



### Boxing Day Football Match

Another year having flown by, it was time for the Annual Boxing Day Football Match – East Down v West Down, this year the game was hosted by West Down. As alluded to in the past, this is the fixture which keeps on giving, having taken place in excess of 45 years, but it's been so long no one can remember the actual year it started!



East Down Team

Back Row:

Matt Boni, Ross Middleton, Martyn Kemp, Darren Kemp, Luke Kemp, Patrick McGukin, Mark Fogg, Andy Rigler, Leighton Rigler.

Front Row:

McKinley Middleton, Freddy Norton, Ryan Fogg, George Whitting, Will Camp Lewis Rigler

With a couple of weeks to go the East Down Squad were looking somewhat depleted due to injuries, operations, non-availability and work?? However, with the assistance of Will Camp and Matt Boni (both scouting and recruiting) the squad was admirably bolstered with new blood. Interestingly the East Down Team was quite a family affair, with the team containing a number of family combinations: Martyn Kemp and sons Darren and Luke, Andy Rigler and sons Lewis and Leighton, Mark Fogg and son Ryan, Ross Middleton and son McKinley and Will Camp and stepson George.

There was a good age mix with East Down fielding players 1 x 11ys, 2 x 12yrs with various ages in between up to 2 x 67yrs, a similar age mix was fielded by West Down.

In reasonable dry conditions the game kicked off a little later than advertised at about 11 a.m. It proved to be another great Boxing Day football contest between these longtime adversaries.

With a re-invigorated squad, East Down were looking, bright, keen and raring to go. As a consequence, they contributed to an entertaining and close game with end-to-end action. As the game progressed East Down looked to be edging the first half with some great attacking moves, Freddie Norton had a number of very decent angled shots from the left one of which was goal bound until it was brilliantly tipped onto the

West Down post/crossbar angle by the West Down keeper; Charlie Randall. Young McKinley Middleton (11yrs) was also denied by West Down's keeper who saved his goal bound shot, there were a number of fine shots on goal by East Down and West Down alike. In fact, it is fair to say that West Down's Charlie Randall made a number of very good saves to keep them in the game. Some observers suggested East Down could have been 4-0 up at half time, had it not been for Charlie's saves/agility.

The game continued to entertain and remained well contested but somehow remained 0-0 at half time.

After the restart the game continued as before with no let-up in the pace, commitment and end to end action. Amazingly it remained 0-0 until the last 20 minutes or so.

West Down appeared fortunate to score first, after one of their players, collided with East Down's goalkeeper: Darren Kemp as he came out to try and gather a low cross/shot. Unfortunately, the player's boot caught Darren in the chest, some observers suggested it was perhaps a foul, however after

the collision the ball spilled loose and Alistair Caddick scored For West Down. With no VAR there was no second opinion available and the goal stood. West Down added a second goal with a well taken free kick by Stan White.

As the game entered the last ten minutes or so, there was a late flurry of goals. Harley scored a further goal for West Down, to go 3-0 up. It was still end to end action and East Down were not to be deterred with Lewis Rigler pulling a goal back with an excellent shot beating Randall in the West Down goal to make it 3-1

East Down pushed forward in search of more goals, making them susceptible to the break, West Down broke away and a hard low cross was fortunate to ricochet off Martyn Kemp into the goal to make it 4-1. (Much to Martyn's frustration he stated that was his first own goal in 60yrs plus of playing football!) East Down were not to be deterred and continued to push forward. The excellent Lewis Rigler had a great shot which beat the West Down Keeper, but Rigler was thwarted by an agile West Down defender who made a diving save/handball. Lewis calmly converted a well taken penalty to make it 4-2.

With the final minutes ticking away East Down continued to search for more goals, leaving themselves exposed to the break away. This eventually happened with Frankie scoring the final goal for West Down who finished victors 5-2.

Some would say the score line flatters West Down as it was a very even game. It is fair to say that Charlie Randall in the West Down goal made some excellent saves and he may just have been the difference in this enjoyable and well contested game.

There were many great personal performances, but Lewis Rigler (making his debut for East Down) was voted man of the match. The trophy is interestingly a titivated sheep's skull salvaged from a previous Boxing Day Game at East Down

Both teams adjourned to The Crown Pub, West Down, for some well-earned sustenance; Beer and Curry.

Supporters and Players alike agreed it was another enjoyable Boxing Day game – This legendary fixture lives on.



Lewis Rigler receiving the Man of the Match Trophy with West Down Manager – Deano and East Down Manager - Martyn

Article and photographs written and provided by Martyn Kemp.



### The Newsletter

If you would like to send a photograph or an article or just share a message within the parishes of East Down and Arlington, we would love to hear from you. You can contact us, Mike and Sally at [eastdownnews@yahoo.com](mailto:eastdownnews@yahoo.com)

## East Down with Arlington Church

We had a well-attended Open meeting again at the village hall on 18th January to discuss the future of East Down church mainly although Arlington church needs support as well. There were enough people interested in helping and also in forming a "Friends group" which is very encouraging. There will now be another joint meeting with the PCC on 7th March at the village hall 7.00 p.m. to discuss the ideas we raised for Easter.

### Flower and cleaning rota

3rd-10th February Mrs J Kift and Mrs C Kift

17th -24th February Mrs P Perrin and Mrs A Perrin

2nd-9th March Mrs D Fry

I've just carried on with last year's names for now so hope that's ok with you all. I'm hoping a new list will be done at the next meeting with more names added. It's entirely up to you if you wish to put fresh flowers in the church. When we hold a service again it would be lovely to have a few fresh flowers then if possible.

Thank you for all you do in keeping the church clean and welcoming to visitors in the meantime.

There is a list of services in the porch and online if you wish to go to a service locally, the website is [www.achurchnearyou.org](http://www.achurchnearyou.org).

I've been asked about services at Shirwell church so in February there's a Holy Communion one on 11th and 25th at 9.30 a.m. Also, H C at Challacombe church 11th February 11.15 a.m. There are other services that you can choose from as well.

See you on 7th March if not before

Take care,

**Julie Kift**, Church warden

Come join in the



fun

**At the Station Inn, Blackmoor Gate**

On

**Friday 16th February 2024**

Eyes down 8pm

For the benefit of

East Down and Arlington Churches

**Donations of raffle prizes gratefully received**

## January Coffee Morning



What a wonderful start to the year. A bumper turn-out and our jovial hosts, Lady Lerwill and Busy Lizzie (Liz Smyth) buzzing around making sure the coffee cups didn't stand a chance of running dry. A grand time was had by all.

The next coffee morning will be held on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February** at 10.30 a.m.

If you haven't been before, why not pop along for a chat and bring along a plate of something sweet or savoury to share, all drinks supplied. All we ask is a small donation towards the upkeep of the Village Hall.





## January 100 Club Draw

This month's winner was Michael Mant with Liz and Bryan Smyth scooping second spot. Congratulations all.

As ever we are always on the look-out for new members so if you fancy taking part, please contact Rod Crossman 850704 [rodcrossman@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rodcrossman@hotmail.co.uk) or Ray Thomas 850464 for more information on joining the draw.

## Village Hall Activities

**The Parochial Church Council (PCC) - Julie Kift** 07763 537136

**Art Group** Margaret Smith 850727

**Table Tennis** Gill Parker 850549

**Young farmers** Meg 07947372705

## Village Hall February Diary

Coffee Morning	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30 a.m.
YFC	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.00 p.m.
EDPC	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 p.m.
Table Tennis	Tuesdays	7.00 p.m.
Art Club	Wednesdays	10.00 a.m.

If you would like to hire the Village Hall, **Please contact Ray Thomas for bookings on 850464.**



## Mobile Library Service

It has been confirmed that the next visit will be on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February on what is believed to be its final outing before being withdrawn.

The library will be in the Pyne Arms car park between 10.30 a.m. and 10.55a.m.

We will communicate any further updates.

If you have any queries, please contact Tiverton Library on 01884 244644 or via email: [tiverton.mobile@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:tiverton.mobile@librariesunlimited.org.uk)



## Bugford Road Closure

South West Water are planning to close the road through Bugford to complete utility works near Gratton Cottage between 26th Feb and 5th March. If you require any more information, please contact the helpline on 0344 346 2020 quoting work ref: LM501NC10443964.

## Major Roadworks in Barnstaple

Please be aware of major roadworks in Barnstaple starting on the 22nd January for the "Cedars Crossing Scheme" which will have a duration of 20 weeks.

Significant delays are expected as a result of these works as there are limited alternative routes.

There will be four-way traffic signals, manually controlled. Signals will be taken down when there isn't anyone working as long as it is safe to do so, signals will be removed for the bank holiday weekend.

Starting from 22 January 2024 work is taking place to build a new pedestrian crossing down the hill from the Cedars Roundabout. This will not only help people cross the road here, it will be linked to sensors in the road on the Fremington side of the roundabout. This is hoped to help reduce the queuing at this roundabout for drivers coming from the Fremington direction but have to give way to traffic coming from Roundswell. These works are expected to be completed in June.

The works being undertaken include:

- Widening of the southern arm of the roundabout to accommodate the new staggered signalised crossing;
- Realignment of the existing hedge-banks reusing the existing stone;
- Provision of new street lighting, road markings and signs;
- Installation of traffic sensors in the road;
- Relocation of utility company pipes and cables.

## Arlington Court

### Winter warmer well-being walks

A series of gentle, sociable walks led by our Walking Volunteers on the beautiful estate.

These walks are for anyone who wants to connect with others and the outdoors, while in a safe and supported environment.

This event is free.

#### Meeting point:

On arrival walk down the main path, past the welcome centre towards the café, where you will be met by our walking volunteers.

#### What to bring and wear:

Sensible footwear, warm clothes and waterproofs. Dress for the weather.

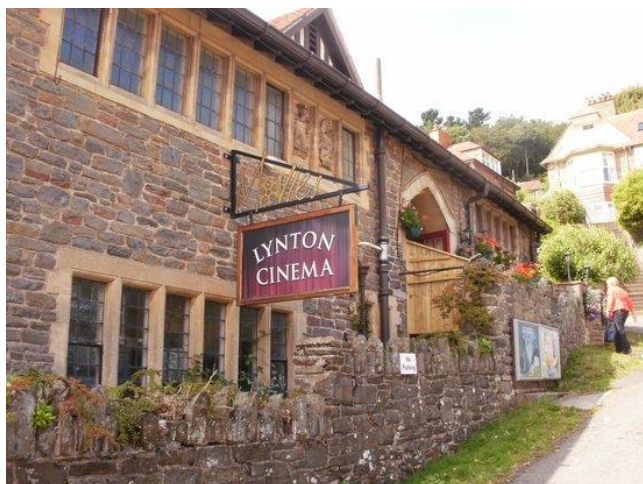
3rd and 6th February 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon

### Arlington Asteroids - Night run with ChannelEvents

17th Feb 6.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.

This 5 or 10 km route on and around Arlington is part of Channel Events Dark Skies Night Running Series. Each participant will receive a wooden medal.

## Lynton Cinema



Next Goal Wins (12A) Thur 1st 8.00 p.m.  
Directed by Academy Award Winner Taika Waititi (Jojo Rabbit, Thor: Ragnarok) and based on a true story, NEXT GOAL WINS follows the American Samoa soccer team, infamous for their brutal 31-0 FIFA loss in 2001.

Priscilla (15) Fri 2nd to Thur 8th 8.00 p.m. daily (matinee 2.30 p.m. Monday)

When teenage Priscilla Beaulieu meets Elvis Presley at a party, the man who is already a meteoric rock-and-roll superstar becomes someone entirely unexpected in private moments: a thrilling crush, an ally in loneliness, a gentle best friend. Through Priscilla's eyes....

The Color Purple Fri 9th to Thur 15th (12A)  
Daily at 8.00 p.m. (matinee Friday 2.30 p.m.)

Warner Bros. Pictures invites you to experience the extraordinary sisterhood of three women who share one unbreakable bond in "The Color Purple." This bold new take on the beloved classic is directed by Blitz Bazawule ("Black Is King," "The Burial of Kojó") and produced by Oprah Winfrey.

The Boys in the Boat (12A) Fri 16th to Thur 22nd 8.00p.m. daily (matinee Mon 2.30p.m.)

The Boys in the Boat is a sports drama based on the #1 New York Times bestselling non-fiction novel written by Daniel James Brown. The film, directed by George Clooney, is about the 1936 University of Washington rowing team that competed for gold at the Summer Olympics in Berlin.

Bob Marley : One Love Fri 23rd to Thur 29th 8.00 p.m. Daily (matinee Mon 2.30 p.m.)

Celebrates the life and music of an icon who inspired generations through his message of love and unity. On the big screen for the first time, discover Bob's powerful story of overcoming adversity and the journey behind his revolutionary music

**Check on line for further details and ring 01598 753397 to make reservations.**

## Local Businesses

### Besshill farm shop

01271 850311. [besshillfarmshop.co.uk](http://besshillfarmshop.co.uk)

Open Monday to Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Visit Besshill Farm Shop today. All of our meat is free range and comes from within the West Country, as we always want to offer the freshest produce we can. For latest news, please see our Facebook page and website. We look forward to seeing you all,

**The Besshill Team.**

## Charlie Dixon Counselling & Psychotherapy

**Approachable, relaxed counsellor providing reassuring support & solutions to your problems.**

**Based in Kentisbury, offering flexible appointments, including evenings.**

**Free introductory appointment.**

**Please get in touch to discuss how I can help you on:**

**07870 281356**

[charliedixoncounselling@hotmail.com](mailto:charliedixoncounselling@hotmail.com)

[www.charliedixoncounselling.co.uk](http://www.charliedixoncounselling.co.uk)

### Pyne Arms 01271 850055

Open Wednesday to Saturday 5.00 p.m. until late (food served 5.30 p.m. to 8.45 p.m.)

Open Sundays 12.00 noon until 4.00 p.m. (food served 12.00 noon to 4.00 p.m.)

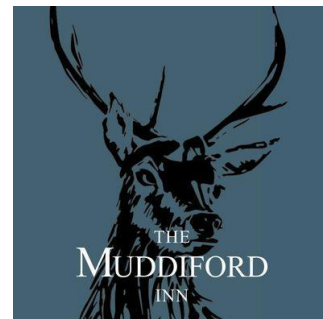
For any more information, check the website, Facebook page or ring 01271 850055.

# Pavilion stores & café

**Opening Times**  
Mon-Sat 8.30am to 5.30pm  
Sun 9am to 1pm  
**Tel: 01598 763569**  
**shopinfo@parracombe.org.uk**  
Parracombe Lane, Parracombe EX31 4QL



Find us on Facebook  
Search 'Parracombe Stores'



Open daily 12 noon til late.

Check out the website or Facebook for contact details, opening times and menus.