Spring 2026

NORTHLEW NEWS



CLIMATE CHANGE, TOURISM AND COMMUNITY

PAUSING IN A FAST PACED WORLD

STARLINGS: LOVE OR HATE?

PLUS:

- NORTHLEW SCHOOL REMEMBERED
- PAT'S BIG SURPRISE
- GOVENORS NEEDED FOR SCHOOL AND PARISH COUNCIL

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Northlew & Ashbury



Produce & Craft Show 2026

Northlew Victory Hall

Saturday 5th September

Northlew Victory Hall

Adults: 50p per entry
(After 10 entries no further charge)

Children: free entry

Completed entry forms by 2nd September

Sunflower Competition 50p per entry in aid of Force





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FROM THE EDITOR

Victor Hulbert

In my youth, I was an avid supporter of Pathfinders, an organisation very similar to Scouts. It was the pioneering, camping, and adventurous outdoor life that attracted me, though there were quieter activities as well.

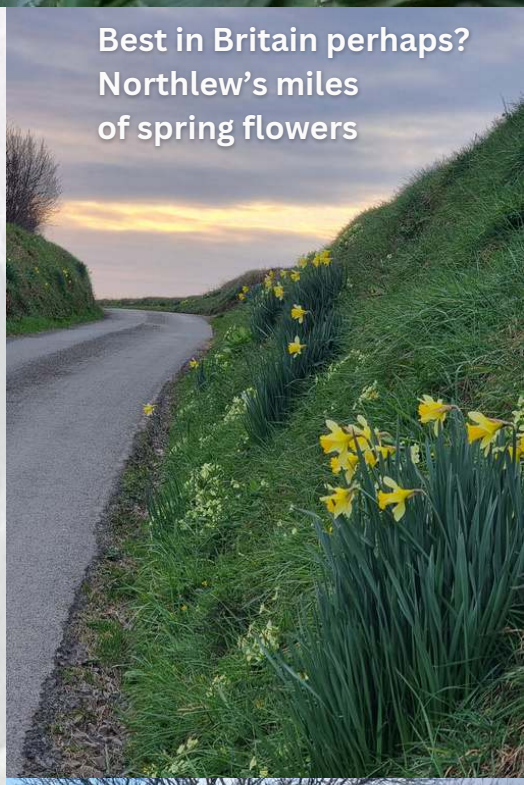
One I remember well was collecting and pressing wild flowers. I had a collection of more than 160 – and could identify them all. My prized copy of W. Keble Martin's **The Concise British Flora in Colour** still sits in pride of place on my bookshelf.

How times have changed! Decimating the countryside by picking and pressing wild flowers is now frowned upon, but has been replaced by my other far more environmentally friendly passion – photography. I may have forgotten many of the wildflower names, but what a delight to explore the Northlew and Ashbury lanes and footpaths, especially at this time of year, noting each new species of spring flower as it appears.

Much of that beauty does not happen by chance. We have to give thanks to the farmers for their care of the countryside, to villagers like Trixie Hannaford and then Stan Percy, who spread daffodils and snowdrops galore along our lanes, and inspired others to do the same.

Then we need to thank those who keep the banks clear by carrying a litter bag while out exercising, the dog walkers who make use of the dog bins, and the many who, when they see something that needs doing, just get on and do it.

That spirit is clearly seen in the varied articles in this edition. So, a big thank you to all who have contributed – and to the volunteers who make Northlew and Ashbury from pub to school, church and chapel, halls and clubs, the playground, Parish Council and beyond - the active and positive community we all enjoy.



Best in Britain perhaps? Northlew's miles of spring flowers



Thank you to the multiple litter-pickers

FROM THE PEW WITH REVD LEIGH WINSBURY



Hello again, dear Northlew, and well, well, there has been a lot going on, a real mixture of all the good and bad of life.

We started the year, just a bit late, with our annual Plough Service, which this year, under Revd Jonathan's creative mind, went exceptionally well with a record turnout and bacon a-plenty. An exceptional delight was the number of toy tractors being blessed alongside the real one. If you missed it, keep an eye out for next year.

I'm sure most of you will know the very sad news of Trixie Hannaford's passing. The privilege of taking her well-attended funeral fell to me. It has been a desperately sad 12 months for Northlew in general, but especially the church, where we have lost so many of our beloved members.

Trixie, of course, was behind so many of the visible fun events at the two churches, the bunnies and chocolate eggs at Easter, the daffodils everywhere, and the candles and fireworks at Ashbury. She will be a hard act to follow.

Speaking of Ashbury church, it's on our 'to-do' list this year to arrange a school visit to take the children up to the little church. In the company of members of the Woolcombe family who own the building, they will learn a little more about the beautiful place in which their lives are rooted.

It seems to be a feature of Northlew church that its members punch well above their weight in terms of special events. In the last few weeks, as well as the Plough Service, we've enjoyed an excellent Burn's supper, the amazing Nativity set exhibition, the annual steak pie lunch, the well-attended (secret) breakfast [not church I know, but I saw all the same faces in the kitchen!] and many more; do watch out for the upcoming 'Safari Supper' and the St Georges Day Dragon pie - not to be missed.

Long live Northlew, and all its amazing teams who make good stuff happen for the benefit of all.





In the Wilderness

Rev Chris Jackson. Superintendent Minister
West Devon Circuit of the Methodist Church



As I write this article, we have just begun our journey through Lent - a time of reflection and preparation for Easter.

The word wilderness always comes to mind when I think of the beginning of Lent. Before Jesus began his ministry, he was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness for 40 days of fasting... not something I would necessarily endorse for us all today... I have far too many cravings to succeed.

However, over the years, I have reflected on the idea and importance of wilderness experiences. Not particularly in a literal sense...I'm not a good camper, and the idea of sleeping in a tent still fills me with horror. I know! I'm a wimp!

But a spiritual and mental wilderness experience is a whole different ball game.

We live in a very fast world. In fact, many people have the sense of being put into a never-ending spin. Bombarded by an endless, often digital, stream of information and knowledge. How we are expected to notice any of it is becoming increasingly challenging. But what if, just for a short time, we could stop spinning. Stop the intense pressure to keep up. It sounds good, doesn't it?

I recently went on a week-long silent retreat. I took no devices with me and spoke to no one (apart from my wife for five minutes at the beginning and end of the day on the phone. And, take note, a phone without apps.

It was invigorating. I read, I walked, I prayed, and most of all, I listened. I listened to the nature around me. I listened to my own breathing, and listened to God.

I knew I had to return to the business of the world, but I learnt several lessons about the hungry beast of information. I could live without most of it.

The world would not end if I didn't pay attention to it all. I could be selective and choose what I wish to take note of. I have recently come off all social media platforms for personal use, and it has been refreshing. If I have missed something, oh well, it has not seemed to have made much difference to my life.

Another word I have used recently in relation to 'wilderness' is 'fallow'.

A field that is intentionally left unplanted for a period of time to restore soil fertility. It allows the soil to rest and regenerate, helping to restore its nutrients and improve its overall health.

I believe the period of Lent is the church's opportunity to provide such a period of renewal. To take a deep breath and reflect on ourselves and our surroundings. I shared with someone the other day that it was like gathering the family around the table to have a meal together with no devices, TV, or music. Just each other and sharing food, conversation and face-to-face fellowship.

The idea of going into the wilderness need not be a negative action. It can, and should, be one of positive regeneration and healing.

At the end of Jesus' 40 days, the devil came to him in the wilderness and tried everything to distract him from his mission. However, those 40 days had made Jesus strong. Renewed, he was able to swat aside the devil's attempts with ease. Jesus was now ready for his greatest task: being the Saviour of Creation.

AMEN

Friends of St Thomas' Church Northlew

Bee Fun Weekend

Saturday 16andSunday17 May,10 -4
Northlew Parish Church and Church Room

Activities for adults and children!
Art & Photography exhibition (themed)
Poetry competition
Talks, demonstrations and displays
Build a bee hotel
Plant a meadow in a pot
Discover nature in the churchyard
Refreshments, sales table & raffle

All proceeds will be used for urgent church repairs
For more information contact valofgreen@gmail.com
www.fostnorthlew.org





A new website

FOST has a brand-new website, www.fostnorthlew.org, to publicise the charity's aims and activities. The site includes a history of the church with a tour and photographic gallery and includes past and current copies of FOST news. You can also become a member or make a donation via a secure link to help raise funds to care for the church building.

Easy fundraising

Whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising much needed donations for FOST at at no cost to you. Visit:
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/the-friends-of-st-thomas-church-northlew.
Over 8,000 retailers are ready to make a donation – including eBay, Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, Sainsbury, Tesco, Booking.com and M&S.

Save the dates! Bee Fun Weekend 16 & 17 May

As part of the church's commitment to Eco Church and the protection of nature, we're celebrating World Bee Day and the importance of bees and other pollinators to the environment.
There will be lots of activities for all ages, including:

- Talks, demonstrations and displays
- Building a bee hotel
- Planting a meadow in a pot
- Discovering nature in the churchyard
- Refreshments, sales table & raffle

As part of the weekend, we're also planning an open Art & Photography exhibition and a Poetry competition, both on the Bee theme. For more information on these and all the weekend's events look for posters, keep an eye on Facebook, or contact Jackie Ellis or Val Welsh valofgreen@gmail.com.

FOST Committee 2026

Chair: Keith Ellis
Secretary: Jackie Ellis 01837 658750/07952 071809
or email jackie.ann.ellis@btinternet.com
Treasurer: Tony Hazell Email: carmelcoaches@hotmail.com
Tania Haycocks
Shaun Millership
Charlotte Rowland
Alan Welsh
Val Welsh
Revd Leigh Winsbury [ExOfficio]

Use this QR code to donate to FOST

https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/26506#!



Christmas Memories, December 2025

Featuring Northlew Silver band in their distinctive new hoodies.

What a busy season it was for Advent – especially for the Northlew Silver Band as they accompanied carols in Church, Chapel, and at The Green Dragon.

He's Behind You!

The Christmas spirit started early with NADS enthusiastically re-enacting the story of Cinderella in inimitable Northlew Panto style. Somehow, Cinder's found herself on the Devon coast, but with that twist in the story, actors put their heart, soul, and voice into the performance. Over two nights, the audience laughed, booed, and clapped in appreciation.



Away in a Manger

The following weekend FOST [Friends of St Thomas] created potentially the largest nativity display that Devon had ever seen. More than 90 nativity sets were on display. Some were local family heirlooms, others were hand-crafted, while a large number were part of a collection from around the world. The Americas, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and Australia were all represented, clearly representing that Christ the Saviour was born into the world for all peoples and nations.



Placards also shared Christian artwork and history from more than twenty countries. Many people who 'popped in for ten minutes' stayed more than an hour, often circling the displays twice to take it all in. One little girl was so excited going around the displays again and again that her mummy struggled to get her to leave. When daddy came home from work, she surprised him by telling him, "I saw Jesus today". Daddy came to see for himself the next day with his daughter as his tour-guide!



With publicity on BBC Devon, on social media, and in local newspapers, visitors came from as far away as Plymouth and Clovelly. For one family from Lifton, the highlight was the children's nativity grotto created in the Lady Chapel. While designed for children, it became a selfie-centre for many adults and families.
Watch a BBC Devon report here:
https://www.facebook.com/reel/725264280630135



Together with refreshments and generous donations, over £600 pounds was raised in support of Children's Hospice South West.

While many people were involved in developing, building, and running the exhibition, particular thanks go to Luisa Hulbert for her visionary idea, and to the organisational talents of Val and Alan Walsh, Jackie Ellis and Tania Haycocks.





St Thomas Carol Service

Sunday afternoon, the Nativity display was reduced in size and moved to the side pews to allow congregational space for the evening carol service led by Rev Leigh Winsbury. Vibrant singing of favourite carols was enhanced by the silver band, who, for the first time, performed from the choir stalls. This added significantly to the flow of sound around the church and is likely to become a regular habit.





Methodist Carol Service

The following Sunday, 21 December, found villagers heading to the Methodist Church. It had been beautifully decorated by Tracey Barrett, Dorothy Cole, Marion Dufty, Patsy Reddaway, and Bet Spry.

Northlew Silver Band played for the carols, and Winnifred Davy enthused about how very smart they looked in their new hoodies.

Mrs Angela Banfield spoke about light and darkness using candles or switching on a light, as examples, but emphasised that JESUS is the light of the world shining through the darkness.

The lessons were read by Tracey Barrett, Marion Dufty, Victor Hulbert, Pat Hutton, and Ros Smith, all representing various parts of the Northlew Community. After the service, in true Methodist style, everyone moved to the hall for cake, mince pies, tea or coffee, and a time to chat.



The £150 offering was sent in support of The Salvation Army in Exeter.

While the Carol Service may have climaxed the Methodist year, members would like to thank everyone for their support during 2025, either at the weekly coffee mornings, the 50/50 shop, the monthly market – including all the stall holders, and those who gave raffle prizes, and, of course, those who join us for Sunday worship.



And that's not all

In a short article, it is impossible to cover everything: the Victory Hall Christmas lunch, the school play, the carol service, the stunning charity tractor run, and more. But special thanks should go to Dan and team for the two marvellous Pensioners lunches, the Pub Carol service, jumper party, and the Curry & Quiz night that led up to Shaun firing the New Year canon and the start of 2026, another year of hopes, dreams, prayers, and community.



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NORTHLEW NATURE: STARLINGS

Sturnus vulgaris



Photo Credit: Daniil Komov on Unsplash

CHRIS BAINES

Love them or hate them, you can't ignore them.

As you would expect, I am firmly in the 'love them' camp. I realise they are noisy, they poop on people's cars, and can eat a lot of farmers' animal feed, as well as dominating our bird feeders. Nevertheless, the sight of thousands of Starlings roosting in and around Northlew trees has been an amazing sight this winter. I, for one, have never seen so many in Devon.

Of course, the Starlings you see in winter are not all UK birds; most of them have come over from the Continent, as our winters are warmer and provide more food at this time of year.

Even a single Starling seen up close is beautifully coloured, especially when seen in bright sunlight, but a Starling murmuration is a breathtaking sight. Everyone should make an effort to search out a good murmuration in winter. The Exe Estuary on the Topsham side is always a good bet.

Some of the reasons why Starlings, as well as some wading birds, murmurate are:

Predator avoidance – The action of thousands of birds swirling around confuses potential predators such that they find it difficult to single out a single bird.

Social interaction – Birds gathering in large numbers allows for the exchange of information and to share good feeding sights

Thermal Benefits – Roosting in large flocks can help reduce heat loss during hard winter weather.

Co-ordination – Birds in a murmurating flock never fly into each other, as each bird adjusts its position in the flock based on its nearest neighbour.

Attracting others – A large murmurating flock is easily visible to other Starlings, thus encouraging them to join in.
If you're lucky enough to see a Starling murmuration, you might think these birds are doing well, but Starlings declined by 57% between 1995 and 2023, and they now feature on the Red List of birds of high conservation concern. The reasons for this are well known, including habitat loss, food shortages, and loss of suitable nest sites.

We can all help our Starlings recover by providing a selection of foods, especially during a cold spell in winter. Starlings will eat pretty much anything, but please avoid processed food and food containing salt or sugar. Peanut butter, pasta, and unsalted chips are good examples.

If you have space in your garden to put up a Starling nest box, it should be placed at least 10 feet above the ground, and the entrance hole should be around 44mm. This will prevent larger birds from taking over the nest.

Apart from Sturnus Vulgaris, our common Starling, there are two others that you could possibly see in the UK.

Spotless Starling – Sturnus Unicolor. As the name implies, it is pretty much spotless and is a rare vagrant to this country. It lives mainly in Southern France, Spain, and North Africa, but has been known to join large flocks of our Starlings.

Rose Coloured Starling – Pastor Roseus. A beautiful bird in its summer plumage, with its rosy chest and small head crest. Another vagrant to this country, it lives in Central Asia and Southern Europe, only finding its way to our shores in winter. Sadly, its winter plumage is quite dull, with no pink chest, so very easy to mistake for a juvenile UK Starling.

Next time you see a flock of Starlings, give them an extra look, and you may be lucky to see something special.

A mumeration rising from the Kimberlands trees

Peartree Cottage

Howards Gorhuish, Northlew, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 3BT



Peartree Cottage, a charming two-bedroom self-catering holiday home standing in the 2 acre grounds of Howards Gorhuish, 2 miles from Northlew. Howards Gorhuish was a former dairy farm (the original farmhouse built in the late 17th century) and Peartree Cottage was the cowshed converted in the 1990s. The Cottage has undergone a complete refurbishment but retains its old world charm with character features such as oak beams and a wood burning stove. It is warm and cosy (with central heating for the colder months) and is comfortably furnished.

Accommodation: Sleeps 4 plus one infant (travel cot provided). Fully equipped kitchen/diner with electric oven, hob & grill, fridge, deep freezer, microwave, dishwasher and all the essentials. Triple-aspect sitting room with 3 piece suite, occasional tables, bookcase, Freeview tv, etc., & features a stone inglenook fireplace with wood burning stove and French doors leading out to the cottage's private patio & garden. Entrance hall and stairs to upper landing leading to two spacious double bedrooms each with its own en suite. Both bedrooms are double-aspect with lovely views across the gardens , meadow and beyond.

Garden features private patio and steps leading up to a secluded lawned area with feature shrubs. Garden furniture & Barbecue. Garden leading to wild flower meadow with summer house and a small shady copse. Dog friendly!

For further information: Website: http://www.peartreecottagedevon.com
Contact: Keith & Jackie Ellis Tel: 01837 658750 or Email: jackie.ann.ellis@btinternet.com



Climate Change, Tourism and Community in the North Devon UNESCO Biosphere

Mia Albaek

Over recent years, residents and local business owners from across the North Devon UNESCO Biosphere (NDUB) have contributed to a PhD research project looking at how climate change is affecting everyday life and the visitor economy in our area. The study focused on tourism stakeholders, residents, tourism-related business owners, and industry professionals. It explored not only what people think about climate change, but also how prepared they feel, and how far communities are working together to respond.

The research used a mixed-methods approach: two surveys (one for residents, one for businesses) and in-depth interviews with stakeholders from different parts of the Biosphere. This combination allowed us to examine broad patterns while also hearing the details of people's experiences in their own words. The work was guided by ideas from stakeholder theory and collaboration theory, which helped frame questions about who is affected, who acts, and how people can work together on shared climate challenges.

From climate change to "weather-gaze"

One of the clearest findings is that concern about climate change is widespread, but it is often expressed through very immediate, weather-related experiences rather than abstract global trends. Many residents talked about heavier rain, stronger winds, more frequent storms, and changes in seasonal patterns. Business owners, especially those in tourism, highlighted how bad weather means fewer customers, more disruption, and additional costs. This everyday focus on "what the weather is doing" was described in the thesis as a "weather-gaze".

These perceptions are shaped by a strong emotional and cultural attachment to local places, which the study terms a "community of place". People care deeply about their villages, landscapes, and coastlines, and this attachment influences how they make sense of climate risks and what they feel able to do about them. For some, warmer summers are seen as a potential benefit for tourism, but for many others, they sit alongside worries about flooding, sea-level rise, and damage to the countryside.

Dr Mia Albaek was, until recently, a Northlew resident, and is still a valued friend here. She gained her Phd from the University of Plymouth last autumn. Her thesis: *'Investigation of the perceived effects of, and preparedness for, climate change on tourism stakeholders in the North Devon UNESCO Biosphere.'*



Preparedness and barriers to action

Although many stakeholders recognised climate-related threats, levels of preparedness were often modest. Residents and business owners tended to feel more confident about coping with gradual, temperature-related changes than with water-related risks such as flooding or sea-level rise. Practical steps are being taken such as keeping drains and gutters clear, installing hard flooring, using flood barriers, or investing in more efficient appliances, but there is still uncertainty about whether these measures are enough.

The study identified several barriers that help explain this gap between concern and action: limited awareness of longer-term risks, fragmented communication between organisations and communities, and a lack of coordinated support to convert concern into concrete plans. Many participants also described uncertainty about who should lead on climate adaptation, and how responsibilities should be shared between residents, businesses, councils, and other bodies.

Collaboration: potential not yet realised

The research also examined climate-focused collaborative initiatives, from community projects to partnerships involving businesses and other organisations. Where they exist, these initiatives were often valued for bringing people together, creating a shared sense of purpose, and raising awareness. Regular meetings, social interaction, and inclusive participation emerged as important ingredients of effective collaboration.

However, many respondents felt that collaborative efforts were still under-used and sometimes struggled to demonstrate tangible outcomes. People were more likely to notice improvements in awareness and community spirit than clear changes in policy, infrastructure, or business performance. The study suggests that collaboration works best when it is underpinned by clear communication, practical implementation, and visible feedback on what has been achieved.

A new way of thinking about local climate perception

To bring these insights together, the thesis proposes a Situated Climate Perception Framework. This framework links the emotional grounding of community of place (how attached people feel to their local area) with the experiential lens of weather-gaze (how climate change is understood through day-to-day weather experiences). It argues that climate perception is both spatially and experientially situated: shaped by where people live, what they notice, and how changes affect their lives and livelihoods.

This perspective helps explain why some risks feel more pressing than others, why preparedness varies across different types of impact, and why local collaboration can be challenging yet powerful when it works. It also underlines the importance of approaching climate adaptation in a way that is rooted in local places, relationships, and experiences, rather than as a purely technical issue.

Looking ahead

In practice, the research offers strategic recommendations for fostering inclusive, place-based climate adaptation in protected and designated areas like the NDUB. These include improving communication about risks and responsibilities, supporting practical preparedness measures for both residents and businesses, and strengthening collaborative initiatives so they deliver visible benefits for communities, the environment and the local economy. The findings are likely to be relevant to many rural and coastal destinations facing similar climate challenges.

Most importantly, the thesis would not have been possible without the time and insights offered by local residents and business owners. The contributions from Northlew residents helped build a rich picture of how climate change is being felt “on the ground” and what matters most to the people who live and work here.

BANDAMONIUM
BRASS BAND FESTIVALS
UNITED KINGDOM
REG CHARITY NO. 1210574
BANDAMONIUM POST

Dates for your Diary ~ 24-26 July, 2026

Friday 24th July: Concert in Hatherleigh Square - last year was a fully blown Brass Band rock concert... what will this year bring?
Saturday 25th July: The main event culminating in the massed bands in Hatherleigh Community Market place in the evening
Sunday 26th July: Church service in Hatherleigh Square followed by our youth and training bands mini Bandamonium.

What is Bandamonium? It's a Brass Band festival with a difference. Free to audiences and Bands alike the bands sign up by agreeing to let their hair down and have fun - and they do! Bands play at multiple locations (pubs) during a wonderful Saturday afternoon before all being taken back to Hatherleigh Community Market for a massed bands performance you really shouldn't miss. If you're still not sure then find someone that went last year and ask them what they thought. Don't forget our website www.bandamonium.co.uk

Plans for 2026 are progressing brilliantly and Bandamonium has had a really exciting last couple of months with some earth shattering happenings: 22 bands already signed up for 2026 in Devon!

- We have some new bands, Thurlstone from Sheffield, Stoke Sub Hamdon band, Beak Brass Band from Bristol, Watford band, a new band called Brass Aid from everywhere, Basingstoke Silver and Gosport Solent Brass. A whole bunch of new friends that we can't wait to meet.

- Maybe a little premature but in 2027 we are hoping that a band from Northern Ireland will be coming over!

We have been awarded Arts Council Funding this year which is amazing news. That does add a lot of lovely complexities to add this year to make Bandamonium bigger and better. Top of the list is live streaming the event which means for example those unfortunate people living in Australia can get up in the middle of the night and join in the fun & then be less unfortunate. Added to that our recorded sound quality will be improved and we hope to have some lovely drone footage.

The Sunday we will be expanding our youth and training band Bandamonium - more details will follow. We're also a young, but rapidly expanding charity & need to concentrate on getting our charity governance, structure & training solidified.

We have a new Patron, Philip Sparke. Philip is a world renowned composer - google him! We could not be happier he's agreed to support us. Added to this he's a really lovely chap.

We have a new Trustee, Gregor Spence. He is the band manager and Tuba player for Flowers band who are one of the top Brass Bands in THE WORLD!!!!, a professional fundraiser, and another lovely chap.

Put the dates in your diary, plan your summer holidays around it, or if you fancy joining the team as a volunteer then please reach out - we definitely need your help.

Betty Spry – Retirement from the Green Dragon



Molly Atkinson & friends

Sadly, Betty our lovely smiling waitress is retiring from the Green Dragon after many years working as a waitress and helping in the kitchen at the Wednesday Pensioners Lunch.





Betty has always been there, organising the seating arrangements, taking the food orders and remembering everyone's likes and dislikes, even dealing with difficult customers, there is usually one, and never a dropped plate, or hardly ever.

A busy lady is Betty, with her work at the chapel, the 50/50 shop, the monthly market cake stall and also looking after Olive and being kind and helpful to friends and neighbours. Retiring from the Green Dragon will give Betty more time for her other activities and to be able to spend more time with Peter. Not sure if that is planned for the agenda!

Also, a big thank you to Dan, Tracy and her kitchen helpers, without whom the meals would not be possible. As Landlords, Dan and Karla also asked to express their immense thanks for all Betty has done - and to wish her joy as she now enjoys lunch with us as a customer!

Betty, we will miss you lots, and we wish you the very best on your retirement from the Green Dragon.

Lots of love from all your customers at the Pensioners Lunches.

Opening times at the Green Dragon

Monday: Closed
Tuesday 5 - 11
Wednesday 12 - 11
Thursday 5-11 pm
Friday 10am until late
Saturday 2 - late
Sunday 12 - late

Food served:

Lunchtime Wed/Fri/Sun 12:00-2:00pm

Evenings Tues 6:00-8:00pm
Wed-Sat 5.30-9.00pm
Friday only: Food all day.

Special nights/events will be posted on our Facebook Page @GreenDragonNorthlew.
Please book by dropping us a message or calling 01409 221228

Happy 90th birthday, Pat Carter



Pat Carter is part of the life and soul of Northlew Village. On Monday, 9 February, 90-year-old Pat thought she was walking up Harpers Hill for her regular coffee and chat in the church room. Instead, she found herself in the midst of a special birthday celebration filled with laughter, stories, and love.

Those ninety years have certainly been action-filled and characterful.

Pat was born in Westminster Hospital, London, her family having moved from the North to the South with the Jarrow March. She remembers that when she and her older brother were staying in Newcastle with family, they got the news that their London home had been destroyed in the Blitz.

Whilst her father worked away in the Glasgow Docks, they moved to Upper Tooting, and she recalls that as a small child she watched through the attic windows as London was bombed and ablaze. One of her earliest memories as a 3-year-old was her older brother seeing a policeman diving behind a wall. Her brother immediately threw Pat to the ground and then lay on top of her to protect her from a falling bomb.

Leaving school at fifteen, she was not interested in the normal career paths of hairdresser or factory worker. Earlier, she had been fascinated by a trip to a telephone exchange. She applied, and despite being too short to reach the plugs, she was taken on by the GPO. Laughingly, she states, “I never did get any taller!” Her work took her to various exchanges across London, including Holborn and Soho. There, she laughs, “looking through a back window, I saw the seamier side of London life!”

She met Ron, her future husband, at the famous Locarno Dance rooms in Streatham. Their first date was in Trafalgar Square. After getting married in Upper Tooting Methodist Church, they had a flat in Brixton where, she says, a few wild parties had the ceiling shaking!

They bought their first home in Thornton Heath, where Ron worked as a cordwainer crafting high-end leather goods. Pat worked in the local school while raising their two children. This was followed by further moves to Purley and then Old Coulsden, the latter with a lovely garden.

By this time Ron had his own business, still working with leather, and they decided to move to Devon. But where? They took a look around Northlew, got chatting to some villagers, and decided that this was a friendly place. Then seeing Dingley Cottage decided it for them!

Pat says she has seen many changes in the village, but still loves it here. Now that she is on her own, she keeps busy with church and chapel events, several clubs, including singing, often winning at Bingo, and enjoys a good meal at the pub!

On her 90th birthday, she walked up Harpers Hill as she has done nearly every day, and was thrilled by a surprise party in the Church room, attended by over 70 friends and family.

Happy birthday Pat. You are a valued part of our community. Now for your next challenge: It must surely be Harpers Hill on your 100th!

Ros Smith

News Snippets

Higher Odham Milk and Eggs arrive in the square

– and our editor can testify - they taste good!



Higher Odham milk and eggs started from a little idea of being very proud of the milk we produce at the Farm and wanting the local community to have the chance to enjoy it as well.

We started off with one box in Highampton back in December 2023. Then we were asked to put one in Black Torrington outside the old post office. Both boxes have received tremendous support.



With Chris and Amanda Vallance having recently moved into Northlew square, they kindly asked if we would be interested in putting a box outside of their house, the old store.

We were very keen on the idea and now the milk and egg box has been in place for several weeks and it's been great to meet so many new people.



We chose to go with the glass milk bottles to do our bit for the environment and it's been amazing how well they've always been returned back to the boxes.

A little bit about the farm and family behind the milk. There's myself Kate, my husband Nick, and our two boys, Alfie and Riley all involved. Nick is the 4th generation on the family farm. We farm 300 acres with 300 milking cows, all Holstein Friesians. Beyond supplying the villages, all the rest of the milk goes to Crediton dairies to make Moo milkshakes and iced coffees etc.



Chickens weren't a thing on the farm before we started the boxes. I was worried that milk alone wouldn't bring people to the box. So, after a little bit of persuasion, I managed to get everyone to agree to keeping a few chickens. Numbers had to grow quite rapidly as the demand for eggs exceeded the amount that was possible for them to lay a day. The chickens have about an acre paddock to roam and scratch about.

We would like to thank everybody for their ongoing support and we look forward to seeing where it grows to in the future. Kate Bowden.

‘Basic essentials’ back in the village with Angi’s Ambients.



“I've always loved the idea of having a shop - my mum and dad say I used to plays shops as a child, making tills out of cardboard boxes,” states Angie Short. After thinking about it for some time she decided to have a go, offering the service for those who don't shop online or who just need a top up for their cupboard.

Angie says, “I'm starting small with some everyday essentials like flour, sugar, baked beans, tin tomatoes, dried pasta, rice, and some cleaning products along with sweet biscuits and cakes.”



And while keeping it simple she has bigger plans in mind! “I'd like to make the shop mobile in the future but will see how it all goes for now. For me it's all about trying - if you don't, you'll always wonder "what if?"

Opening for the first time on Monday, 9 March, trade appeared brisk, adding to the lively atmosphere of the regular coffee morning and the important service provided by the Post Office.

Stock up with your essentials from **Angi’s Ambients** every Monday, 9am - 12pm in the Church Room and every Saturday, 10am - 12pm in the Methodist Hall.

Parish Council member vacancy

Northlew Parish Council currently has an opening for a council member. You don’t need any prior experience — just an interest in village life and a willingness to contribute a bit of your time. To find out more, contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk, or chat with any of the council members.

See council minutes and agendas on the website: http://www.northlewparishcouncil.org.uk



This photo of Council Members in action was taken by long-serving member, Celia Rundle. She believes it worthy of a caption competition! Any suggestions?

Council Updates and more...

The castle in the playground area has had the ramp replaced and other repairs are ongoing. The gate to the field has also been repaired. Some updates are also being made to equipment in the toilet block.



At a recent meeting Councillor Sue Davies, our representative on Devon County Council, gave an update on pothole repairs - probably the most contentious issue in the village - if not the whole of Devon! The current trial is that when a team repairs individual potholes, it will also repair those within 500 meters.

The village Facebook page is current very alive with discussion on the potholes, and particularly the very rough area below Heath farm on the way to Durdon cross on the Northlew road - where, as Nicola Povey notes, we currently have to slow down practically to a standstill to get over.

She is one of a number of people in the village reporting potholes to Devon Highways, and it was noted that some of the holes were marked up some months back. That paint has now washed away while the road surface has deteriorated further. Should you wish to contact Devon Highways the link is https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/

Parentkind
Bringing together home & school

Northlew Primary School
PTFA Registered Charity No. 1208780
ptfa@northlewprimary.org.uk
Chair: Jo Dryden

Hi Everyone,

Phase 1 of the play area is in!!



Woohoo! It was installed in Dec and it looks brilliant. The ground around it has been very wet, and now its finally beginning to dry out so hopefully the children will be able to play on it very soon. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us by making donations, buying hamper or duck tickets, coming along to events and a few small grants it has made all of this possible. Now for the final bit of completing phase 2.

This year the school is celebrating 160 years!



We would like to mark this occasion by doing something in the summer term. We need your help!? If anyone has any old photos of the school, year group pics or old pics of the village, please could you share them with us to make some displays for all to see.

We would also like to hear stories of what school was like when you/family members went and how much things have changed. If anyone has anything they would like to share, so we can we can begin collecting please speak to one of us or email PTFA@northlewprimary.org.uk



This event is very much in the planning stage at the moment so if anyone would like to help us please also let us know.

Still to come this month:

Mon 23rd March – OCRA after school Cross Country event at Simmons Park, Okehampton
Fri 27th March, 3pm - Class 1 Assembly - All Welcome
Tues 31st March 2.30pm - Easter Service at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Northlew.

Please keep an eye on Facebook and for posters for future events. Thank you.

Jo, Mel, Becky, Rosie, Jade, Becky and Natalie
Northlew Primary PTFA



Northlew & Ashbury School 1957

Here are some photos to kick off the 160 year celebrations. They are from a 2017 Okehampton Times article about former pupil, Eleanor Smale, when she returned to Northlew and Ashbury Primary School for its 150th anniversary. Villager, Bob Arthurs, kept the cutting and recently passed it on to Northlew News. Can you recognise anyone? Give up? Answers on page 28.



'If you go down in the woods today.' A 1956 photo of Eleanor and friends after giving a 'Teddy Bears picnic' dance.



Again in 1956, dancing around the Maypole. A tradition still continued at the annual Church Fete.

In the Times report, Eleanor reminisces about the big cast iron heating stove that didn't give out much heat, the challenge of an outside toilet, and walking across the square to the church hall for lunch.

"We were all poor in those days and used to wear hand-me-down-clothes," she said. "But we were happy enough and had a good time. I remember my school days fondly."

Photos and text republished here by kind permission of Okehampton Times. You can read the full article online at:
https://www.okehampton-today.co.uk/news/education/anniversary-visit-brings-back-memories-for-eleanor-at-northlew-and-ashbury-primary-school-416918

If you have memories of the School that you would like to share please contact a member of the PTFA or email PTFA@northlewprimary.org.uk

Moorland Hub

Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust

...everyone in our Trust.

Could You Help Shape the Future of Our Local Children? Why not become a School Governor!

Do you care deeply about your local schools and community? Are you passionate about giving every child the best possible start in life? If so, we'd love to hear from you.

As a governor, you'll:

· Champion local children and help ensure they receive the best education and opportunities.
· Give back to your community and make a real, lasting impact.
· Bring your experience and perspective to support and challenge school leaders.
· Develop new skills in leadership, governance, and strategic thinking – with full training provided.

We are looking for new Local Governors to join us.
We would love to hear from businesses and individuals who share our vision and values. If you want to find out more about us, please visit *Education for all local children | Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust: https://dartmoormat.org.uk/*



What's Involved?

· The role will require approximately 15 hours per year
· Attend three meetings a year (term time only) for 2 hours each.
· Spend a couple of hours each term in your local school
· Read papers and contribute to discussions that shape school improvement—1 hour per meeting.
· Training sessions to build your confidence and knowledge of schools and education.
You don't need to be an education expert. We're looking for people with an open mind, a collaborative approach, and a commitment to improving life chances for all children.

What Skills Do You Need?

· A passion for education and community.
· Commitment to fairness and opportunity for all.
· Ability to listen, ask questions, and work as part of a team.

Interested?

If you'd like to find out more or apply, please contact Melissa Trudgill, Governance Team at **mtrudgill@dmatschools.org.uk** to ask any questions or to arrange an informal telephone conversation. We would love to hear from you!

The Rain it Raineth every day...

upon the just and unjust fellow,
But more upon the just because
the unjust stole the just's umbrella.



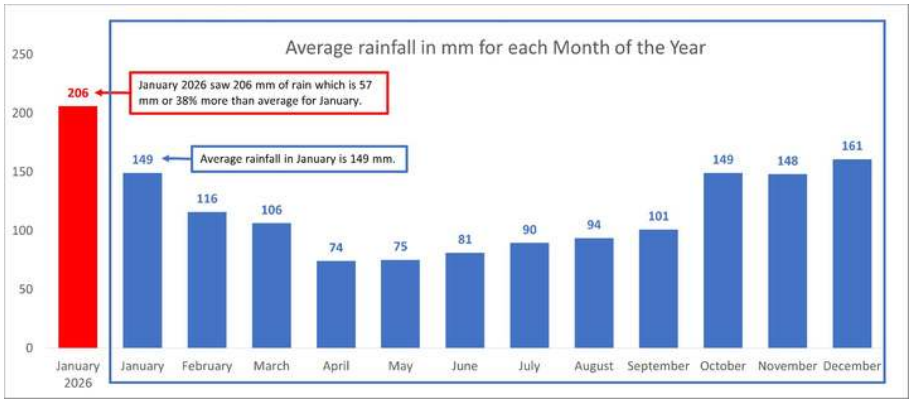
Bryan Dufty with Victor Hulbert

That little rhyme, 'oft quoted at me by a favourite aunt of mine, seems to sum up Northlew weather over this past winter. However, with the gales I'm not sure that umbrella would be too much use.

The Met office notes that the nearby North Wyke weather station logged 40 consecutive wet days from 31 December 2025 to 8 February 2026. Our local meteorologist, Bryan Dufty, notes that for Northlew, the 206 mm of January rain took us to 38% above the January average.

While total rainfall reduced slightly to 192mm in February, that was 76mm above average, an astonishing 65.5%.

There have been worse years, 2014 and 2018, beating January with 248 and 215mm, while the highest that Bryan has measured was a very wet start to 1990 270mm in January and an astonishing 316 in February.



Thankfully we have moved into spring and we are now seeing more sunshine but, for me, I'd quite like to relive the winter of 1992 when only 126mm fell across the two months, a dry winter some 52% below average. Hosepipe bans ensued!

So come rain or shine, enjoy these highlights from 46 years of record keeping on Stony farm, and let's see what the summer has in store for us. No doubt, our perpetual talking point!



	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
January	138	185	60	165	108	173	206
February	275	150	114	25	229	94	192
March	123	59	48	217	135	6	
April	39	13	36	83	87	99	
May	5	210	64	58	95	40	
June	184	47	62	28	30	104	
July	68	83	21	175	123	37	
August	172	69	91	97	55	58	
September	55	110	150	100	143	164	
October	183	225	85	142	137	152	
November	122	54	198	189	161	196	
December	273	140	142	226	107	184	
	1637	1345	1071	1505	1410	1307	

Tania's Tarts: Spanish Easter Bread

In Spain they use coloured eggs and hundreds and thousands. My version is a little less colourful but just as tasty!



Recipe:
500g strong white bread flour
7g sachet fast action yeast
1 teaspoon sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1 egg, beaten lightly
1 tblsp olive oil
50g caster sugar
300ml warm water
5 hard(ish) boiled eggs.

Method:
Mix dry ingredients, add egg, oil and warm water.
Kneed for 10 minutes then put into a bowl with oiled cling film covering.
Place it in a warm place for 1 hour or until double in size.
Kneed again for a few minutes, divide into 3 strips and plat.
Turn ends into each other and put onto a baking sheet for its second prove about 1/2 hour or until again double its size.
Mix an egg yolk with a tablespoon of olive oil.
Put the hard boiled eggs evenly onto the loaf and press down.
Brush with the egg mixture and scatter with poppy seeds.
Bake in pre heated oven, set at 220c for approximately 20 mins.
It's cooked when brown on top and sounds hollow when tapped underneath.

Tania's Tarts reopens Friday 20 March

New opening time 11am-13pm for fresh bread, sweet tarts and savouries.



Northlew Baby and Toddler Group

Wednesday mornings 10 – 12

(Term time)

In the Village Hall

£2 per child snack included

Tea and coffee for adults

For more info find us on facebook:

Northlew Toddler Group, Devon







Cottage Garden Wildlife

Therapy for the soul by Country Mouse

Early spring this year is best captured in Norman Garstin's famous oil painting 'The Rain It Raineth Every Day'. Heavy downpours and consequent waterlogging certainly caused problems for our garden plants – leaching nutrients, damaging roots and foliage, stunting growth – and to our garden wildlife – by flooding nests and hollows, reducing food supplies, increasing stress. Slugs and snails loved it, though, as their subsequent population boom shows. Moisture-loving frogs and toads, however, have had their breeding disrupted as earlier arriving newts began predating their eggs and spawn.

While bird song is often sparse until February is over, one bird singing loudly despite stormy weather was a mistle thrush, perched high up in neighbouring woods. Its tune was beautiful and clear above the noise of rain, wind, and creaking trees. This mistletoe-loving bird, deserving of its name, the 'storm cock', is often called the 'holm screech' here in Devon.

Our favourite springtime birds continue to be long-tailed tits hurtling around in noisy dollops of a dozen or more while causing bird-feeder mayhem on arrival. Nest construction has already begun ahead of their breeding season in late March but can be postponed to May if poor weather continues. These tiny, excitable birds line their nests with lichen, moss, spider webs, and their own feathers. Victorian naturalist, William Mcgillivray, once counted 2,300 feathers in just one nest. One of our many robins has become bolder. He now takes food from inside the conservatory and then follows my wife through the cottage for more. Our neighbour tells us they recently rescued a female sparrowhawk after it had jammed itself in the garden fence while over-enthusiastically chasing sparrows. Carefully extricated, it flew off unharmed.

With mouse and vole numbers visibly up this last year, our resident tawny owls have had their predatory work cut out lately. They are not yet showing any interest in the newly constructed owl box; their evening courting duets have already started in the old pine tree. The female hoots the classic 'ke-wick' sound, while the male responds with 'hoo-hoo'.

Having taken the opportunity to reline and rebuild our garden pond, we are now watching carefully to see how long it takes to repopulate, and by whom. We rescued as many amphibians as we could, returning several buckets of invertebrate-rich sediment and selected aquatic plants to inoculate the new one. A water shrew has already returned to check what's going on.

William Wordsworth wrote one poem about daffodils, but three about celandines, so we are delighted to discover some of these delightful, small, shiny-yellow flowers, with heart-shaped leaves, growing along one of the soggier boundary hedges. A sure sign of spring, we hope, at last.

Adapted & updated from Tavy Links 2025



GREEN SHOOTS

Mark Turley

If you've been along the footpath that runs behind St Thomas's church recently you may have noticed that the adjacent field has sprouted a plethora of metre tall tubes. A bit unsightly perhaps but necessary as each guard protects a newly planted tree sapling, some two hundred in fact.

This L-shaped cordon will form a mixed hedge of native trees and shrubs, and is part of an on-going project to make a colourful, species-rich meadow that has already been subject to a planting of wild flowers, with more to follow.

The tree guards are needed to stop roe deer from nibbling the saplings and destroying any new growth. Once the saplings emerge from their protective tubes these can be removed, all being well in just a few years. The planting is a mixed bag that will provide plenty of insect-friendly blossom as well as food and sanctuary for birds and other wildlife. Species include hawthorn, hazel, holly, rowan and elder, together with larger trees such as wild cherry, field maple, hornbeam and oak.

Tree growing is inevitably a rather drawn-out business and the old response to the question, 'when is the best time to plant a tree?' Answer, 'ten years ago', still stands, but at least these young trees are able to get going and become a worthy addition to the splendid Devon landscape that surrounds us here in Northlew.



With public footpaths along two borders, the proposed expansion of the churchyard, and with stunning views towards Dartmoor, this nature corner will undoubtedly bring joy to both the owners and to villagers as we pause for the views along our already beautiful paths.



Shining as Lights in the Night

...As the clocks change and the sunsets extend later, an original poem to inspire us as a community in oft' difficult times. JPH

A glowing ember—
a spark of faith, of fragile hope—
in the depths of darkness,
where distant stars shine bright.

A beacon in the night,
a flickering lantern—
casting light upon our way,
amid a world in chaos.

Shine your light—
not to conquer, but to serve,
to care, to show compassion.
Shine your light for all to see.

Let it shine not to dazzle others,
but to draw the wandering heart;
not a glare that blinds the weary,
but a glow that draws them near.

FROM PAGE 21: Northlew and Ashbury School in 1957. Who did you recognise?

Top row: Arthur Griffiths, Tim Evely, Philip Cleverdon, Bobby Arthurs, Jeffery Knight, Charles Jordan, Raymond Brock, Wilfred Spry, Jonathan Evely, John Gerry, Raymond Mounts and Mike Furze.
Second row: Elizabeth Worden, Brenda Jordan, Danny Ware, Alan Smallacombe, Reg Jordan, David Ware, Victor Jordan, Gerald Maynard, Ian McKay, Margart Worden, Sheila Mounter.
Third row down: Bridget Friend, Pauline Taylor, Eleanor Smale, Marion Adam, Margaret Guscott, Margaret Curtis, Mrs Wood, Mr Gerry, Linda Brayley, Norma Lilecrap, Margaret Newcombe, Carol Jordan, Betty Newton and Carol Moyse.
Bottom row: Annie Elliot, Elizabeth Newcombe, Winifred Davey, Newton, Jennifer Curtis, Jill Jordan, Marilyn Hind and Marion Newton.





**. SPECIAL OFFER. ** SPECIAL OFFER **

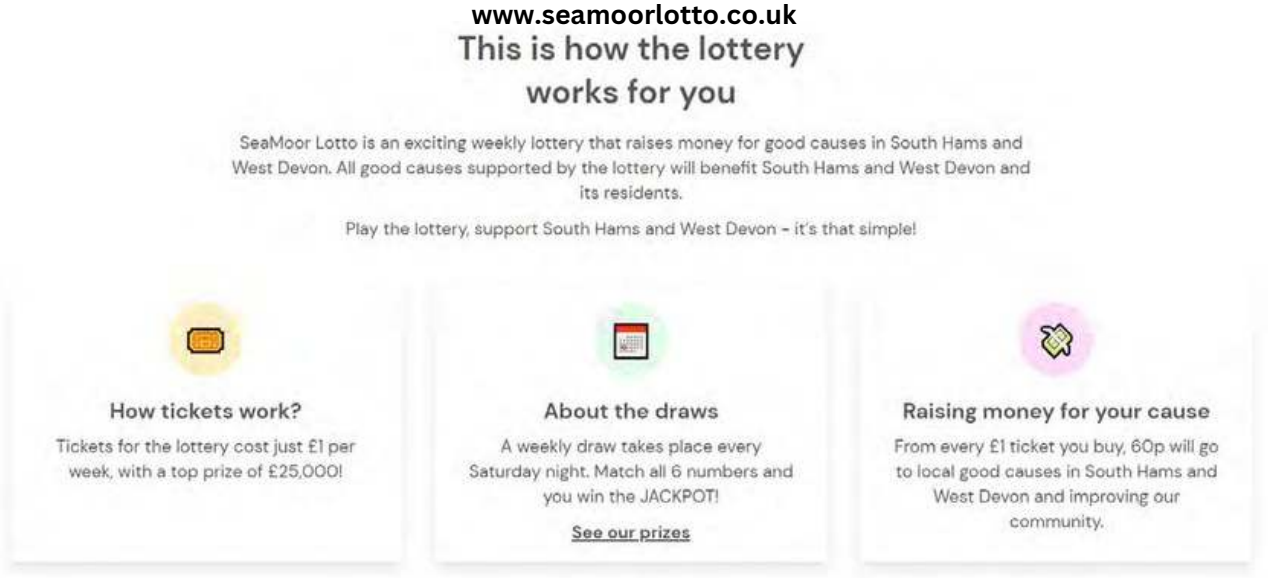
Have you ever tried Reiki before? This beautiful relaxing treatment can help with Insomnia, Migraines, Fibromyalgia, bad backs, cramps, aches and pains and so much more.
Or do you just want to spend a peaceful hour taking time for you, letting yourself totally relax.
I am offering a special offer of £30 for an hour session.
I have a beautiful Reiki Lodge near Northlew with plenty of parking.
Call or text me, Nicky, on 0789 459 4019 .
I look forward to hearing from you xx



SeaMoor Lotto

SeaMoor Lotto was created in 2018 by West Devon Borough Council. Set up to support community projects in the local area, SeaMoor Lotto operates on the principle of raising money within the community for the community.
We empower local good causes to raise money in a fun and effective way. A ticket for SeaMoor Lotto costs £1 a week and 60p will go directly to good causes! Northlew Parish Council are a registered good cause with SeaMoor Lotto, so you can raise funds for the parish council, and potentially win something for yourself. Google SeaMoor Lotto, it's really simple to join!

www.seamoorlotto.co.uk



Information pages

Your Parish Council

Your Councillors are here to help and always welcome your support and comments. Contact details as follows	
Mark Rundle: Chair	mrundle@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk
Celia Rundle:	cminers@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk
Andrew Alger	aalger@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk
Amanda Valance	avalance@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk
Bryan Dufty	bdufty@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk
Shaun Millership	smillership@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk
Dave Kent	dkent@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk
Rob Woolley	rwoolley@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk

Visit our website, http://www.northlewparishcouncil.org.uk, to discover:

- Details on how to contact your Borough and County Councillors and Member of Parliament.
- Minutes of previous council meetings and agenda for the next meeting.
- news, local information and a memory page.

Parish Council Meetings are usually held at 7.30 pm on the third Monday of each month in the back room of the Victory Hall. **The agenda** is published on the website at least 3 days prior to the meeting. At 7.30pm prior to the start of the formal meeting, there is a public session (if required) which, at the Chair's discretion may last up to 15 minutes to enable members of the public to ask questions of and make comment to the Council. We request that notice of intent to ask questions/make comment be made to the clerk by the Friday prior to the date of the meeting. Questions not answered at this meeting will be answered in writing to the person asking the question or may appear as an agenda items for the appropriate parish council or committee meeting. Members of the public are asked to restrict their comments and/or questions to three minutes. This section is not part of the formal meeting of the Council. Any member of the parish can attend the formal part of the meeting but may not contribute to it unless specifically invited by the chair.

Please contact our clerk Johannah Shaw, for further information, for comments or suggestions on the website, or if you would like to raise a topic at the public session of the Parish Council Meeting. Johannah should be contacted at: clerk@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk.

Additional counsellor needed. A vacancy has recently occurred If you would be interested please contact Johannah Shaw.

Sports and Recreation

Please note that this may not be a complete guide and may be subject to change. For further information please contact event organisers.

- BADMINTON — held at the Victory Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday at 5-7pm.Contact Chris Baines for more information on 07917 795072 or email chrisbaines63@btinternet.com

- NORTHLEW NEEDLES — held every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month in the Victory Hall Meeting Room from 2pm until 4pm. Bring your crafting - be it knitting, crochet, sewing or anything else you fancy - and join us for a cuppa and a chat. £2 per session, refreshments included. Contact Julie Phillips on 01409 220088 for more information.

- NORTHLEW AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY (NADS) – We have welcomed a few new members but need more volunteers both to perform and to help with costumes, painting, set and programme design, curtain pulling.....oh and not forgetting prompting (probably a big part!) We meet most Monday evenings before our next production so please feel free to come along. Just call us to confirm. Send an email to Lyn Taylor, Chair, 07971 609115 lyntaylor11@live.co.uk, or Martin Perry, Secretary 01409 221376 martinperry.northlew@gmail.com.

- NORTHLEW AND ASHBURY SNOOKER CLUB — this is an active and thriving facility with two full size tables and has a team in the Okehampton League. We welcome new members of all levels of play for a small membership fee. However, have a free go before joining, just contact David on 07977 789734 or david@grindhill.co.uk.

- NORTHLEW CHILDREN'S GROUP — held on Wednesdays, 10am-12pm at the Victory Hall– Contact Jo Drydenvia on Facebook or 07789282990.

- NORTHLEW SILVER BAND — Devon's only Village Silver Band over 100 years old. For more information please contact: Tim Williams 01409 221754 or Martin Perry 01409 221376.

- PLAYGROUP FOR GROWNUPS — Join Marg Rundle and friends at Higher Gorhuish, 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 2 to 4pm for games, refreshments and laughter. All for £1.50. For more details call Marg on 01837 53314l

- SHORT MAT BOWLS — every Thursday, 2- 4pm at the Victory Hall. For more information call Mike on 01409 220320, Norman on 01409 221518 or Lin Miller 01409 221164.

- SKITTLES — Tuesday 7.30-10pm at the Victory Hall. Contact Mark Turley 07958764143.

- WALKING GROUP including nature walks are organised periodically throughout the year. Please contact Chris Baines, 07917 795072 or chrisbaines63@btinternet.com for more information.





Community Contacts

Medical	
Blake House Surgery, Black Torrington	01409 231628
Derriford Hospital	01752 202082
Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital	01392 411611
MyDentist, Okehampton	01837 52853
NHS Direct	111
Okehampton Boots (Mon-Sat 9-5.30)	01837 543220
Okehampton Community Hospital	01837 658000
PharmaDerma Pharmacy, Okehampton (Mon-Friday 9-6.30. Sat 9-5.30)	01837 847663
Okehampton Medical Centre	01837 52233
Vets	
Okeford Vets	01837 52148
North Park Veterinary Group	01837 658777
Other	
Police	101 (non-emergencies) 0845 277 7444 (enquiry office)
Samaritans (24 hours)	116 123
Reporting a Power Cut	105
Floodline	0345 988 1188
Citizens Advice Bureau	0344 411 444
West Devon Borough Council	01822 813600
Devon County Council	0345 155 1015

Your Magazine needs you!

Northlew News is published three times per year in Spring, Summer and Late Autumn. It is YOUR magazine so the content is up to you!

- **Advertise!** This space could be promoting your local business to our 'in print' and wider online community. Email clerk@northlewparishcouncil.org.uk for details and rates.
- **Volunteer writers.** Got a bit of Northlew history to tell? Want to share the stories of some of our long-time residents? Got a craft or skill you want to talk about? Good at interviewing? Contact the editor, Victor Hulbert, at Northlewnews@hulbert.org.uk to see how you can help.
- **Have some poetry, artwork or an important coming event?** Let us know. Your contributions are always welcomed.

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sales@inkprint.co.uk

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- prints
- greetings cards
- calendars

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- posters
- plans
- scanning

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