NORTHLEW NEWS

February 2020



Your Parish Councillors

Chair: Joanna Wilson: 01409 220254	Vice Chair: Celia Rundle: 07432 512499
Mark Rundle: 01837 53314	Bryan Dufty: 01837 871256
Holly Dancer: 01409 221881	Terry Hatt: 07811 383397
Judy Jones: 01409 221537	Steve Smith: 01409 221677
Vacancy	Clerk: Sue Main: 07956 312047
Cllr James McInnes (Devon County Council): 01837 861364	Cllr Patrick Kimber (West Devon Borough Council) 01837 810057

Note from the Editor

2020 is a leap year but do you know why? And where does the tradition of women proposing on the 29th February come from? See page 7 if you're interested!

A huge thank you to everyone who contributes to the Northlew News, your support is much appreciated. So please keep them coming but please don't forget to let me know of any changes to the regular items so that everything is kept up to date for the readers.

The deadline for copy for March's edition is 20th February but the earlier in the month you can get any contributions to me the better.

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of the Northlew News then please email at northlewnews@gmail.com. Copies can also be found on the website.

With thanks and best wishes,

Sanna.

Editor

St Thomas of Canterbury Parish Church

Services

2nd February 9:30 am Holy Communion

9th **February** 9:30 am Morning Prayer

16th February 9:30 am Holy Communion

23rd February 9:30 am Family Service

Steak pie lunch

The steak pie lunch will be held on Sunday 23rd February. There is a booking list in the Church Room, please just add your name and pay on the door on the day. Or you can book with a member of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) or telephone 01409 221036. Good food, good company and no washing up! Don't miss it! Please do check the posters around the village too as the date has been known to change – unlikely but still possible!

All welcome

Snowdrops

Just the annual mention of these



determined little flowers. They never let us down

and a few pop up in the churchyard right on time to greet the new year. They did it again this year, no sign of any of them out on New Year's Eve but the next morning there they were ready to see in the new year. I'm not a fervent believer but I can't help thinking that God makes sure that the dead of winter to encourage us to just plod on through the mud and rain because spring will surely follow!

Collecting for Okehampton Food Bank

There is a box for donations to the Okehampton food bank at the back of the church with a list of non-perishable goods that are needed such as:

- Tinned food: tomatoes, beans, tuna etc.
- Packet foods: rice, pasta, couscous, cereals, porridge oats, tea and coffee.
- Cleaning products and toiletries.

Thank you.

Northlew Methodist Church

Services

2nd February

9:30 am Rev Jerry Cook

9th February

9:30 am Service

16th February

9:30 am Mrs Jean Daniel

23rd February

9:30 am Rev Liz Singleton

50/50 Shop and coffee morning Saturday 29th February

Cake and savoury stall, coffee morning and 50/50 shop. All welcome.

During 2019 at the 50/50 shop, coffee mornings and stalls we raised £2,291.07 for our funds.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported the Methodist Church during 2019 whether at the services, the 50/50 shop, coffee mornings, the lunches and concerts. Thank you.

Wednesday 5th February 2:30 pm Women's meeting in the Methodist Hall

Northlew Stores C I C.

Every Friday is "meal deal" Friday, a bargain for £3.50 (includes; sandwich, drink, crisps, cake & fruit), ideal if you are going out for the day, or pick up for your lunch on the way to work.

Winter opening hours

Please be aware that on rare occasions we may not be able to fully cover the hours and may have to close early – we will give notice where possible.

Day	am	pm
Mon	8 – 12	3 – 5
Tues	8 – 12	3 – 5
Wed	8 – 12	Closed
Thurs	8 – 12	3 – 5
Fri	7:30 – 12	3 – 5
Sat	9 – 12	Closed
Sun	9 – 12	Closed

Please contact us on:

Paula 07805 427006 or Dan: 01409 221228

Email: Northlewshop@gmail.com,

Facebook: @northlewshop

Update on changes to the Northlew Shop

Opening in February after some refurbishment works, the newly named 'The Square Shop' will serve as a community shop in the heart of our village and will be staffed entirely by volunteers hopefully giving the opportunity for some work experience for younger members of the village too. It is a Community Interest Company which protects its assets, meaning that it runs for the good of local people rather than for the benefit of shareholders. Of course, this means we need your support! This could mean volunteering if this is something you might be interested in, but mainly simply buying something when you can will ensure that together we are able to make a success of the venture. We will provide a range of daily staples and grocery basics, all sourced locally as far as possible with an emphasis on freshly-baked daily bread, dairy produce, local meat, vegetables and fruit. To reiterate these will be available daily. Many items will be made by residents, e.g. bread, preserves/chutneys, cakes etc and fresh produce such as seasonal fruit and vegetables will come direct

from a local smallholder - less than a mile away!

Some at-a-glance benefits:-

- Deliveries will be available within the village to assist the elderly and residents with impaired mobility.
- Card payments will be possible for your convenience.
- We intend to sell a small range of wine, beer and cigarettes/tobacco products.
- We will continue to act as a collection point for prescriptions.
- We will promote the work of local people, artists, craftspeople and provide an outlet for them as there are many talented individuals living in and around the village.
- In time it is hoped to organise a tool bank/favours board/possible repair shop for the convenience of residents and if this is something that you would be interested in helping with then please get in touch. This is an idea we are keen to develop over time

with the support of residents to increase inclusion in village life, which has the potential to benefit all of us and to reduce our environmental impact.

Opening hours

- 8.00am -1.00pm on weekdays
- 10.00 12.00 at weekends
- Importantly when not open, a small range of daily staples will be kept available from The Green Dragon thereby extending opening times to II.00pm (10.00pm Sundays) (thanks to Dan).
- Friday 'tuck shop' We have also decided to trial a 3.00-4.00 pm opening on Fridays afternoons only for a 'tuck shop' for the children.

Newspapers

This has been the subject of much (much!) debate but it is simply not viable to offer a daily newspaper service at this point. To open a

new account would take 4-6 weeks at any rate. There is a hefty £1000 deposit to be paid upfront (not returned for 48 weeks) plus £50 weekly delivery charge, and while returns on unsold papers and magazines are credited to the account, this is often a couple of weeks later meaning quite a lot of administration to keep on top of everything. While this news will be disappointing to some, it is suggested that one or two residents might put themselves forward to organise this provision, or to collect papers for others, which we would be happy to coordinate through the shop. For example, papers might be collected from Halwill Shop, or one of the supermarkets in town on a daily basis by a willing volunteer/s which could then be left in the shop and collected by residents before 1.00pm. If you have any ideas on this subject please get in touch. On the plus side, we will always have a supply of Okehampton Times on a Thursday.

Any surplus generated

In recent years it has proved difficult for the shop to generate positive numbers even with volunteer staff, and again thanks are due to those who have kept it going through their own efforts and

pockets. However, we are confident the new approach gives us a fighting chance of generating a surplus and this will be reinvested in the business and donated to local good causes, as has always been the tradition.

This is our vision but it can't happen without your support! Finally, at this point we would like to say many thanks to Paula Anscomb for her hard work over the last couple of years and to wish her all the best in future.

Steve Lofthouse/Tim WIlliams And our band of volunteers! Fmail:

squareshopnorthlew@outlook.com
Mobile number: 07533 017938

Northlew Post Office



The post office is open from 9:30 am

to 12 noon in the Church Room on Monday and Friday mornings

2020 – Why is it a Leap Year?

Nearly every four years, we add an extra day to the calendar in the form of February 29th, also known as Leap Day. Put simply, these additional 24 hours are built into the calendar to ensure that it stays in line with the Earth's movement around the Sun. While the modern calendar contains 365 days, the actual time it takes for Earth to orbit its star is slightly longer roughly 365.2421 days. The difference might seem negligible, but over decades and centuries that missing quarter of a day per year can add up. To ensure consistency with the true astronomical year, it is necessary to periodically add in an extra day to make up the lost time and get the calendar back in synch with the heavens.

The Egyptians were among the first to calculate the need for a leap year, but the practice didn't arrive in Europe until the reign of the Roman dictator Julius Caesar. Before then, the Roman calendar had operated on a muddled lunar model that regularly required adding an

extra month to maintain celestial consistency. Finally, in 46 B.C., Caesar and the astronomer Sosigenes revamped the Roman calendar to include 12 months and 365 days. This "Julian Calendar" also accounted for the slightly longer solar year by adding a leap day every four years.

Caesar's model helped realign the Roman calendar, but it had one small problem. Since the solar year is only 0.242 days longer than the calendar year and not an even 0.25, adding a leap year every four y years actually leaves an annual surplus of roughly II minutes. This minute discrepancy meant that the Iulian Calendar drifted off course by one day every 128 years, and by the 14th century it had strayed 10 days off the solar year. To fix the glitch, Pope Gregory XIII instituted a revised "Gregorian Calendar" in 1582. In this model, leap years occur ever four years except for years evenly divisible by 100 and not by 400. For example, the year 1900 was not a leap year because it was divisible by 100, but not 400. The Pope's updated calendar remains in use to this day, but it's still not perfect -

experts note that the remaining discrepancies will need to be addressed in around 10,000 years.

Source:

https://www.history.com/news/why-dowe-have-leap-year

Leap year traditions

Leap Year has been the traditional time that women can propose marriage.

St. Bridget's Complaint

It is believed this tradition was started in 5th century Ireland when St. Bridget complained to St. Patrick about women having to wait for so long for a man to propose. According to legend, St. Patrick said the yearning females could propose on this one day in February during the leap year.

English law

According to English law, February 29th was ignored and had no legal status. Folks assumed that traditions would also have no status on that day. It was also reasoned that since the leap year day existed to fix a problem in the calendar, it could also be used to fix an old and unjust custom that only let men propose marriage.

The first documentation of this practice dates back to 1288 when Scotland supposedly passed a law that allowed women to propose marriage to the man of their choice in that year. Tradition states they also made it law that any man who declined a proposal in a leap year must pay a fine. The fine could range from a kiss to payment for a silk dress or a pair of gloves.

Source: https://www.liveabout.com/leap-year-traditions-and-superstition-2300637

Northlew and Ashbury Primary School PTFA



Northlew Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) raises vital funds for the school through various events throughout the year.

If you would like to help support the PTFA then please contact Louise Fewings (07507 301589) or Michelle Hughes.

Northlew Silver Band Devon's only Village Silver Band over 100 years old

Join us for band practice!

Beginners, every Wednesday in the band hut at 6:15 pm. Full Band, every second Wednesday at 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm. Anyone wanting to try to play an instrument please get in touch. Training band numbers are up again. We've had 13 at the practice for the last few weeks which is amazing and means with helpers we've out grown the band room and have popped over to Hatherleigh to the new band room there behind the new doctors surgery. All welcome, for more information please contact:

Tim Williams 01409 221754 or Martin Perry 01409 221376

Victory Hall Centenary in 2021

As some of you may be aware, Northlew Victory Hall will have been open 100 years in 2021. We would like to start planning our celebrations and wondered if any of you have any old photos of the hall or village circa 1920s. If you have and would be happy to lend

them to the committee then please contact me, I can scan them in to my computer and return immediately... we know that these things are precious and will take very good care of anything lent to us.

Please call Jayne on 01409 221225. Thank you in anticipation.

Victory Hall Committee.

We are still short of committee members so if you would be interested in helping out at the hall then please get in touch. The current committee members and contact details are listed on page 28.

Regular events

The Victory Hall use on weekdays is booming and includes:

- Badminton: Monday and Wednesday
- **Skittles**: Tuesday and Thursday
- **Short Mat Bowls**: Thursday
- Table Tennis: Friday
- Toddlers Group: Friday

In addition, the walking group, Northlew Amateur Dramatics Society (NADS) and the Parish Council to name but a few also use the Victory Hall.

Booking a charitable event at the Victory Hall



Any event must meet all 5 criteria to be granted the booking price of £10.

Criteria to qualify:

- I. Any event for which all the profit will go to the named registered charity.
- 2. Registered charity name & number required when booking and must be on all advertising for the event.
- 3. The organiser is a parishioner.
- 4. It must be a public event open to all. This offer is not for private functions.
- 5. The £10 covers the hall and use of the kitchen for drinks only. If food preparation and serving is required, then an additional £15 is essential to cover our extra costs.

www.northlewvictoryhall.co.uk

Northlew and Ashbury Produce and Craft Show Annual General Meeting (AGM)

It's that time of year again and the AGM for the Village Produce and Craft Show will be held at:

7.30 pm on Monday 24th February

in the Victory Hall

You are invited to hear reports from last year's successful show and if you would like to join the small but enthusiastic committee, or be involved in the preparation on the day, please do come along, or let us know of your interest.

The friendly family show is aimed at complete novices as well as experienced exhibitors, so everyone can be involved. There are certificates, medals, cups and trophies to be won. In recent years the Village Primary School has been involved, with every child sharing two exhibits.

We look forward to seeing you.

Holly Dancer Secretary

Daisy Chain Group



The timing, venue and dates for the meetings are as follows:

7-9 pm Every second Tuesday of the month at the Church Room until further notice.

Tuesday I Ith February

Silk Painting demo with Michael and Karen Watkins. Painted scarves will also be available to purchase at a discounted price for Ladies Organisations.

Fees

From January 2020 our fee will raise to £3 per person per session to build up a kitty for our events when we have someone external come in to present etc.

We are a friendly group, welcome

We are a friendly group, welcome to all.

For more information about Daisy Chain please call Gina Farrow 01409 221238

Northlew and Ashbury Snooker Club



Come and join us!
We currently have vacancies for membership

and we would be pleased to see new faces over the newly refurbished tables. One team plays in the Bude league each winter. New members are very welcome. There is a small membership fee to join.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM of Northlew Snooker Club will be held in the snooker room at:

7.30 pm on Wednesday 19th February

All welcome. For more information about the club please call 01409 221919 or Simon on 01409 221881

Nature's Calendar

Throughout 2019 I made a note of some of the key events in nature, in and around Northlew.

This is my list. If you could add to it, or maybe better it in 2020, I would love to know about it.

Ist Jan – Hazel catkins in the hedgerows

3rd Jan – Dunnock started singing

4th Jan – Great Spotted Woodpecker started drumming

2nd Feb – Snowdrops in flower around the village

 2^{nd} Feb – Hellebore in flower in the garden

6th Feb – Frogspawn in my pond

7th Feb – Blue Tit enlarging entrance hole on a nest box

9th Feb – Primroses in flower

14th Feb - Chaffinch started singing

14th Feb – Lesser Celandine in flower

14th Feb – Daffodils in flower around village

20th Feb - Coltsfoot in flower

24th Feb – Brimstone butterfly in the garden

Ist March – Rooks started building their nests

2nd March - Chiffchaff singing

23rd March – Orange tip butterfly in the garden

23rd March – Sand Martins arrived

30th March - Swallows arrived

Ist April - Dandelions in bloom

22nd April – Oak leaves appear

30th April – Ash leaves appear

2nd May – Swifts have arrived

2nd May – Cuckoo Flower in bloom

10th May - Cuckoo singing

29th July – Blackberries ripe in the hedgerows

15th October – Redwing arrived

25th December – Song thrush heard singing

29th December – Red Admiral butterfly basking in sunshine

31st December – Snow drops in flower down garden

31st December – Rooks looking at their nests

Chris Baines

01409 221362

or

chrisbaines63@btinternet.com

HOF Gallery and Cottage



The HOF Gallery is a small space

devoted to all things arts & crafty. The gallery also has a selection of fine ceramics, paintings, prints, locally crafted sculpted & hanging feltwork. A 'rustic' framing service is also available.

The studio opens most weekends 10 am – 6 pm and bank holidays

Short mat bowls



The fastest expanding indoor sport in the UK, we now have short mat

bowls in the Victory Hall every Thursday afternoon between 2 pm and 4 pm.

At just £3 per session and no yearly membership required, so why not come along and meet our small band of players.

Have a look at the game and try your hand. There are practice woods available for your use.

For more information please call Mike on 01409 220320 or Norman on 01409 221518.

Play Group for Grown ups

We don't stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing!

Join us in the Methodist Chapel rooms on the on the first Tuesday and third Thursday of the month from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

We play cards, do board games and jigsaws, drink tea and eat biscuits for £1.50. All are welcome.

If you need more information or to arrange transport please call Chris Scadeng on 01409 221797

Next meetings

February: Tuesday 4th and Thursday 20th

March: Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 19th

Rabbits as pets



Rabbits are small mammals in the family

Leporidae of the order Lagomorpha. Oryctolagus cuniculus, which includes the European rabbit species and its descendants, is one of the world's 305 breeds of domestic rabbit. Sylvilagus includes 13 wild rabbit species, among them the seven types of cottontail. The European rabbit, which has been introduced to every continent except Antarctica, is familiar throughout the world as a wild prey animal. and as a domesticated form of livestock and pet. With its widespread effect on ecologies and cultures, the rabbit is, in many areas of the world, a part of daily life—as food, clothing, a companion, and as a source of artistic inspiration.

There were times when it is was thought a rabbit was an ideal pet for young children, but we have come a long way since then. We now know that rabbits don't like being handled, and children love to cuddle them. The reason why rabbits hate being handled, is because they are bottom of the food chain, and like their wild

cousins, they will run and struggle to get away. Anything above them is considered a predator, and so when approaching them it is best to talk gently and go down to their level and let them come to you. If you are patient, eventually they will come to have their noses rubbed and to sit with you. Generally, rabbits most active times are dusk and dawn.

It is now becoming commonplace to have rabbits as house pets, and this is ok as long as you are happy for your favourite antique furniture to be given a makeover by the rabbit's artistic talents. They love to gnaw, and they don't mind what it is. They will even chew through all your electrics, so you will need to keep wires out of their reach. Having said this, they are easy to house-train and will go to the toilet in one spot.

Rabbits are very clean, and very intelligent creatures.

Rabbits love to run around, so a 4ft by 2ft hutch with no run, is no longer accepted. Rabbits need space to roam around with another rabbit, as they are social animals and enjoy having rabbit friends, but please ensure they are both neutered.

You cannot put new rabbit into an established rabbits' hutch, and hope they get along, they will fight. Imagine you found a stranger sitting on the sofa eating your food, you'd be pretty upset.

Bonding rabbits takes patience and care, starting by introducing them in a neutral area. You will get fur pulling and humping, which is nothing to worry about. They are just sorting out who is boss. If they start biting however, split them up immediately, and try again in a day or two. If you would like more information on bonding, I'm happy to help.

There are lots of unwanted rabbits, so please consider calling the local RSPCA, who will make sure your new pet is vaccinated, health checked and neutered, which removes the need for you to get these vital jobs done. They will also do a home visit and give you advice on the best care for your new friends.

I have six rabbits and would be happy to help with advice if you are considering a rabbit or guinea pig as a pet.

Angela Baines 01409 221362

The Green Dragon



This historic 18th century inn is located in the village square at the heart of Northlew.

Opening times

Lunchtime: 12 – 2 pm Lunch is served every day except Saturday

Evenings: open at 6 pm except Sunday when opening is at 7pm. Food served from 6 pm - 9 pm except Sunday

For more information please popinto the Green Dragon to find out more or call Dan on 01409 221228.

Northlew Walking Group



Firstly, here are some members of our group enjoying pre-Christmas treats in the Victory Hall.

For our first outing of 2020, we were blessed to have 15 walkers along for the ride. This included Marion Dufty, Pat Carter, Margaret Conkey, Jackie Titchen, Keith Ellis with his two sproodles, Alan Stevens, Jenny Anderson, Shirley Lloyd, Susan Jones, Robin & Dee Gantt, Sue Sanders, Holly Dancer with Alfie her King Charles Spaniel, Brigid Richardson and myself.

Despite my best efforts to find a walk with no mud by keeping out of the fields, we still managed to give our boots a good soaking.

After leaving the square, we walked down the footpath, through the new houses, to come out on Kimberlands estate. We then

continued on the lane, turning left at East Kimber. A short way up this lane the tarmac gives way to a rough track, and as we continued we were faced with many deep puddles, and plenty of mud.

Eventually, we came out on the main road, at which point we turned left and then right at Bogtown. Walking down this lane towards Ashbury, we enjoyed great views of Dartmoor on our right. After reaching Ashbury, we continued on the 'Two Churches' trail, again tackling more mud, to bring us back to Northlew square.

Some of us then enjoyed refreshments in the Green Dragon, who offered to bake us a cake for our next walk. How could you refuse that?

Do join us for our next walk – all welcome.

Our next walk

Walks usually start at Ipm (in winter) from the square in the village.

Please contact Chris Baines on 01409 221362 to confirm the starting time and place of the February walk.

Badminton Club



Running for almost 4 years now, our club offers the chance to enjoy badminton at all levels

of ability.

The emphasis is on having fun, but it's obviously always nice to win. We don't play in a league, but just enjoy playing together for an hour or so every week.

All ages and abilities are welcome, although children must be old enough to play unsupervised by a parent.

We play on Monday's and Thursday's, between 5pm and 7pm, and have racquets available for free use until you acquire your own.

For more information, and to get involved, please contact Chris Baines on 01409221362 or email chrisbaines63@btinternet.com

Theatre Highlights



Theatre Royal @ Plymouth
Box Office 01752 267222
https://theatreroyal.com/whats-on

12th – 22nd February Royal Shakespeare Co. Measure for Measure As You Like It Taming of the Shrew

24th – 29th February
Agatha Christie's – The Mousetrap
3rd – 7th March
J B Priestley's - An Inspector Calls

Ist – 4th April Birmingham Royal Ballet – Swan Lake

7th- **11**th **April**David Walliams' - Billionaire Boy

15th April – 18th April Welsh National Opera Marriage of Figaro Carmen Les Vepres Siciliennes

21st – 25th April Derren Brown

28th April – 2nd May Michael Morpurgo's Private Peaceful

4th – 9th May The Kite Runner

19th – 23rd May A Monster Calls

27th -31st May Six (Henry VIII wives) – the musical!

30th **June – 4**th **July** Dial M for Murder

6th – I I th July
Once the musical

21st July – 8th August Mamma Mia

More on the website www.theatreroyal.com

Northcott @ Exeter
Box Office 01392 726363
www.exeternorthcott.co.uk

6th - 15th February

A new Farce by John Cleese

3rd – **8**th **March** Cirque Berserk

12th – 13th March Fascinating Aida

24th -28th MarchMime – The tale of Chaplin & Stan Laurel

Ist – 3rd April
The tiger who came to Tea

20th – 25th April
The Cat & the Canary
A Thriller with Britt Ekland

4th – 9th May
A Bunch of Amateurs

18th – 23rd May Alan Bennett's The Habit of Art

27th – 30th May English Touring Opera Julius Caesar Cosi Fan Tutte St John Passion

16th - 20th June

Alan Ayckbourn's Absurd Person Singular

22nd - 24th June

The all male HMS Pinafore More on the website www.exeternorthcott.co.uk

More details from Martin Perry 01409 221376 and possible free lifts!

SeaMoor lottery it's so easy to help raise funds



SeaMoor Lotto is a weekly lottery that is a fun and effective way for you to win prizes for just £1 per

week at the same time as raising money for good causes in South Hams and West Devon. Each ticket has a I in 50 chance to win a prize each week with a top prize of £25,000. Each ticket will consist of 6 numbers and each number will be between 0 and 9. There will be a draw every Saturday night when a 6 digit winning combination will be picked. Prizes will be given to players with tickets that match the first or last 2-6 numbers from the

winning combination. Match all 6 and you win the jackpot. Northlew Parish Council is now set up as a fundraiser with its own dashboard so if you become a supporter you will also be contributing to future Northlew village community projects which we all decide upon. Please follow the link for more information:

https://www.seamoorlotto.co.uk/support/northlew-parish-council/buytickets

Knit and Knatter



The Knit and Knatter group are knitting and crocheting for good causes and

everyone is welcome to join us! We meet in the Methodist Church every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm. If you have any spare wool that you can donate to support the Knit and Knatter fundraising activities, please let me know and I will arrange to collect it. Your help is very much appreciated.

For more information or to donate wool please call Eunice Peck on 01409 221187

Ash Die Back

https://www.devonashdieback.org.uk/.

If any parishioner has concerns that Ash trees within our parish that grow alongside highways, byways, bridleways or footpath may be infected by Ash Dieback, these trees need to be reported to Devon County Council highways via their website at https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/map/map_src/hzt/.

If parishioners or tree owners require assistance in finding a suitably qualified and insured arborist, information is available via the following link: https://trees.org.uk/Help-Advice/Public/Choose-your-Tree-Surgeon

Furthermore if trees suspected of being infected are located within a Conservation Area or are subject to a Tree Preservation Order, an arborist should be able to advise whether the tree owner should apply for recommended works by the normal 6 or 8 week process or under a 5-day notice for emergency works to dead trees or trees which pose an immediate threat to persons or property. In

either scenario, the tree owners or their appointed agent are responsible for following the required procedures for works to protected trees.

Further information on the tree works application procedure is available here:

https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3490/Protected-Trees

or

https://www.westdevon.gov.uk/article/3487/Tree-Preservation-Orders

or contact

Tracy Webb
Case Manager (Trees)
trees@swdevon.gov.uk

Member of Parliament for Northlew

Mel Stride MP House of Commons London, SWIA 0AA Tel: 020 7219 7037

Free Energy Saving Advice to Help Tackle Fuel Poverty in Devon this Winter

Devon Communities Together is working in partnership with Citizens Advice to deliver this winter's Big Energy Saving Network (BESN) programme.

BESN wishes to help domestic consumers get good value from their expenditure on energy, to use energy effectively and have warm, comfortable homes. We want to reach those who would most benefit from our help: people on low incomes or with homes that are difficult to keep warm. However, our advice and help is relevant to all those who want to reduce their energy costs and to use energy more efficiently.

Our offer to you

We want to help those in Devon's rural communities, away from the towns where help and advice is more often available. We are offering to come to your community to talk to groups and individuals about:

 getting the best price from your current provider

- the pros and cons of looking for a cheaper supplier
- our oil purchasing scheme
- how to use energy effectively in the home
- measures that can be taken to make homes more energy efficient
- the supplier services available to vulnerable customers

We also invite people to bring along their energy bills for some confidential advice on how they might reduce their costs. We are also able to offer advice via a telephone session to any individuals who may prefer this method of contact.

To find out more or to arrange a visit please contact our advisors:

Aggie Szpinda aggie@devoncommunities.org.uk 01392 248919

Martin Rich martin@devoncommunities.org.uk 07984 001542

www.devoncommunities.org.uk/projects/big-energy-saving-network

Messages

Cathy Fethers, thank you

Thank you so much to the people of Northlew for the kindness and support you have shown me over the loss of my wife Catherine.

Thank you too, to all of you who attended her funeral service and for raising the amazing amount of £509.40 for Cancer Research UK. Special thanks to Dan, Tracey and Vicky for all their hard work.

There is a thank you letter on the Victory Hall notice board from the charity.

With kind regards,

Mick, Christopher and Karen Fethers

Parish Council

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Steve Shelton has resigned from the Parish Council because he will be moving out of the parish in the near future. Although only on the Parish Council for a relatively short time, I would like to thank Steve on behalf of the community for his input and contribution.

We now have a vacancy on the parish council so if you would like to know more please don't hesitate to contact Sue Main, Clerk or Joanna Wilson, Chair to have an informal chat. Please see page 27.

Clerk to the Parish Council

Sue Main is the clerk to the Parish Council. Sue's contact details can be found on page 26.

Contacting the Parish Council

If you have any questions for the Parish Council or you have noted something in the Parish that needs to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council please contact the clerk, chair or any member of the parish council. We welcome your input. Contact details are on page 26.

Parish Council meetings

Parish council meetings are usually held at 7:30 pm on the third Monday of each month in the main hall of the Victory Hall.

At 7:30 pm prior to the start of the formal meeting, there will be a public session (if required) which, at the chair's discretion may last up to 15 minutes, to enable members of the public to ask questions of and make comment to the council. Please note, we request that notice of intent to ask questions/make comment during the public session be made to the clerk, Sue Main, by the Friday prior to the date of the meeting. Please advise the clerk of the topic you wish to raise.

Questions not answered during the public session may be answered in writing to the person asking the question or may appear as an agenda item for the next appropriate parish council or committee meeting. Members of the public are asked to restrict their comments and/or questions to three minutes. This section is not part of the formal meeting of the council.

Any member of the parish can attend the formal part of the meeting but may not contribute to it unless specifically invited by the chair.

All parish councillors and the clerk have parish council email addresses found on page 26. Please use these email addresses, not their private email addresses, for all matters relating to the parish council or parish. Thank you.

Minutes

The agenda for next month's meeting and the minutes of last month's council meeting can be found on our website at least one week before the next meeting. http://www.northlewparishcouncil.org.uk/. A hard copy of both documents will also on the parish notice board.

Please contact Sue Main for further information or if you would like to raise a topic at the public session of the parish council meeting. Sue can be contacted by phone of email – see page 22.

Parish Council Website

The Parish Council website can be found at:

http://www.northlewparishcouncil.org.uk/.

Please check out the parish 'Noticeboard' with information about what's going on in the parish

and also notifications from West Devon Borough Council (and Devon County Council as appropriate). The Noticeboard is updated on a monthly basis.

If you have any community-related news for inclusion on the Noticeboard or if you have any feedback, comments and/or suggestions about the website or if you are organizing an event in the parish that you would like to be advertised on the website, then please contact:

Sue Main at clerk@northlewparishcouncil.org.u k or Joanna Wilson at chair@northlewparishcouncil.org.u k

Thank you

Snow Warden and Salt Supply

Thank you to our snow warden who has topped up levels in the yellow salt containers situated opposite the primary school, at the corner exiting the village on station road, on Harpers hill by Maggie's Curls and on the Tarpaflex corner. Additional bags have been located at the Church (contact the church warden), Yellands Yard, Ladies Toilets, J&J Autos and Lake Farm in case of emergency.

Please feel free to use this on public roads in and out of Northlew, taking note that the amount of salt actually required per square meter is only I tablespoon.

If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Tim Williams on 07770 600047, 01409 221754

Reporting a problem on our roads to Devon County Council

For example: Potholes!



Please report any potholes or other problems on our roads, such as flooding and blocked drains, hazardous or fallen trees, overgrown vegetation, to name a few, to Devon County Council using the following link.

https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsand transport/report-a-problem/

Notification of proposed Road closure – LM501NC7979755

Kier have applied for a road closure to complete SWW Utility works outside of Higher East Worth, subject to approval from Devon Highways these works will take place 17/02/20 – 21/02/20.

Road Cycling Race Sunday 22nd March

On Sunday 22nd March the Hatherleigh Junior Road Race starting at 10:30 am from the Hatherleigh Community Centre, and it is estimated that the riders, will finish the 108 km event in Hatherleigh by approximately 2:00 pm. Although the route will not be directly passing through Northlew and cause any significant inconvenience, local residents should be mindful that this is taking place. Further details about the route and the race can be found here

https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/events/details/221473/Hatherleigh-Junior-Road-Race

Parish Council Emails

Councillors & clerk	Councillors	
Joanna Wilson Chair	chair@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk	
Celia Rundle Vice Chair	crundle@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk	
Bryan Dufty	bdufty@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk	
Mark Rundle	mrundle@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk	
Terry Hatt	thatt@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk	
Holly Dancer	hdancer@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk	
Steve Smith	ssmith@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk	
Judy Jones	jjones@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk	
Vacancy	For more information please contact Sue Main	
Clerk – Sue Main	clerk@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk Telephone: 07956 312047	

Northlew Parish Council

Parish Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council has one vacancy and would like to co-opt a new councillor at the Parish Council meeting being held at 7:30 pm on Monday 16th March 2020.

If you are interested in applying or if you would like some more information about the role please email Sue Main, Parish Clerk at clerk@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk or Joanna Wilson, Chair at chair@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk

The closing date for applications is Friday 28th February 2020.

For more information about the Parish Council please visit http://www.northlewparishcouncil.org.uk or contact any parish councillor (contact details on the website or in the Northlew News)

Northlew Victory Hall Trustees

Name	Role on the committee	Contact details
Colin Jarvis	Chairman	07980457976 01409 220268
Trevor Miller	Vice Chair	07514561431 01409 221164
Jackie Ellis	Secretary	07952071809 01837 658750
Jayne O'Connell	Bookings	07815418126 01409 221225
Janet Millership	Treasurer	01409 221409
Bryan Dufty	Committee member	01837 871256
Neil Oxley	Committee member	
Gemma Dufty	Data Protection Officer	
Mark Turley	Committee member	

Northlew Victory Hall Station Road Northlew Devon EX20 3NP

Community Contacts

Organisation	Contact details
Okehampton Medical Centre	01837 52233
Okehampton Community Hospital	01837 658000
Blake House Surgery, Black	01409 231628
Torrington	
NHS Direct	0845 4647
Okehampton Crime Stoppers	0845 2777444 or 101 (non
	emergency)
Okeford Vets	01837 52148
North Park Veterinary Group	01837 658777
mydentist, Okehampton	01837 52745
Okehampton Cinema	01837 658586
Inkprint, Okehampton	01837 52937
West Devon Borough Council	01822 813600
Devon County Council	0845 1551015
Reporting a power cut	Call 105
	(https://www.powercut105.com)
Floodline Telephone Number	03459 881188
Citizens Advice Bureau	08444 111444

Leap into Elmfield

On Saturday 29th February

Lots of Soups & a Smorgasbord of Desserts!

In aid of new Jumpers for the Northlew Silver Band

from 12 noon

Only £6.00

Tickets in advance with lucky number 01409 221376

Notify any dietary requirements in advance.

Note: Northlew Silver Band AGM

Weds 19th February At Elmfield 7.30 p.m.

Okehampton & District Community Transport Group



Okehampton & District Community Transport Group have been serving the community for 28 years. We cover 274 square miles of rural Devon. We provide accessible, door to door

transport for the frail, elderly, disabled and rurally isolated to access both healthcare and social appointments. We have a Ring and Ride bus service which takes passengers into Okehampton for shopping or to meet friends. We run a Volunteer Car Service for healthcare transport, we have two wheelchair accessible vehicles and also a 15 seat community minibus which we use for lifestyle trips during the week and weekends and is also available to groups and societies. All our fares are subsidised.

If you would like any further information, please ring Sue or Liz on 01837 55000 or 07484 525577

Sue Wonnacott, Co-Ordinator
Okehampton District Community Transport Group
Unit 3, Okehampton Business Centre
Higher Stockley Mead
Okehampton
Devon
EX20 IFJ

www.odctg.co.uk https://www.facebook.com/pages/Okehampton-District-Community-Transport-Group/165867586926940

Advertising in the Northlew News

If you would like to advertise in the Northlew News please contact Joanna Wilson.

Business advertising rates:

- £2.50 per advert (business card size) per month or £25 per annum
- £5 for half page
- £10 full page

Please note there may be a one-off charge of £15 if your advert needs to be reset by the printers. All cheques to be made payable to The Northlew Parish Council or pay by BACS transfer.

Items for sale advertising rates:

- £5 per advert for half page with picture
- £I per advert (text only) per month



and great company - just perfect - thank you very much."

"We came for 2 nights and stayed for 4 - do we need to say any more?"

Bed and breakfast accommodation at Elmfield

Prices from £35 per night
Extensive breakfast menu
Discounts apply for stays of 3 nights or more

Contact: Martin on 01409 221376 or 07974 859029 www.elmfield-northlew.co.uk

Steve Lofthouse Driving Instructor Northlew



Take Up! Driving

07533 017938 01409 220285



J & J SERVICES

For all you car repairs and servicing under one roof

Batteries • Tyres • Exhausts • MOT Preparation • Diagnostics Repairs to old and new • All makes and models

Ring John for a friendly and efficient service 01409 220091 07850 767686

The Knoll, Northlew, EX20 3BR Established 1981



JEANNETTE LAWRENCE

Traditional
Freelance
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01409 221762





P.S Electrical



Office: 01409220246 3 The Old Orchard

Mobile: 07792 163156

Morthlew Okehampton enquiries@pselectricians.co.uk

Northlew Okehampton EX20 3NH

Domestic, Commercial, Industrial, Bespoke garden

lighting and Agricultural

PartPApproved

A.J.L. PLUMBING Ashley Long

Okehampton Based

Call/Text: 07710 790010 Email: ajl_plumbing@outlook.com

Bathrooms ~ Taps ~ Showers Sinks ~ Radiators ~ No Job Too Small



J A WILKINS

Carpenter & Joiner. All building work undertaken

Extensions, alterations, kitchens, bedrooms, bathrooms, roofing, etc.

Little Wigdon Station Road Northlew

01409 221212 07890 929184

CBL **STOVES**

The Showroom, Unit 5 Red Post, Bude, Cornwall **EX23 9NW**

01288 381852 carl@cblstoves.co.uk www.cblstoves.co.uk







- Stainless Steel twinwall flues
- Chimney Lining
- Iskoern Pumice lining
- Fireplace alterations
- Stove Installations
- Wood, Multifuel, Gas & Electric Traditional & Contemporary Stoves & Fires
- Chimney Rebuilds
- Slate, Granite & Glass Hearths
- Wood & Ceramic beams & surrounds
- Floating Shelves





Ash dieback disease is spreading throughout Devon

Losing one of our most abundant native trees will have a massive effect on our landscapes, hedges and the wildlife they support. Dying trees adjacent to highways and other public places also pose safety risks to people.

The time for action is now!

Over 90% of ash trees in Devon are likely to be infected with the disease. 448,000 ash trees are within falling distance of a highway in Devon. 99% of these trees are the responsibility of private landowners.



2020 Events at a Glance		
February	 Tuesday 4th February: Playgroup for Grown Ups, 2 – 4 pm Methodist Chapel Room Wednesday 5th February: Women's meeting in the Methodist Hall 2:30 pm Tuesday I Ith February: Daisy Chain Group, 7 pm in the Church Room Monday I 7th February – Friday 2 Ist February (inclusive): Half- term Wednesday I 9th February: Snooker Club Annual General Meeting; 7:30 pm in the snooker hall Wednesday I 9th February: Northlew Silver Band AGM, 7:30 pm at Elmfield Thursday 20th February: Playgroup for Grown Ups, 2 – 4 pm Methodist Chapel Room Sunday 23rd February: Steak Lunch please see posters for timings Monday 24th February: Produce and Craft Show AGM, 7:30 pm in the Victory Hall 	
March	 Tuesday 3rd March: Playgroup for Grown Ups, 2 – 4 pm Methodist Chapel Room Friday 6th March: Beetle Drive at the Victory Hall Doors open 6:30 pm Please note this event has had to be cancelled until further notice Thursday 19th March: Playgroup for Grown Ups, 2 – 4 pm Methodist Chapel Room Monday 30th March – Monday 13th April (inclusive): Easter holidays 	



Spring Term 2020

Monday 6th January: Non-Pupil Day

Tuesday 7th January: All pupils return

Half Term: Monday: 17th February – Friday 21st February inclusive

Monday 24th February: All pupils return

Friday 27th March: Last day of term

Easter holidays: Monday 30th March – Monday 13th April inclusive

Summer Term 2020

Tuesday 14th April: All pupils return

Monday 4th May: May bank holiday

Half Term: Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May inclusive

Monday Ist June: All pupils return

Monday 20th July: Non-pupil day Tuesday 21st July: Non-pupil day



Okehampton Library, 4 North Street, Okehampton EX20 IAR

01837 52805

Events at Okehampton Library

Thursday 6th February 16:00-17:00 Harry Potter Night

Join the Triwizard Tournament! Wizards, witches and muggles from around the world are invited to take part in a tournament of their own, testing their skills with an array of magical activities.

Optional dress code of best wizarding robes or fancy dress.

Wands at the ready....let the magic begin!

 $\pounds 2.50$ per child, bookings in advance, spaces limited. Recommended for ages 7+

Friday 21st February 14:30-15:30 Lego Lego Lego!

Lego fun for families. Recommended for ages 5+. Lego Builders, Lego Speed Building and a Lego Animation demonstration. £1 per person, no booking required.

Donate Your Nearly New Books

All donated books will be sold to support Libraries Unlimited – your local reading charity. Nearly new condition only please

Calling All Young Volunteers!

Are you aged 14-19? Do you love reading? Would you like to help your local community? Why not help out in Okehampton Library on Saturday mornings? Collect an application form in branch

Regular events

Adults

Every Tuesday 13:30-14:30- Knit & Natter

Bring along your knitting, stitching, crochet or other portable project, for a chat with

like-minded crafters. Tea and coffee available at 50p a cup.

Children and Young People

Tuesdays 10:00-10:30: Bounce & Rhyme

Aimed at over I year olds. Free, no booking necessary

Tuesdays 11:00-11:30: Bounce and Rhyme

Aimed at under I year olds. Free - no booking necessary

Ist Tuesday of the month 15:45-16:45: Bookworms Book Club

For ages 7 – II (except Aug/Sept). Free - no booking necessary

2nd Tuesdays 15:45-16:45: Lego Animation Club

For children aged 7+. £1 per child in advance, booking essential

Wednesdays 09:30-10:15: Duplo Builders & Storytime

For ages 0-5. Free - no booking necessary

Saturdays 10:30-11:30 Lego Builders

For ages 5+. Free, no booking necessary

Book Track for ages 6+

During library opening hours. Free, ask staff for further details.

Please note

Children under 8 must be accompanied to all events by a responsible adult

Please see our library website or Facebook page for any additional events and library services www.devonlibraries.org.uk

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity (1170092) responsible for running Devon Libraries and Torbay Libraries. You can support us to continue delivering life changing library services, find out more here: librariesunlimited.org.uk/support-us

Opening Hours

Monday	09:00-17:00
Tuesday	09:00-18:00
Wednesday	09:00-13:00
Thursday	09:00-17:00
Friday	09:00-18:00
Saturday	09:00-13:00



Devon Libraries is part of







FREE personalised advice from fully trained advisers on:

- Energy debtEnergy savings
 - Switching suppliers

We can come to your community group or arrange 1-2-1 consultations.

Contact:



martin@devoncommunities.org.uk aggie@devoncommunities.org.uk 01392 248919 www.devoncommunities.org.uk/pro-

www.devoncommunities.org.uk/projects/big-energy-saving-network



1 in 10 households in Devon are classed as 'fuel poor'. Help us support communities to fight fuel poverty this winter.

Bus Routes

Day	Route	Destination	
Monday	633	Okehampton via Bratton	
Monday	642	Bideford via Shebbear	
Tuesday **	646	Barnstaple via Bideford	
Tuesday**	669	Credition via Okehampton	
_		-	
Wednesday	639	Holsworthy via Hatherleigh	
Wednesday **	671	Newton Abbot via Trago	
Thursday	630	Okehampton via Hatherleigh	
Friday **	188	Tavistock	
Friday **	647	Exter via Winkleigh	
Saturday	63 I	Okehampton via Hatherleigh	

^{**} by booking with our Office you can join these services from Northlew. For more information please call **Carmel Coaches - 01409 221237** (24 hour)

Key facts to note....

- English bus passes are accepted no time restriction
- Buses usually available whilst laying over at terminus
- Most services operated by wheelchair accessible buses
- Careful and considerate drivers
- Free car parking available at our depot

Also why not....

- Use the bus to help protect the environment by reducing congestion and exhaust emissions
- Use the bus to save money on parking and fuel
- Use the bus to avoid social isolation keep up with village gossip

And did you know that

Northlew has had its own local bus service since 1930 and has more buses per head of population than anywhere in Devon

Do yourself a favour - take the bus!

Carmel Coaches Excursions



Date and venue	Cost
9 th – II th March Taster break at Studley Castle – the latest Warner Leisure hotel near Stratford upon Avon	219
Good Friday 10 th April Donkey Sanctuary and Seaton	
Easter Monday 13 th April Weymouth and West Bay	
27 th – 30 th November Festive weekend break at Warner hotel, Cricket St Thomas	

For more information about our trips planned for 2020 or to book your seat please call Libby 01409 221237