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

April 2022

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



PUBLISHED BY THE LEWDOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION,
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ALSO SUPPORTED BY GRANTS FROM DEVON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND
LLOYDS TSB FOUNDATION FOR ENGLAND & WALES

EMERGENCY NUMBERS FIRE, POLICE, AMBULANCE

For all other information and contact with Police stations call 101

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PCSO SEONIAD GREENWOOD

Please contact via 101

For Neighbourhood & Farm Watches and crime prevention advice

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Floodline 0345 988 1188

Parish Clerks

Lewdown Grouped

Peter van Delft 01566 783023 lewdowngpc.clerk@gmail.com

www.lewdowngroupedpc.org.uk

Milton Abbot Grouped

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www.stowfordparishcouncil.org.uk

West Devon M.P.

Geoffrey Cox M.P. 01822 612925

County Councillor

Lois Samuel 01837 851240

Borough Councillors

Milton Ford Ward Mr Neil Jory 01822 860342 Bridestowe Ward

Terry Southcott 01566 783079 Caroline Mott 01837 861212

Tamarside Ward

Chris Edmonds 01566 784794

SCHOOLS

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Page 2

01837 650910 Okehampton Launceston 01566 772468 / 773918

RING AND RIDE SCHEME

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The Revd. Philip Conway 01566 784462 liftonpriest@yahoo.com

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SHOP & POST OFFICE

Copper's Post Office & Stores Lewdown 01566 783218

Newslink Day

There will be NO Newslink assembly day until future notice. The magazine will be produced and delivery arranged, in order to ensure people can keep their distance from one another.

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

Established January 1999 Issue No. 255 April 2022 Editor

Andrew McCarthy

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Production, Distribution and Delivery Helpers.

Mrs C. Bickell, Mrs Martin, Mr. T. Nash, Mrs R. Squires, Mrs A. Westlake, Mrs M. Rolfe, Terry Southcott, Simon and Monique Hedger, 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.

LEWDOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

We would like to thank all those who have made the commitment over the last year to support the work of the Lewdown Residents Association by paying a subscription. Your support is very much appreciated.

The subscription to become a member of the Residents Association is £3 per head. Donations in support of the magazine are always gratefully received! Please do remember us. THANKYOU.

Name:	
Address:	

Please send your Donation/Subscription Cheque/cash to: Mrs Sarah Nash, Anvil Cottage, Downpark, Lewdown. EX20 4BU For more information, please email: sarahnash@btinternet.com

Cover Picture - Easter Bunny!

Good evening to you all, I recently bought 75% of the shares in a vampire hunting business. This makes me the main stakeholder.

Good evening to you all, and welcome to this months edition of the newslink.

With all the recent news concerning Ukraine, and the many millions of refugees moving west, into Poland and other Eastern Europe countries, with very few if any possessions to their name, and the spiralling cost of fuel and other utilities it's hard to find a positive slant to any piece of news over the recent weeks, so you will be pleased to know I am not going to try.

On Sunday evening the 29th of February our grandson Noah Edward John Dufty was baptised at Bratton Clovelly church. It was a lovely evening, and no he did not shout, or cry he just smiled at the Vicar and everyone else. After we went back to the local pub, for some food and a good old fashioned chin wag, where he promptly fell to sleep for the next two hours, missing his cake being cut, and the photos (lucky devil).

By the time you read this Easter will be rapidly approaching, hopefully it will be warming up, and the garden showing the first hint of new shoots, for another eventful year.

I will close now as we are going to have a full English for tea, eggs, mushrooms and everything. Best wishes to you all.

Tim Nash.

Sad news everyone. Yesterday I failed abseiling exam's. I've really let myself down badly.

Once upon a time there was a king who stood only 12inches tall.

He was a terrible king, but he made a good ruler.

Stowford Village Hall AGM

Wednesday 20th April
7pm
Held in the Hall
All Welcome



An Daras Trust Lew Trenchard Primary School



Baby / Toddler Session

Monday morning 9.30am to 10.30am.

Justine welcomes you to come and join her at Lew Trenchard Primary School 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 (we are unable to provide drinks for parents).

We will be adhering to all current covid policies and procedures to keep you and your little one safe.

Monday to Friday
8.45am to 3.15pm
2-5 year olds
Led by Lisa McMorrow
Early Years Teacher

Please phone for availability.
Early Years Foundation Unit with plenty of safe outdoor space.
We accept 2gether funding for 2 year olds and Early Years Education funding for 3 year olds.

NEW – Wrap around care

Available for 2-11 year olds
£2 per hour (1/2 hour bookings available)

8am to 9am breakfast club.

3.30pm to 6pm after school care including snacks.

For more information contact the school office on 01566 783273.

www.lewtrenchard.devon.sch.uk Email lewtrenchard@andaras.org



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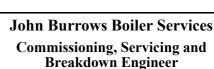


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St Mary the Virgin, Marystowe

Spring is here....and isn't it lovely! The churchyard has been decorated by nature with snowdrops that have now been replaced with daffodils and primroses.

And inside it has been equally uplifting for us all.

Tim Thompson very kindly stepped into the breach when Reverend Andy was in Covid isolation in early February to lead our Holy Communion service. We asked him to lead us as he arrived to join our service as part of the congregation! Thank you Tim.

Reverend Andy was only away for one service and has led us into Lent with some very reflective services at a time when world affairs are foremost in our thoughts.

Back at home, our knitting journey through Lent began formally at our Coffee Morning in February when it was lovely to see old and new friends in the Church, we have over 20 people knitting and nattering around the benefice and beyond. We can't wait to see all the finished scarves at Easter.

Josie from Coryton is sharing her progress with Venn Care Home, Barbara Meikle has a group of knitters and natters meeting every week to share their progress in Lamerton.

And me...well I spend many lunchtimes at Lewtrenchard School where over 20 children are knitting squares for Lent – to be made into a blanket for charity. Ladies what lunch – eat your heart out!

Joy McSmythurs

Parish Meeting Invitation

Members of the parishes of Marystow, Lewtrenchard, Coryton and Thrushelton are invited to the Annual Parish Meeting on the 25th April 19:30 at the Victory hall, Lewdown.

This is your opportunity to elect your individual parish chair and secretary and discuss the issues important to you.

The parish councillors meet bimonthly at the Lewdown Grouped Council meeting and cover a wide range of topics, typically representing the parishioners in planning matters, maintaining the parish assets, agreeing charitable donations, reviewing the finances, and setting the precept. Currently the council is finalising resources as part of the emergency planning process and organising arrangements for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

I hope you will take the time to meet your councillors and discuss what is important to you.

Andrew Harrop - Chair Lewdown Grouped Parish Council

Grand Jumble Sale
2nd April
no entry before 2pm
Lewdown Victory Hall
Entry Fee 20p
In aid of Lewdown Cricket Club

for further info contact Pauline Geering 01822 820400

Lewdown Grouped Parish Council

Coryton, Lewtrenchard, Marystow and Thrushelton

Minute No 748

Monday 28th February 2022 held at Lewdown Victory Hall commencing at 7.30pm

These abbreviated minutes are provisional, for the full minutes please visit our website lewdowngroupedpc.org.uk

- 1. The chair welcomed all those present and stated that we were all living in a period of extraordinary times and asked for a minute silence in support of the people caught up in the conflict in Ukraine.
- 2. Declarations of interest none
- 3. Minutes of previous meeting 747 being a true reflection of that meeting was approved and signed, Proposed by Cllr Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson, motion carried, Cllr Dawe abstained.
- 4. Tamar Energy Community A presentation by Jeff Evenett for Warmer Healthier homes provided details of how T.E.C. could help householders with in-depth energy advice and support including where appropriate improvements to the home can be made, this service is aimed at people renting or house owners that may have poor health and/or poor or underheated housing, fuel poverty etc. For more details visit their website http://www.tamarenergycommunity.com/
- 5. Planning Ref 0209/22/HHO Householder app. For alterations to dwelling with associated works
 - Site 2, Woods Field, Lewdown, EX20 4DG Council decision – Object- proposed by Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Dawe, motion carried, Cllr Southcott abstained.
- 6. Emergency plan Update and emergency equipment from DCT grant application request. After deliberation it was considered that the list items needed for use in an emergency should be purchased using a grant from Devon Communities Together. Cllr Southcott proposed an application to purchase equipment totaling £1221.93 this sum would come from a grant from D.C.T. Motion seconded by Dawe. Cllr Vanstone abstained; motion carried. Storage of equipment to be considered after consultation with interested parties.
- 7. Reports from councillors Cllr Andrews asked if the current council's 'Covid 19 safety precautions could be lifted. Cllr Vanstone reported on the D.H. website highways problems in the Thrushelford area, ref W221493290, also Cllr Perkins reported on the DH. website highways problems in Coryton

- area, ref-W221493257.
- 8. The Queens Platinum Jubilee 2022 Insurance to be confirmed action clerk
 - 8.1 Committee members + collaboration partner arrangements.
 - 8.2 Jubilee bench it was considered that a wooden bench was more suited to the area.
 - 8.3 Beacon site insurance action Cllr Dawe & clerk.
 - 8.4 Celebration arrangements Road closed for street evening party on Saturday 4th, clerk to apply to D.H. for a license.
 - 8.5 Lunch at Victory Hall on Sunday 5th a service to be held prior to the lunch.
- 9. Correspondence including letter of appreciation from Thrushelton PCC for a grant received. A request from the chair of Lewdown Recreation Ground asking that the LRG is also considered in any current and future planning applications with S106 commitments. Cllr Southcott suggested a register of S106 agreements is kept. Cllr Southcott to provide details of all 106 agreements to the clerk.

Date, place and time of next meeting 28th March 2022 at Lewdown Victory Hall, 7.30pm

Peter van Delft

Lewdown Grouped Parish Clerk

Parish Councillors

Andrew Harrop (Chair): Tom Andrews (Vice chair): Sylvia Crocker: Trevor Dawe: Andrew McSmythurs:

George Metherell: Nicola Perkins: Terry Southcott: Owen Vanstone: Brian Wilkinson: Graham Yeo

Parish Clerk: Peter van Delft Telephone: 01566 783023 Email: lewdowngpc.clerk@gmail.com. Portgate Chapel, Lewdown, Okehampton, EX20 4PZ www.lewdowngroupedpc.org.uk

Lewdown Recreation Field

Committee members needed.
Only 1/2 meetings per year.
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01566783367

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Soupa Troopers

All welcome to this community event



2022

Wednesday April 13th Wednesday May 11th

Wednesday June 8th

From 12.30pm in Lewdown Victory Hall Soup and a Bread Roll, Tea or Coffee - £3



Followed by conversation & games



S Hedger 03/22



Are you concerned about speeding in and around the Lewdown area? Speed Watch needs your help

The group needs more volunteers to be able to be more visible and active at educating drivers.

This will also help collate data that we can use to build the case to get Devon County Highways to put in measures to reduce speed though our growing village hopefully before someone is killed or seriously injured by the very poor driving and lack of respect for the residents of the village.

We badly need more active volunteers to ease the burden on the operators of the group and be active more often.

If you can find some time to help, please contact Cl<u>lr.Terry.Southcott@westdevon.gov.uk</u> or call 01566 783079 or 07831309666

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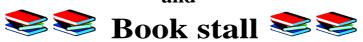


WE NEED YOU



On the 23 of April From 10.30 to 12.00 at St Peter's, Lewtrenchard for a Coffee Morning combined with a Bring and Buy sale,





****Free Admission****

<u>All proceeds to the church fabric</u>

<u>fund</u>

Stowford Parish Council



Minutes of ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 8th March 2022 These minutes are abbreviated, for the full minutes please visit our website.

No 705

- Minutes of previous meeting 704 was signed by the chair as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Kenyon, seconded by Cllr Law, all in favour
- 2. Annual Parish meeting arrangements The chair suggested that waste collections would be a good topic and asked if a WDBC representative could provide a presentation for the meeting. Clerk to contact WDBC.
- 3. Finance-
- 4. Payments were approved for A1 Electrical completion of hall electrical work £269.00, A1 Electrical – parts (Worth Electrical) £110.05, Lewtrenchard Primary School – Donation £50.00, P van Delft – Clerk salary Feb/March £176.80 HMRC- Paye £44.20, Lewdown Parish Council – donation £5.00, Proposed by Cllr Cllr Law, seconded by Cllr Kenyon, all in favour
 - 4.1 R.F.O. reported a credit balance of £3252.42 after approved payments. Receipt of £534.97 is due from HMRC. Proposed by Cllr Dunn, seconded by Cllr Law, all in favour.
- Repairs to damaged bus shelter at Portgate Cross Cllr Law thought that her husband maybe able to help with the repairs, assistance will be required to reposition the shelter, some minor repairs are needed – wood and fixings. Action – Cllr law.
- 6. Reports from councillors -Cllr Law arranged for a company to provide a valuation for the Parish Hall, the valuation is needed for the registration of the hall with Land Registry. Cllr law reported that a parishioner asked who should be contacted for using the recreation ground. The clerk informed that the recreation ground was not the property of the Parish Council but that the Recreation Ground Trust trustees should be contacted, however the recreation ground is currently rented out to a local farmer.
- 7. Cllr Edmonds (WDBC) reported that WDBC had declared a 'housing crisis' for the availability of affordable housing and rentable housing stock. The government has arranged with all electricity service providers a grant of £200 off private users bills however from October 2022 a payback of £40 per annum for 5 years will be sought. Also reported, all Bands A to D will see a £150 reduction in council tax bills for the year 2022-23 to help those households with price-rise increases in day to day living expenditure. A low interest loan scheme with 'Lendology' has been set up to help homeowners with general repairs, for

- more details visit the WDBC website. The garden waste collection service is due to start, contact WDBC if you wish to use the service.
- 8. Refurbishment and repairs to the parish hall The electricity upgrades have now been completed, the kitchen in the main has been completed with just a few minor items to be attended to. Cllr Kenyon was thanked by the council for all the plumbing work he had done in the kitchen.
- 9. Parish Hall registration update, Land registry required a little more information to complete the process, Cllr Law and the clerk to attend to it. An extraordinary meeting will be required to complete this process.
- 10. Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations Cllr Hennessey reported that the Hall committee had wished to hold a Beacon & bonfire lighting event with a BBQ on 2nd June, details to follow. Other suggestions also included the showing of a vintage car, a musical event on Saturday 4th June. Clerk to check for insurance cover.
- 11. 25yr V.E Remembrance tree plaque Cllrs Kenyon and Leroy St Louis to arrange
- 12. Safe guarding of the parish Map update and quote costs Work is in progress.
- 13. Correspondence Great British Spring clean 2022 An event to be raised, item to be included in the newslink, Cllr Dunn to action.
 - Claim form from Begbies Traynor Clerk confirmed that a claim has been sent to B.T.
 - Information enquiry An enquiry was read out requesting information on how the council conducted business in relation to Devon & Cornwall Doors, the clerk informed the council that he had provided a response to the enquiry.
 - Letter of appreciation from Citizen Advice. Donation received.
- 14. Items to be included for next meeting Queens jubilee and Facebook proposal.

Meeting closed 9.22pm.

Date time and place of next meeting - 12th April 2022 Annual Parish Meeting 2022 – 7.30pm at Stowford Parish Hall

P	
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Lewdown Past The Lewdown and area local history group

Wheal Mary Emma walk Tuesday 19th April

Meet at 6.30pm in car park behind the Dartmoor Inn

Wheal Mary Emma is probably our nearest tin mine, although it was never a very productive one. Some interesting features still remain: evidence of a leat, a waterwheel pit, buddles, ruined mine buildings, an adit and a shaft. Across the river are signs of ancient tin streaming and openworks and a medieval blowing mill. Plus a few mysteries....

A pleasant walk, mostly on level tracks. There is a short, steep track down to the lower part of the mine, beside the River Lyd. We can return back up this track for a shorter, less challenging walk of about a mile. Alternatively some of us could return along the Lyd, which is rougher going and rocky in parts (1.5 miles). Please wear suitable footwear and appropriate clothing.

Please contact Hilary (01566 783396) to register your interest so that we can inform you if the trip has to be cancelled for any reason (unless you signed up at the March meeting). Visitors are very welcome. Charge £2 for members, £3 for non-members.



Lewdown

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When ringing 999 they will access code to open box.

Chillaton

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The 999 operator will be able to give directions for its use.



CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Ministers

01566 784386

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

The Revd. Philip Conway, 01566 784462 liftonpriest@yahoo.com

The Rectory, Parsonage Court, Lifton PL16 0BJ

Milton Abbot Benefice

The Revd. Andy Atkins, 01822 870298 andya4jc@gmail.com

The Vicarage, The Parade, Milton Abbot PL19 0NZ

Miss N Brimblecombe

Broadwood- St Nicholas

Churchwardens

Lifton-St Marv's

Mrs E Brown

Mr D Perkin 01566 776758

Kelly with Bradstone-St Mary's

Mr W Kelly 01822 870393

Marystowe—St Mary the Virgin

Mrs B Dawe 01566 784797

Coryton—St Andrews

Mr G. Vicat 01822 820254 Mr R. Searight 01822 860148

Stowford—St John the Baptist

Mr C Chick 01566 783223

Lewtrenchard—St Peters

Mrs A Westlake 01566 783909 Mrs R. Dawe 01566 783127

Thrushelton—St George

Mr A J Nash 01566 783274 Mr T Nash 01566 783320

Roman Catholic Services

Tavistock Sunday 9.15 am Holy Davs 10am

Fr. Greatbatch 01822 612645

(P. Sparling 01822 860355)

Okehampton Saturday 6pm

Sunday 11am

Fr M. Darline Joseph

01837 52229

Launceston Sunday 10.30 am

Holy Days 7.30pm

Canon John Deeny 01566 773166

Ouakers

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

Please see the church website www.southtamar.church for details about services.

Services are also available online from 6pm on Sundays.

Lifton Benefice Service times for April 2022

All services and times are subject to change following National instructions and restrictions.

Any updates will be posted on the Benefice Website. north-tamar-churches.org. At going to Print, the following services are arranged in the Benefice

Sundays and Festivals

3rd April The Fifth Sunday of Lent 8am Said Eucharist at Stowford 9.30am Parish Eucharist at Lifton 11.15am Parish Eucharist at Kelly

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

By their very nature and timing, the services between Palm Sunday and Easter Day are of immense importance and solemnity. All of the services are for the whole Mission Community, no matter where the service is being celebrated.

This is the greatest week of the year for Christians and on that we should all mark in our diaries to mark as special.

10th April *PALM SUNDAY*

10am Mission Community Palm Sunday Celebration:

starting at the fountain outside Lewtrenchard Manor

(Weather Permitting)

Procession of Palms, Reading of the Passion Gospel and Liturgy of the Eucharist

11th-13th APRIL Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week.

7pm: Address, Reflection and Compline

<u>Livestreamed from St. Mary's Lifton</u> Attend in Person or via YouTube.

14TH APRIL MAUNDY THURSDAY

7pm The Liturgy for Maundy Thursday

Solemn Liturgy of the Day,

with the Washing of Feet and Solemn Watch of the

Passion.

15th April GOOD FRIDAY

10am Ecumenical Procession of Witness and Reflection

Starting at Strawberry Fields. Concluding at St. Mary's

Lifton

2pm The Last Hour

A quiet time in company with our Lord on the Cross.

At St. John the Baptist Stowford

7pm Tenebrae.

The Ancient service for Holy Week, reflecting on the Passion of Christ and the gathering darkness at the end of

the day.

Livestreamed from St. Mary's Lifton Attend in Person or via YouTube.

16th April HOLY SATURDAY (EASTER EVE)

7pm Easter Vigil at St. Peter's Lewtrenchard Lighting of the new Fire and Liturgy of Light, Vigil of

Readings

Renewal of Baptismal Promises and First Eucharist of

Easter.

17th April EASTER DAY

9.30am Easter Festival Eucharist at St. Mary's Lifton
11.15am Easter Festival Eucharist at St. Nicholas'

Broadwoodwidger

18th April EASTER MONDAY

4pm Easter Festival Service at St. Mary's Kelly.

24th April The Second Sunday of Easter

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Thrushelton11.15am Parish Eucharist at Lewtrenchard

1st May The Third Sunday of Easter

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Lifton11.15am Parish Eucharist at Kelly

Wednesday Morning Eucharist: 10.30 at Lifton

There will be some occasions when the Wednesday Morning Service will be a service of Morning Prayer.

From the Parish Priest

Dear friends,

The lengthening of daylight hours, and the reappearance of colour in our gardens announce that Spring is well and truly on its way. There is much more activity around the Rectory Bird Feeder, and that brings cheer to us all. Daffodils and Snowdrops, Blackbirds and Dunnocks were not restricted by Covid Regulations and they are just getting on with their normality. Our Normality has been severely restricted over the past two years, and for some of us this time has been very hard indeed. The hope of "getting back to normal" has always been there as a faint pinprick of light at the end of the Tunnel.

Unfortunately, the appalling events in Ukraine seem to have dimmed what light was there as we are all trying to understand what "war in Europe" actually means, and as we, quite rightly, look at what we can do as individuals and communities to assist those whose lives have been utterly destroyed by Evil.

In the middle of this very dark time, we celebrate the Joyful news of the Resurrection of Christ. The utter and total Triumph of Light over Darkness symbolised by the Lighting of Fire and Candles.

That same celebration will be taking place in shelters and hiding places under the bombardment from enemy forces in Ukraine.

Just as Daffodils are not restricted by rules and regulations, neither is God's love negated by Human action. It may well seem to be impeded by the wickedness that Humankind is capable of, but the Easter Story tells us that Christ's light and Power is boundless.

Those of us who claim to be Children of the Resurrection should use every opportunity to shine as lights in dark places. Let us witness to the Light of Christ's resurrection by demonstrating his love in caring for those for whom light and peace seem but a distant dream. In putting pressure on our elected officials to work for an end to this conflict and to show hospitality and mercy to refugees.

I do hope that you will be able to join us for our Holy Week and Easter Services, and join us in praying for those who have neither the safety or freedom to celebrate Easter in their own country.

With love and prayers,



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Please Contact: Terry Southcott, Fairview Bungalow, Lewdown Phone 01566 783079.

All proceeds will go to The Lewdown Residents Association and The Community Newslink.

Lewdown W.I. Reports

Members met in the Victory Hall in Lewdown for the March meeting. After the singing of Jerusalem, a short business meeting was presided over by Cathie Slocombe in the unavoidable absence of the president, Margaret Dunn. Birthday cards were distributed for those with March birthdays and the financial report was given by treasurer Monique Hedger. It had been agreed that this year's subscription should be reduced to £28 from £44. This was due to the effect Covid had had on the activities of the group in the last couple of years. For the June outing it was agreed that in order to reduce the amount of fuel we would have a walk around the Forgotten Garden. This would be followed by a picnic brought by the members. Hot cups of tea would be provided by the church where we could also enjoy our picnic should the weather not be good. Cathy then introduced Gwyneth Leonard from Exbourne WI. At the Okehampton Show in August Lewtrenchard and Exbourne WIs had shared first prize. We had held the trophy for 6 months so it was handed over to Exbourne to hold for the remaining 6 months. Member Audrey Jones asked us to collect our milk bottle tops for the Somerset Air Ambulance who had found a fund raising use for them.

Cathy then introduced our speaker Peter Van Delft who was to give us some really good gardening tips and some insight into his life as a nurseryman. He started by showing us plants we could enjoy in our gardens to give us winter colour. He then gave us some really valuable tips on when and how to prune. He demonstrated this with branches of shrubs from his garden, showing how to prune to get maximum flowers. He then talked about controlling pests such as red spider mite, greenfly, whitefly and vine weevils using natural methods such as nematodes, other insects, diluted Fairy Liquid and chickens. He then showed us photos of his former nursery where each year he raised hundreds of thousands of cuttings and seeds in enormous greenhouses where the heat and moisture were automatically controlled. Although it was started to supply the wholesale market he eventually opened a small retail unit providing plants, compost and filled hanging baskets to the public. He also competed successfully in plant shows. Peter answered several questions from our gardening members before being thanked by Barbara Scott for a most interesting and informative talk.

Kelly Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday 2nd April at The Millennium Wood Kelly. Start 12 noon. £3 per entrant. Refreshments available. Enquiries tel 01822860253 444444 ******** *************** LEWDOWN 200 CLUB **JANUARY DRAW** £15 No. 64 **ALLANA CHICK** No. 133 £5 MIKE NASH £5 WILL PERKINS No. 39 * FEBRUARY DRAW No. 153 £15 **JIM COLE** ROWENA CROCKER No. 70 £5 £5 MAUREEN NORTON No. 29 MARCH DRAW £50 SYLVIA CROCKER No. 192 £15 No. 21 **ALEX COLLINS** £5 NICOLA NASH No. 140

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Marystowe Pot Luck Read

By Corrie Oliver, Quither

"Have you ever had the fantasy of choosing your Dessert Island Discs? On nights when sleep is elusive I choose my Dessert Island Books. I allow myself the luxury of 10, and it changes every time depending on my recent reads, but the very process is soporific. Reading is a balm for the soul at times of stress, boredom or just the knowledge that whatever one is going through, someone else has been there before and perhaps most importantly, a wonderful way to while away a rainy afternoon. Perhaps reading should be on an NHS prescription!

Over the last few months I have had the joy of the Pot-luck book from St. Mary the Virgin Marystowe library and being introduced to some very diverse reading, perhaps ones that I might have overlooked but it has been a revelation. I am excited each month to see what book will arrive in its tissue- clad wrapper; so far a dark Victorian gothic, a dystopian Sci -Fi, a riotous look at the English Civil war and a climate-change disaster. All so enjoyable. "

By Joy McSmythurs

In July last year we opened the Pot Luck Read: as it says on the label, every month a random book is picked for you. We do ask for some guidance, for example the Reverend Andy was keen to emphasise he did not want anything gory nor sloppy romance! Since we began we have selected and wrapped over 100 books. If you don't like a book, or have read it before ,then it is the luck of the Draw and you can always pass it on, or back to us.

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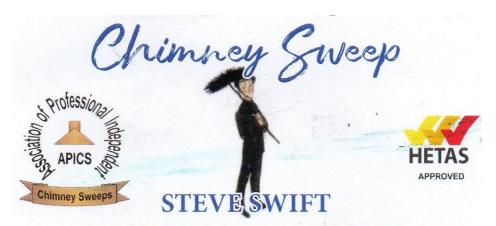
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