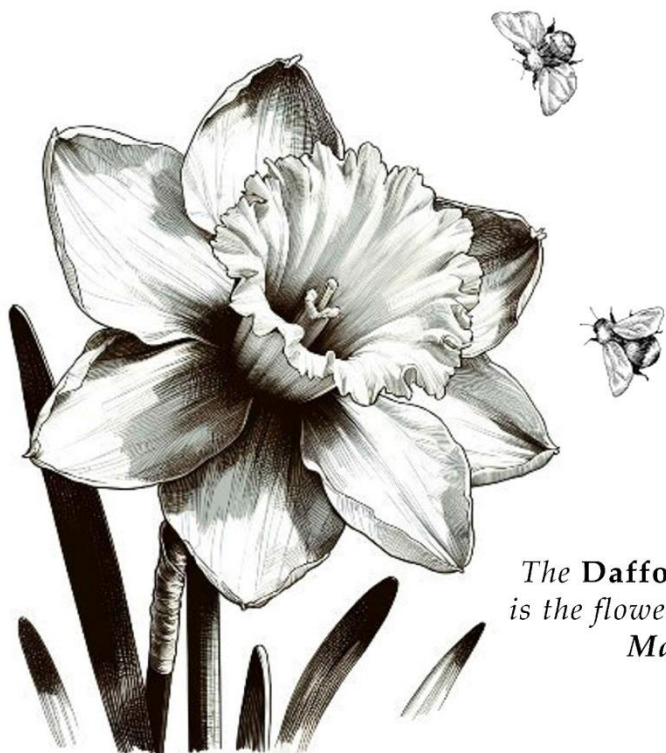


**Enmore *and* Goathurst  
magazine  
MARCH 2025**



*The Daffodil  
is the flower of  
March*

*“Daffodils symbolise rebirth, new beginnings,  
hope, joy and good luck”*

## EDITORIAL – March 2025

Andrew, last month's editor, painted a sombre view of 2025 and the troubled world we live in, no wonder some are tempted not to watch the news. Sadly, there is little influence we personally have that can change what goes on beyond our limited scope but we can all take heart that our villages are thriving, not rundown or deprived, nor threatened with knife crime, flooding or worse.

We have much to be proud of in our community, to celebrate, to appreciate and be grateful for. Our Parish Councils, our village halls, churches and so many good people are working tirelessly striving to improve the quality of our life and give us a bright future. Examples of this are on every page of this month's magazine.

So, politics aside if possible, may I encourage you all to get more involved, give support when asked, volunteer when requested, so that our villages can continue to grow as a caring community in the spirit we would wish for all near and far. And let's enjoy the promise of spring just around the corner, the lovely daffodil cover by Graham George, and the drifts of yellow that will soon dance in our road verges.

Sally Tottle

---

**Next Editor:** Tony Eggar, The Coach House, Broomfield Hall: 671 309

**Deadline:** Noon, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March

**Contributions to:** enmoregoathurst@hotmail.co.uk

**or:** Colin Chalmers, Laverock 'Ha, Goathurst: 661 217  
Sally Tottle, Red Cottage, Enmore: 671 654  
Linda Rogers, Greenacres, Enmore: 07828890514

**Advertising Queries:** Steve Gormley, 662846  
[stephen.gormley007@btinternet.com](mailto:stephen.gormley007@btinternet.com)

Opinions in the magazine may not be those of the Editor or of the Editorial Board.

# ENMORE MEMORIAL HALL – NEWS AND EVENTS

Our February Pop-up Café was our most successful yet! We will make sure to add an extra table in March—and hope that the golf club don't mind being used as our 'overflow' car park! Thank you so much for supporting us; we really enjoy seeing you all.

New LED strip lights have now been installed, thanks to our grant from SCF/Hinkley Point Community Fund. The floor works will be next and then new chairs! We are also expecting the smart double sink unit to be installed in March, paid for in part by the generous donations from the village Christmas card.

We hope all these improvements will encourage more bookings, events and classes. If you have any queries or requests, please do get in touch at [enmorevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:enmorevillagehall@gmail.com) or on 07424 197200.

## **Quiz with Fish and Chips**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm at Enmore Memorial Hall**

To book table of up to 8 people, contact Doug on 01278 671188

## **Pop Up Café**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March at Enmore Memorial Hall.**

10am-12noon

## **Pop Up Café**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April at Enmore Memorial Hall.**

10am-12noon

# **Bag a Bacon Butty with a squirt of faith!**

**Join us for a Bacon Butty or croissant on  
our 'Opportunity Sunday'**



**in Goathurst Village Hall**



**on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 10am.**

**Tea, coffee and squash available.**

**Activity corner for children. Newspapers to read.**



**There's no cost – donations if desired to church funds.**

**Please book if you'd like to come along, so we know  
how many to cater for. Vegetarian option is available.**

**Contact Brenda on 07790 825207 before  
14<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Change of details for Goathurst Village Hall Bookings**

Now 07816 251 950 or [goathurstvhbookings@gmail.com](mailto:goathurstvhbookings@gmail.com)

## News from St Edward's

With the coming of spring and Lent, March promises to be a very social (busy!) month in our community. **You are warmly invited to join us for some or all the following events:**

- **Weekly Lent Lunches**, see the poster for details.
- **'Opportunity Sunday'** 16<sup>th</sup> March in the village hall-see the poster for details.
- **Lent Course**, as part of the Benefice wide courses, Goathurst Fellowship Group will be exploring the 'Growing Good' Course starting on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March, with Rev Eleanor, 2-3.15pm in the church.
- **Coffee Morning** on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, in the village hall. It's free and all are welcome.
- **Handbell group** meet on first and third Saturdays, 2-3pm

## We are truly grateful to:

Andy Hicklin for so willingly tending to the church clock for its accuracy.

Everyone who has contributed to the 'any old iron' collections. To date well over £300 has been accrued for the SAPP fund regarding the toilet/kitchenette extension for the church. The collections continue...  
Goathurst PCC

---

## Thank you


On a personal note, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for all kind messages, cards and support shown to us during recent months and especially since my mum passed away in January. It has felt as though I was wrapped in a blanket of love by the wonderful community in which we are blessed to live and has sustained me through a very difficult time.

With love and thanks

Brenda

# Enmore Parochial Church Council

## Celebrating All Mothers, Past and Present


 Saturday, 29 March at 3:00pm

 Refreshments: Tea and Cake



We warmly invite you to join us for this special service as we celebrate and honor our dear mothers—past and present. The **Enmore Angels Choir** will be leading the singing, and there will be plenty of tea and cake to enjoy! This is a wonderful way to start the special weekend celebrations, and we encourage you to come along and be part of this memorable occasion.

## Easter Festival Celebrations

 Saturday, 19 April at 3:00pm

### 'Cake Off' Easter Decorated Cake Competition

Bring your best-decorated cake! Judging will be based on both visual appeal and taste. Tea and cake will be available, and we hope to have plenty of cakes for sale too!








### Easter Chocolate Tasting Competition

Put your taste buds to the test! A blind tasting competition with prizes for the winners.

### Easter Bonnet Competition Display

Show off your creativity by designing a unique Easter bonnet! The bonnets will be on display throughout the Easter Festival from Saturday through to Easter Monday, with prizes awarded for 1st place and runner-up.

## A calendar of events, with more details to follow:

-  May - Family displays of living history throughout the village
-  June - Sponsored Hymn Sing
-  August - Afternoon Tea at The Hall
-  Harvest Supper
-  Reflection Evening

## If you would like to make any donations to St Michael's Church and All Angels Church, please see details below:

Account: St Michaels Church Enmore

Account No: 00269228    Sort code: 30-91-20    Ref: Donation

Gift Aid does allow UK tax payers, an ability to claim a further 25% of the gift. Gift Aid envelopes are available in the church.

# Enmore & District Gardening Club



## Next Meeting

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
Enmore Memorial Hall  
7.30pm

Change to the diary!

**We are now pleased to welcome Lucy Allen**  
who will give a talk on

## Peat Free Gardening Tips for Healthy Growing

---

Still time to join us exploring the **Crocus at Forde Abbey** on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Car share from Enmore hall. Free for RHS members and half price for Hestercombe members.

Apologies that our last meeting could not go ahead due to a power cut. **We are now planning to hold a practical workshop where we can each make a hedgehog house.** Materials will be provided.

We are planning trips to gardens throughout the summer months. More information available at the next meeting. Do come & join us, membership is £20.00 for the year or £4.00 per meeting to include tea & biscuits and a monthly raffle with garden related prizes. Contact [jeniferclarke60@gmail.com](mailto:jeniferclarke60@gmail.com) for more information.

## LENT LUNCHES IN GOATHURST 2025



*St Edward's PCC is pleased to announce that Lent Lunches will once again be held at various venues in the village thanks to the kind generosity of the hosts as follows:*

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 12.30p.m. @ The Village Hall, contact Brenda Smith (07790 825207)**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 12.30p.m. @ Halswell House,**  
Contact Ann Manders (07724 452839) or email:  
[contact@halswellpark.com](mailto:contact@halswellpark.com)

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 12.30p.m. @ Glebe House, contact Wendy Kilbey (662523)**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 12.30p.m. @ The Rectory Retreat, Contact John and Ruth Capell (tel:662382)**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 12.30p.m. @ Andersfield,**  
Contact Clare Kippen (671542)

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 12.30p.m. @ The Village Hall.**  
Contact Esther Meade (<tel:662328>), Mary Baker (663043)

*The lunches of soup and cheese and biscuits, tea/coffee are free, although donations may be given towards church funds/charity. All are welcome, but please book by contacting the hosts at least 3 days prior to the lunch. Places are limited and will be on a 'first come first served' basis, so please book early to avoid disappointment!*

*We do hope that you will join us...*

*Brenda Smith*





**GOATHURST VILLAGE HALL**

**SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

**6.45 FOR 7PM**

**TEAMS OF 4**

**BAR AVAILABLE  
RAFFLE**

**BOOK YOUR TABLE! £10 PER  
TEAM**

**[sharonpiron@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sharonpiron@hotmail.co.uk)**

**Tel: 01278 662711**



## ENMORE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

[www.enmoreparishcouncil.org](http://www.enmoreparishcouncil.org)

On 22 February your Parish Council had a meeting with our MP, Sir Ashley Fox. As promised, we raised a number of concerns with him. These included public transport (or lack of), broadband/connectivity, flooding, traffic, farming and planning. It was clear that he has been hearing about similar issues from other parish councils in his constituency (which includes 29 parish councils and 3 town councils).

Sir Ashley listened carefully to our concerns and made a number of constructive suggestions including how we could combine with other parishes to give our concerns more “weight” and how to escalate issues which appeared to be stuck at Somerset Council without any response or action. Even when he or his staff cannot make a difference (especially when in opposition), they will often be able to advise on the best way of resolving problems and whom we should contact. It was a very friendly, constructive and worthwhile meeting.

In March one or more representatives of Enmore Parish Council will attend a meeting Sir Ashley is organising specifically for the rural parish councils in the constituency. Planning and flooding are features of the agenda.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, starting at 6.30pm in Enmore Memorial Hall. The agenda and finance report will be available on the website a few days in advance. All are welcome to attend.

## NEXT LADIES LUNCH

On

**MONDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH  
2025, 12.30pm**

**At the Cottage Inn,  
Keenthorne  
Nr. Nether Stowey**

**£15.00 for two courses**

Please phone or email Jan  
Hodson  
on 07985194265 or  
hodsons73@btinternet.com  
to book and for menu choices  
asap



Goathurst Village Hall

Drinks by the Fire

Come and Join Us

on

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March

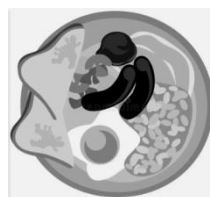
6:30 - 8:30

All Welcome

=====

## Men's Breakfast at The Tynte Arms Enmore - Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup>

Meet at 9:00 Finish by 10.30am  
Don't give up breakfast for Lent-  
£7.30.



Planning to come – or want to be added to the email  
circulation list?

**Contact** Colin Chalmers tel: 661 217 text:07436285347  
email:c.chalmers@tiscali.co.uk by **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> before noon**

## Pancake Day – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Pancake Day, or Shrove Tuesday, is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent – the 40 days leading up to Easter – was traditionally a time of fasting and on Shrove Tuesday, Christians went to confession and were “shriven” (absolved from their sins). Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes are the perfect way of using up these ingredients.

### **Ingredients for pancake mixture:**

175g plain flour, sifted  
pinch of salt  
2 eggs  
175ml milk mixed with 110ml water



### **Method**

- Sift the flour and salt into a large mixing bowl.
- Make a well in the centre of the flour and break the eggs into it, and whisk.
- Gradually add the milk and water mixture, still whisking, until the batter is smooth, with the consistency of thin cream.
- Heat a non-stick frying pan until very hot, then add a small knob of butter. Ladle in a ladleful of the batter, quickly turning the pan to coat the base evenly with the batter and cook for 30 seconds to one minute, until the base is lightly browned.
- Using a palette knife, gently flip the pancake over and cook on the other side for a few seconds, until lightly browned. Slide the pancake onto a plate. Repeat the process with the remaining batter.

*To serve, sprinkle the pancakes with caster sugar and lemon juice, then fold twice to form triangles. Serve the lemon wedges alongside.*



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

### Parish of Enmore – St Michael and All Angels Church

### Parish of Goathurst – St Edward, King and Martyr

Each year, like other organisations, our churches hold an Annual Meeting often referred to as the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

All are welcome to attend the meeting to hear about the work of the church in the last twelve months and what is ahead. The meetings will be held in the churches as follows:

**Enmore Church on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon.**

**Goathurst Church on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am.**

To be able to vote at the meeting, you need to be on the Church's Electoral Roll, which is being completely revised this year, as it is every 6 years. If you are currently on the Electoral Roll, we will contact you to ask whether you wish to re-apply. If you're not already on the Roll and would like to be, please contact [dchopkins@icloud.com](mailto:dchopkins@icloud.com) for Enmore Church and [harrymeade@talktalk.net](mailto:harrymeade@talktalk.net) for Goathurst Church

Copies of the Annual Report will be available in the churches from 18<sup>th</sup> March.

We look forward to seeing you there!

#### Parochial Church Council members:

##### Enmore:

*Rosalie Burge – Churchwarden  
Petra Ingram – Treasurer  
Michael Hopkins – PCC Member  
Denise Hopkins - PCC Member  
Debbie Coles - PCC Member  
Marie Vassili-Collard - PCC Member*

##### Goathurst:

*Brenda Smith - Churchwarden  
Helen Roberts - Treasurer  
Esther Meade – PCC Member  
Gill Modley - PCC Member  
Clare Kippen - PCC Member  
Wendy Kilbey - PCC Member  
Tim Webster - PCC Member*

## **And then there was light!!**

I guess all of us will remember something about storm Darragh which hit us in the south west on December 8<sup>th</sup>. I had just finished some ironing at 11.15 am when the radio went quiet. Like everyone I'm sure, I assumed power would soon come on again. By the evening, when no power was restored I lit my log burner, heated some soup and hot water on the top and thought this was a bit like camping! However the novelty wore off very quickly indeed when on Sunday morning I had to get up at 6.30 to light the log burner in order to heat some water for a cup of tea!. Things didn't get better and I subsequently spent two nights with my sister in North Petherton. Everyone else in Spaxton it seemed had power on, but a small cluster of us, including the church were still in the dark and cold. I am not ashamed to say I felt so ill that I went to the Dr. who suggested I was simply exhausted.

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> the Christmas tree lights in the church were due to come on at a short service at 3.45. In the village hall I took the WI area carol service and opened prayer asking for God's blessing and for his intervention to restore the power for those of us still in darkness. At 3.30 I returned home with still much to do for evening celebrations. I unlocked the front door and stepped into the hall, noticing the fire was giving out a lot of light.....I entered the lounge and glanced to one side to see that the table lamp I had left with power switch on, was ON and flooding the room with light and warmth from the central heating. I cannot remember a time in my life when I have been so filled with joy and gratitude. I rushed down to the church where the tree lights were shining brightly and thanked God with every fibre of my being!!

The first couple of sentences of the Gospel of John declare that the light came into the world and the darkness was dispelled. Christians believe that Jesus Christ was and is the light of the world. An encounter with him can give rise to that overpowering gratitude which I felt when I realised the power was back on. Jesus can have the same effect – giving light and power to those who acknowledge him. It's not a one off experience, it is however an opportunity to re-ignite something which is inherent in all of us if we just have faith and reach for the ON switch!!

Rev Kate Sax

<b>Local Church Services</b>		
<b>March 2025</b>	<b>St Michael and All Angels, Enmore</b>	<b>St Edward, King and Martyr, Goathurst</b>
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</i> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>  <b>Sunday before Lent</b>	11.00am Holy Communion	9.30am Family Worship
<b>5<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<i>Service of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes at Holford Church at 11:00am</i>	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup> March</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	<i>No service at Enmore</i>	9.30am Holy Communion
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b> <b>16<sup>th</sup> March</b>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	4:00pm Taizé Service	<i>No service at Goathurst</i>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> <b>23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>  <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	11:00am Morning Worship	6:30pm Holy Communion
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> <b>30<sup>th</sup> March</b>  <b>Mothering Sunday</b>	<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b> 3.0pm Short Service for Mothering Sunday followed by tea	10:00am Morning Worship for Mothering Sunday

\*For other Benefice services and mid-week Celtic Morning Prayer see

<b>Other Local Services in the wider Benefice*</b>			
<b>Aisholt</b>	<b>Nether Stowey</b>	<b>Over Stowey</b>	<b>Spaxton with Charlynch</b>
11.00am Matins (BCP)	11.00am Morning Worship (Church Centre)	4:00pm Evensong	4:00pm Evensong
<i>Service of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes at Nether Stowey Church Centre at 7pm</i>			
3.30pm Evensong (BCP)	11.00am Holy Communion (Church)	9:30am Morning Worship	11:00am Morning Worship
11:00am Holy Communion (BCP)	11.00am Morning Worship (Church Centre)	9.30am Holy Communion	<i>No Service at Spaxton</i>
<i>No service at Aisholt</i>	11.00am Holy Communion (Church Centre)	<i>No service at Over Stowey</i>	11:00am Holy Communion
<i>No service at Aisholt</i>	11.00am Holy Communion For Mothering Sunday <b>(Church)</b>	<b>10:00am</b> Service for Mothering Sunday	11:00am Morning Worship for Mothering Sunday

the Benefice News, Church Noticeboards and Website below

<https://quantockvillagesbenefice.org.uk>



## Local and Regional Weather Report

Weather lore says “If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a Lamb” and the alternative version, “If March comes in with an adder's head, it will go out with a peacock's tail”. Weather lore has more to say about March including “For every foggy day in March, A night of frost in May” and “As it rains in March, so it rains in June”. Also “The weather on Old St. Matthew's day (March 8<sup>th</sup>) indicates the weather for the rest of the month” and “If it rains on St Benoit's (March 21<sup>st</sup>) it will rain for forty days”. Finally “An east wind on Lady-Day (March 25<sup>th</sup>) Will keep in till the end of May”. Weather lore also has a lot of agricultural and dietary advice for March, including to plant peas and beans on St David's Day (March 1<sup>st</sup>), but beware if its a leap year and they may grow upside down in their pods. Finally “Eat leeks in March and ramesans (garlic) in May, And then the Doctor can go and play”, but be warned, weather lore also says that fleas arrive on March 1<sup>st</sup>, so you must sweep your doorstep.

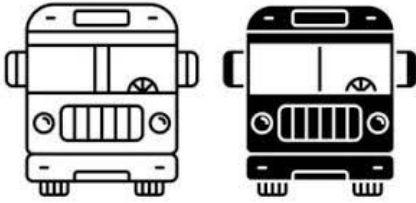
January started cold with rain, mist, frost, sleet and some snow. It continued milder but storms Eowyn and Herminia brought damaging winds and heavy rain. More than 9 days out of 10 days saw cloudy weather or rain and only 5 days out of 10 saw sunny or partly sunny weather.

Rainfall: Local 102 mm, Regional 159.8 mm = 118% of normal

Minimum temperatures: Local 4 deg, Regional 1.2 deg = -0.3 deg

Maximum Temperatures: Local 12 deg, Regional 7.4 deg = +0.5 deg

What is the weather forecast for March? Met Office says unsettled with mild temperatures, but periods of heavy rain and strong winds. Drier brighter later. Can we add any more from the weather lore forecast? Candlemass day (February 2nd) was only partly sunny, so not much snow in March. Jet Stream forecast at the start of February shows it across the UK and low pressure with winds from the south west. Probably mild, wet and windy.



## BUSES FOR OUR VILLAGES

See page 25 of the February 2025 Magazine

So far, I have only received 2 written responses to my article, plus verbal support. When I moved here in 2007, Enmore and Goathurst had 3 buses each week and they were used as much as buses in Bridgwater are now. It was sociable and reliable. Later it became once a week and then the service was stopped.

I took to my bike, until old age intervened and have been forced to drive. Thankfully loyal friends help me out. As my 2 correspondents stress, it would be wonderful to have some sort of a service to the Station or an urban coach or bus stop. The present situation is not fair or equitable.

And what about school buses as in Canada and USA. That would prevent the Enmore School congestion and would be ENVIRONMENTAL and safer.



There is substantial money out there to finance and restore past bus services, but my Parish Council requires me to show that people **WOULD SUPPORT A BUS SERVICE**. Even if your views are negative or apathetic (!), please WhatsApp, email, text or phone me. 01278 671742, 07484878135 or [amandahubbard@btinternet.com](mailto:amandahubbard@btinternet.com).

Amanda Hubbard

## *Shoeing Smiths*

Shoeing Smith, seeing this engraved on the War Grave in Enmore Churchyard sparked my interest. So I did some research and found that Shoeing Smiths were very important in keeping the Artillery moving in the First World War.

Their main job was to fit horse shoes and hoof trimming, shoes had to be replaced every month as horses would have been expected to march up to 40 miles a day. The Smiths would also have had some veterinary knowledge and the care of horse's feet, they carried the tools of their trade with them as they marched. Tasks also included the humane despatch of wounded and sick horses.

Of the horses who died in W.W.I 75% perished as a result of disease or exhaustion, even so the Army treated its animals with greater care than in previous conflicts.

By 1917 the Army had over 368,000 horses on the Western Front, the majority being draught or pack horses, although cavalry horses were used. The Army's Remount Department spent £ 67 million (3 billion in today's money), purchasing, training and delivering horses and mules to the Front.

There were not enough horses in Britain fit for Army service so large numbers were brought from abroad, for example Canada sent about 130,000 horses. The service of horses and the men who cared for them were fundamental in the War effort .

We Remember Private Samuel Treeby . Born 1865, killed 1917 France, by blow from a horse.

RTS/9538 Shoeing Smith

S.Treeby

Royal Army Service Corps

27th February 1917 age 52

Denise Hopkins

---



## **Resuscitation & Defibrillation**

Would you like to learn more about Automated External Defibrillation (AED) & Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)?

Over 30,000 people a year have a cardiac arrest outside of hospital. With CPR & the use of a defibrillator you can double someone's chances of survival.

Learn how to recognise a cardiac arrest and the action you can take.

### **Resuscitation & Defibrillator Training Enmore Memorial Hall Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm**

*Light refreshments available*

A donation of £5.00 would be appreciated. Jess Osman, who is giving us this vital training has been instrumental in raising funds for defibrillators throughout the parish of Broomfield. We hope to follow her example and provide more defibrillators in Enmore. At present there are accessible defibrillators at Enmore Golf Club, Secret Valley (see article) & the bottom of Smocombe Lane (code C159X). You are given the code for your nearest defibrillator when you dial 999.

.....

## **REMINDER**

### **Enmore Quiz and Fish & Chip Supper**

**Eyes Down at 7pm  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
At Enmore Memorial Hall.**

Tables still available, please contact Doug on 01278 671188

## A dash of yellow and grey



Early spring can bring the joy of seeing butterflies emerging from hibernation. The beautiful Brimstone Butterfly is a sulphur yellow and will emerge at anytime during the winter if temperatures are raised. In fact my husband and I walked up to our Millennium Wood on Christmas day and saw a Brimstone butterfly fluttering through the trees.

It was so mild with the sun shining that it could have been a spring day. They have a particularly long tongue

designed to help them collect nectar from the deep throats of primroses – a food source as soon as they flower even in winter.

One of the mammal species that starts to breed at this time of year is the Grey Squirrel. We used to have a licence so that we could care for and release up to 100 squirrels each year. Sadly, an Invasive Alien Species order made in 2019 to reduce the numbers of grey squirrels, meant that no further licences were issued. It meant that we could no longer help squirrels.

Most of the greys coming into us were babies that were found in trees that had been felled, many of which were usually so badly injured that they had to be put to sleep. We were however successful with the ones that were still ok. This meant that people finding young squirrels no longer wished to take them to a wildlife rescue centre or vets, knowing

that they would be killed. I'm sure many young babies would be cared for by people not experienced in their care, often not realising until they were old enough, that broken limbs or backs meant that they weren't viable animals.

Grey squirrels were introduced to Britain from America in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Having a wider diet than the red squirrels and also carrying a squirrel pox that was deadly to them, meant that the Red squirrels were soon reduced in number. Their numbers were already reduced due to hunting because of the damage that they do to trees etc (the same as the greys!). It is important for grey squirrels to be controlled near to areas where the red squirrels can be found but to believe that we can eradicate grey squirrels from Britain is not possible. Even if we did, the red squirrel needs coniferous forests to survive so they certainly will not spread widely throughout the country.

Grey squirrels give a lot of joy to people in parks and woodland. They build dreys made of sticks and leaves in the fork of branches. The helpless kits are naked and blind when first born. They do have quite a large amount of red within their pelts, which confuses people. Like the common dormouse, because they live in trees, they are able to move their front legs from side to side as well as up and down making them excellent climbers. They don't hibernate in the winter but cache food for when food is scarce and use their bushy tail to keep them warm when curled up in their drey. Because they use their 'hands' to eat, they are enchanting.

Paulne Kidner, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

.....

*'The month of March represents new growth, fertility and procreation in humans, plants and animals'.*

*Wikipedia, April 2025*



The Hardwick family at Secret Valley have installed a defibrillator, partly funded by our business and also by a charity called Hearts of London. It is accessible to everyone and has been registered with the National Defibrillator Network, known as The Circuit. Additionally, it is connected to the South West Ambulance Service. The defibrillator is affixed to the wall of the Quantock Kitchen Building next to the barn where Christmas trees are sold. It is clearly visible upon approaching the Christmas tree barn. Please feel free to familiarise yourself with its location.

The sudden death of my lovely friend Alison Webster, aged just 60, three years ago, who, as many people know, lived in Goathurst, has been the reason I was keen to install a defibrillator.

Jan Johnstone in Enmore, who has also organised the installation of a defibrillator for her hamlet, has arranged training for anyone wishing to learn how to use a defibrillator. **Join the Resus and Defib Training Session on Wednesday, March 12th at 6:30pm at Enmore Village Hall.**

Jan Hardwick

**Extracts from the Diary of Gordon Halswell (1874 – 1935).**  
**(To Somerset and Halswell House)**

**March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1894**

We arrived at the station and decided to go to the Quantocks and incidentally to see Halswell on the way. The place belongs to the Kemeys-Tyntes and it came to them through Jane Halswell who was heiress of the property. The Halswells were there without a break from 1272 to 1650 when the aforesaid Jane, who was the only child of Hugh Halswell, married Colonel Tynte of Chelvey whose direct descendants, the Kemeys-Tyntes, are still in possession.

My father told me that our people came from a younger branch of these Halswells but when he died I was too young to take any interest in the matter and so asked him no questions. I know that several Halswell brothers fought for Monmouth at Sedgemoor in 1685 and Robert and Edward were captured and executed by Judge Jeffries and they appear in the official rolls of the executions.

We went to Bridgewater (now Bridgwater) and drove out about 5 miles to Goathurst and asked at a picturesque, thatched lodge whether the Kemeys-Tyntes were at home. They were unfortunately away. Charlie Kemeys-Tynte, Halswell Kemeys-Tynte's eldest son was at Eton with me. The bailiff showed us round. The Park is beautifully timbered and to the left of the drive were two pieces of water. We turned off to the right through Millwood, through which flows a stream which ran into several lakes connected by waterfalls. Out of this wood we came to an avenue leading to the entrance to the house over the door of which were the Kemeys-Tynte arms quartered with Halswell. The greater part of the house was built by Sir Halswell Tynte in the reign of Charles 2<sup>nd</sup> but the remainder is part of the old Manor House which dates from about 1400.

There is a fine hall, the ceiling of which is about 20 feet high and the walls are completely surrounded by portraits commencing with the picture of Sir Nicholas Halswell in Elizabeth's time, followed by his descendants and then the Kemeys-Tyntes. There is a fine staircase with many more pictures, one by Romney of Halswell Tynte's great grandfather, another portrait of Jane Halswell and a most interesting one of Sir Nicholas Halswell's children in James 1<sup>st</sup> costume and each child with a toy or something suitable to its age – the eldest son with a



bow. In a glass case outside the great drawing room are the Halswell christening robes that were used in Elizabeth's time. The drawing room and dining room contain some very fine Vandyke portraits of the Whartons to which peerage the Tyntes are co-heirs. Some of the old buildings outside were interesting and the park was beautiful. It once formed part of Petherton Forest of which Chaucer was the ranger. There was a herd of about 300 deer which were almost too exciting for my wolfhound Maurice who was with us. Finally we saw the old kennels where they used to keep the hounds and then left the park to see Goathurst church which is just outside the gates.

Churchgoing for the Kemeys-Tynte family was a comfortable experience. The pew was a horse box, oak panelled with armorial bearing on each panel. Moreover there were comfortable chairs and a good fireplace and none of the congregation could see into it. To the left was a little chapel in which was the entrance to the Halswell vault which stretched under the entire length of the church and which is now full. In the chapel is a fine tomb to Sir Nicholas Halswell and his wife [with their] recumbent effigies and over the tomb hangs his funeral helmet and gauntlets and around the tomb kneel his seven children. The ceiling and walls are hung with hatchments.

The property is about 8,000 acres but the Kemeys-Tyntes also own Cefn Mably, an estate of about 33,000 acres which has been in the Kemeys family for 600 years. After this Greenwood and myself, William the bulldog and Maurice the wolfhound drove over the Quantocks which were beautiful.

### **June 1<sup>st</sup> 1896**

I went over to the Kingslakes at West Monckton and ..... they sent me over to see St. David Kemeys-Tynte who is Halswell-Tynte's agent. He lives on the edge of the park. Halswell is looking beautiful. It is such a good example of an old English place with its deer park and fine oaks. St. David Kemeys-Tynte was out but I met him the next day and he at once asked me to come and stay with him. One evening I rode to Sedgemoor through the quaint old village of Weston Zoyland where the battle ended. I saw the field where those who were killed in the battle are buried and wondered whether Hugh Halswell lay there. It all seemed so peaceful and so hard to believe that so many men were shot and cut to pieces for Monmouth's sake. Heaven knows he was

not worth it. Somerset and all its classes are so different from those in counties nearer London. The farmers and the farm labourers are so much simpler and the better classes so hospitable. Neither seems to have been touched by the ever-moving tide of so-called progress, nor is this part of the world spoiled with jerry building which threatens to make many parts of England nothing better than a suburb.

### **June 28<sup>th</sup> 1896**

Lunched with St. David Kemeys-Tynte. He told me that he was writing a history of the Halswell family. The first mention of the name is in the Domesday Book, where it is recorded that Wido held land there from Roger of Arundell. The Saxon owner was named Ailward. Then in 1272 Peter de Halswell appears and from that year the Halswell family lived at Halswell until Jane Halswell, who was the sole heiress, married Colonel Tynte of Chelvey. She died aged 19 in 1650. Her father was Hugh Halswell D.D. a prebendary of Winchester and the fifth son of Sir Nicholas Halswell. Some of the Halswells sat in parliament in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Sir David Kemeys-Tynte said that he went down into the Halswell vault in Goathurst church.

The vault runs almost the length of the aisle and he said there were tiers of coffins or their remains probably dating from the 13th century. The vault is now full and sealed up. After lunch St. David Tynte and I went over to Halswell. I was very interested in the pictures. The big hall is lined with portraits, and Van Dyke, Lely, Reynolds, Gainsborough, Hopner and many other well-known masters, including Reubens are in various rooms of the house.

The Halswell portraits are interesting. In the billiard room is a fine portrait of Charles the Second by Lely, which picture is surrounded by Grinling Gibbons' carving. Whilst we were there Charlie Kemeys-Tynte drove up with his grandfather. There is a great strike going on at Bridgwater. The men who work at the brickyards are out. An agitator named Ben Tillet has been down with the result that there was a serious riot in the town and troops had to be sent from Devonport. Finally the men went back to work. Ben Tillet having promised them money and having sent them none, received a sarcastic appeal from the strikers to come and be taught to swim in the Parrett.

*To be continued.....*

David Bunney

## *Farewell but not Goodbye*

Isabel Shute has perhaps slipped quietly beneath our communities radar yet remarkably she has been editing the magazine since the year dot. My printed records only go back to 2001 but from memory Isabel has been an editor for maybe nearly three decades or even more! Recruited by Bill Ingles in the early days, few could resist Bill's persuasive charms and with Jean's encouragement the answer was always 'yes'.

It is with Isabel's deepest regret that she is standing down from the Magazine Team as the Goathurst editor for November due to the increased pressures and time restraints of working full-time and family commitments.

Dear Isabel, take time-out – you have earned it! Take a well deserved sabbatical or two! Few can match your exemplary and brilliant record and we thank you more than words can say in heartfelt appreciation.

This is not a message of goodbye, hopefully just a temporary fond farewell. This is a message of recognition, of praise, and in tribute to Isabel's many years of unbroken and dedicated volunteering for the magazine, given willingly, generously and selflessly for the benefit of us all.

Sally Tottle, Chair

### **STOP PRESS**

Two of the editorial vacancies have been filled for this year. A big thank-you to Tony Eggar from Broomfield for volunteering for April's magazine and to Neil McCreery from Enmore for volunteering for October's magazine.

**This leaves November still vacant.  
Surely there must be an aspiring editor in Goathurst willing to  
become the 'voice' for our communities?**

## Dates for the Diary

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event and Venue</b>	<b>page</b>
1 Mar	Sat	11.00 am	Book Borrowing, St Michael's	-
1 Mar	Sat	2.00 pm	Handbell Group, St Edward's	4
4 Mar	Tue		Shrove Tuesday – Pancakes!	11
4 Mar	Tue	6.30 pm	Enmore Parish Council, EMH	9
4 Mar	Tue		Enmore Gardening Club Visit to Forde Abbey	6
5 Mar	Wed		<i>Ash Wednesday – Start of Lent</i>	-
7 Mar	Fri	7.00 pm	Quiz and Fish & Chips, EMH	2/19
8 Mar	Sat	10.00 am	'Pop up Cafe', EMH	2
10 Mar	Mon	12.30 pm	Ladies Lunch	10
10 Mar	Mon	2.00 - 3.15pm	'Growing Good' Lent Course, St Edward's	4
12 Mar	Wed	6.30 pm	Resus & Defib Training, EMH	19/22
13 Mar	Thu	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch, GVH	7
14 Mar	Fri	6.30 pm	Drinks by the Fire, GVH	10
15 Mar	Sat	9.00 am	Men's Breakfast at The Tynte	10
15 Mar	Sat	2.00 pm	Handbell Group, St Edward's	4
16 Mar	Sun	10.00 am	Opportunity Sunday, Bag a bacon butty, GVH	3
18 Mar	Tue	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch, Halswell House	7
25 Mar	Tue	11.00 am	Goathurst Coffee Morning, GVH	4
25 Mar	Tue	7.30 pm	Enmore Gardening Club, EMH	6
27 Mar	Thu	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch, Glebe House	7
29 Mar	Sat	3.00 pm	'Celebrating all Mothers', St Michael's	5
30 Mar	Sun		<i>Mothering Sunday</i>	
30 Mar	Sun		<i>British Summer Time Begins!</i>	
2 Apr	Wed	12.30 pm	Lent Lunch, Rectory Retreat	7
6 Apr	Sun	10.30 am	Annual Parochial Church Meeting – St Edward's	12
6 Apr	Sun	12 noon	Annual Parochial Church Meeting – St Michael's	12

## Village Information February 5<sup>th</sup> 2025

amendments to enmoregoathurst@hotmail.co.uk

Rector	Rev'd Eleanor King Email: <a href="mailto:eleanor.king@hotmail.com">eleanor.king@hotmail.com</a>		734 777
Associate Priest	Rev'd Kate Sax Email: <a href="mailto:kate.kinkiizi@gmail.com">kate.kinkiizi@gmail.com</a>		671 168
Church Contact	Alison Hoare Email: <a href="mailto:qv.benefice@gmail.com">qv.benefice@gmail.com</a>		732 855
Church Wardens	Enmore	Rosalie Burge,	671 337
	Goathurst	Brenda Smith	662 491
Parish Councils	Enmore	Michael Hopkins	671 296
	Web site	<a href="http://www.enmoreparishcouncil.org">www.enmoreparishcouncil.org</a>	
	Email	<a href="mailto:enmorepc@gmail.com">enmorepc@gmail.com</a>	
	Jubilee	Padlock	1966
	Goathurst	Richard Kilbey	662 523
	Web site	<a href="http://www.goathurstparish.org">www.goathurstparish.org</a>	
Village Hall	Enmore	Booking Number	07424 197200
	Goathurst	<a href="mailto:goathurstvhbookings@gmail.com">goathurstvhbookings@gmail.com</a>	07816 251950
Pubs		Enmore Inn	450 500
		Tynte Arms	671 351
Magazine	Chair	Sally Tottle	671 654
	Secretary	Jan Johnston	671 560
	Advertising	Steve Gormley	662 846
Councillors Somerset Council		Mr Mike Caswell	07768744730
		Mr Brian Bolt	07970855990
Pathway Officer	Enmore	Amanda Hubbard	671 742
Neighbourhood Watch	Enmore	Graham Fergusson	671 680
	Goathurst	tba	
Enmore School	Head	Mr Duncan MacRae	671 370
Newspapers	News Team Ltd		01782 959530
	Spaxton Community Shop & P.O.		671 487
Milk delivery	Milk and More: <a href="http://www.milkandmore.co.uk">www.milkandmore.co.uk</a>		<u>0345 606</u> <u>3606</u>
Mobile library	Wednesday 11:55-12:30, every 4 weeks (Goathurst)		
Police	Call 101 to speak to Sedgemoor South Neighbourhood		
Refuse Collection and Recycling	Please refer to Somerset Waste Partnership for dates. Recycling weekly on Wednesday, black bin every three weeks. Garden waste every two weeks – different day in each village.		