



Village Notes MAY



NEXT COFFEESHOP -10.30-12 noon on May 4th hosted by **Ann Norton and Lis Kempf**. Donations of cakes and savouries always welcome. Come and meet up with friends and neighbours at the warm and convivial Coffeeshop and find out what's happening in your community. Why not vote at the same time?

REV ROSIE VISITS In the Village Hall, 10 am prior to the Coffeeshops. Come and join her for a small informal gathering to pray some simple Celtic prayers and talk about things that matter to you.

CHURCH AGM The Vestry and Annual Parish Committee Meetings of East Down with Arlington Churches held on Wednesday April 12 firstly re-elected Peter Bunch and Oliver Rudwick as respective Churchwardens then appointed Julie Kift and James Stout as deputy Churchwardens with Linda Watt continuing as Secretary, Edward Mather Treasurer, Ann Norton Electoral Role officer and Shirley Lerwill, after being thanked for over 30 year's service as Deanery Synod representative and latterly Secretary, remaining on the PCC as a committee member. 2016 was a successful year for fund raising for both churches but with plans to repair all the rainwater goods at Arlington and a number of major repairs identified in the latest architects report on East Down Church 2017 looks to be a year when expenditure on the 2 ancient buildings is going to be heavy - consequently continued fund raising plus income from special events such as the 5 weddings booked for the joint parishes will continue as a priority in 2017. Also in this connection Parishioners who may only be able to attend occasional services can contribute to the upkeep of the churches by tax efficient covenants to ensure the future of these centres of village life -Treasurer Edward Mather Tel 850598 can supply forms or they can be collected from either church. Consideration also needs to be given to the future of the long time unused Church House in East Down churchyard as the fabric of the building will need long term repair. Many community activities including Pastoral Care by visiting parishioners and the 'Open the Book' presentation of Bible stories in local schools also continued in 2016 as did a number of special Festival Services at Easter, Christmas, Harvest and Remembrance times when congregations swelled. Overall, the churches continue in good heart and are always ready to welcome additional members of the congregation. For any further information contact Churchwarden Peter Bunch tel. 850215 or Team Rector Rev.Rosie Austin tel.01598 711962.

60's, 70's, 80's DISCO Returning by popular demand with early notice to put the date of Saturday October 21 in your Diary as it usually sells out quickly . Only £5 per person for a top quality professional Disco, bring your own drinks and nibbles. More information nearer the time but contact Wendy Down to book your places 01271 85054



THE EASTER EXPERIENCE Lived up to its name as around 70 people from the eight churches of the Shirwell Mission Community together with visitors to Arlington Court, joined in a moving re-enactment of the events now commemorated at Easter which took place more than 2,000 years ago in the Holy Land. The Rev Rosie Austin, who choreographed the activity, led the costumed characters from the three Open The Book teams of the Shirwell Group of Churches who perform well known Bible stories at local primary schools, complete with donkey, as the story progressed in procession through the grounds of Arlington Court, from Jesus arriving by donkey in Jerusalem to the last supper, the crucifixion and joyous resurrection. The narrated story was interspersed with music, hymns accompanied by Ceridwen Rees on the keyboard, creation of Easter Gardens by the children and interactive activities including hand painting on the cross and reflections on how the events of that time influenced and still affect our lives today. Many people were involved in setting up, performing and participating in the event and all were grateful to the National Trust for allowing the use of the lovely gardens, for the cool but dry weather and the warming food available in the tearoom afterwards.



ART GROUP Visiting Tutor John Crush gave an enlarged class a masterly demonstration of 'still life' drawing and painting using pencil, ink and watercolours at the weekly Art Group meeting on April 5. The Art Group meets Wednesday afternoons 2 - 4 pm with room for a few more artists at only £2 per session to cover the room hire with shared tea and biscuits at half time. Contact Margaret Smith 850727 for further information.



APRIL COFFEESHOP Hosted by Joyce Gooding and Myrtle Mather on a lovely cool and sunny spring day attracted a full house in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall who much enjoyed the first class selection of savouries and homemade cakes washed down with freshly brewed coffee and tea and contributed a handsome £75 in donations towards Village Hall maintenance. Much local activity and forthcoming events were discussed, to the extent that one was described the event as a 'Gossipshop' but that is the whole point of this ever popular local forum as an opportunity in the widespread rural area of East Down and Arlington to meet friends and neighbours in a central convivial environment. Appropriately Myrtle Mather was the winner of the monthly 100 club draw with Rolf Bowden winning the 2nd prize. Apart from the June slot still to be filled 2017 now has a full complement of hosts with the next date for the diary May 4 using the Meeting Room again as local elections will occupy the Main Hall, why not vote at the same time!

GO NORTH DEVON Runs a Ring & Ride service for people with mobility problems, disabilities or those who are isolated within the community without transport. The minibus has a tail lift and is wheelchair accessible. It offers a fortnightly door to door service from your home in East Down to Barnstaple Town Centre or Sainsburys/Tescos on a Thursday morning for £6 return. They also run Out & About Trips, a Shopmobility service and a Cancer Care Car to get you to your Cancer related hospital appointments. Call 01271 328866 or go to www.gonorthdevon.co.uk for more details and book your seat.

SHORT MAT BOWLS Thursday afternoons 2 – 4 pm with the option to restart Thursday evenings 7 – 9 pm if enough people express interest. Only £1 a session with shared refreshments at half time. Rod Crossman is the man to contact Tel 850704

VILLAGE HALL DIARY DATES

Cleaning Rota - May - Phil & Alison Green

2 nd	Table Tennis. Peter 850215	19.00-21.00	16 th	Table Tennis Peter	19.00-22.00
3 rd	Art class Margaret Smith 850727	14.00-16.00	17 th	Art class Margaret Smith	14.00-17.00
4 th	DCC Elections	7.00 – 22.00	18 th	Bowls Rod Crossman	14.00-16.00
	Coffee Shop	10.30-12.00	19 th	First Aid evening Rod Crossman	18.00-22.00
5 th	Bowls Rod Crossman 850704	14.00-16.00	22 nd	Bridge small room Pat Bunch	14.00-16.00
8 th	Bridge small room Pat Bunch 850215	14.00-16.00	22 nd	Village Hall Trustees Meeting	19.00-22.00
9 th	Table Tennis. Peter	19.00-22.00	23 rd	Table Tennis Peter	19.00-22.00
10 th	Art class Margaret Smith	14.00-17.00	24 th	Art class Margaret Smith	14.00-17.00
11 th	Bowls Rod Crossman	14.00-16.00	25 th	Bowls Rod Crossman	14.00-16.00
14 th	Private Party Nick Kift	12.00-19.00	29 th	Bridge small room Pat Bunch	14.00-16.00
15 th	Bridge small room Pat Bunch	14.00-16.00	30 th	Table Tennis. Peter	19.00-22.00
	Parish Council Meeting	19.00-22.00	31 st	Art class Margaret Smith	14.00-17.00

If you have, have had or know of an event within the parish of East Down and want to share it with others, please let me know by the 18th of each month so it can be included in the magazine/VillageNotes and/or weekly in the North Devon Journal. I can be contacted by email address at peter.bunch562@binternet.com – ADDRESS – Arlington Old School, Arlington, Barnstaple, EX31 4LW – Tel: 01271 850215. If you know of someone who does not already buy a magazine, or perhaps have recently moved into the parish, why not pass on your notes, when you have read them. That way more people will know about the Village events and join in. **WANT TO USE THE VILLAGE HALL?** The hall is available to hire for parties/events from £6 per hour including all crockery and glasses. If you'd like occasional use of the hall for a hobby or games/exercise speak to one of the Trustees who may be able to agree a lower fee for daytime use. If you are planning an event on behalf of a charity then please have a word with one of the Trustees as the hall hire charge may be waived to allow you to raise even more for your cause. To book ring Ray Thomas on 850464