



# The MORCHARD MESSENGER

The Independent Village Newsletter

[www.morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk/latest-morchard-messenger](http://www.morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk/latest-morchard-messenger)

No.370 APRIL 2026

SPONSORED THIS MONTH BY THE MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

## MORCHARD BISHOP MEMORIAL HALL 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year (1931-2026)

Hello All,

Well, where did that 12 months go? I'm pleased to be writing this front page for the April Messenger 2026.

We have had a somewhat busy year. Thanks to a grant from the National Lottery we have been able to have solar panels and batteries fitted to support our electricity.

Due to high costs we now have a rota within our committee for the general weekly cleaning of the Hall. We have also completed repairs and updating to the heating system, the list goes on..... Our next project is to repair one of the flat roofs; hopefully with a grant, but who knows?!? So please come and support our events.



We have a Quiz arranged for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April starting at 7.30pm. Teams of 4 @ £6per person to include soup and a pudding auction! We are awarding a trophy for the winning 'Brains of Morchard' team. So please book your team with myself, Anton, on 07970 227753 or antonheal@yahoo.co.uk ,Jo Eames on 07855 790192 or jo\_eames@hotmail.com or Debbie Ticehurst 07875 359563, dticehurst@icloud.com

We also have planned events through the course of the year, so look for them advertised in the Messenger and on the notice boards around the village.

At this point I'd like to welcome the new residents and families to the village. We run a regular Coffee Morning on Saturdays from 10am to 11.30am, plus the Produce Market on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month where locally sourced meat, eggs, plants, veg, jams, chutneys, cards and juices abound! On these mornings we serve Bacon Baps and Toast with the Coffee Morning. On the 1st Wednesday of each month we have a Book Swap, usually with tea/coffee and cake. We have a fantastic selection of books (plus children's) and jigsaws. There is no charge for helping yourself to either. If you are feeling active we have a growing number of players for our Pickleball sessions; see the Messenger (page 26) for details. If you have never been to the Hall before, do come along and meet some welcoming people there.

So I think I have taken enough of your time reading this from me, but thank you for doing so. I hope to see you at the Hall soon. Cheers for now. **Anton**

Visit your local website [www.morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk/homepage](http://www.morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk/homepage)

## APRIL 2026 DIARY

If you'd like details of your event or meeting to appear in the May 2026 Diary, please let Sue Eaglen know by April 12 at [sue\\_eaglen@fastmail.co.uk](mailto:sue_eaglen@fastmail.co.uk) or message Sue on 07854745791. You may also like to use the section below to publicise a future event.

**St. Mary's** All welcome at our services

Good Friday 3rd. 10am Walk of witness St Mary's to Emmanuel

Easter Sunday 5th. **11.00am** Easter Eucharist

Sunday 12th. 10.30am Holy communion

Sunday 19th. 10.30am Family service & Joint Bible study at Emmanuel 6.30pm

Sunday 26th. 10.30am Morning worship

**Emmanuel** All welcome at our services.

Morning services start at 11, coffee from 10.30. Visit [www.emmanuel-morchard-bishop.org](http://www.emmanuel-morchard-bishop.org) for detailed information about services, Sunday School for primary age children, youth clubs and other events. Third Sunday joint Bible study with St. Mary's at Emmanuel. The Prime Club meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at 19.00. Edge Club meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday at 19.30. Coffee mornings Tuesdays 10.00 – 11.30.

**Easter at Emmanuel**, Sunday, April 5, from 10.30 Easter Eggs & Refreshments.

BOOK SWAP: Wed, April 1, 15.00 – 16.30

PARISH WALK: Usually 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of the month, 11 start at the Memorial Hall

### FUTURE EVENTS:

Sat, May 2, 10 – 11.30 Annual Plant Swap, Memorial Hall

Sun, May 10, 9.30 – 11.00, Emmanuel's Breakfast Church

May 23, 12 midday to 12 midnight, Morfest Music Festival

May 25, 19.00, MBPFA planning meeting for Vintage Rally & Fun Day

May 29, Two Moors Way, 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary walk & celebration

June 6, Make, Bake, Grow & Woof!

Wed	1 & 8, 15, 22, 29	10.30 – 11.15	Chair Pilates	Memorial Hall
	1	14.00 – 15.00	Intro Pickleball	Memorial Hall
		15.00 – 16.30	Book Swap	Memorial Hall
	1, 8, 22, 29	19.30 – 21.30	Pickleball	Memorial Hall
	1 & 8, 15, 22, 29	19.30	Ladies' Darts	MBSSC
Thurs	2	10.00 – 15.00	Can't sew won't sew	Emmanuel
		12.00 – 15.00	Singaround incl. lunch	London Inn
	2	16.00 – 16.30	Junior ballet	Memorial Hall
	2 & 9, 16, 23, 30	19.30	Men's Darts	MBSSC

Sponsored This Month by the Memorial Hall Committee

Fri	3	17.00 – 19.30 19.30	Max & Mike's Street Food Annual Darts Cup	War Memorial MBSSC
Sat	4 4 & 11, 18, 25	10.00 – 11.30 19.30	Coffee Morning Open for football home games	Memorial Hall MBSSC
Easter Sunday	5	See above for church & chapel information		St. Mary's Emmanuel
Tues	7 & 14, 21, 28	10.00 – 11.30	Coffee morning	Emmanuel
Wed	8	14.00	WI	Memorial Hall
Fri	10 & 17, 24 10	10.00 – 11.00 19.00	Pickleball Prime Club	Memorial Hall Emmanuel
Sat	11	9.30 – 11.30	Coffee Morning Produce Market & Table Top	Memorial Hall
Mon	13 & 20, 27 13	9.00 – 10.00 19.30 – 21.30	Mat Pilates mixed ability Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall Memorial Hall
Wed	22 & 29	17.30 – 19.00	Brownies	Memorial Hall
Fri	17	19.00 19.00 for 19.30	Edge Club <b>QUIZ night</b>	Emmanuel Memorial Hall
Sat	18	10.00 – 11.30 11.00	Coffee Morning , Parish Walk	Memorial Hall Outside Memorial Hall
Sun	19	17.00 – 19.00	Alpha course start	Emmanuel
Tues	21, 28	17.15	Dance, intermediate modern	Memorial Hall
Mon	27	19.00	MBPFA Planning Meeting for Vintage Rally & Fun Day	MBPFA Clubhouse
Wed	29	19.30	MBSSC AGM	MBSSC

## NOTICEBOARD

### Copy for Publication in THE MORCHARD MESSENGER

The deadline for articles, adverts and notices for the next issue is:

**12<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

The Editors retain the right to reject, edit, alter or correct articles which are sent in for publication.

The opinions expressed in articles and letters are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors. We do not publish anonymous letters.

Copy should be sent **by email** to [morchardmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:morchardmessenger@gmail.com)

Hard copy may also be delivered to Colin Crewdson at the address below.

#### Postal Service.

This newsletter can be posted to you monthly at a cost of £12 per annum.

Please contact :

Colin Crewdson  
Wayside Cottage  
Frost  
Morchard Bishop EX17 6SF  
Phone: 07926 625120

#### ADVERTS

Open the door to new business by advertising in the Morchard Messenger

Adverts up to ½ page are £5 a month

Adverts up to ¼ page are £7 a month

Adverts up to 1/8 page are £10 a month

(Larger sizes negotiable)

Please email your copy or draft to the editor (address above)

### Morchard Bishop Sports & Social Club

Bar open to all members  
Annual membership £2 per adult, due  
1<sup>st</sup> August 26

#### APRIL OPENING TIMES

**Mondays** –

**Tuesdays** – all dates open for pool & Bridge 7.30m

**Wednesdays** – All dates may be open for ladies' darts practice.

**Thursdays** – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> men's darts.

**Fridays** – Good Friday Darts KO cup. All welcome.

**Saturdays** – open 7.30pm plus home games for football.

This is a rough guide which may be subject to change please contact [morchardsportsandsocialclub@gmail.com](mailto:morchardsportsandsocialclub@gmail.com) for more information if needed or go to our Facebook page for updates.

#### SPORTS CLUB AGM 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026 AT 7.30 PM

Please be advised that the Sports Club AGM as above will be open to all. If you wish to express a view of how the club is run or wish to know how it spends its money etc, this is your opportunity to make your views known. If you have any questions we will do our best to answer them.

### Church Street Stores

#### Opening Hours:

Sunday & Monday: 8.30am-12noon

Tuesday- Friday: 8.30am-5pm

Saturday: 8.30a- 2pm

**01363 877826**

[www.facebook.com/churchstreetstores](https://www.facebook.com/churchstreetstores)

**Matthew & Clare**

### Bus Service 369 (Dartline)

#### Outward

Morchard Bishop (Greenaway):  
07.12, 09.40, 11.50, 13.55, 16.07  
*Saturday variation 07.25*

Crediton High St: 07.46, (07.54), 10.14,  
12.21, 14.24, 16.39

Crediton Train station /Redlands:  
07.51, (08.00), 10.19, 12.26, 14.28,  
16.43

Exeter City Centre (Sidwell St):  
08.17, (08.23), 10.39, 12.45, 14.48,  
17.05

RD&E Hospital 08.26, 17.14  
*Saturdays 0828, 1714*

#### Return

Exeter RD&E: 17.15/ 17.15

City Centre (Sidwell St Stop 40):  
08.40, 10.50, 12.55, 15.00, 17.30

Crediton Train station/Redlands:  
09.04, 11.13, 13.19, 15.25, 17.57,  
(17.55)

Morchard Bishop (Greenaway):  
09.38, 11.48, 13.53, 16.05, 18.34  
*Saturdays 18.28*

Witheridge: 18.59 (*not Saturdays*)

### Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall

Available for birthday and celebration parties, family meetings/get togethers/wakes/wedding receptions.

**Bookings** - Contact **Debbie Ticehurst**  
[dticehurst@icloud.com](mailto:dticehurst@icloud.com)  
07875359563

**General** - Contact **Anton Heal**  
[antonheal@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:antonheal@yahoo.co.uk)  
07970 227753

**Produce / Table Top booking** –  
contact **Robert Moore**  
07455 896589  
[robert@lydcottnursery.co.uk](mailto:robert@lydcottnursery.co.uk)

**LETTERS – MESSAGES – ANNOUNCEMENTS**

MORCHARD BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL  
AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS PRESENT

# MORFEST

THE MORCHARD BISHOP FESTIVAL

## Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2026

AT  
THE LONDON INN FIELDS  
(THE PUB WILL BE CLOSED ON THE DAY - EVERYTHING WILL BE OUTSIDE!)

### 12pm to Late

- LIVE MUSIC FROM LOCAL BANDS •
- COMEDY • LOCAL PERFORMERS •
- BBQ & OTHER FOOD  
OPTIONS AVAILABLE •
- BAR • STALLS • BOUNCY CASTLE •

Come along for a family  
day out & enjoy the party

Please bring cash to spend on the day

Tickets available from  
The London Inn,  
Church Street Stores  
& Parish Councillors

Advanced Tickets  
Adults: £25.00  
Children: £10.00

On the day  
Adults: £30.00  
Children: £10.00

### Bob Pope

Katie Pope and family would like to thank everyone for their kind gifts of flowers, cards and letters of condolence following the passing away of Bob Pope on the 19th February, it was very much appreciated.

Katie

### MEMORIAL HALL QUIZ!



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April '26

7pm for a 7.30pm start

Bring your own drinks.

Hot food included in the  
ticket.

*A pudding auction will be held  
in the interval.*

Teams of 4 max. £6 per person

Entries to

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

Or

[dticehurst@icloud.com](mailto:dticehurst@icloud.com)

**LETTERS – MESSAGES - ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sustainable Morchard**

Sustainable Morchard would like to thank all those that made the Seed Share such a success, everybody who brought seeds, those that made donations for the seeds that they took, the people who made cakes and biscuits, and donated prizes for the raffle, and especially the helpers that put the event together.

The money raised will go towards a free showing of the film Wilding on April 14<sup>th</sup> in the Memorial Hall. Also look out for our annual Plant Swap on May the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Thank you again from the team at Sustainable Morchard.**

**CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE:**

**The Morchard Messenger will be put to bed at the printers early this month as the editorial team needs a holiday!**

**Please let the editor have all copy, letters and adverts by the 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL.**

**Thank you!  
Colin Crewdson.**

**FOR SALE**

6 Black Rattan Bistro Stackable Patio Chairs

£75 - 00

Morchard Bishop.

**07591485443**

**Morchard Bishop  
Sports & Social Club**

**AGM**

**Wednesday 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026 AT 7.30 PM**

**Everybody welcome!**

**FREE TO GOOD HOME**

1. Heavy-duty tile cutter
2. Multi-function mitre saw
3. Heavy-duty percussion drill
4. Small jigsaw
5. Lumix camera
6. Cannon video camera

Donation, if you like, to St Mary's.

**01363 877733**

**Hele Lane Methodist Chapel, Black Dog**

**Fourth Friday Feast community lunch**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 12.30pm**

**All welcome for a delicious 2-course meal, & friendly social.**

**No charge but donations welcome.**

**Must pre-book by phoning Mary on 07814 590220**

A film night at the Memorial Hall:

**WILDING**

A film about a couple who decide to stop conventional farming and start a project to rewild their large farm. Based on Isabella Tree's book **Wilding**, and real life events at Knepp in West Sussex.

Plus a short film about a wilding project near Witheridge where white storks have been reintroduced to the wild.

Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall  
Tuesday 14th April  
Doors open at 7:00pm for refreshments,  
the film starts at 7:30pm

The films are being shown for free, though we will ask for donations for refreshments, should you fancy a cup of tea and piece of cake.

**SUSTAINABLE MORCHARD**

## EVENTS & NOTICES

Morichard Bishop Playing Field Association

# Annual General Meeting

*You're invited!*

Monday 20th April

**AGM Deferred  
New date TBC**

at the **Playing Field Clubhouse**

top of Wood Lane, Morichard Bishop, EX17 6PE

Annual accounts available by request for advance scrutiny,  
for a copy or any other queries: email [mbplayingfield@gmail.com](mailto:mbplayingfield@gmail.com)

 : Morichard Bishop Playing Fields Association

Or speak to Bob and Toni Robinson, Bay House, Chulmleigh Road, tel 877523

Please join us on our



### GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS

*Hear the story of Easter read as we  
walk through the village, stopping at  
different locations.*

All meet at St.Mary's

**10.00am**

Finishing at Emmanuel for  
Coffee and Hot Cross Buns



### Morichard Bishop Playing Field Association

An invitation to our Annual General  
Meeting 2026

THIS WILL BE HELD ON **MONDAY** APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>  
**AGM deferred  
New date TBC**

#### Agenda:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last year's AGM for approval.
3. Matters arising from these minutes.
4. Chairman's Report
5. Secretary's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Election of Officers: Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary
8. Any other business

### Pickleball at the Memorial Hall



#### Introductory and general play sessions

These will be held on the following dates/times in **April**

Weds 1st intro session-2pm to 3pm.Free tea and cake after at the Book Swap!

Wed 1st, 8th, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30-9pm

Thurs 16th 7.30-9.30pm if Tractor Club is on the 15th

Fri 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> 10-11am

Places are restricted to just 6 people per session. Places need to be pre-booked by email to [dlicehurst@icloud.com](mailto:dlicehurst@icloud.com) or WhatsApp 07875359563. £2 a session.

First come, first served. Wear comfy clothing and trainers/plimsoles. Equipment is provided.

## EVENTS & NOTICES

### Sustainable Morchard

## ANNUAL PLANT SWAP

SATURDAY 2nd MAY

10.00-11-30 am

### MEMORIAL HALL

Swap your spare juvenile plants  
for those of others

Or make a small donation

### Attention all Darts players – FREE TO ENTER

Just a reminder that the Morchard Club will be hosting  
the annual Darts trophy & plate tournament on Friday  
3rd April, Good Friday.

Open to everyone.

Signing in from 7.30pm, and this year it will be free to  
enter so what have you got to lose, you will get at least  
two games.

It's usually a very good social event so, if you don't want  
to play, come up and watch.

Julian Rice



Save the date!

Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> 2026

### MAKE, BAKE, GROW AND WOOF

OUR REVAMPED VILLAGE SHOW WILL NOW HAVE  
A **DOG SHOW** AS WELL AS THE TRADITIONAL  
**BAKING, MAKING AND GROWING CLASSES**

FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW!



### Over 60's Luncheon & Get Together

The next Over 60's Luncheon at the London Inn  
will be on Wednesday 15th April at 12.30pm.

The menu will be Steak & Ale Pie with Vegetables &  
Roast Potatoes  
followed by Pavlova  
and Tea/Coffee  
The cost is £12.00 inclusive.

Regular and new members will be warmly welcomed  
in the London Inn.

If you would like to join in please fill in the slip below  
and return it to me by Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April or email me  
at [mandytapp@talk21.com](mailto:mandytapp@talk21.com) or phone me on 01363  
877459 or just pop in to me at Harries.

Regular members please let me know if you are unable  
to attend, thank you.

Name- .....

----

Tel No: .....

Mandy Tapp

Emmanuel  
METHODIST CHURCH

EASTER  
@ EMMANUEL

'THIS IS LOVE'

Celebrate and  
join with us on the  
5<sup>th</sup> April  
from 10.30am

Easter Eggs  
and  
Refreshments  
available



## EVENTS & NOTICES

### TWO MOORS WAY ANNIVERSARY 29 MAY 2026

Morchard Bishop is a really important spot on the 102-mile Two Moors Way, roughly halfway on the walking route which crosses Dartmoor, Mid Devon and Exmoor. The TMW comes into the village from Morchard Road, via Shobrooke Bridge, Weeke and Woodgate, then heads along Church Street before crossing the fields to Morchard Wood and skirting Beech Hill: next stop Black Dog, then Washford Pyne, and on to Witheridge.

Another huge plus is the fact we have the London Inn and Church Street Stores, where walkers can stock up with supplies. Walkers heading south to north haven't passed a shop since Holne on southern Dartmoor (although some supplies can be picked up in the church at Drewsteignton).

Don't forget our **Photographic Competition!** Email your TMW photos (high-res 300dpi) to [johnrambling@btinternet.com](mailto:johnrambling@btinternet.com) no later than 1 May, including your name, email address, age (if under 18), photo caption (location/season) and what the TMW means to you. The final selection (and winners) will be on display in the Memorial Hall on 29 May from around 2.30pm. TMW prizes to be won!

Why not sign up to one of our **Anniversary Walks?** The full list appeared on the back page of the March issue and can also be seen at <https://twomoorsway.org/events-and-walks>.

Any queries please email [info@twomoorsway.org](mailto:info@twomoorsway.org) or telephone (01363) 779492.

### Morchard Bishop Parish Council

## Carers' Cafe

Our next coffee morning for current or former carers will be on Friday 8th April at 11.30am at the pub. Some helpful information which was shared at February's coffee morning include:

- For those who have the difficult and heartbreaking responsibilities of caring for someone at end-of-life, there is an SR1 form, which the GP can provide, which accelerates any application for Higher Level Attendance Allowance. It is paid weekly and in advance.
- LEAP [ local energy advice partnership]- they will do a free visit to your house and give free energy saving advice. This can include giving you free appliances to help you save money eg replacement fridge-freezer, fridge or freezer, heated clothes drier. Draught excluders and radiator heat reflectors are offered too if the advisor deems them necessary. Freephone number 0800 060 7567.
- The local fire service [ Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Services] will do a free visit to your house to assess your fire risk. They will fit free smoke alarms too. 0800 05 02 999 or [www.dsfire.gov.uk](http://www.dsfire.gov.uk)
- The UK's free vulnerable person register is called PRIORITY SERVICES REGISTER [PSR]. It will supply extra support during power cuts. Unfortunately, you will need to contact each of your service providers separately eg Southwest Water, British Gas, Octopus as they keep separate lists. Once registered, you will get priority support, direct contact during emergencies and advance warning of planned shutdowns. There is a website [www.thepsr.co.uk](http://www.thepsr.co.uk)
- Emergency Plan- it is highly recommended that all carers take time to write down all the caring information relating to the person they are looking after eg names of medications, dosage and frequency. Where are the medicines? How do they prefer to take them? How are they helped around the house? What is their food routine? etc. The Lions Club 'Message In A Bottle' scheme provides a small white pot with a green lid into which you place a completed form listing basic personal and medical details. The pot is then stored in the fridge and a green sticker placed in a front door or window to guide emergency services to it. Our GP surgery has a stock of these pots.
- An inflatable cushion to help people in the bath is called a Manger Cushion. Mandy Tapp is an expert on this.

Thanks again to Sarah, Emma and Carrie at the London Inn for hosting us each month.

### Crediton & District Third Age Trust



Next Meeting: **16 April 2025**  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

#### Tourism in Devon and its Problems

A Talk by Sally Everton

Venue: [Boniface Centre](#)  
Cost: £1.50

**EVENTS & NOTICES**



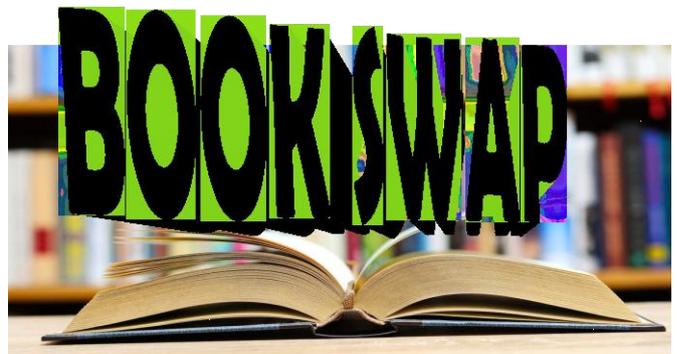
**Emmanuel**  
METHODIST CHURCH

Please join us for  
**BREAKFAST CHURCH**  
Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Anytime between  
**9.30am – 11.00am**  
*Hopefully see you there!*

**Morchar Bishop Memorial Hall**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

**3pm-4.30**



**We have a large and varied selection of new books, jigsaws and lots of children's books.**

**Teas\Coffee and Cakes**

**Or just join us for a chat!!!**



**Morchar Bishop Playing Field Association**

**Vintage Rally and Family Fun Day 2026**

**Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup> 12pm onwards**

**Planning meetings will be held on Mondays at the Clubhouse from 7pm.**

**27<sup>th</sup> April 25<sup>th</sup> May 29<sup>th</sup> June**

**We would love to see some new faces at our planning meetings!**

**Come along and offer your support**

**Are you Curious?**  
**Have BIG Questions about the Christian faith?**

Try  
**Alpha**

**No question off limits,  
No Judgement,  
No Pressure!**

**Emmanuel Church provides an open, safe space for anyone to unpack life's questions.**

Meet new people and explore the Christian faith together.

Each session unpacks a big question of life, faith & purpose and is designed to spark conversation.

Starting Date **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

Time **5 – 7pm**

Where **Emmanuel Church**

**Including Afternoon tea!**



*Come along and see what you think!*

[www.emmanuel-morchar-bishop.org](http://www.emmanuel-morchar-bishop.org)

## EVENTS & NOTICES



**The Nello**  
BIKE RIDE FOR  
FORCE Cancer Charity

**SUNDAY 28th  
JUNE 2026**

60 or 100 mile routes

Start & finish at  
Topsham Rugby Club

Medal for all  
finishers

**SIGN UP NOW!**

force

bikebeed

## QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April

Morichard Bishop Memorial Hall

7.30pm

Soup & Roll and Pudding Auction

Hot Dogs also available

Teams of up to 4 people

£6 per person

Please pre book your team see below & BYO + a DRAW

£60 prize to Winning Team

Jo 07855790192 Anton 07970227753 Debbie 07875359563

jo\_games@hotmail.com antonreal@yahoo.co.uk dticehurst@icloud.com

## MORCHARD BISHOP FOOTBALL CLUB

Devon & Exeter Football League  
Divison 2



### April Fixtures

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Witheridge v Morichard Bishop (A)  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Dawlish Utd v Morichard Bishop (A)  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> Beer Albion v Morichard Bishop (A)  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Broadclyst v Morichard Bishop (A)

All matches 3pm k.o

### February/March Results

28<sup>th</sup> February Morichard Bishop 4 Alphington 5  
(Joe Barrow 2 Josh Doe 1 Jake Tapp 1)

7<sup>th</sup> March Morichard Bishop 9 Okehampton Argyle 2  
(Adam Bell 3 Jonathon Bradford 1 Ben Betts 1 Joe Barrow 1 Callum Vanstone 1 Cameron Dobson 1 Matt Madelin 1)

14<sup>th</sup> March Budleigh Salterton 0 Morichard Bishop 9  
(Josh Doe 1 Ben Betts 3 Billy Conabear 3 Samuel Rice 1 Jake Tapp 1)

Light refreshments on sale during the match

For all updates on fixtures please visit  
The Devon and Exeter Football League website  
[www.defleague.co.uk](http://www.defleague.co.uk)

or Facebook Morichard Bishop Football Club or the  
Football Club noticeboard

**Please support your local Team**

## EVENTS & NOTICES



### April Events

2nd	April	Music & Food: Jazz on the Green
4 <sup>th</sup>	April	Theatre: <b>The Accountment of Luke</b>
18th	April	Music: <b>True Foxes</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> / 25th	April	Theatre: <b>The Uncertainty Principle</b>
30 <sup>th</sup>	April	Film: <b>Last Thursday Picture Show</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	May	Music: <b>Suntou Susso</b>

Here are our Calendar dates for April plus one for the start of May all events start at 7.30 pm except Jazz on the Green which starts at 7.00 pm and tickets are available from their website

As usual Tickets for all events at Credition Art Centre from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/creditionartscentre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/creditionartscentre)

Further information for all events can be found at our website [www.creditionartscentre.org](http://www.creditionartscentre.org) or the Summer Brochure available throughout the retailers in Credition

### Our Amazing Swifts !



An illustrated talk with Edward Jackson

**Tuesday 14 April**

**Doors open 7:15pm – 9pm**

Victory Hall, Lapford, EX17 2PZ

Please have change for Tea & Cake, Booklet £1

*'Our Swifts return from Africa in early May.*

*Come and learn about their amazing lives and how we can help breeding colonies here and in surrounding villages thrive.'*

## Sampford Courtenay St. Andrew's Spring Concert

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Proceeds to Devon Air Ambulance Dola AI



The Sandford Summer Show returns for 2026 to its original timing on Bank Holiday Monday 31 August in Sandford Parish Hall.

Finally, we have some weather that allows us out into the garden, so now is the time for you keen gardeners to be thinking about sowing seeds and growing lots of flowers and vegetables to enter. For the crafters, artists and photographers among you, now is your time to plan that creative project to show in the competition.

Entry forms will be available as hard copy from Sandford Community Stores or via email from [sandforsummershow@gmail.com](mailto:sandforsummershow@gmail.com) We will let you know when these are ready.

More updates to come but remember you are all the stars of the show and we look forward to seeing you produce your best!

## News from your Parish Council

The Parish Council met in the Memorial Hall on Monday 3 February 2026.

The Rev. Peter Brown from Emmanuel Chapel and the Ringsash Circuit attended the Parish Council to introduce himself.

The Parish Council spent £137.46 from the main account, nothing from its Reserve account and £55 from the Footpaths account. There were no items of expenditure over £100.

There was one planning application for the Parish Council to consider – which the Parish Council supported.

26/00230/HOUSE	Erection of two storey extension	2 Westhill Cottages, MB
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A report from our District Councillor was received. Mid Devon District Council had agreed proposals to increase Council tax by 5.36% on the previous year and this included all precepting authorities. The Government have launched a consultation into Local Government Reorganisation with Mid Devon favouring the 4-5-1 proposal which would see Mid Devon join with North Devon, Torridge, East Devon and Exeter to form a single unitary authority.

Having worked hard to persuade Devon Highways to repair the road at Swanneywell Hill, the Parish Council's pot hole team has been out again. Following the Parish Council Meeting a separate work group meeting was held to meet with Councillor Steve Keable and work through the list of matters that the Parish Council had identified for Devon Highways. A small but important success was that Devon Highways have agreed to clear some of the drains that had been identified.

The Parish Council considered the Licensing Application that the Playing Fields Association had applied for. The Parish Council expressed their sadness at the tone of reporting and the public comments. The Parish Council had found someone independent of the village who would be prepared to act as Mediator to the Playing Fields Association and the Sports and Social Club. The Parish Council agreed that the Licensing Application should be left to the discretion of the Mid Devon Licensing Authority.

The Parish Council moved on to consider their assets and identify any maintenance that needed to be carried out.

Finally concern was raised at the lack of consideration from those exercising their dogs in the field behind Polson Hill (where they had no right to stray from the public footpath) to those who were trying to move their horses into stables overnight in the adjoining field. The aggression from the dog owners shouting at the horse owners was unacceptable.

### Creative with plants

Our March meeting was led by Robert of Lydcott Nursery. Thanks to Robert we were able to be creative with some of the beautiful spring plants grown by Lydcott.

Our April meeting will be the AGM where there will be a bring and share tea and competitions. Members will pay their subscriptions and the Committee and officers will be replaced or re-elected, although it is hard to imagine anyone who could replace the present Committee who have worked miracles all year.

At the end of March we hosted the WI quiz for Devon and our brilliant team came 2nd, an exciting result that illustrates just how knowledgeable our members are, but you don't have to be a quiz buff to join us, we welcome everybody and anybody.

Sue Pluckwell



If you want to read the full minutes of Parish Council meetings, they are available on the Parish Council noticeboard on the London Inn Skittle Alley. They can also be read on the Parish Council Website: <https://www.morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk/>.

We hope that the new website is a useful tool for everyone in the village, please do let us have your comments and contributions including future dates of your organisations' activities in order that other groups can avoid double booking.

If you have any views or issues regarding life in Morchard Bishop, please do let me know.

**David Parker**  
Parish Clerk

Contact Details for the Parish Council:  
David Parker: 01363 877008 / 07794 362591  
email: [clerk@morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@morchardbishop-pc.gov.uk)

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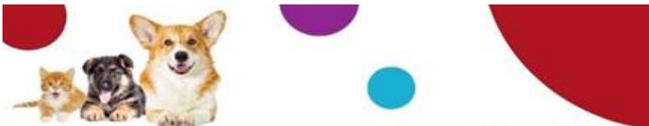


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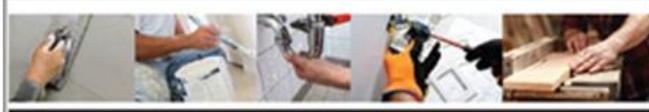
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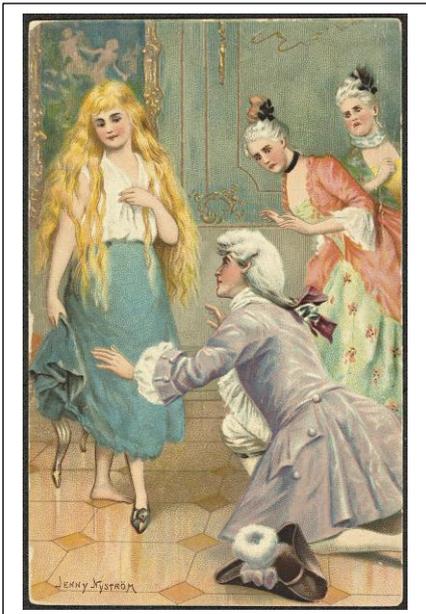
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## If The Shoe Fits

There is a motif in quite a few folk tales in which two people who have fallen in love are separated and one or both of them can not recognise the other when they meet again. Let me give you an example: In Cinderella and many of its variants, the Prince falls in love with Cinders at the first ball, spends all evening with her for the next two days often having “eyes for no one but her”, yet his method for identifying the mesmerising beauty who has won his heart is entirely dependent on her fitting the shoe that fell off her foot. In a whole bunch of the variants, when the step sisters cheat by cutting their toes off to make their feet small enough, HRH Charming doesn't even seem to notice that he has the wrong woman and it takes a magical bird singing a warning rhyme for him to realise his mistake, twice, making him possibly the most obtuse idiot in all folk tale.



It's not just lovers who suffer from face blindness, or prosopagnosia to give it its official name, in folktale world. Mixed sex pairs of siblings who are very fond of each other frequently exchange portraits, rings or other tokens, before one of them goes away for any length of time, and cannot be re-united without producing them as proof of identity.

Now, I have some sympathy since I struggle to recognise faces especially if I meet someone in a different context to that in which I have previously seen them. It is my firm belief that characters in films should remain in the same clothing throughout unless they change during a scene. Not that they have to change on camera of course, they can go behind a screen or in to another room, but they should be involved in continuous dialogue so I know who they are when they return looking like a different person. Nevertheless, my facial recognition fault is fairly mild and has certainly never extended to anyone I was hopeful of forming a long-term relationship with after three nights of constant intimate communion, nor to any family members.

Since I know plenty of people who don't seem to have a problem divining anyone's identity by the arrangement of their facial features and aren't phased when movie characters appear in random outfits from one scene to the next, I assume

prosopagnosia is fairly rare. Indeed, it is only officially diagnosed in around 2% of the population. So I began to wonder if the story making petrie dish of medieval Europe had experienced an epidemic of some sort to bring about such widespread identification breakdown. A few instances could theoretically be accounted for by the rarity of spectacles amongst the general population, however, when I asked around to see what my storytelling colleagues and friends thought, the consensus of opinion was very surprising.

The historians who joined the conversation placed the blame squarely on clothing. During the Middle Ages social mobility was very limited. Each class and occupation had its own fairly tightly proscribed mode of dress, even to the extent that certain groups could not legally wear certain materials. Sumptuary laws prevented labourers, artisans, merchants, and even the lower nobility, from wearing silk, velvet, satin or silver. Cloth of gold and purple silk were reserved to the royal family. With one's status so clearly marked by one's apparel a simple change of costume could effectively put a person beyond notice in one direction or the other. In many situations it was considered poor etiquette to talk to, or even look at, someone who was more than one class above or below your own. So if your sibling travelled over the sea, made their fortune and returned it might not be that you couldn't recognise their face but that, on seeing their new posh duds you would not even look upon their face until they had placed their proof of identity before your dutifully averted eyes.

Whilst this does justify the necessity of presenting tokens of proof in a great many stories, it still seems to me to come up short of giving an acceptable solution for why The Duke of Charmshire is happy to accept an entirely different woman as his heart's desire based only on her ability to put on a slipper. Was the concept of physical tokens of identity so ingrained in the society that we can understand his willingness to override the evidence of his own senses or is Cinders' husband the most gormless man in all of fiction?

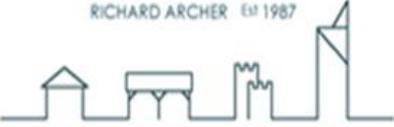
Well, if the shoe fits...

...here's to living happily ever after, until the next adventure.

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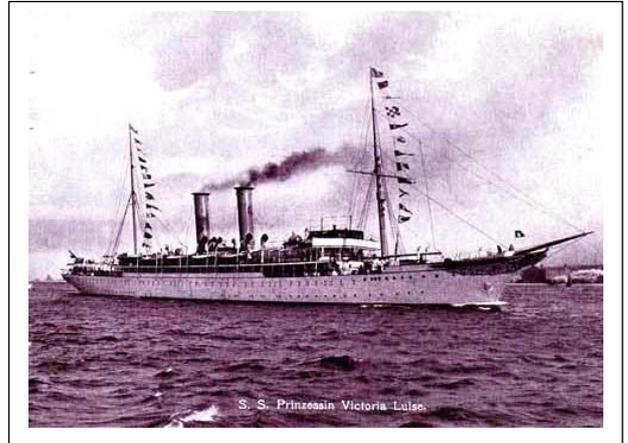
## The Evolution of Cruising

The first ship built to carry passengers in luxury and for leisure, as opposed to the transportation of passengers from one place to another, was the Prinzessin Victoria Louise (1901). This was the brainchild of Albert Ballin, who worked for the shipping company Hamburg America Line. The ship had 120 First Class cabins and could accommodate 200 passengers.

The growth in cruising on ships as a leisure activity grew steadily during the Golden Age of Ocean Liners (1900 - 1950s) with such iconic ships as the two queens, Mary (1936) and Elizabeth (1940), and the Normandie (1935). In 1985 2.5 million passengers enjoyed a cruise; by 2000 the number of cruise passengers was 7 million, and by 2014 it was 35 million. In a relatively short period of time cruising has become affordable for many people and not just the preserve of the wealthy.

This rise in the number of cruise passengers and cruise ships has had, and continues to have, many impacts. These impacts can be: positive and negative; local and global; long and short-term; and they can be environmental, economic and social. As such it is difficult to draw conclusions about the overall benefits of cruise ships.

From a passenger's point of view a cruise provides an affordable, all-inclusive and convenient way of seeing a number of new places. This will broaden their world perspective and give them a greater understanding of different cultures and countries. Cruises provide plenty of opportunities for socialising and making friends. Up to 50% of first-time cruisers say they will cruise again, while 92% of all cruise passengers say there is a strong likelihood that they will cruise again.



Economically the cruise industry supports 1.6 million jobs worldwide and generates £127 bn per year. The equivalent UK figures are 60,000 jobs and £5.8 bn. According to the cruise industry the average passenger spending is £662 per passenger when in port. This figure suggests to me that cruises are not such an affordable activity. Perhaps a small number of wealthy passengers buying expensive jewellery will distort this figure. The average passenger would be hard pushed to spend £200 per port, or so I should have thought. Nevertheless, local economies will benefit from an injection of tourist money.

The visit of cruise ships may also have other benefits such as beach clean-ups, reef restoration or they may support local charities.

Sadly, cruise ships do not just result in positive benefits.

Perhaps the most quoted negative impacts relate to the environment. In 2022, 214 cruise ships emitted 19,125 tonnes of nitrogen oxide (acid rain, ground level ozone production and climate change), and 509 tonnes of sulphur dioxide, along with other harmful pollutants. Cruise ships leave their engines running in port to maintain their support systems.

A 3000 person cruise ship will generate 176,400 gallons of sewage (black water) as well as grey water and oily bilge water. It is estimated that 25% of all oceanic waste is cruise ship generated.

Other environmental impacts include engine noise disrupting animal communications e.g. whales and dolphins, animal strikes, and coral reef damage.

Social issues include over-tourism as places, such as Venice, become overwhelmed by massive cruise ships and thousands of passengers. The working conditions of many cruise ship employees do not meet British standards as the ships are often registered in places like Panama.

Modern cruise ship companies are becoming more environmentally aware and are working towards reducing their impact. More efficient hull designs, net-zero emission targets and the use of sustainable fuels such as green hydrogen are all moves in the right direction.

People booking cruises might look at the environmental credentials of the shipping company and might also let company employees know how important these credentials are to them as passengers.

**Paul Ticehurst.**

## ~ Debbie's Diner ~

### Take one ingredient – salmon

Fish is highly nutritious, versatile and quick to cook. It can be fresh, tinned or frozen. Oily fish, such as salmon are rich in heart-healthy Omega-3 fatty acids with fat distributed throughout their flesh. White fish eg Cod holds its oil in its liver but is still lean, low-fat and high protein.

#### Salmon tacos with avocado salsa



Heat the grill to high and line a large baking tray with foil. Mix 1 tbsp smoked paprika and 1 tsp cumin in a small bowl. Rub the spices over 4 salmon fillets and put them on the baking tray. Pop under the grill for 8-10 mins until cooked through.

While the salmon cooks, combine 200g natural yogurt with 1 clove garlic and season to taste. In another bowl, combine 2 avocados, 1 onion and 2 fresh tomatoes. Add the juice of 2 limes, season and scatter with coriander.

Warm taco shells in the oven, following pack instructions. Flake the salmon and serve with the tacos, avocado salsa, yogurt and lime wedges.

---

#### Simple salmon carbonara



**This can be made with fresh salmon, smoked salmon or tinned salmon.**

Cook the spaghetti in boiling water. Meanwhile, melt a knob of butter in a small pan, add a clove of garlic and gently sizzle for 1 min. Remove from the heat.

Lightly beat 150ml of cream, 2 eggs, softened garlic and 2 tbsp of grated Parmesan in a bowl. Stir in [smoked, cooked or tinned] salmon trimmings.

Drain the pasta well and return to the pan.

Add the salmon mixture and chives, then toss well so the heat from the pasta lightly thickens the sauce. Serve scattered with the remaining Parmesan and plenty of black pepper.



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Devon County Council

## Moves to improve our water

Devon County Council has voted to take a strategic 'convening' role in bringing together regulators, water companies, district councils, landowners, community groups and other organisations involved in protecting and improving Devon's rivers, streams, estuaries and coastal waters.

**Only around a fifth** of Devon's surface water bodies currently meet the 'good ecological status' required under national regulations, with pressures including agricultural runoff, urban pollution, wastewater discharges and the increasing impacts of climate change on rainfall and flooding. Responsibility for water quality is shared across many organisations, but activity can be fragmented, with overlaps, gaps and uncertainty about who is accountable for what.

A new coordinated approach would help improve transparency, reduce duplication and support better decision-making for communities and partners.

Devon County Council would work with partners to develop a comprehensive, Devon-wide picture of water quality responsibilities, existing activity and available evidence.

This would include mapping pollution sources and hotspots, clarifying statutory roles, and setting out what data is collected, by whom and how often.

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**"I flew too close to the candle and I think that my wings are aflame  
I should never have come so close to you – it seems I won't leave again."**

**There should be some kind of warning, For those of us who fly by night  
To beware of the cold air of morning, And to keep away from the light. "**

"The Moth" by Anne Lister from the album "No Signposts"

<https://annelister.bandcamp.com/track/moth>

The vapourer moth (*Orygia antiqua*) is an unusual little creature. It's eggs are distinctive and can trigger people's tryphobia with their regular grid layout and dark indentation on the top of each egg. They hatch out in late April, having overwintered as eggs, and are striking little caterpillars; a grey black body is decorated down the sides by a row of red dots, and the head end is topped by four little tufts of setae (insect hairs or bristles). Whilst they can defoliate small areas of their host plants they predominantly like trees like birch or hazel, which are seldom caused any harm by having resident caterpillars, so definitely a welcome bit of biodiversity.

When the caterpillars have eaten enough, usually around late summer, they weave themselves into a cocoon. The next stage, a couple of weeks later when they emerge, is where they are most usual. When the males emerge they are a beautiful, medium sized, fluffy body and legs, feathered antennae, marbled brown wings with a white dot in the central corners. They are unusual in that they will both fly by day and at night, attracted, as so many moths are, to light. The females however have put everything into being just the right kind of attractive.

They hatch with a plump grey brown body and wings which are best described as vestigial. She cannot fly, she does however release pheromones, or vapours, to attract the male, giving the species one of its common names (it is also known as the rusty tussock moth).

Having not moved far from where she emerged from her cocoon she then puts her all into laying as many little dimpled neat eggs as she can, and expires shortly after, leaving them to overwinter and start their unusual cycle all over again.

Jo Coffey

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please use booking app Nearcut or phone to book.

### Morchard's Weather

We've had some sunny days! After 55 consecutive days with some rain, we finally broke that sequence with a dry day on February 23rd. Valentines Day had been sunny as well.

And we have lots to look forward to. At the moment, we are gaining 4-5 minutes more daylight per day. And from March 20th, the Spring equinox, we'll have more hours of daylight than not.

And just when you get used to lighter mornings, they put the clocks forward on Sunday, 29th March, making them darker again. Evenings will be lighter though. Steve, our resident blackbird, continues to wake us most mornings and a lot of birds are now building nests and some even sitting on eggs. The daffodils are out so what have we got to complain about? Oh wait - it's raining and pretty cold outside.....oh well.

Stephen Leese



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## Garden Tips for April



- Keep weeds under control
- Protect fruit blossom from late frosts
- Tie in climbing and rambling roses
- Sow hardy annuals, herbs and wild flower seed outdoors
- Start to feed citrus plants
- Increase the water given to houseplants
- Feed hungry shrubs and roses
- Sow new lawns or repair bare patches
- Prune fig trees
- Divide bamboos and waterlilies

Jo Coffey



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### Monthly session schedule:

- **Tuesday night:**
  - 19:00 – 20:00 - yoga flow
- **Thursday morning:**
  - 10:45 – 11:45 – yang & yin yoga flow
- **1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month** - 18:00 - 19:00 - deep relaxation soundbaths
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month** - 18:00 - 19:30 - candlelit yin yoga & soundbath sessions

We have a variety of special wellbeing events on throughout the month, including other healing therapists, such as, Reiki. Please check our website for more details, or get in touch to be added to our WhatsApp group for updates.

**Phone & WhatsApp:** 07534 317742 - **Email:**

Liane@thebuddhabarnltd.co.uk

**Website:** [www.buddhabarnltd.co.uk](http://www.buddhabarnltd.co.uk)



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## Counterfeit goods – what are our rights?



A scam by another name in other words! However, fake goods can be dangerous.

Take toys for instance; if they don't meet safety standards, they may pose a choking risk if poor manufacturing means small parts are easily detachable. It's not just toys and games though. Clothing, footwear, e-cigarettes, perfumes and media devices are among the many ranges of goods that can be faked.

Sometimes it is easy to spot but not always. Watch out for suspiciously low prices on well-known brands and signs of poor quality. Spelling mistakes in the advert or on packaging are also warning signs. Compare photographs from official sellers and always try to buy from reputable sellers only.

If you do buy fake goods, you are entitled to a refund within 30 days of purchase. If it's been over 30 days but less than 6 months since your purchase, the seller can offer to provide you with a genuine item but if they can't they are legally obliged to refund in full. If it's more than 6 months since the purchase, they are only required to provide a partial refund depending on how long it is since the purchase and how much the item has been used.

A seller may argue that the item was obviously not genuine as it was sold so cheaply but they have still broken the law and the consumer's legal rights still apply. If this happens and you paid by debit card, contact your bank and ask to use the 'chargeback scheme.' This also applies if a credit card was used and it cost less than £100.

If the purchase was made by credit card and was for between £100 and £30,000 you can contact the credit card company and ask for a 'section 75' claim to get your money back.

To report counterfeit goods or get help getting your money back contact Citizens Advice Consumer Service ([citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/get-more-help/if-you-need-more-help-about-a-consumer-issue/](http://citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/get-more-help/if-you-need-more-help-about-a-consumer-issue/)).

You can also report the seller to Trading Standards who investigate criminal activity.

([citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/get-more-help/report-to-trading-standards/](http://citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/get-more-help/report-to-trading-standards/))

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## Celebrating World Book Day!

(cont. from back page)



### Poem of the Month

#### Post war interregnum

To me, born after that war's frenzied ending,  
innocent then of shadows, apart from the  
rubbish of gas masks, fried egg helmets  
and rusty bayonets in dark corners

the all-clear siren, repurposed for the fire station,  
had them scrambling in on their Raleigh bikes down  
Castle Street in a sweat of air-raids  
as the leaves fell in purples reds and yellows:

insulated from that furnace of victory by a dull blanket  
of normality and by being safely English;  
the unknowable fog of peace  
gave magical shapes to forests,

trails of muddy feet following badger runs  
in the oak, sweet chestnut and hazel copses,  
through the conversations of birds,  
the woods with roots not hidden but cut;

and later, a waking fall in the dark from the sleep  
of adulthood, jolting from a prelude of busy coping,  
found that the main struggle was about stories,  
role-models, feet of clay;

comforting tales of continuity, spread  
with no conscience, gave cover for today's  
computerised pretence and wealth that aim to wreck  
the world's complexity and mock our ancestors.

Colin Crewdson

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## Celebrating World Book Day!



At half term we hit our 'we are halfway through the year, how did that happen?' mark! It is incredible how fast a school year flies, as they say time flies when you are having fun! Our school day is packed full of enriching activities as we aim to enable all children to flourish. It is not just about the English and Maths skills that we learn each day, it is about developing as a young person and gaining all of the skills and character attributes that you need to flourish in life beyond school.

So far this term we have celebrated World Book Day, welcomed the local magistrate's team for an informative talk to our older pupils, attended an orienteering event at Queen Elizabeth's School and visited Tiverton Museum for a history workshop. Not to mention all of the progress in learning that has taken place!

We have been very grateful to receive support from our Friends of Morchard Bishop team and Morrisons Community Champions, the books they donated are a very welcome addition to our school library.

**Hannah Bancroft**  
Academy Head

*(more pictures overleaf)*

