

East Budleigh with Bicton Parish News

May 2021



Photos of the new East Budleigh nature trail - by Peter Bowler. See page 29

Please send articles to:

ebmag.as@rmcommunity.co.uk

Available online at

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/

May View from the Vicarage...

Dear friends,

As we emerge from lockdown restrictions, it is a good time to open our eyes and really see the extraordinary environment in which we live. When you live in a certain place you tend to overlook what is right on your doorstep – because it is just “there”.

This tends to be true of all places. When I lived in London many years ago, I never made use of the world-famous sights and sounds in which I lived, and nowadays have to go and see these places on special trips to the capital.

Because we all live in beautiful towns or villages, surrounded by gorgeous countryside, with the sea just a stone’s throw away it would be a crying shame not to really appreciate everything we have around us.

Appreciation of our environment leads to gratitude, but to whom can you express that gratitude?

For a Christian, the answer is simple. Our world and everything in it is a “creation” which means it was created by something but some “thing” can’t create so that some thing becomes a someone and you end up inevitably expressing your gratitude to a personal God.

That personal God has a will and a purpose for all our lives. There is a definition of eternal life in the Bible and it goes like this. “Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” (John 17:3)

A lot of people find their way into faith through an appreciation of the world around them, through a creation narrative, and I count myself as one of them. I came to believe in God before I came to faith in Jesus as the image of that eternal God.

But it doesn’t matter which route you take, the destination is the main thing, and a living faith in God revealed as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is the key to unlocking the world around you.

Love and prayers, Martin

**Pastoral
Care**



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....

and is once again open daily from approximately 9am to about 5.30pm for visitors, private prayer and reflection. Live streaming of Sunday worship will come to an end as from now and Wednesday morning prayer via Zoom has now come to an end and has returned to Church on Tuesday mornings as it was in the pre-covid days . Sue Pyne will lead the Prayers as in former times. Both live streaming and zoom have been valued so much by so many during covid restrictions .Renewed gratitude to Stephen, Maria and to the laptop operators without whom the facility would not have been possible; and similarly to Reverend Margaret Scrivener and to Sue Pyne for arranging and conducting the Zoomed Wednesday Morning Prayers, again valued by many.

We continue to enjoy the singing of the choir of three/four choristers (all socially distanced) at the Sunday celebration of Holy Communion. The voices of Charles Abram, Nigel Dickinson, Louise Jacques, and Maria Malinowska with accompaniment on the organ or piano are wonderful spirit lifters. Our spirits have also been lifted by the wonderful flowers for the Easter festival. The sight and aroma of the Spring flowers and lilies was a joy to behold. An enormous thank you to the flower ladies for such beautiful arrangements.

We wish to return to a rota system for both flowers in church and cleaning now that the covid restrictions are easing: volunteers for both are greatly needed, so please let one of the Church wardens know if you will be agreeable to joining either or both teams. You will, of course, be made most welcome.

A note for diaries / memories: the annual parochial church meeting (APCM) will take place after the 9.30am service on Sunday 9th May. Attendance at that service is definitely not a pre-requisite to attending the APCM: all parishioners will be made very welcome. If you are not attending the service, then please aim for approx. 10.30 am on that Sunday for the meeting.

The annual Church Spring clean has now been postponed to the autumn due to the continuing restrictions about mixing and keeping a safe distance etc. We did not think that a summer cleaning regime would be greeted with much enthusiasm, so an autumn clean to set us up for winter, by which time let us pray that we shall be back to normal life, will probably find more favour than a summer clean would have done.

Finally, to those who thought that the union flag and not the flag of St George should have been flown at half-mast as a mark of respect for HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, the Exeter Diocesan protocol prescribed the flag of St George and not the union flag. We are obliged to follow the Diocesan guidance.

Marilyn Hobbs and John Neligan Church Wardens.



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FHT



The Friends of All Saints

Are you longing to get back to living life free of restrictions or anxious and uncertain about returning to that 'normal' straight away? Along with anyone who has planned events in the last year, the Friends of All Saints (FoASEB) committee carefully considered whether we should postpone, cancel or scale back East Budleigh Scarecrow Festival, our main annual celebration and fundraiser.

Will the Scarecrow Festival go ahead?

The committee have a 'can do' approach but also take their responsibilities to the village seriously. We weighed up the conflicting aspects and carefully considered the implications of fundraising and keeping everyone safe over the weekend of 12-13 June. We decided unanimously any risks would be unnecessary or inappropriate at this time, it is still too early to encourage social gathering and visitors from outside might make some residents uncomfortable.

East Budleigh Scarecrow Festival will not go ahead this year. Please DO still create a scarecrow to display on your property over the weekend of 12-13 June and enjoy a walk around our amazing village to see the others.

Monty's Scarecrow

Many of you will know that Monty Elliott is now being looked after at a Residential Home in Budleigh Salterton. Monty enjoys the Scarecrow Festival enormously. He played his part from his home on Vicarage Road, watching mischievously from his garden seat to activate a sound just at the right point, stopping passers-by to interact with his fairly terrifying scarecrow. They inevitably stopped then to chat with Monty too!

Monty's carers have heard his memories of the scarecrow festival and this year will help create one for Monty to display

outside All Saints church. If like Monty, you have good memories of past village events, join in to mark all we have been through this year.

Scarecrow Solidarity and safety

The Scarecrow Festival is a celebration of our village, it's history and community spirit. Despite our differences we can all feel pride in what our small community delivers for us and others every day. The pandemic has emphasised how lucky we are to live where we do, and we know many will want to mark this by coming together again in this small but appropriate way.

There will be no advertising and none of the usual events. Please help keep neighbours safe and happy by following the government guidance. Inevitably visitors will come to our village as they have always done and may enjoy looking at the scarecrows too.

Will the Friends fundraising be affected?

Yes, although the Friends of All Saints have been lucky to receive some donations, the Scarecrow Festival is our significant fundraiser and supports other charities and organisations locally too. This year the Friends have still supported local people through a donation to the church for churchyard upkeep, as we know how important community green spaces have become.

Producing the Parish News has continued due to our advertising sponsorship, and new initiatives like the Valentine's delivery proved popular. Thank you to all those who support these activities that keep our community connected. We hope very soon there will be opportunities for village celebrations, a time to invite the world back in and until then put 11-12 June in the calendar for 2022!

Thank you, The FoASEB Committee friendsofallsaintschurch.as@rmcommunity.co.uk

Our churchyards

During the past few weeks, the daffodils have gone over but the primroses have been and are magnificent - it has been interesting to see how these two flowers have spread into other areas of the Churchyards from their original Yettington Road gate area. Amongst others, the ox-eye daisies and spotted medic will be coming soon ...

We are in the process of improving our compost area by creating bins using old pallets - a slow worm was disturbed during some of this work in March and carefully re-housed.

Saturday 5th June “Caring for Your Churchyard”

We are organising guided tours around the Churchyards on Saturday 5th June as part of Caring for God’s Acre “Love Your Burial Ground” week. The plan is to have refreshments available at the Church Hall. We are hoping to have good weather as some ‘restrictions’ will still be in place. To simplify matters, we will probably have groups of six for each tour. This will be your chance to find out about: how the volunteers maintain the Churchyards: the wildlife, e.g. birds, reptiles, insects, flowers and trees inhabiting the grounds; some of the interesting memorials; and the interesting lives that some of the people led. We also hope to set up a self-guided trail with quiz questions for children. See page15.

Due to Covid restrictions, we want to keep this a village event... more details will be available on the WhatsApp

groups, posters and the June Parish News.

Droning on again ...

We should have let people know that we would be flying a drone over the Churchyards on Saturday 27th March to take aerial views and that it wasn’t a Russian or Chinese initiative to spy on East Budleigh ... lesson learnt!

We will use photographs taken by the drone to draw up a good plan of the Churchyard and map the individual plots.

Churchyard Volunteering

As things progress, we are getting back to the Churchyard Working Party sessions subject to the guidelines at the time. We meet by the shed in the old Churchyard at 10am on the 3rd Friday of the month. The next three sessions will be on Friday 21st May, 18th June and 16th July.

If you would like to join us for fresh air, exercise and convivial company, get in touch (details below) or check out our webpage

www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/churchyard-working-party. All are very welcome. If Fridays don’t suit you, we are happy to meet you on another day to discuss how you could get involved.

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

Penny and Paul Kurowski. 01395 742942;

churchyard.as@rmcommunity.co.uk.



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East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council

Please see below a list of the varied tasks the Parish Council carries out or intends to do in the coming year, on behalf of residents. This would be a great opportunity for any interested persons to apply to become a Parish Councillor. Just contact Judith Venning by email clerk@eastbudleigh-pc.gov.uk

PLANS AND PROJECTS FOR EAST BUDLEIGH WITH BICTON PARISH COUNCIL IN 2021/22

1. Respond to parishioners concerns and keep parishioners informed through 'open' working and comprehensive website.
2. Consult with parishioners on matters of importance or significant value.
3. Respond to the ongoing implications of the Covid-19 pandemic.
4. EDDC Local Plan ongoing consultation (developments including environmental and housing in East Devon towns and parishes)
5. EDDC future Planning legislation consultation (including Design Codes and implications for the Neighbourhood Plan)
6. Respond to Planning applications
7. Devon Carbon Plan and climate change implications for the Parish. Develop parish plans using the templates available and monitor parish carbon footprint.
8. Ongoing programme of tree and flower planting. Complete the Nature Trail project.
9. Monitor and participate in developments relating to the Environmental Land Management Scheme
10. Neighbourhood Plan ongoing implementation
11. Traffic monitoring and proposals for further safety
12. Collaborative working with the newly formed parish group (Hall, School, Church, Shop, Council)
13. Support parish group volunteers and communicate items of interest (e.g., grant availability)
14. Arrange a parish tidy up day.
15. Ongoing emergency planning, including flooding, requirements.
16. Ensuring that footpaths are safe and usable.
17. Monitor use and tidiness of the Recreation Ground.
18. Ongoing implications of the Lower Otter Restoration Project and the France And Britain electricity cable project.
19. Ensuring parish amenities and assets are well maintained, including the car park and toilets.
20. Ensuring that Assets of Community Value are monitored for that purpose.
21. Telephone boxes refurbishment and use
22. Implement capital programme improvements to village green and Rec.
23. Monitor and encourage developments relating to full fibre broadband implementation.
24. Ensuring the conservation area is appropriately maintained in line with the Conservation Report 2020
25. Ensuring that Council Tax funds are spent in the best interests of parishioners and take advantage of any grants available or funds for improvement works.

YOUR PUB

Sally Miller, the owner of the Sir Walter Raleigh pub is very kindly offering the community of East Budleigh the opportunity to acquire the pub. This would embed the pub into the community and ensure that there will always be a 'local' in the village. Sally is fully supportive of this concept, feeling that this is the right moment for the community to take over after many years of proud family ownership.

A number of pubs have already followed this route and it is a fairly well trodden path. The most common method of funding the purchase is through the issuing of community shares whereupon every shareholder has an equal say in matters regardless of quantity purchased. Grants, including the latest Government offering, and loans, may also be available, but only where enthusiasm and viability can be demonstrated.

This is an exciting opportunity for the East Budleigh residents to own and enjoy their own pub. In order to gauge the level of interest and enthusiasm, a questionnaire will shortly be delivered to all households. Please complete and return this questionnaire in order that an assessment may be made of the community's wishes.

If, as a result, the feasibility and viability appear positive, then a formal steering group would be formed to take the project forward within a regulated framework. A full parish meeting and presentation would follow shortly afterwards (Covid notwithstanding). The community would be fully engaged and notified throughout.

For any queries or if anyone has a special interest in this project, please contact: enquiries@eastbudleigh.org.uk.

Please do not contact the pub directly.



Rising printing costs

Dear readers, as a direct result of the pandemic, our parish magazine printing costs have gone up by a staggering 18%. Many businesses were closed for long periods during the pandemic. Local business were hit hard and understandably are trying to get back on their feet in these turbulent times. The Friends have explored alternative printers, papers and other options but there is little chance of a favourable solution. Each year, the Friends recruit advertisers to help offset the magazine cost. Each year there is a shortfall which is covered by the congregation at All Saints church. This shortfall is now likely to exceed £1,000 which is not sustainable. The Friends are therefore reviewing the best way forward and welcome your views friensofallsaintschurch.as@rmcommunity.co.uk



East Buddleigh in Bloom

PLANT SALE

Saturday 22nd May

2 pm at the Village Hall

We're back, but outside only, so not quite normal yet! We'll have plenty of plants, cakes and garden stuff to tempt you and a beautiful painting as the raffle prize. The community shop will be open if you fancy hot or cold drinks.

We would love donations for the plant and cake stalls and any garden paraphernalia. We would also welcome homegrown vegetables, indoor plants and homemade goods such as jams and chutneys.

Please come along and support our fund-raising efforts to keep East Buddleigh blooming. We can only take cash as payment. Remember to follow the Covid-19 safety guidelines at all times.

Please deliver items for sale to the hall from 12 pm on the day or call 446777 for collection.

East Budleigh Community Shop

Newsletter No. 132 - May 2021

EAST BUDLEIGH NATURE TRAIL



Now on sale in the shop – Nature Kits with crayons and paper to use on the rubbing posts along the new Nature Trail – as well as a free leaflet to help you spot wildlife. The trail runs from Tidwell Lane to Middle Street by the farmhouse. There is a wonderful viewpoint and bench halfway along the trail.

The work has been done in collaboration between East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council and Clinton Devon Estates, and the same project has seen many trees and wildflowers being planted along the trail, and all around the village.

ICE CREAM TIME!

Anyone for ice cream? As the weather starts to warm up we will be stocking up on our lovely local ice creams and our general ice creams and lollies.

Our individual portion sizes of Marshfield Farm organic ice creams come in a variety of flavours including chocolate, strawberry, mint choc chip, blackcurrant and clotted cream and honeycomb. They also do an individual serving of lemon sorbet – very refreshing.

Additionally we have larger tubs of general ice cream and the very popular Kelly's of Cornwall clotted cream ice cream (1 litre tubs)....but you do have to be quick to catch them when they come in.

Of course we will be re-stocking the ice cream/ice lolly freezer with the annual favourites – the classic chocolate / white chocolate / almond ice creams and the children's favourites of Fabs, Lemonade lollies, Callipo and ice snappers etc.....now all we need is the sunshine!

NEW IN THE COMMUNITY SHOP

DEVON COTTAGE FUDGE:

We used to have this lovely locally produced fudge in stock and, sadly, had to let it go due to the minimum purchase requirements of the supplier. We are delighted to say that we have now sourced a new supplier and are able to carry the most popular fudges in the range. This fudge is terrific not just due to its lovely flavour but it is also handmade in Devon, it's organic, palm oil free and has compostable packaging! Great news!

OLD FASHIONED SWEETS:

We have now got a small selection of old fashioned sweet bags which include chocolate limes, barley sugar and pear drops. The range is quite large, so if you have an old favourite, do let us know and we will see if it is available to us.

NEW MCVITIE BISCUITS:

McVities have had a bit of a revamp with their new Very Important Biscuits range and added in some new varieties – in store we have the V.I.B. Chocolate Caramel Biscuits, the V.I.B. Heavenly Chocolate Hazelnut Biscuits and the Sticky Toffee Pudding Hobnobs. Go on.....you know you want to!

Caring for your Churchyard at All Saints

Saturday 5 June 2021 10am-4pm

Wildlife & History Information Day & refreshments



Nature Trail



Mini-bug hunt



Guided walks

History Highlights

**Explore the flora and fauna, visit the insect hotel,
bird boxes and hedgehog house.**

**Find out how you can help safeguard the
beauty of nature for future generations.**

All welcome.

churchyard.as@rmcommunity.co.uk

[National Love Your Burial Ground Week](#)



East
Budleigh
woodland
garden -
photos by
Sue
Cooper





Clockwise; Little ringed plover, a Turnstone moulting into its breeding plumage, an otter, a Dartford warbler, a singing little wren, a greenfinch eating a blackthorn flower and a yellowhammer.

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Denis and Diana (an elderly couple)

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Dorothy & David, Exmouth

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P.W Frewn- Smith, Exmouth

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A new churchyard scheme...

It did not occur to me then. It did not occur to me the second time. It was a long time ago. I guess it did not occur to you either. Who is going to look after the churchyard where my parents are buried? I visit, take flowers, it is not far, just 5 miles away. On a recent visit, I noticed a large section of the churchyard was very badly overgrown, huge brambles, really let go, too much so for it to be a deliberate plan to cultivate wild flowers. Clearly an economic choice had been made to keep tidy the modern and ignore the ancient sections. Nobody has ever asked us to contribute to the upkeep of the churchyard. Not these last four decades. Yes, we paid for the funerals and burials but that was

long ago. As the Treasurer at All Saints I see the same pattern. In simple language, new burials do not cover the annual churchyard maintenance costs. So the All Saints PCC are launching a new Parish Giving Scheme dedicated solely to the churchyard upkeep, in order to place the churchyard maintenance costs on a more sustainable footing going forward. If, like me, you have family laid to rest at All Saints, you can help us to keep the churchyard a special place.

To contribute, please call 0333 002 1271 and ask for the All Saints East Budleigh Churchyard Scheme no. 150 615 005/A to arrange a direct debit. You can make a donation on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. Perhaps an annual donation on their birthday or yours, or

even at Christmas.

The All Saints churchyard has been a haven of solace during the pandemic and now it is our turn to ensure it stays that way.

We are asking for your help, thank you.



Yettington Village Hall

We are pleased to be opening up our doors on 17th May 2021 for community activities & events which will be subject to the latest Covid guidelines.

If you are interested in hiring our charming hall please visit www.yettingtonhall.co.uk where you will find full details on terms of hire, charges, its availability & how to book.



Christian response to Eastern Europe (CR2EE) – the Square Circle knitting group want to thank you all for buying so many of the Easter chickens we made and to the shop for selling them for us. We made £110 which, with other donations we are making up to £150 to send as a donation to the charity. This will help towards diesel for the lorries to travel to Moldova, when they are allowed!

We always accept any spare wool which can be left in the shop.

Thank you everyone. Janet

Village Hall Refurbishment Project

May Update

Thank you to everyone who completed our survey or emailed us with feedback regarding how the Village Hall can best serve the community going forward. We have collated all the information and have concluded most people feel that the hall is underutilised, and would like to see more village focused events taking place. It looks as if an extra room would be beneficial too, along with a purpose built bar which would be used for events. It seems people think that the clubs and events held at the hall cater well for those living in the Parish. However they would also like to see a wider variety of clubs run at the hall. Whilst the Village Hall is not in a position to facilitate these, we would encourage anyone in the community that would like to set up a new club to please get in touch with the Village Hall Manager to have a chat about their idea. Contact details can be found on the noticeboard. Or if you know of a club run elsewhere why not speak to them to see if they would consider running one in East Budleigh?

There was a small amount of interest in using the hall for business meetings and therefore felt an upgrade in IT would be useful. We also had some feedback that those who now work from home might like to rent space at the hall from time to time for a change of scene and to avoid becoming isolated. Over 70% of those who completed the survey felt public toilets would be a good addition to the hall. Most parts of the Village Hall seem to be well used by those living within the community apart from the Snooker Club.

It has been both very useful and really interesting to get feedback from everyone. We can now do our best to make sure that any changes to our Village Hall are made with the community in mind. If you would like to look a little more closely at the results of the survey they will be displayed on the noticeboard at the hall. We are also hoping to hold an Open Day in the summer where we can reveal our vision for the Village Hall in more detail. So please keep an eye on the noticeboard for more details.

The Village Hall Refurbishment Project



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CLINTON DEVON ESTATES

Pebblebed Heaths becomes UK's newest National Nature Reserve.

Clinton Devon Estates are celebrating this month as their largest wildlife site, the Pebblebed Heaths, has been awarded the status of National Nature Reserve.

On 13 May the chief executive and chair of Natural England, the government advisor for the natural environment, will visit to help mark the occasion.

Celebrations will be modest and in most part marked remotely but this doesn't diminish this significant milestone for Clinton Devon Estates and the other organisations involved with the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths

The Pebblebed Heaths NNR join another nine across the county, others nearby include Dawlish Warren which became an NNR in 2000 and the Axmouth to Lyme Regis Undercliffs which has been an NNR since 1955.

The majority of this new National Nature Reserve (NNR) covers land owned by Clinton Devon Estates and managed on their behalf by the Pebblebed Heath Conservation Trust (PHCT). Additional areas are in the care of RSPB and Devon Wildlife Trust. The NNR includes the commons at Aylesbeare; Bicton, Colaton Raleigh, Dalditch, East Budleigh, Venn Ottery, Hawkerland, Withycombe Raleigh, Woodbury, plus Bystock Reserve, Dalditch Plantation and Mutter's Moor.

NNRs include some of the nation's most important natural habitats with rare plant and animal species and geology. Many NNRs have protected status (as does the Pebblebed Heaths) but an NNR

declaration recognises the nature and public benefit together. Most NNRs welcome groups of all ages to experience wildlife first-hand and learn more about wildlife conservation.

Clinton Devon Estates are delighted that the Pebblebed Heaths has received this accolade. It is by no means the only area of conservation importance that the estate has in its care but has been a key conservation focus since the 1990s. 15 years ago a Conservation Trust was established to professionally manage the core area of the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths - nearly four-square miles of lowland heath. Very few rural estates have the conservation expertise to manage nature reserves of this importance and are trusted by Natural England to do so. It is recognition of how important conservation is amongst the Estate's land management interests.

To hand future generations landscapes with increased biodiversity we must understand what we have, how best to protect and enhance and manage the environment based on sound science. Alongside this aspiration the estate is also committed to provide free and open access to the land where possible. Balancing the needs of nature and public recreation will almost certainly provide some interesting challenges into the future too.

Visitors will continue to enjoy open access on foot, and on the areas in Clinton Estates ownership, the additional permission to cycle and horse-ride. The day-to-day management by individual teams from the PHCT, RSPB and DWT will continue, but a new management partnership with additional support and input from Natural England and East Devon AONB will help shape the strategic

direction for the whole area including improving connectivity and resilience within the wider landscape.

In the future being an NNR will focus collaborations for the benefit of the whole site and its visitors. Joining the NNR network means we will be able to draw from the expertise of other conservation leaders and help influence at national level, raising the profile of heathland management and how estates can play their part in conservation. Other benefits may mean it is easier to secure

funding for ongoing management and protection and to continue to improve visitor experiences and offer high-quality life-long learning opportunities.

Local people who love and value the heaths as part of their everyday lives will hopefully feel the same sense of pride that these areas which historically have supported village communities, continue to add much to our local area and our lives have now achieved this additional recognition as one of the nations most important places for wildlife and people.



Bicton Arena

British Show Jumping Show 14th - 16th May

Arrivals Thursday 13th May (Large Lorries)

Limited number of local competitors will travel in daily

Departures Sunday 17th May

Inter Area Tetrathlon 1st - 2nd June

Arrivals Monday 31st May

Limited number of local competitors will travel in daily

Departures Wednesday 2nd June (pm)

East Budleigh with Bicton Women's' Institute

At last, after yet another Lockdown, our Committee met up at Otterton Mill on the 29th March, the first day of the lifting of restrictions for a coffee, a meeting of sorts and to distribute the Easter bags, which we had compiled for our members.

We each then delivered the said bags and managed to chat to friends most of whom we hadn't seen for over a year. These bags, like the Christmas ones comprised of a quiz, craft items, things of interest and this time Easter Eggs and they were well received.

We have organised a Cream Tea at Otterton Mill on Thursday 8 July at 2.30pm. It will be like an outdoor meeting and future meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at East Budleigh Village Hall.

The winner of the March Flower of the Month was Elaine Whitehead's Hellebore.

Looking forward to seeing you all in July!

Rosemary Jerrard



The three winning numbers for the March, Friends of All Saints 200 club raffle were;

1st Elizabeth Rice
2nd Peggy Lomas
3rd Lesley Wilson

If you would like to subscribe to the 200 Club for the remainder of 2021, for a chance of winning one of three cash prizes; £40, £20 and £10 each month, please send your name, address, telephone number and email together with a cheque for £8 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

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Nature Trail

With Clinton Devon Estate, volunteers and others, the Parish Council has developed Green Lane into a locally appropriate nature trail. Starting at the track up from Wynards Farm, opposite the school the trail curves around and eventually meets Tidwell Lane before dropping down to the Pound, a walk of less than a mile. Eight rubbing posts have been installed and a comfortable bench allows for relaxation and a lovely view over the village. The track is narrow in places and can be slippery.

It's main feature is of course the local wildlife - flowers, trees and the potential to spot mammals and birds. In several places there are lovely views over towards the church and across the fields towards Sidmouth.

With easy access for Drakes school, it is hoped the trail will stimulate interest in the environment among young people in the village, increase awareness of biodiversity and the need to conserve what many hold dear. Future developments might include the placing of bird boxes, bug hotels and feeding points for birds and mammals. It is hoped that at a time when the Otter Estuary is being developed it might become a growing asset for the village. A small pack of paper and crayons is available from the shop for the rubbings and a short leaflet has been produced. Information boards are to be placed on the Pound and near Wynards Farm.

A kind donation from OVA has allowed wild flowers and five rowans to be planted in the village. A Wilding of verges in Yettington is under way.

Please let me know if you have any queries.

Kind regards Councillor Fiona Ward, East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council



The first thing to mention this month is the completion of the roadside ash removal on the A3052, following the identification of ash dieback last Summer. While it is a shame to lose these trees it is vital to ensure the safety of the road users; we felled these infected trees now, before the dieback became so pronounced that there was a danger of brittle branches falling in high winds and while they are healthy enough to fell easily and safely. The timber currently remains on site as we are once again working with the arboriculture students from Bicton College, who are chipping the brash and processing the timber ready for removal.

Following the scrub control work on the mires for the Southern Damselfly, the habitat is now in a good stage to promote colonisation when young adults (called teneral) emerge in the Summer while still providing some shelter for roosting adults. The presence of our hardy ponies and cattle helps to maintain suitable conditions in the areas currently used by the population of Southern Damselfly – their grazing keeps the mire vegetation in check and as they move through the landscape they trample down the tussocks and lightly churn the waterlogged soils, creating bare ground on the runnel edges for plants such as the bog pimpernel and sundew to establish. One last human intervention into the area has been to dig a network of ponds in the cleared zones across the mire to provide still water in which breeding pairs of many species of damselfly and dragonfly can lay their eggs. Dams and small ponds are a useful means by which to slow the flow of a watercourse, holding water in an area to create a network of

shallow runnels and creating places where there are reliably high water levels year round. Southern Damselflies are highly sensitive to water pollution; in combination with habitat loss, water pollution is thought to have caused the significant past declines in their populations. The clean, oxygenated water that flows across the mires on Aylesbeare Common is one of the most crucial elements ensuring the persistence of the population on Aylesbeare.

Our last section of scrub clearance before the beginning of the bird's breeding season was around the tumuli on Aylesbeare. Preventing the encroachment of scrub and trees close to the barrow is a way for us to protect these historical features – roots growing into the tumulus can damage the structure, as can trampling by people and ponies.

As mentioned, the breeding season for many of our birds on Aylesbeare has now begun in earnest. This is an excellent time of year to view male birds displaying to attract a mate, the trees are not yet in full leaf so birds are comparatively easy to spot, and the males necessarily like to make themselves very visible to any females within their territories. At the time of writing, we have already seen breeding displays or heard breeding calls from Dartford Warblers, blackcaps, and stonechats, and the thrushes and tits are beginning to construct this year's nests.

Species feature: blackcap

Blackcaps are a type of warbler, sometimes called the Northern nightingale for its beautiful fluting song. A partial migrant, blackcaps come to Britain to breed, although in the Southern Counties individuals are increasingly choosing to

Continued on page 33...

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From page 30...

overwinter here as well. About the size of a sparrow and greyish in colour with a pale breast, as their name suggests their easiest identifying feature is the distinctive and sharply defined glossy black cap, reaching down to just above the eyes from the beak to the back of the neck. However, as with many species the female is less obvious, as her cap is a rich chestnut brown, juvenile birds also start off with a brownish cap, rather duller than the adult female's, which then intensifies or changes to black as the bird matures. Blackcaps make loose cup-shaped nests of grass, roots, and animal hair, laying around half a dozen eggs per brood. Many birds will use animal hair to construct or line their nests, so if you have a pet you need to brush regularly, try leaving some of their fluffy hair out near a feeder or nestled in a tree branch for your local breeding birds to use. Human hair is not suitable for birds' nests as it is too strong, and birds can struggle to free themselves if it gets tangled around their legs.

Find out more information on blackcaps on the RSPB website by scanning this QR code;



Who's who in East Budleigh & Bickton

Vicar - Rev'd Martin Jacques -

01395 443473 / 07795 025 016

vicar@rmcommunity.co.uk

Associate Priest – Rev'd Karen Young

01395 488121

associatepriest@rmcommunity.co.uk

Churchwardens -

Marilyn Hobbs 01395 488739

John Neligan 01395 442781

churchwarden.as@rmcommunity.co.uk

RMC Administrator -

Fran Mills - 01395 443397

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

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

Services in the Raleigh Mission Community - May 2021

Date	Time	All Saints East Budleigh	St Michaels Otterton	St Peters Budleigh Salterton
Sunday 2nd May	08:00			Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion		
	10:00			Holy Communion
	11:00		Holy Communion	
Tuesday 4th	09:30	Morning Prayer		
Wednesday 5th	09:30			Holy Communion
Thursday 6th	09:30		Morning Prayer	
Sunday 9th	08:00			Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion		
	10:00			Holy Communion
	11:00		Morning Prayer	
	18:00			Choral Evensong
Tuesday 11th	09:30	Morning Prayer		
Wednesday 12th	09:30			Holy Communion
Thursday 13th	09:30		Morning Prayer	
	18:00		Ascension Day service	
Sunday 16th	08:00			Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion		
	10:00			Holy Communion
	11:00		Holy Communion	
Tuesday 18th	09:30	Morning Prayer		
Wednesday 19th	09:30			Holy Communion
Thursday 20th	09:30		Morning Prayer	
Sunday 23rd	08:00			Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion		
	10:00			Holy Communion
	11:00		Holy Communion	
Tuesday 25th	09:30	Morning Prayer		
Wednesday 26th	09:30			Holy Communion
Thursday 27th	09:30		Morning Prayer	
Sunday 30th	08:00			Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion		
	10:00			Holy Communion
	11:00		Holy Communion	
Tuesday 1st June	09:30	Morning Prayer		
Wednesday 2nd	09:30			Holy Communion
Thursday 3rd	09:30		Morning Prayer	
Sunday 6th	08:00			Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion		
	10:00			Holy Communion
	11:00		Morning Prayer	

Next edition of the Parish News

Please send items for the June 2021 issue of the magazine to
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