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THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR SHOBROOKE



Winter 2025



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*The Brooke* is published quarterly :  
March, June, September, December  
and is delivered **free** to residents of  
Shobrooke parish.

It is also available from:  
St Swithun's Church and  
The Red Lion Inn.

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*Welcome to the Winter  
issue.*

I went to my car early one  
evening this week and  
discovered that I needed to  
scrape frost from the  
windscreen.

After a long and mostly  
benevolent Autumn, Winter  
has dropped off a calling card  
telling us that the season has  
definitely changed.

Perhaps now is the time to start  
cosying up inside - somewhere  
nice and snug; maybe study  
seed catalogues for next year  
or, more immediately, plan how  
you are going to manage to do  
everything you need to do in  
the next few months...

Oh.. And then there's  
Christmas... and a pantomime!!

Have a great winter everyone

*Malcolm*

Email to use for all village communication - [shobrookevillage@outlook.com](mailto:shobrookevillage@outlook.com)  
Please send anything for circulation around the village to this account.  
If you would like to be added to the list, please email the above address and I  
will update the records. On the other hand, please also get in touch should you  
wish to be removed.

**Victoria**



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We're raising funds to repair the roof!  
Every donation helps keep our hall open  
and thriving for the whole community.

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- Account no. 04506596
- Sort code. 52-30-06

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

For enquiries and bookings, please contact Alison Ayres:  
01363 775103 or [alisonjpayres@gmail.com](mailto:alisonjpayres@gmail.com)



# Shobrooke Carol Singing

Please join us outside The Red Lion on  
Christmas Eve

Wednesday 24th December at 7pm  
for an evening of carols and a genuine  
excuse to go to the pub before the big  
day.



Carols at the pub has become a special part of the  
Christmas celebrations in Shobrooke.

Please bring a lantern if you have one.  
Song sheets will be provided.

Jane and The Red Lion team will be providing mulled  
wine, hot chocolate and mince pies afterwards.

**We wish you a Merry Christmas!**

## SHOBRUNCH NEWS

We had an absolutely brilliant Shobrunch on Saturday 1st November! It was fantastic to see so many people from in and around the village enjoying bacon rolls, veggie sausage baps and an array of lovely cakes. It was quite a party atmosphere in the village hall in the end, lots of laughter and lively conversation, along with tables of friends and neighbours having a great time playing different board games.



Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to bake such lovely cakes for us, to Lauren and Mole Avon for helping with the marketing, flyers and posters, and to everyone who came and supported us on the day. It was so much fun, and in the end we raised an amazing £502 for the village hall which is absolutely incredible!



Thank you so much Shobrooke and Friends.  
We're so looking forward to the next one!  
Love,

The Shobrunch Team

SHOBROOKE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

*Presents*

# Jack And THE BEANSTALK

## Performance DATES

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm  
Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm  
Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 12:30pm  
Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm

BAR - REFRESHMENTS - RAFFLE

## Book TICKETS

Adults £6  
Kids £4

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Facebook: @shobrookevillagepantomime

Email: [shobrookevillagepanto@outlook.com](mailto:shobrookevillagepanto@outlook.com)

SHOBROOKE VILLAGE HALL - SHOBROOKE - CREDITON - EX17 1AT



# CMC EAKERS

**EXPERT ADVICE ■ QUALITY SUPPLIES**

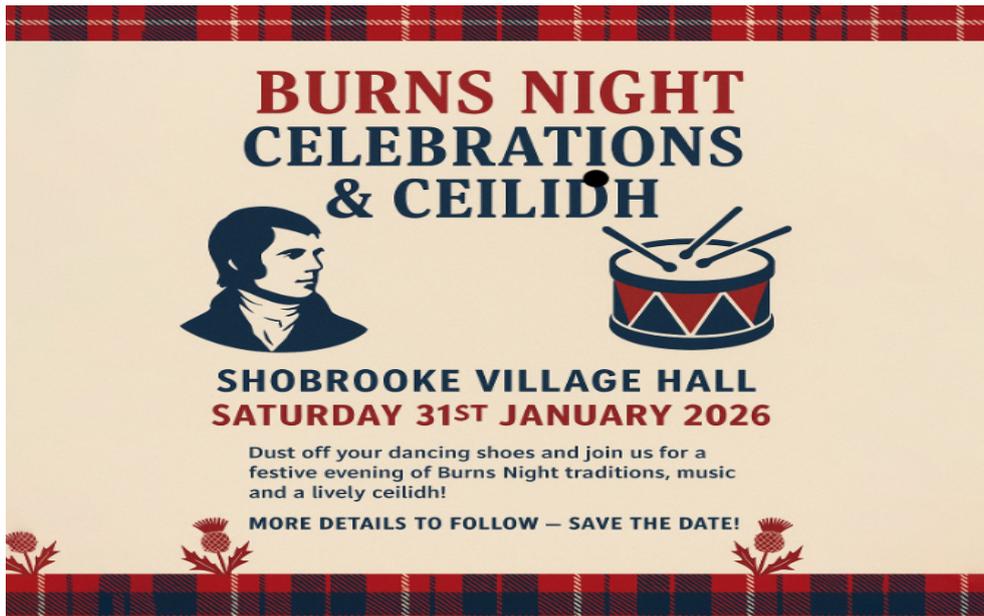
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**BURNS NIGHT  
CELEBRATIONS  
& CEILIDH**




**SHOBROOKE VILLAGE HALL  
SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY 2026**

Dust off your dancing shoes and join us for a festive evening of Burns Night traditions, music and a lively ceilidh!

**MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW — SAVE THE DATE!**

## Shobrooke Writing Group

Shobrooke Writing Group was formed in 2015 to provide a space where anybody interested in writing of any form could come along to discuss the contributions of fellow participants, and if they wanted they could share their own creations looking for feedback.

There were no limits as to the style or format of writing - anything and everything was welcome and still is: short story, prose, memoir, poetry, song lyrics, novel etc . The group originally met monthly in the Village Hall usually on a Friday. At the time of Covid, no longer able to meet in the Village Hall, the meetings switched to online using Zoom, which is how the group continues today.

A benefit of using Zoom for meeting is that it allows a number of members who now live elsewhere; e.g. Scotland, Canada and France, to continue participating in our regular sessions which take place every 4 to 5 weeks, on Friday afternoons at 2:30pm.

We are now seeking new people to join us. If you are interested, then contact me for more information. There is no charge for being a part of the group.



Malcolm, malcooke@gmail.com

# The CREDITON Foodbank



Crediton Foodbank is an initiative of Crediton Foodbank Charity to support local people in financial hardship.

At The Crediton Foodbank, we believe that no one in our community should have to face hunger. Located in the heart of Crediton, we are dedicated to providing emergency food support to individuals and families in crisis. Our mission is to offer a helping hand to those in need, ensuring that everyone in our community has access to nutritious meals, regardless of their circumstances.

Founded in 2011, The Crediton Foodbank is a volunteer-led organisation that relies on the generosity of our local community. Our team of passionate volunteers works tirelessly to collect, sort, and distribute food donations to those who need it most. We partner with local churches, schools, businesses, and individuals who share our commitment to tackling food poverty.

## **How the FoodBank helps:**

### **Food Parcels**

Our Food Bank parcels have been created to provide a household with enough food for 5 days' worth of meals, adjusting the amounts for the number of children and adults within the home.

### **Debt Advice**

CHAT offers Debt and Money Advice providing free, unconditional, fully confidential advice and practical support. The Foodbank is very pleased to have this service based here in Crediton; a local Community Money Advice Centre.

### Energy Advice

Exeter Community Energy is a community-owned organisation providing practical energy advice and support with the aim of helping as many residents save money and stay warm in their homes.

### Cafe

Our Friday morning Cafe at Crediton Congregational Church is an opportunity for all in the community to come together to connect and offer support.

### Springboard Initiative

Our dedicated Community Support Advisor supports households in our community to move out of poverty, prevent homelessness & unmanageable debt, improve health & wellbeing and enable people to rebuild their lives.

### Housing Advice

Accommodation and housing in Crediton can sometimes be hard to find. We can assist with connecting those needing housing with the appropriate organisation.

#### Other Support Networks

We can't solve every problem ourselves – but we probably know a network or organisation that helps in every situation!

### How to support The Foodbank

The Foodbank is completely funded by donations and receives no monetary support from council or government. The amazing community of Crediton is the lifeblood of our organisation, and we would love for you to get involved.

See the website for more information on how you can help with the Foodbank, either by donation or as a volunteer for the Foodbank .

Website : <https://creditonfoodbank.org.uk/>

See also page 28 for local details

# Photo Gallery I



*Aurora Borealis seen from Shobrooke 12<sup>th</sup> Nov*



*Xmas Sunrise - Dan Zillwood*



*Sunset over Shobrooke  
Alison Ayres*



*Dawn Breaks over lovely Shobrooke - Carole Maher*

## Photo Gallery 2



*Promise for next Spring In Shobrooke Park  
Clare Shelley*



*Harvest Lych Gate  
Alison Ayres*



*Shobrooke - somewhere over the rainbow  
Anne Birts*

# Nature Notes

*Steve Jones*

Seems ages now since that long parched summer. On my recent walks around our patch, I heard the distinctive chuckle of fieldfares announcing their annual visit from eastern Europe. W

here our hedges haven't been flattened by flails in the name 'land management', they will feed on the fruit, berries and any insects they can find. The RSPB says they only overwinter here for 6-7 months before flying east once again, often in large flocks with redwings for safety in numbers. Do they know it will be a cold winter?

As I look at the hedgerows, those ancient remnants of our primeval forest, I see some with a few mature trees, but no juveniles to replace them once they've fallen. I see some have been completely scalped and wonder why, if we need to plant more trees, we shouldn't let those hedgerows be part of the answer.

Trees provide shade, wind resistance, food for birds, nest sites, environmental cooling - our native oak alone supports over 2300 species! They don't need planting as they are there already, waiting for the chance to grow.

Have a look and you'll see oak, elm, ash, holly, hazel, spindle, viburnum, birch, cherry, field maple, even the odd yew.

Some of our neighbouring farms have a more sympathetic view of the value of these wildlife assets, while others appear to see them as an impediment to efficiency. With COP30 declaring our ability to keep climate change below 1.5C now highly unlikely, the old adage, 'think globally but act locally' seems more important than ever.

My best wildlife event of the year was in the hills above Kingussie in the Cairngorms in September.

I climbed up Creag Dhuh, a tough boggy scramble past Black Grouse shooting butts. I spotted a few surviving grouse with their white tail feathers, standing on rocks issuing alarm calls.

A rocky scabble past alarmed mountain hares brought me to the last ridge, and there in front of me, not 25 yards away, I surprised a pair of White Tailed Sea Eagles hunting on rocks. With a loud shriek of alarm, the eagles opened immense wings and took off down the hill. A narrow escape for the mountain hare, which seized its opportunity to run for cover. I stopped quite still and said to myself, did that really just happen?



WELCOME TO OUR

# CHRISTMAS CRAFT MARKET

AT THE SHIP HOTEL

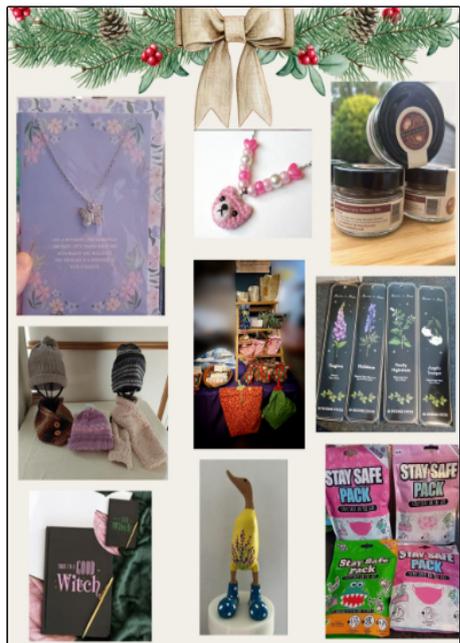
OVER 15 LOCAL BUSINESS'S  
6th December | 10:00-14:00

- FREE ENTRY
- MULLED WINE & CIDER AVAILABLE
- 10% OFF FOOD FOR MARKET CUSTOMERS




SOME OF THE AMAZING ITEMS OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES HAVE ON OFFER FOR YOU...

CHILDREN CHRISTMAS GIFTS	HANDMADE BAGS
PAINTINGS	CROCHET CREATIONS
LOCAL HONEY	BESPOKE WOODEN GIFTS
PUBLISHED AUTHOR	HANDMADE GIFTS
JEWELLERY	AUTHENTIC SPICES
JAM & CHUTNEYS	DRIED WREATHS- ORDERS CAN BE TAKEN FOR FRESH

# St Swithun's Church News



It's been a wonderfully busy autumn at St Swithun's, filled with memorable events and moments. It was wonderful to take part in the Shobrunch - such a fantastic community effort. Among the newspapers available, I added a copy of the *Church Times*. Although it's a weekly church paper, it also includes world news, features on justice and climate issues, book reviews, and much more beyond purely church matters. Each week I place a copy on the shelf just inside the church; please feel free to borrow it or pop in for a read.

Other noteworthy moments from recent months include:

- Shobrooke Harvest Festival & Songs of Praise Service



The Harvest Festival was a wonderful success, and we are so grateful for the generosity, support, and enthusiasm shown by our community. Whether you helped decorate the church, donated produce, or gave your time to ensure the day went smoothly, your efforts made all the difference. Thank you



for contributing to such a joyful and meaningful celebration of the harvest.



The following evening, we gathered once again for our Harvest Songs of Praise service. It was a joyful celebration, well attended and full of uplifting music and thanksgiving. The singing echoed the spirit of the season - thankfulness, hope, and unity.

- All Souls Service

Our All Souls service was warmly attended, bringing together members of the community to remember and pray for loved ones who have died. The reflective atmosphere, gentle music, and candle lighting created a peaceful space for shared remembrance, offering comfort and hope to all who gathered.

- Remembrance Sunday

This year's Remembrance Day began with a solemn gathering at the war memorial, where the community came together to honour those who gave their lives in service. The quiet reflection, wreath laying, and shared silence set a moving tone for the morning.



The commemoration continued in the church with a poignant service featuring readings, prayers, and music that deepened the sense of gratitude and remembrance felt by all who attended.

**Looking ahead, our Christingle service will take place on Sunday 14th December at 4pm, followed by the Carol Service on the 21<sup>st</sup> December, also at 4pm, and a Christmas Day Communion at 10am on Christmas Day.**

Before long, the New Year will bring the start of the farming festival cycle once again, beginning with Plough Sunday on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - further details to follow.

Each Tuesday at 4pm, a small group meets to pray for world issues and local needs. Confidential prayers placed in the locked box will remain private and will not be shared within the group. During Advent, a new prayer tree will also be available.

There has been some interest in restarting **The Friendly Club**. If you'd like to be involved, please do come along to an initial meeting on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2026 (2pm at the Village Hall)** - enjoy some tea and cake, and we can decide together how best to move forward.

Once again, I want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone in the village for always making me feel so welcome—for the smiles, conversations, and countless cups of tea or coffee, and for the kindness you continually show to one another.

I leave you with this verse from the Book of Ecclesiastes 7:14: *"When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God has made the one as well as the other."*

Blessings, Sandra

## Princess Basma Centre Update - Sandra Collier

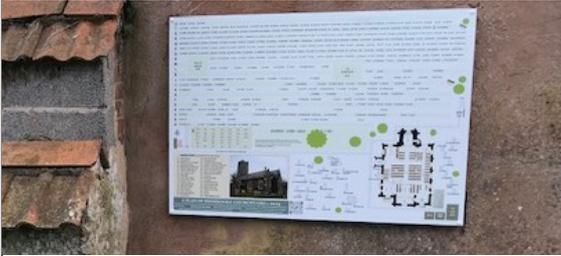
Steve and I will be hosting an Open House on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 37 Mill Street.

There will be seasonal refreshments and information on the Princess Basma Centre.

Everyone is welcome, 10am -9pm.

# New Church Sign

*Rosemary Barber*



We have a new sign on the cob wall in St Swithun's Church, Shobrooke's churchyard, opposite the main door of the church, which we hope will help people who come to look for the graves of their ancestors.

One is rarely in the churchyard or the church without somebody coming to search, and we hope that this will make it easier for people to find what they are looking for when there is nobody around at that time to help them. Many thanks especially to Phil Keen and Caroline Hills who have walked up and down the rows of gravestones endless times to ensure that the sign is as accurate as possible. This has not been easy as the rows of gravestones are by no means straight! To help people find what they are looking for there are now sign posts to the left of the graves parallel to the cob wall labelling the rows, as well as on the sign itself. Unfortunately a number of the older graves are unmarked, but the Burial Register kept in the safe in the Church can often help us to work out the position of the occupant of that grave, so do not hesitate to ask for help if that is your situation. Hedgerow Printers kindly made the weatherproof sign for us, but we are greatly indebted to Phil Keen for creating the blueprint. We could not have done this without his expertise and do appreciate all the time he has devoted to this enterprise. From September 2025 onwards we will keep careful records of the more recent residents in the churchyard, and eventually a second sign will need to be created. Thanks must also be given to Lesley Browne and her team of folk who regularly tend the churchyard.

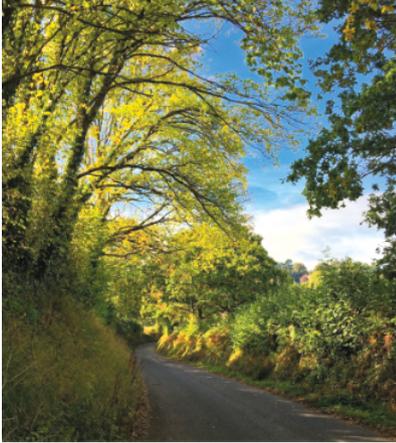
If you are aware of any errors on the new sign please contact me and they will be altered to the best of our ability.

Rosemary Barber

Tel: 01363 773419. Email: [bryherrose15@gmail.com](mailto:bryherrose15@gmail.com)

# Devon Lanes

Joy Moore



There is a magic and beauty in Devon Lanes with the ancient oak trees providing a canopy of magnificent intertwined branches that envelope the narrow and twisty roads. The lanes are often framed by farmer's fields with the seasonal crops or green pastures and sheep and lambs in spring time.

The Banks feature the beauty of wild life throughout the seasons with bluebells, indigenous orchids, ferns and a marvellous range of plants and colours from the vibrant spring greens to the purple/reds of black berries, white laced intricate cow parsley and summer gives way to auburn browns and the red colours of autumn. Devon lanes historically date back centuries to the Bronze age and criss cross the Devon Landscape. Two hundred years ago they were used by smugglers bringing their wares from the sheltered coves of South Devon avoiding the policing authorities of the time. During the Civil war Royalist soldiers used the lanes as an escape route en route to the coast. From

an environmental perspective the green lanes of south Devon are a haven for flora and fauna, birds and other animals. Dartmoor has hundreds of miles of lanes that intersect with other tracks or lead to a stony farmyard or open moorland and provide an inspirational journey for walkers.

The Reverend John Marriott describes the lanes in a poem published in Samuel Rowe's *Perambulation of Dartmoor* published in 1848:

*In a Devonshire lane, as I trotted along  
T'other day, much in want of a subject for  
song,  
Thinks I to myself, I have hit on a strain,  
Sure marriage is much like a Devonshire  
lane*

The Green lanes near Thoverton are of particular interest and the English landscape artist W.G. Hoskins describes the tangled pathways that follow boundaries originally demarcating village parishes that were part of the boundaries in early Saxon times between 650-700 AD.

The lanes around Shobrooke provide a wonderful experience of the beauty and history of the country side and a retreat/escape from the noise and turmoil of present conflicts, and global politics. Or just an enjoyable walk in the morning and during the day to exercise dogs and ourselves. We are indeed fortunate.

*Dartmoor: L.A. Harvey and D. St. Leger-  
Gordon Collins 1953*

# Coffee Semifreddo

## An indulgent treat that is easy to make

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbsp instant coffee
- 4 large egg, separated
- 100g golden caster sugar
- 300ml pot double cream



### Method

1. Oil and line a 1-litre loaf tin with cling film. Put the coffee, egg yolks and sugar in a bowl and stir to dissolve the coffee.
2. Put the egg whites in a large bowl and pour the cream in another.
3. Beat the egg whites until stiff with an electric whisk, then quickly beat the egg yolk mixture until thick and leaving a trail. Now beat the the cream until it holds its shape. If you beat everything in this order, you don't need to wash the whisks in between.
4. Fold the cream into the coffee mixture, then carefully fold in the egg whites.
5. Lightly cover the surface with cling film. When frozen, overwrap in foil and put back into the freezer. It will keep for up to 6 weeks (just in time for Christmas!).
6. To serve, unwrap and turn onto a platter. Strip off the cling film and serve topped with grated chocolate curls or a mocha sauce.

### For the Mocha sauce.

- 150g dark chocolate (at least 70% cocoa solids)
- 25g butter
- 125ml double cream
- 1 tbsp caster sugar

### Method

1. Melt the chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over a pan of simmering water until completely smooth.
2. Add the butter, cream and sugar to the melted chocolate, and stir to combine until smooth.

*Enjoy !!*

# News from Uppincott Farm

*by Nick Lee*

“Always try to look on the bright side” is quite a good phrase to remember in farming, so when we experienced one of the driest summers for several years, when all around us were saying “grain yields will suffer with all this dry weather” we thought: at least we will save some money as we won’t have to buy gas, which is the heat source we use to dry grain in a wet harvest. As it turned out I think we were lucky in that our grain yields were not too embarrassing, in fact it was close to a “good harvest” compared to other parts of the country. Whether this was because much of our corn is established with direct or min till (with no ploughing or not much cultivation) and the soil is able to retain more moisture, or the roots are able to easily run to a greater depth, is open to debate. Probably, the truth is the crops are cared for with much attention to the detail of timing of fertiliser and the application of plant protection products. Unfortunately, this is something that I can no longer take any credit for, having, quite a few years ago, handed over these tasks to the next generation!

The weather was on our side after the harvest was over as well. A little rain during September helped with the establishment of oilseed rape, which really needs to have everything in its favour to get away quickly. As the seed treatment which helps the plants repel the effects of a flea beetle attack is no longer available, good husbandry, and rain at the right time, comes to the fore to get the plants growing quickly, and to be large enough to cope with the flea beetle when it moves into the crop. Those of you growing any brassicas in the garden will be only too aware of how devastating an attack can be.

Drilling wheat and barley started in earnest at the end of September, but again any rain came at the right time, and the whole campaign was over by the third week of October, being able to get on and drill nearly every day. I always think it strange that they call the drilling season in the farming press a campaign, as though it was some sort of wartime battle, when in actual fact, providing there are no

machinery breakdowns, it's really enjoyable. Well, I loved it "back in the day"! There is something very therapeutic about planting arable seeds and seeing a whole field turn from brown, or in the case of soil colour around here, red to green, in the space of a few weeks. You'll probably think I've gone a bit barmy, first of all not complaining about the weather, and then talking about therapy in growing crops!

Anyway, to put that right, I'll now have a moan about the weather! The cattle got through the summer with not as much grass as they would have liked, with it being so dry for so long. The autumn grass has really made up for it with oodles of grazing, as you will have noticed if you have a lawn to mow. As I write this, nearing the middle of November, the rain seems to be here to stay so, although there is still plenty of grass, the fields are getting too wet to keep them out any longer. It's time to get the cattle housed and in the dry for the winter.



The first photo (left) is of some British Blue dairy cross calves, which we reared from a week old, and the second photo (right) is of the same animals about twenty months later, on their first day



undercover.

I'm trying to think of "a bright side to look on" to conclude, but with what could be a long winter of feeding, and attending to their every need ahead, nothing springs to mind!

As some people have been known to have said, "It's a nice life if you like it"!

Happy Christmas to you all.

# Wellness Page

By 'Dr Feelgood'



We're moving into the darker time of the year, it's colder and the light is waning by late afternoon. Given this, it's understandable that we might be pining for those long, light

Summer days,

especially as darkness is so often associated with the scary or unknown. Now with electricity we can avoid the dark as much as possible, and this allows us to be busier too – there's always a screen tempting us after all. Yet the reality is darkness has been given a bad press, and we need to welcome a bit more darkness into our lives.

When we think about wildlife, it seems more obvious to appreciate the benefits of the dark. In National parks across the UK there's a movement to preserve the 'dark skies'. Light pollution, primarily caused by excessive or misdirected artificial lighting, is a huge growing environmental concern. It not only hinders our view of the sky at night, but it also disrupts natural ecosystems. National parks, due to their remote location and stringent commitment to conservation, offer a precious refuge from the effects of lighting pollution.

Wildlife in these parks heavily relies on the natural day-night cycle. Disrupting this rhythm with artificial lighting can have harmful effects on the behavioural and biological patterns of wildlife and so by preserving the darkness of night skies, the wellbeing of park wildlife is preserved too.

Of course it's easy to forget that we're actually creatures in the natural world too. We too need to have the combination of

light and dark in our lives to keep ourselves healthy, and yet with the over reliance on artificial lighting, we've started to forget the value of embracing the dark. Exposure to excessive artificial light at night is overstimulating and can lead to disrupted sleep patterns and a range health problems including eye strain and headaches. By welcoming more darkness in our lives we can look after our natural rhythms, find a comfort in slowing down, and soothe our busy minds.

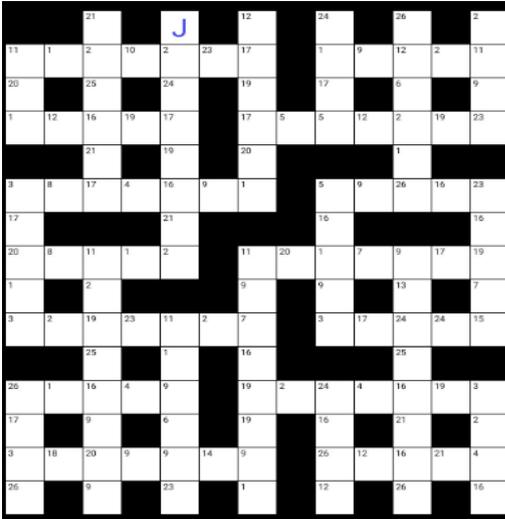
Different things seem to happen when it's darker too, time takes on a different quality and we often feel a bit calmer. The author Jeanette Winterson refers to this her article 'Why I Adore The Night':

*Food, fire, walks, dreams, cold, sleep, love, slowness, time, quiet, books, seasons – all these things, which are not really things, but moments of life – take on a different quality at night-time, where the moon reflects the light of the sun, and we have time to reflect what life is to us, knowing that it passes, and that every bit of it, in its change and its difference, is the here and now of what we have. Life is too short to be all daylight. Night is not less; it's more.*

In the end, we need to reclaim the dark and learn to welcome it rather than resist it. There's a restfulness that comes with the dark and that's so valuable for our wellbeing. Darkness protects our ecosystems and our health and reminds us of our connection to the remarkable universe that surrounds us. So tonight, why look after yourself by taking a few minutes to turn off the lights, embrace the dark, and look up at the night sky in all its star-filled glory.

Wishing you well.

# Codeword Puzzle



1	14	
2	15	
3	16	
4	17	
5	18	
6	19	
7	20	
8	21	
9	22	J
10	23	
11	24	
12	25	
13	26	

Answer page 30

# YOUR LOCAL LEGAL EXPERTS

- Moving Home
- Family Law
- Wills & Probate
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Agricultural
- Landlord & Tenant
- Accountancy & Tax Planning
- Commercial Property & Leases



**QualitySolicitors**  
Charlesworth Nicholl



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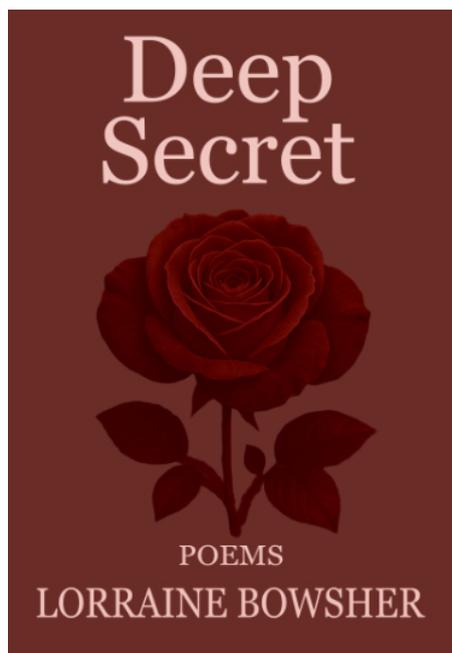
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Lorraine Bowsher

Lorraine was a member of the Shobrooke writing group from its formation in 2015 until her death in December 2023, and a number of her poems have been featured in The Brooke. Her fellow writers are proud to share her work with her large circle of friends and a wider public.



**Any profits from the sale of this book will be donated to the Crediton Food Bank.**

The book can be ordered from **The Bookery** in Crediton, or purchased from Amazon (ISBN 9798231091584) :

[www.amazon.co.uk/Deep-Secret-Lorraine-Bowsher/dp/BoFXVY3ZC4](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Deep-Secret-Lorraine-Bowsher/dp/BoFXVY3ZC4)

Ebooks can be purchased via <https://books2read.com/u/mvQvXI>

# Shapeshift

Lorraine Bowsher

The wind has stripped the birch tree  
Of nearly all its leaves.  
Just a fringe of yellow ochre remains  
On the tracery of branches filling the window,  
Elephant grey, not silver  
On a day like today.

Reminding me of a dog, whose coat has been clipped  
Or a sheep shorn of its fleece,  
Identity clearly defined,  
Yet somehow exposed and vulnerable.  
But trees fare better without their leaves  
In a wayward wind.

The triangle of leaf strewn grass beneath,  
Dry and awkward to mow in summer,  
Is mossy green and damp enough in winter  
To grow three red and white toadstools,  
But not wide enough to harbour  
The fabled fairy ring that none should enter.

*Taken from her collection Deep Secret*

*ISBN 9798231091584*

## Shobrooke Parish Councillors 2025

Cllr Allan Jones (Chair)	19 School Close, Shobrooke, Crediton, EX17 1AX 01363 777444 Cllr.Jones@shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk
Cllr. Chris Furse (Vice Chair)	14 Silver Way, Shobrooke, Crediton, EX17 1HP 01363 774495 Cllr.Furse@shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk
Cllr Lynsay Balkwill	14 The Village, Shobrooke, Crediton, EX17 1AU 01363 775296 Cllr.Balkwill@shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk
Cllr Joe Leeming	10 Shobrooke Village, Crediton, EX17 1AT 07849 179533 Cllr.Leeming@shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk
Cllr (Rev) Sandra Collier	37 Mill Street, Crediton, EX17 1EZ Cllr.Collier@shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk

## DEVON County Councillor

Cllr Steve Kebble	Bromstone Cottage, Lapford, Crediton EX17 6PZ 07967 655045 steve.keable@devon.gov.uk
-------------------	--

## Mid Devon District Councillors

Cllr Mark Jenkins	6 St Swithins Gardens, Sandford, Crediton, EX17 4LY 01363 773900 / 07580 319314 mjenkins@middevon.gov.uk
Cllr Helen Tuffin	Buller Road, Crediton, EX17 2AX htuffin@middevon.gov.uk
Website	<a href="http://www.shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk">www.shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk</a>
Parish footpath officers	Bethan Ditchfield and Victoria Leeming
Playing fields liason officer	Ben Jacobs
Neighbourhood Watch Officer	Lesley Browne
Website officer - clerk	Mrs. Clarke, Rosefield, Northlew, Okehampton, Devon EX20 3BN 07886004919 clerk@shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk

# Shobrooke Parish Council

A full copy of the most recent agreed minutes is posted on the Parish Council noticeboard in the bus shelter each month, and the minutes for all recent meetings can be found on the parish council website:

**<https://www.shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk>**

A public participation session is held at the start of each meeting.

The Parish Council met on 11th September, with updates on a number of local matters. Preparations are under way for the Remembrance wreath, which this year will be purchased jointly with the church. The “20 is Plenty” signs have been assembled and will soon be positioned around the village to encourage safer driving.

The bus stop residents are reminded not to use staples when posting notices.

The Play Park has been closed while new equipment is installed. The existing slide has deteriorated and may soon need replacing, so the Clerk will explore options for reusing equipment removed from another village site. Other discussions included improvements to road signage, ongoing maintenance of bridge railings, and concerns about local housing allocations and their impact on residents.

The council also noted that changes in local government responsibilities may affect how certain services like verge cutting and bin emptying and how they are delivered in future.

Stay tuned for more updates, and thank you for being such an engaged and caring community and if you would like to come and join the parish council, where we are determined to “get things done”.

The date of our next meeting can be found on the website above. You are very welcome to come along.

We are always after new councillors, if you would like to join us contact the clerk on **[clerk@shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk)**, we’re a friendly group trying to serve our community as best we can.

## The Loft

A new restaurant The Loft is opening soon on Crediton Town Square by the popular coffee house, Ashtons.

The restaurant is situated above the Green House and menu highlights include, lobster with hot butter, mussels and house burgers.

Beer, wines and cocktails are also available.

# Foodbank News

Frédérique Cooke

If you are new to the village and would like to be added to the email distribution list to receive regular updates concerning Crediton Foodbank shortages and other Foodbank news, please email me: frederiquec@gmail.com **with 'Foodbank' in the subject box.**

The foodbank can also be contacted as follows:

Website : [www.creditonfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.creditonfoodbank.org.uk)

email : [help@creditonfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:help@creditonfoodbank.org.uk)

or phone the Co-ordinator, Fiona, on 07740 202741.

Please note this email distribution list is used **ONLY** for Foodbank related news received by Frédérique from the Foodbank via email, and then forwarded to those on her list.

## Donations for the Foodbank

These can be left in the box outside The Red Lion, where they are then collected and delivered to the Foodbank in Crediton.



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DOUBLE LOAD	1 ½ LOAD	FULL LOAD	½ LOAD	BULK BAG
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<i>loose tipped</i>	<i>loose tipped</i>	<i>loose tipped</i>	<i>loose tipped</i>	

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For more information about joining **The Strummers** contact  
Ed Finch : **07810861917** or **Edfinch@edfinch.org**

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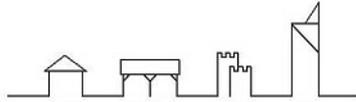
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# SHOBROOKE BUS TIMES

## **Service 347 to Crediton operated by Dartline**

### **Monday & Thursday**

Departing Shobrooke Red Lion at 10:46 arriving Crediton 10:57

Returning at 13:05 from The Green and the High Street  
arriving in Shobrooke at 13:16

### **Tuesdays**

Departing Shobrooke Red Lion at 09:51 arriving Crediton 10:02

Returning at 14:05 from The Green and the High Street  
arriving in Shobrooke at 14:16

## **Service 679 to Exeter via Raddon Cross and Shute operated by Dartline**

Wednesdays only, departs from the Red Lion at 09:58 arriving in Exeter Bus Station at 10:30

*(This service starts in the morning at Black Dog at 09:15 & arrives in Shobrooke via Kennerleigh, Sandford and Crediton Lloyd's Bank at 09:45 and returns via that route in the afternoon and so can be used for people coming to Shobrooke in the morning or going into Crediton or beyond in the afternoon)*

Returning to Shobrooke from Exeter at 13:24, Paris Street, Exeter Stop 16

Bus arrives back in Shobrooke at 13:57.

## **Service 870 to Tiverton via Cheriton Fitzpaine, Poughill, Pennymoor, Cadeleigh & Bickleigh and operated by Country Bus.**

Tuesdays only, departing Shobrooke Red Lion at 09:30 arriving Tiverton Bus Station 10:50.

Returning to Shobrooke from Tiverton Bus Station 13:50, *(We haven't been able to confirm the stand number in Tiverton - it used to be stand 6)*

Bus arrives back in Shobrooke at 15:00.

*(In the morning this service starts at Crediton Green at 09:10 and arrives back there in the afternoon at 15:20, so can also be used by people coming to Shobrooke or going into Crediton on Tuesday afternoon: if returning from Shobrooke in the afternoon it would be best to tell the driver on the morning journey!)*

**To plan your journey using latest timetable information use:**

**<https://www.travelinesw.com>**

**Phone numbers: Dartline : 01392 872900    Country Bus : 01626 833664**

If you need travel information for other bus and train services in Devon or the South West of England you can contact Traveline on **0871 200 22 33**, but be aware that calls cost 12p per minute.

## USEFUL VILLAGE CONTACTS:

Parish Council:	Anna Clark	see page 26
Village Hall:	Alison Ayres	01363 775103
Churchwardens:	Victoria Leeming	01363 775765
John Lee		
Red Lion Inn:	Jane Johnson	01363 772340
Playing Fields:	Ben Jacobs	
Yoga Group:	Vivien Hampson	01363 775468
History Group:	Rosemary Barber	01363 773419
Parish Mag. Distr. :	Sally Foot	01363 775388
Allotments:	Lesley Browne	01363 772343
Crafts Group:	Jan Miller	01363 899215
Neighbourhood watch	Lesley Browne	01363 772343

### YOUR LOCAL POLICE OFFICER: PCSO 30030 NICOLA PAYNE

NON EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER: 101 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER: 999

Crediton Neighbourhood Policing Team (Rural South) Telephone: 101

Email: nicola.payne@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Police, Fire, Ambulance dial 999  
 Police non-emergency/enquiries...dial 101  
 Crimestoppers.....0800 555 111

#### HEALTH:

NHS non-emergency medical needs...dial 111  
 NHS Direct Helpline 0845 46 47  
 Dental Access Service 01392 207544  
 Comm. Mental Health Team 01363 778600

#### Redlands Primary care 01363 727111

Crediton Hospital 01363 775588  
 Tiverton Hospital 01884 235400

#### Chemists:

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 Crediton Pharmacy 19a High St 773030  
 Lloyds, Chiddenbrook Surgery 772841  
 Tesco 0117240 3898  
 RD&E Hospital (Wonford) 01392 411611

Citizens' Advice Bureau 01363 778410  
 Ring & Ride Comm.Transport 01363 773303

#### Other:

British Red Cross (Crediton) 01363 776348

#### Vets etc

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 Bereavement Support 01363 774652  
 Childline 0800 1111  
 Relate 01392 275681  
 Samaritans 0845 7909090

#### LOCAL COUNCIL SERVICES:

Devon County Council 01392 382000  
 Mid Devon Dist.Council 01884 255255  
 Crediton Office: 01363 773755  
 Punchbowl Tip: 01363 84520  
 County Councillor:  
 Margaret Squires... .01363 84337

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Saturday: 12:00-14:30 18:00- 22:00

Sunday: 12:00- 17:00

# The Red Lion

Shobrooke Village

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redlionshobrooke@hotmail.co.uk

Follow us for more:

 The Red Lion at Shobrooke

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## Events:

Curry and quiz- December 18<sup>th</sup> this month due to the village panto.

Carol singing outside the pub on December 24<sup>th</sup> from 7pm

Do you have a special event coming up?

If so please come in to discuss renting the room or us catering the event.

We have a variety of different games which can be set up for your own private use from table tennis to mini golf to skittles!

**Buffet Menus**  
 @ The Red Lion Shobrooke, EX16 6AT  
 Call: 01363 772340 or  
 E-mail: redlionshobrooke@hotmail.co.uk

	<b>Buffet Menu-option 1</b>	<b>Light savoury buffet</b> Sandwich selection (Hot mayonnaise, chicken and tomato, tuna mayonnaise (if Tuna and mustard appreciated)) Selection of quiches Cold cut meats Mixed leaf salad Savoury rolls Cheese	<b>£10.50 per head</b>
	<b>Buffet Menu-option 2</b>	<b>Savoury buffet</b> Sandwich selection Hot's choice (if available, chicken, roast beef (if tomato, tuna mayonnaise and Hamsters and grilled pepper)) Selection of quiches (2) Selection of roast chicken drumsticks (if thigh) Cold cut meats Mixed leaf salad Vegetable medley with a selection of dips French fries Homemade vegetable Homemade potato salad Pasta potato salad Mediterranean couscous salad	<b>£14.00 per head</b>
	<b>Buffet Menu-option 3</b>	<b>Savoury afternoon tea buffet</b> Open sandwich selection Hot's choice (if available, chicken, roast beef (if tomato, egg mayonnaise and tuna mayonnaise)) Selection of quiches Roast chicken drumsticks Hot and mustard (only) chicken sausages Savoury rolls Followed by Warm scones with clotted cream and jam Yorkshire tea and coffee	<b>£15.00 per head</b>
	<b>Buffet Menu-option 4</b>	<small>If you wish to include items from the different buffet options for example: Buffet option 1 This menu comes with clotted cream and jam from Buffet option 3 we are happy to do this however there will be an additional cost.</small>	

Please could you inform us prior to the date if you have anyone with allergies and we will endeavour to cater for them!  
 Although we have a mixture of vegetarian and meat options the