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# EXMOOR NEWS

## COVERING SOUTHERN EXMOOR

### Happy New Year to you and welcome to 2018.

Some people like to celebrate a fresh start to the year, others prefer to ignore the changing calendar. There is always something to look forward to - the arrival of spring which means summer is also on it's way. We have lots of events in the magazine - lots to look forward to, just like the summer sun (hopefully!).

As we welcome our newest area - Oakford - it's worth remembering that if you run, or know of, a community group or charity that would get a boost from promoting itself or an event, please get in touch with us. Inclusion for such events is free.

At Exmoor News we appreciate the very kind people who deliver our magazine and we are extremely grateful. A huge thank you to everyone.

And please let our advertisers know you found them in our magazine as it means we can keep providing it free to you.

*Best wishes, Ceri Keene and Claire Savill*

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Post: The Old Stores, Brushford, Dulverton, Somerset, TA22 9AH

We take our responsibility to maintain high editorial standards seriously. Should an error occur please do not hesitate to contact us.

The deadline for the March/April issue of the Exmoor News is

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018**

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Cover image: © Tony Keene

If you would like to see your photo on the cover, send us a low resolution copy for our library. If used we will ask for a high resolution version and you too could be in print.



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## WEST ANSTEY VILLAGE HALL

Entertainment & Events

**Tuesday, 9th January**

**7.30 pm**

**Film: 'Hidden Figures' (PG)**

A funny, heart-warming & inspirational true drama starring Taraji P Henson, Octavia Spencer, Janelle Monae.

The incredible, previously untold, story of 3 brilliant African-American women mathematicians who were integral to the launch of John Glenn into space, at a time when racial and gender lines had not been crossed.

Tickets: £3.50 on the door

Light Refreshments available in interval  
Enquiries to 01398 341 615

**The February Film will be on  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Above events sponsored by Anstey Arts  
and Beaford Arts  
20th May - Jamie Wood in "I am a Tree"

## Minehead Cancer Support Club

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Drop in, or more information from:

Facebook: Bampton Library and  
Resource Centre Supporters

**Opening Hours:**

Resource Centre, Monday – Friday, 10-4pm

Library: Monday 3-5; Thursday 9.30 – 12.30;

Saturday 10-12

## Cornwall and Coffee Shops

What is it about Cornwall and cafes that  
makes us love to reading about them?



**Meet bestselling author  
Jenny Kane**

10<sup>th</sup> January, 7-9pm, Bampton Library.

Sponsored by LARCS and the Exeter Authors Association

**Free entry**

**Donations welcome**

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**OAKFORD PLAYERS PRESENT**  
**"OAKFORD ALLSORTS"**  
**VARIETY SHOW**  
**AN EVENING OF FUN & FROLICS,**  
**SKETCHES & SONGS**

February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>

Oakford Village Hall, 7.30pm

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### **BAMPTON PLAYERS – CAMELOT the PANTO 15th - 17th Feb**

It's that time of year – and once again we will be hearing cries of "Behind you!" and "Oh, yes it is!" And for the Bampton Players, what will they be tackling this year? Well, we are ringing the changes from the usual panto fare. This year it will be CAMELOT – The PANTO. (Feb 15th-17th including a Saturday matinee at the Riverside Hall, tickets from Bampton Fruit & Veg).

We all the know the story – Arthur meets Guinevere, wicked Morgan le Fay puts a spanner in the works, elderly wizard Merlin comes to the rescue and everyone lives happily and magically ever after. But this time there's a whole tribe of baddies who haven't bargained for the courage and resourcefulness of a well-meaning Dame, Connie Clatterbottom; a cowardly jester, some equally cowardly knights and a small bear! There will be a live band and lots of laughs. Don't miss it!



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<b>MOREBATH VILLAGE HALL</b> <b>Registered Charity No. 207013      Events 2018</b>	
Social & Skittles Night. Always an enjoyable evening. Look forward to seeing you. Licenced Bar -Snacks - Draw.	Friday 26 January 7.30pm
Fun Quiz Night - come and enjoy the fun ! Entrance £4 includes table snacks. BYO Bottle. Contact 331666 for info.	Friday 9 March 7.30pm
The winners for the Village Hall 200 Club Draw on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2017, were: Colin Edwards £75                  Jennie Bridon £45                  John Lynas £25 Morebath                                  Morebath                                  (previously) Morebath	
* * * * *      * * * * *      * * * * *	
<b>Morebath Yoga. Monday 10.20-12 noon.</b> Forward session dates: 8, 15 & 22 January – 5 & 19 February – 5 & 19 March For info: 01398 332334 or e.mail: rafton.mail@rockspray.co.uk	

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Come along, to be in your body, to let go, to move, to breathe. Learn to be present, to create space and vitality

in the mind and body and experience greater depth to the breath.

Yoga movement and breath-work is incredibly beneficial for all ages, men and women. Give it a try; I'd love to see you there. I am certified with YA - Yoga Alliance UK. Classes are well paced and last for 1.5 hours, the price is £9 per class.

See my advert below for more info and how to contact me.



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Feb 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th)

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## Dulverton Town Hall

**Friday January 12<sup>th</sup> DUNKIRK (Cert 12A)**

Director: Christopher Nolan 106 mins  
In May 1940, Germany advanced into France, trapping Allied troops on the beaches of Dunkirk. Under air and ground cover from British and French forces, troops were slowly and methodically evacuated from the beach using every serviceable naval and civilian vessel that could be found. At the end of this heroic mission, 330,000 French, British, Belgian and Dutch soldiers were safely evacuated. A gripping tale of human resolve, deploying masterful film making technology and starring Mark Rylance, Kenneth Branagh and Tom Hardy.

**Friday January 26<sup>th</sup> THE GOOD LIE (Cert 12A)**

Director: Philippe Falardeau 110 mins  
After their village is destroyed and their parents killed by Northern militia, Sudanese orphans Theo, his siblings and other survivors make a difficult journey to a refugee camp in Kenya. Thirteen years later, the group gets the chance to settle in the U.S. They are met in Kansas by Carrie Davis (Reese Witherspoon), who has been charged with finding them jobs. However, seeing how adrift they are in 20th-century America, Carrie endeavors to help them in rebuilding their shattered lives.

**Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> VICTORIA AND ABDUL (Cert PG)**

Director: Stephen Frears 111 mins  
Abdul Karim (Ali Fazal) arrives from India to participate in Queen Victoria's golden jubilee. The young clerk is surprised to find favor with the queen herself. As Victoria (Judi Dench) questions the constrictions of her long-held position, the two forge an unlikely and devoted alliance that her household and inner circle try to destroy. As their friendship deepens, the Queen begins to see a changing world through new eyes, joyfully reclaiming her humanity.

**Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup> GIFTED (Cert 12A)**

Director: Marc Webb 101 mins  
Frank Adler (Chris Evans) is a single man raising a child prodigy - his spirited young niece Mary (Mckenna Grace) - in a coastal town in Florida. Frank's plans for a normal school life for Mary are foiled when the 7-year-old's mathematical abilities come to the attention of Frank's formidable mother, Evelyn (Lindsay Duncan), whose plans for her granddaughter threaten to separate Frank and Mary.

Tickets -Dulverton Films members £3, non-members £4.50, students, accompanied by an adult, £2.50. (Tickets may be available on the door - £4). Book in advance at Dulverton Post Office (Tel: 01398 323474) or email janaross2003@yahoo.co.uk. Bar open from 7pm.

# tiverton film club

Tiverton Film Club - now in its 18th season!

The Club started in 2000 and since that time we have shown over 180 international films. Our programme runs from September to June, and all our films are shown in the theatre at Petroc College in Tiverton at 7:00pm.

The Club shows contemporary award-winning films from around the world that would not be seen in the Tiverton area without the Club's existence. The raked seating in the Petroc Theatre makes reading sub-titles easy and, on average, we show 7 sub-titled films each season.. In addition, each year we show a 'classic' film chosen by the club members.

We are a membership club offering

eleven films per season for a fee of £20 per person. We also welcome Guests to all our films at £5 per head.

Join us on January 17th for 'Franz', a German film, or on February 21st for 'A Man called Ove', a Swedish film.

## Valentine's



**Monday 12th February**

Exford Village Hall - eyes down 8pm

**In aid of Exford Village School**

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## DULVERTON LIBRARY MATTERS January/February 2018

The **FRIENDS OF DULVERTON LIBRARY** will meet on Thursday January 4<sup>th</sup> 2018 and February 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 at 2pm

The **LIBRARY BOOK GROUP** will be meeting on the first Friday of the month (5/1/2018) at 2pm. The book we will be discussing is *The Trouble with Goats and Sheep* by Joanna Cannon. The book we will be reading in January will be *Sacred Hearts* by Sarah Dunant, to be discussed on 2/2/18. February's read will be *A Week in December* by Sebastian Faulks.

The **CRAFTERNOONERS** will meet as usual on the 2nd Friday of the month (12/1/2018 and 9/2/18) at 2pm. The craft project for January is **FABRIC BASKETS** and for February is **HEARTS**. A charge of £1 applies plus a small charge for materials.

**SCRABBLE CLUB** will relaunch in the new year. We will be meeting on the 3rd Thursday of the month (18/1/18 and 15/2/2018) at 2pm.

**LEGO CLUB** will meet on the 3rd Saturdays of January (20/1/18) and February (17/2/2018) at 10.30am. Booking is essential and a charge of £1 applies.

The **KNIT AND NATTER GROUP** meet on the last Friday of the month (26/1/18 and 23/2/2018) at 2pm. Please bring your own knitting with you.

Dulverton Library now has a **JIGSAW SWAP**. Please drop in and borrow a Jigsaw. A 50p charge applies.



## Macular Society

### Macular Degeneration Exmoor Support Group

The next meeting is on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 2 p.m. at the Exmoor Medical Centre in Dulverton.

Guest Speaker: Mr Edward Herbert,  
Leading Ophthalmologist at  
Musgrove Hospital, Taunton.

Contact Marion for more information  
Tel 01398 371 450

## BRUSHFORD PARISH HALL

### TABLE TOP SALE

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

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# EXMOOR



Meets on the last Wednesday of the month at Fishers Mead Community Centre, Dulverton (adjacent to Exmoor Medical Centre) 10.15 for 10.30 am.  
31st January - Members Annual Lunch  
28th February - 'Shelter Box'  
A Talk by Simon Zeal  
on the emergency aid provided by this charity following world disasters.

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## VINTAGE FILM CLUB

(Second Wednesday)

2.30 at Fishers Mead Community Centre

### Wednesday 10th January

A Town Like Alice - Virginia  
McKenna and Peter Finch - 1956

### Wednesday 14th February

Lorenzo's Oil - Susan Sarandon  
and Nick Nolte - 1992

## DULVERTON ACTION GROUP -

LITTER PICKING (Third Sunday)

Sunday 21st January - 10.30

Meet by Heritage Centre - Everyone

Welcome and all kit supplied

Sunday 18th February as above.



Ye are cordially invited to forgather  
in the

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Mayhem at a

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on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

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# RECLAIMED



THE WATER IS RISING  
THE FLOODS ARE HERE

**It had been an ordinary January day.**

That is until an extraordinary thing happened: the water came and it didn't go away. The community had been told to evacuate their homes and meet at the highest, safest point: the village hall.

What happens when a community is in crisis? When tragedy is moments away and when your loved ones are nowhere to be seen, who do you ask for help?

RECLAIMED places the audience in the heart of a fictional village under siege.

Somerset's Wassail Theatre Company (REX THE KING, THE SOMERSET CHARABANC) has been working closely with the people, communities and organisations impacted by the 2013/14 floods of The Somerset Levels to create RECLAIMED.

The final show is inspired by true events.

*"These are important issues that need to be discussed"* Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group

*"Powerful and moving"* Bristol Old Vic

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WORLD WAR 1 CENTENARY  
COMMEMORATIONS

## Frederick Parkhouse

Fred was born in 1888 to Jack and Anne Parkhouse who at that time had the New Inn at Brompton Regis which they ran in conjunction with his business as a wheelwright and farmer. Fred had three brothers Charles, John (known as Jack) and William.

They moved to Dulverton and Jack senior took over the White Horse in the High Street. Jack senior and Charles both bought houses at the bottom of the Paddocks. Jack senior died at just 55 but Frederick continued to live there with his mother.

On leaving school Frederick had gone into catering and was working in Exeter, travelling down on the Exe Valley line.

With his catering background he joined the Army Service Corps in 1914 and later was transferred to the East Yorkshire Regiment, once again as a caterer.

However, with the continual loss of life he was pushed forward to the front line and was killed in action at Ypres on the 21st November 1917. He is commemorated at the Welsh Cemetery (Caesar's Nose).

*Tony Sloyer, Dulverton Heritage Centre*



LICENSED BAR  
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**OAKFORD VILLAGE HALL**  
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*Tuesday 23rd January*  
**DUNKIRK (12A)**

Visually stunning World War II drama about the evacuation of Allied soldiers from Dunkirk. Starring Tom Hardy, Kenneth Branagh and Mark Rylance.

*Tuesday 13th February*

**VICTORIA AND ABDUL (PG)**

Extraordinary true story of the friendship formed between Queen Victoria and a young Indian clerk during her Golden Jubilee. Starring Judy Dench.  
*Winsford Village Hall 7.30 p.m.*

### Save the date

Brushford Quiz Night is on  
Saturday 3rd March at Brushford  
Parish Hall starting at 6.30pm.

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# LIVE ON



## The Royal British Legion – Here to Help

Are you:

- currently serving or a veteran who has received at least 7 days' pay from the Armed Forces?
- a partner or widow(er) of someone who meets these criteria?

If so, you may be eligible for our help<sup>1</sup>

We offer information, advice and support on a wide variety of subjects.

For further information please contact Peter Maggs, Dulverton Branch of The Royal British Legion on 01398 323523 or email [peter.maggs@live.co.uk](mailto:peter.maggs@live.co.uk) or call Sue Cottrell, Dulverton Branch Secretary on 07969243887.

<sup>1</sup>Subject to a financial assessment

Advice Handy Vans

Social Support

Funding Information

Pensions

Did you or your spouse serve in the forces (Regular or National Service?). If so we would like to invite you for Coffee and Cake in at Dulverton Library from On: **TUESDAY 2ND JANUARY** From 10am to 12 noon

If you require transport please call 01398 323523

The Royal British Legion

The Royal British Legion  
Dulverton and District Branch BR2485

## DULVERTON & DISTRICT POPPY APPEAL RESULT FOR 2017

The Dulverton & District Branch of The Royal British Legion would like to acknowledge the outstanding support and generosity they received during this year's Poppy Appeal.

A magnificent sum of £5502.55 was raised and is the highest collected in recent years. It will be added to the national collection and enable the Legion to continue with its local benevolent work supporting both present and past service men and women.

If you are an ex-service personnel or a dependent, (National or Regular Service) and require support, we can help. Please contact Peter Maggs on 01398 323523 in the first instance.

## 90 year old Poppy Seller presented with raffle prize

In addition to Dot Warren (who lives at Abbeyfield House) celebrating her 90 th Birthday recently, she has been poppy selling this week in Dulverton on behalf of Dulverton Branch of The Royal British Legion and she has won a free raffle which was open to all who volunteered!



The photo shows her accepting the prize from Robin Foster-Brown (Treasurer). Also in photo with Dot - Peter Donnelly (Chairman), Kip Gilpin (Branch President), and Jan Ross.



The Royal British Legion

Dulverton and District Branch BR2485

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**Please Contact**

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 Physical, Psychological, Emotional & Spiritual.

## SAFER ROADS

We are at present a social media group of local residents who wish to make our roads safer. In particular Battleton and Brushford where inconsiderate driving is taking place as a daily occurrence .

Our aims are :

- To gain support
- To devise a plan where we can make a difference to the safety of all road users.
- To acknowledge that Battleton has a very diverse group of residents all with different needs and modes of transport.

Ideas put forward so far are,

- 20mph speed limit through Battleton .
- Self vibrating lines (speed awareness, as at Waterrow)
- 30mph sign to be moved further back to give drivers time to adhere to the speed limit before entering Battleton.
- Signs to warn drivers of no pavement.
- Signs in Brushford to warn road users of children playing on or near road

- Better lighting where children play
- Workshops at youth clubs, schools, etc for children on safe play and bike safety.

So far we've approached different members of groups who can lead us in the right direction, including the Police, Clerk to Town Council, County Council Member, etc.

We want to arrange to meet the full Town and Parish councils to give them our proposed ideas and seek further guidance,

Can you help?

Will you join us?

Will you help in any small way.

Please get in touch with me

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## St Nicholas Church Christmas Fair Brushford

Thank you to everyone for supporting the  
Christmas Fair which was a great success.  
The Fair was busy with lots of trade stall  
holders a raffle and tombola with  
the West Somerset Brass Band plus  
Father Christmas was in attendance.  
The afternoon raised a record £1905.

Thank you on behalf of the Christmas Fair  
Committee. Linda London St Nicholas PCC.

If anyone is interested in helping  
with the Christmas Fair in 2018 please  
contact Andrew Thomas on 01398 323018

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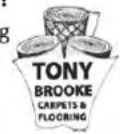
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As well as meeting others in similar situations, our trained volunteers are there to:

- offer a listening ear
- provide free information
- help signposting to other services

The groups are run on a drop-in basis – there is no need to book or to be referred

**Or perhaps you would like to become a volunteer to help run these groups?**

**OCTAGON THEATRE, YEOVIL BA20 1UX Wednesdays 10.30am – 12.30pm**  
**ST MARGARET'S HOSPICE, TAUNTON TA1 5HA Thursdays 2pm-4pm**

For further information please contact Lesley Burgess

E-mail: [lesley.burgess@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk](mailto:lesley.burgess@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk)

Tel: 0845 070 8910

Solar panels and new roof on the **Dulverton and Exmoor squash courts**, still the only publicly available, indoor sports facility on Exmoor. Thanks to Rob Brown's sponsorship in replacing the roof and our incorporating solar panels with a grant from the Exmoor Trust, we've been able to refurbish this 1984 community self build project. Then it was a £74,000 project which a lot of local volunteers, many still here, achieved for £34,000, paid off in very little time. Now the old codgers still left are ensuring the next generation can enjoy the facilities; they have variously

raised £15,000, £19,000, £2600, £2600(yes, twice), and £6600. Still raising more to improve insulation throughout the whole building.

**Exmoor Young Voices** have also raised £20,000, target £30,000 for three years, to contract a Young Coordinator to help young people who want to stay living and working on Exmoor (who we all need too), as well as improving digital inclusion, employment, training, and local wages to make life more affordable here for those future generations.

*Leslie Silverlock*

WINTER WALKS  
2017 –  
SOMERSET WILDLIFE  
TRUST RESERVES



The nights have drawn in and the warmth of Summer is but a faint memory. It's high temptation to just chuck on a few more woolly layers and curl up and hibernate in the warmth, much like the county's sleepy wildlife in the winter months, only braving the outdoors to get through the Christmas shopping list. But Somerset Wildlife Trust has got a better suggestion - ditch the busy high street, unravel yourself from rolls of wrapping paper, and head outside to enjoy the fresh, crisp air of the countryside and explore Somerset Wildlife Trust's Nature Reserves when they're at their most magical to get a festive feel good factor from the wonders of our county's wildlife instead.



© Mike Watson

### Langford Heathfield for a Winter Flutter

This reserve that hosts a beautiful array of butterflies throughout spring and summer, transforms in Winter to become a home for an array of birds such as the Tree Creepers, Goldcrests, Blue tits and Long-tailed tits. To witness their busy flight through the woodlands, you have a choice of two trails, both coincidentally festively marked, one in green and one in red. If you don't have to rush off and do the Christmas shopping you may like to take the long trail (marked with red arrows) which is approximately 3km. But if you just want a shorter ramble, you can take the shorter walk of 1 km (marked in green arrows). Whichever path you choose to take, look out for the sloes on Blackthorns, and the bright red berries of Red Guelder Rose.

The trails are on boardwalks, which helpfully guide you through both walks, however please make sure to wear sturdy footwear as it could be muddy, wet or frosty under foot. Along the way you will enter on to the glades - pretty as snow globe scene - followed by scrub that is crisp with Winter's chill and finally woodland you can see Jays flying overhead, going from tree to tree in search of its much loved meal of acorns.

If taking the long trail there's an opportunity to take a well-earned rest on the butterfly bench, the perfect place to whip out a flask of something warm to rejuvenate you for the rest of the walk. If you wish to take the shorter trail you can just follow the green arrows back, entering the wintery woodland along the way. Look out for the Jubilee seat so you can rest and take in the wonders of the reserve, keeping your eyes peeled and your ears alert for trotting Roe Deer and leaping Hares.

How to get there:

Open to the public all year round, the reserve is west of the village of Langford Budville, 1.9m (3 km) N-W of Wellington, on the road to Wiveliscombe. If you are travelling by bicycle, a National Cycle Network route crosses the southern end of the reserve. Parking can be found in lay-bys on the Wiveliscombe Road, or Poleshill Lane, near the information boards.

*For more information about accessibility, taking dogs and where to find this reserve and more, please visit their website: [www.somersetwildlife.org/reserves.html](http://www.somersetwildlife.org/reserves.html)*





## **Six Nations Rugby 2018 Dulverton Town Hall**

**Sat Feb 3rd: Wales v Scotland Kick Off 2:15  
France v Ireland Kick Off 4:45**

**Sun Feb 4th: Italy v England Kick Off 3:00**

**Sat Feb 24th: Ireland v Wales Kick Off 2:15  
Scotland v England Kick Off 4:45**

**Sat Mar 10th: Ireland v Scotland Kick Off 2:15  
France v England Kick Off 4:45**

**Sat Mar 17th: Italy v Scotland Kick Off 12:30  
England v Ireland Kick Off 2:45  
Wales v France Kick Off 5:00**



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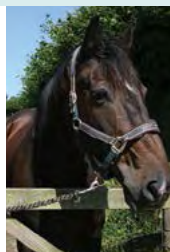
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**Brushford, Dulverton, Somerset**



## A DOG'S DAY OUT

### Happy New Year

"It's in with the New and out with the Old at this time of year" she said.

Do they? "And it's 'bout time Buddy you put yourself to good use. Give Buster your paw and put your thinking cap on." How am I expected to do that when I'm busy running around taking care of this property and waiting for you to come back I ask myself. "Try beginning with your name. Everything else will just follow on".

Okay. My name is Buddy ... Buddy Brown....

And we're all adopted in this house that's why we've been given her old family name.

Hey and I remember now, I found another Brown family in a box while she was out. I was sniffing around the Christmas tree – only checking for signs of movement you understand nothing edible, honest. These Browns had a bear a bit like me as he wears a coat when he's cold. Not sure about the hat and boots though or that I would eat marmalade.

There was a bottle of beer for dogs too under this tree with my name on it. Her educated friend from Walthamstow who carries around a stuffed bear and rabbit with a bow on it everywhere she goes said it was a pressie. I haven't tried it yet. It looks dodgy. I'll let Honey taste it when I've finished looking at it. She eats anything. I'm more of a meat man myself. I'd rather have got my teeth into her rabbit but I was given strict instructions not to touch it as her friend would be heartbroken.

Honey and I went on a trip one day to meet the Commando who takes us on extra long walks battling against



## The Winsford Dog School Winsford Village Hall



*Training for that perfect companion!*

**Classes on Monday evenings:**

**Reserve your place on  
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Puppies - 5:30pm

Improver/Adults - 6:30pm

Adults- 7:30pm

**Courses run for 6 weeks.**

**All welcome from pups to geriatrics.**

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[www.suzyandcanines.co.uk](http://www.suzyandcanines.co.uk)

[dilly7a@yahoo.com](mailto:dilly7a@yahoo.com)

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or training to get ahead!

whatever the weather has thrown at us. They're the best, really exciting. But this time there were a lot of commandos all rolling and running 'round in the mud chasing the ball. My Honey loved it. She's built like a sumo wrestler anyway and sits on top of me when she's had enough of playing. The commandos were the winners. Apparently top of the league. I think we might be going there again as dogs are welcome. Next time I'll take my red Elvis jacket with the furry collar; it was a bit nippy standing around in that icy blast.

Better go and see if Buster is awake and patrol the premises before checking what's for tea.

*Buddy Brown (a roving reporter) - pure Jack Russell*

*References:*

*The Adventures of Paddington Bear by Michael Bond*

*Snuffles Beer for Dogs*

*Minehead Barbarians Ladies RFU*



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*15th February*

A talk by **Helen Kearney**, Medical Herb Farmer.

*18th February*

**Potato Day**, Dulverton School 10.00am – 1.00pm

**TICKETS** : Available in advance from Dulverton Post Office or call 01398 323474, £5 to non-Members. The talk will take place at Dulverton Town Hall. Doors open at 6.45pm. Talk to start promptly at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be available.



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**EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK  
LOCAL PLAN ADOPTION**

The Exmoor National Park Local Plan is now available. It will guide development and the use of land on Exmoor until 2031 and indicates what will be permitted through planning applications. Its adoption follows scrutiny by an independent Inspector who conducted a thorough examination into the Plan and held public hearing sessions into the key issues that it seeks to address.


Many local households experience challenges finding suitable housing for themselves and their families and the new Local Plan gives priority to affordable housing for local people including through self-build. The previous 2005 Plan led to nearly 100 affordable homes for local people being

built in many communities across Exmoor. As a result, over 200 local people have been assisted across the moor - some living in homes they have built themselves, some by private developers or landlords and others by Housing Associations. More still needs to be done, and the new Plan widens opportunities for local people to address their housing needs including for those needing accessible or adaptable homes.

A message which came through strongly in consultations on the Plan was the importance of keeping viable working communities on the moor including younger people and families. Together with the focus on local needs homes, the new Plan looks to safeguard community services and facilities such as shops and pubs. There are also opportunities for businesses to extend, to re-use buildings or build new premises in settlements, as well as increased flexibility for some types of visitor accommodation. It is hoped that these measures

*(Continued on page 35)*

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(Continued from page 34)

will help make sure Exmoor's communities can continue to thrive in the future. As a National Park recognised nationally for its beauty, care has also been taken to ensure the Plan will conserve and enhance Exmoor's natural beauty and wildlife as well as its towns, villages and buildings.

National Park Authority Chairman Robin Milton said: "This new Plan for Exmoor is the result of extensive consultation with local communities, businesses and stakeholders. The starting point was the views and comments made by all those people who come along to one of the 'Your Future Exmoor' events and I am grateful to everyone who took the time then or who has contributed since. It is fantastic to have an up to date Local Plan which helps to give local communities and businesses opportunities to thrive, whilst conserving and enhancing the National Park and its special qualities."

## No limit to Exmoor's Dark Skies

Following a successful inaugural Dark Skies Festival Exmoor National Park Authority is launching a suite of new initiatives to further celebrate Exmoor's status as Europe's first International Dark Sky Reserve.

Over 2,000 people enjoyed 35+ events during the first ever Exmoor Dark Skies Festival, sponsored by Airband, held over half term. Despite cloud cover during many events the festival was a resounding success with the vast majority of events being fully booked in advance and visitors drawn from across the UK and beyond.

Exmoor became the very first International Dark Sky Reserve to be designated in Europe in 2011. The festival sought to celebrate the opportunities this provides as well as to give a boost to tourism outside of the peak season. Highlights included dusk safaris, stargazing adventures, wild glow stick swimming, an Astro Party and a giant mobile planetarium. Over 200 schoolchildren took part in a night-time adventure at

(Continued on page 36)

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(Continued from page 35)

Wimbleball as part of the festival and a new short film was premiered. The film incorporates stunning imagery of Exmoor's dark skies and introductions to some of the wonders that can be explored. The film will be available in the Lynmouth and Dunster National Park Centres as well as via the Exmoor National Parks' YouTube channel. Now the Exmoor National Park Authority is looking to build on this success.

150,000 Euros has been secured from the European Regional Development Fund (via the Interreg Atlantic area programme) to boost Astro Tourism in the area further. The AtlanticNetSky project will see Exmoor working with partners across the Atlantic area in places such as the Canary Islands, Spain, Ireland and Portugal to develop a network of astro-tourism destinations. There will be opportunities to share learning from across Europe and to develop a shared marketing programme. Locally there will be support for Exmoor businesses to develop new astronomy related tourism products, provision of a Dark Sky Discovery hub and

training opportunities.

The National Park Authority is also hosting a family stargazing weekend at their Pinkery Centre for Outdoor Learning from the 16 to 18 March 2018. The weekend, in the heart of the Dark Sky Reserve, will provide families and groups with an interest in astronomy the opportunity to discover together through the expertise of astronomer and author Seb Jay.



"Our status as Europe's first International Dark Sky reserve is of immense value to Exmoor. It recognises

(Continued on page 37)



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(Continued from page 36)

the fact that we have some of the darkest skies in the country and that we're proactively working to conserve them" said Dan James, Sustainable Economy Manager at Exmoor National Park. "More than that, it provides a great opportunity to encourage more people to visit and stay longer outside of the peak season. We are really pleased with how the festival has gone – not only did we attract new visitors to the area, we also engaged with many local communities and several businesses put on their own events within the festival programme. We are grateful to all those that were involved in supporting the festival from our sponsor, Airband, to those that volunteered to help events run smoothly."

"Looking ahead we're excited to have the opportunity to work with some of Europe's leading astro-tourism destinations to share learning and experiences and support our businesses to further utilise this unique asset."

For further details visit [www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/uk/stargazing](http://www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/uk/stargazing)

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If the answer's yes! you could be just the volunteer we value to help with a new Community Employment Hub in Dulverton. It will be held once a month on a Thursday morning at the Dulverton library.

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## Introducing your new Local Housing Contact

The Exmoor Rural Housing Network has been recruiting Local Housing Contacts from across Exmoor. These are people who have volunteered to offer support and a listening ear to people who are seeking to find suitable housing that they can afford and that meets their needs on Exmoor.

A Local Housing Contact is not a housing expert and will not necessarily be able to solve your housing problem. They will make themselves available to listen to and help people with a housing problem to think through

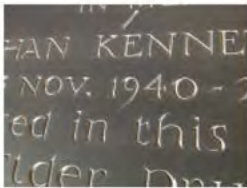
their options. They will put people in touch with people or agencies who might be able to help. While the aim will be to match people with a housing need with housing solutions this may not always be possible.

### Your Local Housing Contact

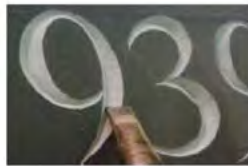
Your local housing contact for Dulverton is Carol Drummond. Carol works at school in Dulverton and loves living on Exmoor. Her email address is [caroldrummond11@gmail.com](mailto:caroldrummond11@gmail.com). If you or anyone you know might benefit from this sort of assistance please contact Carol.



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Trekking may have finished for the winter but some of our riding ponies have been showing their versatility by getting involved with things literary and historical.

Pony Tom was guest of honour when, early in November, about forty people gathered in the Green Room at the Pony Centre to celebrate the launch of Dr Sue Baker's latest book, *The Exmoor Pony Chronicles*, a collection of stories and reminiscences about Exmoor ponies and the Exmoor families and other people connected with them. Tom played a starring role as a pack pony helping to deliver the books. He also appears on the front cover as a traditional pack pony, with handlers in full period dress, taking part in the 2015 ENPA Mosaic Project Youth Walk across the route of the Exmoor Perambulation, the traditional long-distance walk dating back to the time of Edward 1st.



A different kind of pony transport was commemorated by Dr Helen Blackman, Exmoor Society archivist, who is researching the old postal routes across Exmoor. Helen and Pony Centre volunteer, Lisa Clarke, mounted on the Pony Centre's Fudge and Abbi, re-rode the 12 mile postal route from Withypool post office via Kiteridge Lane

and Landacre where the ponies enjoyed a short breather while cooling their feet in the Barle. The photo shows Tony Howard receiving a letter from Helen outside the post office where he has been postmaster for the past 20 years.

Until the 1970s the post was routinely delivered on foot or horseback over distances of up to 15 miles. Using maps and material from the Society's Dulverton Resource Centre, the Society is piecing together the history of the postal service on Exmoor. Helen said "As a horse rider I'm fascinated by the role horses and ponies have played in bringing news and information across the moor. This is also a wonderful opportunity to work with the Exmoor Pony Centre and highlight how hardy and useful the Exmoor ponies are."

Since its inception in 2000, the Moorland Mousie Trust has helped over 500 ponies. Every year we choose a theme for naming our foal intake and this year's theme is British birds, inspired by our first arrival who was already named Little Owl. Our ponies feature on our lovely 2018 calendar. At only £6 it is a bargain and also raises funds for our work with the foals. You can order online at [www.exmoorponycentre.org.uk/shop.php](http://www.exmoorponycentre.org.uk/shop.php) or by calling the Centre.

The Centre is now closed for the winter and will re-open on Sunday 11th February 2018. Riding will begin in late March.

Website: [www.exmoorponycentre.org.uk](http://www.exmoorponycentre.org.uk)

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## THE NIGHT DULVERTON WAS OCCUPIED



by local dance teacher Nicola Smith. The Policeman, Christopher Dubery made his Dulverton debut speaking very bad Franglais - "good moaning", "there will be a boot by the dick at midnight".

This play teases all the racial, sexual, and gender stereotypes and gave the audience good reason to clap and cheer. Banger Milton's striptease down to a basque adorned with swastikas brought the house down every night - and all carried out without offence or insult.

At the Dulverton Players production of 'Allo, Allo', 91 year old June Day sat bolt upright in the front row and shouted "Heil Hitler" in unison with the 14 comic actors on stage. She had been captive in Jersey during the Nazi Occupation. "It was terrible, not this much fun," she said in the interval. In all, 430 people came to laugh at this hilarious comedy staged by Producer Christine Dubery.

Sound men, Ken Warren and Gerry Lewis hit all their gongs and machine guns on cue, Steve Hall's lighting moved seamlessly between sets and the costumes, which were colourful, left you in no doubt who was playing what.

Written by the creators of TV's 'Allo, Allo', this is their two hour stage version. The characters are the same eccentrics and villains who want to steal the priceless painting of 'The Fallen Madonna with the Big Boobies' and make their fortunes when the war is over.

Our next production is Peter Pan, which has already been cast, and will start rehearsing after Christmas and be staged, full of local children, next Easter.

*Les Silverlock*



Rene is the star, played with conspiratorial bonhomie by the play's Director, Ryun Smallbone, stepping forward every now and again to tell us what is going on amid his affairs with Mimi and Yvette (play debutantes Suzy Wall and Kerrie Jones), the saucy waitresses who supplement their incomes loving, confusing and outwitting German officers. Rene's wife is brilliantly played



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| Brompton Regis P.C.: S Buchanan                      | <a href="mailto:brpcclerk@gmail.com">brpcclerk@gmail.com</a>                                         | 01984 641706 |
| Brushford P.C.: Clerk: Clive Knight,                 | <a href="mailto:cliveknight@me.com">cliveknight@me.com</a>                                           | 01398 331917 |
| Cutcombe P.C.: Clerk: Marlene P Allinson             | <a href="mailto:cutcombeclerk@btinternet.com">cutcombeclerk@btinternet.com</a>                       | 01643 708810 |
| Dulverton T.C.: Sec: Miss A. Rose                    | <a href="mailto:clerk@dulvertontowncouncil.co.uk">clerk@dulvertontowncouncil.co.uk</a>               | 01398 324561 |
| East Anstey P.C.: Clerk: Mrs Jill Larcombe           | <a href="mailto:eastansteypc@yahoo.co.uk">eastansteypc@yahoo.co.uk</a>                               | 01884 252647 |
| Exford P.C: Clerk: Jane Laycock                      | <a href="mailto:parishclerk@exford.org">parishclerk@exford.org</a>                                   | 07388 500912 |
| Exmoor P..C.: Clerk: Verity Vigars                   | <a href="mailto:exmoorparishcouncil@gmail.com">exmoorparishcouncil@gmail.com</a>                     | 01643 831511 |
| Exton P.C.: Clerk: Andrew Moore                      | <a href="mailto:clerk@extonparishcouncil.co.uk">clerk@extonparishcouncil.co.uk</a>                   | 01643 851694 |
| Upton P.C.: Clerk: Mrs P Purvis                      | <a href="mailto:uptonparishclerk@hotmail.co.uk">uptonparishclerk@hotmail.co.uk</a>                   | 01398 371548 |
| Winsford P.C.: Clerk: Caroline Moore                 | <a href="mailto:winsfordparishcouncil@gmail.com">winsfordparishcouncil@gmail.com</a>                 | 01643 851694 |
| Withypool & Hawkridge P.C.: Clerk: Charlotte Hornsby | <a href="mailto:withypoolhawkridgeparishclerk@gmail.com">withypoolhawkridgeparishclerk@gmail.com</a> | 01643 831535 |
| Wiveliscombe T.C.: Clerk: Bryan Howe                 | <a href="mailto:townclerk@wiveliscombe.com">townclerk@wiveliscombe.com</a>                           | 01643 704963 |

#### LOCAL CHURCHES AND CHAPEL CONTACT NUMBERS

|                                                                              |              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| All Saints Church, Dulverton: Rector Andrew Thomas                           | 01398 323018 |
| Brompton Regis with Withiel Florey, Upton and Skilgate: Rector Andrew Thomas | 01398 323018 |
| Brushford: Rector Andrew Thomas                                              | 01398 323018 |
| Exmoor Benefice: The Reverend David Weir, The Rectory, Exford, TA24 7LX      | 01643 831330 |
| Catholic Church: Priest: Father Michael                                      | 01643 702201 |
| Dulverton Congregational Church, Chapel St: Minister:                        | 01398 323744 |
| The Traditional Anglican Church: Loxbear, Priest Reverend Aird               | 01769 581042 |
| Exmoor Benefice Choir: Mrs B. Staples                                        | 01643 851396 |



**ARTS**

Dulverton Art Group: Sec: Mrs G Rose, 2 Stable Mews, The Square, Witheridge 01884 860495  
 Dulverton Camera Club: Sec: Peter Main, 4 Valley View, Morebath, Tiverton, EX16 01398 331556  
 Dulverton Players: Chair: Les Silverlock 01398 341850

**SPORTS CLUBS**

Anstey Short Mat Bowls: Chris Dale 01398 341615  
 Bridgetown Cricket: Sec: Mr. D. Sherring, Mid-Wicket, Bridgetown, Dulverton. TA22 9JN  
 administrator@bridgetowncc.co.uk  
 Brushford Short Mat Bowling: Sec: Sam Takle 01398 324147  
 Cutcombe Cricket: Sec: Mrs Maria Adams, 1 The Beeches, Wheddon Cross 01643 841036  
 Dulverton Angling Assn: c/o Pat Veale, 9 High St., Dulverton, TA22 9HB 01398 323409  
 Dulverton Badminton Club: sec Rachel Gliddon 01398 323831  
 Dulverton Cricket Club: Robert Dubery 01398 323474  
 Dulverton Cricket Club, Colts: Mrs Christine Dubery 01398 323474  
 Dulverton & District Tennis Club: Sarah Collins 01398 332856  
 Dulverton & Exmoor Squash Club: Membership Sec: Chris Winter. chriscwin@aol.com 07710 046107  
 Dulverton Jnr. F.C: Sec: Mrs Christine Dubery 01398 323474  
 Dulverton Netball Club: Sec Lindsay Smith, 25, Nicholas Close, Brushford 01398 323834  
 Dulverton Snooker: Sec: Mr. D. Bodger, 39 Fishers Mead, Dulverton, TA22 9EN 01398 323899  
 Dulverton Sports and Social: Chair: Carl Hooper 01398 324494  
 Dulverton Sportsfield Management: Adrian Smith 01398 323834  
 Dulverton Senior Table Tennis: Richard Archer 01398 324160  
 Dulverton Town F.C: Sec: Mr. J. Atkins, 1 Exebridge, Dulverton. TA22 9AY 01398 323787  
 Exford Croquet Club: Chair: Connie Heywood 01398 341556  
 Moorland Hall Sports: info@wheddoncross.org.uk  
 Tai Chi: Instr. Andrew Blabey RITCUGB andrewbee@tiscali.co.uk 01398 332104  
 Wimblesball Fly Fishers: enquiries@fishingthewest.co.uk

**PRE-SCHOOL GROUPS**

All Saints School & Nursery: 01398 323231 & 01398 323223  
 Anstey Parent and Toddlers Group: Jodie Thomas 01398 341845  
 Little Owls Nursery at All Saints C of E School, Dulverton 01398 324360

**SCHOOLS**

All Saints C of E School: Fishers Mead TA22 9EN 01398 323231  
 Cutcombe C of E First School: Wheddon Cross, TA24 7DZ 01643 841462  
 Dulverton Junior School: Barns Close West, TA22 9EE 01398 323223  
 Brompton Regis Toddlers: Mrs.S. Julian, Court Place Farm, Skilgate 01398 331031  
 Dulverton Children's Centre: All Saints School, Fishers Mead TA22 9EN 01398 324360  
 Dulverton Family and Toddlers Group: tba  
 East Anstey Primary School: East Anstey, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 9JP 01398 341369  
 Little Owls Nursery: All Saints School, Fishers Mead TA22 9EN 01398 324360  
 Dunkery PreSchool: Supervisor: Mrs. S. Matravers, Shute Close, Cutcombe, Minehead 01643 841008

**WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS**

Anstey W.I.: President: Mrs. C Wood 01398 341472  
 Brompton Regis W.I.: Sec: Mrs. P. Beecham, Rose Cottage, Brompton Regis 01398 371407  
 Cutcombe & District M.U.: President, Pam Anson 01643 851616  
 Cutcombe & District W.I.: Mrs. Pam Anson 01643 851616  
 Dulverton & Brushford M. U.: Mrs A. Gregory, 22 Jury Road, Dulverton, TA22 9DU 01398 323587  
 Exford Moorhens: Chairman: Mrs. I. Collett 01643 831016

**YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AND ACTIVITIES**

Bampton Scouts/Cubs/Beaver748s: Tony Weiss 01398 331901  
 Dulverton & District Young People's Project: Coordinator: Judy Ernest 01398 323313  
 Dulverton Ballet: Mrs Wightmore, Flat 3, Easter House, St. Andrews St. Tiverton 01884 253999  
 Exmoor Community Youth Club: Organiser Laura Tasker, Fridays 6 – 8 pm 01643 831125

## OTHERS

|                                                                                                                                 |               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Abbeyfield House                                                                                                                | 01398 324136  |
| Brushford Luncheon Club: Treasurer: Margaret Albery                                                                             | 01398 324587  |
| Care Direct for help and advice: <a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk">www.somerset.gov.uk</a>                                   | 0300 1232224  |
| Cutcombe Flower & Produce Show: Sue White                                                                                       | 01643 841142  |
| Dulverton Action Group: Magdalena Harding                                                                                       | 01398 323 785 |
| Dulverton & Bampton Luncheon Club (Ex-Probus): Organiser: Terence Dapp <a href="mailto:terrydapp@aol.com">terrydapp@aol.com</a> | 01398 332252  |
| Dulverton & District Civic Soc: Kathy Currie, Bramble Bank, Ellersdown Lane, Brushford, Dulverton TA22 9BH                      | 07493 518350  |
| Dulverton & Southern. Exmoor Twinning: Chair: Steve Ford, Dulverton                                                             | 01398 323016  |
| Dulverton Bridge Club: Sec. Brian Hughes, <a href="http://www.Bridgewebs.com/dulverton">www.Bridgewebs.com/dulverton</a>        | 01398 331219  |
| Dulverton Dance:                                                                                                                | 01398 341850  |
| Dulverton Ballroom Dance: Sec: Mrs Christine Dubery                                                                             | 01398 323474  |
| Dulverton Development Forum: Sec: Mrs J. Ross                                                                                   | 01398 323818  |
| Dulverton Films: Jan Ross                                                                                                       | 01398 323818  |
| Dulverton Fellowship for Mental Health: Marion Silverlock                                                                       | 01398 341850  |
| Dulverton Gardening Club: Roger Hammond                                                                                         | 01398 323954  |
| Dulverton Group Exmoor Society: Sec: Dr Ken Mills                                                                               | 01398 331482  |
| Dulverton Vets                                                                                                                  | 01398 323285  |
| Dulverton Vintage Films: Magdalena Harding                                                                                      | 01398 323785  |
| Dulverton Voluntary Drivers: Mike Beale                                                                                         | 07743 885115  |
| Exmoor Patient Group: Chair: Sandra Wilson, W Nightcott, Dulverton TA22 9RT                                                     | 01398 324687  |
| Exmoor Beekeepers Association: Sec: Caroline Ralph                                                                              | 01643 851622  |
| Exmoor Community Bus Assn: Sec: Mr. G Knock, 6 Pounds Close, Brushford TA22 9AL                                                 | 01398 324555  |
| Exmoor Pony Centre: Ashwick, Dulverton, Somerset, TA22 9QE                                                                      | 01398 323093  |
| Exmoor Pony Society: Sec: Sue McGeever, Woodmans, Britthem Bottom Cullompton, Devon EX15 1NB                                    | 01884 839930  |
| Exmoor Rotary Club: Humphrey Berridge (PRO), Station Hse, Luke St, Bampton                                                      | 01398 332324  |
| Royal British Legion Dulverton: Peter Donnelly                                                                                  | 01398 323030  |
| TA22 Voluntary Lift Scheme (formerly Brushford Voluntary Lifts): Chair: T. Wilson                                               | 07528 326880  |
| Tiverton Model Aero Club: Sec: Mr. P Veale, 9 High St., Dulverton TA22 9HB                                                      | 01398 323409  |
| U3A Exmoor: Yvonne Moorfoot, 3 Lamb Back, Dulverton                                                                             | 01398 323529  |
| West Somerset Advice Bureau:                                                                                                    | 01643 704624  |

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