

PARISH NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024

*In remembrance of those who have died during conflict
and those who have been affected by war.*

1912-1918

William Abbot

Frank Butter

Harold Dean

Victor Gush

Charles Northcott

Arthur Tucker Perry

Thomas Perry

Percy Perryman

Sidney Perryman

Albert Quick

Harold Searle

Stanley Ward



1939-1945

Paul Temple-Cotton

John Graham

Eric Hutchings



**St Winifred's Church,
Branscombe
Holyford Mission Community
www.holyford.org**



ST WINIFRED'S CHURCH, BRANSCOMBE

NOVEMBER SERVICES

- 3rd 11.15am Holy Communion
10th 10.50am Remembrance Service
17th 11.15am Holy Communion
24th 11.15am Morning Prayer



St Andrew's Colyton

- 2nd 10.00am Mission Community All Souls' Day Requiem Mass
3rd 6.30pm All Souls' Memorial Service

There will no longer be Evening Prayer on a Thursday in St Winifred's

For any questions regarding St Winifred's, please contact the
Churchwarden: Ross Willmington 680264

For the latest information across the Mission Community,
consult the website www.holyford.org if possible, or see the relevant
Church Noticeboards

HOLYFORD MISSION COMMUNITY INFORMATION

- Holy Communion** Every Wednesday 10am St Andrew's ,Colyton
Morning Prayer Weekdays Monday - Friday 8.30am St Andrew's
Colyton
Transport to/From Church: Please contact a churchwarden
Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals: Call Administrator 01297 552307
or email office@holyford.org
Holy Communion at Home: Please call a Minister, Reader or
Churchwarden



FROM THE MISSION COMMUNITY

HolyFORD
MISSION COMMUNITY

Risk

The scale of risk can be thought of as risk averse at one end and reckless at the other. Where people fall on the scale reflects their attitude to adventure and caution. To be excessively risk averse must limit lifestyle to an enormous extent, yet to be reckless not only creates danger for the individual but also to others around them.

In addition our lifestyles are influenced by our awareness and perception of risk. It is likely that our perception of risk is not based on statistics but on our own experience of life and we may engage in activities which statistically carry a high risk but as individuals are reckoned as acceptable, e.g. cycling. In addition, behaviour which seeks to reduce risk can also statistically be at a higher risk, for example limiting the use of a motor vehicle for longer journeys but unaware that most accidents occur within a few miles of home, or a reluctance to journey by air which is statistically one of the safest ways to travel. Personally, I would prefer to live next door to a nuclear power station rather than to frequently fly between continents because the statistical risk of harmful radiation is much greater in the latter!

We must accept that however we live our lives there is always an element of risk, known and unknown; so life becomes continual process of risk management, a willingness to seek adventure together with common sense care to protect ourselves and others. In a recent article I reflected on diet and, for some, lack of thought about diet can be a risk not only to health but also to life expectancy.

As we approach Advent at the end of November and reflect on the Christmas story, perhaps we should consider the risks that God our Father took in sending his Son into the world as a vulnerable infant. Not only were there risks of human failure in Mary and Joseph, the risks for Mary of carrying the child in her womb and its birth in the absence of the medical support we take for granted today, but also the relatively insanitary conditions into which the infant Jesus spent his first hours and days. God also took the risk that even this act of love might not be sufficient to turn the coldest hearts towards him.

At the heart of God's willingness to take this risk was his unfathomable love for all humankind. As we reflect upon the many images of the nativity and the stable and we see the infant Christ child, may we remember that he is a sign of God the Father's eternal and unquenchable love for each one of us.

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift. (2 Cor. 9.15)

Charles Hill

Branscombe C of E Primary School



It has been a busy start to the Autumn season at our school. We have welcomed some new children, as well as a new minibus. We are very thankful to the village hall for giving us permission to park it there during term time. If you see us out driving, make sure to give us a wave!

The children at Branscombe have enjoyed learning about the different forms of poetry in Malorie Blackman's book, *Cloudbusting*, using this knowledge to help them retell the events of a short film called 'Dreamgiver' in verse. The Library Service came to the school for our 'Reading Roundabout' where the children were given the opportunity to choose 60 books to enhance our lovely library. In science, the children been learning about how we see and how light travels and designed dens to explore whether an object is a light source or not and used string to represent light rays reflecting off a surface. In the history lessons, the children have been learning about the causes of World War I and why so many people volunteered, learning new vocabulary such as *patriotism* and *propaganda*. The class have also developed their understanding of abstract art, and have created their own images using abstraction of colour and line.


The children have been using the village hall and field for their PE sessions, focusing on Tag Rugby this half term. Father Steven has visited the school for collective worship where we reflected on letting our own lights shine whilst practising songs for the upcoming Harvest Service at the Church where we will be joined by The Chapel Choir of St John's College, Oxford.

Best wishes and God bless.

Mrs Tubbs

Academy Headteacher





Christmas Greetings

If you would like to send good wishes to friends in lieu of cards (or indeed in addition to cards) please send your name and phone no. (not printed in Newsletter) and donation to

Pat Ayles, Ross Willmington or bring to Church by the
6th NOVEMBER

A suggested donation would be £5 but any amount is welcome

The following will appear in Dec/Jan issue of the Parish Newsletter:

We wish all our friends and neighbours a very Happy Christmas and Peace and Love in the New Year

(followed by a list of names)

The proceeds will be sent to this year's chosen charity
Children's Hospice South West

If you would like any further information please contact
Pat Ayles 680328



CAN YOU HELP ?

Would you like to try your hand at flower arranging
We need people with a love of flowers to join our teams to decorate St Winifred's. You do not need to be experienced as help will always be at hand

At present our rota consists of four teams of two. It would be great to expand to teams of three so that we can cover holidays etc.

If interested please contact Sallie Herniman tel. 01297 553482.

SALVATION ARMY CONCERT

There is to be a free Exeter Salvation Army Band Concert in Beer Congregational Church on **Sunday November 24th at 4pm.**
Everyone is welcome.



Church Floodlighting

*If you would like to sponsor the lights, perhaps in memory of someone or to mark a special occasion, please contact Pat Ayles (680328).
The suggested donation to church funds for a week of floodlighting is £15.00*



DONATIONS NEEDED

The Food Bank needs non perishable food, toiletries, washing powder or liquid etc. They particularly need: cold meat (eg ham/corned beef/Spam) *tinned/jars of hot dogs* chilli con carne*long-life whole milk*baby wipes* toilet rolls*toiletries.

We are still happy to pick up any items from your house if that is easier. For financial gifts the bank details are available on the Mission Community website

Thanks again!!

Jill & Tony Johnson

Please support this worthwhile cause.

For anyone who might need to use the Foodbank please contact a member of the ministry team (see inside back cover)



All welcome to join us for our last cake and chat of 2024

**Wednesday 20th November 2pm-4pm
Branoc hall.**

Plenty of chat with friends old and new to go with the cake and cuppa.

If transport is required call either Andrea Bass on 01297 680447 or John Bass on 01297 680432.
We look forward to seeing you.



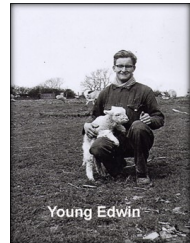
EDWIN PURCHASE (1937 – 2024)

Many people will remember Edwin with great fondness. We thought that you might like to read Nigel Freathy's eulogy (somewhat shortened) with photos from the Branscombe Project archive.

Sept. 16th 2024 Branscombe Church: eulogy by Revd Nigel Freathy (vicar 1986 - 2001)

So soon after saying our farewells to Phyllis we say farewell to her partner, Edwin. One of the great Branscombe characters for over 70 years, he was larger than life, with his loud voice, great sense of fun, generosity of spirit, his commitment to community, his wealth of talents and zest for living life to the full.

Edwin's parents met when his father Clifford John put an ad in the *Farmers' Weekly* lonely hearts column. It was answered by May Hill a farmer's daughter from Sidmouth. They met, fell in love and married. John Purchase farmed at Simonsbath on Exmoor and was farm Bailiff for Lord Fortescue. Edwin was born on the 18th Nov. 1937, and despite the war had a happy childhood on the farm. In the early 1950s the family moved to Woodhead Farm in Branscombe. I am told that at the time of the move, Edwin drove a tractor all the way from Simonsbath to Branscombe!



The family loved their farming life and formed a close relationship with May's Sidmouth family. Eventually, Phyllis moved in as a housekeeper to Edwin's parents and very soon a romantic relationship developed between Edwin and her and they remained happily together for more than 40 years.

Edwin was a wizard with loudspeakers and, positioned on top of his car or out of the boot, they were used extensively at outdoor church services, or to go round the neighbourhood whipping up support for Variety Nights, the Branscombe Air Days, or other events. Such generous use of his equipment was symptomatic of Edwin's willingness to put himself out for the village and community.

He was a kind man who made it a priority to visit folk in difficulties, especially if they did not drive. Ralph remembers for example that when he was serving in the Falklands in 1982/3 Edwin would bring goodies in exchange for some of Avril's cake.

Edwin's natural interests were more in the direction of engineering than farming, but sometimes he combined the two when, for example, he built an extra wide cab on his tractor to accommodate himself and the dog, or adapted his tractor so that he could work the steep slopes on the farm. He also adapted one of his vehicles so that he and Phyllis could go off together in his version of a camper van.

He had a passion for tractors and built up a collection of vintage models. He used to drive one each year in the Colyton Tractor Rally, and generously lent out another one to Bishop Bob of Crediton.

Edwin and Phyllis were amongst the first to join the Branscombe Project in the early Nineties. They were stalwarts - there for every meeting, the winter talks, the exhibitions - Phyllis behind the hatch, Edwin often called upon to sing ...

Barbara from the Project remembers fondly going up to Woodhead when the Project was talking to people about their farms. They would settle in the kitchen with a mug of Phyllis's milky coffee and a generous plateful of chocolate digestives and bourbons, and Edwin would get into his stride ... his family ... the farming season ... and, of course, his tractors. And then they'd set off round farm buildings. What she remembers most were the piles of 'useful' bits and pieces including a shed full of Variety Night placards, his wonderful workshop, and – of course - his tractors, both newish and very old.

She remembers once, when Edwin was getting older and more forgetful, and was a bit depressed, he took her and a visiting Greek archaeologist round the tractor shed and she persuaded him - it didn't take much persuasion - to sing his 'Blackbird' song. She guesses the archaeologist came away with an unusual take on Devon farming!



That of course reminds us all of Edwin's skills as a singer and entertainer. He had a fine loud voice which he put to good use when singing with Jack Broom in one of the very first Tribute Acts - in his case the Wurzels. No Variety Night was complete without Edwin in his Top of the Bill spot, dressed suitably in check shirt, handkerchief, hat, and corduroy trousers done up with string, singing at top volume such numbers as '*I've got a brand new*

Combine Harvester'.

He never joined the church choir but was a fine singer, contributing lustily to the hymns from his regular position in the pew. In retirement, he was a faithful church attender both in Branscombe and elsewhere in the Mission Community.

His enthusiasm for singing was put to the best possible use in his frequent visits to retirement and nursing homes where, singing many old time songs, he brightened the residents' lives.

Returning to Barbara's memories - she and I remember fondly not so long ago, when we put on a dramatic performance in the churchyard - called I think '*Grave Matters*

One of the highlights was Edwin, in air-force uniform, standing all alone next to the chest tomb on the path down to the church, singing '*On a wing and a prayer*'. It sounded so sad ... his voice was a little more hesitant ... and all the more beautiful ...



Apart from his involvement with the wonderful Variety Nights which gave so much pleasure and which raised huge amounts of money for good causes, Edwin was also one of the original members of the Branscombe Players and a staunch supporter of the great Carol Singalong which made its way round the parish and, again, raised so much money for charity.

In retirement years Edwin was an enthusiastic member of the Over 60's Group which evolved into the Third Thursday Afternoon Club. His enthusiasm was not just for the biscuits available with the cups of tea. He loved the outings and most especially the ones to the theatre.

During Covid Edwin had a stroke and was diagnosed with early dementia. He eventually moved to Vale View Heights Care Home in Sidmouth. He was happy there and popular with the staff and residents. Known as the Bingo King he won many boxes of biscuits which didn't do much for his waistline. He still loved to sing, and Emily, who organised the singsongs, said his voice could be heard as far as the esplanade.

So we say our farewells to a much loved Branscombe institution and we commit him into the hands of the God in whom he believed.



The National Poppy Appeal made its target of £50 million last year and again are hoping to do the same again this year. Devon this year is over the £900:00 raised last year and hope to make the £1 million next year. Branscombe our total was £1522:39 plus Gift aid, 2 BACS payments and also hopefully some more from the new QR scanner code.

The Field of Remembrance will be in place mid October and the service of Remembrance on **Sunday 10th November at 10.50am.**

The 2 minute silence at the Memorial will be at 10.50am for 11am on **Monday the 11th.**

Devon County Festival of Remembrance is on the
2nd of November 7 for 7.30pm at the Barnfield Theater,
Southernhay, Exeter.

Ralph Cox
Branch President,
Branscombe Branch, Royal British Legion.





THE SEA SHANTY BEACH CAFÉ

We will be changing our opening times and days from the 3rd November as follows:

Café will be open 9.00am to 3.30pm Thursday to Sunday
Breakfast menu served from 09:00am Last Order - 11:30am

Sunday Last order 11.15am

Lunch menu served from 12:00pm– 2.30pm

Breakfasts, lunches, and **daily specials**.

Pasties, sausage rolls, and homemade cakes.

Senior Specials

Cod, Chips & Peas, with a pot of tea or small coffee £13.50

Scampi, Chips & Peas with a pot of tea or small coffee £12.50.



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If you would like any advice, please contact your local Devon team:

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humberts.com

MOVING YOU SINCE 1842

Branoc Hall Fireworks Display



Saturday 2nd November
Bar and BBQ available
from 5.30pm on the field.

FREE ENTRY

Everyone is welcome



Branscombe Parish Council

For further information please visit:

<http://www.branscombe-pc.org.uk/>

Clerk to the council: Nicky Ingarfield

clerk@branscombe-pc.gov.uk Tel: 07814 521538

Next Meeting: Thursday 7th November 7.00pm—Branoc Hall Social Room

First Aid Training - Thursday 28th November

We're offering free first aid training delivered by the British Red Cross.

This will cover unresponsive patients, chest compressions and use of the defibrillator, bleeding, burns, broken bones and hypothermia as well as other things that may come up in discussion. The training is very informal, with lots of discussion, no assessment and no crawling around on the floor, practising bandages, etc.

The session(s) will take place at Branoc Hall on the evening of Thursday 28th November - exact timings will be confirmed once we have numbers of people interested.

This is a free event for Branscombe residents, but donations to British Red Cross are welcome.

If you would like to book a place, then please email Caroline Powell - caropow55@gmail.com

Christmas is rapidly approaching, and our local shopping town of Sidmouth has its combined Christmas Light Switch On and Late Night Shopping on Saturday 16th November.

At 5.15pm, just before the light switch on itself, the Golden Ticket Draw will take place where local Primary School Children – including our Branscombe School children - can win £100 of Gliddon's toy vouchers.

Full timetable:

Afternoon: Sid Valley Radio broadcasting live from the Market Place

4pm onwards: Vine and Dandy providing live music

5:15pm: Annual 'Golden Ticket' draw.

5.30pm: Christmas Lights switch-on.

With Late Night Shopping through until 8pm

Mike Pellatt
Chair, BPC

Planned Road Closures/Delays

- 13-17 Dec 2024 Road from Higher Barn—The Old Cider House, below the eastern end of Parkfield Terrace—South West Water, permanent carriageway reinstatement
- 16-21 Dec 2024 Road from Branscombe Cross—Northern Lane between A3052 and lane to Edge Farm —BT Openreach
Traffic management—road closure (20:00—05:00)
plus—A3052 at Branscombe Cross—multi-way traffic lights

PLANNING

One new planning application this month.

Date	App ref	Description	BPC Response	EDDC Decision
13/09/24	24/1912/FUL	Maycoes Branscombe Devon EX12 3DN Erection of Replacement Gabion Retaining Structure	Object – see EDDC planning portal for grounds.	Awaiting decision



Rachels Journey to Costa Rica Summer 2024

My journey began on 21st July 2024. With passport, visa and bags packed, then we left for Sidmouth college at 11pm to meet and catch the coach up to Heathrow. We arrived at the airport once checked in and through security, we headed to our gate as it was time to catch the first flight to Montreal (Canada). Once we arrived after a 7-hour flight we landed at Montreal and headed through

We arrived after a 5-hour flight at 7pm Costa Rican time. This is when the group split into 2 Teams, Puma, which was my team and team Mapache (Raccoon). We headed to the First camp Cano Negro right up in the north of the country. We were there for 6 nights. Some of the project work included a local boat trip along the estuary where we saw a range of birds and monkeys. We also worked on some trails that led into the rainforest where we did our night walk, we saw a range of insects, BIG FAT HAIRY SPIDERS!!!!, geckos, some owls and frogs, toads and we were lucky enough to see a red eyed tree frog.

We headed back to San Jose before a long bus journey the next day up the mountains to Camp Terraba where we took part in a Cacao creation and tasting, bagging soil for trees, creation of a path through the forest, an amazing hike to a beautiful place in the mountains where we saw Toucans. We also met a man who has dedicated his life to reforestation and restoring indigenous communities and connecting with wildlife, and much more.

Our next Camp La Amistad which means Friendship. we helped build a greenhouse, we went on an epic coffee tour and taste session. There was dancing (no photos as I wasn't there), and there was work on a planting nursery. We also built retaining walls and tidying up communal areas as well. We learnt some things about the local wildlife and created some sweet empanadas.

At Camp Pinuelas, we were lucky enough to experience sleeping in hammocks between the trees and waking up to the sound of the waves crashing. We did some project work - scraping and painting - and went in the sea for a well deserved swim. We then finished off the evening with a film night.

At our final camp Camp Uvita, we had the chance to learn to Scuba Dive and had the natural alarms of the howler monkeys above us. Here we also we did an amazing walk along whale tale beach and saw spider monkeys and macaws.

We started with a pool day to learn how to use the gear before embarking to Cano Island for the first deep sea dive. We dived 18 metres seeing lots of fishes, the second dive was amazing as we saw lots of turtles and white tip reef sharks. While we had lunch on the boat after one of the dives, we had the opportunity to see a humpback whale family.

I am so pleased that I passed my deep sea Padi, which I hope to use for further dives in the future. While the other team did their dive course, we spent the last day litter picking and enjoying the fresh air and spending time at the beach in the Pacific Ocean.

The last day had arrived surprisingly quick, as we headed back to San Jose, for our final night before heading back to the airport 4am local time. We enjoyed a night out for one final lovely dinner, in a local restaurant. We arrived back in London via Canada on 18th August, ready to catch the coach back home to Sidmouth.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support, sponsorship and help that got me out to Costa Rica, I will never forget the experiences and memories I made while traveling to this beautiful country

Rachel Fuell



Branoc Hall Christmas Lunch

The Branoc Hall committee would like to invite you all to join us for a Christmas Lunch on Sunday 8th December. The cost will be £12.50 per person for a 2-course meal + a glass of fizz (or soft drink). The hall and bar will open at 2pm and the meal will be served at 2.30pm. **Booking is essential.** If you wish to join us, please could you contact Abi Fuell on 07725748051 or abibrookes@hotmail.com. Alternatively, you could call Catherine Newman on 01395 579317 or branochall@gmail.com. Final date for bookings to be received by **Friday 29th November.**

If you wish to use the form below, please complete and return to Susan Pitt at 3 Bucknall Close.

I/we would like to book _____ places at the Christmas Lunch on Sunday 8th December at Branoc Hall.

Name _____

Address _____

We look forward to seeing you

BRANOC HALL UPDATES



Branoc Hall Fireworks

Saturday 2nd November 2024

Please come and join us for the fireworks
on Saturday 2nd November at
Branoc Hall.



The bar will be open in the pavilion from 5.30pm and bangers and burgers will be served outside too.

The bonfire will be lit at **6.45pm** and the Fireworks at **7pm**.

As always this will be a FREE event, but we do rely on donations to ensure that it can go ahead in future years, cash donations preferred as we have a limited number of card machines.

Winter Warmers Evening

Friday 22nd November from 6.30pm

We would like to invite everyone to a Winter Warmers evening in the Social room at Branoc Hall.

The bar will be open, and bottomless soup and crusty bread will be available for £2.

We will have a selection of games, cards etc for people to play, if they wish.

This evening is designed to offer somewhere warm and sociable for everyone on a winters evening and will hopefully become a monthly event if it is successful.

We look forward to seeing you!

FOR SALE:



Branoc Hall Christmas trees.



These trees will be between 6ft and 7ft Finest Nordman non drop Christmas trees at the bargain price of £35.00 (the same price since 2022). Please reserve as first come, first served.

Please contact me, Catherine Newman, to reserve on 01395 579317 or at branochoall@gmail.com by **Sunday 24th November**.

They will be ready for collection from 3 Kingsleigh Barns, Weston at the beginning of December.

All proceeds will go to Branoc Hall.



2025 Branscombe Calendar



Featuring twelve new full colour photographs, the Branscombe Calendar 2025 is a sturdy, double page and spiral bound must-have household item which measures 40cm x 26cm when opened out.

There is plenty of space for noting those all-important events and appointments whilst enjoying a different delightful Branscombe village vista every month. All the photography is my own.

The cost is £10 each (+ £2.50 for postage if required). Free collection/delivery within the village.

If you would like to order, please send me an email: paultnew@me.com or phone 01395 579317.

BRANOC HALL
CHRISTMAS
FAIR

7TH DECEMBER
11AM TO 2.30PM



REFRESHMENTS/RAFFLE/STALLS
AND MORE



Date		Branoc Hall bookings – NOVEMBER 2024
F	1 st	
S	2 nd	Branoc Hall Fireworks evening – pavilion and playing field - 5.30pm onwards – All welcome
Su	3 rd	
M	4 th	Private hire – main hall - afternoon
Tu	5 th	
W	6 th	Post Office – foyer – 2pm-3pm Private hire – snooker room - evening
Th	7 th	Parish Council meeting – social room – 7pm
F	8 th	
S	9 th	
Su	10 th	
M	11 th	Private hire – main hall - afternoon
Tu	12 th	
W	13 th	Post Office – foyer – 2pm-3pm Private hire – main hall - afternoon Private hire – snooker room - evening
Th	14 th	Private hire – main hall - afternoon
F	15 th	Private hire – main hall - afternoon
S	16 th	Private hire – main hall – all day
Su	17 th	Private hire – main hall – all day
M	18 th	Private hire – main hall - afternoon
Tu	19 th	
W	20 th	Post Office – foyer – 2pm-3pm Cake and Chat – main hall & kitchen – 2pm – 4pm Private hire – snooker room - evening
T	21 st	
F	22 nd	Winter Warmers evening – social room - 6.30pm – All welcome
S	23 rd	
Su	24 th	Rachel Harwood – Craft Workshop – main hall – all day
M	25 th	Private hire – main hall – afternoon Branscombe Project – main hall & Kitchen - evening
Tu	26 th	
W	27 th	Post Office – foyer – 2pm-3pm Private hire – snooker room – evening Branoc Hall committee meeting – social room – 7pm
Th	28 th	
	29 th	
	30 th	

To book the hall please contact Catherine Newman 01395 579317



BRANOC HALL

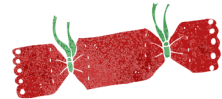
**Christmas
Meal**



SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER

2 Course Christmas Meal plus

a glass of fizz



£12.50

**BAR WILL OPEN FROM 2PM DINNER
WILL BE SERVED AT 2.30PM**

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

to book please contact Abi

07725748051

abibrookes@hotmail.com

branochoall@gmail.com



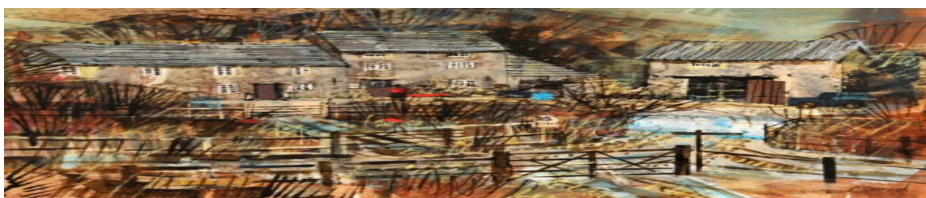


Tales from Manor Mill Farm

t's a short one from us this month as we are busy calving. We are more than halfway through so hopefully not too long to go - but we do always allow for a few stragglers.#

Unusually we have had four sets of twins this year. Unfortunately, the first set were still born. The second set ended up being named Roly and Poly after tumbling their way into existence! The cow had given birth at the edge of a field next to a slope covered in scrub with sheep netting at the bottom of the slope. I had gone out to check the cows and found one to be missing. Whilst searching for her I found a calf squished behind a fence. The weight of it rolling down the hill was squashing it against the fence and although it was alive, its breathing was erratic. I heard a noise to my left and there was another calf in the same predicament. Because of the scrub, there was no way that I was going to manage to get to them from the top and pull them out, so it meant a quick dash back to the farm to get some wire cutters. I cut them out and they both lifted their heads and thankfully looked quite perky. I drove around to the field above and found the cow, looking very confused as to where her calves had gone. I tried to walk her around, but understandably she thought I was trying to take her away from her calves, so I decided to wait for reinforcements to help me direct her and went home for a cuppa. When we went back out, the cow had found her way through the scrub and over the fence to her calves. One of the calves had got to its feet but the other had rolled further down the hill and the cow was not paying it any attention. They needed some time in a safe, flat space for the cow to be able to look after both. So, we hitched up the quad trailer and brought them in. We do this by putting the calves in the trailer and then the cow follows on foot. They are doing really well and if you are in the village, you may have seen them from the footpath to the beach.

Everything else on the farm ticks on, the ewes are doing well, and the lambs are fattening, and last year's calves are fattening on grass at Salcombe Regis. We have freezers full of lamb and beef, including our very popular Merguez sausages and salt beef, so if you would like to place an order then please get in touch.



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www.hansfords-funeral.co.uk



THE PACHA POSSE



I am pleased to report that little Inti continues to thrive and grow, we had a small hiccup when he managed to get a case of Coccidia, which did upset his tummy for a while, although didn't seem to stop him terrorising the rest of the herd. His favourite game appears to be hanging off some part of another alpaca – anyone will do, except mum. No alpaca is

safe, poor Polly was having a nice little lie down in the sun and the next minute there is Inti with her ear in his mouth, but she just shakes her head like he is nothing more than an annoying fly.

Tails are also good and so far he has managed to bite everyone's tail – except Cuscos. This includes Jester, in the adjoining paddock, who was happily munching away on breakfast with his bottom up against the dividing barrier when little Inti saw a very tempting tail just waiting to be bitten, poor Jester shot into the air, knocking the food bowl as he went and covering a very startled Cusco with breakfast. This then started an argument between Jester & Cusco, ending (as it usually does) with Cusco spitting at Jester and Jester gaping (a sign of a stressed alpaca) and looking very sorry for himself.

I have found it quite interesting that alpacas seem to be aware of family groups, so Lucha stays very close to mum Imogen and seems to know that Cusco is her brother so when she was smaller was often found lying next to him on either side of the fence. I also think poor Imogen is missing having a cria this year and every time Inti is feeding from Coca, Imogen is often seen encouraging Lucha to continue to “nurse” even though she does not have any milk, I almost feel sorry for her and more surprisingly, Imogen, the worlds grumpiest alpaca, seems to tolerate Inti, with him chewing her ear as she just continues to munch the grass. Although his favourite to pester is Reeya (granny), Reeya is quite independent for an alpaca and will often wander off by herself, whereas the others will stay relatively close to each other. Little Inti, unless he is visiting the milk bar or chewing ears, tails or ankles is found following granny around, grazing side by side and she is very tolerant of him despite his antics.

I also managed to arrange a date for the girls just before the season ended, ideally you don't want a cria after September as they won't really have time to bulk up and grow the warm coat they will need for the winter. This year I have tried a different breeder who specialises in black alpaca so it could be an interesting outcome, especially from Imogen my white girl.



People spend a lot of time trying to achieve the perfect alpaca, which must have the right colour, posture, size and the coat must be consistent all over the body with a good length, crinkle and softness to the fibre. Apparently a black and white alpaca is the rarest colour and can sell for thousands, with white being the dominant colour in alpaca. Most breeders know the genetic makeup of their stud males and can usually predict what colour cria will be achieved by mating particular alpacas, in fact the breeder suggested which males would be best for each girl, but I will just be happy to get healthy cria.

However, as a bonus the breeder (who also happens to be an alpaca judge) did have a little look over Inti and seemed to think he had potential, so I might take him along to a show next year and see what happens.



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BRANSCOMBE PROJECT WINTER TALKS

Monday – November 25 7.30pm AGM & Annual John Torrance Talk Red River Project

Pollution – Landscape - People

John Wedgewood Clarke

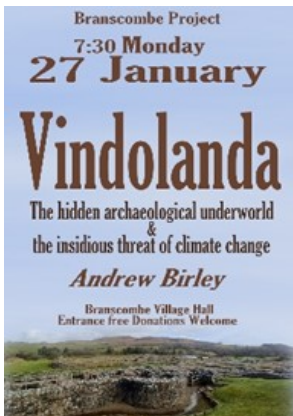
The Red River may be small and ugly in places, but it tells us a lot about what we value and our attitude to the natural world.

It has been polluted for centuries and evolved its own unique ecological response to the impact of tin mining, including trout adapted to its toxic water. Tidying it up has, in past, involved destroying both industrial ruins and unofficial playgrounds, as well as unique hot spots of biodiversity.

The most damaged and scrappy places along the river are, paradoxically, the most biodiverse and culturally important.

In this talk Prof Clarke describes his relationship to the river and his poetic exploration

of its past, present and future.



Monday - January 27 - 7:30

Vindolanda

Andrew Birley

Extraordinary finds from the peatlands
alongside Hadrian's Wall

Roman letters written on birch bark
and much more, under threat as the peat-
lands dry out.

BRANSCOMBE PROJECT WINTER TALKS Cont/...

Monday – February 25 - 7:30

Dr Rowe & Branscombe's Bastard Fauna Stratigraphy, paleoecology & field study of local Cretaceous chalk

Rob Beard

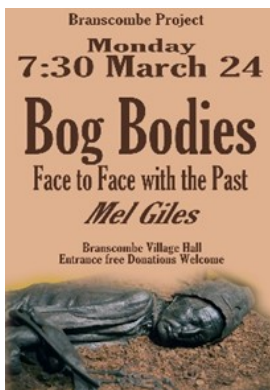
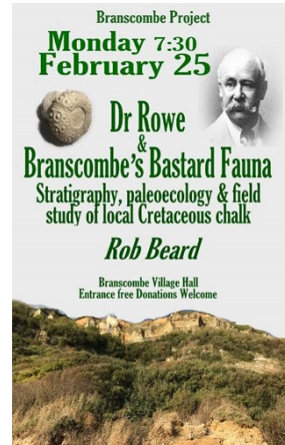
Fossil hunting in the Branscombe area is not nearly as well regarded as in the famous Jurassic exposures of West Dorset. Fossils are fewer in East Devon and harder to find.

When good specimens are recovered, they are often beautifully preserved and find rates are sufficient to support a small group of collectors from the local Cretaceous strata.

This talk will look at the unique lithology and beautiful fossils of the Cretaceous Chalk between Branscombe West Cliff and Salcombe Regis.

We will revisit the work of Edwardian geologist Arthur Rowe whose field study provides the only reference for the fossil assemblage highly anomalous lower Turonian chalk deposits area that he termed "the bastard fauna of Branscombe".

These unique marine fossil communities have received scant academic attention ever since.



Monday – March 24 - 7:30

Bog Burials Face to Face with the Past *Mel Giles*

New work from the author of
'Bog Bodies: Face to Face with the Past'



At a Glance Dates for your Diary

November

Saturday 2nd	6.45pm	Fireworks-Branoc Hall Bar Opens 5.00pm
Thursday 7th	7.00pm	Parish Council Meet-Social Room Branoc Hall
Sunday 10th	10.50am	Remembrance Sunday Service St Winifred's
Saturday 16th	4pm onwards	Sidmouth Christmas Lights & Late night Shopping
Friday 22nd	6.30pm	Winter Warmers Evening-Social Room Branoc Hall
Monday 25th	7.30pm	Branscombe Project AGM & Annual John Torrance Talk -Cornwall's Red River Project

December

Sunday 1 st	6.30pm	Mission Community Advent Carol Service at St Winifred's
Saturday 7th	11am-2.30pm	Christmas Fair



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The Fountain Head - Branscombe

The Masons Arms - Branscombe

The Sea Shanty - Branscombe

Oakdown Caravan Park - Weston

These defibrillators are available for use at the above sites and within the villages of Branscombe and Weston

National Trust Countryside Update



**National
Trust**

West Cliff steps and grassland management

Our conservation volunteers have been working to improve the steps on the footpath inland at West Cliff. This work has involved widening and regrading the steps, removing the old rotten softwood step boards and replacing them with oak, which will last much longer.

This path is part of the Grizzly route, so it's good preparation ahead of the event in March.

Cutting and raking the grassy areas around West Cliff has also been the focus of our time over the past few weeks. Our countryside volunteers cut and rake this area of coastal grassland three times a year to prevent vigorous grasses from taking over and allow space, warmth, and light for wildflowers to establish.

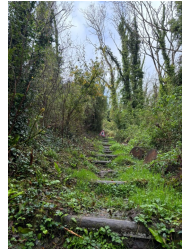
We were delighted to see bee orchids growing on West Cliff for the first time back in June and we have also seen a high abundance of devils bit scabious which attracts a large variety of bees and insects. This is a good indication that

the work we are doing is having a positive effect on biodiversity.



©National Trust Images/Clive Whitbourn

Before



After



Manor Mill waterwheel

This week, Millwrights have started work to rebuild the waterwheel at Manor Mill. Over the next 3 weeks all spokes, sole boards (the boards around the inside of the wheel), and buckets will be removed and replaced one at a time. The new parts are being replaced with oak which is being cut to size on-site.

This is a huge and fascinating job requiring the skills of the specialist millwrights who have travelled down from Bristol.

The Mill will remain open to visitors; however, the middle floor of the mill will be closed to provide a dry space for the millwrights to work, and the waterwheel will remain strapped up and stationary. Do pop along if you're interested in seeing the millwrights at work.

Once the work is complete, we will be able to harness the full power of the water to power the grinding stones once again.

Branscombe Orchard

The yield this year has been particularly poor in both the Millennium and Old Bakery Orchards.

We had agreed with a local cider producer to exchange harvested apples for cider but unfortunately there just aren't enough apples to make it possible this autumn. You are welcome to help yourself to apples from the orchard. The large tree closest to the information room and toilets is a Bramley so great for cooking. The majority of other trees are cider varieties if you fancy trying your hand at a bit of cider production.

Old bakery update

Unfortunately, the new tenant, due to take over the Old Bakery in October, has withdrawn from the lease. We are now taking some time to reconsider our options but will keep you updated.

Half-term fun in Branscombe Orchard – Liking Lichens and Marvelling Mosses

Sunday, October 27th, 14.00 – 15.30

Free drop-in event

Learn to like lichens and mosses a must too! Enter the micro world of some of the overlooked wildlife on our doorstep. As leaves fall in the autumn, trees reveal begin to reveal their cloaks of lichen and mosses. Join Ruth Worsley, East Devon National Landscapes Nature Engagement Coordinator on a journey through Branscombe Orchard to get up close to some of nature's great works of art and wonder. With art activities and bug hunting for all ages!

Meg Vallender,

Visitor Experience Officer at East Devon Countryside, National Trust.

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Churchwarden	Ross Willmington	680264
Readers	Dr Charles Hill	07709 980640
	Emma Laughton	551400
	Sue McCoulough	552446
Youth and Family Worker	Amy Dare	youth@holyford.org
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Church Secretary	Sue Hawkins	680466
Church Treasurer	Pat Ayles	680328
Friends of St Winifred's	Emma Cox, Chair	680392
Bells	John Bass	680432
Mission Community Office	Caz Jefferies Admin Tues, Thurs & Friday 9.30 – 1.30pm	552307 office@holyford.org
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