

THE AREA MAGAZINE FOR LEWDOWN, CHILLATON, CORYTON,  
STOWFORD, MARYSTOWE, THRUSHELTON, LEWTRENCHARD

February 2018

The magazine for all that's going on in your area

# Community



# Newslink

PUBLISHED BY THE LEWDOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION,

REG. CHARITY NO. 1071808

FUNDED BY THE ADVERTISERS, SPONSORS, MEMBERSHIPS AND AREA CHURCHES  
ALSO SUPPORTED BY GRANTS FROM DEVON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND  
LLOYDS TSB FOUNDATION FOR ENGLAND & WALES

# WHAT'S ON? - Events in your area

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Location</b>         | <b>Organisation &amp; Contact Information</b>             | <b>What's going on in the area and at what time</b>       |
|-------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Mon/29/Jan  | Victory Hall            | Parish Council  | Parish Council Meeting @19:30PM                           |
| Wed/31/Jan  | Victory Hall            | AUCTION Paul 07401192921                                  | AUCTION @19:00-   |
| Wed/07/Feb  | Victory Hall            | AUCTION Paul 07401192921                                  | AUCTION @19:00-   |
| Thu/08/Feb  | Lifton Community Centre | Red Spider Company<br>Tickets from<br>Lifton Village Shop | Presents<br>FANTASTIC MR<br>FOX<br>Curtain up at 7pm      |
| Fri/09/Feb  | "                       | "   | "   |
| Sat/10/Feb  | "                       | "   | "   |
|             | Victory Hall            | Victory Hall Colin 01566 783279                           | Whist Drive 20:00   |
| Sun/11/Feb  | Victory Hall            | Lewdown Young Farmers                                     | Tractor Run   |
| Mon/12/Feb  | Victory Hall            | W I - Cathy 01566 784104                                  | Meeting 19:30 - 22:00                                     |
| Wed/14/Feb  | Victory Hall            | Audrey 01566 783392                                       | Soup & Roll 12.30   |
| Wed/14/Feb  | Victory Hall            | AUCTION Paul 07401192921                                  | AUCTION @19:00-   |
| Fri/16/Feb  | Victory Hall            | Thrushelton Ester 01566 783023                            | Church Wool project 10:00-16:00                           |
| Sun/18/Feb  | Victory Hall            | Victory Hall Andy/Sarah 01566 783274                      | Sunday Lunch 12:30 for 13:00                              |
| Wed/21/Feb  | Victory Hall            | NewsLink Day  | Newslink assembly day @14:00- Help is always very welcome |
|             | Victory Hall            | AUCTION Paul 07401192921                                  | AUCTION @19:00-   |
| Wed/28/Feb  | Victory Hall            | AUCTION Paul 07401192921                                  | AUCTION @19:00-   |

**Please advise us of any other event you would like to see listed here**

# The Community Newslink

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE PROVIDING NEWS, INFORMATION AND ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR THE AREAS OF LEWDOWN, CHILLATON, CORYTON, STOWFORD AND MARYSTOWWE, THRUSHELTON, LEWTRENCHARD

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Mrs A. Westlake, Mrs M. Rolfe, Terry Southcott,  
Coppers Stores, Keith Turner and Ryan and Jessica Kingdom

**All news, photographs, reports, events etc. for the Newslink need to be handed in to the Editor by 15th of the preceding month.**

We welcome your articles / items / advertisements. Though we do our best, we cannot guarantee to publish all that is sent to us, as some things will not reproduce in a good enough quality.

DONATIONS TOWARD THE COST OF PUBLISHING THIS MAGAZINE CAN BE GIVEN TO ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER OR CONTACT:

LRA CHAIRMAN: TIM NASH (TIMNASH682@BTINTERNET.COM)  
LRA TREASURER: SARAH NASH (SARAHNASH@BTINTERNET.COM)

YOUR SUPPORT WOULD BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED

## Could you help with delivering the Newslink?

We always welcome new volunteers to join our excellent team of helpers that deliver the Newslink every month. If you're interested please to contact us (details on page 3)

**Don't forget that you can always get copies of the Link in the Village Shops and in the local Churches, or register with us to be sent the PDF version (send an email to us at Lewdownra@gmail.com)**

Cover Picture - Participants from the West Devon Open Group for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. See page 28 for further details.

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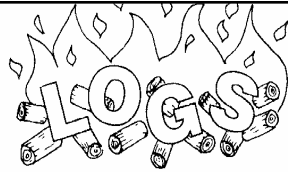
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Multi Academy Trust

## **Baby / Toddler Session**

Thursday mornings 9.15am to 11.15am

Justine welcomes you to come and join her in the school hall for lots of fun activities (some messy) and plenty of singing. A great opportunity to meet other parents / carers.

£2.00 per session – please bring your own snack.

For more information contact the school office on 01566783273.

[www.lewtrenchardschool.org.uk](http://www.lewtrenchardschool.org.uk) Email [admin@lewtrenchard.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lewtrenchard.devon.sch.uk)

# **LEWDOWN VICTORY HALL**

Registered Charity No 230270

## **SUNDAY LUNCH**

**February 18<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 for 1.00pm**

**TICKETS £12.00**

Andy / Sarah 01566 783274 or Nicola 783320

## **Lewtrenchard WI, January, 2018.**

President Cathie Slocombe welcomed us to a new year and our first rendition of Jerusalem for 2018. Our joint Christmas party and 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations held in December were a great success. Thanks went to Sylvia Crocker who made a wonderful celebration cake which was beautifully iced by Clare Horn with a particular mention to Cake Away in Launceston for their specially made WI iced badges.

A vote of thanks also due to both Tesco's in Launceston and Waitrose in Okehampton who donated Prosecco to us which we greatly enjoyed. The event was spent with members, friends and guests, playing games, looking at photos and exhibits of work and sharing an excellent tea. Thanks are also due to Jane Nash and her daughter who did an amazing job of clearing up after tea and washing the dishes- much appreciated.

The main business of the meeting was to discuss and vote on the Resolutions from National WI which then go onto the National AGM. Our secretary, Barbara Scott had prepared a power point presentation for us to go through each our and share views. They were as follows:

- Positive body image in a digital age
- Stop female genital mutilation
- Raising awareness of modern slavery in the UK
- Mental health matters
- Healthier mouth, Healthier body.

Competition winner: Monique Hedger

Flower of the month: Audrey Jones.

**Next meeting, Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm. Lewdown Victory Hall.**

**There is to be a cookery demonstration and the competition is: Five iced buns in paper cases decorated with 5 Olympic colours.**

**All Welcome.**

***Woman's World Day of Prayer***

***Prepared by the Women of Suriname***

***Friday 2nd March 2018 @ 2.30pm***

***St Nicholas Church, Broadwood***

***Speaker: Rev Ann Curnow***

***Enquiries: Audrey 01566 783392***

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### **Stowford Parish Hall Hire Charges 2017**

£3 per hour (Special rates for users of over 30 weeks per year £2 per hour)

Parties, Wedding, Funerals £20

General and Euro Elections £120

Tables £2 each (plus £20 Deposit) Any number of Chairs 25p each

**Contact Julie Chick on 01566 783223 for bookings and enquiries**



Found on the stage of the Victory Hall  
Gents Cygnet Ring

Contact Esme 01566 783267



### **Lewdown has a defibrillator for the use of the village.**

**It is located in the roadside porch of the Blue Lion.**

Please note it is not recognised by 999 calls if more than 200 mtrs away from it.

When ringing 999 they will access code to open box.

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# DEAR READERS

may I be the last to wish you all a peaceful and prosperous new year, for by the time you read this we will be well into January and it might make more sense to wish all you a happy Burns night.

Good news I have received a book for Christmas, I know this to some of you might seem a waste, as it might over exert my already tired brain cell, but fortunately there are lots of pictures. To give you a taste of the contents of for said book I will pose you a question to start with.

As you all know a cat will always land on it's feet, and bread will always land butter side down, what happens if you tie some bread and butter to the back of a cat?.

The chairman of the newslink is NOT suggesting you try this experiment as all that cat hair on you sandwiches might seem a bit of a waste, it's just something for you all to think about.

Will end now as coronation street is about to start best wishes Tim Nash hon chairperson.

*Two men were heard talking in a local pub recently. One said to the other, as I get older I start to remember all the people I've lost along the way, and I think to myself, maybe a career as a tour guide wasn't for me after all*

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR**





**Coins - Medals - Bank Notes**  
**Wanted to purchase**  
**Contact Roger Knowles**  
**At Townleigh.**  
**Phone 07763 792195 (after The Archers!)**



# The Blue Lion, Lewdown

Charlie, Nicky, Charlotte, Georgia, Jonty & Alfie  
Welcome you to our Family Friendly Pub

## Events in February

Saturday 24th Live Music - Lillismith

Thursday 15th Open Mic Night

Food is now being served Friday and Saturday evenings,  
and Sunday Lunch



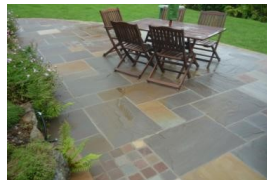
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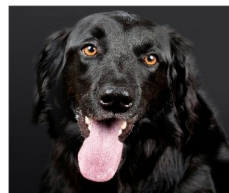
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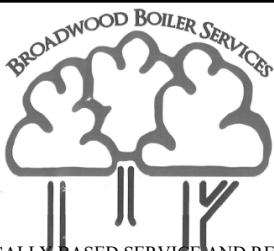
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## *SOUPA TROOPERS*

**Wednesday February 14th**

**Wednesday March 14th**

**Wednesday April 11th**

**Lewdown Victory Hall @12.30pm**

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A successful 2017 at the Forgotten Garden of Lewtrenchard was completed with a Jumble Sale at the end of October and the lime kiln was stabilised for Winter thanks to Andy Nash builders. Our beautiful free amenity for walkers, dog owners and people who just want a quiet space is already showing the beginnings of annual renewal.

This year we are running a **Photograph Competition** for *images from the Forgotten Garden* so that we can choose the best in the autumn giving us enough time to make a Forgotten Garden calendar for 2019



## Forgotten Garden OF LEWTRENCHARD



### ***Lifton History Group***

The Lifton History Group talk, on 10th January at the Arundell Arms, was given by Tom Soby. The subject was 'Peat, Powder and Power' which was an interesting and informative (and sometimes humorous) talk. It was all about the history of gunpowder production on Dartmoor at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century.

The next talk is on Wednesday 7th February at the Tamar Room, Arundell Arms at 7.30 pm. Guests are very welcome at any meeting and there will be £3 charge. We look forward to seeing you.

## **Lewdown YFC upcoming events:**

Wednesday 7th Feb      Sandford Orchards Tour

### **Sunday 11th Feb      Charity Tractor Run**

in aid of Lewdown Helipad and Devon Air Ambulance, even if you can't take part your more than welcome to come along and have some dinner, see poster in link.

Wednesday 28th Feb      Pool, Skittles and darts practice at the Blue Lion

Wednesday 14th March      Easter Cake Decorating?

Monday 19th March      Easter Bingo, Lewdown Victory Hall  
in aid of the 2 chosen Charities.

Sunday 25th March      Pool, Skittles and Darts competition- Bradworthy

Wednesday 28th March      Teague Factory Tour

Friday 8th April      Traffic Light Disco, Lewdown Victory Hall

### **Devon County Show 17th-19th May come along and see some of our entries**

Wednesday 30th May      Club it's a knockout/rounders

Saturday 2nd June      Charity Big Breakfast

Friday 7th September      Club Dinner and Dance at Trethorne

Friday 21st September      Wild West Party, Lewdown Victory Hall

Monday 3rd December      Christmas Poultry bingo

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# YFC Club report

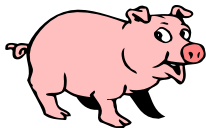
We've had a really successful few months with carnivals, our group dinner and dance, stockjudging and our bingo! We came 2nd at Hatherleigh and 3rd at Okehampton carnivals. In November At our group dinner and dance nearly 30 members went were Becky Dennis won member of the year and achieved most points under 21 stockjudging.

Also in November Becky went to the national stockjudging finals were she came 3rd overall in junior beef. In December we had our annual poultry bingo and lewdown Hall was jam packed, a very enjoyable evening!

Our first ever tractor run is on the 11th Feb at lewdown village hall, tractors to leave from 10:30am, 2 course meal after from 1pm anyone welcome. and also the 19th March we have a Easter bingo at Lewdown village hall doors open 7:30pm eyes down 8pm many Easter eggs and meal.



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Torben,

Suzy,

Alex & Thomas  
look forward to seeing you  
**01837 871447**



# LEWDOWN YFC CHARITY TRACTOR RUN

**11<sup>TH</sup> FEB 2018**  
**LEWDOWN VILLAGE HALL**

- **IN AID OF DEVON AIR AMBULANCE AND LEWDOWN HELIPAD**
- **TRACTORS TO BE THERE FROM 10AM  
LEAVING AT 10.30AM - BACON BAPS/TEA  
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## CHURCH NEWSLETTER

### Ministers

United Benefice of Lifton, Broadwood, Stowford,  
Lewtrenchard with Thrushelton & Kelly with Bradstone

**The Revd. Preb. Tim Deacon, BA 01566 784228**

The Rectory, Lifton, PL16 0BJ

Milton Abbot Benefice

**The Revd. Andy Atkins, 01822 870298**

The Vicarage, The Parade, Milton Abbot PL19 0NZ

### Churchwardens

#### Lifton-St Mary's

Mr J Courtice 01566 784562

Mrs G Whitford 01566 784242

#### Broadwood- St Nicholas

Mr D Perkin 01566 776758

#### Kelly with Bradstone-St Mary's

Mr W Kelly 01822 870393

Mr R Eggins 01822 870240

#### Marystowe—St Mary the Virgin

Mrs B Dawe 01566 784797

Mrs D Asbridge 01822 860378

#### Coryton—St Andrews

Mrs. S. Andrews 01822 820420

Mr R. Searight 01822 860148

#### Stowford—St John the Baptist

Mr C Chick 01566 783223

Mr S Hedger 01566 783765

#### Lewtrenchard—St Peters

Mrs A Westlake 01566 783909

Mr B. Grant 01822 860569

#### Thrushelton—St George

Mr A J Nash 01566 783274

Mr T Nash 01566 783320

### *Roman Catholic Services*

**Tavistock** Sunday 9.15 am  
Holy Days 10am

Fr. Greatbatch 01822 612645  
(P. Sparling 01822 860355)

**Okehampton** Saturday 6pm  
Sunday 11am

Fr M. Darline Joseph  
01837 52229

**Launceston** Sunday 10.00 am  
Holy Days 7.30pm  
Rev. David Annear 01566 773166

### **Quakers**

Meeting for Worship  
Tavistock every Sunday 10.00am.  
4 Canal Road, Tavistock.  
Contact – Kay Nicholson  
01822 614596  
Okehampton  
Every Sunday 10.30am.  
Children's Meeting 2nd Sunday  
Community Centre, Okehampton  
Community College, Mill Road,  
Okehampton.  
Contact - Eleanor Flack 01837 53475

### **St. Mary the Virgin, Marystowe**

Church services at 9.30am unless otherwise stated

1st Sun. in the month - Holy Communion ● 3rd Sun. in the month - Family Service

*Dear Friends,*

## ***GENEROUS and UNCONDITIONAL LOVE***

***- Not seeking any reward -***

Twelve days after Christmas the Church celebrated The Epiphany – the visit of the Wise Men to the infant Christ – a story that offers a refreshing vision of generosity at its best.

We read (Matthew 2.1-12) how the Wise Men followed a star all the way from their homes in the East because they believed it would lead them to an infant king. They were probably astrologers and followers of a pagan religion that believed every important person had a star which rose when they were born and faded when they died. So when the Wise Men saw this star rising in the East they followed it to see who it was that had been born.

We read that the Wise Men went to all this trouble simply so that they could pay their respects to the child once they had found him. We probably all know that when they found Jesus in Bethlehem they respectfully fell to their knees, offering him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh – and then they just went home! The whole story gives us a beautiful illustration of how great effort, care and dignity were poured out simply for their own sakes without demanding or looking for any spin-offs or hidden rewards.

However, it was not a completely functional occasion – we read that when they found Jesus they were overwhelmed with joy; even in a dingy stable, even without the usual royal signs of crown and throne the Wise Men knew, without any doubt, that this child was indeed the king of the Jews, the Emmanuel. Perhaps their joy, overwhelming as it was, was because they recognised the presence of God in the child before them. They had the grace to see God in an unexpected place and situation and to respond to him by giving choicest gifts, not counting the cost and not looking for anything more in return than the joy they had already received.

Our world today is one in which we so often hear the question asked: 'What's in it for me?' – a world in which action often appears to expect reward! When we put ourselves in the shoes of the Wise Men we are reminded that we too are faced with a God who loves us just for the sake of loving us; who loves and cares for us equally whether we are good or

bad, kind or cruel, loving or destructive – when we realise we are faced with a God like this, (an image that's actually quite hard to accept), no wonder we find it hard to believe that there really is no catch, no spin-off, no bribe. We do not have to 'perform' in order to earn the love of God. God loves you and me and everyone with such an outpouring love that it fills up and runs over all the boundaries and the limitations we may place on it. In return .. he yearns for us to love him!

The challenge for us is to wonder how we will respond to such a loving God. We should take inspiration from the action of the Wise Men and offer to this God our choicest gifts: the gold of our lives, the frankincense of our open hearts and the myrrh of glad and cheerful neighbourliness – our service of others. There is no catch, no 'small print', no 'hidden agenda', no amassing of 'brownie points' in order to be loved and rewarded by God; only the need to do as those Wise Men did and to go on seeking Jesus until we find him. Like them, we will find Jesus in unexpected places, in ordinary and in unusual encounters. Wherever we find him – and find him we will – all we need to do is to joyfully and gladly understand the generous and unconditional love he already has for us and go on our way rejoicing, loving him as best as we can!

None of us can know what 2018 holds in store, but at this time of New Year resolutions and new beginnings I pray that we may choose to make it *a year of pilgrimage*, a year in which we are constantly seeking Jesus in order that we may become more aware of his generous love for us. *Look out for "Pilgrimage Themes" in the worship of our local churches in the coming months – especially during Lent, Holy Week and Easter.*

In this light I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2018 and look forward to journeying in faith alongside you.

With very best wishes



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**A Note of Thanks ....** Tim would like to thank so many local folk who supported him and Sheila during his illness and short stay in Derriford Hospital before Christmas. A special thanks to The Revd. John Withers and to our Churchwardens and Lay Ministers for the extra effort and time they gave to ensuring the continued worship of the churches in the Benefice. Tim asks for your understanding as he takes the necessary time to recover fully. *Thank you, one and all.*

# **WORSHIP IN THE LIFTON BENEFICE**

The Churches of

St.Mary, **Lifton**. St.Nicholas, **Broadwoodwidge**. St.Peter, **Lewtrenchard**  
St.Mary, **Kelly**. St.John the Baptist, **Stowford**. St.George, **Thrushelton**

**HC** Holy Communion. **MP** Morning Prayer. **EP** Evening Prayer  
**Holy Communion every Wednesday, 10.30am at St.Mary's, Lifton**

## **SERVICES in FEBRUARY 2017**

|                                   | <b>9.30am</b> unless different   |                  | <b>11.15am</b> unless different |                  |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>4th.<br/>2 Before<br/>Lent</b> | Lifton   | - Holy Communion | Kelly                           | - Morning Prayer |
|                                   | Broadwood  | - Morning Prayer | Stowford                        | - Holy Communion |
| <b>11th<br/>1 Before<br/>Lent</b> | Lifton   | - Holy Communion | Lewtrenchard                    | - Holy Communion |
|                                   | Thrushelton  | - Morning Prayer |                                 |                  |
| <b>14th<br/>Ash<br/>Wed</b>       | <b>7.30pm Holy Communion for the beginning of Lent At LIFTON</b><br><b><i>(With the imposition of Ashes) ALL WELCOME</i></b> |                  |                                 |                  |
| <b>18th<br/>Lent 1</b>            | Lifton   | - Morning Prayer | Kelly                           | - Holy Communion |
|                                   | Broadwood  | - Holy Communion | Stowford                        | - Holy Communion |
| <b>25th<br/>Lent 2</b>            | Lifton   | - Holy Communion | Lewtrenchard                    | - Holy Communion |
|                                   | Thrushelton  | - Holy Communion |                                 |                  |

## **MARCH 2018**

|                                 | <b>9.30am</b> unless different |                  | <b>11.15am</b> unless different |                  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>4th.<br/>Lent 3</b>          | Lifton                         | - Holy Communion | Kelly                           | - Morning Prayer |
|                                 | Broadwood                      | - Morning Prayer | Stowford                        | - Holy Communion |
| <b>11th<br/>Mother-<br/>ing</b> | Lifton                         | - Holy Communion | Lewtrenchard                    | - Holy Communion |
|                                 | Thrushelton                    | - Morning Prayer |                                 |                  |
| <b>18th<br/>Lent 5</b>          | Lifton                         | - Morning Prayer | Kelly                           | - Holy Communion |
|                                 | Broadwood                      | - Holy Communion | Stowford                        | - Holy Communion |
| <b>25th<br/>Palm S.</b>         | Lifton                         | - Holy Communion | Lewtrenchard                    | - Holy Communion |
|                                 | Thrushelton                    | - Holy Communion |                                 |                  |

## **HOLY WEEK 2018**

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday (25th. March), and ends with Easter Sunday (1st. April). The details of Special Services for Holy Week will be advertised in the March edition of this publication.



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## MARYSTOWE

Church organist, Iris Griffiths has retired after over 65 years of loyal and devoted service. A party was held on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December, to mark this momentous occasion. Many of Iris's friends and family came along and enjoyed afternoon tea and a slice of the celebration cake. Iris was presented with a framed certificate of achievement and a bouquet of flowers, plus an amusing painting by her good friend, Chris Binns.

On Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December, villagers were invited for an evening of carol singing, mulled wine and mince pies at Haye Park, kindly hosted by Matt and Holly Torvell. Over 30 people attended and a collection was made for The Salvation Army and the church. A donation of £55 has been received and we would like to thank all those who gave so generously.



For Christmas, our regular ladies and friends from the village, made lovely foliage arrangements with red candles and Roy and John Martin decorated the Christmas tree. Our two Christmas Services were conducted by Rev Andy. On Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, we had the Crib and Carol Service. The church looked really lovely in the candlelight.

The children helped to assemble the crib, which was blessed and we all sang well-known carols. Everyone stayed after the service for refreshments and the collection was sent to The Children's Society. On Christmas Eve, we had a service with Holy Communion, with readings and carols, with Iris playing the organ for her final service. Our thanks go to everyone who helped and supported us.

Sadly, Les Bennett, our bell tower captain, passed away just before Christmas. The church was absolutely packed for his funeral on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> January; a great tribute to Les! Local bell-ringers came and rang a muffled peal in his honour. Donations were for Lupus UK and Marystowe Bell Tower Fund. Les will be greatly missed.

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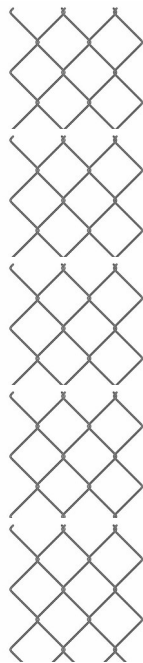


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## Duke of Edinburgh's Awards Presentations

Participants from the West Devon Open Group for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, based in Tavistock, were presented with their Bronze and Silver Awards by the Town Mayor, Councillor Philip Sanders, at a ceremony hosted by the Rifle Volunteers Inn at St Ann's Chapel on Sunday 3 December. Unusually, almost all the recipients had completed their expedition on



horseback – a challenging variation from the 'norm' of walking ventures. Just one recipient, Jowan Machin, had completed his expedition on foot – a Silver expedition in Mid-Wales run by the Group in 2016. Bronze Awards were achieved by Alisha Johns, Caitlin Honey, Gabriella Greathead, Sophie Hodgson, and Vanessa Garratt. Silver Awards were achieved by Eleanor Petherick, Ellie Pitman, twins Emily and

Evelyn Skipp, Hannah Tucker and Jowan Machin.

The West Devon Open Group for the DofE is run by committed and experienced volunteers and facilitates all aspects of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award for young people aged between 14 and 24 in the local area. They meet in Tavistock on the first Tuesday evening of every month, and will be hosting an Open Information and Recruitment evening on Tuesday, 2 January 2018, 7pm at Kingdon House in Tavistock. The Group facilitate low cost expeditions at all levels of the Award, with expedition equipment provided free of charge. They are also able to support and advise young people on all other sections of their Award.



For further information about the West Devon Open Group please contact either Bob Cawse on 01822 840466 or Mary Harper on 01822 854603, email [mary00harper@btopenworld.com](mailto:mary00harper@btopenworld.com) – or find us on Facebook!

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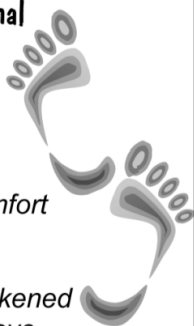
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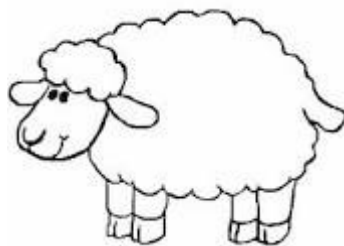
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## **Thrushelton Church** **Wool Project - an update:**



Sometimes at the beginning of the year it can be hard to get going and motivated, but I get the feeling that lots of people are keen to get our project moving forward again! So that is great and it is very exciting to see all the very different wools being incorporated into so many different designs and patterns.

So if you are passing the church, please do come in and take a look at what we have done so far! We still have lots of work underway - more runners (of course!) also some labelling to be done and hopefully some information and pictures so that visitors to the church can see what we have been doing. Thank you to all who have contributed and helped so far. It is very much a work in progress!

We have the following date coming up for getting together and working on the project:

**Fri. 16<sup>th</sup> Feb. 10.30am to 3pm at Lewdown Victory Hall.**

Please do feel welcome to come along.

For more details or to know more about the project please phone or email

Rosie: 01837 871238 [rosieyells@lineone.net](mailto:rosieyells@lineone.net)

### **The Devon Home Library Service**

The Devon Home Library Service is a free service provided by the Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) on behalf of Libraries Unlimited which is responsible for library service provision in Devon. Books are delivered by volunteers (all DBS checked) in a variety of formats for those who can no longer get to the library due to health, mobility or caring responsibilities. This service can be provided on a temporary or permanent basis and books are chosen to suit the reader, or can be ordered online by the reader at no charge. Books can also be kept longer than a normal loan period without incurring any fines for overdue books.

The RVS is keen to expand its service coverage in and around Tavistock, including Lewdown, and if you, or someone you know would be interested in receiving books via the Home Library Service or in volunteering to deliver books you can contact:

the RVS on 01209 705159 (or e-mail

[CornwallDevonHub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk](mailto:CornwallDevonHub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk))

or

Tavistock Library (01822 612218)

or find out more at [www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk](http://www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk).

# *Lewdown Past*

## **The Bidlakes of Bridestowe**

*an illustrated talk by Elly Babbedge*

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm**

**Stowford Parish Hall**

Great Bidlake is remarkable for having been owned by the Bidlake family for almost all of the last 750 years. Elly Babbedge, also author of a book on Cheriton Fitzpaine's past, has also documented the events of this long history: changes in the estate and its fortunes, events in the civil war, an attempted fraud, women controversially taking the lead in World War One and a school in residence during the Second World War.

Visitors are very welcome but may like to phone 01566 783396 nearer the time to check there has not been a rare change of programme or for further information. Lifts are possible also. Charge £2 for members, £3 for non-members to include refreshments.

**December meeting:** **Martin McDonagh** related how **Charles Hall**, who lived in Lewtrenchard Parish just over 200 years ago, not only influenced Karl Marx but also led an interesting and eventful life. Hall's great work on socialism was probably written at Down House and is considered to have been a significant influence on Marx. Charles Hall, born in 1738 to a presumably Protestant family, was sent to the Douai Catholic college in France, at the advanced age of 19, for reasons unknown, to join a class much younger than himself. He then pursued a medical career in Edinburgh and Leiden (both prestigious places to study medicine then). Despite marrying into a family of substance, throughout his life (as with our better-known local hero, Sabine Baring-Gould) he was somehow always short of money. This was not helped by his free treatment of the poor and having many children. There were also echoes of Todd Gray's recent talk about Sydenham House regarding the stark contrast between the living conditions of the landed gentry and the far more numerous poor. To help support his family, Charles Hall rented and farmed Down Farm, Lew Mill, Wooda, Galford and 'Edgecumbe' (Beechcombe?) farms. Later moving to Tavistock, his fortunes deteriorated and he spent some of his later years in a London debtors' prison but, even so, survived to the great age of 89. I was particularly impressed by how Martin McDonagh managed to trace Hall's footsteps around Britain and Europe, 200 years on – and at his many illustrations. A convivial evening was also aided by our excellent buffet: take note, Lewdown Past's AGMs have become something not to be missed!



## ***‘Fantastic Mr Fox’***

JCB supports local Am Dram Company

The Red Spider Amateur Dramatic Company are delighted to announce that JCB the Staffordshire based Digger manufacturers have lent their support to the next Red Spider production of “The Fantastic Mr Fox”.

The Roald Dahl tale revolves around the three nasty farmers and their doomed battle to outwit Mr Fox. As their efforts to destroy the fox get more and more desperate they hit on the idea of a mechanical digger as a last resort. JCB as the largest digger producers in Europe were keen to help but as the new Lifton Community Hall finds it difficult to accommodate full size diggers JCB have donated a scale model that will be the subject of a sealed bid competition run over the three nights of the performance – February 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in the new Lifton Community Hall.

Directed by Gill Taylor, the play involves a large number of children from Lifton and Lewtrenchard schools who have been involved for months in preparations that have included after school workshops and special topics teaching them the skills of performance, music, stagecraft, design and costumes.

Tickets are available from Mary Jordan on (01837 871220) or the Lifton Shop

£6 for adults £3 for children 5 – 16 y.o.







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Lewtrenchard W.I. 01566 784104

Lifton Surgery 01566 784788 or 111

Red Spider Company 01566 783505

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