

AXMOUTH PARISH NEWS & the Ax-mouthpiece



Summer 2023

£1

AXE SKIP HIRE

Est. 1985



A Family
Run Business

WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Based in Axminster, serving
Devon, Dorset & Somerset

Offering a quality service whether you require a single skip, bulk collection or a multiple contract. We aim to satisfy most requests including multiple changes, same day turn around or hire & wait options.

MAN & VAN SERVICE



Why not try our

Bulk Collection Service or Man & A Van Service

Only Pay For What We Take Away

We can help dispose & collect of those
bulky, difficult to dispose of items.

☎ 01297 32470



🌐 www.axeskiphire.co.uk

✉ skips@axeskiphire.co.uk

**PROFESSIONAL & SECURE
DOCUMENT
COLLECTION &
DESTRUCTION SERVICE**

Axe Skip Hire can help with
a safe & secure confidential
document disposal service.

**NEW FOR
2022**



Soil, Garden/Green Waste
& Hardcore/Rubble

REDUCED

Single Product Skip Prices

Dates for your diary

June

- 29 Axmouth Book Club, 11.30am at The Ship in former skittle alley
29 Sidmouth Parish Church, 7.30pm, Anglo - Polish Chamber
Concert - Joel Munday - *violin*; Kacper Nowak - *cello*;
Lucas Krupinski - *piano*

July

- Village Scarecrow Competition
1 Sidmouth Parish Church, 7.30pm, Summer Orchestral
ISCA Ensemble with Kacper Nowak - cello
22 Music on The Green, 6pm - 9pm

August

- 10 Axmouth Book Club, 11.30am at The Ship in former skittle alley
12 Dust Concert, Axmouth Church, 7pm
17 Friends of the Church AGM, 7pm

September

- 21 Axmouth Book Club, 11.30am at The Ship in former skittle alley
29 ACT *It was 20 Years Ago Today*, Village Hall 7pm
30 ACT *It was 20 Years Ago Today*, Village Hall Matinee 2.30pm
30 ACT *It was 20 Years Ago Today*, Village Hall 7pm

October

- 28 Ben Goldscheider (French Horn) with the Isca Ensemble,
Exeter Cathedral, 7.30pm,

November

- 2 Axmouth Book Club, 11.30am at The Ship in former skittle alley
4 Isca Ensemble Chamber Orchestra, Baroque concert with
Exeter Philharmonic Choir
6 Friends of the Church, 7pm, Axmouth Church

December

- 10-21 Christmas Tree Festival at Axmouth Church
Axmouth Celebrates Christmas - 11am - 4pm
16 Christmas Orchestal Concert, Isca Ensemble with
South Korean violinist, Joo Yeon Sir, Sidmouth Parish Church

FUNERAL DIRECTORS & MONUMENTAL MASONS

for Seaton, Beer and all surrounding parishes

OVERMASS & CHAPPLE

Seaton's longest established Funeral Directors

Julian & Karen Hussey DipFD NAFD
& Jerry Parkhouse

Dignified, Professional & Caring

- Independent Family Business
- Pre-arranged & prepaid funeral plans
- Offices also at Honiton, Ottery St. Mary Axminster & Bridport

Members of The National Association of Funeral Directors

Recommended by The Good Funeral Guide and The Natural Death Centre

Chapple Court, Queen Street, Seaton 01297 20644

www.funeraldirectors.uk.com



- Evershot Bakery bread
- Fresh Fruit & Vegetables including local growers
- Off Licence including chilled wines, beers & ciders
- Newspapers & Magazines
- Calor Gas
- Fresh Flowers & Plants

MUSBURY GARAGE

01297 552292

- Post Office in-store
- National Lottery
- Free to Use Cash Machine
- Woodland View & Colyton Butchers Local Fresh Meats
- Fresh & Frozen Foods

SHOP & POST OFFICE OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

MON—SAT 7.30am—8.00pm SUN 8.00am-8.00pm

Graham & Sarah Hill welcome you to

The SHIP INN

Lunchtime +
evening meals

Hogroast &
Private
functions
catered for

Function Room



Free House

Home cooked
locally
sourced
produce

Fresh fish daily

Wood fired
Pizzas

Church Street, Axmouth
Tel: 01297 21838



Axe Yacht Club

Come & enjoy sailing & motor boating
at your local club.



- Dinghy Sailing
- Cadet & Family Sailing
- Cruiser & Day Boat Sailing
- Motor Boating & Angling
- RYA Training Centre for powerboat, dinghy sailing & shore based courses
- Full Social Programme



For more information
Email info@axeyachtclub.co.uk
or visit the website
www.axeyachtclub.co.uk

HANSFORDS FUNERAL SERVICE

Still a family run business, serving the local community of East Devon for over 50 years

Golden Charter
Funeral Plans



Tel. 01297 22538
(24 Hour Service)

Office and Chapel of Rest at
Bay View, Trevelyan Rd, Seaton, EX12 2NL
www.hansfords-funeral.co.uk

Email: info@hansfords-funeral.co.uk

Also Chapel of Rest at Beer Cemetery, Clapps Lane, Beer



Put a spring in your step...

PODIATRY Chiropody

Jan Hazell Hunt SRCh MChS
HPS Registered

With over 30 years experience of qualified surgical and clinical foot care, Jan offers a comprehensive range of assessments, treatment and advice for all your foot related issues.

Including

General nail care	In-growing toenails	Nail surgery
Diabetes	Corns and calluses	Verrucae
General aches and pains	Biomechanical advice	



Tel: 07782 405011

Email: jan.hazell@outlook.com

HOME VISITS AVAILABLE

29 Chapel Street
Axmouth
DEVON
EX12 4AN





marc smith bespoke

kitchens bedrooms furniture

At Marc Smith Bespoke Ltd we design, hand build and install bespoke kitchens, bedrooms, free standing and fitted furniture. We design our furniture to our clients' exact specification, then hand make and install to the highest standards. Over the last 29 years, we have built our reputation on our personalised service, attention to detail and quality of work.



Contact

01297 23412

07881 388507

Riverside Workshops, 14 Riverside Way,
Seaton



Driving Miss Daisy

Driving & Companion Service

- For anyone unable to drive but wishing to remain independent
- We can help with hospital visits, days out, shopping trips, visiting family & friends, long or short distances
- Wheelchair adapted vehicle

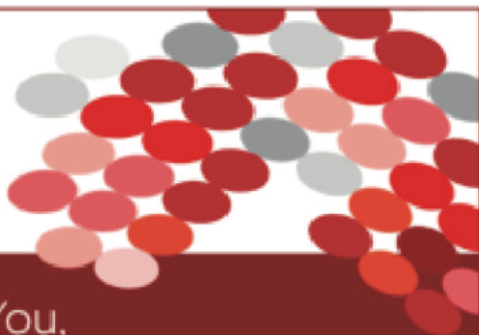
Covering Seaton and the surrounding areas.

CALL DRIVING MISS DAISY AND RIDE WITH A FRIEND!

Ring Tricia on 07376 370809

Email: seaton@drivingmissdaisy.co.uk

www.drivingmissdaisy.co.uk



Accountants for You,
Your Business and Your Family

For friendly, professional advice call Mike Griffiths

01297 20584

seaton@lentells.co.uk www.lentells.co.uk

ACCOUNTANCY | TAX | PAYROLL | WILLS | PROBATE

and much more...

Axmouth Parish News

St Michael's Church, Axmouth
www.axmouthcommunity.org



How blessed we are to live in such a beautiful area of the country. Rolling hills and green fields, wild and wonderful woodland, winding rivers, the sea and the amazing Jurassic coastline nearby. Although I will have been here 3 years this month, I still am amazed at the beauty around me. So that prompts me to wonder how long it may be before I don't see it as I do now ? Perhaps you will tell me that it never goes away, that feeling of awe and wonder at this beautiful creation will stay with me - I do hope so. In fact, I do try to *cultivate* it ! As a Christian I see everything made as the work of a loving creator God; the source of everything whose love we can still experience through creation. It's seen in the care of each other, in the wonder of the plants – both for beauty and to eat - and for animals. I really believe God the creator, is very much involved... and we are tasked to join in.

As we know climate change is continuing to threaten life on earth and we must play our part in the care of creation. Some of our churches are eco-churches; these church communities are committed to consider how we can live greener lives. In Uplyme we are fortunate to have an eco-corner in our church magazine and I'd like to share Jo's top tips with you as we start thinking about holidays:

- Going to the beach – put a bag in your pocket to pick up any litter
- A day out – use public transport if possible, to reduce carbon emissions
- travelling by train or ferry to Europe can be part of an adventure
- If planning to fly – offset the carbon you generate, eg with Climate Stewards www.climatestewards.org
- Holiday waste - try to take as much care to save energy, recycle, prevent food waste as you would at home

Whatever you are planning to do this summer I wish you a fantastic time to relax, refocus and be refreshed.

Rev'd Nicky Davies
T 07931 41362

A weekend at Lee Abbey



© Clive Sedgewick

On Friday April 14th this this year 22 excited adults and 5 cool teenagers set off for a weekend in Lee Abbey, North Devon. There were 9 cars and various pick-up points but no one got lost, and we all met up soon after 4.30 in the reception area of the Abbey.

Lee Abbey sits in its own grounds in a spectacular estate with views down to the coast. It is just past the Valley of the Rocks near Lynton, where feral goats clamber up the crags and wander carelessly across the road in front of oncoming vehicles. Once past that hazard you drive down the road to the Abbey, which cannot be missed - it is very impressive - but so welcoming. We came as a group from our Mission Community, and Lee Abbey opened its doors to us. The Abbey is a residential Christian centre, run by a few full-time staff and many other Christians, many students who stay for a year or more, and come mostly from abroad, all learning to live in community. The impression we had was of a team working together efficiently, and finding ways to communicate despite speaking different languages. It is a great example of tolerance and understanding.

We were shown to our rooms - singles, doubles, triples, some ensuite and some not - all clean and comfortable, within reach of a bathroom down the corridor and a kitchenette for making drinks, or filling a hot water bottle. There was initial panic and alarm amongst the teenagers when they heard there was no mobile phone connection - but having stayed at the Abbey before there I knew they would find a signal, although they might have to climb a hill before they found it ! It wasn't long before we all found out where we could communicate with those we had left behind, and having been reassured, we relaxed and explored our surroundings.

The photos I took mainly seem to show people sitting around, chatting, reading, playing games or knitting. But this is not what we did all weekend. There were times for worship in the high-ceilinged octagonal room, and evening prayer in the peaceful little modern chapel where the community meet for prayer too. And a dining hall where we sat at tables of 10 and were served by one of the community - time to enjoy good food and company.

Nothing was compulsory. There was time to explore the estate, and to walk up to the 3 crosses on the hill, or down to the rocky beach at Lee Bay.

It was a foggy Friday when we arrived, but Saturday dawned bright and clear. In the afternoon there was an invitation to a barbecue on the beach, and those who could walk made their way there, while others found a lift. There were toasted marshmallows and hot chocolate and time to unwind.

Although Lee Abbey organises theme weekends with speakers on specialised subjects, and also retreats, ours was a *Renew, Resource and Refresh* weekend. It was the perfect opportunity to unwind, to talk, to think, to read, to worship and to pray... to enjoy fellowship together, surrounded by the beauty of God's creation.

We were definitely renewed and refreshed. It was wonderful. And we can't wait to go again. Watch this space....

Hilary Harron
hilaryharron@gmail.com

The Ax-mouthpiece

News from your local clubs
and organisations



Axmouth Parish Council

Axmouth Parish Council has seen some changes over the last couple of months, our Chair Christine Garret has stood down having completed her year in post. Also, we now have a new Parish Council Clerk - Andy Comeford - who has taken over from our long serving clerk Bec Davy. I would like to thank both Chris and Bec for their tireless efforts which have benefitted our village over the years. Chris will continue to help the PC in its endeavours to reduce the village speed limit to 20mph, a long held ambition.

My thanks also to Chris for organising the Coronation mugs, the initial batch sold out very quickly, a second order was placed and these have also now been sold !

Presently the Parish Council has 3 vacancies - the normal 'compliment' is 9. I would urge any villager who might be interested in helping us maintain Axmouth's viability as an independent parish council to step forward. The role of a parish councillor is not arduous and can be very rewarding. There are 10 parish council meetings a year (each meeting usually takes around an hour). So, if you are able to help in any way please contact me. Also have a look at the APC website which provides much information about the village.

*Nigel Daniel
Vice Chair*

reals@hotmail.co.uk

www.axmouthparishcouncil.co.uk

The Village Hall

There is little to report this quarter, the Wednesday coffee mornings continue to be well supported, but it would be nice to see more villagers attending the event to bring the village closer together.

The Village Hall Committee supported the *Grizzly Run* in March, by manning a water stop for which we received a donation from the Grizzly Committee towards the village hall funds.

Now that summer has arrived, we plan to do some more painting on the outside of the village hall and a general tidy up of the car park. We would very much appreciate some help with this. Dates will be put on the Axmouth Together Facebook page and displayed on the hall notice board.

Don't forget the *Music on the Green* event on the 22nd July. This is a joint event between the Church and the Village Hall.

Graham Mather
Chair, Village Hall Committee

~~~~~

## **Friendship Lunch**

The Friendship Lunch was originally the idea of the late Rose Tidball and has been going strong for about 8 years. Rose realised that there were a number of people in the village who lived by themselves and she wanted to bring them together for support and friendship.

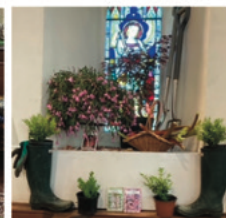
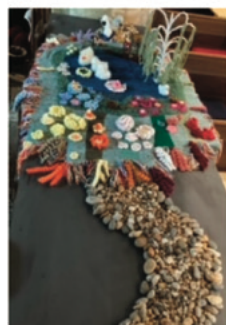
Invitations were sent out to meet together for a lunch at The Ship Inn and that first meeting was a success. It became a monthly event and has become part of our community activities ever since. We meet on the first Monday of each month and everyone receives a menu beforehand to decide what they would like to eat. The price is very reasonable and the staff at The Ship Inn make us feel most welcome. Are you single or a widow or widower? Would you like to join us?

Then please call 01297 20874

*Elizabeth Stewart and Regina Bridgeman-Gibbs*



# The English Country Garden Festival





## 2023 - Axe Designs 70th



This year see the AODs celebrate their 70th Anniversary. A special weekend regatta will be held in mid-June with a mixture of river and sea races. We are hoping that all 9 boats will attend - the most AODs on the water since the late 1960s.

Work continues with the yet to be named 10th AOD being built at Pinhay. Depending on progress, she might just be launched later this season.

*Nigel Daniel*  
*E [reals@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:reals@hotmail.co.uk)*



## Axmouth Childrens Theatre Pantomime

We are currently running at full capacity - we have 18 rehearsing for our next production with 4 on the waiting list. They are a very enthusiastic group who work well together, and they keep turning up each week so I guess we must be doing something right ?

We have two things currently in the pipeline. Firstly we will be performing some songs as part of the *Axmouth Music on the Green* event on Saturday 22nd July, so look out for details on notice boards and Facebook.

Secondly we have finally got dates for our new show. It has been a nightmare trying to get dates when everyone is free but we can now announce that they are:

Friday 29th September, 7pm

Saturday 30th September, 2.30pm Matinee

- likely to be limited tickets

Saturday 30th September, 7pm

The tickets for the two evening shows will include tea/coffee and cakes and the money from this and the two evening raffles will be donated towards the Village Hall Funds. Full prices and details will be on local notice boards and Axmouth Facebook page plus our own ACT Community Page. This looks like being a very popular show so get tickets ordered as soon as possible. The show itself is a fun musical written by myself called *It was 20 years Ago Today* and features several tunes and references that may be familiar to those who remember those halcyon days on Merseyside and four mop haired lads in particular !

As always we are a self funding group and any donations towards improving our performances would be gratefully received. Finally, we are hoping to start 2024 with a performance of a new Pantomime. Thanks for your continued support.

Malcolm Henty

ACT Chairman

E [malcolm.henty@talk21.com](mailto:malcolm.henty@talk21.com)

[www.axmouthchildrenstheatre.org.uk](http://www.axmouthchildrenstheatre.org.uk)



## Sarah Underwood

### *Lies we sing to the sea*

Sarah Underwood grew up in Devon and indeed her parents live in Axmouth. She obtained her MEng in Computational Bioengineering at Imperial College, London and recently graduated with her MPhil in Population Health Sciences at the University of Cambridge.

Sarah's first novel, *Lies we Sing to the Sea*, became an instant New York Times, indie, and international bestseller and is available at bookshops here in the UK.

Her parents, Axmouth residents Jon and Alison Underwood are so proud of her and are awaiting her next bestseller !

~~~~~

ATKINS AUCTIONS

Old Style Values
New Style Auctions

GAMBERLAKE
AXMINSTER EX13 5JZ

OPEN 9 - 5 Monday - Friday

01297 631661

info@atkinsauctions.co.uk

www.atkinsauctions.co.uk

MONTHLY AUCTIONS OF

- ANTIQUES • COLLECTABLES • JEWELLERY
- ART • RETRO • ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING



FULL OR PART HOUSE CLEARANCES

17% COMMISSION Plus VAT

NO MINIMUM CHARGE NO LOTTING CHARGE
NO ADMIN CHARGE NO PAT TEST CHARGE
NO INSURANCE CHARGE

TRUST TRANSPARENCY TREASURES



U Yoga

Yoga

**Suitable for all.
Beginners, Rusty Returners
and those just wanting
regular practice.**

Just come along this
week
or book a place
www.uyoga.org.uk
uyogaforlife@gmail.com
or call 07528 488486

**Monday Axmouth/Thursday
Marshlands
6pm to 7pm
Tuesday Axmouth
11am to 12pm
Pay as you go £7
4-week advance payment £25**



Axmouth Village Hall/Marshlands Seaton
Bring a mat and blanket if you have one, I have a
few you are welcome to use if you don't.

**Hatha Yoga
for
healthy living**
A holistic and relaxed
approach

**Contact Nicola
Tel 07528 488 486**

Email
uyogaforlife@gmail.com

find me on
 facebook
UYoga

Instagram
[uyogaforlife](https://www.instagram.com/uyogaforlife)

Yoga

Yoga classes are offered in a relaxed and welcoming setting. My aim is to allow participants to develop their own individual practise within a supportive group setting. Classes are holistic and incorporate meditation, relaxation and breath practise as well as the physical poses. Classes are planned each week with care and always have a different focus.

I am fully insured to teach group exercise classes and personal fitness instruction and I have a Level 4 Diploma in teaching Yoga (RQF) awarded by *Focus Awards* who are *Ofqual* regulated. This is equivalent to a 350 hour training, and incorporates standard fitness instruction elements such as Physiology and Anatomy Level 3.

I am newly qualified and study continuously to improve and develop my teaching and I am currently enrolled on an additional level 3 qualification to develop specialist knowledge for teaching yoga to children aged 5 - 16.

Nicola Winter
T 07528 488486
E uyogaforlife@gmail.com



For those of you who don't know what we do, here is a brief explanation: Every Tuesday evening at 7.50pm, 3 of our team of 8 volunteers, meet at the village hall. A fourth volunteer drives to Tesco and collects all the leftover food that would otherwise go to waste. We select some fresh veg, eggs and bread to send to Seaton Foodbank. We then display all the remaining food on tables and welcome in our collectors to choose whatever they can save from ending up with the pigs ! This is not about need but avoiding food waste, so everyone is welcome. Anything remaining is left for the Wednesday coffee morning to help themselves to. Since Easter the amount of food received from Tesco has varied, somewhere between 1 and 8 crates. Most weeks we have a good variety of fresh and prepared items as shown in the attached photo.

We are very pleased to welcome our new volunteer, Helen, and would also like to thank our collectors for helping to put the tables up. Our volunteers need all the help they can get through summer, so if you could offer occasional assistance, please call Jayne on 07768 753649.

We look forward to seeing you in the village Hall, at 8pm, every Tuesday evening.

Axmouth Volunteer Team
For more information please see www.SaveFoodHub.org.uk
© photograph Jayne Nicholas

Axe Yacht Club & K.E.Y.S.

General Handicap for all Dinghies : River Shield

Class Racing for Axe One Designs : Jack Drew Cup.

Mirror Class : Mirror Cup Scow Class : Scow Tankard.

General HC excluding Class Groups : River Pot

Cadet River Series : Cadet River Cup : River Pursuit Plate

River Pursuit Plate | Start line - Coronation Green, Axmouth

Race 3	Saturday 2nd June Start time 18:00	(H.W. 18:36 – 3.7m)
Race 4	Saturday 17th June Start time 18:45	(H.W. 19:12 – 3.6m) (AOD 70th Regatta)
Race 5	Sunday 2nd July Start time 18:15	(H.W. 18:48 – 3.6m)
Race 6	Saturday 8th July Start time 11:00	(H.W. 11:27 – 3.6m) (AYC Regatta Cup)
Race 7	Sunday 16th July Start time 18:30	(H.W. 18:50 – 3.4m) (Shower Flow Cup)
Race 8	Wednesday 2nd August Start time 19:30	(H.W. 20:20 – 4.1m) (Round the Island)
Race 9	Saturday 5th August Start time 10:00	(H.W. 10:25 – 3.9m)
Race 10	Wednesday 16th August Start time 19:15	(H.W. 19:56 – 3.7m)
Race 11	Wednesday 30th August Start time 18:30	(H.W. 19:12 – 4.1m) (Long Distance)
Race 12	Wednesday 13th September Start time 18:15	(H.W. 18:51 – 3.6m)
Race 13	Wednesday 27th Sept Start time 17:30	(H.W. 18:01 – 3.9m)

Axe One Design 70th Anniversary Regatta 16th-18th June - separeate
programme.

Harbour Race Sat 10th June, start time 12:00 (non-series)

Mid season Pimms at GBH Saturday 1st July 6.30pm

Brunch at Vicarage Creek Saturday 23rd September 11am

Axmouth – Past & Present The Landslip



The Landslip – 1840

© N. Daniel

Following the Great Landslip of Christmas 1839, the Reverend William Conybeare (Axminster) and Dr William Buckland conducted a detailed geological survey of the Bindon undercliff and commissioned the map below (W. Dawson Exeter - 1840). It showed the newly formed Goat Island, the Chasm and the briefly formed raised reef, said to be on scale similar to the Cobb. Also, two cottages ruined by the slip.



From 1840 onwards the undercliff became known as the Landslip, a result of the landowner capitalising on attracting paying visitors (6d); and has remained so ever since.

Two years later, the 1842 Axmouth tithe map shows no properties in the Landslip. One was destroyed by the upheavals and the other, the residence of the Critchard family, survived partially intact but fell into disuse. However, the stone was latter re-used to construct the Landslip Cottage, located just a little further east and above the foreshore Slabs containing the large ammonites.



The Landslip Cottage 1920

The *Landslip* path which ran from Axmouth and eventually onwards to Lyme, passed close to the cottage. Another connected the property with Dowlands via a steep cliff path, which survives today. In 1886 Richard and Mary Gapper with their young family moved into the cottage. It was an isolated existence, but through their endeavours the *Landslip Cottage* became a much visited venue, by locals and visitors alike.

Mrs Gapper's cream teas were renowned throughout the district ! She often served over 100 teas in a weekend and up to 200 over a bank holiday. There are still a few locals who can remember those wonderful scones, jam and cream ! Due to the isolated location of the cottage, wildlife was very tame, chaffinches in large numbers would readily eat from your hand.



The Gappers outside the Landslip Cottage



The raised reef - now eroded by the sea

Apart from a brief spell during the first world war, when the England family were in residence, the Gapper family continued to live in the Landslip until 1950, when Mary Gapper died at the grand old age of 92 ! Understandably, her remaining daughter decided to move up to Rousdon and the cottage was left unoccupied. During WW2, a couple of escaped German prisoners survived undetected in the Landslip. Their presence only became apparent when Mrs Gapper noticed her chicken eggs were disappearing ! Following her departure, the empty cottage slowly deteriorated; its demise may have been quickened by some unruly behaviour...



The Slabs and Ammonites



The sheep-dip

Sadly, little remains today, just the outline of the wall the old well has now all but disappeared beneath the undergrowth; however the nearby sheep-dip has survived. Restored some years ago by English Nature, it is the only remaining feature from a period when the Landslip provided a living for at least two families.



Remains of the Landslip Cottage November 2022

Nigel Daniel

March 2023

E_reals@hotmail.co.uk

~~~~~

### **Axmouth Nature Notes**

I know that our natural spaces and their inhabitants are of interest to several of us, so I thought I'd share an update on the notable sightings that we've noticed in our local surroundings.

Our garden is a constant source of birdwatching delight – the garden is full of wildlife friendly plants, and it has recently become significantly more re-wilded, due to the incapacitation of one of the gardeners ! We put out feeders with sunflower hearts and peanuts. This selection brings in all the usual garden birds, along with two pairs of bullfinches, male and female siskins with their babies, and also greater spotted woodpeckers. We even had an albino pterodactyl visit too, but maybe it was a greater cattle egret !





We're hopeful that our regular house martin visitors will take up residence on the eaves of our house soon – they are about two weeks late this year, but we're optimistic that they'll find their way here eventually. The Southcombe Terrace swift nestbox remains empty, but we are forever hopeful that one day it may be used.

Hedgehogs visit most evenings for an all-night feast - we think we have spotted at least 3 regulars, all starring on our hog-cam pictures.

We also have newts and toad-spawn in our pond, but so far no frogs. The butterflies, damsel flies and other aquatic insects are also increasingly putting in appearances when the weather is good.

A particular delight at the beginning of May was our Dawn Chorus walk around the village lanes. We were out at 5am, and although it was still dark, the birds were already in full voice. The robins, wrens, blackbirds, and thrushes at the top of Stepps Lane were seriously out-shouting each other, some of them I swear were using megaphones – how do you sleep through it up there ?? Up on the top lane we were treated to many blackcaps, whitethroats, yellow-hammers and the glorious skylarks, all in fabulously fine voice. We also spotted a couple of deer in the fields, a few rabbits, but no hares this time unfortunately. We got in our 10,000 steps before 7am and felt really uplifted by the splendid wildlife that's all around us; we are truly blessed.

At the top of the village the bluebells have been spectacular – it does seem to have been a very good year for bluebells – they are everywhere, along with many other gorgeous wildflower species. The farming practices on the Bindon Estate do seem to be very good at supporting the village wildlife at the moment – long may it continue ! Also at the top of the village Nigel Daniel captured a newborn's first steps with mum, and the family continue to do well – another of nature's treats!





*Photograph  
Nigel Daniel*

At the bottom of the village nature thrives too, and there was allegedly a sighting of a stoat on the Glenwater Estate, but this remains unverified. Another rumoured sighting happened over the Coronation weekend – three otter pups were seen in various locations along the riverside close to Coronation Corner – a truly unique sight for a lucky few people !



*Photographs  
Jane Calvert & Morag Steven*

We know that many village residents have an interest in the local wildlife, so if you'd like to share your sightings and experiences please email me and I'll compile a regular Axmouth Nature notes feature for the magazine.

Enjoy the gifts of nature !

*Jane & Mike Calvert  
E [jkmacalvert@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jkmacalvert@yahoo.co.uk)*

## Medical Facilities

**Seaton Hospital** Scallwell Lane, Seaton EX12 2SU  
T 01297 23901

**Seaton & Colyton Medical Practice**  
148 Harepath Road, Seaton EX12 2DU  
T 01297 20877

**Townsend Medical Centre**  
49 Harepath Road, Seaton EX12 2RY  
T 01297 20616

**MyDentist** 16 Fore Street, Seaton EX12 2LA  
T 01297 20170



## Axmouth Computers

Esther Maclure, Computer Consultant

- ✓ Computer Repairs & Upgrades
- ✓ Computer Tuition
- ✓ Refurbished laptops available
- ✓ No call out fee

**Website:** [www.axmouthcomputers.co.uk](http://www.axmouthcomputers.co.uk)

**Email:** [Esther@axmouthcomputers.co.uk](mailto:Esther@axmouthcomputers.co.uk)

**Tel: Esther on 01297 23187**

## GW ELECTRICS

Fully qualified and insured for all electrical work

**GAVIN WARREN**  
Electrician

Installations, rewires and repairs  
Alterations and upgrades  
Inspection, testing and certification

[gwelectrics@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gwelectrics@yahoo.co.uk)

Contact for a free estimate

01297 22404  
07977323574



Carvery every Sunday. Good food  
and drink served every day.

Friendliest club around.

Free lessons for new members.

Pay and play, club & trolley hire



Tel:

01297 21754



## *Stuart's Sweeping Service*



*Support your local  
trades – use a local  
Chimney Sweep*



*A clean chimney is a safe chimney*

Chimney, woodburner and range cooker sweeping.  
Power Sweeping, Bird's nest removal.  
Camera Inspections, Cows and bird spikes fitted.  
Wood-burners, multi-fuel stoves and liners installed.

**07432 118318 or 01404 831288**

*Evening and weekend appointments available.*

Member of The Guild of Master Sweepers.  
HETAS Approved Chimney Sweep.  
HETAS Registered Installer.



Sweep Safe accredited.  
Thatch trained.  
NFU Insured.



*Axmouth Caravan  
& Camping Site*  
prop. Sue Adams (nee Webber)

**Tel: 01297 24707**

*Good facilities including Reception  
and excellent village shop open for  
everyone -  
campsite and villagers*

*All Welcome*

## **SEATON TYRE SUPPLIES**

**Support your local  
independent dealer for:**

- Tyres, Exhausts and Batteries
- Computerised Wheel Balancing and Alignment

**4 & 6 Riverside Workshops  
Harbour Road, Seaton  
(01297) 23881**

**The**  **piral  
Sanctuary**

**at Combe Farm, Axmouth**

Offering a weekly programme:

- **Meditation**
- **Counselling**
- **Courses**
- **Healing**
- **Excellent Library**

**Everyone Welcome**

**Enquiries: Christina Bows 23822**

## **DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL SELF STORAGE CONTAINERS**

**Available near Axminster, just off the A35**

Short & long term hire available on a secure & enclosed private site with  
24 hour CCTV, 2 sets of security gates by fob entry.

Main Gates Open 7am - 5pm Mon to Fri  
Out of hours key fob entry until 9pm.

Insurance options  
available.



**ALSO  
AVAILABLE**

## **SINGLE OR MULTIPLE BOX STORAGE**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**01297 300171**

**[kilmingtonselfstorage.co.uk](http://kilmingtonselfstorage.co.uk)**

**[kilmingtonselfstorage@gmail.com](mailto:kilmingtonselfstorage@gmail.com)**

Our secure storage  
container is the perfect  
way to archive your  
confidential paperwork  
& business records.



**We offer a wide range of  
Top Quality Fully Traceable  
Locally Sourced Meats**

**Burgers and Sausages  
made on the premises**

**Pies • Sausage Rolls • Pasties  
Cheese • Ham • Roast Beef Slices  
and much more**

**NEW - Fresh Local Milk**

**Open Hours: Monday 8am - 4pm  
Tuesday - Friday 8am - 4.30pm  
Saturday 8am - 4pm**

**18 Fore Street  
Seaton EX12 2LA  
01297 20915  
[tasteofdevonbutchers.co.uk](http://tasteofdevonbutchers.co.uk)**



Superb Italian  
and Cornish coffee  
Tea and hot chocolate  
Extensive lunch menu available  
Excellent Devon ice cream  
Open 7 days a week 9am - 5pm

[www.pebblescoffeehouse.co.uk](http://www.pebblescoffeehouse.co.uk) - 01297 23400

## Annual advertising rates

**Full page**  
£150

**Half page**  
£80

**Quarter page**  
£50

**Eighth page**  
£30

**Outside back cover**  
£200



— FORTNAM —  
SMITH & BANWELL



Proud to support our local community

6 Harbour Road Seaton - 01297 23939

*WE LOVE WHERE WE LIVE!*