

# **Enmore & Goathurst Magazine**



**April 2025**

## EDITORIAL – APRIL 2025

As I have been writing this the weather has warmed up and the sun has been shining. The magnolia is in full bloom, the startling bright yellow of daffodils and primroses is pushing to the front of my awareness. Yesterday, on Cothelstone Hill, we heard “A little bit of bread and no cheeeeeese” and then saw the yellowhammer that called it. The great tit and chiff chaff think it’s Spring. All this is making me feel rather good. Life is not so bad if you think of all that we have in our villages and ignore the world news.

Much progress has been made recently in Enmore, firstly with the introduction of a continuous 30mph speed limit and flashing lights for 20mph when the school day starts and finishes. More possibilities for safety improvements along the main road are being considered and a recent survey has been most useful (see page 18).

Secondly, the Memorial Hall has had some major improvements carried out to the floor and toilets with more to be done shortly including replacing the old plastic chairs with comfortable stacking ones! (see page 4).

All this has been achieved through the hard work of a handful of dedicated villagers and the securing of grants and funding. The more we all get involved with our villages, the more we are able to achieve for everyone’s benefit.

Tony Eggar

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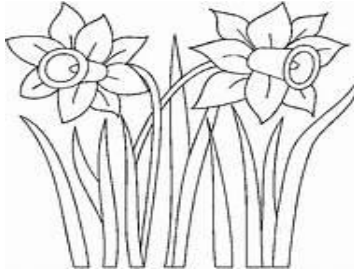
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Opinions in the magazine may not be those of the Editor or of the Editorial Board.

***“Get a Spring in Your Step”***

**At**

***“DRINKS BY THE FIRE”***



***Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025***

***5.30 – 8.30 pm***

***In Goathurst Village Hall***

***Hotdogs for sale and a cash bar so bring the family.***

***Expect a warm welcome for all and plenty of friendly chat.***

## **Pop Up Café**

**10am – 12 noon**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

**Enmore Memorial Hall**

**Sausage/bacon baps, cakes,  
tea, coffee and company!**





**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**

**All proceeds to Goathurst Village Hall  
Registered Charity - No. 304550**

# ENMORE MEMORIAL HALL

## NEWS AND EVENTS

If you are on the village WhatsApp group, you'll have seen the photos of works undertaken at the hall. If not, we're delighted to report that the floor has been restored, sanded and sealed. Removal of the furniture in the hall and sink unit in the toilets revealed areas of rotten floor planks which have also been replaced. The new sink unit is in situ and further work to 'make good' in the toilets will happen over the next few weeks. Our new chairs are also imminent, so our April Pop-Up Café will be a great opportunity to sit more comfortably and see the transformation.



Many of you will be aware that the roof over the back extension at the hall is leaking and needs replacement. We are seeking quotes and will be looking for grant opportunities to cover this cost. Our coffers are very depleted, despite the grant from HPC Community fund, with many calls on our funds since the New Year. We are playing catch up to many years of underinvestment in the maintenance of an old building which is not very robustly constructed.

We have also commissioned and paid for a full, independent assessment of, and report on, the Solar PV System. The final report is awaited and we will report back separately as we know this is of particular interest to villagers, particularly those who kindly contributed to their installation.

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



# ADVENT TO EASTER



## ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH ENMORE

Please join us, together with the  
Enmore Angels Choir,  
as we recount the journey from  
Advent to Easter  
In  
Words and Music

SUNDAY 27TH APRIL – 6.00PM

Wine will be served following the service. We  
look forward to welcoming you.



## LIVING HOPE

Find out more at  
[cote Jo/LivingHope](http://cote Jo/LivingHope)



# SECRET WORLD NEWS

## Prehistoric Plant

I love this time of year when the *Magnolia* trees are in full flower before their leaves have started to grow producing such a beautiful display. It's hard to realise that these trees were here in prehistoric times alongside the dinosaurs before the human species existed. This was before insects, butterflies and moths so for pollination this plant relies on the *messy beetle*



(what a fantastic name!). This beetle feeds on the flowers and gets the pollen on its back which then gets transported to another flower. Amazing how some plants have been in the world around us for millions of years.

We are so lucky that whenever possible the emergency services will help us rescue animals in need. A swan was spotted perilously close to harm on the railway tracks near Brent Knoll. Thanks to the swift actions of a vigilant train driver, the swan was chased to the side of the tracks, avoiding any immediate danger.

Network Rail quickly responded by dispatching Sam, their Movement Operations Manager, to the scene. Sam met with the Secret World Wildlife Rescue (SWWR) response driver Sharon to assist her in safely finding the swan along the tracks. To ensure everyone's safety, trains were instructed to pass the area in "caution mode" at a speed of 5mph.





Swans do tend to get themselves in silly places and do occasionally land on stretches of roads that can sometimes create a mirage that looks like water. You can see a brave policeman with a swan in the car being brought into us for care. The police aren't always as brave as this because we did go to rescue a swan in Weston-super-Mare one evening, to find the task force in attendance with three policemen keeping a swan cornered with crowd shields. I'm afraid we just got hold of it around the neck, folded its wings and tucked it under our arms, it was soon in the boot of the car – much to the amusement of the police holding it at bay!

The fire brigade is another service that helps us from deer that have got caught in metal fences, to birds caught with string or fishing line. A tawny owl caught with kite string that was stretched from one tree to another required a turnstile fire engine from Bristol as there was nowhere to place a ladder to rescue her. Other not so difficult rescues normally just require a long ladder and a brave fireman!



To see a badger rescue on the M5 just before Bristol going north, google M5 badger rescue. The poor badger had been by the fast lane all day until a travelling vet could see it was still alive and contacted us. We very much appreciate all help that our emergency services give us allowing rescues to be safe and successful.

Pauline Kidner



# NEWS IN BRIEF FROM ST EDWARD'S

The Lent Lunches (12.30 pm) continue as follows:

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** - **now at the village hall, contact Lizzie Ridout (07725 278280)**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April** at Andersfield, contact Clare Kippen (671542)

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April** at the village hall, contact Esther Meade (662328) or Mary Baker (663043)

*Please contact the hosts at least two days beforehand.*

An **Easter Garden** is being created in a corner of the churchyard. We very much hope that you will find an opportunity to view it and to reflect on the significance of the Easter story.

**Easter Egg Hunt** for all the 'Kids@ Goathurst' on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm** in the churchyard. Please let Brenda know if attending.

The **Coffee Morning** on Tuesday **29<sup>th</sup> April**, 11am-12noon in the village hall. It's free and all are welcome.

Advance notice that our **spring workday** will be on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May** between 10am-4pm.

**'Opportunity Sundays'**: There was a wonderful response to our first initiative on the third Sunday in March, when over 40 people enjoyed getting together to 'Bag a Bacon Butty' in the village hall as we seek to do church differently on these days.

**'Koinonia'**-another BBQ event is planned for May, please **save your loose change to support our Spend a Penny Project** on this occasion.

Goathurst PCC



**GOATHURST  
VILLAGE HALL**

**Plant Sale!**

**SATURDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2025**

**11AM TO 12.30**

Please save some of your  
seedlings, cuttings, plants  
etc to bring along to our  
plant sale on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025

All proceeds to Goathurst Village hall  
Registered charity no. 304550

# **VE Day Commemoration**



**Thursday, 8th May from 7pm**

**at Enmore Memorial Hall, Enmore**

**Followed by lighting of the Beacon at 9.30pm  
in the Jubilee Meadow**

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The Enmore Village Volunteer Committees would like to invite you to a wine/cheese/sweet treats evening (BYO wine and glasses) at Enmore Memorial Hall to commemorate VE Day and all profits from donations will go towards the Fabric Fund for much needed repair at St. Michael's Church.

The Enmore Angels will lead all gathered in song.

At approximately 9pm we will then congregate at Jubilee Meadow for the lighting of the beacon at 9.30pm in tune with national guidelines.

Optional dress - a token of red, white and blue.

Hope to see you at this joint Village Event to celebrate and stand for PEACE.

Dear Friends,

As we journey towards Easter, we come to Holy Week and there are a number of special services happening.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Palm Sunday at Goathurst**

9:30am – Holy Communion for Palm Sunday

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April – St Andrew’s Stogursey**

6:30pm - Service at Stogursey - Deanery Singers singing the Passion of Christ – Somervell

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April – St Mary’s Strington**

7:00pm - In his Father’s House – reflection on Jesus turning the tables.

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April – St Michael’s Enmore**

7:00pm – Taizé service focussing on the oil being poured over Jesus’ feet

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April – St Mary’s Nether Stowey**

7:30pm Service of Holy Communion for Maundy Thursday in Church with the Watch

**Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April**

10:00am Walk of Witness in Nether Stowey Mount and finishing in the Church. Followed by refreshments and children activities in the Church Centre

10:00am Service for Good Friday at Spaxton

2:00pm Last Hour Service at Kilve

2:00pm Last Hour Service at Goathurst

**Holy Saturday - 19<sup>th</sup> April – Over Stowey**

8:00pm Easter Vigil and Coming of the Light

**Easter Day – 20<sup>th</sup> April**

6:00am Sunrise Service at the top of the Mount

9:30am Holy Communion for Easter Day at Goathurst

11:00am Holy Communion for Easter Day at Enmore


I hope you will be able to come along to some of the services as we move from recollecting Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem on a donkey on Palm Sunday to the Cross on Good Friday and the empty tomb on Easter Day. You will be very welcome.

With best wishes for a joyous Easter.

Eleanor

# ENMORE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## Easter Festival Celebrations

 Saturday, 19 April at 3:00pm – 5:00pm  
Enmore St Michael's and All Angels Church, Enmore

Tea, cake and refreshments available during Saturday afternoon.  
**All are warmly welcome to pop along and join in the fun activities.**

### 'Cake Off' Easter Decorated Cake Competition

Bring your best-decorated cake! Judging will be based on both visual appeal and taste.



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!

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:

-  June - Sponsored Walk around Enmore
-  August - Afternoon Tea at The Hall
-  Harvest Supper

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

Account: St Michael's 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.

## GOATHURST HANDBELL GROUP



We are meeting on the first and third **Saturdays** of the month between 2-3pm in the church. We are currently quite a small group and need a minimum of four people so there is room for more people to come and give it a try. We play tunes using a number system so you don't need to be able to read music. There is a small charge of £1.00 per session.

Please contact **Clare on 671542** if interested so we have an idea of how many might come.

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## BOOK BORROWING

**Saturday 5th April 11-12, at Enmore Church**



Spring is just the time to get out and explore our beautiful Country. Take a journey through Britain's Landscapes via books. Wide selection available, plus tea and coffee.

<b>Local Church Services</b>		
<b>April 2025</b>	<b>St Michael and All Angels, Enmore</b>	<b>St Edward, King and Martyr, Goathurst</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday <b>6<sup>th</sup> April</b>  <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>	11.00am Holy Communion <i>Followed by Annual Church Parish Meeting</i>	9.30am Family Worship <i>Followed by Annual Church Parish Meeting</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday <b>13<sup>th</sup> April</b>  <b>Palm Sunday</b>	<i>No morning service at Enmore</i>  Holy Baptism at 2pm	9.30am Holy Communion for Palm Sunday
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday <b>20<sup>th</sup> April</b>  <b>Easter Day</b>	11:00am Holy Communion for Easter Day	9:30am Holy Communion for Easter Day
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday <b>27<sup>th</sup> April</b>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent</b>	11:00am Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Nether Stowey Church	

\*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)	6:30pm Evensong	6:30pm Evensong <i>Preceded by Annual Church Parish Meeting at 5pm</i>
6.30pm Evensong (BCP)	11.00am Morning Worship for Palm Sunday	9:30am Holy Communion for Palm Sunday	11:00am Morning Worship for Palm Sunday
11:00am Holy Communion For Easter Day (BCP)	11.00am Holy Communion For Easter Day in Church	9.30am Holy Communion For Easter Day	9:30am Holy Communion For Easter Day
11:00am Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Nether Stowey Church			

the Benefice News, Church Noticeboards and Website below  
<https://quantockvillagesbenefice.org.uk>

# ENMORE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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

Your Parish Council met on 4<sup>th</sup> March and the draft minutes of this meeting are now on the website (a link is on the Meetings page). Since then we have heard that our application for a free defibrillator for Enmore (which we hoped might be placed in or near the church porch) has been unsuccessful. We understand that this is because Enmore already has defibrillators at the Golf Club, at Smocombe Farm and at Cobbs Cross, and that the British Heart Foundation does not consider another one a sufficiently high priority. Also Highways have been asked to provide additional SLOW markings along Enmore Road to support signage in four danger spots.

On 15<sup>th</sup> March Councillors David Comley and Fiona Jackson attended a “Parish Summit” organised by our MP, Sir Ashley Fox, for rural parishes in his constituency. Subjects discussed included flooding/drainage and planning, including how the Government directive on building more new homes will affect planning decisions. David and Fiona attended on behalf of the Parish Council and have reported back to Councillors, who will discuss these topics further at a future meeting. Another benefit from this meeting was information about various useful contacts. However, it appears that lack of funds is likely to limit maintenance of infrastructure - it is up to us all to take some initiative.

There is no planned Parish Council meeting in April, but May will be a busy month, with a routine meeting on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May (starting at 7.30 pm) preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.15 pm (to appoint the Chairman). In addition, the Parish Assembly will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> May, starting at 7.30 pm. All these meetings will be held in Enmore Memorial Hall.

The current financial year for Local Government, including parish councils, ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March. Final accounts for the year will be available in early April and will be posted on the Finance page of the website. And the various Annual Return forms will be prepared ready for Council to approve them (we hope!) at their 6<sup>th</sup> May meeting.

## LADIES LUNCH



**MONDAY, 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 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



## MEN'S BREAKFAST AT THE TYNTE ARMS

**Saturday April 19th**

Breakfast Sunday - Easter Chocolates?

So come on Saturday. Meet at 9 Finish by 10.30am for a  
**proper** breakfast for £7.50



Planning to come? **Contact** Colin  
tel: 661 217 text: 07436285347 or  
email:c.chalmers@tiscali.co.uk

**by Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> before noon**

# SAFER ENMORE ROAD INITIATIVE

## feedback from a village survey

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At the Enmore Memorial Hall pop up cafe in March, we asked attendees to complete a short survey to inform our Safer Enmore Road initiative. This is a collaborative effort to find ways to ensure Enmore Road is safer for non-motorised users such as those walking, cycling, riding, and running. We all believe this has become more of a concern in recent years as levels of traffic seem to have increased.

We had 21 surveys completed so a huge thanks to everyone who agreed to participate. 20 surveys represented the views of people living in Enmore with 1 being a visitor. Most respondents stated that they walked along roads in the village, with 3 also cycling and 5 horse riding.

Everyone was asked to score the extent to which they feel safe when using the road. 33% said they feel safe most of the time but 52% felt unsafe with 15% not really thinking about it. This has given us the confidence there is a need for this initiative.

81% of respondents said they considered the time of day before they used the road, with the main consideration being to avoid the school run or rush hour. We were pleased to learn that 57% would most likely use hi-viz, although 19% said only sometimes and 24% never. Just one of the respondents used a recording device and one had reported an incident to the police, and another had reported to the British Horse Society.

In addition to the statistics above, there were some helpful comments and ideas for making Enmore Road safer, which were mainly around reducing the speed of cars and installing more road markings to slow traffic.

We are already in discussion with the Parish Council, and you will notice a mirror has been installed on the Tynte Pub opposite Frog Lane, thanks to kind permission from Pete. This is a trial and will be reviewed before any more are introduced. The horse-riding warning signs are also in progress and hopefully more improvements to follow – watch this space!

If you didn't have the opportunity to participate in this survey and would like to input your views, please email Tina on [steadyedi24@gmail.com](mailto:steadyedi24@gmail.com)

**Many thanks to everyone who is helping to shape this initiative.**

*Petra, Lisa, Maggie, Hannah and Tina.*

# LOCAL AND REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT



*This month's old Somerset weather lore says that "If it rains on Easter Sunday (20<sup>th</sup> April) it will rain on every Sunday till Whitsuntide and "If the first three days of April be foggy, there will be a flood in June". Also "A cow with its tail to the west, makes weather the best; A cow with its tail to the east, makes weather the least". Bad weather in April should please the farmers with "A cold April the barn will fill" and "If it thunders on All Fools' Day, It brings good crops of corn and hay". Birds also feature in folklore with "When there are many more swifts than swallows in the Spring, expect a hot and dry Summer" and gardening advice "When you hear the Cuckoo shout It's time to plant the tatties out". Check the wind direction first, but "if you hear the cuckoo sing on St Tiburtius day (14<sup>th</sup> April), for good luck, turn over all your money, spit and do not look at the ground". Finally good news "March winds and April showers, Bring forth May flowers"*

**February** started unsettled with wintry showers and this was followed by a period of heavy rain with some local flooding, but mild temperatures. The month ended with widespread fog and frost. More than 7 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 64 mm, Regional 98.6 mm = +3% of normal

**Minimum Temperatures:** Local 2°, Regional 3° = +1.7°

**Maximum Temperatures:** Local 12°, Regional 8.1° = +1.2°

What is the weather forecast for **April**? Long range forecasts say unsettled with extended periods of rainy and windy weather. Some brighter and colder periods. Can we add any more from the weather lore forecast? No thunder in February so no frost in April, but watch out for an east wind on Lady-Day (March 25th) which will keep in till the end of May. Jet Stream forecast at the start of February shows it across the UK and low pressure with winds from the south east. Probably mild, and unsettled with periods of rain.

Mike Head

# WILDING AT GOATHURST

## Bird nesting boxes, owls and seats!

In liaison with the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme, two bird nesting boxes have been sited in churchyard trees. They were made by The Men's Shed, Bridgwater, and painted by Class 5 pupils at Enmore school during their lunch breaks.



Following the felling of the storm damaged fir tree, Gary Orange (wood carver) was commissioned to create a back-to-back seat from the unsightly stump. It features the Christian message of 'Love, Hope, Joy and Peace' and was grant aided by the Parish Council.



Gary used some of the wood from the tree to carve ten owls which he kindly donated to be sold for church funds. He has since sold 4 more and will be carving more animals from the wood which will be on sale at events later in the year.



Partnership and teamwork are the key themes linking these projects and Goathurst PCC is hugely grateful to all who gave of their time and skills to enhance our environment.



## Spaxton Community Stores April/May 2025

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations got off to a great start on 7 Feb when many of you took advantage of our “20% off everything” on the day. The birthday cake and complimentary chocolates seemed to go down well too! The news also made it to the Mercury, BBC local radio and Points West! There will continue to be promotions of different suppliers throughout the year. Look out for special offers on Rose Farm preserves in April and our very popular “Dough” bread in May. For those of you who may not frequent the shop on Wednesday, that is the day that Dough, the artisan sourdough bakery in Taunton, supply us with a variety of their sourdough loaves, which are proving to be very popular.

**Spaxton Calendar 2026.** Yes, we do need to think about it already! The theme for 2026 calendar will be animals - local and preferably either farm or wild. Any keen photographers should start photographing now! We shall ask for submissions later in the year.

Spring is here, whatever the weather may be doing, and so, in comes the compost! **Peat free compost** will be on sale by the beginning of April.

**Post Office News.** The PO offers an invaluable service to the whole community and is run by volunteers, who are provided with excellent training and continued support from our manager Karen Dennett. **We are in need of 1 or 2 more volunteers** who would be prepared to work one session (4 hours) a week or fortnight to continue providing this service to the village and surrounding areas. It is an excellent way for newcomers to the village –or newly retirees –to make new friends and to keep abreast of what’s going on in the village and of course to keep the brain cells ticking over! If you are interested, please contact the shop manager, Karen Dennett in the village shop.

The annual General Meeting of the Spaxton Community Stores will be held on Friday 25 April at 7pm. We encourage all local shareholders to attend. It is your opportunity to hold us to account, ask whatever questions you want and make any suggestions for change or improvement. This year, as it is the tenth anniversary of the shop’s opening, we shall be hosting a drinks reception at 6.30pm for shareholders prior to the short business meeting. If there is anyone in the village who is not a shareholder but would like to have a share in the shop, ask for a form in the village shop or download one from the shop website, fill it in and bring it to the shop.



# ENMORE & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

## Next Meeting

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

Enmore Memorial Hall

7.30pm

### **NO DIG with Allan Cavill**

Look on Instagram @ Charles Dowding Nov' 24,  
who describes Allan 'as one of my heroes'

It was a spectacular showing of **Crocus at Forde Abbey** naturalised into the parkland and the weather was so sunny & warm, such a change from the previous Shrove Tuesday when Gardening Club visited Snowdrop Valley in the rain & mud! A lot of changes to the nursery, café & shop have taken place over the winter. Forde Abbey is well worth a visit.



Not a trip in April, but a chance to



**Make a Hedgehog House**  
with George Bethell  
from Secret World.

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm,**  
**Enmore Hall, all materials provided.**  
Cost £25.

You are welcome to join us but  
booking essential.

Contact [jeniferclarke60@gmail.com](mailto:jeniferclarke60@gmail.com)

or [jan.johnston2@btinternet.com](mailto:jan.johnston2@btinternet.com) for more information.

## Extracts from the Diary of Gordon Halswell (1874 – 1935)

### To Somerset and Halswell House

Thursday July 16<sup>th</sup> 1896

I went to Taunton Horse Show with the Kemeys-Tyntes and I doubt whether I shall ever have a similar experience but, much as I love old customs and tradition felt that our mode of progress was an anachronism. I only wish it were not so and that I lived in the days when such experiences were a matter of course. The Kemeys-Tyntes drove in a delightful “turn out” with postillions in powdered wigs, hunting caps and old postillion liveries of blue and silver. The Tyntes gave a lunch at the Castle. It is very noticeable that men, who are indifferent riders and whose horses refuse on that account, always beat them.

On Sunday Charlie and I had great fun hunting rabbits with his beagle: he on a horse and myself on a donkey. In Millwood are a series of lakes connected by waterfalls. At the head of one is a large statue of Neptune. Neptune had to be “done up” some time ago and the village painter sent in his bill “To Repair Nepkin 9/-”.

I slept in the Chintz room. It has a very beautiful ceiling and an extremely good parquet floor. Over the door is a portrait of Charles the First and over the mantelpiece a fine portrait of a Lady Tynte. These two seem very interested in your movements. Their eyes follow you wherever you go. Charles the First looking with disdain at the wretched 19th century mortal as he takes off his sombre uninteresting dress suit, no doubt wondering how mankind has ever come to dress in such an extraordinary manner. With Lady Tynte it is most embarrassing. She watches intently everything you do. I almost felt inclined to pull the curtains of the great four post bedstead and get into my pyjamas behind them. As I got into bed I thought what a good setting it would be for a ghost. In the small hours of the morning I was awakened by what seemed to me, when half awake, an extraordinary noise. It sounded like a troop of phantom Cavalry charging across the

park and halting under the very windows of the house. I jumped out of bed and looked out and saw a herd of deer just beyond the sunk fence.

Somerset Buller made rather a smart retort to Charlie Kemeys-Tynte the other day. Buller who had just become engaged to Rosamund Lindsay, was sitting with her on the terrace. Charlie went round several times and interrupted their confidences. The last time he went he said, "Don't you find the sun rather trying?" "Yes," answered Buller, "the son of the house."

### **August 12<sup>th</sup> 1896**

I lunched with the Kemeys-Tyntes and then drove over with "Babe" Tynte and Miss Lloyd to a garden party at the Bouveries at Brymore and then dined and slept at Halswell. We had a most amusing evening. Eustace Kemeys-Tynte, Charlies younger brother was staying there too. He is a most extraordinary boy and cares nothing for anyone. Mr. Brice the parson at Goathurst was asked to dine. He is the butt of all and is certainly a most foolish old man. Before dinner I was taken up to him and introduced as Lord Cadogan, the son of the Duke of Sutherland, the introduction being by Dadums, as Eustace is called. "Proud to meet you, my Lord," said poor old Brice. He was different to one parson who was at Goathurst in the days of "the bad Colonel Tynte." The latter would not allow the service in the church to commence before he had arrived. He was late one Sunday and the parson waited and then commenced the service with 'when the wicked man turneth away,' then he paused and added 'I see that he has not come yet.'

It is told of this Kemeys-Tynte, that being heavily in debt, bailiffs came to serve him with writs, but some of the tenants patrolled the park entrances and looked so dangerous that the bailiffs returned to London. However old Brice ate sugar with his savoury plentifully administered by Dadums who assured him everyone took it. Afterwards in the billiard room, the whisky and soda of a neighbour

who shall be nameless was doctored by Dadums. This gentleman, who prides himself on his dignity, was so funny in his attempts to walk straight and speak intelligently that we almost hurt ourselves in an endeavour to restrain our laughter. Finally we saw him off, muttering against the darkness of the night, his lantern held close to the ground, back foremost so that the light shone out behind.

It reminds me of a story of another man, who having dined too well, insisted on walking home. The following morning he received a note from his host. "If you will be good enough to send me back my birdcage, I will return you your lantern."

The Kemeys-Tyntes have a large property in Wales, named Cefn Mably, originally the home of the Kemeys family. The Kemeys heiress married a Tynte and this property has been in the Kemeys family for six hundred years. In the Civil War there was fighting round the house and the Kemeys buried the dead Roundheads under the stone flags at the entrance. Cefn is supposed to be haunted and many people swear to having seen or heard alleged ghosts. The Cefn Mably property is about 30,000 acres but the shooting is hopeless on account of the proximity of the mines, it being almost impossible to cope with the poaching.

The next day we played cricket against Bridgwater. Sammy Woods, the captain of the Somerset eleven playing for us and staying the night. At midday we had the venison lunch, to which the tenants come annually. One curious old custom obtained at Halswell. The Kemeys-Tyntes always give the coffins to the villagers when any of them die. We play cricket every week at Halswell, and it is great fun. Halswell Tynte always calls me the Kinsman. He is a great gourmet and the cuisine is wonderful. One day at about two hours' notice he asked the whole eleven to come into dinner, and a meal was served which would have been good at the best restaurant in London.

*More from the Diary in the May and June issues.*

## WILDLIFE MATTERS

Almost exactly a year ago we were intrigued to see a Mistle Thrush in our garden, not just once, but on several occasions. Shortly after it was joined by another, clearly, they were a pair, the male often sitting in a high tree on the boundary just observing. We then saw the female collecting sticks from the ground just outside our back window. We were further amazed on 16<sup>th</sup> March to find that she had built a nest about 2m high between a timber pergola and our dining room wall about 1.5m from our back door!



After a week or so, when she was not on the nest, I sneaked a photo. One beautiful egg. After a few days we had a total of four eggs. By 11<sup>th</sup> April, three had hatched. One egg appeared to have been



pushed out of the nest, just over the edge. The hatchlings, like most baby birds, are not the most attractive of creatures! Meanwhile Dad was keeping



a beady eye on the whole garden. We saw him actually see off a sparrowhawk! Eventually they all fledged.



We aren't getting too excited, but we have seen two Mistle Thrushes around the garden again a few days ago. They are now quite rare and on the red list, also are usually shy. How lucky we are!

Tony and Jane Eggar

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event and Venue</b>	<b>page</b>
2 April	Wed	12.30	Lent lunch. Goathurst Village Hall	8
5 April	Sat	11 - 12	Book borrowing. Enmore Church	13
5 April	Sat	2 - 3	Handbell Group. Goathurst Church	13
8 April	Tues	12.30	Lent lunch. Andersfield	8
9 April	Wed	2.00	Make hedgehog house. Enmore MH	22
11 April	Fri	5.30-8.30	Drinks by the fire. Goathurst VH	2
12 April	Sat	10 - 12	Pop up café. Enmore Memorial Hall	2
13 April	Sun	9.30	Palm Sunday. Goathurst Church	11
14 April	Mon	6.30pm	Service at St Andrew's Stogursey	11
14 April	Mon	12.30	Ladies lunch. Nether Stowey	17
15 April	Tues	12.30	Lent lunch. Goathurst Village Hall	11
15 April	Tues	7pm	Service at St Mary's Stringston	11
16 April	Wed	7pm	Taizé Service at Enmore Church	11
17 April	Thurs	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday. Nether Stowey	11
18 April	Fri	10 – 2	Good Friday. Walk and services at N Stowey, Spaxton, Kilve, Goathurst	11
19 April	Sat	9.00	Men's Breakfast. Tynte Arms	17
19 April	Sat	2 - 3	Handbell Group. Goathurst Church	13
19 April	Sat	3 – 5	Easter celebrations. Enmore Church	12
19 April	Sat	8pm	Easter vigil. Over Stowey Church	11
20 April	Sun	6am	Easter Day. Sunrise at the Mount	11
20 April	Sun	9.30	Easter Day. Service at Goathurst	11
20 April	Sun	11.00	Easter Day. Service at Enmore	11
26 April	Sat	3.00	Egg Hunt. Goathurst churchyard	8
26 April	Sat	7pm	Quiz Night. Goathurst Village Hall	3
27 April	Sun	6pm	Advent to Easter. Enmore Church	5
29 April	Tues	11-12	Coffee Morning. Goathurst VH	8
29 April	Tues	7.30	Gardening Club. No Dig. Enmore MH	22
8 May	Thurs	7pm	VE Day Celebrations. Enmore MH	10
31 May	Sat	11-12.30	Plant Sale. Goathurst Village Hall	9

## Village Information as from 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.		