

Welcome to issue 48

The clocks have been put forward and as I write the sun is shining, let's hope summer is on the way.

However there are always clouds on the horizon and I hope you read "What a waste of

time" on this page – what has happened to **DEMOCRACY?** – Maybe it would come back if our council had more power. Do we need West Somerset District? We have so many layers of administration! – However enjoy the lighter items in this issue.

What a waste of time

Wednesday the 22nd March saw the full council meeting of West Somerset District Council (WSDC), they were due to discuss the new parking arrangements for Dulverton. Large increases in the cost of the parking permits, making the Lion carpark to be 3 hours maximum and permits would not be accepted Lion car park.

By the way they found that the signage in the car parks was wrong, it starts from 8am not 9am!

Some time ago WSDC asked our council for their views on car parks, Dulverton Town Council (DTC) spent a lot of time considering what was best for Dulverton and reported back to WSDC.

What a waste of time – Yes WSDC took no notice and thought they knew best!

What a waste of time – Over 40 people from Dulverton wrote letters to WSDC, these letters were from a cross section of Business and Residents, they included our County Councillor, did WSDC take any notice? no they did not.

What a waste of time – Four of our councillors Chris Dubery, Judy Ernest, Gerry Lewis and Louise Parrish along with three supporters attended the council meeting and the four councillors made excellent presentations in the

three minutes each was allowed. It would have helped if all the WSDC Councillors looked interested.

What a waste of time – Our WSDC Councillor Nick Thwaites (also chair of DTC) raised the issue and gave a detail case for doing what DTC wanted, he was followed by a very few WSDC Councillors one asked if the figures used by the Dulverton Team were correct, what a surprise the officers did not know and left to find out!

What a Surprise – The Vote was supported by most of the ruling group and Dulverton lost.

It was clear that this had been discussed and turned down before the meeting – Is this Democracy?

What can DTC do? When WSDC want all the power, remember they had already have taken the Car Park away from DTC control thus breaking the lease.

I feel very sorry for our Town Council when they work so hard on our behalf.



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Contact Us:

Copy for next Issue (May 2017)

By the 15.4.17

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Website:- www.dulvertonvoice.co.uk

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Fancy a cooked lunch?

Hanover is offering a new service, **Open Lunch Sessions** all welcome, no need to book; transport can be arranged if it helps you.

Lunch is served at 12.30 and costs £5.25 for the 3 course meal. They hope this will provided an extra service to Dulverton. Wednesdays are Day Centre Days, come along at 10 am till 14.30 - Games, Keep Fit, Talks, refreshments and Company. (Transport can be arranged)

More details 07875 820 911 Why not give it a go

Short and Sweet



All Saints Church of School – Played hosts to Adrian from Williton Fire Station who taught them how to be safe around fire.

Part of their morning involved learning the Stop! Drop! Roll! Routine should they be unlucky enough to find their clothes on fire.



A Huge THANK YOU to PHIL ROGERS – the new “Joyce’s” cottage needs to be recarpeted and Phil is going to do it for free as his contribution to this project to help the young of our Town.

Maybe others will follow and we can get a 2nd home.



Our Public Toilets – The running of these are being taken over by the Town council on the 1st April and they will be free of charge.

Thank You – 20th to 26th March was Purple week for The Epilepsy Society.



Chrissy Thomas would like to thank all the people and businesses for putting so much effort into taking part in Purple week

Chrissy will continue to support **The Epilepsy Society** and with our help she will continue raising funds needed for research into Epilepsy



I don't believe it! – We still have problems with people not picking up Dog Poo and those who do, then hang up the full bags – please pick it up and put the bags in the bins provided.

Now we find that used condoms are being hung in Abbott's way

Please stop and think of others and behave in a reasonable way.

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Scouts are back in Town – were you in the Scouts?

The 1st Dulverton Scout Group was established in March 2016 with just Beavers, Cubs started in January of this year. They currently have 7 beavers and 12 cubs. Both sections meet on Thursday evenings at All Saints First School. Beavers 6-7pm and Cubs 6-7.30pm.

They really need to get scouts up and running from September, as they already have children interested in joining scouts and will soon have cubs needing to move up to Scouts

They need a **Scout Leader and an Assistant Scout Leader** before they can open though.

Also needed is a **Group scout leader** although this is not essential or as immediate an issue as the scout leader. Cubs would also benefit from an additional leader or any adults who would be able to help out on an occasional basis.

The plan for **St George's Day (23rd April) is a parade** from the Heritage Centre at about 1.45pm and into church ready for the service at 2pm. The cubs will be performing a play and Andrew Thomas has arranged a special Scout's themed service. All Beavers, Cubs and adult leaders will be renewing their promise, All ex Scouts are welcome to renew their promises if the wish.

After the service they are planning a group picnic and games. The venue is yet to be confirmed.

Further details about the sections can be obtained from Kim Slee - **Beaver leader on 07531 000 849** or Suzi Koszler, **Cubs leader on 07792 632 404.**



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Clocks in Dulverton

You may remember we had a comprehensive article on clockmakers in our December 2016 issue concerning the proposed research of our Dulverton clockmakers and in particular the Hobbs family. Unfortunately, apart from Chris Nelder and Brett Wright there has been little response.

The research that that has been done revealed that the Graddon family were very prominent in Dulverton from the very early 18th century up to the early 19th century. They must have been a very musical family for members of the family played the church organ for decades.

They have also found that members of the Hobbs family repaired the Church clock in the 1790s. A little known clockmaker named Fisher worked in Dulverton in the early decades of the 19th Century. He seems to have disappeared by 1830s; he may have died of course.

So, sadly, the research for a quality book on the clockmakers of West Somerset has had to end.

Pleyel concert grand piano

Built 1858 in Paris, and fully restored to professional standards 15 years ago by the Edwin Beunk workshop, Enschede, Neths. One of few in existence of it's type & period in full playing & performing order. The tone is remarkably full & beautiful, and it is featured on a number of CDs. Pleyel's were Chopin's favourite make of piano..

It requires 'housing' by some kind & interested person due to imminent closure of piano storage warehouse in London. I would also be open to selling it, if desired.

Due to its length of nearly 12 foot, it requires straight access into a largish room without any tight turns (eg. french windows); steps or stairs are not such an issue, just bends! And it would need to be situated neither directly next to a radiator nor close to other heat sources.

In return for housing the piano, I would offer to play it on a regular basis - or give house concerts - as desired.

Can you help? - For more information Contact:
Gary Cooper gc3sol@yahoo.com



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Goodbye Dr Trill

Yes after almost 16 years Dr Andrea Trill is leaving our Medical Centre as new opportunities have opened up for her.

Over time she has been with us much as changed, not the least of these changes is the change from ledger to the super computer system we have today.

Rightly she is proud of the Practice and its team, but there have been some difficult times, which she and in particular Kathryn Kyle the Practice Managing Partner have tackled, such as when she was the only GP left in the Practice.

She is delighted that they achieved an overall outstanding report in their CQC inspection and now that they are a training

practice for GP's. So we will receive qualified doctors, who are completing their GP training, Dr Pete Byass will take over the lead role from August.

We must not forget the £6,000 raised for local charities and the new project "Living Better".

Much has changed in her time in Dulverton and we wish her all the best for her future role and thank her for all she has done for us.

Watch this space...

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Is it good for Dulverton?

Again this year Bideford Canoe Club ran their canoe weekend on the Barle, up to the National Park Offices, at the beginning of March.

They put up a large tent as their control and a number of tents as well as a car and van park.

I am told that the whole event was well managed and there does not seem to have been any problems.

However there was a resident who was worried about the event and questioned a number of issues from toilets to the lack of concern by the National Park.

However the event brought a lot of well-behaved people to Town, It was enjoyed by many and will not have done our reputation no harm.

Having spoken to a number of people and the owner of the field they were all positive about the event.

Should we lock up Dulverton or throw open the door events such as this?

Your brief comments are welcome for the next issue

(The photos were taken from the town side of the Barle.)



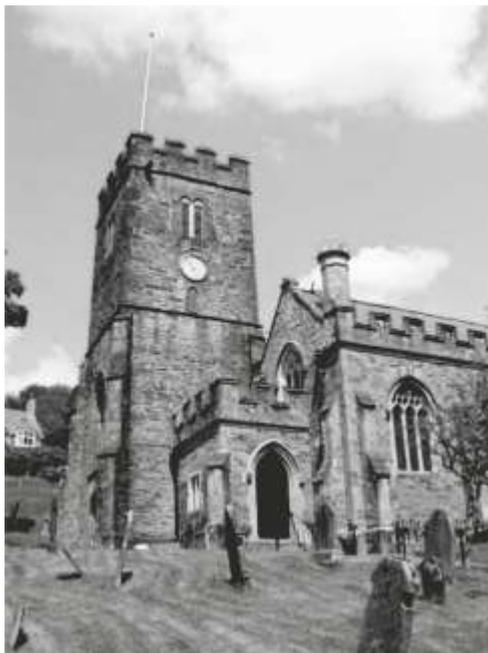
News from All Saints:

Some have given up all sorts of things for Lent even our P.M. Theresa May, has given up Salt and Vinegar crisps! What have you given up?

In church we are preparing for Holy Week and the approach of Easter but between now and then we have a "Mothering Sunday" service on 26th March during which the Mums in our community will be given flower posies prepared by the children and helpers at Messy Church, (which is taking place on the 25th March at 2.30p.m.) so please come and join us even if it is only for a coffee and a posy at 10.30. (Service is 9.30-10.30)

The History of Mother's Day is interesting, Mother's Day is a sort of modern invention and comes from "**Mothering Sunday**" Mothering Sunday, the 4th Sunday in lent, dates back to the 16th century and even pre-Reformation. This was the Sunday that people returned to their "Mother Church" their local Parish Church where they were baptised. It was often the only time all the family could get together. The tradition fell into decline until 1920s when **Constance Penswick-Smith** decided to revive the tradition in this country. This Sunday has also been known as "**Simnel Sunday, Refreshment Sunday, Pudding Pie Sunday, Mid-Lent Sunday and Rose Sunday.**"

Easter Sunday is 16th April and there will be a number of services to choose from! At varying venues from around our benefice, look out for the posters. Starting at 6.a.m. on Sunday Morning at Brushford St. Nicholas Church to welcome the dawn of Easter. (let's hope the weather is kind!). Followed by: 8.00 communion All Saints. 9.30



Service Dulverton, Skilgate at 9.30, and then 11.00 services at Brushford, Brompton Regis, and Upton; and Withiel Florey at 3.00pm. A busy Day for the benefice and our ministry team.

Holy Week and Easter Service details can be found in the Church Magazine and in the Lych Gate including an Ecumenical walk of Christian Witness in Dulverton on Good Friday beginning at the Congregational Church at 10am.

The Church

From the Congregation Church

During this season of Lent, we have taken the opportunity to explore through small group discussion, various facets of our Christian faith. Some of these are general, and some are specific, and we are interested as a Church in understanding how we can put our faith into action within the community. We know that there are many local people who give valuable help across our town, and we are keen to understand how we can fine-tune our contribution within the on-going life of our town. We will share more with you as our ideas take shape and form. In the meantime, can we take this opportunity of wishing you a Happy Easter.

Rev Elizabeth Saunders



From St Stanislaus Church

Our church is rather unusual in that it was converted from a stable, this was fostered by Mary Herbert of Pixton Park, and was dedicated in 1955 to St Stanislaus of Cracow as Auberon Herbert had fought with the Polish Army during the war.

The Church is open daily and provides a quiet and peaceful atmosphere; many people of all denominations and faiths pop in for a few minutes to visit and always remark on the sense of calmness. As I write we are nearing the end of



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Lent and looking forward to filling the Church once again with colour and flowers after the austerity of Lent, and to the joy of Easter.

Our little garden is coming into bloom and the Spring will really feel here when the hanging baskets flower.

Each Friday morning throughout the year there is a short time of Ecumenical Prayer at 8.45 - a little early but it only lasts for about ten minutes and enables us to do the weekend shopping straightaway - a good start to the weekend - everyone is welcome.

The old Presbytery at the side of the Church is now a Residential Centre, and is used by groups of young people, walkers and canoeists, and families. When not booked it is a very comfortable meeting place and we hold the occasional coffee morning there after Mass.

Outside the Church is a comfortable wooden bench, when the sun is shining this is a lovely place to just sit and enjoy the warmth of the sun - it really does come out eventually!

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Let's Meet Christine Dubery from the Post Office



What got you into your business?

I had worked for NatWest Bank for 22 years in London and Staff Training, Christopher was to be made redundant having also worked for them for 20 years, we decided to look for a business that would use the skills we had gained with them and the Post Office seemed a good option at the time.

What gives you most satisfaction in your working life? –

Trying to find ways to keep the Post Office viable and looking after those customers of ours who are more vulnerable.

What challenges do you face?

With the Post Office removing the regular monthly retainer, ensuring customers are aware of the services available through the post office and encouraging customers to use our Postal and Banking Services.

If you had a magic wand what would you use it for?

I would want to magic away the problems the world faces from terrorism

What three things do you need to be a success?

Energy – Honesty - Fun

What changes in Dulverton would you like to see in the next five years?-

A small housing development, of housing consisting of self build, part owner ship, ownership, built at a price that people working locally can afford to purchase, and restricted to those from this and the surrounding area .

Who inspires you?

Various people over the years but particularly those that are volunteers for their community

If you had a chance to start over what would you do differently?

I would go to university to then become a teacher.

What makes you happy?

Seeing my family progress and obtain their goal

If you were an animal, what animal would you like to be?

A cat, soft and sometimes feisty.

What do you do to relax?

I play golf, garden, ballroom dance, and go on holiday

Do you have hobbies?

As above

How do you manage your time?

I keep a very detailed diary and allocate time out for things that must be done first meetings for Town Council and other clubs etc and work in to that my hobbies.

Is there anywhere on the planet you would like to go?

South Africa

What 4 persons alive or dead, would you invite to dinner?

Emily Pankhurst, Shirley Williams, Margaret Thatcher, Michelle Obama, should make for an interesting discussion

Thank You



Can tidy it up!

It's great to have some renewable energy, but any chance to smart up the site, it has been looking a right mess for some time.

Dulverton Ducks are Back

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When Dulverton was really mobile – The Final part

South Molton Station was similar in size to Dulverton Station only lacking a turntable for locomotives, this being unnecessary as it was not a junction or a terminus. However it served a large agricultural area similar to Dulverton.

The line continued eastwards towards Filleigh Station, through several deep cuttings, into Castle Hill Tunnel emerging into another cutting and then onto a significant viaduct. This structure was made up of five stone pillars, crossing the Bray Valley leading to Filleigh Station about three quarters of a mile distant.

Interestingly enough, when the railway was dismantled in 1966, the latticework girders were removed for scrap and the stone pillars were left to their own devices, they then found another use for these relics of the past.

In 1987 the North Devon Link Road was being constructed between Junction 27 and Barnstaple and the preferred route took in the disused railway line from South Molton to Barnstaple, the civil engineers must have felt that these sturdy pillars built by "navvies" and stonemasons with very little mechanical means to help them, would be suitable to carry today's modern traffic.

After raising the height by another ten feet they are now supporting the concrete carriageway and have been for the last thirty years! Now doing a job that has outlasted the railway and maybe even the roadways, who knows.

The line entered Filleigh Station, a fairly small example but notable as it had a private siding, built especially for Lord Fortesque whose estate the railway travelled through.

The last station before reaching Barnstaple was Swimbridge some four miles from the Terminus, again a small country Station.

Barnstaple, in the early days called Barnstable, the end of the line, was about 208 miles from London and our journey has covered 43 miles from Taunton, taking a line from the centre of Somerset in the east to the coast of Devon in the west.

CN Dulverton Heritage Centre.

May I recommend any one interested in the Taunton to Barnstaple Line to read a publication of the same title, in two volumes, (the second volume not yet published), written by Freddie Huxtable. A really comprehensive account with many photos. ISBN: 9781911038 15 3 By Lightmoor Press.

<p>Kendle Farm: T: 01643 851298 E: sales@kendlefarm.co.uk Kendle Farm, Exton, Dulverton TA22 9LA</p>	 <p>Home Reared Free Range Pork, Lamb & Beef</p> <table border="0"><tr><td>Small Beef Box</td><td>7-8 kgs</td></tr><tr><td>Half Pig incl Sausages</td><td>22 kgs</td></tr><tr><td>Half Lamb Box</td><td>9-10 kgs</td></tr></table> <p>Or try a mixed box packaged ready for your freezer</p> <p>Local delivery/collection</p>	Small Beef Box	7-8 kgs	Half Pig incl Sausages	22 kgs	Half Lamb Box	9-10 kgs		 <p>A family run shop with a big Exmoor welcome!</p> <p>Local produce, fine foods, organic fruit & veg, organic bread, cakes & pies</p> <p>Exmoor breakfast and breakfast bagnaette, freshly prepared food to take away. Christmas Hampers.</p> <p>Fresh meat, bacon, sausages & ham supplied by Kendle Farm.</p> <p><i>Open from 8.30 am for coffee and breakfast</i></p>
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Dulverton Sports!



Football - Since our last report, the team have played six games showing a "mixed bag" of results.

On 28 Jan, we played Creech FC at home. It was never going to be an easy match against a team who had only lost 2 games. By half time, we were 0-3 down. **Lewis Hough** pulled a goal back but we eventually ended up losing 1-4. The following week, we travelled up to Bridgwater to play Bridgwater Sports Reserves. Surprisingly, against a very good team, we came away with a 1-1 draw with **Kieran Ruston** scoring our goal.

With no fixture on 11 Feb, we played Watchet Reserves at home on 18 Feb.

We played rather well and deserved the 4-2

Carl Hooper

This current season sees Carl Hooper celebrate 21 years of consistent football for our Club. He has played in excess of 500 games and now joins an elite number of ex-players who have also reached this wonderful achievement in "grassroots" football.

Not only playing for the team he does more than his share of the back room work, he is also Club Chairman.

win. **Toby Cottrell, Dave Kelland, James Kelland and Bogdan Neculai** (our recent signing from Romania !) scored our goals.

With plenty of confidence, we entertained "high-flying" North Petherton at home the following week. Unfortunately, we lost the game 1-3 with **Bogdan** once again scoring. On 4 Mar, we played at home to Woolavington and by half-time we were 2-1 up. We continued to play good football and with 5 mins to go, we were 3-2 up, having missed several chances of scoring further goals. Sadly, we allowed them to equalize, thus dropping 2 vital points. **James Kelland (2)** and **Tom Blundell** scored our goals.

The following week, we travelled to Wembdon. We were 1-2 down at half-time and still in with a chance to win but we were outplayed as the game progressed and ended up losing 1-4.

A testimonial match has been arranged at home on Saturday 22 April at 3pm

Where Carl's "Dream Team" will play against both a mixture of current and ex-players.

The Club will be holding a buffet and presentation evening after the game. Everyone is welcome to attend the game and buffet - for more information, please contact John Atkins on 323 787.





April – What to do?

The Ladies Lunch will resume on 20th May and thereafter on the third Saturday of each month. All Welcome. For further details. Angela Gregory 323 587 or Caroline Rimmer 323 645

Vintage Film Club – 2.30 pm* at Fishers Mead Community Centre (*PLEASE NOTE: The changed the START TIME of the film to 2.30 pm) **Wed 12th April** – Great Expectations – starring John Mills & Valerie Hobson – 1946

THE Exmoor Pony Centre – An Activity Day Sunday 9th April – 11am to 3pm
Pony rides (4year old and above) – Crafts – Grooming – Easter Egg Hunt – Refreshments (small charge for activities) – Just turn up no booking required but for more details 323 093

Friend of the library - INVITE YOU TO A COFFEE MORNING IN THE LIBRARY ON TUESDAY APRIL 25th 2017 10.30 - 12 noon

Film Club

Friday April 7th Fantastic Beasts and where to find them (Cert 12A)

Tuesday April 11th – Swallows and Amazons (Cert PG) At 3pm (Easter Holidays)

Friday April 21st – The Light between oceans(Cert 12A)

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.

U3A -.Talk on Wednesday 26th April 10.15 for 10.30 is 'Diplomatic Anecdoteage' by Sir Roger Carrick

Dulverton Action Group - Litter-picking:

Sun 16th April – an Easter Day gift to Dulverton! - 10.30 meet by the Heritage Centre - Everyone welcome and all kit supplied

Simonsbath Festival 2017 -in May - To book tickets telephone Marian Lloyd on 01643 831451 or email tickets@simonsbathfestival.org.uk. To receive a full colour, printed festival programme email

info@simonsbathfestival.org.uk or phone Victoria on 01643 831343.

Gardening Club – 4th July Trip to Marwood Hill Garden (am) and second garden visit to Gorwell House Garden (pm) – both close to Barnstaple
13th April Talk on Roses by Nick Oliver, Head of St Johns Nursery, Barnstaple
Further details can be obtained from Jenny Boyce 323 463 boycejenny3@gmail.com.

April Town Tours –Wednesday 12th & Sunday 23rd both start at 3pm both £3pp - walks begin at the more details <http://www.dulvertonheritagecentre.org.uk>

April at the Heritage Centre - Open for the season on 10th– AGM 25th 7pm – Book Sale 28th 10.30am to 4pm

Dulverton Group Exmoor Society - Thursday 13th April 7:30 p.m.

Hornets “Gentle Giants”. A talk by Stephen Powles who says “Hornets are much maligned. Having lived with and studied these “Gentle Giants”, he hopes to dispel this prejudice and share with you my insights into their fascinating lives.” Dulverton Group Exmoor Society members free, non-members £3 please, to help with expenses. Refreshments. Congregational Church Hall, Chapel Street. - Linda Hammond 323 954

St Georges day Scout parade 23rd April Leaves Heritage centre 1.45pm, service at All Saints 2pm

Calvert Trust – Eat Dirt on Exmoor 30th April –last year’s event was very successful but could the organisers make it clear which parts of the route and not normally open to bikes, as bikes and family walking through the woods do not mix.

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Project	324169
Tennis	07723 459402

Young People

Youth Club	07866 730093
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Other

Exmoor National Park HQ	323665
Dulverton Centre	323841

Abbeyfield	324136
Advice (CAB)	01643 704624
Bridge Club	331219
Camera club	331556
Civic Society	07493 518350
Dulverton Dance	341850
Dulverton Group Exmoor Society	331482
Dulverton Vets	323285
Exmoor Pony Centre	323093
Film Club	323785
Family & Toddlers	324395
Gardening	323474
Hanover Vintage Films	323785
Ladies Lunch	324395
Litter Gathering Group	323785
Men's Breakfast	324395
Messy Church	324395
Mother Union	323587
Players	341850
Samaritans	08457 909090
Somerset Age	08456 434621
Royal British Legion	323030
Town Council	324561
Women's Institute	323142
U3A	323587
Voluntary Lifts	07528 326 880
West Somerset Advice Bureau	01643 704624
Village Agent	01823 331222
Report Street Light Fault	323110
Police:	
Emergency	999
Non urgent	101



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07740 865600

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