 60'S

Booking fee £2

Fri 16 Oct 7.30pm Tickets: £24

Experience THE Sixties show that's wowing audiences around the world, selling out and headlining venues with the spectacular Sounds of the 60s.



*All details correct at time of print. Please check website for updates. Ticket prices include a booking fee.
BOX OFFICE: 01404 384050 **BEEHIVEHONITON.CO.UK**

*All details correct at time of print. Please check website for updates. Ticket prices include a booking fee.
BOX OFFICE: 01404 384050 **BEEHIVEHONITON.CO.UK**



Your Mortgage Specialists

Experts Since 2007

We can help you with...

- ✓ Residential Mortgages
- ✓ Buy to Let Mortgages
- ✓ Equity Release & Later Life Mortgages
- ✓ Life Assurance
- ✓ Income Protection
- ✓ Self Build & Custom Build Mortgages
- ✓ Commercial Finance
- ✓ Critical Illness Cover

5* Reviews | Google & Facebook

01404 813050

info@exemortgages.co.uk

www.exemortgages.co.uk

The Milking Parlour, Clapperentale Farm, Escot Park,
Ottery St. Mary, Devon EX11 1LU

Your property may be repossessed if you do not keep up payments on a mortgage or loan secured against it. Exe Mortgages Ltd. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). We are registered under the Consumer Credit Act & Data Protection Act and hold the appropriate licenses. Exe Mortgages is entered on the Financial Services Register under reference 705340.

Consistent
quality care at
every visit



Your Care | Your Choice | Your Hub

Tell us the
support you're
looking for



Review the
profiles we
send you

Choose who
you feel is the
best for you



01392 982 832

exeter@hubcaresupport.co.uk



We stock:

A wide range of Morris Lubricants Oil

Sealey Tool stockists

We have also stock a large selection of

Nuts & Bolts

Belts

Our shops

Honiton (Shop) – Unit 6 & 7, Durham Way, Heathpark,
Honiton, Devon, EX14 1SQ – 01404 44944

Chard (Shop) – Unit 2, Leach Road, Chard Business Park,
Chard, Somerset, TA20 1FA – 01460 67664

Awliscombe (workshop) – Wolverstone Hill, Awliscombe,
Honiton, Devon, EX14 3PU – 01404 841237




GREEN ROCK PEST CONTROL

Award winning, family run, local pest control service. Domestic and Commercial work

All Pests Covered Both Inside and Out

 Rats & Mice	 Carpet Moths
 Ants	 Grey Squirrels
 Asian Hornets	 Wasps & Hornets
	 Moles
	 Fleas

www.greenrockpestcontrol.co.uk

For A Quick Response Call
07977 648 791



AYLOR SWEEPS

Chimney Sweep and Stove Installer
07814 594 421

All types of chimneys and flues swept & certificates issued
OFTEC registered stove installer
CCTV inspections & Maintenance work
Birds' nests removed/Cowls fitted

Web: taylorsweeps.co.uk
Email: achimneysweep@mail.com







HBH Electrical Limited

Qualified Electrical Contractors

We carry out all aspects of electrical work:

- Domestic Electrical
- Industrial & Commercial
- Landlord services
- Agri Specialist
- Small jobs
- Complete rewires
- New builds
- EV chargers
- Solar installations

Acorn Cottage
Fenny Bridges
Devon
EX14 3BJ

tel: 01404 41381 mob: 07584065798
e: info@hbhe.co.uk
w: <http://hbhe.co.uk/>




CWM
CURT WILLIS MOTORS



REPAIRS, SERVICING, MAINTENANCE, MOTS
CALL US ON: 01404 851551



**Book Your
MOT Test with
Us Today**



Hours of Operation

Mon - Fri: 8:30am – 5:30pm

Sat: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Sunday: Closed

- Tyre Fitting
- Exhausts
- Brakes
- Cambelts
- Clutches
- Auto Air Conditioning
- Diagnostics
- Minor Repairs

YOUR LOCAL FRIENDLY GARAGE

Serving Honiton, Ottery St Mary, and the East Devon Area

Put our 20-plus years of experience to work for you by calling our shop today.

www.curtwillismotors.com - Fenny Bridges Honiton, Devon, EX14 3BG

**Compassionate live-in
& visiting care services**

♥ Personal care

♥ Household help

♥ Family support
& so much more!

**We're
hiring!**



Care With
Kindness



01884 220150



team@carewithkindness.co.uk



www.carewithkindness.co.uk



FULLY QUALIFIED AND
FACTORY TRAINED
HORTICULTURAL ENGINEERS



MNR MOWERS LTD

SALES • SERVICE • SPARES
BLOWERS • HEDGE TRIMMERS • CHAINSAWS

Unit 8 Devonshire Court
Heathpark Industrial Estate
Honiton, DEVON EX14 1SB

Tel: 01404 548300

Fax: 01404 548301

Email: mnmowersltd@unit8.eclipse.co.uk



- ★ 30 years + experience
- 🎓 fully qualified in all hair services
- 🚗 on site parking
- 💧 professional salon grade products

Colour patch test required
By appointment only



MOBILE / TEXT
07355310330



WEBSITE
www.thecottagesalon.co.uk

NEW HAIRDRESSING *Salon* OPENING

— IN WESTON, HONITON —

*Professional hair care in a
calm friendly salon*

OPEN TIMES

Monday	9-5pm	Friday	9-5pm
Tuesday	CLOSED	Saturday	9-1pm
Wednesday	9-5pm	Sunday	CLOSED
Thursday	CLOSED		

— OPENING —

Monday 21st September

Ready to receive phone calls from this date

I look forward to welcoming you to my salon ♥



ADDRESS

The Cottage Salon
1 Hamlet Cottages
Weston
Honiton
Devon
EX14 3PB



Robin Francis & Sons

Specialists in:

- Block Paving Driveways
- Natural Stone Paving
- Tarmac Driveways
- Resin Bound Driveways and Paths
- Porcelain Patios
- Landscaping and Fencing

*We are a family run business and have
been trading for over 30 years.*

www.robinfrancisandsons.co.uk

07971 406263

Sidmouth • Honiton • Ottery St Mary • Seaton



fsb³