

THE PARISH PAPER

St. Mary the Virgin, Payhembury

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December 2021



Photo by Manfred Richter

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Rectory notes December 2021 – Light wins

The steaming Christmas pudding is placed ceremoniously on your dinner table. The brandy is sloshed over it (an extra one for luck). The lights are flicked off. A match is struck – and in the darkness the pudding flames dance with beautiful blue light.

The last day of last December, and I'm on Hembury Fort to bid farewell in the closing daylight to an extraordinary year. A surprise snow-shower sweeps in. The light turns momentarily magical and mysterious, vivid brightness battling the dark clouds.

December is a battleground. Light and dark – which will win? The Christmas lights go up – twinkling, flashing (oh so many multi-phased options to choose!), dazzling houses stealing the show. Lights in the shops, lights on the tree, on Christmas hats, even seasonal jumpers join the twinkling parade. We're nailing our colours to the mast: we're all cheer-leaders for light.

Meanwhile, in the church a little candle in a quiet corner steadily burns. A memory of one who was loved and lost shines out in its flickering flame. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

As Christmas approaches, gatherings lie ahead of us. Gatherings with our family, the hope of freedoms greater than last year. Gatherings we'll be sadly absent from, due to distance or health, or simply because we

don't get on together these days. Or we've no gatherings, for we've no-one to gather with.

Memories begin to gather too, jostling us more at this time of year than any other. Bright memories of past Christmas joys, beckoning us on like excited children. Or darker memories may swirl, Christmas inescapably a difficult time. Or bright memories stab at us – someone whose presence will no longer lighten the room.

So lights in a church will be lit, memories gathered, and hope held out by lighting candles. All who wish to remember a loved one are warmly welcomed to a service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving at Feniton church at 3pm on Sunday 12th.

The solstice will pass: the sun will win and chase winter's darkness away. Our hearts' own battleground of dark and light is more mysterious, complex, uncertain. So let's deck the halls with all those twinkling-and-flashing, season-to-be-jolly, darkness-defying Christmas lights. Let us light candles of love and hope.

For the Light has shone in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Rev David Carrington

Team Vicar of Escot, Feniton and Payhembury

Church Wardens: 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 (850699) or Cara Sanders(850262)

Escot: Judy Davis (812739)

Parishes of Feniton, Escot and Payhembury

Church Services in December 2021

SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER: *SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

| Church | Time | Service |
|------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Escot | 4pm | Evensong (TP) |
| Feniton | 9.15am | Storytime+ (ST team) |
| Payhembury | 11am | Parish Communion (DC) |

SUNDAY 12TH DECEMBER: *THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

| Church | Time | Service |
|------------|--------|--------------------------|
| Feniton | 11am | Parish Communion (DC) |
| Payhembury | 9.15am | All ages service (LL/DC) |

SUNDAY 19TH DECEMBER: *FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

| Church | Time | Service |
|------------|------|--------------------|
| Escot | 3pm | Carol service (DC) |
| Feniton | 11am | Carol service (DC) |
| Payhembury | 6pm | Carol service (DC) |

FRIDAY 24TH DECEMBER: *CHRISTMAS EVE*

| Church | Time | Service |
|------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Feniton | 4pm | Christingle (DC) |
| | 11.30pm | Midnight Eucharist (DC) |
| Payhembury | 11.30pm | Midnight Eucharist (MAC) |

SATURDAY 25th DECEMBER: *CHRISTMAS DAY*

| Church | Time | Service |
|------------|------|-----------------------|
| Escot | 9am | Family Communion (DC) |
| Payhembury | 11am | Family service (DC) |

SUNDAY 2ND JANUARY: *EPIPHANY*

| Church | Time | Service |
|------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Escot | 4pm | Evensong (TP) |
| Feniton | 9.15am | Storytime+ (ST team) |
| Payhembury | 11am | Parish Communion (DC) |

Do you have an event to publicise, or some news to share?
 Email: payhemburypaper@yahoo.co.uk. Please note that the next deadline is
 29th December. The printers are closed over Christmas, so the paper will be delivered
 a few days later than normal.

Dates for your diary!

**Payhembury
Church wishes
everybody a very
happy Festive
Season!**

We would love to see
you at any of our
Christmas services and
you'll be assured of a
warm welcome.

**Carol Service
Sunday 19th at 6pm
followed by mulled
wine and mince pies**

**Christmas Eve
Midnight Eucharist,
11.30pm**

**Christmas Day
Family Service, 11am**



**Saturday 29th
January 2022,
Bingo with Marty in
the Village Hall.
Proceeds to go to the
church**

**Ladies' Night Out Christmas Dinner
The Six Bells,
Tuesday 7 December,**

Meet at 7pm for 7.30pm meal

Choice of menu, 3 or 2 courses.

Please contact Babs (841409) for details and to
reserve your place. All ladies are welcome.

A festive poster for a Christmas concert. At the top, it says "EVERYONE CAN SING AT CHRISTMAS! FESTIVE CONCERT SATURDAY 11TH DECEMBER 7PM". Below this, it lists the performers: "Cullompton Community Choir", "VoiceWorx", and "Bel Canto". A photograph of a choir is shown. The venue is "KENTISBEARE VILLAGE HALL". Ticket information is provided: "TICKETS FROM VOICEWORX.ORG.UK #KENTISBEARE VILLAGE SHOP". At the bottom, there are illustrations of three people in Christmas hats. One person has a speech bubble that says "LOTS OF SONGS TO GET YOU IN THE FESTIVE SPIRIT". Another person has a speech bubble that says "ADULTS: £8 KIDS: £5". A stylized Christmas tree is on the left.

Mobile Library

December 1st, 11.00–11.20am, Village Hall Car Park

Tea and Bingo

Sadly, we were missing a few regulars this month, but the good news was we had a new "bingoer"! Welcome to Helen, who not only won some rounds but even took a turn at calling. It was also nice that Jackie was able to join us (and she was calling for us too).

The next meeting will be on Friday 10th December, when we will have our Christmas Dinner before the Bingo session.
Please arrive at 12.30 for 1.00pm

We are having to watch the pennies because there are fewer of us than there used to be, so we ask that you pay £5 towards the cost of the dinner. Hopefully, we will all be back for the December session and we look forward to seeing you then. Please phone if you have any questions and we wish everyone a very Happy Christmas.

Marjorie (841110) and Sue (841103)

P.S. Apologies to Marjorie for getting her phone number wrong last month, this is the correct one!



Christmas concert

Tale Valley Choir

with Guest tenor soloist
Richard Douglas

St Mary's Church Whimple
Saturday 4th December 7.30pm

Refreshments served from 7.15pm
Tickets £7 including refreshments
Under 18s free

Book your ticket by ringing 01404 823947
www.talevalleychoir.org.uk for more information



Art and Knitting/Craft Group

We had a good turnout this month and hope it continues. If you do any sort of craft it would be nice to see you as well as "knitters"! You don't need to be good at art, just bring something with you and enjoy the company while you paint.

**Sessions in December –
all Fridays in the Six Bells:
3rd, 17th, 24th, 2-4pm**

Please phone if you have any questions and everyone take care.

Knitting/Crafts:
Naomi (07799 380336)

Art: Sue (841103)



Parish Coffee Morning 19th January, 11-12

Nan and Richard have kindly offered to host the next coffee morning on 19th January 2022 at Meadowbank at 11-12, to help us welcome in the new year.

A very big thank you to Pat for welcoming us into her home in October, we all had a lovely morning catching up.

Also, a big thank you to all who attend our very informal coffee mornings, and mostly to our lovely hosts and hostesses. It just leaves me to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. If any one needs transport please don't hesitate to call Sandra or Steve 841842.

Village Carol Singing Monday 20th, 6pm on the village green



I am thrilled to say carol singing will be on the above date.

This year, we are trying something slightly different, and hopefully this will

open itself up to more younger people joining us.

We are planning to sing on the village green for maybe just over an hour, before going to visit some people in their own homes. If you know of anyone who can't join us but would love us to visit them, please let me know.

The Six Bells will be open and I am sure there will be mulled wine on offer if you need to lubricate those vocal cords.

Any money collected will go towards the Payhembury in Need Relief Fund; this is used to support people during times of unexpected financial issues / events.

Please wrap up warm and bring a torch. If possible wear a high-vis jacket.

If you have any questions, feel free to give me a ring:

Lesley Elford on 850 356 or 07443 519 003

A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for those who have died

**Sunday 12th December at 3pm
at St Andrew's, Feniton**

The approaching season can be overwhelming when someone special in our lives has died – no matter how many years have passed.

At the service there will be an opportunity to come forward and light a candle and hear the names of loved ones read out.

A retiring collection for Hospiscare will be taken.

If you have any queries contact Sue Tucker:

Suetucker4804@gmail.com
07774 338603





Broadhembury Green Repair Café

Broadhembury Parish Council are setting up a Green Repair Café and are hoping to hold their first event in January or February 2022, in Broadhembury Memorial Hall. The aim of the Green Repair Café is to help people fix broken things in a friendly atmosphere, so less gets thrown away. A lot of simple repairs can be made quite quickly; you can be shown how to perform these repairs with a little help from people with the know-how.

Things that need repairing – do you have a bike in the shed with a flat tyre, or gears that need adjusting? A favourite jumper with a hole, a computer printer that refuses to print, small electrical goods stacked up on their way to the recycling site? Wait, there may be somebody just round the corner that can help you with these repairs. Bring them along to the Green Repair Café and see if they can be fixed.

Do you have skills to help do the repairs? – the Green Repair Café would love to hear from you if you can help with repairs on small electrical goods, bikes, mobile phones, upholstery, tools and more. In particular, at the moment, they are short of someone who can repair clothes, especially fitting zips. If you are interested in joining their team of volunteer repairers or would like to help with providing teas and coffees, please contact Adam Powell (adam.powell@broadhembury-pc.gov.uk or 07535233558).

For more information, see their website (<https://broadhembury-pc.gov.uk/2020/10/30/green-repair-cafe/>) or find them on Facebook under Green Repair Café.



Light Up a Life

Hospiscare are once again hosting Light Up a Life to remember loved ones that are no longer with us this Christmas. The charity will host an online gathering of celebration on **Thursday 16 December** and their Gallery of Memories and Book of Memories are open for dedications to loved ones. Please visit www.hospiscare.co.uk for further information or call 01392 688020.

Charity BIG NIGHT OUT!

Saturday 4th December 2021 – 7.00- 11.00 pm
Kentisbeare Village Hall
With live music from **Framed** with **The Dillyboys** & **Marram Grass**



**Marie Curie
Charity
event**
Licensed Bar
Tickets - £5
Available from Kentisbeare Village Shop
And on-line from <https://kentisevents.square.site>



The village hall committee would like to thank you all for your continued support in keeping the village hall running and an important part of our community heart in Payhembury. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated towards the Guide Dog collection in the shop. We raised nearly £60. The little dog will soon be back. Thank you so much.

Mary Lorimer on behalf of Guide Dogs

The Open the Book team have enjoyed going into Feniton and Payhembury Primary schools this term telling more stories that Jesus told. We have been looking at The Big Party and how it is important to welcome and help all sorts of people, being inclusive to all, even those who can't repay your kindness. The story of the Big Bags of Money emphasised the need to use whatever talents and gifts God has given you to help others and make a difference in our world. In December, we will be looking at Joseph's Story which tells the nativity from the perspective of Joseph.

We have enjoyed singing again and having the school children to help with various characters in our story; they always enjoy joining in. We end each session with a prayer and song.

Thanks to the committed team of 'actors' (OK, we try!)

Ann, Cara, Vicky, Amy, Naomi, Kirsten, Margaret and Nicola

Children's Society Box Collection Result 2021

Yet again, the Children's Society box holders of Escot, Feniton and Payhembury have been very generous. Despite the lack of change in our purses and pockets, (caused by the Covid effect), which is where so much of the money box money is derived, the total sum collected was £1158.14. This is the most we have ever collected.

All the money we collect is sent to the society to help vulnerable children and young people. They are there for children who feel they have no one else to turn to for help.

I cannot thank the box holders enough for their generosity. Should anyone who is not a box holder wish to have a box in which to put odd change, please contact me.

With much gratitude,

Sheila Lanning 01404 850699

The Parish Council would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I would like to wish all my customers past, present and future all the best for this Christmas and 2022.

Steve, S E Auto Engineers

Wishing all our clients a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Ruth & Jane, The Studio Hair & Beauty

Happy Christmas from the Parish Paper team!

The Disappearing Ram!

By the time you read this, my rams will have completed their work and will be back grazing on their own until next autumn. Last week, as I was putting them back in the field opposite the farm, it jogged my memory about an event which took place a couple of years back. I had a couple of eccentric friends who wanted to borrow my Jacob ram for their ewes. I'm not keen on lending my rams out, so instead they brought their sheep to Yellingham. The day dawned and the sheep arrived and given there was only a few I decided to put them near to the house in a small paddock which has a beautiful pond. The ram was very happy when he realised his luck had changed and on seeing the ewes galloped off in hot pursuit.

My friends, Helen and Daphne, stayed overnight as they had travelled all the way from the depths of Sussex, so in the morning we all sauntered down to the paddock to check them, and my dear ram was nowhere to be seen. Helen has always been highly strung and there were shrieks of dismay as they looked everywhere for him. The ewes were there so it was a mystery. There were cries of "he's drowned in the pond", which really couldn't happen as sheep hate water at the best of times. After attempting to calm the hysterical ladies, I suggested that they should get on the road, and I would try and solve the problem.

It really was a mystery and after searching for him all over the farm, I too began to wander if in his excitement chasing the ewes around, he had slipped and fallen into the pond. The water would have made his fleece so heavy that he could well have sunk to the depths of the pond – surely not....an impossibility.

There was just one field left to check, which was pointless really as there were a handful of cull ewes in there grazing which didn't go to the ram. As I approached the field, via the lane with my dog Todd in tow, he suddenly stopped and pricked his ears. My mind was elsewhere, racing, thinking that my ram had



escaped and could be anywhere on the road to Payhembury or Feniton or Colestocks – just the thought of it made me shudder.

Todd's reaction made me stop for a moment and he certainly knew something was going on. On approaching the field gate, I could see that my ewes were disturbed and running around the field. My immediate reaction was that someone's dog was loose and chasing the sheep – a potential nightmare. I quickly ran to the gate and let Todd in. There certainly was a problem. The ewes were running, and I couldn't see another dog. There were six ewes in there and on counting them all seemed fine, except there were seven! I couldn't believe my eyes – there was my ram. Clearly none of his new arrivals were on heat, but one of the cull ewes obviously was and a ram can smell it a mile off. He must have been so determined to get to her he risked life and limb to negotiate two sets of fencing. As they say, where there is a will there is a way!

So, all was well, and I thought I should ring my friends and tell them the news. I called them and said quietly and in a forlorn voice that the ram had "surfaced". There was more hysterics on the other end of the phone as they said they were right and that he had drowned. I wickedly let them rant and rave for a short while before telling them the whole story!

Janet

News from Payhembury Provisions

Hello. I have been passed the pen of Payhembury Provisions by Mary our long standing 'field correspondent' and firstly I must thank her for all her words over the last few years and hope that myself and the other new journos (we are taking it in turns) live up to her Pulitzer Prize winning standards to tell you what is happening here in the shop.



Talking of Pullets (see what I did there?), as this goes to press we are a mere five and a bit weeks to Christmas and that means we are only four weeks away from the fresh free range bronze and barn raised white turkey ordering deadline, if you want one of our locally sourced birds. Locally means only 9.9 miles as the Google map flies, which is excellent in keeping our food miles footprint down.

As with all our goods, we keep our margins as tight as we can to offer you the best value and I'm not sure you'll get one of these excellent turkeys at a better price elsewhere (they supply many high quality butchers and outlets).

Talking of quality butchers, our meats are now supplied by another long established local firm, the award winning Veyseys of Cullompton, est. 1890 (only a little bit before our own shop!). We look forward to working with them and hearing your feedback. Fresh deliveries every Friday. We can also order for a Tuesday delivery if you need a midweek meal.

We have ordered in plenty of other Christmas fare, such as cheeses and chutneys, biscuits and chocolates to help the festivities go with a swing and together with our fresh vegetables we feel we have everything to make a Payhembury yuletide feast very delicious. These can be ordered and a box made up for collection on the 22nd December, which is the same as the turkey collection (10am-12 noon). See shop counter for details.

Tim Woolgar

Happy Christmas!

TRIP needs volunteers!

TRIP is recruiting for volunteer drivers to help transport people to their medical appointments. For more information, phone 01404 46529 or visit www.tripcta.org. Our volunteer drivers are a vital part of our service.

45p a mile. No minimum commitment. PPE supplied.

Payhembury Village Hall

The village hall committee had its AGM on 18th November. To view the minutes and reports, please visit our website: www.payhemburyvillagehall.org.uk

You may have seen the new path and ramp installed around the hall; this was a much needed improvement and we hope you are as pleased with the results as we are. Still to come is a bin store to help keep the recycling and waste collection as efficient and tidy as possible for all our users.

Thank yous

At the time of writing, the gate and post is being fixed and will again be able to be used. Big thank you to Dan Wadsworth for the work and Luton Saw Mill for the donation of the wood.

Many thanks from us to Payhembury Provisions for the generous donation to help replace the water boiler in the in Kitchen.

Thank you to FOPS for the Christmas decorations in the hall and making it feel so festive for all of us. Such a wonderful thing to see after the year we have all had.

As chair of the village hall committee, I want to thank every member of the committee for all their time, guidance, support and help running this precious community asset. We are all volunteers with very busy lives, but we do our very best every time.

Finally, a very, very, very big thank you to Hazel Pike for her wonderful service and dedication to the village hall, running all the hires, bookings and inquiries. This is no easy task and Hazel makes it all seem effortless.

After many years, Hazel is stepping down from the village hall committee. She will be missed hugely and has always been a valued member of the team. Thank you.

Future

If anyone is interested in joining the village hall committee or organising an event, please get in touch as we would love to hear from you. The village hall committee offer great support and help make things happen.

Maria Banham,
Village Hall Committee Chairperson



Your Village Hall Needs You!

We are urgently seeking a volunteer who would like to get involved with the running of the village hall. The fabulous Hazel Pike is stepping down as booking clerk after a number of years, for which we are very grateful. This would be a great opportunity for someone to become involved in the running of the hall and work with a friendly bunch of people. To find out more, you can email Hazel on haze_pike@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01404 841465.

Payhembury Weather

www.payhembury-weather.co.uk

Weather for October 2021

Rainfall: October was a very wet month, with over twice the normal rainfall. This was due to three short periods of very high rain amounts with 42mm recorded on the 20th resulting in flooding making it hard to get to the village on the evening of the 20th. The local river levels were getting close to their highest ever recorded. November has so far been a much drier month.

Temperatures: It was once again a much warmer month than usual in October, over 2 degC above the 1960-90 average for the daytime maxima and the trend has continued into November. We did have a first night frost on 3rd November and the leaves have now turned.

Sunshine: Overall for the summer, it was pretty average for the amount of sunshine in Payhembury. You can see the monthly amounts on the web site.

Weather elsewhere: The UK's longest lasting patch of snow has disappeared for only the eighth time in 300 years. The patch on remote Braeriach in the Cairngorms has melted away more frequently in the last 18 years, showing the impact of climate change. The Lake District suffered more severe flooding from the 27th-29th October, with over 300mm falling in 2 days. Further afield, communities in western Canada who were forced to flee their homes this summer by wildfires and extreme heat are once again under evacuation orders after overwhelming floods across the region. From one extreme to another!

| Payhembury Weather Oct 2021 | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Monthly Rainfall | 206 mm | +122 mm | from normal |
| Days of Rain | 21 days | | |
| Wettest Day | 42 mm | 20 Oct | |
| Mean Max Temp | 16.6 degC | +2.1 degC | from normal |
| Mean Min Temp | 8.4 degC | +0.8 degC | from normal |
| Warmest Day | 20.4 degC | 7 Oct | 14:45 |
| Coldest Day | 2.4 degC | 22 Oct | 03:44 |
| Windiest Day | 12.5 m/s | 20 Oct | 21:00 |

Current weather in Payhembury and a forecast can be viewed at:
www.payhembury-weather.co.uk

Roger Saunders

Roadworks in Payhembury – December 2021 & January 2022

There are no specific roadworks planned for Payhembury Parish for December and January.

Dawn Chamberlain, Parish Clerk

Paul's Nature Notes: October-November 2021

By mid-November, our trees were putting on a stunning autumn colour display, but what a crazy time this is – our daffodils are already emerging. I am busy collecting up all the fallen leaves – garden gold I call them because once they have rotted down by this time next year they will have produced the best ever compost.

This time last year, I was busy building my bug mansion. It has not worked! On the other hand, various stacks of rotting logs around the garden have provided an excellent habitat for insects and have already attracted many unusual beetles and other bugs.

We continue to put out food for our many hedgehogs every night once it is dark, this to prevent the squirrels getting to it first. More often than not, the first feed has all been eaten by 10.30 and I have then to top up the dish for the second course. We actually manage to see these delightful animals every night, sometimes enjoying the sight of two of them feeding at the same time.

By the time you read this, our village wildlife event will have taken place and I do hope that you will be joining the Payhembury Wildlifers in mapping out all the flora and fauna in the parish. In case you missed the event, please

contact me if you want a recording form.

I have just finished reading Isabella Tree's book 'Wilding'. This is an amazing account of what she and her husband Charlie Burrell have done at Knepp Castle in West Sussex to attract wildlife back onto land which had proved unprofitable to farm. It offers immense hope for our endangered wildlife in the future.

I still clearly recollect how, in the early days of the project, I and others played a part in helping to establish a base-line for the moth population on the estate. Those were such exciting times, particularly when the deer came to look us over.

No-one can ever have imagined the incredible extent to which really endangered species, such as nightingales and turtle doves, could be attracted back to an area where they had not been seen or heard for decades.

It only goes to show, create the right habitat and wildlife will soon move in. This has certainly been the case in our garden. A short time ago, we established a trial bed for native wild flowers. Last year this was extended and this year I have recorded 16 moth species for the first time, which are specific only to those plants present.

Avian Influenza (bird flu) - Poultry and other captive birds

An 'Avian Influenza Prevention Zone' (AIPZ) has been declared across the whole of England, effective from 5pm on 3rd November 2021. All poultry keepers in England (whether they have commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard flock) are required by law to take a range of biosecurity precautions. If you keep poultry (including gamebirds or pet birds) or other captive birds, you must act now to reduce the risk of disease in your flock by following the relevant biosecurity measures required within the AIPZ. Your stock needs to be fed and watered under cover to prevent contamination from wild birds.

Avian influenza (bird flu) is a notifiable animal disease. If you suspect any type of avian influenza in poultry or captive birds, you must

report it immediately by calling the Defra Rural Services Helpline on 03000 200 301. Failure to do so is an offence. If you find dead wild waterfowl (swans, geese or ducks) or other dead wild birds, such as gulls or birds of prey, you should report them to the Defra helpline (03459 33 55 77). Do not touch or pick up any dead or visibly sick birds that you find. For more guidance please visit: www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu.

Remember that if you have poultry, it is your responsibility to keep updated on any outbreaks and an easy way to do this is to sign up for text notifications – register with the APHA alerts service: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apha-alert-subscription-service>

Applications for a grant from the Parish Council

Each year, Payhembury Parish Council award a number of small grants to voluntary organisations and groups that support the residents of the parish in various ways. Previous recipients include Tale Valley Trust, the Tea & Bingo group, TRIP, the Ottery Help Scheme, the Payhembury Relief Fund and many others. If you would like to be considered for a grant this year, please send an email to

payhemburypc@payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk, or a letter to Payhembury Parish Council, c/o Rose Cottage, Payhembury, Honiton, Devon EX14 3HR by 5th January 2022.

The Parish Council will consider these requests at the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 12th January 2022.

Sandbags and flooding

The Parish Council has a supply of sandbags for when flooding issues occur. Some of these are stored at Lower House and the rest at Slade Barton. If you have need of any sandbags, please collect from either of these places or contact the Parish Council and they will arrange for you to receive them. Contact details are on the information page of the Parish Paper or on the Parish Council website: www.payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk/TheCouncil.aspx.

Playing fields fundraising update

Thank you to all those who have donated or pledged funds towards the playing fields improvements. The total funds so far are £19,136.66 with hopefully some more being raised during events in late November.

Parish Councillor changes & casual vacancy

The Parish Council are sorry to have to say goodbye to Kerron Allen as a Parish Councillor. They would like to thank him for everything he has done in his time on the Parish Council and wish him all the best for the future. They would also like to welcome Paul Thomas as a new Parish Councillor and look forward to working with him.

The Parish Council currently has a vacancy for another Parish Councillor. By the time you read this, we will know if an election is needed or whether the role can be filled by co-option. Please see www.payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk/Vacancies_32756.aspx or contact the Clerk (details in the back of the Parish Paper) for more information and application forms. The Parish Council would like to be more representative of the community, so would particularly encourage applications from younger people, women or those living in the hamlets outside the village.

Jubilee Trees – help needed to help clear space for planting 4th December

The first five Jubilee trees (five Red Oaks) have now been planted at the far end of the Watermeadows. There are a number of other trees yet to be planted and an area of land in Upton, adjacent to William Garvey's furniture (on the Payhembury side), has been identified as a potential Jubilee Copse and pond. However, the land is currently overgrown and needs clearing before any trees can be planted. If you would like to help clear the land, please come along and join the working party on Saturday 4th December at 9am. If you have a strimmer, brush cutters, loppers or rakes, please bring them with you. To find out more about The Queen's Green Canopy initiative see: <https://queensgreencanopy.org/>.

"The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown..."

Christmas is almost upon us, and we'll soon be singing carols and.... it looks like the Christmas turkey has been saved... hurray!

So why is ivy (Latin name *Hedera helix*) celebrated at this time of year? Across northern Europe, ivy was an important part of the Pagan winter solstice celebration because it was evergreen, still having leaves and berries when almost every other plant was leafless. Ivy represented the female, holly the male, at the rebirth of the year.

There is much folklore linked to ivy - it was thought to bind things together, linking trees or forming dense thickets that block out light. Ivy represents the wandering soul in search of enlightenment but carries a warning to the seeker to be sure of their desires so that they do not become trapped by them. The tree teaches the two-sided lessons of binding and freeing, restricting and uniting.

Common ivy was the symbol of Dionysus, who was one of Greece's 12 major gods, called Bacchus in Rome. He discovered grapes and spread them across the world. Dionysus was often depicted wearing a wreath of ivy (not grape vines) on his head and carrying a staff (thyrsus) made of ivy-wood from which ivy vines trailed.

Often demonised by gardeners and house holders, research by English Heritage has shown that in some cases, ivy can help preserve stonework on old buildings. English ivy isn't a parasite; In its native

habitat, it's more likely to form a peaceful but assertive part of its environment. It is a rich source for wildlife, especially monarch butterflies.

Ivy is a bitter aromatic herb with a nauseating taste. The fresh young leaves are primarily used, and these should be harvested between August and September, although fresh is best. The bark was previously used for sores caused by syphilis, the berries are equally effective, but are toxic and purgative causing fatalities in the past.

The leaves were and are still used in the treatment of rheumatism and as an external application to skin eruptions, swollen tissue, painful joints, burns and suppurating cuts. Recent research has shown that the leaves can also be used against amoeba, liver fluke, molluscs, internal parasites, and fungal infections. They are used internally in the treatment of gout, rheumatic pain, whooping cough, bronchitis, and parasites.

This plant should only be used externally unless under the supervision of a qualified practitioner. Excessive doses destroy red blood cells, cause irritability, diarrhoea, and vomiting.

Additionally - please remember, because we are all unique, we can have different responses.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy Christmas.

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

Flooding in Payhembury

Towards the end of October, there were several days of torrential rain resulting in several flooded roads in the Parish of Payhembury. This photograph was taken at Mousehole Cross as the water was receding. It had been several feet deep and after it drained away the road was covered in gravel from the adjacent fields. As far as we know, no local homes were flooded but some flood defences, such as sandbags were deployed.



Given the current COP26 meeting in Glasgow and the daily reporting of climate concerns, one could, understandably, consider this to be an indication of climate change. However, locals who have lived here for over 50 years know that similar floods have occurred in the past. On 10th July 1968, East Devon was hit by one of the worst floods in living memory. In just one hour, 63.5mm (2.5 inches) of rain fell. A lady was drowned in her cottage in Sidmouth and some 30 people had to be rescued from the flood waters. The main roads – and these were pre-M5 / A30 bypass days – were badly flooded and the Fenny bridge on the A30 was washed away. Another six bridges in East Devon were also washed away.

Andrew Renshaw

Payhembury Relief in Need Fund

It is that time of year again – Christmas can be wonderful, but for some it can cause financial problems. If you have any need of some financial assistance, please contact me and we will help wherever we can.

Ian Derbyshire, 841103

Payhembury Clothing Bank – Coming Soon!

FOPS are delighted to announce that we have been able to organise a space in the village hall car park for a clothes bank to be sited. A huge thank you must go to the village hall committee, who have allowed us to use the space next to the sheds at the far end of the car park.



We are anticipating that the clothes bank, which is from a company called 'Bags for Help', will be delivered in the next couple of weeks, so if you are having a pre-Christmas clear out then keep us in mind! A full list of what is allowed will be by the bank and on posters around the village. All donations given to the bank will raise money for FOPS as well as helping us all to recycle more of our belongings. If you have any queries, then please email me at robin.elsom@btinternet.com. Many thanks.

Anita Elsom (FOPS Chair)

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
Phil Chamberlain 01404 841773 Karen Edwards 01404 849186
Matt Rance 07809 306571 Paul Thomas Contact TBC

Parish Clerk: Dawn Chamberlain, 01404 841 773
Parish Council email address: payhemburypc@payhemburyparishcouncil.org.uk

Useful numbers at the County Council (all 0345 or 0845)

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------|
| 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 us on 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 07932 459595. 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

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2021

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Wed 1st | Mobile Library, Village Hall Car Park, 11.00-11.20am |
| Fri 3rd | Art and Knitting/Craft Group, Six Bells, 2-4pm |
| Sat 4th | Weed Clearing for Jubilee Tree Planting, Upton, 9am Big Night Out, 7pm, Kentisbeare Village Hall (see page 7) Tale Valley Choir Concert, St Mary's Church, Whimple, 7.30pm (see page 5) |
| Sun 5th | Parish Communion, 11am |
| Tues 7th | Ladies Night Out Christmas Dinner, The Six Bells, 7pm (see page 4) |
| Fri 10th | Tea and Bingo Christmas Dinner, Six Bells, 12.30pm |
| Sat 11th | Festive Concert, 7pm, Kentisbeare Village Hall (see page 4) |
| Sun 12th | All Ages Service, 9.15am Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving, St Andrews, Feniton, 3pm |
| Fri 17th | Art and Knitting/Craft Group, Six Bells, 2-4pm |
| Sun 19th | Carol Service in Church, 6pm |
| Mon 20th | Village Carol Singing, 6pm, Village Green |
| Fri 24th | Art and Knitting/Craft Group, Six Bells, 2-4pm Midnight Eucharist, 11.30pm |
| Sat 25th | Family Service, 11am |
| Wed 29th | Parish Paper deadline, 4pm |
| Sun 2nd Jan | Parish Communion, 11am |



REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--|
| MONDAY | Apple Pips | 9.30-11.15am |
| TUESDAY | Pilates | 6.30pm |
| WEDNESDAY | Pilates Short mat bowls | 9.15am (Ladies only), 10.30am (Men's only) 7.15pm |

Editorial Team: Christine Thair (841322), Kate Duggan (07968 369159),
Victoria Lincoln (07967 313035)

Payhembury Village Website: www.payhembury.org.uk