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Spring 2023 is now with us, and we have some interesting articles for you all to read.

HONITON-Phyer

On **Page 4** we have found some interesting photos of "**Old Honiton**".

On **Page 6**, Gemma and the team at **Coastal Boutique** announce their move to bigger premises on Honiton High Street.

Honiton Cricket Club preview their programme for 2023 on **Page 10**. More sport on **Page 22** – **Honiton Football Club** look forward to the remaining games for the 2023 season.

Friends of Honiton Station explain how global warning impacts on rail services – **Page 28**.

On **Pages 30 and 31** explore the problems over **charging electric vehicles** in East Devon. Will this become a major issue in Summer 2023?

Our regular contributor **Terry Darrant** ponders on the history of businesses in Honiton High Street on **Page 34**.

On Page 36 we hear from Honiton Rugby Club.

And on **Page 38, Honiton Lions Club** have the latest on their fundraising activities throughout 2022.

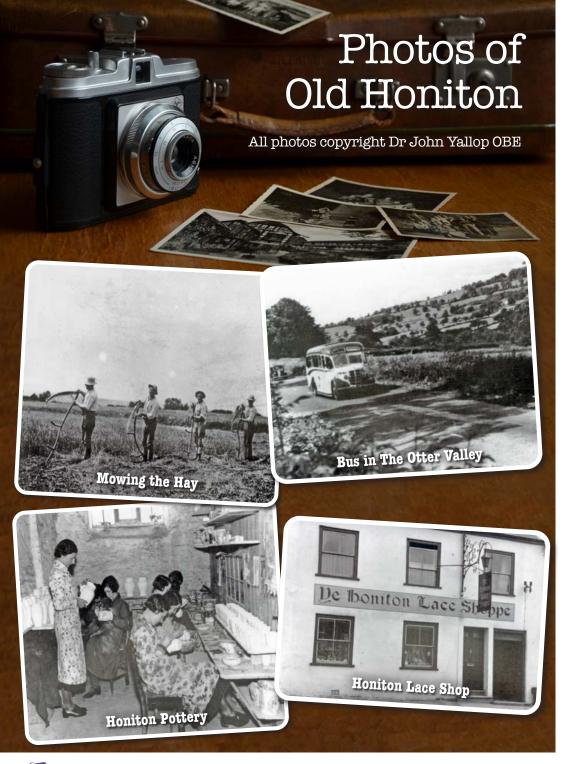
With best wishes for a lovely Spring!

Wednesday 22 March 2023. Email: honiton@theantiquestourist.com



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With warmer weather, we are assured, just around the corner, Honiton Cricket Club are looking forward eagerly to the 2023 season following a couple of years of consolidation, influenced in no small part by the, now thankfully lifted, Covid restrictions which affected all clubs in a big way.

As usual, the club will be running two adult teams in the Devon Cricket League as well as enjoying Sunday and mid-week friendly fixtures, both home and away. The first friendlies getting under way in April and indoor nets are already in full swing.

Outdoor training and practise in the club's two lane state of the art net facility will commence as soon as temperatures warm up!

First XI captain Dave Haysom will be pushing the team to go at least one better than last year's third place finish, with promotion on the cards if things go according to plan.

Second XI skipper Jon Hext will have been content with last year's comfortable 7th place, but will be hoping for fewer challenges on the availability front to allow a serious contention for a top 3 spot in division G.

One of the highlights of last year's season was a very successful charity game with Jurassic Fibre in aid of Hospicecare. The club and all involved had a great day and we hope this will become an annual event.

Youth team head coach Corey Lapping will be overseeing the start up of junior cricket at under 10's level, so if you qualify as an under 10 or know someone who does, and would like to be part of the junior set up, or if you're an adult who would like to help out at training or match days then we'd love to hear from you.

As ever, even if you don't qualify as an under 10 (!), the club would like to hear from prospective players, regardless of whether you would like to play regularly for the league teams or perhaps turn out for just a few friendlies.

It's not just cricket. The club also run a series of social events such as quiz nights as well as regular BBQs after, and sometimes during, games. The bar is open to players and visitors on match days to facilitate the all important social side of the club.

Naturally, cricket doesn't just "happen", it takes hard work from various quarters in the form of grounds maintenance, cleaning and decorating of club buildings and pitch preparation. Teams are also always grateful for volunteer umpires and scorers.

The club would love to expand their small team of volunteers involved in these critical jobs so whether or not you intend to play, we can always make use of any help offered.... no experience necessary!

Finally, the club has room for a number of advertising boards for local businesses which are situated around the boundary and on display all year. These cost £100 per year for an 8x2 foot board, so if you would like to take advantage of one or if you could sponsor the club in any other way, please get in touch.

Prospective players, helpers or advertisers can contact us via our Chairman Andrew Lapping on 07792 368824, via the contact details on our website at www.honiton.play-cricket.com/home or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HonitonCricketClub.



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Steve's son Andy now heads up the showroom, with expert help from their team of advisors, designers and installers.

A recent addition to the portfolio of products are spas and hot tubs. The showroom for

these is in an adjoining unit, with fully working spas on display for customers to try. All projects are completely customer-led.

Firstly the team meet the client and establish their requirements. Much inspiration comes from the variety of displays in the showroom at Honiton Tiles and Bathrooms. Then a site visit by Steve, followed by a fairly intense session deciding the most appropriate layout and materials, and fittings. Then comes the presentation to the client, which may result in amendments and revisions. Hopefully the next stage is supply and installation, followed up by aftersales service and guidance.

THE DREWE ARMS

Rob, Nat, Rebecca, Austin and their team are looking forward to welcoming you to The Drewe Arms!

The Drewe is a 16th Century building, with all its beautiful and quirky features you would expect to find in a pub of its age. It is nestled in the Blackdown Hills, an area of outstanding natural beauty. The village itself is a beautiful chocolate box village vibrant with a wonderful friendly atmosphere.

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4 you from me is a charming gift and coffee shop on Honiton's High Street.

This independent retail shop is nearly one year old and has a great selection of gifts, furnishing pieces and impulse buys.

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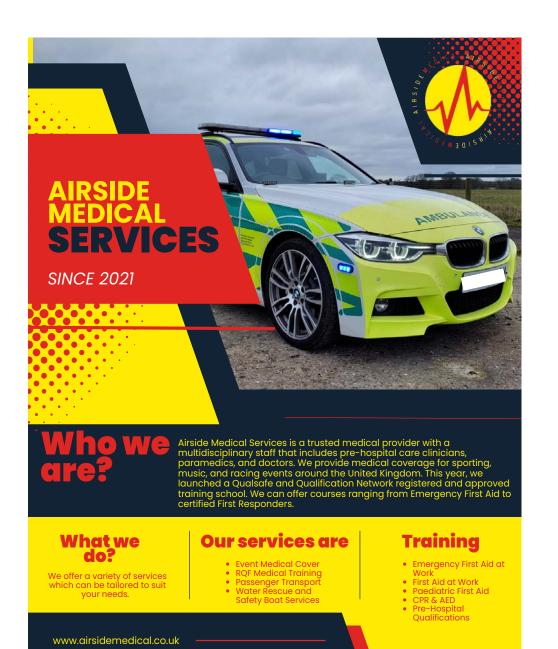
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The Friends Family Colleagues Report Form

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This has been reported on a national and local scale, and sadly, these stories are becoming increasingly prevalent among friends, families, and co-workers, causing anxiety and tension surrounding these situations.

Airside Medical Services employs and collaborates closely with clinicians from South Western Ambulance Service Trust (SWAST), who routinely attend these incidents and comment on how high-stressed they can be and how easy it is to experience delays in obtaining vital patient information due to relatives' fatigue and emotions. As a result, our company has developed the Friends, Family, and Colleagues Report Form (FFCRF), which can readily be used to collect vital information for clinicians on scene with patients.

We will explain how to use the form in an emergency and how to obtain electronic (PDF) and paper copies of these forms.

This form is divided into eight sections containing required information. The first three components (Name, Postcode, and Date of Birth) permit the ambulance service to locate the patient's medical records. The other information, if known, allows the crew to have knowledge of the patient's known allergies, past medical history, and current medications, which is crucial for the ambulance service when making treatment decisions.



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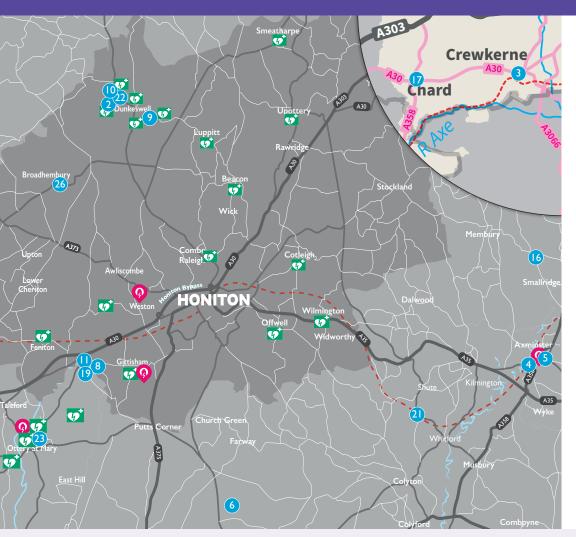
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EX 14 AREA MAP HONITON TOWN MAP





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Hippos look to see out the 2022/23 season with 3 out of their last 4 games at home. It's been a big year at Mountbatten, with the major project being the installation of the flood lights. However they don't get the summer off as they prepare for next season. There are still plenty of jobs to be done and the club are always looking for volunteers as they prepare for next season and their first ever entry into the FA Vase.

So why not come down and support your local team, giving a helping hand or look at the sponsorship packages they will be releasing shortly.

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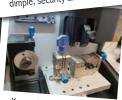
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Friends of Honiton Station

We are steadily growing used to the effects of Climate Change on all our lives. The railway is no exception. Anyone who travels by train knows that the last few months have seen a succession of delays, disruptions and cancellations that are a direct result of changing weather patterns.

January saw a major landslip at Hook in Hampshire. Two of the four lines that carry services between Exeter and London were left hanging in mid-air, when an embankment made of a mixture of London clay and other local soils partially collapsed after days of heavy rain. Engineers were called in to stabilise the embankment, to stop it moving further, before rebuilding the bank and reinstating the tracks, a job which took over a month.

Closer to home, Network Rail has been carrying out work on the cutting outside Honiton Tunnel, to ensure that the bank is not liable to landslips which could block the line. Ironically, during the work material was indeed washed down onto the line, causing several days of disruption.

We have also seen several incidents when the line has been briefly flooded after heavy rain. This is despite work to try to prevent these kinds of risks, including several years ago near Axminster.

Finally, who can forget the 2022 summer heatwave? Several sections of embankment between Honiton and Salisbury dried out to such an extent that the ground became uneven, leaving the track unstable and unsafe. For many weeks, while the ground recovered, trains had to run at greatly reduced speed, causing delays and disruption. This led to a temporary timetable, with the service in our area being cut in half.

There are no simple solutions to these problems. Replacing the Victorian clay embankments would cost billions of pounds. It is more

a matter of monitoring the most vulnerable sections of track, and carrying out small-scale projects to protect areas at greatest risk. We are all going to have to get used to trains being delayed not by leaves on the line, but by the impact of our changing climate.

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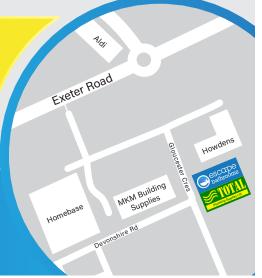
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Electric Vehicles, holidays and the Jurassic Coast.

Whether you like them or hate them, electric cars (EV's) are very popular, particularly with metropolitan motorists. Short trips, low emission zones, and wide choice of charging points at urban supermarkets, service stations, carparks, and motorway service areas - all add to their popularity, and of course they can be charged at home!

According to website "HEYCAR" (heycar. co.uk) EV's made up 16.6% of all vehicles sold in the UK in 2022, out-selling the previously popular diesel-fuelled car. That is a stunning

267,000 vehicles powered in one way or another by electricity sold last year. By the end of 2022 over 660,000 EVs were on our roads.

As a consequence a high proportion of motorists visiting East Devon and West Dorset this year will be driving their EV's. Of course some will be of the self-charging/hybrid variety and may not need recharging, but many others will require regular charging. A fast charger (7kw) will take around 8 hours to fully charge an electric car battery from "flat". So that leads us to the question of where and how will you charge your vehicle??

Searching the internet for local charging stations, a number of up-market holiday homes offer EV charging as part of the package/experience. That is relatively easy to provide at the "front door" of your holiday cottage. Forward-thinking holiday operator Martin Cox of West Dorset Leisure Holidays, with 4 sites around Bridport, has installed 7 charging points across his estate. Why only 7? Well, each charging point can charge up to 2 EV's simultaneously, but that is all the local electricity infrastructure can support! (BBC News March 2023). So this immediately poses a problem of gueuing to charge! As these "plug-ins" are all on private land, naturally all will be prioritised for park users.

Searching website Zap Map (zap-map.com) there appear to be around 11 public charging points in East Devon, and 8 in West Dorset. And once you have found an available charging point, is it suitable for your vehicle? Our accompanying map, and the Zap-Map website provide comprehensive locations, power availability, and connector/vehicles catered for.



Please see our comprehensive map of local EV charging points

TREAT YOUR GUTTERS LIKE YOUR CAR

After 10 years in the gutter business, I have seen too many gutter problems. Totally collapsed systems, serious water damage and even personal injury. All avoidable too.

Good news: You should rarely have gutter problems — with the right approach. **Bad news:** Acting when problems arise causes unnecessary stress, cost and damage.

Having a proper maintenance, cleaning and clearing plan in place is the answer. Three steps to get it sorted.

1. Get up to date

Make sure all gutters, valleys, downpipes and drains are cleared, cleaned and functioning properly, correctly secured and joints are tight.

2. Plan regular maintenance

I recommend at least an annual check. It's like getting an MOT on your car. If you have a lot of trees around it may need to be more frequent.

3. Plan it yourself or have it done for you

If you are good with ladders and have the time, just add it to your calendar. If not, book a professional service to do it for you.

When we do gutter cleaning and clearing, it is all done safely from the ground with specialist equipment.

CHECK YOUR ROOF TOO

Most blockages happen as a result of roof moss and debris making its way into your system. Once a roof is cleaned and treated, it becomes an easier maintenance task.

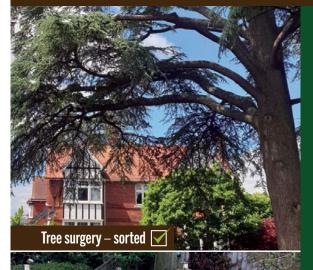
ROOF TOP TO ROADSIDE

Now is the perfect time to get your gutters cleared, with the leaves almost entirely fallen, gutters are potentially at their most blocked!

At Gorilla Grounds and Gardens we are all about taking care of property. If you want me to check the condition of your gutters or roof, I am more than happy to do so. Get in touch and have that gutter MOT done!



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From conversations, both in person and overheard, it seems as though the High Street has reached a tipping point where the number of empty shops has become very noticeable. With upwards of fourteen empty units, and several others earmarked to close the number of shop windows covered with newspapers or masonry paint has unfortunately become common.

After two years and a half years of lockdowns followed by a cost of living crisis many shop keepers have sadly had to throw in the towel but this is a shadow of former times when consumers could achieve all their shopping needs in the once diverse thoroughfare.

Recently A. Dimond & Co was the High street's oldest business, founded in 1888, with roots going back even further it served the town customers' for well over a century until its sudden closure in December 2020. The town's longest running café The Lacemakers, once known as Two Sisters' has also closed its doors and the last former independent dairy, and town's only dedicated ice cream shop is also sadly now on the market. So is this trend new or has it always been that way?

In 1901, the year Queen Victoria died; Honiton High Street

boasted a wide selection of businesses. Amongst others there were eighteen pubs, seven dressmakers/ tailors, eight drapers, eleven grocers, ten butchers, eight bakers, three blacksmiths, two cobblers & saddlers and four dairies.

By the start of WWII present day changes in the High Street were becoming apparent. The three blacksmiths had been replaced by five motor garages and whilst the number of dairies had risen to a total of six, the number of butchers had fallen. Two bakeries had disappeared and five pubs had been lost in just thirty eight years. However, by this time the High Street had also acquired a cinema, an electric company, a fish & chip shop, two cycle shops, a wireless store, three tobacconists, two vets and three dentist surgeries (not NHS even then though!).

Today the High Street has four long established public houses still in existence but the now long closed 'Swan Inn' surpassed them all in longevity. The original Swan Inn stood on the site where the Honiton Family Church now is. The plot became vacant when the inn was destroyed by fire and the pub was rebuilt to the east of the present day chapel. The old pub closed in 1881 and having been in the town since at least 1529, it is probably the longest running tayern in Honiton on record.

Today one of Honiton High Street's longest running businesses is CH. Baker (established in the early 1930s) and alongside the surviving four public houses there are few businesses that can boast an existence of a century or more.

Let's hope that the pandemic has changed the shopping habits of residents, and they now have permanently returned to support local suppliers. With the personal and knowledgeable service we see from local independents, it makes sense to support the local businesses right on our doorstep. Will this be the new lifeline for our town's shops?

by Terry Darrant, 2023



EDWARDIAN SHOPPERS AT HONITON MARKET



VIEW OF FORMER HOSKINS TAILORS



HONITON RFC SEASON REVIEW

Honiton RFC compete in the Tribute Devon Counties 2 league. We had a reasonable 2022/23 season finishing in the top half of the table.

We will look to build on this and improve our position next season. We play at the AllHallows playing fields so why not come down next season and spend the afternoon watching some exciting rugby. The bar will be open and there is no entrance fee, although donations are always welcome.

We run two teams and are always looking for new players and volunteers. If you're interested in playing or volunteering please contact Jerry Rice.

We have lots of sponsorship opportunities available, if you're interested in sponsoring the club in any way please contact Chris Gould. The club house is available to hire, there is a kitchen and a well stocked bar. If you're interested again contact Jerry Rice.

Honiton RFC have a thriving junior (age grade) section.

There are lots of age groups to play in and it's open to boys and girls. We are starting a girls team next season for the U12s. If anyone is interested in playing

next year please contact Juniors Chairperson Stuart Perry.

Note Age grade rugby is strictly supervised we have a safeguarding officer, and all of the coaches are DBS checked.

For more information, match and contact details please go to our website www.honitonrfc.co.uk









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HONITON LIONS CLUB and UKRAINE

During the Spring of 2022 Honiton Lions Club contributed £2,500 to the Lions International Appeal, in order to assist Ukrainian refugees fleeing from the carnage caused by the Russian invasion of their country.

Since then, thanks to the generosity of the general public, Honiton Lions have collected £1,500 to help the refugees. This money, together with £1,000 taken from the club's charitable fund, has enabled us to purchase vouchers to the value of £2,500 from local outlets. The vouchers have been distributed to 8 families recently arrived to the Honiton area. The presentation took place in December 2022 at Meadow View Chapel. Each family also received a hamper of fruit and vegetables kindly donated by Sainsbury's.

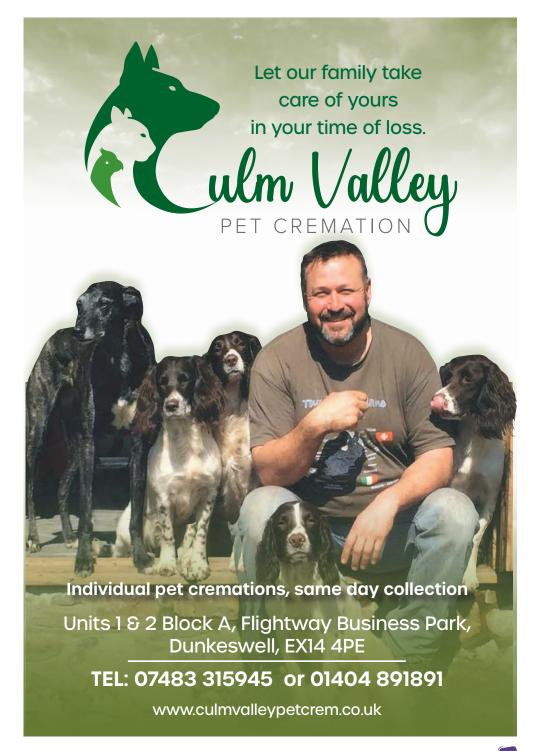


Brian Richards – President of Honiton Lions Club, wearing his chain of office, with fellow Lions John Ward and David Rickard, together with member of the Ukrainian community following the presentation of vouchers & hampers at Meadow View Chapel, Honiton. December 2022.



For more information about Honiton Lions, and how to join Honiton Lions Club, please contact David Rickard on 01404 47752.







Let's keep it there



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