The Area Magazine for Lewdown, Stowford, Thrushelton, Lewtrenchard, Chillaton, Coryton & Marystowe

November 2026

community newslink

50p donation

for all that's going on in your area…



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Front Cover Picture

Description

Devon Bonfire and Fireworks Display on the English Riviera in Torquay

Photo: English Riviera BID Company Ltd.

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www.rawrationsplus.co.uk/lraarchive.html

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community newslink

Produced by Lewdown Residents Association

A magazine providing news, information & items of interest for the areas of Lewdown, Stowford, Thrushelton, Lewtrenchard, Chillaton, Coryton & Marystowe

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All news, photographs, reports, events, etcetera for newslink need to be sent to the Editor ASAP but no later than the 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.

B&W adverts are free for 'free to enter' charity events in our local areas.
Adverts for events outside of the area and for businesses are priced as follows:

	Black & White	Colour
1/4 page	£4/month or £40/year	£6/month or £60/year
1/2 page	£8/month or £80/year	£12/month or £120/year
Whole page	£12/month or £120/year	£16/month or £160/year

Please note that advertising prices are subject to VAT at 20%

Good afternoon to you dear readers. It's only me, back again to spoil your day, but it is your fault as the opportunity to get rid of me came, and you failed to do even that much to the annoyance of the present Mrs Nash, so bad jokes, and even badder grammar will remain for another twelve months minimum.

News everyone! I recently decided to sell our hoover, well it's only collecting dust anyway.

Wearing a different hat so to speak. Just a reminder to you all, by the time you read this it will be poppy appeal season. There will be many places to donate if you wish around the area, and some intrepid people will be going house to house around the neighbourhood. I realise that times are not easy, with the price of fuel and everything else making demands on your hard earned income, but give what you can for a very worthy cause.

My wife and I recently went to Poole for a few days, an area of the country I can't remember ever going to before. We had a wonderful couple of days, catching a boat, going from the harbour out into the English Channel, then around to Swanage, where we had been given tickets for a trip on the steam train to Corfe castle. It was a lovely day weather wise, there was just enough choppiness in the channel to make in interesting but not sickening. The steam train was an A4 Battle of Britain class, that information is for Tom our train guru. We watched as they prepared a Pullman observation carriage for a wedding later that day, who knew you could get married while travelling behind a beautiful old steam train. Upon our return we went and had the best fish and chips we have had in a long time, in a pub called the Portsmouth Hoy, which has been in the same family for over 250 years. It was a truly wonderful place, and one we will definitely be going back to in the near future.

Will close now as Sunday lunch is on and it is smelling glorious. Pork with apple sauce.

Best wishes to you all. Still your favourite chairperson Tim Nash.

Two flies were playing football in a saucer. One says to the other "I need more effort man, we're in the cup tomorrow".

I once tied a piranha to a boomerang, and thought this could really come back to bite me. This joke was voted the best at this years Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

And finally: *I was going to sail around the world in the world's smallest ship, but I bottled it instead.*



Some 2026 Lewdown Produce Show photographs

From the Editor:

Sending best wishes to Jean who has had to put on hold her Chair Yoga sessions for a while.

newslink **needs** new content and Andy McCarthy is looking for new members to join our small committee… Please get in touch.

Thanks to Pat for the kind donation left in my post box 😊

The Paloma is an old favourite of mine (see page 13). I thought I had all the necessary ingredients but when I went to the freezer to find a green chilli all I could find was a red Carolina reaper (about 400 times spicier than a typical jalapeño). I only used a tiny snip but when sipping my cocktail I ended up with swollen lips and tears running down my face. My advice: follow the recipe and use a green chilli 😵 I was looking for fire not death!

There is lot going on in this edition - thanks to all my contributors - I hope you enjoy the read.

Ed.



Remembrance Sunday will be on November 8th.

We are gathering at the **Lewdown War Memorial** at approximately 10:45 for a quick service of remembrance. Then after at **Lewdown Victory Hall** for an ecumenical service, followed by a **Bring & Share Lunch.**
Everyone is Very Welcome

Secrets of the Past Beneath Our Feet
Dig finds:

Zoomorphic Ewer
Spout in the shape of a dogs head, 14th. Century:





I found this memorial ring which was dedicated to a 25 year old lady, dated 1677. The farmers wife can trace it back to her ancestor ↑

Three trade weights:



Tony Butland

Reflections of a Steam Engine Fireman

The year before I Joined the railway at Guildford loco our allocation of M7 4-4 tank locos were withdrawn and the ability to do push pull working ceased, this involved the engine at one end of a specially adapted coach and the other end a drivers cab, the controls was operated from an air pump on the front of the loco the coach had air brakes.



I never worked a push pull service with a steam engine because it required a driver and a driver/fireman he was on the engine when it was pushing and the driver in the cab would open and shut the regulator and apply the brakes, the fireman /driver would maintain the engine and notch up the cut off (valve setting). Some push pull had a bell system so a lot more work for the fireman/driver the driver on this would operate the brakes.

In 1964 30053 M7 tank returned to Guildford after a complete rebuild at Eastleigh works to work a special before going into the National Collection, and the steam raiser, Claude, allowed me to put some coal on the fire and put the injector on while overnighting at the loco.

In 1966 driver had to go on a course for push pull working with a Class 33 Crompton specially adapted for this work, the fireman had training on coupling up if a shunter was not available.

This involved lifting a buckeye up and putting a bolt to keep it in position on the loco once you got the knack it was quite easy, the driver would approach the coaches a 4 TC unit that operate the diesel from the drivers cab on the 4TC and stop short, you make sure the buckeye was correct, open the Jaws on both buckeyes and once you were clear push forward and the Jaws would snap shut, he then put the diesel in reverse to test the coupling, if okay fit the jumper cables enabling the Crompton to work the train.



Waterloo Station London

This was due to the new electrified Bournemouth line not being electrified to Weymouth so at Waterloo the train would be twelve coaches with a power unit on the rear 3200 horsepower REP unit pushing Eight car TC units (two).

At Bournemouth the Crompton would reverse onto the train and couple up and REP would be uncoupled, the train would then go to Weymouth on the return Journey the driver in the TC cab would couple onto the Rep waiting in the Station and the Crompton would be uncoupled from the rear and the train would depart to London a slick operation.

The Weymouth Line is now Electrified.

Tom

Lewdown 200 Club

Draw Results

September

£50 John Pengelly #60
£15 Peter van Delft #166
£5 John Gabb #18
£5 Torbin Hughes #111

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Please support the 2026 Poppy Appeal



Soupa Troopers

All welcome to this community event





Wednesday November 11th

From 12.30pm in Lewdown Victory Hall

Soup and a Bread Roll, Tea or Coffee - £4

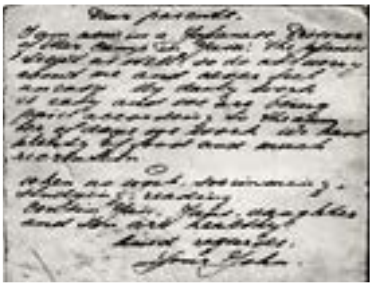
Followed by conversation & games



From Delft to Devon

My family history by Peter van Delft - Part Eight
Jan van Delft 1920 -1990 Father (Part three May - Dec 1944)
Some text has been taken from his biography.

Below the propaganda card that Jan was forced to write to his parents





The text reads: Dear Parents, I am now in a Japanese prisoner of war camp in Java. The Japanese treat us well so do not worry about me and never feel uneasy. My daily work is easy and we are being paid according to the number of days for work. We have plenty of food and much recreation. When no work, swimming, sledging reading.
Cousin Jan, Jans daughter and her are healthy. Kind regards. Your John.

Comment - Gran and grandad would have known this was not reality, sledging in Java is not possible and the last two sentences were complete fabrication, Jan did'nt have a cousin Jan and daughter!

May 1944, the Japanese wanted a railway built from the west coast to the east coast of Sumatera. Building the line included crossing jungles, rivers and going through or around mountains.

Approximately 10,000 prisoners and locals were all used to work on the railway, working hard all day and afterwards scavenging for food in the evening. The locals worked the elephants for clearing the area and the heavy work of moving logs and boulders with Jan and his inmates following by building the line and laying the railway sleepers.

From this time onwards life was hell. Anybody who claimed to be not strong enough for work was allowed to stay in a type of sickbay but then the sick got very little or no food at all. "No work no food", most patients would end up dead. After six months of hard heavy manual work, Jans body got weaker and then suddenly he was knocked out with dysentery. Without any treatment death was a near certainty. There were none or little medicines available, so Jan had to stay in the sickbay. The time came when, on the daily doctors rounds, he would decide that which patients had the best chance of surviving and what patients would be left to die. Jan was not considered to be one of the lucky ones.

Jan had started to hallucinate. At this time, he was nearly physically and mentally exhausted and nearly at the point of no return.

To be continued next month...

Carols Around the Tree

Lewdown Victory Hall



Friday
December 18th
Starting 7pm ish

Singing, Games, Mince Pies & Lots of Chocolate

QUIZ NIGHT

SAVE THE DATE!!

Friends of Lew Trenchard School's Annual Christmas Quiz
@ The Blue Lion, Lewdown
26th November 2026 - 19.30 for 20.00 start

In aid of Friends of Lew Trenchard School. £4pp, kids free! Raffle prizes to be won and the Golden Bucket – remember your £1 coins to enter!

Winning team will receive a bottle of wine, kindly donated by The Blue Lion and FLS will receive a cash percentage of food ordered on the night

Stowford Parish Hall

For bookings and enquiries contact:
Julie Chick Tel: 01566 783223
Email: stowfordparishhall@gmail.com
A Defibrillator is located in the porch - Postcode EX20 4BZ
Charity No: 1020031

Table Tennis

@Stowford Village Hall

Join us for Table Tennis**,** no experience needed, just bring energy and a smile, all ages welcome - Bats & Balls provided



Tuesday November 3 & Wednesday November 18
19:00 - 21:00

Donations welcome





STOWFORD COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

Come and meet your neighbours for a coffee, cake and catch up!

We meet on the first Tuesday of every month at Stowford Parish Hall.
10am - 12noon. All friends and family welcome.
£3 per person (cash only) which includes a hot drink and homemade cake.

All profits are donated to a charity chosen by villagers.
If you need help with transport, please contact Tracy on 07973 327161



Cocktail of the Month 'Paloma'

The Paloma cocktail was originally invented in Mexico in the 1950s…

...made with tequila and more recently popularised with smoky whisky. The grapefruit flavour in the Paloma comes either from a premium grapefruit soda, or freshly squeezed red or pink grapefruit juice and simple syrup with a dash of lime juice.

YOU WILL NEED:

- 50ml Decent Islay whisky
- 50ml Fresh grapefruit juice
- 10ml Simple syrup
- 50ml Soda water
- 15ml Lime juice
- Smoked salt for the rim
- Lime & a slice of green chilli (adds fire) to garnish
- Ice cubes
- Cocktail shaker & your chosen glass



METHOD:

Rub the rim of a tumbler with lime, then dip into Peat Smoked Salt.

To a cocktail shaker, add 50ml of decent Islay whiskey, large cubed ice, 50ml grapefruit juice, 15ml lime juice and 10ml of simple syrup.

Shake vigorously then pour over ice into your tumbler glass of choice. Lengthen with 50ml of soda water.

Stir and garnish with slice of lime and/or jalapeño for a touch of fire and a pop of green

Fantastic on a chilly evening!

Stowford's



at Stowford Parish Hall
Thursday 12th November 7.30pm

£4 per person at the door Teams of 2 - 6 people
Bring your own drinks, we provide the nibbles.
(All profits go to charity)

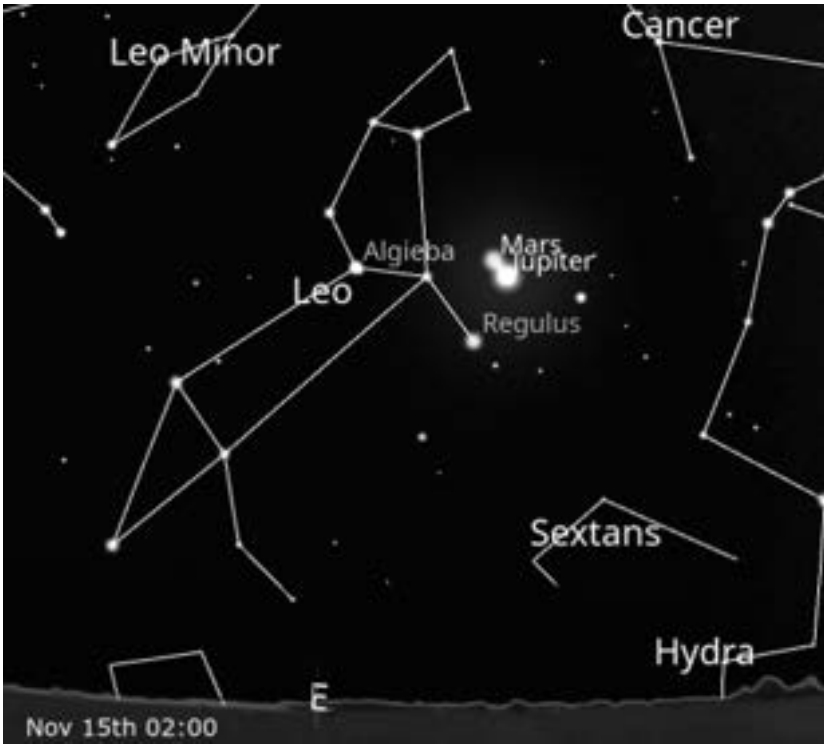
Village Skies by The Watcher on the Hill

At the time of writing we have had a run of poor nights for observing, with cloud appearing regularly at dusk after a sunny day, and some overnight mists. The telescopes in our house have sat idle for a while, and I'm hoping for an improvement soon.

The typical summer constellations continue to set earlier in the west as the Earth progresses around the Sun, but this is counteracted by the earlier twilight that delays their disappearance from our evening skies. Hercules, Lyra and Aquila may still be seen after dusk, and even the herdsman Boötes, symbolic of late spring, lingers on the northwestern horizon. The swan, Cygnus, is still prominent, flying down a Milky Way that is best seen in the days near the new Moon, on the 9th. Over in the east appear those constellations that will attend the next few months. Bright Orion, Taurus and Gemini are followed up by dimmer Cancer, visible only from darker sites on moonless nights.

The pale yellow planet Saturn may be seen for most of the night, its path arcing across the southern sky. Reddish Mars and bright, white Jupiter

still do not rise in the east until gone midnight, but continue their intriguing encounters from last month. On the 15th, they will be barely one degree apart, and near the bright star Regulus, in Leo. That's roughly the width of your little finger, held at arm's length – unusually close. A few days ahead of this event, in the early hours of the 2nd, they are joined by the last-quarter Moon for a three-way conjunction.



Venus is now to be seen before sunrise, and appears to move further away from the Sun as the month progresses. Look for it above the southeast horizon – it will seem like a very bright star towards the end of the month.

The Moon becomes full just before dawn on the 24th. As its monthly path around the Earth is not quite circular, some full moons occur when it is closer to us than others. November's happens almost to coincide with the closest point, events that are sometimes called "supermoons" in the media. While it is true that it appears slightly larger at these times, it's likely that the difference is mostly imagined. If the skies are clear, and you're not asleep, have a look and see what you think.

Forgotten Garden
OF LEWTRENCHARD

Winter Solstice Event

Monday 21st December at 6pm
Meet at St. Peter's Church + walk to
Lewtrenchard Manor Hotel

The candlelight event with a hot drink, mince pies & carol singing
Everyone is welcome and
carols will be helped along by the **Packhorse Singers**

For more details and updates see our website:
www.forgottengarden.co.uk/category/news

A good atmospheric event suitable for all the family.



Forgotten Garden of Lewtrenchard
www.forgottengarden.co.uk

Lewtrenchard Manor



FESTIVE FOLK AND FAYRE

CHARITY EVENT IN AID OF ST PETERS CHURCH STAINED GLASS WINDOW REPAIR

22ND NOVEMBER | 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

JOIN US IN THE MANOR BALLROOM FOR A DELICIOUS CHRISTMAS ROAST DINNER BUFFET ACCOMPANIED BY A LIVE FOLK PERFORMANCE.

TICKETS £25 PER PERSON

Telephone: 01566 783222 Website: www.lewtrenchardmanor.co.uk
Email: enquiries@lewtrenchardmanor.co.uk
Address: Lewtrenchard, Okehampton, EX20 4PN

From Flatlands to Hills: Continuing our life in Chillaton

Developments at the village school: After moving to Chillaton in 1954, we soon settled into the community life of this lovely rural hinterland on the west of Dartmoor. By 1956 or thereabouts, my father George was fully ensconced in what was now the family business of The Chillaton Smithy. The old smithy buildings were still in use, but it soon became clear that the facilities were not ideal for farriery, blacksmithing and agricultural engineering (the workload and scope had greatly increased over only a few years). As I mentioned before, the primary school closed in about 1959, and the remaining pupils were transferred to Milton Abbot. This provided a great opportunity for us in that the schoolhouse and the adjoining buildings became vacant. The building footprint was much bigger than the old smithy and had great potential for concrete re-flooring and installation of the heavy blacksmith's kit, a welding room and an office. The local council appreciated that the proposed building modifications, the available living accommodation and the establishment of a family business was good use of a local village resource with local benefits. Within only a few months, at least the essential reparations had been made to continue and expand the business.

Our family thought that the tiny schoolhouse was the height of luxury. After living in Willow Cottage for several months, we had become adapted to the primitive/ poor facilities. Now, we had mains water (without "wrigglers" in it), a reliable electricity supply, an indoor flushing toilet and finally, the glory of a fully functional bathroom. Actually, we had another 5 flushing toilets, 2 in the boys' and 3 in the girls' at the bottom of the playground.

The wooden floor in the infants' classroom was removed and filled with brick rubble (and my old bike) before being concreted over as the main blacksmith's shop with a large forge and work areas with fixed bench drills and vices. The large anvil was removed from the old smithy and mounted on four large (empty) upturned torpedo tubes that my father had obtained from Devonport Dockyard. Before the anvil was concreted in place, we prepared some "time capsules" consisting of sealed "kilner" jars and bottles containing copies of the Tavistock Times and Tavistock Gazette (they were separate newspapers in those days), some written notes of the work done, some money and also a tin of beans and a tin of Ambrosia rice (the creamery had been at Lifton since 1917 and was a famous local industry for decades). I expect these items are still there; no one would be likely to remove tons of established (and level) concrete flooring.

Village shops: As Sue reported last month, in the late 50s and up to the mid 60s we had two shops in Chillaton. There was a general store and post office just off the square (the beginning of the Lewdown Rd, just past "Running Waters") which was run by Charles and Dorothy Hodges. There was also a shop with large picture windows facing the square, beside the Chichester Arms. Both shops were quite busy during my childhood years and my mother used to send me there on "errands" from Willow Cottage several times a day. I think that was just to get me out of the house. The photo shows the Chichester Arms and the shop in the

square. On the original you can just see TV aerials on the rooves, which means the photo was taken after 1953, when TV arrived in the area. As we arrived in Chillaton in 1954, this is probably a very good representation of the village at that time.



For me, the most impressive shop in the village was Rapson's the butchers (just up the hill on the road to Tavistock). There was a huge cold room on the left just inside the door where much of the large stock was stored. There was always a couple of beef/pork carcasses hanging up on large hooks at the back of the shop and the butcher would slice off particular cuts, depending on what the customer wanted. I learnt quite a bit about bovine anatomy from my visits to Rapson's. Much sawing and chopping occurred throughout the day of course and I was always fascinated by the fact that he would violently prepare large chops on the bench, very close to his hands by swinging his large hand axe and chatting whilst looking towards me and other customers.

Starting school in Tavistock: As I mentioned previously, I left Chillaton Primary and started at the Grammar School in 1958. There were so many exciting things to cope with; a new uniform including a cap with the largest peak you've ever seen; about 90 pupils in that year's intake, more students than I had ever seen; more girls than I had ever seen in one place; a grand old building with a quadrangle and ancient panelled central hall; the smell of floor-polish everywhere; teachers wearing black gowns – all very grand. There were more modest aspects of course, such as the asbestos-roofed buildings which housed our year's classes 1A, 1X and 1Y (don't ask me why, I don't know!). My form mistress was Miss Nicholls, and she guided us safely through this strange and wonderful world of secondary education. That was my start of 7 happy years at Tavistock. 1958 was also the year when I started my daily term-time journeys from Chillaton village square on Pridham's Buses. Harold Pridham was usually our driver. He was rather strict about pupil behaviour, and he wasn't too keen on taking musical instruments (a guitar in my case) in the hold area of the bus. There was no shouting or moving around in our bus; we even had to remain in our allocated seats, unlike some of the others – e.g. Trathen's Buses from the Yelverton area. We envied them for this and for the fact that they had much larger, sleek modern buses.

Next time, perhaps I'll try to link our long-established village life with the "new" lives we 11-year-olds developed in Tavistock. It was quite a revelation!

Duncan Hannant

From the Mountains of Japan

No. 28 - The Horror (or lack of it) of Fireworks

Like most British people, my opinion of fireworks stems from the horrifying television adverts of the eighties and nineties, and I grew believing that simply being in the same room as one was likely to see my arm blown off. Therefore, to find that in Japan, no one seems particularly concerned about the potential danger came as something of a surprise.

Through summer and autumn, fireworks festivals are common, while bags of the murderous things are sold in convenience stores for home mutilation. The first time I was shocked speechless by how fearlessly they are enjoyed was on a school camp some years ago, when after dinner the kids were put into groups and given a bag each to go and do with as they liked. Cue much laughter as mini-rockets exploded among the trees, while I looked on in utter horror, convinced I was going to be blinded at any moment.

Autumn in particular sees many local village displays, which often involve a group of locals carrying a portable shrine (called omikoshi) up to the main village shrine, where there will be a fireworks display to close the event. The journey will start a few hours beforehand, involve lots of singing, lots of swaying back and forth, and lots (and lots) of drinking Japanese sake (rice wine) along the way. When they finally make their grand entrance, this group of exhausted, drunken men must carry the shrine beneath a wall of cascading fireworks, dance under it for a while, then finally bring it to the shrine for some blessings and more songs.



Following this, the main fireworks display will begin, which often involves walls of fire, giant, exploding animals, and rockets fired up into mountains, to set off more rockets. After the pouring rain of last year, it was rather pleasant to sit on the road and watch the display at my local shrine this year, while fireworks lit up the sky, and lumps of cardboard packaging rained down around us. For another year, all limbs remained intact.

Chris Ward

Thriller of the Month: Strange Pictures by Uketsu

A Japanese mystery horror bestseller, revolving around a series of creepy drawings, in which the reader is the detective - from the Youtube sensation Uketsu...



A series of drawings made by a young woman before her death. A child's disturbing picture of his home. A desperate sketch made by a murder victim in his final moments.

Each contains a chilling warning. Each reveals a terrible secret, hidden in plain sight.

Uketsu's eerie mysteries have captivated millions of readers. Can you find the clues in these strange pictures and uncover the sinister truth that connects them all?

Publisher: Pushkin Press
ISBN: 9781805335399

Mushroom Tortilla: GF Vegetarian

Ingredients:

600g baby potatoes	500g mixed mushrooms	2 tbsp olive oil
1 tsp salt	little pepper	6 eggs
200g plain cottage cheese	½ tsp salt	¼ tsp pepper
Some fresh thyme	½ tbsp olive oil	



Method:

Wash the potatoes, leave skin on and cut into 5mm discs. Cut mushrooms into 5cm discs/pieces. Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a wide frying pan, reduce heat, add potatoes and mushrooms and fry for 10 minutes, turning occasionally.

Mix the eggs and cottage cheese in a blender, season. Pour mix over the potatoes and mushrooms, mix well, cover with lid and cook on low heat for about 20 minutes until firm but not completely dry, turn tortilla over and bake the other side for about 15 minutes until browned.

Turn onto serving plate, rest it for 5 minutes then cut into pieces. Mix the thyme with ½ tbsp. olive oil and drizzle over the tortilla.

Betty

Gardening Jobs for November

This year seems to fly by, but before it ends there are still a few things to do:

Things to do this month



1. Plant bare-root fruit trees, bushes and canes, as long as the ground isn't too wet or frozen. This includes apple trees, raspberry canes and currant bushes.
2. Reflect back on the highs and lows of the year, learn from your mistakes and celebrate your successes!
3. Finish any jobs from last month that you haven't quite got to, including planting tulips, cutting down autumn fruiting raspberry canes and tidying away dead plants.



Christmas wish list

In the November edition last year, I listed some of the key items from my gardening bag which I thought might help inspire your Christmas wish list, so here are some other ideas of things to ask for (or to give) this year:

Seeds - there are so many different places to get seeds and so many varieties to try, so giving seeds is a great way to try something new.

Gloves - I find by the end of the year I don't often have any gloves left, but perhaps that is because I have a tendency to misplace them.

Vouchers - if you aren't sure on what to get right now, vouchers can be saved until the spring when the time comes to stock up for the year ahead.

Crop of the month - broad beans

Growing advice - sow seeds now (either in large modules or direct in the ground) for an earlier crop next year, small plants normally survive the winter well and can help keep veg beds fuller over winter and in early spring.



Top varieties - try 'Aquadulce Claudia' for a classic but reliable variety, or grow field beans which are normally sold as green manure for smaller beans but a more reliable harvest.

Best way to eat - shell the pods and use them fresh, or freeze them to use later on. Can simply be boiled up as a side dish or add them in to dishes like stews.

May the weather be with you!
Liam

Lewtrenchard WI October Report

Barbara welcomed everyone to our well attended open meeting with guest speaker, Nick Clyburn... here to talk to us about his life in the RAF and Air Traffic Confusion. We also welcomed Julie (president) and Karen (Secretary) from Lezant WI.

Barbara then handed over to Nick Clyburn to talk about Air Traffic Confusion:

Retired RAF Group Squadron Commander, Air Traffic Controller, Instructor, a man wearing many hats. Born in Brixham, Nick joined the RAF at 16, it takes 7 years to train as an Air traffic Controller, Nick had to train another 10 years later on in order to join Civil Air Traffic Control.

Nick started by showing us an impressive short video of the thousands of flight paths over the UK and the world. It looked more like spaghetti junction in the sky. An eye watering amount of planes criss crossing our skies. He talked about his career, the various aspects of his job, being in charge of hundreds of staff and students. He clearly loved his job in the RAF, but also enjoyed life in Civvy Street. Nick recalled one memorable anecdote; the packet of M&M's signed by President Bill Clinton. A great story. After about an hour, Nick ended his very illuminating talk with a Q&A session, answering many challenging questions from the floor. We highly recommend Nick's talk.



True to form we finished our meeting with delicious cakes and biscuits.

Date & venue for next meeting: Monday November 9, 19:00, Lewdown Victory Hall
~~Crafting with LilyBoo~~ Alternative tbc

Dates for your diary:

19th November	Coffee morning @ The Blue Lion
19th November	Food Craft & Skills
	Walks suspended until next spring
21th November	Skittles @ Treburley [tbc]

Puzzle Pages

The Four Friends:

There are four friends that need to cross a bridge to get home. Due the age of the bridge, only two people can cross at the same time. To make matters worse, it is night-time and there is only one torch. The torch is always required when crossing the bridge and the torch must be walked back and forth, it cannot be thrown, etc. Each friend walks at a different speed and a pair must walk together at the rate of the slower person:

Mary takes 1 minute to cross
Bill takes 2 minutes to cross
Carl takes 5 minutes to cross
Susan takes 10 minutes to cross

In what sequence can they travel to all get across in the quickest time?

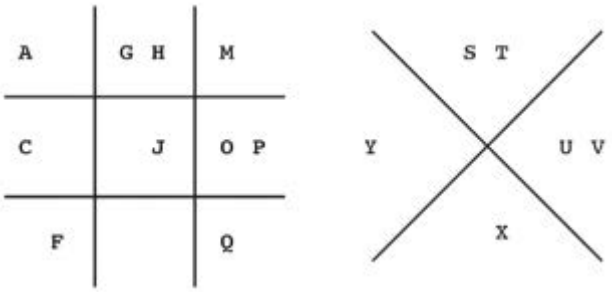
Codebreaker:

You are on the trail of an international jewel thief. You need to know where the next secret meeting with your informant from Russia will take place.

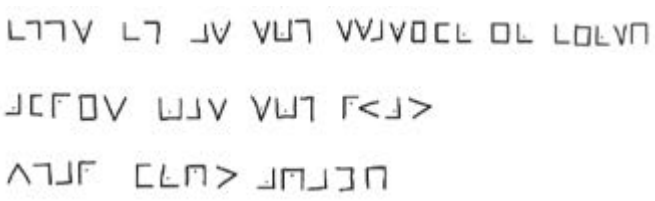
You have a coded message from your informant, which will tell you what to do next. You also have part of the cipher used to encode the message.

The Cipher

Here is the incomplete cipher. Once you know where in the cipher each letter of the alphabet fits in, you will be able to work out the letters that have been written using the code. The code is based on the layout of the cipher.



Crack the Code!



November's Evil Sudoku

					6			
9	3		5					
						8	9	1
							1	
5			4					7
	6		9	1		2	5	
	7					5		
2				6		4		
8	5				4			2

October's Answers

What is missing in the last box? D

The number of black dots in each grid increases by 1 each time, starting with the top left grid and working to the right, top row then bottom row.

Which letter replaces the question mark? Q

Adding the three numbers in each square together gives the numerical value of the letter at the centre of each square.

Evil Sudoku

4	6	3	9	1	7	8	2	5
5	7	8	2	3	6	1	4	9
9	2	1	4	5	8	3	7	6
6	1	2	3	8	4	9	5	7
8	9	7	1	6	5	2	3	4
3	4	5	7	2	9	6	8	1
1	5	9	8	7	3	4	6	2
7	8	4	6	9	2	5	1	3
2	3	6	5	4	1	7	9	8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Farming Report

It's been another busy month here on the farm, with autumn now beginning to creep in and the nights certainly drawing in. The change in season always brings plenty to keep us occupied, and there has been no shortage of jobs to get through.



All the hedge trimming is now complete for another year. We always aim to get this work finished as early as possible, before the days become shorter and the weather more changeable. Getting ahead of the job also helps us avoid making a mess in the fields when conditions become wetter later in the autumn.

The South Devon herd has also had another successful year, with the cattle judged in both the National and Devon regional herd competitions. We were delighted to be named **Best Small Herd in the National Competition**, which was a fantastic achievement.

In the Devon competition, we were equally pleased with the results, winning **Best Group of Three Cows and Calves** for the second year running. We also took **Best Two Heifers Born in 2025** and finished **third in the Best Family Group**. We're incredibly proud of the herd, and the results are a great reward for all the hard work that goes into looking after them throughout the year.

With the herd continuing to expand, we've also been busy improving the facilities, completing an extension to the South Devon shed to give us some much-needed additional space ahead of the winter months.

Finally, while the weather stayed dry, we took the opportunity to get some more winter fodder safely in the shed, baling around **55 acres** to replenish our stocks. With winter just around the corner, it's certainly all hands on deck to make sure everything is ready for the months ahead.



As the evenings draw in and the first real signs of autumn appear, there is always something rather satisfying about seeing the year's hard work beginning to come together. The cattle are looking well, the winter feed is safely stored and the sheds are ready for the months ahead. For now, we'll make the most of the last of the autumn sunshine and enjoy a little quieter time on the farm before winter truly arrives.

Becky Dennis

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM…Why we remember them

In Marystowe Church are plaques detailing names of those who died in the two World Wars, but how much do we know about them?

1914 -1918

Private Hedley John Woolway, 43rd Battalion, the Canadian Infantry, part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. On 22 Mar 1911 he sailed on the Royal George to Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada Died 12 August 1916 and is buried at Zandvoort British Cemetery, West Flanders, Belgium.

Lieutenant George Edward Cleather Collinson, Royal Flying Corps transferred from the Cameron Highlanders. Died 14 April 1917 aged 20. He is buried in Marystowe Churchyard. Result of Court Inquiry -.'Ran into snowstorm and machine broke up in the air'.

Private William Rowland, 5th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment. Died 11 Jan 1917 in France. Killed In Action. Remembered at Thiepval Memorial CWGC Somme.

Private Thomas Bickle, 9th Battalion Devonshire regiment Died 26 October 1917 aged 37 in Belgium. Burial at Poperinge, West Flanders.

Leading Stoker William John Gale, Royal Navy HM Submarine K17. Died 31 January 1918 at sea, aged 27.

Lance Corporal George Medland, 2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment. Died 28 April 1918 of wounds, aged 39. Buried at Crouy British Cemetery, Crouy-Saint-Pierre, Département de la Somme, Picardie, France.

Private Tom Eggins 1st/4th Battalion the royal Fusiliers. Died 23 August 1918 aged 19. Killed in Action. Buried - Boyelles, Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais (Pas-de-Calais), France.

Private Thomas Osborne, 21st Reserve Battalion, East Surrey Regiment. Died 10 April 1919. Buried in Marystowe Churchyard.

1939 - 1945

Lieutenant-Colonel James Archibald St George Fitzwarren - Despencer-Robertson – OBE MP, Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Died 5 May1942 aged 55. Buried in village of Newton Tony, Wiltshire. His country seat was at Sydenham Damerel.

Sergeant Edward John Howard, 2nd Regiment Reconnaissance Corps RAC; transferred from 6th Battalion Loyal Regiment North Lancs) Died 25 February 1945 aged 28 and commemorated on Rangoon Memorial.

Sergeant Franklin John (Lofty) Prouse DCM, Royal Tank Regiment RAC. Held the India General Service Clasp, the 1935 North West frontier medal and the Africa Star. Killed during the action at Torbuk 28 November 1941 aged 28.

Corporal William Leslie George (Joe) Simpson, 1st Parachute Squadron Royal Engineers. Died 20 September 1944 in action at Nijmegen. Buried in the Arnhem War Cemetery, Mentioned in Despatches and awarded the Silver Star (23 September 1943) by President Eisenhower.

Lieutenant John Robert Anthony Stickland, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, HMS Gould. Killed aged 22 1st March 1944 when HMS Gould was sunk by U-boat 358 in the North Atlantic.

From: The War Memorials Marystowe and UK World War II Army Casualty Lists 1939 - 1945
Any errors are mine entirely **Sue**



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Lifton, Broadwoodwidger, Stowford, Lewtrenchard, Thrushelton & Kelly with Bradstone United Benefice

The Revd. Philip Conway, 01566 784462 liftonpriest@yahoo.com
The Rectory, Parsonage Court, Lifton PL16 0BJ

Milton Abbot Benefice

The Revd. Gill George, 07947 604160 revgillgeorge@gmail.com
The Vicarage, The Parade, Milton Abbot PL19 0NZ

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Broadwood - St Nicholas			
Mr D Perkin	01566 776758		
Stowford - St John the Baptist			
Mr C Chick	01566 783223		
Lewtrenchard - St Peters			
Mrs A Westlake	01566 783909	Mrs R. Dawe	01566 788838
Thrushelton - St George			
Mr A J Nash	01566 783274	Mr T Nash	01566 783320
Kelly with Bradstone - St Mary's			
Mr W Kelly	01822 870249	Mrs L Hayward	01822870852
Marystowe - St Mary the Virgin			
Revd G George	07947 604160		
Coryton - St Andrews			
Mr G. Vicat	07485 241345		

From the Parish Priest

Dear Friends

WI am sure that many of you, like me, will be holding your head in your hand with despair at much of the news that we see on our screens and hear on our radios. The international situation seems to be spiralling downwards, and the actions and comments from many in authority seem designed to make the situation worse.

This affects our morale and our daily lives as costs increase and life becomes more difficult.

It is so easy to wrap ourselves up and hide from what is going on and wait for it all to be better. But in the month of November we remember those who in the life of both the Church and our nation have lived and died for better times and demonstrating a hope for the future.

As we remember All the Saints of God who have lived the life of faith in All Saints Day, and those who have died in the line of duty in war on Remembrance Day, let us also remember that it is our calling to live and speak in the manner of Christ: demonstrating compassion to our neighbours, wherever they may be, and challenging evil.

May the lives of those who have gone before us be an example to us all.

With love and prayers,

Philip

Service times for November 2026

Any updates will be posted on the Mission Community Website https://north-tamar-churches.org

1st November **All Saints Sunday**
9.30am **Parish Eucharist at Lifton**
11.15am **Parish Eucharist at Stowford**
6pm **Evensong at Kelly**

6pm **on the eve Saturday 7th November Vigil Eucharist at Kelly**

8th November **Remembrance Sunday 3rd Sunday before Advent**
10.55am **Gatherings & Services Around the War Memorials at: Broadwoodwidger, Kelly, Lewdown & Lifton**

11th November **Armistice Day**
10.55am **Act of Remembrance at St. John's Stowford**

15th November **2nd Sunday before Advent**
9.30am **Parish Eucharist at Lifton**
11.15 **GIFT service at Stowford**
A service for the very young and those who care for them
6pm **Evensong at Kelly**

6pm **on the eve Saturday 21st Nov. Celebration Vigil Office at Kelly**

22nd November **Christ the King**
9.30am **Parish Eucharist at Thrushelton**
Morning Prayer at Lifton
11.15 **Parish Eucharist at Lewtrenchard**

29th November **Advent Sunday**
11am **Special Celebration for Advent Sunday at Lewtrenchard School** (*See Separate Notice)*

Wednesday Morning Eucharist: 10.30 at Lifton
There will be some occasions when the Wednesday Morning Service will be a service of Morning Prayer.

Bridestowe Methodist Church
Preachers for November 2026

1st	Drop in the Ark	10:30 - 12:30
8th	**US** at the C of E	10:00
15th	Rev C Jackson **S US**	11:00
22nd	Bridestowe Worship Group	11:00
29th	H Haywood	11:00

St. Mary the Virgin, Marystowe

8th November	10:30	Service of Remembrance
15th November	09:30	Northumbria Service

St. Andrew, Coryton

8th November	10:30	Remembrance Service **Marystowe**
29th November	11:15	United Benefice Service HC

See: www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/15-267DP/service-and-events/calendar for services details

Quakers

Meeting for Worship:

Tavistock
Every Sunday 10.00am.
4 Canal Road
Tavistock
Contact: Kay Nicholson
01822 614596

Okehampton
Second Sunday 10.30am.
Fourth Sunday 10.30am
Second Sunday Children's Meeting
Ockment Centre
North Street
Okehampton
Contact: 01837 55805

Roman Catholic Services

Tavistock
Sunday 9am
Fr. A. K. Gundabathina 01837 52229
anil.gundabathina@prcdtr.org.uk

Okehampton
Sunday 11.15am
Fr. A. K. Gundabathina 01837 52229
anil.gundabathina@prcdtr.org.uk

Chagford - Saturday 5.30pm
Fr. A. K. Gundabathina 01837 52229
anil.gundabathina@prcdtr.org.uk

Launceston
Sunday 10.30am
Holy Days 7.30pm
Canon John Deeny 01566 773166

The North Tamar Mission Community



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ADVENT SUNDAY

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5th Sunday Celebration Eucharist.

Lewtrenchard Church of England Primary School

11am Sunday 29th November 2026

Followed by a Fellowship Lunch

Guest Speaker:

Neil Williams:

Diocesan Head of Parish and Mission Community Support

Roadford Lake Reservoir

Roadford is currently less than 36% full, a decrease since last month. The level is only slightly higher than during the very dry year of 2022. It is more than 20% lower than last year.

The South West Water Hosepipe Ban was scheduled to be lifted on 25 September but hosepipe restrictions remain in place.

South West Water was fined £7,867,733 (plus £329,993 in costs) on September 29, 2026, by Plymouth Magistrates' Court following an investigation by the Environment Agency. Guess who's going to end up paying for this!

Lewdown Grouped Parish Council

Coryton, Lewtrenchard, Marystow and Thrushelton

Councillor Vacancies

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Contact the Parish Clerk, Peter van Delft, for more details:
Email: clerk@lewdowngroupedpc.org.uk Web: www.lewdowngroupedpc.org.uk



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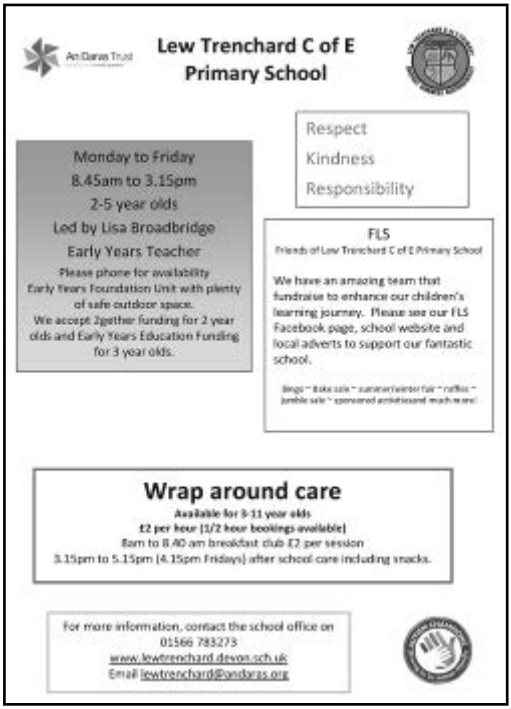



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e:info@redsquirreltreecare.co.uk



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For

Your Wedding



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Lewtrenchard WI





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Saturday November 7th 12:00 to 14:00

Lewdown Victory Hall

Serving soup & bread, tea or coffee for £5 (cash or card)
Cakes £1/piece

*** Gifts * Books * Cakes * Crafts ***

We look forward to seeing you

In aid of funds for our centenary celebrations in 2027