

# East Budleigh with Bickton Parish News

## April 2021



Taking in the view over East Budleigh - by Peter Bowler



Bumble bee - see page 8

Please send articles to:

**[ebmag.as@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:ebmag.as@rmcommunity.co.uk)**

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**[www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/east-budleigh-parish-magazine](http://www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/east-budleigh-parish-magazine)**



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**The information in this edition is correct at the time of printing. For the very latest updates please visit [www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/](http://www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/)**

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## **April View from the Vicarage...**

Dear friends,

It is about a year now since lockdown restrictions curtailed our lives and threw us back onto our own resources. We had no choice over what happened to us, but we did have a choice over how we would respond.

I have written before about adopting a “rule of life”, a disciplined approach to our mental and spiritual and physical well being and as we are all now starting to emerge from the dark days of restrictions, it is of course important that this rule of life is sustainable as everything opens up again.

One such area is food! You will have heard the adage “You are what you eat” and food is absolutely integral to all life and the Christian religion in particular. We now have a revolving rota of thirty-five favourite meals that are all healthy, nutritious and a real high point of the day. The meals are planned in advance and we each have our own job to do in preparing each meal.

Such discipline always has exceptions of course but this process is now embedded in our lives and will continue. Of course eating and drinking is the very centre of the life of the church because our central act of worship is an elaborate meal modelled directly on the last supper of Jesus that he ate, the night before he died. These meals too are planned in advance and everyone has their own job to do.

As eating and drinking is essential for our physical health, our spiritual health and well being is sustained by the spiritual (and also physical) meal of the Holy Communion service.

Under the guise of the body and blood of Jesus, when we eat the communion wafer, we are uniting ourselves to all creation and when we drink the wine we are in union with all unjust suffering in the world that has ever been or ever will be.

In celebrating the sacredness of eating and drinking in this special meal we affirm the innate sacredness of all eating and all drinking, indeed of the sacredness of all life. “Taste and see that the Lord is good” (Psalm 34:8)

Love and prayers, Martin



If you know of anyone vulnerable or living alone – whether they come to church or not – who would appreciate being contacted, please phone the Raleigh Mission Community Pastoral Team Leader - Jenny Steele on 443133 or Lynda Bunting from All Saints, East Budleigh on 446731.

**The Church matters** ..... As the existing lockdown eases, and (prayerfully) passes into history, it is time to marshal our thoughts towards normality, and with the coming of spring, to the important task of the Church annual spring clean, which did not happen during 2020 due to Covid restrictions. But dust, detritus and cobwebs do not recognise those. Whilst a small team of cleaners have done their best to keep the worst at bay, we do need more thorough resources. Therefore, this is an appeal for volunteers to join a happy band to spring clean the Church ----- probably on a Saturday morning in late April -----date TBC. All you need to bring with you is cheerfulness; a duster/ cloth; and a mug or a cup (the church will provide a helping of instant coffee or a tea bag; a splash of milk and a biscuit). The more volunteers there are, the quicker the task will be over. After the big clean, we will re-start the cleaning rota, and welcome any new helpers, who wish to join us.

The work to the window above the pulpit has been completed. The craftsmen have done a magnificent job, and cleared up beautifully. The work was master-minded through the expert project management of Paul Kurowski to whom we are very grateful.

During March, the 0930 service of Holy Communion has enjoyed the accompaniment of soloists; Charles Abram, Louise Jacques and Maria Malinowska singing the hymns under the direction of Geoff Aplin, and alternating with Mike Scrivener. It is wonderful to have again the singing of hymns after a year without.

So we are happy to conclude that worship in and from All Saints through the zeal of many ,is in good heart.

Marilyn Hobbs and John Neligan, Churchwardens



Snowdrops and primroses in the churchyard by Paul Kurowski





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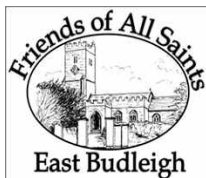
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## **The Friends of All Saints East Budleigh**

To raise funds for the upkeep of the fabric of the church and churchyard,

### **The return of the Scarecrows**

Word is that the Scarecrows want to come back in June, having missed their festival last year. Will they be allowed to return? True, the Scarecrows are usually well behaved, remain outside and are the epitome of Social Distancing.

Looking at the roadmap out of lockdown, outdoor activities will be permitted but gatherings of more than 30 people will be illegal.

The Friends of All Saints are planning a detailed risk assessment to see if a Covid-secure event is feasible on 12/13 June: Well behaved Scarecrows, a local village event with no advertising to bring visitors into the village and outdoor events only. We all want to be safe and enjoy the village that we love.

Let us know what you think and if there are any other activities that you would like to consider this year - [friendsofallsaintschurch.as@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:friendsofallsaintschurch.as@rmcommunity.co.uk)

### **Future events**

We hope that we will soon be able to hold events again and when we plan our activities we think about how we can engage with everyone in the Parish. Our recent discussions have included ideas such as another wine tasting event, following two very successful evenings previously and also a fun and 5k run in and around our beautiful village.

**200 club** - throughout the year we run a raffle where three winning numbers are drawn at the shop at the end of each month with cash prizes of £40, £20 and £10;

#### February 2021 winners:

1st Julie Smith

2nd Jess Hill and Jack Morgan

3rd Muriel Cogger

If you would like to subscribe to the 200 Club for the remainder of 2021, please send your name, address, telephone number and email together with a cheque for £9 per number (£1 per month until the end of 2021) made payable to 'PCC All Saints East Budleigh',

c/o Angie Canning, Stores Cottage, 14 High Street East Budleigh EX9 7DY

If you would prefer to pay by direct bank transfer, please email

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and ask for a 200 club form which will give you all the details you need.

Thank you - The Friends of All Saints, Committee

## Our Churchyards

### Food for a Queen

Caring for God's Acre ([www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)) sends out nature notes which it hopes will be of use in members' parish magazines - here are the notes for April:



At the start of spring queen bumblebees emerge from hibernation to feed on pollen and nectar from early flowering plants. Larger and hairier than other bees, bumblebees are better adapted to cold weather so the first spring bee you see is probably a queen bumblebee. She searches for a dry cavity to build a nest; a vole hole, the base of a grass tussock, gaps within a chest tomb or beneath graves kerbs. A thimble-sized waxen pot is filled with pollen, nectar and eggs and the summer cycle begins.

Bumblebees are social insects living in nests of up to 400 individuals. Unlike honeybees they do not swarm, only the queen can sting, and a nest only lasts one season. There are 24 species of bumblebee in the UK but only eight are common so if you want to try your hand at biological recording this is a good place to start and please send us your records.

Churchyards are great for bumblebees in the spring as so many have an array of spring bulbs and other flowers such as primroses and celandines. Take a wander on a warm day and see if you can see any.

The photo at the top of the next column (and on the front cover) is of a Buff-tailed Bumblebee.



If you are interested in bees and would like more information including helping in the bumblebee survey, we recommend the Bumblebee Conservation Trust: [www.bumblebeeconservation.org](http://www.bumblebeeconservation.org).

**Do you have a drone?** ... Thanks to Steve Pease for answering our call ...

### Churchyard Volunteering

We will see what we are allowed to do in the months ahead... in normal times we meet by the shed in the old Churchyard at 10am on the 3rd Friday of the month. Get in touch with us (details below) or check out our webpage

[www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/churchyard-working-party.html](http://www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/churchyard-working-party.html) if you would like to join us, all are very welcome. We send email updates to regular working party members. Thanks to individuals who are taking their exercise in the churchyard and helping keep it beautiful.

Please visit and enjoy the Churchyards – they are wonderfully peaceful places for quiet contemplation and a haven for wildlife

Penny and Paul Kurowski. Tel: 01395 742942;  
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## East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council

“In a joint Clinton Devon Estates/East Budleigh Parish Council project, a short nature trail is being created along the lane at the base of the telephone mast. Oak saplings have been planted along the trail and in the neighbouring field (hard to spot until they grow up, as they are very small and are behind the hedges). Several ‘rubblings’ posts will be installed showing wildlife that might be found along the trail. (Children can purchase crayons and paper from the Community Shop). Two information boards will be set up and a bench put in place, offering a place of rest with a clear view over the village. It is essential that people walking the trail take care as the surface is irregular and may be slippery.

Making use of a kind donation from OVA, Rowan Trees have been planted in the village and at Yettington village hall. Some organic wildflower plugs have been planted along the footpath between Middletown Lane and the main road. Snowdrops and wildflowers will follow, and it is hoped that some autumn bulbs might be planted later in the year.

in our efforts to improve the environment around the village we are keen to have parishioners’ ideas. We will happily consider any suggestions so please let us know if you have any ideas for further wild planting and other development around the village.” Parish Councillor Fiona Ward

The Parish Council would like to appoint a Tree Warden. This person need not be a Councillor. They would be the person to approach in all matters to do with the planting of trees around the Parish, with some knowledge of the different varieties and planting methods. If you are interested, the Clerk will send further details.

Send any correspondence to the Clerk [clerk@eastbudleigh-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@eastbudleigh-pc.gov.uk)



# BUDLEIGH SALTERTON & AREA COVID-19 SUPPORT

## Who Are We?

The Budleigh Support Group is made up of representatives from the local Town and Parish Councils, Budleigh Hub, Budleigh Medical Centre, schools, churches, Lions, Budleigh Relief in Need and local charities and trusts.

We serve Budleigh Salterton, East Budleigh, Otterton, Colaton Raleigh and surrounding villages.

Please see overleaf for some of the ways we might be able to help you during this crisis.

01395 446896 | [www.budleighsupport.co.uk](http://www.budleighsupport.co.uk) | @budleighcovid19

## Keeping Our Community Safe

As lockdown eases we must all play our part, be patient, **follow the rules** and help keep our community safe.



### Wash Hands

Keep washing your hands regularly



### Cover Face

Wear a face covering in enclosed spaces



### Make Space

Stay at least 2 metres apart whenever possible

## Think you might have COVID?

Visit [www.111.nhs.uk](http://www.111.nhs.uk) or call 111 if you cannot get help online

Stay at home. Do not go out - even for the GP, hospital or pharmacy - unless advised to do so.





## **Budleigh Medical Centre**

The team are working hard to vaccinate everyone as quickly as possible. Please **DO NOT** contact the Medical Centre to find out when you will be vaccinated. They will let you know when it is your turn.

The Medical Centre is still open for other medical needs. Please phone them on 01395 441212.



## **Financial Support**

There is support available for those who are struggling financially because of COVID. We can also help point you towards other sources of help.

The application process is quick, free and confidential. To find out more phone Budleigh Hub on 01395 446896 or email [bsrin.charity@gmail.com](mailto:bsrin.charity@gmail.com).



## **Shopping & Prescriptions**

For a list of local businesses offering delivery services, visit [www.budleighsaltertontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.budleighsaltertontowncouncil.gov.uk).

We can also pick up shopping and prescriptions for those unable to go out. For more info phone Budleigh Hub on 01395 446896.

If you are struggling to pay for food, please get in touch with the Hub or phone Exmouth Foodbank on 07749 322291.



## **Struggling Emotionally?**

Lockdown has taken its toll on many of us. For advice on how to look after your mental health, visit [www.giveusashout.org](http://www.giveusashout.org) or phone the Medical Centre on 01395 441212.

If you just need to talk to someone, or would like one of the local clergy to contact you, phone the Hub on 01395 446896.

[www.budleighsupport.co.uk](http://www.budleighsupport.co.uk) @budleighcovid19

**Budleigh Hub 01395 446896**



# East Budleigh Community Shop

Newsletter No. 131 - April 2021

## COMMUNITY SHOP NEWS

The Community Shop Annual General Meeting took place on 25<sup>th</sup> February by the power of Zoom. It was a shame that we could not have our customary gathering to welcome members, but this session was viewed by at least twenty people, and skilfully chaired by Paul Smith.

It was a good opportunity to pay tribute to the incredible work of the management team, and thank all our volunteers – and customers – for coping with all the necessary restrictions.

Judith Venning was thanked for her excellent service on the committee and as Chair. The committee was re-elected with Paul Smith as Chair, Andrew Conner as Treasurer, Andrew Canning – Volunteer Support, Charles Abram – Communications, Lesley Wensley – Minute Secretary, and John Tresidder – Company Secretary. Stuart Laws was welcomed on to the committee in the IT Support role.

For anyone who was not able to connect with the AGM, our accounts and annual report are all on our website as usual at [www.eastbudleighshop.co.uk](http://www.eastbudleighshop.co.uk).

## NEW GREETINGS CARDS

Many of our customers, particularly over lockdown, have discovered what a great range of greetings cards we have in store. We have always carried a good range of cards, but our local reps have really made sure that we have been able to meet the demand over the past months as other avenues for cards have been either closed or people have preferred to shop locally.

We have also increased our local hand crafted cards and now carry a variety of cards from Lynda Bell handmade cards, Handmade by Alex, and Rosie's country cards. They are all very different from each other which means you, the customer, have a great selection to choose from!

## CIDER TIME IS COMING!

As we dare to dream of springtime weather heading towards brighter times ahead, our popular ranges of cider start to move more quickly from our shelves.

This year we have added a new one from Sandford Orchard which supports donations to the Exeter Chiefs Rugby Foundation. The new Rib Tickler was created alongside the Exeter Chiefs players and we are delighted to be able to offer it in store. It's almost a civic duty to try it!

We do also have a full range of apple and flavoured ciders from Sandford Orchard alongside those produced at Four Elms Fruit Farm - still a young venture for them, alongside their very popular range of pressed apple juices.

## NEW COFFEE BEANS

For those eagle-eyed customers who spotted our teaser campaign last month we have now added coffee beans to our great range of coffee and tea products from Miles.

We are trialling a couple of their best sellers initially – Colombian Beans and Italian Espresso Beans. We would really like your feedback and, should there be other varieties that you would like to try, let us know and Miles are very happy to supply.

Miles are a great local business, based in the West Country, and we love being able to support them and their superb range of teas and coffees.

## East Budleigh views - by Peter Bowler



The lovely  
pansies in  
the village  
enjoying  
the Spring  
weather.  
Read more  
on page  
23.  
Photo by  
Rosie  
Conner







Wildlife  
photos  
by  
David  
White



Skipping calf,  
escaped captive  
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**Dorothy & David, Exmouth**

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**P.W Frewn- Smith, Exmouth**

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Spring flowers in the churchyard  
By Paul Kurowski

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## **East Budleigh with Bicton Women's' Institute**

Well, another month of Lockdown has gone by. Now that Spring is upon us & with the easing of restrictions the prospect of normal everyday life is more hopeful.

I hope that you've noticed the lovely display of Daffodils alongside the road near the allotments. These were planted some years ago by our WI & now that the hedge has been cut back are more visible. We also plant & maintain the flower bed on the corner of Cadbury Gardens.

The winner of the latest Flower of the Month was Penny Kurowski with her species Tulip.

There were 3 joint winners from the Christmas competition to plant a Hyacinth bulb - Heather Williams, Joan Skelding & Rosemary Campbell, all reaching 33cm in height. Well done everyone who took part!

Stay strong everyone!

Rosemary Jerrard



## ***East Budleigh in Bloom***

The village is now awash with all the beautiful colours of Spring. What a joy to walk around and see them! Some of our winter pansies are obviously enjoying the Spring weather and are showing their faces at last (See picture on page 15). We will be able to enjoy them for several more weeks before the summer planting goes in.

Looking at the Government's pandemic road map, we should be on course to hold our plant sale on 22 May. Look out for the May edition for more details. Meanwhile please continue to think about us when you are in your gardens splitting, planting and seeding; we will be very grateful for any contributions. Hopefully, with the Spring weather now with us, we can all get out and enjoy our gardens.

If you have any queries please contact the secretary, Jon Roseway, 01395 488739. Happy gardening. Happy Easter.



## Yettington Village Hall

As part of the parish's effort to increase native planting, we were delighted to receive, via East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council, one of several Rowan trees kindly donated to the parish by the Otter Valley Association. The tree was planted within the Village Hall grounds, on what turned out to be a rather wet miserable day in March, by a few hardy residents. Later in the year it's the intention to under plant with wildflowers & native bulbs.



## East Budleigh Tennis Club

By the time this month's magazine falls on your doormat the 2021/22 tennis season should have begun.

Last season, because of the prospect of long term Covid 19 restrictions the Club decided that use of the court during 2020/21 would be free and exclusive to members. As one of the first courts to open when the restrictions were eased in the early summer 2020 there was a clamour to play.

Our decision proved a success and membership doubled to over 150. We hope to retain our members, especially the families.

Hopefully as life slowly returns to normal there will be a full season of play so our annual membership charges will apply this year.

We will be restricting use of the court to members but will keep this under review as the season progresses. At the moment "Pay and Play" is not available for non-members.

Come and join us.

Please see our advert on page 6 of the magazine for membership details.

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## CLINTON DEVON ESTATES

### **Preparatory work to get under way on the Otter**

Following the unanimous support of East Devon District Council's planning committee for the Lower Otter Restoration Project, more preparatory work has been going on behind the scenes.

In recent weeks archaeological surveys have been undertaken at the site of the proposed new cricket ground off the B3178 East Budleigh Road and at the locations of what will be temporary works compounds. The results of these surveys will be shared with the public in due course once any finds have been analysed. In addition, the location of key notable plant species that will be translocated as part of the scheme have been marked out - look out for wooden stakes with their tops painted red!

Ground investigation works began in mid-March which involves mobile drilling rigs and excavators digging cores and trial pits across the site. Access of machinery will be via temporary aluminium tracks. This work is due to last about six weeks. These ground investigations will obtain geotechnical, archaeological, buried utility and highway construction information. This work is being undertaken by the Environment Agency's contractor Kier and is part of the preparation for the main scheme, which is due to start in May/June.

Regular updates on this work will be shared on the social media channels of project partners including the Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust and Clinton Devon Estates as well as the project website [www.lowerotterrestorationproject.co.uk](http://www.lowerotterrestorationproject.co.uk)

where you can sign up to receive email updates.

Environmental monitoring will include habitat creation, wading birds, physical changes to the valley, carbon storage, marine and freshwater fish. Studies will also evaluate the success of mitigation planned to replace those habitats that will be lost and the long-term socio-economic impact of the scheme. Please keep an eye out for future updates if you are interested in playing a part in monitoring the project's environmental success or getting involved with the day-to-day management of this wildlife area in the future.

Ground Investigation works timetable:

- Site set up for ground investigations will start from 15 March 2021.
- Ground investigation works will start from 22 March 2021.
- Planned completion of this phase is end April 2021.

This will involve:

- A site office and staff welfare facilities will be located at the northeast corner of Lime Kiln Car Park.
- Temporary trackway will be laid across the fields for machinery and vehicles to access the site.
- Trial holes, bore holes and utility services investigations will be carried out across the site, between Lime Kiln Car Park and Otterton.

If you have any questions or comments about these site works, please contact Kier's Public Liaison Officer Jayne Johnson by email, at [exmouth.PLO@kier.co.uk](mailto:exmouth.PLO@kier.co.uk) or for urgent matters call 07716 223056.

Climate change is real and is impacting on society worldwide. The Lower Otter Restoration Project is part of a wider international scheme funded by the

European Interreg VA France Channel England programme called Promoting Adaptation to Changing Coasts (PACCo).

Together with a sister project in the Saône Valley, Normandy (France), PACCo's aim is to highlight the impacts of climate change on coastal communities and to demonstrate that pre-emptive adaptation to climate change is far better and less costly to society than inaction. The lower Otter and Saône valleys hope to lead the way in showing how communities can evaluate climate change risk and adapt to current and future risks and highlight the benefits that might result from doing so.

A PACCo website and social media platforms will be launched very soon and this information together with regular updates throughout the project will be shared in local print and social media as well as through on-site interpretation. Engagement will also be face-to face as soon as it is safe to do so.



***Local Resident's Event Information 2021***  
***British Eventing Horse Trials 23rd - 25th April***

Limited number of arrivals from Thursday 22nd April.

Many will travel in daily from 6am onwards. Departures throughout the day.

**Thank you from Hanneke...** I have lived in our Community for almost 50 years and have known many generations come and go. East Budleigh and Yettington Communities have always seemed to be kind, friendly and community minded. I have always been proud of having been part of it. Just recently I have been on the receiving side of so much kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity of time that has truly kept me going. For the past 2 months thanks to a broken shoulder, I have been unable to drive and have had to rely on good neighbours, friends and Church connections to keep me going, to keep my spirits up, ferry me to Hospital, cook meals for me, walk Harry my Labrador and another thousand other jobs that I was unable to do myself without your help, also the shop's willingness to deliver my wares right to my door every day. Just 2 weeks ago my daughter Yasmin died. My children went to school here, were married in All Saints church and were for most of their childhood part of the fabric of our Community here. Covid has not been easy for many of us, but for me it has been in many ways a reminder of how lucky we are to live in a small country community. Your kindness and help and thoughtfulness has helped me more than I can express. Our community seems to have an unending source of willingness to care for each other. Thank you all for your help, kind messages and most of all taking the time thinking of others  
Hanneke Coates





By Peter Bowler

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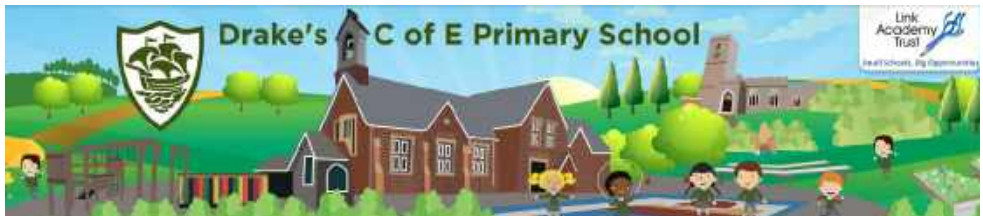
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## Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school this week. The children have impressed us with their resilience. Thank you all for your support during the latest lockdown, whilst we know it hasn't always been easy, you have all done a great job.

## New Staff Members

We welcome Mrs Penny Bailey to the Drake's School office. Penny has worked as an Administrator in a primary school previously. We look forward to welcoming her next week. Mrs Charlotte Russell will work Monday and Tuesday with Mrs Penny Bailey working Wednesday to Friday.

We would also like to welcome two new temporary members of staff to Drakes. Miss Hall, who started with us during lockdown, is with us under the government's Kick Start Scheme and is working in Kingfishers Class. She has been a welcome addition to the team.

We also welcome Mr Legg, he has written a message for you.



'I am Mr Legg and I will be joining Drake's Primary school on the 22nd March, as part of my PGCE teacher training course at the University of Exeter. I will be working with Year R, 1 and 2, and am really excited to get to know everyone! I am currently teaching Year 4 in my first placement at Stoke Hill Junior School. Last year, I graduated from Bath Spa University, after three years of studying a drama degree. I therefore have a passion for including a variety of learning activities, including drama, into the classroom. From my education, I learnt first-hand the importance of every child having the best chance of success at school, which fostered my dream of becoming a teacher and making a real difference to younger peoples' lives. I am really looking forward to starting. See you soon!'

## ***Drake's Vision is based on The Parable of the Mustard Seed***

*The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches. (Mark 4: 30-32)*

Work continues in the mires on Aylesbeare. After a final push of scrub clearance and burning in some challenging terrain, the habitat management work for the Southern Damselflies has reached the point where all we can do is wait to see if the fruits of our labour will be rewarded.

Elsewhere on the reserve, management has focused on another of our priority invertebrates, the silver studded blue butterfly. For one week on Harpford we employed the services of a digger to renew some of the old bare ground patches which punctuate the heath – removing the vegetation and top layer of soil containing the bracken rhizomes. Bracken is our largest native fern and a natural part of our heathland plant community, but where it has spread into a dense thicket it dominates the area to the point where little else can grow. When an area has been cleared by the digger, it allows the seeds of heathers and other small annual plants to germinate without competition and provide vital sources of pollen and nectar to insects. Patches of bare ground interspersed throughout the heathland are also incredibly valuable spaces for wildlife. While they may look barren, bare ground plots offer nesting habitat for many birds and reptiles. One of the species that benefits most from the creation of bare ground is the silver studded blue – the bare ground is an excellent basking spot for the sun-loving adults, and warms up quickly even in the Spring, at a crucial time for larval development. The warm bare earth is also favoured by the black ant, who build nests underground and rely on the Sun's rays reaching the colony ceiling to heat it to a suitable temperature. These ants are important to us when planning management work for the butterflies as they play a crucial role in protecting silver studded blue caterpillars from predators and parasites – coaxed into doing so by the

sugary solutions secreted by the caterpillars.

As the bare ground naturally transitions to fully vegetated heathland, it creates new opportunities for feeding, shelter, and reproduction for our silver studded blue butterflies and a multitude of our other heathland specialists. Intermingled with mature heathland, it creates the necessary variety in habitat to support the rich community of species to which Aylesbeare is home.

Our annual snipe survey took place last month, and found 73 common snipe, 8 jack snipe, and 10 woodcock. These wading birds spend the Winter on Aylesbeare, hunkering down in the mires and most inaccessible areas.

Snipe and many other birds on Aylesbeare breed on the ground rather than in building nests in trees, females relying on their camouflaged plumage to hide them and their nests from the eyes of predators. When a predator gets too close, the female will often fly up and attempt to draw the threat away from her eggs, but if the threat remains for too long, it leaves eggs or chicks exposed to the cold or other predators, and the risk that she will abandon the nest in favour of her own safety increases.

Obviously, the disturbance could be natural, like a passing fox or owl, but curious dogs can also inadvertently scare ground-nesting birds and cause them to abandon their nests. Aylesbeare Common is Open Access Land, and you have the right to roam across it, but with that prerogative comes obligations under the Countryside and Rights Of Way Act – one of which being that between the 1st of March and the 31st of July you must keep your dog on a lead no more than 2m long to protect ground nesting birds from disturbance. You can find full details on your rights/responsibilities at [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) 'use your right to roam'. Thank you for protecting the birds on

Continued on page 33...

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From page 30...

Aylesbeare and across the East Devon Pebblebeds.

Species feature: Woodcock

The woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*) is a bulky, partridge-sized bird, with (compared to its body) a fairly large head and long, straight bill, and a rather short tail and legs. It has mottled brown plumage that resembles leaf litter so well it is rarely seen at rest until it is disturbed, at which point it flushes up in a zig-zag pattern before dropping back down to the safety of the undergrowth. During the breeding season, males perform a display flight called 'roding', patrolling over their territory with rapid wingbeats and calling in a series of grunts and squeaks, competing with other males to attract females. Female woodcock have occasionally been reported carrying a young chick tucked between her body and legs. Woodcock breed in mixed heathland and young conifer woodland, and spend most of the day in dense cover before venturing out to feed at night, probing soft, damp soils with their beaks for earthworms and other soil invertebrates. Despite the yearly influx of Autumn migrants from the Continent, woodcock numbers in Britain have fallen by 56% since the 1980's, with populations in Devon, Cornwall, and South Wales faring particularly poorly. As a consequence the woodcock is now red listed in the UK.



Find more information on Woodcock on the RSPB website

## **Who's who in East Budleigh & Bicton**

### **Vicar - Rev'd Martin Jacques -**

01395 443473 / 07795 025 016

[vicar@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:vicar@rmcommunity.co.uk)

### **Associate Priest – Rev'd Karen Young**

01395 488121

[associatepriest@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:associatepriest@rmcommunity.co.uk)

### **Churchwardens -**

Marilyn Hobbs 01395 488739

John Neligan 01395 442781

[churchwarden.as@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:churchwarden.as@rmcommunity.co.uk)

### **RMC Administrator -**

Fran Mills - 01395 443397

[raleighmc@gmail.com](mailto:raleighmc@gmail.com)

The office at St Peters church is open;  
Mon 1-3, Tues-Thurs 10-12 & Fri 10-2.

### **Parochial Church Council -**

#### **Secretary -**

Fran Mills - 01395 443397

[pccsecretary.as@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:pccsecretary.as@rmcommunity.co.uk)

#### **Treasurer -**

Maria Malinowska 07773 218582

#### **Bellringers Captain -**

Alan Murdoch 01395 445230

#### **Organist - Geoff Aplin 01395 442951**

#### **Church Hall bookings – 01395 443609**

or church office 01395 443397

#### **Parish News -**

[ebmag.as@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:ebmag.as@rmcommunity.co.uk)

## **Services at All Saints East Budleigh in April;**

If guidelines allow, we will continue to hold a spoken Holy Communion service at All Saints Church each Sunday;

### **Sunday 9.30am Holy Communion**

This service will be live streamed and watched in actual time and is available to watch afterwards.

Please email [maria@templehill.co.uk](mailto:maria@templehill.co.uk) to receive the latest link for each service

The phone number to call to listen to the service as always is 01395 891035.

The phone number is a local number (01395) so you will be charged at the local rate if you are dialling from the local area.

If you are dialling from a mobile phone the call may be included in your allowance depending on your calling plan.

and Morning Prayer by Zoom each Wednesday

### **Wednesday 10am Morning Prayer on Zoom**

For more details about joining this service of Morning Prayer - please contact Rev. Margaret Scrivener 07867 556 225 or [marscriv@gmail.com](mailto:marscriv@gmail.com)

For the latest service information;

[www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk](http://www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk)

### **East Budleigh Church Hall**

The church hall has lovely views across the village and surrounding countryside.

It has a modern kitchen and is available to hire for functions and activities.

Please contact:

Richard Slade 01395 443609 or church office 01395 443397

### **Next edition of the Parish News**

Please send items for the May 2021 issue of the magazine to [ebmag.as@rmcommunity.co.uk](mailto:ebmag.as@rmcommunity.co.uk) by 6pm on Saturday 17th April. Thank you



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