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## **EXMOOR NEWS** COVERING SOUTHERN EXMOOR

Some of you eagle-eyed readers may have noticed some new place names on the cover. Yes, we have expanded our area and print run, and you may have noticed that this issue is a bumper edition. If you live in or near any of these places, we would be delighted to include your community group/event free of charge... if there is room.

Apart from all the regular seasonal events, we have some new ones, including the Exmoor Open Water Swim, for which you could win free entry through this magazine! Correctly answer one question and email or post it to us to have your name put into our draw. The winner picked out of a hat could get a free swim in Wimbleball Lake... brrrrr... Enjoy!!

Please continue to let advertisers know if you found them in our magazine as it means we can keep providing our magazine free to you. Please do send in your stories...

#### Best wishes, Ceri Keene and Claire Savill

E: exmoornews@gmail.com T: 07497 914441 W: www.exmoornews.co.uk

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

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



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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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<u>Sunday Lunch Offer:</u> Buy one Sunday Roast and get a second Roast for only half price. Only applicable to telephone bookings quoting "Sunday Exmoor Half" until 30<sup>th</sup> May

<u>Wine and Dine</u>: ~ Book now for our seasonal al a carte main menu and receive a complimentary bottle of wine per four dining. Only available on reservations quoting "Exmoor Wine and Dine Offer" See website for further offer details.

Daily Menu du Jour: £16.50 for 2/£20 for 3 courses available lunch & pre-7pm dinner

<u>Seasonal al a Carte Menu:</u> £25 for 2/£28 for 3 courses available noon-2:30pm lunch & dinner 6-9:30pm: showcasing exquisite and flavoursome fine dining, with a classic French twist, prepared by Head Chef Sam Salway - Booking essential





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Morebath Yoga, Monday 10.20-12 noon Come & joi We would love to see you - all abilities welcome. Pay-as- Forward dates: May 8 - 15 - 22 5 & 19 June For info: 01398 332334 or e.mail: rafton.mail@rockspr	you-go.

**Exford Garden Club...** Are having a Plant Sale and Coffee Morning 13<sup>th</sup> May 10.30-12.00 in Exford Village Hall. In aid of Somerset and Dorset Air Ambulance and Exford Garden Club.

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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.

Wednesday 31st May 'Further History of the Knight Family on Exmoor, and their Lost Gardens at Simonsbath' A talk by Rob Wilson-North

Wednesday 28th June 'A Personal and General History of Butlins' A talk by Billy Ferris **Dulverton Action Gorup Litterpicking...** Sun 21<sup>st</sup> May-10.30. Meet by the Heritage Centre. Everyone welcome and all kit supplied. Sun 18<sup>th</sup> June - 10.30 as usual.

**Fun Ride or Run and Dog Show.** From Wheddon Cross around Dunkery. With optional jumps. Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August 11am. More to follow Karen Stevens 01643 831236



EXMOOR NEWS

## IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE WOODS TODAY....

I like to know what's going on around my patch. So when I learned that Exmoor National Park Authority volunteers have the chance to see parts of the moor not normally accessible to the general public I was interested!

So I signed up to go monitoring dormouse boxes. I was introduced to 'the gang' by Pat the Volunteer and Outreach Officer and then we traipsed off into the woods. The first boxes were quite accessible, but then we encountered slippery bluebell leaves, brambles, uprooted trees, streams and steep muddy slopes. Being a bit of a tomboy in my youth I was hooked. You have to be licenced to handle dormice, but we assist by identifying dormice nests, rather than woodmice, bluetit, or bees nests who also like to use the boxes!

Since that day I have visited the three monitoring sites, helped kids build dormouse boxes at a Big Adventure Day, participated in a 'small mammal trapping' course run by the National Trust, attended a conference in Cornwall, helped coppice a small area of woodland and even seen a real live dormouse (just the one so far, but we live in hope).

I have met all sorts of strange and interesting people – birders, batters, insect lovers and plantologists. I have been out in all weathers, at all times of year, on different parts of Exmoor. So if you go down to the woods today, you never know who you might meet!

If you'd like to find out more about volunteering on Exmoor, please contact the Get Involved team on 01398 323665 or email getinvolved@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk



exmoornews.co.uk

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#### WEST SOMERSET TALKING NEWSPAPER

The West Somerset Talking Newspaper is a registered charity formed in 1980 and its purpose is to supply a free local news service to blind and partially sighted persons across the whole of West Somerset and a large part of Exmoor. It is staffed entirely by volunteers and receives no grants but instead relies on generous legacies, donations, collections, etc.

The service is based at a studio in Williton and provides regular news stories from the West Somerset Free Press by way of tape or disc to grateful listeners in the areas described.

Once a potential client has been identified (which is generally via a Doctor, Eye Specialist, Social Worker or friend) the Talking Newspaper does the rest by visiting the person concerned and, providing a medical criteria is met,

supplies free listening equipment and guidance on the use of same.

The listener then has a choice of receiving tapes or discs on a fortnightly basis and postage is free. The entire process is designed to help the client without them having to worry in any way.

Should you know of a person whose quality of life could be improved by the use of this valuable service kindly contact Roger Hurst, the Talking Newspaper Chairman, on 01984 640060 who will be happy to provide further information and assistance.

An exhibition entitled '**The Edge** of Exmoor, land and beast' at Dulverton Guildhall from April 30th - 6th May. Featuring paintings by Keri Manning-Dedman and Jane Hollowood, with ceramics by Jacki Leighton-Boyce



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**EXMOOR NEWS** 





#### **Dulverton Town Hall**

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#### A UNITED KINGDOM (Cert 12A)

111 mins

Based on extraordinary true events, Seretse Khama, the King of Botswana, met Ruth Williams, a London office worker in 1947. They were a perfect match, yet their proposed marriage was challenged not only by their families but by the British and South African governments. The latter had recently introduced the policy of apartheid and found the notion of a biracial couple ruling a neighboring country intolerable. South Africa threatened the British: either thwart the couple or be denied access to South African uranium and gold and face the risk of South Africa invading Botswana. An absorbing look at a true life love story.

#### Friday May 26th

Director: Damien Chazelle

Sebastian (Ryan Gosling) and Mia (Emma Stone) are drawn together by their common desire to do what they love. But as success mounts they are faced with decisions that begin to fray the fragile fabric of their love affair, and the dreams they worked so hard to maintain in each other threaten to rip them apart.

LION (Cert PG)

LA LA LAND (Cert 12A)

#### Friday June 9th

**Director: Garth Davis** 

Five year old Saroo gets lost on a train which takes him thousands of miles across India, away from home and family. Saroo must learn to survive alone in Kolkata, before ultimately being adopted by an Australian couple. Twenty-five years later, armed with only a handful of memories, his unwavering determination and a revolutionary technology known as Google Earth, he sets out to find his lost family and finally return to his first home. Six Oscar nominations and starring Dev Patel.

#### Friday June 23rd

#### MOONLIGHT (Cert PG)

111 mins

**Director: Barry Jenkins** A look at three defining chapters in the life of Chiron, a young black man growing up in Miami. His epic journey to manhood is guided by the kindness, support and love of the community that helps raise him. A brilliantly and sensitively crafted film.

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.

### 

## Vintage Film Club

2.30 pm\* at Fishers Mead Community Centre (\*PLEASE NOTE: we will be starting the film at 2.30 pm):

Wed 10th May – The Secret Garden - starring Kate Maberly & Maggie Smith – 1993

Wed 14th June - Guys and Dolls - starring Marlon Brando, Jean Simmons & Frank Sinatra – 1955



118 mins

128 mins

#### THE EXMOOR SOCIETY ANNUAL GUIDED WALKS PROGRAMME 2017

The Exmoor Society is now the largest provider of guided walks on Exmoor and this year sees a further expansion of their programme with 33 walks planned. Running from 5th April to 26th October 2017, the walks cover a wide variety of landscapes and subjects across Exmoor and offer opportunities to:

• Discover prehistoric sites on 'A Walk Through Two Iron Ages', 'From Withypool to Tarr Steps, a step back in time' and 'Dulverton Woodland Walk'

• Enjoy stunning Exmoor landscapes on 'The Hidden Landscape of Culbone Wood', 'Avill Valley Vistas', 'Two Exmoor Rivers and Villages', 'Horner Woods and Water and 'To the Source of the River Tone'

• Hear about figures from Literature and the Arts and see the landscapes that inspired them on 'In the Footsteps of Rachel Reckitt, Sculptor, Engraver & Welder', 'To Culbone, in Coleridge's Footsteps' and 'Lorna Doone – A Shorter walk'

- Explore the history of Exmoor settlements on 'Discovering Dunster's Hidden History' and 'Lynton and Valley of Rocks An Historic Tour'
- Learn about Exmoor wildflowers, insects & lichens on 'Wildlife of the Doone Valley and Moorland', 'Discovering the Flowers of the Barle Valley' and 'Wildflowers of Watersmeet Woodlands'

• Spot wildlife (hopefully, but no guarantee!) on 'Ilkerton Ridge and the first Cuckoo', 'Ponies on Winsford Hill' and 'Autumn Sights and Sounds around Dunkery'

Also new for 2017 is 'In Search of John Knight's Lost Mansion' led by Rob WilsonNorth, ENPA Conservation Manager. This walk links with his talk on this subject at the Simonsbath Festival 2017. The Headwaters of the River Exe Project will lead a walk 'Upstream Thinking' around Wimbleball Lake focussing on their work in improving the water quality on Exmoor.



These are just some of the walks on offer with the Exmoor Society in 2017. The programme provides a wonderful opportunity to walk through the splendour of Exmoor's beautiful landscapes and villages, starting from different locations across Exmoor and in the company of knowledgeable and welcoming guides. There is no charge for the walks but a small donation is welcomed from non-members. Some walks end with an optional pub lunch or afternoon tea - a social opportunity for the walkers and support for local businesses, not to mention welcome post-walk refreshments!

Full details can be found on the Society website www.exmoorsociety.com or at their Resource Centre, 34 High Street, Dulverton. For any queries, contact info@exmoorsociety. com or 01398 323335. The Society looks

forward very much to welcoming you along.



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EXMOOR NEWS

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#### Local author, local subject

BOOK LAUNCH: On Saturday 13 May 2017 at 11 a.m. Fr Robert Miller will be introducing his latest book in St Stanislaus' Church, High Street, Dulverton TA22 9HB. The subject is John Ashley, a very unusual Anglican clergyman who founded the 1835 Bristol Channel Mission to visit windbound sailors in the Bristol Channel. between Bristol, and Caldey and Lundy Ashley's pioneering work Islands. placed him in the ancestry of several of today's societies working among seamen. He was ordained by the Bishop of Salisbury, priested by the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and held brief curacies in the West of England before taking to the sea. He was an inspiration to many, but an extremely awkward man with a gift for falling out with those who tried

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Richard Smith Agricultural Engineer North Molton, Devon to help him; altogether, a rather unusual story with unexpected turns and unintentionally humourous episodes. Copies of Dr Ashley's Pleasure Yacht, newly published by Lutterworth, with a Foreword by the National Director of the Apostleship of the Sea, along with Fr Robert's previous books will be available for purchase.

Fr Robert Miller Parish of The Sacred Heart Tisbury and All Saints Wardour 01747 870228 rwhm274@btinternet.com



**Dulverton Netball Club** is celebrating its 12th season in style with a full programme of competitive matches, coaching sessions and social events to enjoy. In the Exeter & District Netball League, the team are currently tied in second position with two matches left to play – if the winning streak continues, then promotion beckons. The Club also play in the Taunton Spring and Summer Social Leagues, and this year will be entering two teams. Matches start on May 17th and run until July. New members are always welcome to help fill any gaps.

Closer to home, we train every Thursday, 6.30-8.00pm, at Dulverton Junior School, Barns Close, TA22 9DE. Costs are £10pcm (full membership) or £3 a session (nonmembers). We also welcome social members at £10pa. Recent socials include Air Extreme in Barnstaple and a meal out in Bampton. Coming up... a themed Eurovision party!

For all the latest news and events, search for Dulverton Netball Club on Facebook or phone Lindsay Smith on 07973 146571.

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#### WORLD WAR 1 CENTENARY COMMEMORATIONS

John Tarr Born in 1879 at No 1 Bere Cottages Brushford to Benjamin, who was a Railway worker, and Elizabeth with a brother Harry and sisters Elizabeth and Mary. His father died in 1890 and in 1891 John was a farm worker for the Follett's at Nightcott, Brushford, and then in 1901 he was working as a Carter and living at the New Inn in Back Street, Dulverton, where Bill Dart was the landlord.

He married Frances Thomas, a Dulverton girl, in 1904 and they had

three children, Edwin, Frances and William. By 1911 they were living in Marsh Bridge Cottage and he was working as a farm labourer, probably on the Northmoor Estate.

They moved to 2 Weir Head Cottages and John joined the Devonshire Regiment in 1914. He was posted to France in March 1915 and was killed in action on 4th May 1915. He is buried at Le Trou Aid Post Cemetery, Fleux Baix near Armentieres.

Several of his relatives are still in Dulverton.

Tony Sloley Dulverton Heritage Centre













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# By George Macpherson, freelance writer, and formerly broadcaster on rural affairs with BBC Radio and TV South Remember Farmlink?

It was the nearest to the internet that we had at the time, and the late Alick Barnes of Morebath was one of the instigators who promoted it as a means of bringing business information to farmers and landowners. It was due to Alick that I 'discovered' Dulverton, because my wife Jane and I supplied him with daily bulletins of farming news for a year or two, back in the eighties – before online news became the norm. We visited Exmoor and chose Dulverton as our 'eventual home'

Daily news for those bulverton as our eventual nome. Daily news for those who manage and make a living from the countryside is very exciting and endlessly full of variety. Every day, individual farmers use a mix of all the sciences – for example chemistry, (for soil analysis, crop protection, pharmaceuticals and more); engineering – for tractors and all kinds of machinery and processing equipment – and today, digital tools for security, record keeping, animal tagging and automation. Then there is accountancy and administration – made almost impossible by Government's confused muddling; and veterinary science, animal husbandry, wildlife control, environmental issues and of course, the weather, from which we can expect more shocks and unprecedented change. Land managers have all that to cope with – and need accurate information.

Add to this their knowledge of every inch of their property, its history and the memories of good harvests, dramatic hunts, accidents and disasters, floods, droughts and hurricanes — and the fresh air, wonderful views, dawns and sunsets that are the envy of townees around Europe.

So agricultural journalism always has plenty to talk about! On and off for 20 years it was invigorating and rewarding to spend the day gleaning news from around the world to broadcast live next morning at dawn on BBC Radio 4's Farming Today and various other programmes. You never knew who was listening: for example when Number 10 called because 'Maggie' wanted to know more about 'cow madness' after BSE was becoming really scary and we gave it a nick-name that became, the next day 'mad cow disease'.

As'an old hack', now avoiding news and over-excitement, it's equally rewarding and stimulating to live some of the lives one might have lived but writing novels that finish up satisfactorily and where all kinds of forbidden fruit are tasted. A novelist can take opportunities missed in previous lives; relate incidents and situations encountered decades ago but still shocking, hilarious, touching or intriguing. To sum up – being a writer on rural affairs is truly, just the job: highly recommended.

## A new novel by a Dulverton author



22

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#### The Heritage Exmoor Pony Festival May - Nov 2017

Following last year's event in August, the Moorland Exmoor Pony Breeders Group (MEPBG) is extending the Heritage Exmoor Pony Festival this year, with the aim of promoting the free-living foals of Exmoor National Park. Starting in May, people will have the opportunity to see the newly-arriving moorland foals and attend a range of events and activities, culminating in the autumn gathering of the pony herds, when some of the newly weaned foals will be looking for good homes.

During the season, there will be a long-running Exmoor pony photo-art exhibition; workshops on discovering, understanding and training Exmoor ponies, photographing wild ponies and arts & crafts; social events; pony gatherings; illustrated talks; farm and stud visits; archeological and local interest Exmoor pony walks; Exmoor pony showing classes and other activities. This year, the Heritage Exmoor Pony Festival will embrace other iconic Exmoor moorland animals alongside the ponies, including Exmoor Horn and Devon Close Wool Sheep, Red Devon Cattle and Red Deer. One of the festival's aims is to improve understanding of how the unique free-living Exmoor pony herds are maintained within the moorland farming environment.



The HEPF Calendar of Events will be evolving through the season and can be found on the MEPBG website at http://www.mepbg. co.uk/2017-heritage-festivalevents.







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### 2nd May

Visit to Hangeridge Farmhouse, morning, admission £3.00. Nynehead, Court, Nynehead, Wellington, afternoon, admission £6.50, including guided tour and cream tea. Times to be confirmed.

#### 18th May

Late colour for Autumn and early Winter, a talk by Sarah Chesters from RHS Rosemoor.

#### 3rd June

Annual Plant Sale at Budds House , Rosemary Lane, Dulverton, 10.30am -1.30pm. Refreshments available, tea, coffee and a selection of cakes.

#### 6th June

Visit to Kelways Nursery, Langport, admission  $\pm 2.00$ , times to be confirmed.

#### 15th June

Bulbs throughout the Year, a talk by Lady Rosemary Fitzgerald.

If you would like to join one of the visits or book a place on the bus please contact Jenny Boyce 01398 323463.

All talks are at Dulverton Town Hall from 7.00pm, non members welcome admission £3.00, refreshments available. For any further information please visit the Dulverton Gardening Club website www.dulvertongardeningclub.co.uk and www.facebook.com/Dulverton-Gardening-Club

#### Wednesday 17th May Wednesday 21st June A Visit to Agatha Christie's Three into One does go! holiday home, Greenway A day out in Somerset about £10 + your lunch The Dartmouth to Greenway 1. Tour of Cleeve Abbey Ferry is definitely the best where visitors can way to visit Greenway. (£8 return) catch a glimpse of Monastic life from 800 years ago. 2. Lunch at Torre Cider Farm Agatha Christie's Greenway House inspired a murder mystery or two. Find out about the places which featured in her 3. A visit to the Bakelite Museum story "Dead Man's housed in an old watermill. Now Folly", and how true to life it is home to a collection of vintage (£10.30, NT Members free) plastics such as radios, cameras, telephones and even Advance booking essential, especially / if you need a seat on the bus a Bakelite coffin. **Contact Linda Hammond** 01398 323954 Events organised by Dulverton Group Exmoor Societ



Exmoor News is published every two months, 2,700 copies printed (covering southern Exmoor) and also published online at www.exmoornews.co.uk For more information E: exmoornews@gmail.com T: 07497 914441



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#### LEAVE BEFORE DAWN SAT 24th JUNE

Back by very popular demand, Leave Before Dawn will be playing a live set outdoors (or undercover if weather demands!). No tickets needed - just turn up! Make a day of it! For more information - 01643 851507.









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#### EXMOOR CROQUET CLUB

From April to October the Exmoor Croquet Club will be playing on the QE 2 Playing Field behind the church at Exford every Tuesday at 2pm.
We are a friendly club who play for fun and companionship. You don't need to be 'sporty' or 'athletic', so why not come and enjoy a game? We'd love to see you.

For more details contact:

Diana 01643 831439; Ines 01643 831016; Connie 01398 341566



exmoornews.co.uk



#### Commandos

Mud, Mud glorious mud, nothing quite like it for cooling the

blood. So follow me, follow; down to the hollow, and there we shall wallow in glorious mud. And the no. 1 spot in this month's chart goes to ...(drum roll please maestro) ....the top field gate at Simonsbath!! Here such glory had the power to suck one's welly boots off. "Only held on by my bunions" she said later. "But what" you may ask "happened to poor Buster"? Well obviously my first reaction was to turn round and get back to the car as guickly as possible but my Buddy had already got through to the next field (dragged through more like by the younger member of the group with an ambition to join the commandos). "C'mon Buster" she shouted stood up to her knees in the stuff and trying not to fall over. "Use the bits where the water runs clear". That's no good, I can't swim. Bother, the commando's coming to get me. I'm going to have to Run... and past the woman who's still trying to stay upright.... phew. Now there's living proof that four legs are better than two. A close runner up and in 2nd spot goes to the climb off a field footpath near Exford that's been blocked by a fallen tree. Here my buddy and I were able to make great use of four legs to scamper up a wet bank using little shelves of earth for our small paws to land on. Not so for our 2-footed friends who were seen in the most curious of positions for what appeared to be a very long time, hanging onto clumps of long grass. Perhaps if they had taken it a little more seriously they would not have kept sliding back down to the bottom. However, the commando's warning that they stopped serving food in 20 minutes did the trick.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Peanut who wrote to me recently to say how much he enjoyed reading my column and, as requested, I am arranging to send you my paw print.

Buster Brown (Jack Russell cross type) correspondent.

References: The Hippopotamus Song, Flanders and Swann



Coffee Morning Tuesday 20th June 2017 10.30 - 12.30 at FORDHOLLOW, Withiel Florey, TA24 7DD Tel: 01398 371208 Bring and Buy, Raffle, Coffee, Tea, cakes, etc. ALL WELCOME



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EXMOOR NEWS

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#### Simonsbath Festival 2017 The biggest and best ever.

Concerts include The Lyra Ensemble with sublime choral music from the Russian Orthodox Church (May 14), 1920s jazz from London's most stylish vintage jazz band The Dime Notes (May 27), the supremely talented violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen with her new quartet Albion (June 3), the vibrant sounds of Latin America from Kabasa (June 10) and another knock-out show from the irrepressibly talented Popup Opera (June 17).



Exciting new archive material has recently come to light about the Knight family,



who created the Exmoor we know today, which will be the subject of two talks by ENPA's Rob Wilson-North and Graham Wills (May 24 & 31), while Robin Ravilious, the widow of the great photographer James Ravilious, will give a presentation about her husband's work chronicling everyday life in rural North Devon during the 1970s and 80s (June 7).

North Devon farmer and film-maker David Kennard talks about the ups and downs of life with his sheepdogs at Borough Farm (May 10), there's an extensively illustrated talk by local deer expert and photographer Jochen Langbein (May 17), Jane Austen's heroines are brought vividly to life in an award-winning theatre production Austen's Women (June 14) while TV's Matthew Fort takes us on a sun-drenched trip around the Italian islands (June 21).

And make sure you hunt out the Sketch Boxes to make your mark for Simonsbath Festival...

Jochen Langbein from Minehead has won the the Mammal Society's national photo competition, Mammal Photographer of the Year 2017, for the Best Mammal Society member section, with a stunning photo of an Exmoor red deer stag in velvet. The competition was judged by TV's Simon King.

Jochen said "This photo of a free-living Exmoor Stag was taken in a residential garden, which this stag often visits during the spring and summer months. Having observed the stag over many months, he eventually got used to me and I was lucky on this occasion to get within about 30 metres." Jochen won vouchers donated by NHBS wildlife supplies.


#### Simonsbath Festival 2017 The biggest and best ever.



All the events take place at St Luke's Church, Simonsbath, unless otherwise stated.

**May Day Celebrations** on Exford Village Green, live music, maypole dancing and more. May 1, 2pm, Oxford

**Fromage en Feu** - Joyously upbeat mix of Klezmer, café culture and the rich musical tradition of the Balkans. May 6, 7.30pm

**David Kennard** – Talk by farmer and film-maker whose DVD 'The Year of the Working Sheepdog' sold 80,000 copies. May 10, 7.30pm

**Lyra Vocal Ensemble** – from St Petersburg with Russian Orthodox choral music, folk songs and popular Russian classics. May 14, 7.30pm

**Jochen Langbein** – Talk by wildlife expert and photographer about Exmoor's red deer. May 17, 7.30pm

**Simonsbath Festival New Generation Artists** – Young flautist Maia Roberts accompanied on the piano by David Preston. May 20, 7.30pm

**Rob Wilson-North – Talk:** In search of John Knight, the man who made Exmoor. May 24, 7.30pm

**Rob Wilson-North – Walk:** John Knight's lost mansion and gardens. May 26, 1.30pm Ashcombe

**The Dime Notes** – London's most stylish vintage jazz band plays the irresistible, foot tapping early jazz of the 1920s and 30s. May 27. 7.30pm

**Graham Wills – Talk:** How the fate of two young men changed the history of Simonsbath. May 31, 7.30pm Sawmill

**Albion Quartet** – Tamsin Waley-Cohen's new quartet Albion plays Haydn, Ravel and Dvořák. June 3, 7.30pm

**Robin Ravilious** – Talk about the great photographer James Ravilious who chronicled life in rural Devon in the 1970s and 80s. June 7, 7.30pm

**Kabasa** – authentic Salsa band from Cornwall plays vibrant Latin American music. June 10, 7.30pm

Austen's Women – Theatre production: award-winning Rebecca Vaughan brings 13 of Jane Austen's heroines to life. June 14, 7.30pm

**Pop-up Opera** – with a staging of the 18th century comic opera 'The Secret Marriage' by Cimarosa. June 17, 7.30pm

**Matthew Fort – Talk:** food and travel writer and judge on The Great British Menu on his new book 'Summer in the Islands'. June 21, 7.30pm

**Midsummer Family and Community Concert** – closes the festival, with Paul Wilson and Marilyn Tucker of Wren Music and local school children. June 23, 2pm Wheddon Cross

Book tickets online at www.simonsbathfestival.org.uk, e: tickets@simonsbathfestival. org.uk or tel Marian Lloyd 01643 831451. For more info, to sign up for news updates or order a printed programme tel 01643 831343 or e: director@simonsbathfestival.org.uk Follow Facebook and Twitter and, to become a Friend of Simonsbath Festival and enjoy discounts and priority booking while supporting the festival,

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#### Update from South West Lakes Trust (Wimbleball Lake)

So...IronMan have announced that 2017 will be their last event at Wimbleball. Although sometimes unpopular with a minority of locals due to road closures etc, for the past 11 years the event has brought millions of pounds of much needed income to the Exmoor area, benefitting local B & Bs, campsites, shops and restaurants. As its their last year we'll be working hard to ensure the event is as successful as ever, and IronMan have introduced a ladies 5k run in addition to the IronKids race and the main event.

Wimbleball has seen a decline in trout fishing over a number of years. We are currently reviewing our business model and considering all options to try and find a way to make fly fishing at the lake financially sustainable. Our recommendations will be presented to our board of trustees end of May for a decision in June.

Visitors to the site may have noticed some fantastic new glamping tents on our campsite. Our aim is to try and entice people who may not like the discomforts of camping to spend more time outdoors. The luxury tents are available to hire for £65 / night low season, and £85 / night high season and the price includes up to four people.

We look forward to seeing you at the lake soon!

Dates for your diaries: Sunday 2nd July – Wimbleball open day with lots of 'have a go' sessions. Sunday 6th August, South West Fishing for life Family fun day

Alex Forster

Countryside Manager, Exmoor









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#### BRISTOL OLD VIC THEATRE SCHOOL presents UNDER MILK WOOD By Dylan Thomas Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm DULVERTON TOWN HALL Directed by Christopher Scott

Under Wolk

"Dylan Thomas's beautiful, bawdy, affectionate, reckless and deeply original play was justly crowned at its first performance by a storm of cheers." So wrote The Times on Under Milk Wood's stage debut.

Set in the fictitious fishing village of Llareggub, this twenty four hour peek into the lives and loves of the likes of Captain Cat, Polly Garter and Willy Nilly has continued to enthral its audiences ever since. With its canvas of nonsense gossip, feuds, affairs, fights, frauds and practical jokes, the play pulses with the vitality and relish of real life characters re-living their dreams and desires. Come closer now, and enter the world of Under Milk Wood.

"We are not wholly bad or good, who live our lives under Milk Wood."

Image: Zack Rieger.

Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, one the most successful and well-respected drama schools in the UK, attracts the very best in young acting talent, guaranteeing you an experience of the highest quality.

Tickets available from Dulverton Post Office or contact Jan Ross - 01398 323818, <u>janaross2003@</u> <u>vahoo.co.uk</u>. Adults £10, students in full time education £7. Organised by Dulverton Development Forum



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#### Exmoor Open Water Swim 30th September 2017 Wimbleball Lake, Somerset, TA22 9NU

Welcome to a brand new event in the open water swimming calendar. From the makers of Croyde Ocean Triathlon, we are proud to announce The Exmoor Open Water Swim, taking place on Wimbleball Lake, Exmoor on September 30th 2017.

Our goal is to give to everyone the opportunity to swim in this incredible lake in the heart of Exmoor. While there are medals for those who come in the top three for their age groups, the majority of swimmers will simply be challenging themselves to participate in a safe and friendly open water swimming environment at Wimbleball Lake. There will be an Elite section for racers and we are also welcoming non-wetsuit wearers to participate.

The uniqueness of this event is that the 4km route will take the swimmers all the way down to the end and back, on a stunning single loop tour of the whole lake. Safety will be covered by kayaks and motorboats, as the swimmers enjoy unparalleled views of this special place.

The 4km swim distance is designed as a challenge, even for the seasoned long distance open water swimmers and slightly longer than an Iron Man swim. It is also a goal to aim for, for swimmers who either have confined their swims to pools or have yet to conquer this distance. For those who are not ready to take on the 4km route, we have a 2km course, which will hopefully result in returns next year to take on the 4km course!

For those people who want to bring their families and make a weekend of it, we have negotiated 10% off for camping at Wimbleball lake and also 10% off all the activities on and around the lake.

Early Bird entries available now at www.exmoorswim.co.uk £35 for either distance 2km or 4km prices will increase to £40 soon. Available now until either they sell out or until 23 September 2017.



Our Sponsors:





**COMPETITION PRIZE:** Answer this question and win **FREE ENTRY** to the swimming event (including parking).

#### COMPETITION QUESTION: What river feeds Wimbleball Lake?

Send your answer to exmoornews@gmail.com, subject heading Exmoor Swim Competition, or by post to Exmoor Swim Competition, The Old Stores, Brushford, Dulverton, Somerset, TA22 9AH. Competition closes: 3rd August. Winner will be notified and result posted in a future edition of Exmoor News.

# £3,000 Exmoor Young Entrepreneur's Award now open for applications

The 2017 Pinnacle Award, organised by The Exmoor Society, is now open to young people aged between 18 and 27 years who live, work or study in the Greater Exmoor area. It offers up to £3,000 to an individual or group who have an idea for a business venture in relation to agriculture, forestry, conservation, horticulture, craft, tourism, or any outdoor land-based activity. The Award, now in its sixth year, was set up by the Exmoor Society to help young entrepreneurs live and work on Exmoor. As a conservation body, the Society fully recognises the importance of providing opportunities for young people to continue to live in the area

when they enter the world of work. This award helps to promote the idea that beautiful landscapes and livelihoods can go together.

Previous applications have come from people with ideas as diverse as making cider and developing a herd of pedigree cattle. The award so far has helped fund young people either to set up or take forward businesses such as agricultural contracting,

country clothing and woodland management. The successful applicant in 2016 was Tom Lile, a traditional blacksmith and metal-worker who wanted to invest in additional equipment to allow him to extend his capabilities in other metals. This in turn would give him the chance to grow his business and, in the future, offer an apprenticeship to another young person.

The application process is designed to be accessible to all with a basic form to complete and a reference provided by a mentor or sponsor. Applicants will be invited to an informal interview where judges will be looking for business ventures related to Exmoor's rural character and likely to provide a sustainable living primarily, with perhaps the potential in

the future to offer further employment.

The Society hopes to attract even more entries for the award this year which is now open for applications with the closing date of 30th June 2017. Forms are available on the Society's website at www. exmoorsociety.com or by contacting its Dulverton office on 01398 323335, info@exmoorsociety.com.

2016 Pinnacle Award winner, Tom Lile, blacksmith

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#### **TRUSTEES WANTED**



To enable us to continue supporting our young people of Dulverton we need more trustees to ensure this facility continues to thrive and grow.

Our newly appointed youth workers are now delivering sessions for both Junior and Senior ds of 30 children

groups, currently attracting upwards of 30 children.

However, our governance group urgently needs 2/3 more people. If you are able to make balanced, informed decisions and follow appropriate controls and procedures then we would like to hear from you.

It's not about being an expert – but being willing to take reasonable steps to help us manage and care for our young people and their ongoing educational and social needs. Please help if you can. For more information contact Judy 01398 323313

#### THANK YOU

#### 10 Parishes Festival Returns

Planning is well underway for the 10 Parishes Festival which is held every two years in and around Wiveliscombe in September. It's a major showcase for over 100 artists, craftspeople and community organisations – as well as providing extra trade for local shops and a host of stallholders at the highly popular Street Market and Carnival.

The last festival in 2013 generated nearly £40,000 as well as many uplifting community events and a wide range of existing and new artists and performers have registered for this Autumn's event.

One project already underway for this year's festival which runs from 9th-17th September, is a celebration of the B3227! The Over the Hills Blues Band have immortalised the road in their song 'Heaven – it's the B3227'. It has given a great opportunity for artists, musicians, poets, dancers and photographers to celebrate the route of the iconic road – sweeping from the western edge of Taunton all the way to North Devon, but most importantly, running through many of the 10 Parishes.

The festival website will go live in May and the eye-catching guides distributed in the summer, both of which give detailed information and images, and provide an ongoing directory for visitors interested in the arts.

Venues have been wonderfully inventive over the years – from a garage showroom to a converted barn, a garden shed to a pub, as well as rooms in artists' own homes.

For further information please visit www.10parishesfestival.org.uk



exmoornews.co.uk



**Thursday 11th May at 4pm** Seated **Town Tour** Why not come along to Dulverton Heritage Centre and enjoy a virtual historical tour through Dulverton whilst sitting comfortably? only £3 per person.

Thursday 25th May 3pm Town Tour Details as above.

**Saturday 27th May Book Sale** A traditional book sale all day at Dulverton Heritage Centre (weather permitting). Why not bring along your unwanted books for recycling?

Sunday 4th June 3pm Town Tour Details as above.

#### Wednesday 14th June 3pm Town Tour

Why not join us on a guided walk exploring the history of Dulverton. Discover some secret places and hear tales of old from local guides.

http://www.dulvertonheritagecentre.org. uk/ All £3pp.

**Saturday 24th June Book Sale** A traditional book sale all day at Dulverton Heritage Centre (weather permitting). Why not bring along your unwanted books for recycling?

Sunday June 25th – Saturday July 1st Paintings by Jos Harral, a variety of medium subjects by Dawn Mangan and Peter Moss, wool felted pictures and hangings by Lucy Lean and ceramics by Jos Holloway in Dulverton Heritage Centre, Gallery.

Thursday 29th June 3pm Town Tour Details as above.

Thank you and Congratulations....

Congratulations and thanks to Dulverton & District Civic Society, Tony Sloley and the late Mike Balsom for the Book of Dulverton (2nd edition) from Roy Horlick who writes in his letter

"...the book was so well put together, the history written and the photos were placed so carefully. I have a few books from the Halsgrove history publishing, about Somerset and Devon villages, but The Book of Dulverton, Brushford, Bury & Exebridge book out stands the compiling of history written in it." March 2017

Copies can be purchased from the Heritage Centre!



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Looking into the night sky, you might well get the impression that it was filled with thousands of solitary stars spread across the vastness of space. But in spite of appearances, roughly half of the stars you see are actually not alone but coupled together in pairs orbiting around each other. The reason they look single is simply the vast distance between us and them. It's a bit like oncoming headlights on the motorway. Close up you see two lights on each car. But off in the distance, they merge into what appears to be a single spot of light.

Using a telescope, it's possible to see many of these binary stars as double points of light. Some are even close enough to us, that it's possible to see their companion without the need for optical assistance. One such example is Mizar in Ursa Major or the "Big Dipper" which is almost directly overhead during the summer months. Look at the middle star of the three in the "pan handle" and see if you can spot it's partner Alcor. If you have a telescope, you'll be able to see that as well as its companion Alcor, Mizar is itself a fairly close pair of stars making this not just double, but a multiple star system.

ExmoorStargazers are a friendly group of local astronomers who meet regularly in pubs around the region. We always welcome new members – look us up on facebook or Google if you'd like to find out more.



Wivelele is Wiveliscombe's ukulele group, which was formed in July last year. At our first gathering 18 arrived and we now have over 35 registered. We regularly have 15-20 playing on Tuesday evenings when we meet 7-9 pm in the upper hall of the Silver Street Centre.

The group is made up of beginners, learners and more experienced players. The ukulele is relatively easy to learn to play and with just a couple of chords you can sing and play many songs. It is very much a community group and we have a lot of fun playing and learning together in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

We enjoyed our first concert at St Andrews church in March which was a joint event with the Wiveliscombe Community Choir. We have been invited to play at Milverton's Street Festival on 1st May and have other local events lined up for later in the year.

We can be contacted at wivey.ukulele@ gmail.com and are always pleased to welcome newcomers. We keep a spare uke available for anyone wishing to try out this instrument for the first time.

# THE LOCAL DIRECTORY

#### PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS		
Brompton Regis P.C: Ms J Scott	brpcclerk@gmail.com	01398 371464
Brushford P.C: Clerk: Clive Knight,	cliveknight@me.com	01398 331917
Cutcombe P.C: Clerk: Marlene P Allinson	cutcombeclerk@btinternet.com	01643 708810
Dulverton T.C: Sec: Miss A. Rose	clerk@dulvertontowncouncil.co.uk	01398 324561
East Anstey PC: Clerk: Mrs Jill Larcombe	eastansteypc@yahoo.co.uk	01884 252647
Exford P.C: Clerk: Jane Laycock	parishclerk@exford.org	01643 831067
Exmoor P.C: Clerk: Verity Vigars	exmoorparishcouncil@gmail.com	01643 831511
Exton P.C: Clerk: Andrew Moore	clerk@extonparishcouncil.co.uk	01643 851694
Upton P.C: Clerk: Mrs P Purvis	uptonparishclerk@hotmail.co.uk	01398 371548
Winsford P.C: Clerk: Verity Vigars	winsfordparishcouncil@gmail.com	01643 831511
Withypool & Hawkridge P.C: Clerk: Charlotte Hornsby withypoolhawkridgeparishclerk@gmail.com		mail.com 01643 831535
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 9JI	N
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 D		01398 323474
Dulverton & District Tennis Club: Yvonne Mo		01398 323529
Dulverton & Exmoor Squash Club: Membersh	nip Sec: Chris Winter. chriscwin@aol.com	07710 046107
Dulverton Jnr. F.C: Sec: Mrs Christine Dubery		01398 323474
Dulverton Netball Club: Sec Lindsay Smith, 2:		01398 323834
Dulverton Snooker: Sec: Mr. D. Bodger, 39 Fisl	ners Mead, Dulverton, TA22 9EN	01398 323899
Dulverton Sports and Social: Chair: Carl Hoop		01398 324494
Dulverton Sportsfield Management: Adrian	Smith	01398 323834
Dulverton Senior Table Tennis: Richard Arche		01398 324160
Dulverton Town F.C: Sec: Mr. J. Atkins, 1 Exeb	idge, Dulverton. TA22 9AY	01398 323787
Exford Croquet Club: Chair: Connie Heywood		01398 341556
Moorland Hall Sports:info@wheddoncross.org		
Tai Chi: Instr. Andrew Blabey RITCUGB andrew		01398 332104
Wimbleball Fly Fishers: enquiries@fishingthe	west.co.uk	
PRE-SCHOOL GROUPS		
All Saints School & Nursery: Head: Mr J Weed		01398 323231 & 01398 323223
Anstey Parent and Toddlers Group: Jodie Tho	mas	01398 341845

EXMOOR NEWS

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#### **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: Wendy Gunn	01398 324395
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
<b>Exmoor Community Youth Club:</b> Organiser Laura Tasker, Fridays 6 – 8 pm	01643 831125
OTHERS	01015051125
Abbeyfield House	01398 324136
Brushford Voluntary Lift Scheme: Chair: T. Wilson	07528 326880
Brushford Luncheon Club: Treasurer: Margaret Albery	01398 324587
Care Direct for help and advice. www.somerset.gov.uk	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 terrydapp@aol.com	01398 332252
Dulverton & District Civic Soc: Kathy Currie, Bramble Bank, Ellersdown Lane, Brushford, Dulverton TA22 9BH	
Dulverton & Southern. Exmoor Twinning: Chair: Steve Ford, Dulverton	01398 323016
Dulverton Bridge Club: Sec. Brian Hughes, www.Bridgewebs.com/dulverton	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 Hammmond	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 Community bus Assn: Sec. Mi. & Knock, o Pounds Close, blashiold 1422 942 Exmoor Pony Centre: Ashwick, Dulverton, Somerset, TA22 9QE	01398 324333
Exmoor Pony Society: Sec: Sue McGeever, Woodmans, Brithem Bottom Cullompton, Devon EX15 1NB	01398 323093
Exmoor Poly Society. Sec. Sue Micaever, woodmans, Britten Bottom Culompton, Devon EXTS TWB Exmoor Rotary Club: Humphrey Berridge (PRO), Station Hse, Luke St, Bampton	01398 332324
Royal British Legion Dulverton: Peter Donnelly	01398 332324
Tiverton Model Aero Club: Sec: Mr. P Veale, 9 High St., Dulverton TA22 9HB	01398 323030
U3A Exmoor: Yvonne Moorfoot, 3 Lamb Back, Dulverton	01398 323409
West Somerset Advice Bureau: Dulverton Medical Centre. Tues 10-12	01398 323529
west somerset Auvice buledu. Duiverton medical centre, nues 10-12	01045/04024



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