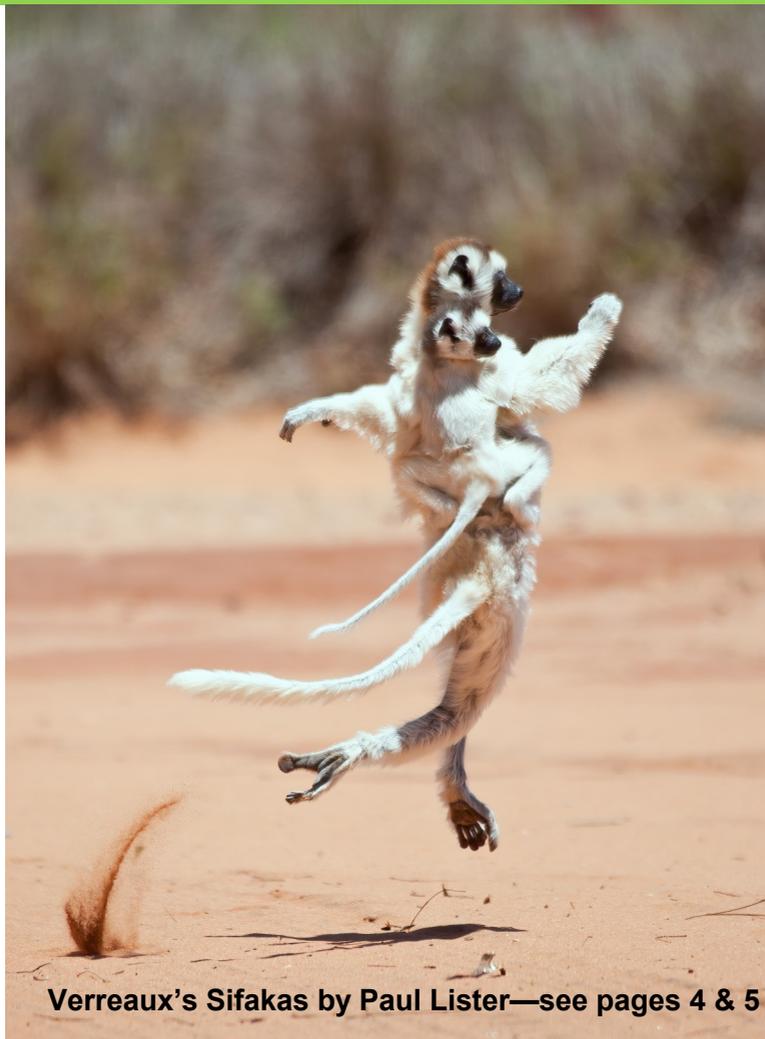


THE PARISH PAPER

St. Mary the Virgin, Payhembury
Vol 53 No 9 March 2021



Verreaux's Sifakas by Paul Lister—see pages 4 & 5

THIS MONTH'S EDITOR: Christine Thair 01404 841322

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Rectory notes

‘Rainbows, candles and tunnels’

The year is 1897. You’re driving a horse and cart through the newly opened Blackwall Tunnel, beneath the River Thames in East London. You’re nervous – how can it be safe to travel under water?? But you are more tense for your horses: how will they handle this enclosed space? Kinks in the tunnel prevent you seeing its end*. You’d love it to be straight, and be able to see the light at the tunnel’s end. But you’re glad the horses can’t. You coax them forward. You round the final bend, daylight appears – and the horses are off, bolting to the exit. There’s no holding them back now.

A year ago we entered a tunnel: a lockdown tunnel, enclosed, with intermittent spells more open to the sky. Lockdown Anniversary Day approaches: a painful marker of loss of lives, livelihoods, and richness of life. We thought we saw the light at the end, for it only to be another bend. We could not have imagined the tunnel would be this long.

In those early days we galloped, thinking – hoping – it was short. Rainbows sprouted in windows. They brought hope and optimism, a joyful tune lifting our shocked hearts. They bring smiles still, every time. Yet rainbows are transient, whimsical even. Their pure positivity can wear out in the prolonged pain. Rainbows don’t work in the night.

The tunnel has been long. So we’ve needed light that lasts the distance – an unknown distance. Light that can travel through the tunnel with us, be always present. Light to take us through a winter, literal and metaphorical.

In front of me is a candle, a simple tea-light. It doesn’t display a glorious arc of spectral colours. It isn’t exciting. It’s humble, vulnerable-looking even. But it’s steady and constant. It bears an honesty that the world around is dark. And its small yet intense flame transmits a resilient hope: reassurance that it will always overcome the dark. In its steady constancy can be seen the Light of the World.

We have learned in lockdown to be ‘tunnel people’. We hope to see the light at the end – our rainbows. Even more we need light in the tunnel for the journey. My tea-light is one of a box of 100 – there’s plenty of uplifting light to come! We need those encouragements to keep moving forward – maybe we’re more like the horses in the tunnel after all.

* I discovered this whenever visiting family North of the river as a child (not via horse and cart).

Rev David Carrington

Team Vicar of Escot, Feniton and Payhembury
The Rectory, Station Road, Feniton 01404 850905
revdavidcarrington@gmail.com



**Churchyard Clean-ups
start again on**

**Saturday 27th March
10am to noon.**



If you have time on your hands and like to see things looking tidy, please come and join us— socially distanced, of course.

Christine Thair

Church Warden Mrs Babs Leach, Slade View, Payhembury (841409)

Sexton: Mr Jim Kimber, 1 Barrow Road, Payhembury (841320)

Contact details for church wardens in Escot or Feniton

Feniton: David Lanning or Cara Sanders(850262)

Escot: Judy Davis (812739)

Paul's Nature Notes January-February 2021

I have been watching David Attenborough's 'A Perfect Planet' in which he expresses grave concern about the next mass extinction of global species – make no mistake this process has already started and will only escalate!

Like so many people the Covid lockdown has meant that I have had a lot of extra time on my hands, much of which I have spent re-cataloguing my extensive photographic archive of endangered species. This has engendered many amazing memories but also a deal of sadness.

My all-time favourite location is Madagascar, where we visited in 2009. For me it even outshines the Galapagos Islands, Central and South America and India, all great wildlife places. Here you can find unique lemurs, chameleons, birds and flora found nowhere else in the world, but they are all under intense threat from a burgeoning human population which is having a devastating adverse impact on the land. After just a few years 'slash and burn' farming

leaves a desert in its wake, forcing many species into actual extinction. Unfortunately, advances in healthcare have not led to a corresponding decline in human birth rates there.



My all-time greatest memory is photographing the 'dancing sifacas of Berenty'. Verreaux's Sifaca is a beautiful, captivating primate which demonstrates such grace and beauty as it dances and pirouettes across open spaces between the trees in the forest.

Back then there was a stable, well-established colony and so it has come as a huge shock to learn that they are already critically endangered and facing

extinction. It is not inconceivable that soon all that will be left are photos to remind us of a time when the world was younger and beautiful.

Meanwhile back in Devon I am reminded how good our own birds are. An old pal of mine, who now lives on the Oare Marshes in Kent, was bemoaning how long it is since he saw any Greenfinches, a species now in national decline and yet we have four visiting us every day during the cold weather accompanied by a



group of Siskins and all the other locals, all busy feeding on the sunflower hearts. Brian Hill in Colestocks has also reported Marsh Tits on his feeders, a species seldom seen these days.



Rob, Gina and Oliver, new residents on the village green.

Farewell Message from Julia Scarle

As a family we cherish the 33 years we have had living in Higher House as part of the Payhembury community. We are going to miss you all as we set off on a new adventure. A big welcome to Amy, Stuart, Fiona and Oscar. Our love and best wishes to everyone.

Julia, Jon, Katie & Emily

census 2021

The 10-yearly census is taking place on **Sunday 21st March**. The census is hugely important, as it helps people understand what our society needs now and what it's likely to need in the future. The information it collects helps plan and fund services, including transport, education and

healthcare. Charities also use census information to help get the funding they need. Businesses use it to decide where to set up, which creates job opportunities.

Further information about the census is available from the government website - <https://census.gov.uk/>. A 'Your questions answered' document together with a 16-page 'Community handbook' which explains what the census is and why it matters is available on the Parish Council's website - <http://www.payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk/default.aspx>

Payhembury Parish Council meeting - Wednesday 10th March at 7.30pm

The March meeting for Payhembury Parish Council will be held online using Zoom in line with current Government guidance for Parish and Town Councils. To join the Parish Council meeting you will need the meeting ID and password. They are available below, on the Parish Council noticeboard (on the agenda) or by contacting the Clerk (payhemburypc@payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk). To join via the internet please use the link www.zoom.us/join. To join the meeting via telephone please use one of the numbers listed below. In either case, please enter the ID and password when prompted to do so.

Meeting ID: 840 9331 9216

Password: 204112

Telephone: 044 203 901 7895

044 131 460 1196

044 203 051 2874

044 203 481 5237

044 203 481 5240

The agenda for the meeting will be available as normal on the noticeboard and the Parish Council website (http://www.payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk/Agendas_and_Minutes_28525.aspx). If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Clerk via the above email address.

Dawn Chamberlain, Parish Clerk

Payhembury Weather www.payhembury-weather.co.uk

NEW LOOK REPORT FOR 2021

I am changing the format of my monthly weather reports to only include the past full month statistics (in this case January) as it will be simpler. It does mean the data is rather old due to the magazine publication deadlines. For those of you on Facebook and can't wait, I will post the same table shortly after the start of the next month on the *Payhembury Parish* page and on my web site (link below). The text in this report will cover all the weather items of interest up to the time of writing.

Rainfall: January was slightly wetter than normal with rain on most days. East Devon missed the snow in many other areas of the UK in early February.

Temperatures: A slightly colder January than normal with 1st January getting down to minus 6.1 degC. Early February was much colder with 7 days of a bitterly cold easterly wind keeping daytime temperatures below 5 degC and night-time below zero. Finally on Valentine's Day the warm air returned with a day of rain.

Weather elsewhere: The 2021 'beast from the east' provided the coldest snap over the UK since 2018. A temperature of -23C was recorded in Braemar on 11th February, the lowest in the UK for 25 years with over 18 cm of snow in the Scottish Highlands. A large Saharan dust plume moved over central Europe on 6 February giving a reddish tint to the sky and alpine snow. Residents in Melbourne in lockdown got a free light display close to the city as a meteorite broke up entering the atmosphere. Finally a severe winter storm has been causing electricity blackouts and fatalities in the southern US and Mexico with 70% of the U.S. covered in snow.

Payhembury Weather Jan 2021			
Monthly Rainfall	111.2 mm	+7 mm	from normal
Days of Rain	24 days		
Wettest Day	22.4 mm	20 Jan	
Mean Max Temp	7.2 degC	-0.4 degC	from normal
Mean Min Temp	1.5 degC	-0.6 degC	from normal
Warmest Day	13.3 degC	28 Jan	13:03
Coldest Day	-6.1 degC	1 Jan	05:11
Windiest Day	10.7 m/s	14 Jan	16:31

Current weather in Payhembury can be viewed at www.payhembury-weather.co.uk

Roger Saunders



We're hoping that March will bring the glimmerings of light at the end of the tunnel for everyone, with falling Covid cases, re-opening of schools, warmer weather and longer days.

We will have some good things going on at the shop too with two local businesses ready to supply us with their first-class produce again. Firstly we will have Spring bulb flowers from Colestocks Flower Farm; what could be a better symbol of new life and a fresh start this Spring? Last Autumn Jenny and Tom were busy planting masses of tulip bulbs and beautiful scented varieties of narcissi and this month we will reap the reward for their hard work when the flowers arrive in the shop. They have many beautiful garden flowers planned for the rest of the summer too.

Soon after Easter we are expecting more beef from the Carden's herd of Red Ruby cattle at Tuck Mill. As you probably know by now, this is very local, grass fed beef which has been properly hung for maximum flavour and it is always very popular with our customers. We sell it on a first come first served basis so please keep an eye out for notices in the shop and on our Facebook page with more information about when it will be ready.

Last month we were sorry to say goodbye to Jon and Julia Scarle who had lived in the village for many years and were enthusiastic and cheerful supporters of the shop right from the start as customers and volunteers. We wish them happiness in their new home and hope they will soon feel settled.

We'd like to welcome everyone who has recently moved into the village and hope that you too will be customers and volunteers. Anne Baxter who coordinates the volunteers is always delighted to hear from anyone who is considering helping out whether it is on a regular basis or just occasionally, her phone number is 841345, give her a call; it's a great way to make new friends and get to know people in the village.

For the benefit of new customers we should also mention that we have an accounts system whereby you can put all your shopping on your account and then pay with a single payment at the end of each month. Please ask in the shop for details. This makes it very convenient when you have forgotten your cash or card and also, as long as you have given your authority, for other family members, maybe your children, or helpful neighbours, to do your shopping for you. It also makes it delightfully easy when you're out on a bracing walk to nip into the shop and emerge with that tempting bar of chocolate!

Mary Whiting

EDDC Local Plan consultation – closing date 15th March (noon)

East Devon District Council is preparing a new Local Plan for 2021-2040 that is expected to ultimately replace the existing Local Plan for 2013-2031, as well as replacing the Villages Plan and potentially, at a future point in time, the Cranbrook Plan. The first stage of preparing the new East Devon Local Plan involves a consultation on an Issues and Options document that summarises some key issues facing East Devon looking forward and some options for how these might be addressed.

EDDC would like to hear your views about these issues and options. They have said *“We think we know what we don’t want to see but we need to know if you agree. For example:*

We don’t want to see East Devon ruined by ugly development scarring our landscape, trees and hedgerows pulled down and our wildlife destroyed. Do you agree?

We don’t want to see new homes built in East Devon which are poor quality and look like those built everywhere else. Homes that don’t meet the needs of local people, are remote from jobs and services, aren’t afford-

able and are inefficient to heat and run are not what East Devon needs. Do you agree?

Help us to make sure that we deliver homes and communities that you want to live in and protect what you value about East Devon’s environment.

If we don’t get your input now then we won’t be able to deliver the East Devon you want in the future. That is why we are asking you to read our Issues and Options report and fill in our questionnaire.”

More information, the Issues and Options report and the online response form can be found on the EDDC website - <https://eastdevon.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/emerging-local-plan/initial-consultations/>. EDDC are encouraging as many individual people as possible to respond to this survey, as well as asking for feedback from Parish and Town Councils. Payhembury Parish Council will be discussing their response to this consultation at the Parish Council meeting on 10th March. Please use the link above to submit your own views. If you do not have access to the internet then please call 01395 571533 to ask for a paper copy of the survey. The closing date for responses is noon on Monday 15th March.

New email address for Parish Council

Payhembury Parish Council have a new contact email address, although the previous one will continue to be checked for incoming mail as well:

payhemburypc@payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk

Contact information for the Parish Council can also be found on the Parish Council website - <http://www.payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk/ContactUs.aspx>. Councillor information can be found on <http://www.payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk/TheCouncil.aspx>

Dawn Chamberlain, Parish Clerk



Yellingham Farm March 2021

A year ago, we couldn't have hordes of visitors to the farm for lambing and in 2021 we still can't. It is so disappointing as it's just a wonderful time of the year.

The weather has been a blinking nightmare, but we haven't had the snow thank goodness and if we didn't have the weather to talk about, what would we talk about. With some 8 days to go before we start lambing, I am starting to get excited, a tad apprehensive as always, but at the end of the day if you've put everything in place and are organised, there isn't a lot more you can do. Just get some early nights.

I had the absolute privilege of working with an unbelievable shepherd in my younger days who frightened the daylight out of me but by goodness did he know his sheep. I always remember him saying to me "I will show you once, I will show you twice, but if you need showing a third time, then shepherding is not for you". He would light his pipe, walk away and get on with the job in hand. His shepherding days are now well over but every year he will get a call from yours truly re a problem and sure enough there is always a few thoughts and a few suggestions.

One of my worst nightmares is when a ewe has had some lovely lambs and she decides they are not for her and decides to reject one - why on earth would she decide to do that? There are often some explanations but not always, so they become the beloved bottle-fed lambs which the kids love.



The most important thing, if lambs get rejected, is that they get plenty of colostrum as soon as possible – the first milk from the ewe. Given the ewe won't stand to let them suckle, a trick taught to me by the "old boy" was to turn the ewe over and sit her on her bottom and put the lambs on the teat for a good suckle – jobs a good'un! Of course, there's always powdered colostrum as a backup but the ewe's milk is the best and its free! Often the dear rejected one becomes an orphan and goes on the bottle but nonetheless has a good life. As is often the case with orphan lambs, I become their mum and they never forget it and will bound up to you in the field for many months to come. My sheepdog never understands why such lambs never do as he says!

If Boris lets us start to return to normal, then I am always happy for anyone to bring their children or grandchildren, or even just themselves to the farm to see the lambs – let's hope that happens.

Janet

Planned road closures – March & April 2021

Devon County Council have an interactive roadworks map which can be accessed from a link on the following webpage - <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/live-roadworks-information/>. The map can show current and planned roadworks as well as the dates and reasons for the work. The following is a list, compiled in mid-February, of anticipated roadworks that may affect Payhembury during March and April:

28th February – 1st March (overnight)– resurfacing work between Sidmouth Junction Cross and Sherwood Cross.

21st-22nd March (overnight)– resurfacing work from Colestocks Cross to Feniton and past the Railway Station.

26th-28th April – road from Tuckmill Cross to Payhembury Cross for pole replacement.

29th April – 7th May – road from Wolverstone Cross to Hembury Fort Cross for pre surface dressing? patching.

Please see http://www.payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk/Roads_and_Highways_29495.aspx for any updates, more information and, where the information is available, links to DCC Highways for diversions.

Dawn Chamberlain, Parish Clerk



As I type this I'm looking out over a very wet cricket field with a very full River Tale lapping along the boundary. Its that time of year when the sheep are allowed in so the outfield is gradually turning to mud – it never ceases to amaze me how nature can turn a sodden muddy mess into the Payhembury equivalent of Lords in just a couple of months. Well, we play cricket on it and you can buy a pint, perhaps after that similarities with Lords are a bit more limited.

So after a much shortened 2020 season and what feels like a never ending very wet winter, we are back in that place where we cross everything and hope that we will be allowed a fuller 2021 season. Which may or may not involve our Covid Risk Assessment being revised and updated, certainly seems very likely at present. We have a full fixture list planned, starting in late April , with outdoor training sessions starting earlier that month. This will ensure we are all at peak fitness for the start of the season ! If we are allowed to play, of course.

We are always on the look out for fresh talent so do get in touch with us if you'd like to get involved in any way, you can email stay@tuckmill.co.uk

We have been very fortunate over the past twelve months to have had financial support from both Payhembury Provisions and the ECB, which have enabled us to stay solvent through the challenging times we have all experienced. So a huge thankyou to all at Payhembury Provisions for your support, we do hope to be able to invite representatives down to enjoy our hospitality at an evening game once the future looks a little clearer and the sheep have moved to fresh pastures.

Finally, Devon cricket very sadly lost one of its inspirations over the Christmas break. Keith Wood was the key founder of Clyst Hydon CC back in the late 1980's and went on to play a significant role not only in establishing league cricket in our corner of the county but also in Devon colts cricket countywide. He will be sorely missed.

Jon Carden





Hospiscare
Caring in the heart of Devon



Local hospice's “Men’s Walk” needs walkers for tenth anniversary event with a difference

Hospiscare’s flagship Men’s Walk event is back – with a twist – this March, to celebrate its tenth anniversary – and this year the charity needs the support of the community more than ever.

From the outset of the pandemic, Hospiscare adapted its fundraising efforts to ensure that its vital care for people living with life-limiting illnesses can continue at no cost to its patients. To ensure that Men’s Walk can take place this year safely and in-line with government guidance, Hospiscare has introduced *Men’s Walk–Your Way*.

Taking place on **Saturday 20 March**, participants will walk a route of their choice in their local area, which means that everyone can take part safely from any corner of Devon – or the world!

All of the iconic elements of Men’s Walk will remain the same. Every walker will receive a Men’s Walk t-shirt, a special 10th-year anniversary beer courtesy of Exeter Brewery and a pastry from Chunk of Devon – not to mention Ireland vs England in the Six Nations rugby tournament to enjoy on the box afterwards!

Wherever the route and location, participants will be walking together in spirit to support people and families living with a terminal illness across Exeter, Mid and East Devon.

To sign up to *Men’s Walk–Your Way* and raise sponsorship to support your local hospice charity, visit :

<https://www.hospiscare.co.uk/menswalk>.

citizens
advice

Devon

COVID WINTER GRANT SCHEME

Have you suffered financially due to the pandemic? You may be eligible for financial assistance towards your home fuel costs

Telephone: 01395 265070

Adviseline: 03444 111 444 / 0800 144 8848

Email: Enquiries@citizensadviceeastdevon.org

Text Advice: 82727

Website: www.citizensadviceeastdevon.org

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Power Cuts – update from Western Power

Thank you to Rob and Sarah Price for the following information:

The village experiences what seems like a higher than average number of power cuts, particularly on one of the supply phases. Following an outage on 21st January 2021, we asked Western Power if they could tell us their plans for infrastructure maintenance and told them that we had noticed the rusted state of many of the transformers on the network around the village.

Western Power rang us to say that they had carried out a network study for the village in response and that the network's performance did not fail the statutory limits but nevertheless it was relatively poor. They plan to upgrade a transformer to address this problem. Once they have permission from the landowner, they can schedule the work. They could not give a precise time frame but did say that once they have the green light they'd expect it to be completed within 10 weeks.

Dawn Chamberlain, Parish Clerk



Lending with Heart and Mind

East Devon District Council fund a not-for-profit loan scheme for homeowners and landlords*.

We understand the expense of maintaining your home and we work with you to take the stress out of funding repairs, improvements or adaptations.

We see you as an individual, not a credit score. Our knowledgeable team of advisers will guide you through the process of applying for a home improvement loan.

For a no-obligation assessment
or more information visit
www.lendology.org.uk or call 01823 461099

Heatherton Park Studios, Bradford on Tone, Taunton, TA4 1EU

*subject to eligibility

William Garvey, furniture designers & makers, of Upton, are delighted to sponsor Payhembury Parish Paper



Could your local churchyard be the best in Devon this year?

During the pandemic, Devon's residents have appreciated the green spaces around their churches like never before and now Devon CPRE is inviting churches of all denominations to enter this year's competition to find the 'Best Churchyard' in the whole of the county.

Following a year with little to celebrate, Devon CPRE applauds the volunteers helping to maintain and 'green up' Devon's churchyards. During the challenging months of lockdown, many churchyards have become real sanctuaries for the local community - not just for church-goers. In some places, they are the only public space people can walk to for exercise and to observe nature.

This is the fourth year the Devon countryside charity has held its churchyard awards and it's hoping to receive more entries than ever by the end of March. The judges are not seeking the most pristine or manicured churchyards. They are looking for those which are well-managed to provide a peaceful haven for people and wildlife. Each entry is visited by the judges and assessed on a range of criteria, including the measures put in place to increase biodiversity.

Which Devon churchyards will make the shortlist in 2021? As well as the kudos of winning, there's a top prize of £200 and a beautiful oak plaque, made in Devon from sustainable wood, to display to locals and visitors. The deadline for entries is March 31st. Full details and an entry form can be found at www.devoncpre.org.uk

INFORMATION PAGE

Non urgent police contact 101

Honiton Hospital 01404 540540 (Minor Injury Unit 8am-10pm)
RD&E Hospital Exeter 01392 411611
V.E.T.S. (Village Emergency Telephone System) 01404 565605

Your Parish Council

Meetings held 2nd Wed of alternate months (starting January) 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Tim Cox (Chair)	01404 850005	Robert Leach (Vice-Chair)	01404 841408
Clair Kimber	01404 841320	Phil Chamberlain	01404 841773
Kerron Allen	07970 466782	Karen Edwards	01404 849186
Eva Ingleson	07792 627802	Parish Clerk: Dawn Chamberlain,	01404 841 773

Parish Council email address: payhemburypc@payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk

Useful numbers at the County Council (all 0345)

General Enquiries	155 1015	Registrars	155 1002
Roads and Transport	155 1004	Libraries	155 1001
Disability Information	155 1005	Children/Families	155 1013
Bus passes	01392 383 688		

Emergencies

Social Care	0345 600 0388
Highways	01392 383329
Animal Welfare, Petrol, Explosives	01392 499499

Useful numbers at the District Council

Switchboard: 01404 515616 (Use for all enquiries during office hours)
Address: East Devon District Council, Blackdown House, Border Road,
Heathpark Industrial Estate, Honiton, EX14 1EJ

Email: csc@eastdevon.gov.uk

In an emergency outside opening hours, phone 01395 516854

Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 5pm

There is free parking in the car park in front of the building during opening hours

County Councillor: Ian Chubb 01297 35468 District Councillor: Philip Skinner 01404 822855

PAYHEMBURY VILLAGE HALL HIRE AND CHARGES

Please contact Hazel Pike on hazepike18@gmail.com or 841465 for details and to book.

(Please telephone before 7pm)

PAYHEMBURY PROVISIONS

Opening hours and contact details

Monday to Friday 8am to 7pm

Saturday 8am to 1pm

Sunday 8am to 12pm

Tel: 01404 841856 or info@payhemburyprovisions.co.uk



Friends of Payhembury School



[This Photo](#) by Un-

Save the Date(s)!

FOPS are organising a 'socially distanced' Family Easter Trail around the Payhembury area. The route will be available from Friday 2nd April until Sunday 18th April 2021 (Easter Holidays). Look out for posters around the village and in the parish magazine.

The route and questions will be made available closer to the time. We will also include details of costs and how and where to pay and pick up the question sheet.

All money raised will go towards the children of Payhembury School. School would like to make the wild area more accessible for the children and are also looking at funding activities that can be undertaken outside, especially due to the current pandemic. This is the area that FOPS will be concentrating their fundraising on.

All participants will be expected to conform to the government's coronavirus regulations at the time of the trail.

Do you have a story to tell or some good news to share?

Do you have a photo/artwork for our front page?

Email: payhemburypaper@yahoo.co.uk

Deadline for April is Thursday 18 March 4pm

Editorial Team:

Kate Duggan (01404 841039)

Victoria Lincoln (07967 313035)

Christine Thair (01404 841322)

Payhembury Village Website: www.payhembury.org.uk