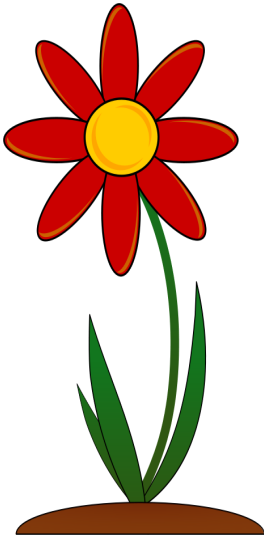


# Raleigh Rag



**The Combe Raleigh Newsletter**  
**ISSUE 208 April 2026**



# PLANT SALE

at St Nicholas' Church  
Combe Raleigh

Sunday May 10th 2026  
2pm to 4pm

Tea and homemade cakes



## The Future of The Rag

With over 34 years without missing an edition the faithful group who have helped it along are proud of the achievement.

But times change. We hardly had the internet when it first appeared, now it's a feature of everyday life despite us oldies being still to convince.

So is the printed copy actually required? A question we have posed repeatedly especially as the copy is published both by village email and on the village website, both of which can use colour without cost. This was discussed at the last Parish Meeting and it was agreed that sadly, this edition is the last to appear with coloured pages, even though we feel it makes it stand out amongst other village magazines that we see. But, with our formula of not charging for advertisements or per copy, the coloured pages make it too expensive to produce.

Let me illustrate. If we continue with six pages, two in colour the cost per edition is c£81 (60p each). If, however, we revert to black/white our costs are reduced to below £30 (22p each) for the 135 six page copies we produce. So, for the six editions we publish annually, there is a saving of £300 whilst still getting a paper edition into every household in the village. And the full colour edition is still available either in your inbox or on the village website.

As this is a magazine produced by volunteers using monies from the Parish Precept that is part of your Council Tax you are fully entitled to make comment as to how you want this to develop going forward.

The Parish Meeting and Rag volunteers

## Parish Meetings

There has been one Parish Meeting in March 2026. The Minutes are summarised here (full Minutes are on <https://comberaleigh.org>):

The **meeting on 18 March 2026** was chaired by Tony Dezell and attended by 13 local government electors of the Parish.

The request for additional Powers to appoint and pay a Clerk, and to pay insurance premiums has been submitted to EDDC and is awaiting their consideration. It was agreed that the purchase of a new grit bin should await the possibility of FY26/27 Locality Budget funding. Given the diminishing funds for printing the Raleigh Rag and the lack of feedback on future print requirements, it was agreed that the April 2026 issue would be the last with colour pages (except in special circumstances). After April 2026, the printed copy would be in black and white with a full colour version being available online. Two quotes (within budget) for the maintenance of Church clock are being reviewed by the PCC.

The large puddle which has persisted for several weeks by the A30 bridge on Clapper Lane has been reported several times to DCC Highways and was investigated by them. Further rains still caused flooding. A leaking manhole in Pale Gate Close which causes the slope down Clapper Lane to be continually wet (and dangerously icy in cold weather) has been reported to South West Water who have replied that as it is land drainage it is not their responsibility. There is also reported pollution on the West side of the lane with an orange liquid collecting in puddles in drier weather. All these matters have been referred back to DCC. The meeting expressed its strong concerns regarding the state of the local roads particularly the busy road between Dunkeswell and Honiton which is in a very bad and dangerous condition in its lower part.

Quotes for works to improve the road and hedgerow by Edwards Close were approved by the meeting. The project to widen the road would be completed in three phases: tree and hedge work – as soon as possible; gully construction – during the summer; and tarmacing the road up to the gully and the hedgerow, and subsequent adoption by DCC Highways – to be completed after the concrete has matured (at least 30 days).

Dog fouling (which is a criminal offence) is an increasing problem in the village; the purchase of signs reminding dog owners of this will be investigated.

A cast iron (inflexible) sewer pipe has been exposed where it crosses a tributary of the River Otter at Coryhill. This has been reported twice to Southwest Water. If the pipe cracks, raw sewage will enter the River Otter which is within half a mile. The meeting agreed that the lack of immediate action by Southwest Water was completely unacceptable given the pollution risk and the implications for properties served by the pipe. A letter will be sent to EDDC Environment Health (copied to the local MP) explaining the situation and requesting a response within two weeks after which time the matter will be raised with DCC Environmental Health (again copied to the MP).

The hedge and fencing debris which moved into Clapper Lane during recent flooding has not been cleared by the landowner. It can present an obstruction to passing traffic. The matter will be raised with DCC Highways again.



**Please note that the Annual Parish Meeting is planned for Thurs 7 May 2026.**

## **Combe Raleigh Village Hall News – March 2026**

### **Events Roundup**

#### **Quiz Night – Friday 30 January**

Quiz Night was once again one of our most popular, fun-filled evenings at the Village Hall. Teams of four to six people competed for prizes, enjoying the lively atmosphere, a licensed bar, a raffle, and a selection of snacks provided for all. The event drew a near-capacity crowd, and there was plenty of laughter and camaraderie throughout the night. As ever, special thanks go to Max for his excellent role as quiz master, ably supported by his two helpers who kept score and collected the teams' answers. Congratulations to the 'Dream Team' for taking home the top prize and well done to the younger participants who left clutching their Smarties. It truly was the perfect way to start the New Year together as a community.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Bingo Night – Saturday 11 April**

Looking ahead, one of our most well-attended events is the upcoming Bingo Night on Saturday 11 April. Be sure to mark your calendars so you do not miss out on the excitement and the unique entertainment brought by Brian's inimitable bingo calling.

#### **Yoga Classes**

Alison has recently run three yoga classes on Wednesday mornings, which have attracted growing interest, especially from residents of Luppitt. If you are keen to join but cannot attend on Wednesday mornings, please contact Alison directly on 07986 179071 to discuss alternative times that may be more convenient.

#### **Village Hall Centenary**

This November marks a significant milestone as the Village Hall turns one hundred years old. We are eager to hear your suggestions on how best to commemorate this special occasion. One idea currently under consideration is a small exhibition featuring memorabilia, photographs, and documents that showcase the history of Combe Raleigh over the past century. If you like this idea or can contribute items or stories, please do get in touch.

#### **Maintenance & Ongoing Work**

In conjunction with our centenary celebrations, we are prioritising maintenance work on the building's frontage, including repairs to the steps, improvements to the garden, and freshening up the paintwork. These enhancements are aimed at improving the hall's appearance and supporting future bookings.

#### **Can You Help?**

The Village Hall Committee is always pleased to welcome new members who are interested in village life. You are invited to attend a meeting as a guest with no obligation to join, and your ideas and enthusiasm can help shape the future of the hall. We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supports the Village Hall, whether by volunteering, attending events, or sharing news. Your contributions help keep the hall at the heart of our community.

Combe Raleigh Village Hall Committee

## St Nicholas Church News

Although hoping for fine weather for the Snowdrop Tea, it was not to be. In spite of the intermittent rain, and one huge downpour, we were pleased to welcome galanthophiles\* young and old to admire the churchyard flowers and buy bulbs for planting. Thank you to everyone who attended and made a damp and dismal afternoon so enjoyable. The profit from sales, refreshments, raffle and donations amounted to £646



We were totally shocked and very saddened at the unexpected death last month of our much-loved church organist, Steve Polhill. Steve, who until a few years ago was the proprietor of Courtesy Cleaners in New Street, had been our faithful organist for many years and he will be sorely missed by us all. We will remember him, not for being the world's best time-keeper – he nearly always managed to scrape in on the dot of 11.15(!) – but as a genuinely kind, gentle person who in his own quiet way always wanted to please and help those around him. We are now in a predicament. Janet Reynolds, one of our bell ringing team has kindly offered to be an occasional organist but we are in great need of extra help. If you are an organist or pianist who could

spare an occasional Sunday morning, or if you know of someone who could, please let us know.

Next up in the church calendar is Easter. On Palm Sunday (March 29th) a Walk of Witness left St Michael's, Honiton at 10.45am in time for an 11.00am service at St Paul's. During the following week evening services will rotate around the village churches at 7.00pm. Combe Raleigh's service was on Wednesday April 1st. Then at 11.15am on 5th we have our Easter Day service.

Towards the end of April we are looking forward to welcoming back the acapella singing group, Waterfolk, who entertained us so well with their broad and appealing repertoire of traditional and contemporary music. The date to reserve is Saturday April 25th and the concert, in the church, is at 7.00pm. Wine and nibbles are included in the ticket price of £8 advance purchase, or £10 if purchased on the day. Tickets may be booked. Do try and come along to hear this talented and versatile group of singers. They are well worth listening to.

Thursday May 7th is the date of our APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) when churchwardens and PCC members are elected for the coming year. There will be quite a few vacancies this time around. Ruth, who retired last year as churchwarden was not replaced. Rosemary will not be seeking re-election. If you feel this is a part of village life to which you could make a contribution, or if you'd simple like to know what it entails, please get in touch.

If you are a gardener or plant lover you should note the date of the annual Plant Sale on Sunday May 10th. As always there will be bargains galore so please drop in and plan for a colourful summer display. Tea and cake as usual.

\*galanthophile ... snowdrop lover

Rosemary

## **St Nicholas Church Re-ordering Project - Can you help?**

This time last year St Nicholas Church PCC circulated a survey inviting everyone in Combe Raleigh to give their thoughts on our village church and its future direction. Many who replied made the same suggestion: that St Nicholas should follow the example of many other churches and remove some of the pews in order to create a more useable and welcoming social space for use after services and for other church events. Over the last year a group of us have been working on this, and a plan is now in place to remove the back section of pews, creating an open area at the back of the church. Some of the pews along the north wall will also be moved, to enable the children's area to be relocated to a position nearer the organ.

I am sure that anyone who attends church events, even if infrequently, will appreciate that having more open space in the church will transform things. It will be a welcome change to be able to serve refreshments after services and at church fundraisers without having to clamber over pews to reach the serving table or have a chat with a neighbour! As to the remaining seating capacity, it will still be enough to accommodate the 60 or so people who attend the Christmas Carol service, our most popular service of the year.

The PCC understands that some may like the church to remain as they have always known it, but we want to reassure everyone that we see this as a very positive step in the evolution of our church building. St Nicholas dates from the 1400s and the current pews were not installed until the late 1800s, replacing earlier Georgian "box" pews. Prior to this there were no pews at all - the church interior would have been an open space in which worshippers would stand, sit or kneel as they wished. Many churches are now reverting to this open format, with moveable seating for maximum flexibility. The size of our congregation no longer needs the number of pews we have, and by removing some of them we will be able to use the church more imaginatively.

Those who are familiar with the workings of the C of E will know that changes to churches such as this require a "Faculty" (the church's equivalent of a combination planning permission and listed building consent). However, the Archdeacon who oversees our area is so enthusiastic about our project that he has granted a special permission for us to go ahead and make some of the changes prior to applying for a Faculty, which can be a lengthy process. The current temporary permission allows us to remove some of the pews, on condition that they are stored safely and the full Faculty is applied for within two years.

In order to minimise the cost of this project, we hope to recruit volunteers from the village to help with the actual removal of the pews over two days during April. If you are able to help on Wednesday 15th, Thursday 16th, Friday 17th or Saturday 18th, please will you contact Carol Lazarus by text on 07958 925346 or at [carol@thelazarusfamily.com](mailto:carol@thelazarusfamily.com). Those with a bit of muscle and/or knowledge of carpentry would be especially welcome! When we know which days people are able to help we will finalise a programme. The PCC looks forward to welcoming everyone to the "new look" St Nicholas once this initial work has been done, and to sharing plans as the permanent Faculty application is developed.

Carol Lazarus

## Happy Wanderer

As this is our April edition I have cleared out the wordy fluff in my mind and offer some random thoughts to inform or entertain!



Our image is of some of the 100,000 daffodils planted around Sidmouth on the bequest of Keith Owen who loved the town and left his fortune to support the town. This would have been over ten tons of bulbs and lots of holes.

Most bulb flowers form their flowers before the previous season's leaves die down, then wait till conditions are right to produce their display next year.

Snowdrops propagate by forming a cluster of smaller bulbs around the original which can be split off to establish a new clump. Although they can set seed, fertilised by early flying bees. Which might explain why you find clumps in unlikely places but they will have taken several years to flower.

We used to tell our trusting customers that plants grew better when the clocks went forward due to the extra hour of daylight. Some believed us!

A piece taken from the Lidford Parish Magazine

*This is a story about four people called Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody  
There was an important job to be done, Everybody was sure Somebody would do it ,Anybody  
could have done it, but Nobody did it*

*Somebody got angry because it was Everybody's job.*

*Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it.  
Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.*

The moral ... it's great when communities get stuck in to help one another, a bit like our village!

## Ringin' for Ukraine – four years on

At 6pm on Tuesday 24th February the Combe Raleigh ringers and friends rang our bells to mark the fourth anniversary of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces. When the invasion first happened, we rang every day for almost three weeks and we've been marking every anniversary since then. Wearing blue and yellow, we shared the ringin' in support of all Ukrainians who have endured four years of war with frequent strikes targetin' their electricity supplies to inflict as much misery as possible on civilians even though the temperature can drop to -20°C in the winter. We lit a candle to remember all those killed or maimed, the brave soldiers on the front line right now and all Ukrainians tryin' to survive in the occupied territories. This year we extended our invitation to all villagers to join us. 'Slava Ukraini'.



The ringers, villagers and Weston the dog peepin' round the pew

On a happier note, Lynsey Fearn (née Norman) came over from Feniton to ring with us. She has wanted to ring our bells for some time, not

least because she and Jonathan were married in this church exactly 25 years ago to the day. They were living at New House Farm at the time and Lynsey worked at Terry Trim's nursery. At some point they moved away but were back in Combe Raleigh a few years later, this time living in Abbots Cottage. She rang 4, 5 and 6 which were the three original bells that were rung for their wedding, and Jonathan was here to watch her ring. This was probably not the way they had planned to spend their Silver Wedding Anniversary but it made it a memorable one! I was intrigued to know who those three ringers might have been and asked Malcolm Edwards. He remembers one ringer in particular - Geoff Coombes from Monkton. It's entirely possible that two other Monkton ringers took part too as Monkton had a thriving band at the time. Thank you, Malcolm, for that interesting information.

Lisa Clarke

## Ringin' for International Women's Day

On Sunday 8th March a band from the Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers met to ring a quarter peal in celebration of International Women's Day. Four of us were local to East Devon but two were driving from Somerset on a foggy night. Not all went to plan as



one lady didn't arrive in time for the 6pm start. We managed to contact her but she was still some distance away and wasn't going to reach us in time (three of our band were due in a meeting at 8pm so we couldn't hang around). Fortunately, Liz from near Langport had Patrick, her (ringing) husband,

with her and he was willing to make up the band so the quarter peal could go ahead, and rang as 'Patricia'. It went well once we'd got going at 6:20pm and all the ladies rang in purple, white and green, the colours of the suffragettes - Patricia borrowed a green hair band...

Women were mostly excluded from bell ringing for centuries. Towers were traditionally social spaces for male groups and many towers barred women from joining. A few isolated records show women ringing bells in the mid-1800s but the real breakthrough came in 1896 with Alice White's full peal of Grandsire Triples (which typically lasts about three hours). This event is usually considered a landmark in women entering organised bell ringing. By the early 1900s more and more women were ringing. In May 1912, the first all-female band rang a peal and many of those ringers founded the Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers a couple of months later. In fact, Alice White became the first president of the society and this year there will be lots of ringing to mark the 130th anniversary of her historic peal.



Lisa Clarke

## How [NOT] to Kill a Moth Orchid

Most people have been given a *Phalaenopsis* [Moth] orchid at some time. Available regularly at our supermarkets these amazing plants can flower for months, sometimes years, if happy.

Naturally they grow high up on trees in warm, humid, conditions so to get the best from them follow these simple steps:

◇ Indirect but bright light, [mine are near a west- facing window]. Don't let the leaves touch the glass or they will scorch and go brown.



◇ Water sparingly, generally every 7 to 10 days... never let the pots stand in water or the fleshy roots will rot, though having damp gravel in the outer pot cover can help with humidity. Don't get water in the base of the leaves as that can rot the plant too!

◇ After the flowers finish, cut back to just above a healthy bump on the stem. The plant will usually produce a new flower spike from these nodes. If no new flower stems grow, try moving the plant somewhere cooler to give it a temperature shock, but not outside... these are tropical plants.

Occasionally instead of flower buds the orchid will produce a keiki...a young plantlet at the end of the stem. You can pot

this up after a couple of months in an open, airy, bark compost

Once you have found the place in your house where they thrive, just buy lots more for year round colour.

FINALLY if flower buds fall off after you have bought it don't blame yourself— it isn't your fault, it probably got cold in a lorry on the way to the supermarket.

Sue Farrell



**St Nicholas Church, Combe Raleigh**

**WATERFOLK**  
**ACAPELLA SINGING GROUP**



**AN EVENING OF HARMONY SINGING**  
**WITH SONGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
**7.00pm**

**£8 advance booking / £10 on the night**  
**(children free)**

**includes glass of wine and**  
**nibbles**



**Booking via Combe Raleigh website -**  
**scan the QR code**  
**or phone 01404 47156**

## 13th Annual St Nicholas' Plant Sale 2026

In the very early spring of 2014, when the bellringers were wondering how on earth they were going to raise the enormous amount of money needed for the augmentation of the church bells, an idea was born - let's have a plant sale, on a sort of bring and buy basis – that might help. The late Margaret Williams, who together with her brother David Jackson ran what was then Jackson's Nursery, suggested that we could buy, at cost, a load of plug plants, grow them on, and sell them as proper plants at a profit. So a small group of us did just that. It was a bit of a daunting task – the plants were teeny-tiny, and had to be cosseted and watered and sheltered from the cold and potted on into bigger plant pots, then bigger ones again... but we persevered with them in our little garden greenhouses (Lisa even took hers into the house at night so they wouldn't get chilled) and by the day appointed for the sale they were looking very good. Or possibly not bad. The village marquee (smaller, in those days) was erected in the churchyard, tea and cakes were organised in true CR fashion, and by dint of hectoring and begging and reminding, what we thought was quite a good lot of plants were acquired from gardeners in the village. To encourage folk to come we put up notices directing people into the village. Then we waited...

But not for long. People flocked in that day, and they have continued to flock in every year since. What started as a small number of tables in a small marquee has grown and grown. The move from the churchyard to the garden at the Barton has allowed us even more scope. Our plants, (predominantly from our local gardeners, but even the bought-in items are obtained locally – no plant miles for us!) now fill a large marquee, with outstations on the lawn where we can sell more plants, and garden sundries, bird tables, pots and containers, bean poles - if it's garden related, we'll try to sell it. We now have dedicated supporters, who grow for us all year, donating their time and expertise so that we can put on a good show. People frequently come with particular purchases in mind - we can always produce geraniums, fuchsias, clematis, roses. I've even grown plants because I know what a particular person will be looking for. And people on the village WhatsApp group are the first to know of any items that need to be moved before (or indeed after) the actual sale.

So many stories have unfolded – from a “love at first sight” meeting, to three generations of women who discovered whilst chatting that they were all alumni of a school in West London. A vast majority of customers are regulars - last year, one lady said “I come here every year. Don't bother with any others – this is the best in Devon!”. Often they want to tell us how plants they have bought from us are doing. The Covid lockdown looked as though it might stop us in our tracks, but no – we decided that tables in Thatchers' driveway with appropriate social distancing were the way to go, and we did a three-day event over the Bank Holiday. This gave us an opportunity to meet lots of new people, who were taking their daily Covid exercise along the lane, as well as an opportunity to do telemarketing – someone might be  
(continued on next page)

## **13th Annual St Nicholas' Plant Sale 2026 (continued)**

disappointed that a particular plant was not available – leave your number, we said, we might get one in tomorrow, and on several occasions we did. The only thing we had to abandon was tea and cakes! A special memory for me was selling Alan Joules' superb pelargoniums out of the back of his SUV parked outside on the lane because there was no room for them on the drive.... I felt as if I was doing a bit of black-market trading!

So what will this year bring? Well, I hope it will bring you, dear reader, as well as lots of other folk. And I hope it will bring fine weather, because that makes it nicer for everyone (there was a day when the marquee was packed tight with people sheltering from the rain, as the side panels shook, the rain rattled on the roof, and the water flowed though...). And as for fundraising - well, 2014 - £848, 2025 - £2589, 2026 - would £3000 be possible? Do come to help us make it so – the church building conservation fund needs every penny, to keep our lovely ancient church where it has always been – right at the heart of our community. See you on 10th May, at 2pm!

Val M

## **Can you play the piano? Do you grow flowers?**

If you can do either, not necessarily at the same time, then you could help our village church.

Steve Polhill, who was organist at St Nicholas' for more years than anyone seems able to remember, died recently, and now we have no-one to play for our Sunday services. We are relying on ad hoc help from a pianist, and have even had priests multi-tasking, leading the service and playing the organ – if you were at the Carol Service in December you would have seen this in action. And very impressive it is, but obviously not tenable in the long run. So, hence my question – can you play the piano? If you can, and could play for a service even occasionally we would be very grateful. You could either use the organ – you don't have to operate the stops or do the clever stuff with your feet – or we could provide an electric keyboard. The hymn book we use has relatively simple settings – not at all like those in Hymns Ancient and Modern, where the pages are black with notes! And of course, no-one would expect you to sight-read – we can give advance notice of the selected hymns. So, if you think you could do this, do get in touch with Rosemary Mapleston, or me, Val Moran.

And as to the flowers – well, it's often feast or famine in our gardens. So, if you have spare flowers, please think about putting them in the church, which is open every day. We would love to have them, any time from Easter onwards - vases are kept in the large cupboard in the kitchen. Just leave them in some water on a window ledge, where everyone can enjoy them. We are all aware of looking after the environment, and at St Nicholas' we believe that flower miles are as important as food miles, so if our flowers come from our neighbours' gardens, then so much the better.

Val M

## What's On Locally – April and May

<https://beehivehoniton.co.uk/>



WUTHERING HEIGHTS (15) Thurs 2 Apr 2pm / 7.30pm Adult £8. Under 16 £7  
WONDERLAND BY THEATRIX ARTS Tue 7 Apr 2pm Adult £13. Under 12's £12. Family of 4 £35  
THE NEVERENDING STORY (1984) Thurs 9 Apr 11am Adult £6. Under 16's £5.  
Family of Four £20.  
EASTER PARADE (1948) Thurs 9 Apr 2pm £5 - includes hot drink, biscuits and chat after the screening.  
SHAKE YOUR BOOTY: FUNK SOUL & DISCO (18+) Fri 10 Apr 7pm-11pm  
General Admission £12  
THE ULTIMATE BUBBLE SHOW Sat 11 Apr - 11am. Adult £14. Under 12. £10  
Family of 4 £42  
NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE 2026: "All My Sons" (12A) Thurs 16 Apr - 7pm. Adult £18. Under 18 £13  
PRAYING FOR THE RAIN Fri 17 Apr, 7.30pm Early Bird £14. General Admission £18  
RBO: THE MAGIC FLUTE (PG) Tue 21 Apr 6.45pm Adult £18. Under 18 £13.  
Under 12 £10  
BARNACLE BILL (U) Thurs 23 Apr 2pm £5 - includes hot drink, biscuits and chat after the screening.  
MOTHER'S PRIDE (12A) Fri 24 Apr 2pm / 7.30pm Adult £8. Under 16 £7 + £7 Optional Lunch  
MILES HUNT Sat 25 Apr 7.30pm £29.50  
ELVIS - THROUGH THE DECADES STARRING..... STEVE HALLIDAY & SPECIAL GUEST Fri 1 May 7.30pm £20  
HOLMES & WATSON, The Curious Case of the Masked Magician Sat 2 May 7pm £14  
THE MET: EUGENE ONEGIN (PG) Tues 5 May 6pm Adult £18. Under 18's £13. Under 12's £10  
BUDAPEST CAFE ORCHESTRA Fri 8 May 7.30pm. £22  
THE JAM'D Fri 15 May 7.30pm. £22  
EXHIBITION ON SCREEN: FRIDA KAHLO (12A) Thurs 21 May \*2pm / 7pm  
Adult £13. Under 16's £10  
MIRANDA SYKES AND JIM CAUSLEY Fri 22 May 7.30pm £18  
GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES Thurs 28 May 2pm £5 - includes hot drink, biscuits and chat after the screening.  
NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD  
Thurs 28 May 7pm Adult £18. Under 18 £13. Under 12 £10.00  
JO IN THE WATER (12A) Fri 29 May 2pm / 7pm Adult £8. U16 £7  
Screening + Q&A with Director Pip Piper and Jo Bateman  
THE MET: EL ULTIMO SUENO DE FRIDA Y DIEGO (PG) Sat 30 May 6pm Adult £18. Under 18's £13. Under 12's £10

**CAFÉ OPEN 1000 – 1430 WEEKDAYS FREE WI-FI**  
SNACKS, HOMEMADE CAKES, HOT AND COLD DRINKS  
BAR OPENS 1 HOUR BEFORE EVENTS

The café is suitable for small meetings of up to an hour - please purchase refreshments during this time while using the café. For longer business meetings, rooms can be booked and catering arranged. Please contact [roombookings@beehivehoniton.co.uk](mailto:roombookings@beehivehoniton.co.uk)

## What's On Locally – February and March



Thelma  
Hulbert  
Gallery

<https://www.thelmahulbert.com>

### **Looking for Appearance - 14 March 2026 to 2 May 2026**

A unique opportunity to view contemporary and historic works where observation and personal processes are used to explore visual appearances. Alongside contemporary works by 30 artists there are important loans from private collections by historic artists including:

Euan Uglow, Patrick George, Patrick Symons and Myles Murphy

Internationally renowned artists including co-founders of the Euston Road School: Claude Rogers (1907-1979), Graham Bell (1910-1943), Victor Pasmore (1908-1998) and Sir William Coldstream (1908-1987).

The influential Euston Road School (1937-1939) were a group of British painters committed to realism in opposition to avant-garde trends. Their focus on traditional subjects painted in a naturalistic way reflected the group's political belief that art should be socially relevant and accessible. The exhibition includes works by the gallery's namesake, artist Thelma Hulbert.



### **Bookbinding Workshop - Sat 18 April 2026, 11 - 3.00**

Book Arts Workshop with Marcus Davies. Suitable for beginners.  
£50 (£45 THG Friends)

### **An Introduction to Measuring - Saturday 2 May 2026, 2.00 - 4.30**

Drawing workshop with exhibiting artist, Alex Cree. Alex will demonstrate and explain the different ways an artist can "measure" reality and transpose these measurements into a drawing. Have a go at some of these techniques. All materials provided.

£50 (£45 THG Friends)

**Please send any recommendations for What's On to  
[raleighrag@gmail.com](mailto:raleighrag@gmail.com)**

## Coffee Mornings

We are just a group of village women who meet to put the world to rights over a cup of coffee as and when our other commitments allow. It's all very casual! We start about 10.30 and usually break up about 12 noon and all are welcome. Please feel free to come along.



15th April Rosemary at the Coach House

6th May Caroline at Coryhill

20th May Jan at Whitefriars

6rd June Val at Thatchers

## The Raleigh Rag and Village Website

Published for the Combe Raleigh Parish Meeting by volunteers: David Jackson, Val and Mark Moran, and Jill Wardle.

Contact details for queries and submissions are on the Contacts page.

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### Next Edition

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### Disclaimer

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## Useful Contact Information

### Emergency and Help Services

Emergency No (All Services)	999	(112 from mobile worldwide)
Non-Emergency (Police)	101	
Non-Emergency (Medical)	111	
Samaritans		116 123
Citizen's Advice		01404 44213
Childline		0800 1111
Age UK Advice Line		0800 6781602
Trip (Meal deliveries for the vulnerable)		01404 46529
Devon Freewheelers (Prescription deliveries)		0300 800 0109
Kings Centre Foodbank		01404 43800
Volunteers needed for a wide variety of support - please contact the Advice Line: 01404- 354080		
Neighbourhood Watch (Rob Sexton)		01404 41362 rob@sexton.me.uk

### Medical

Honiton Hospital	01404 540540	
Honiton Surgery	01404 548544	
Honiton Coronavirus Information	01404 384050	Mon-Fri 1000-1600

<b>Devon CC</b> General enquiries	0345 155 1015	customer@devon.gov.uk
Cllr Cathy Connor		cathy.connor@devon.gov.uk
Highways and Rights of Way	0345 155 1004	csc.roads@devon.gov.uk

### East Devon District Council

General enquiries	01404 515616	csc@eastdevon.gov.uk
Cllr Colin Brown	01404 42309 / 07761 281156	cbrown@eastdevon.gov.uk
Cllr Yehudi Levine	01823 602772	yehudi.levine@eastdevon.gov.uk

### Combe Raleigh Parish Meeting

Chair (Tony Dezell)	07711 651676	chair.comberaleigh@gmail.com
Vice Chair (Serena Sexton)	07591 111925	vicechair.comberaleigh@gmail.com
Clerk (Jill Wardle)	07702 274492	clerk.comberaleigh@gmail.com

### Combe Raleigh Village Hall

Chairman (Brian Churchill)	01404 42441	kay.churchill@btconnect.com
Secretary (Chris Kemp)	07305 979791	vhc@christopherkemp.com
Bookings		bookings@comberaleigh.org

### St Nicholas Church

Team Vicar (Revd Tracey Voysey)	01404 44035	office@honitoncofe.org
Churchwarden	01404 47156	Rosemary Mapleston
Secretary (Val Moran), Treasurer (Claire Kemp), PCC members (Valerie Brabrook, Elizabeth Downs, Ruth Hitchcock, Gill Jackson, Carol Thompson, Chris Padget, John Twaddle)		

### The Raleigh Rag and Village Website

David Jackson	07770 576222	davidjackson1345@me.com
Val and Mark Moran	01404 41107	markmoran@btinternet.com
Jill Wardle	07702 274492	raleighrag@gmail.com
Chris Kemp (Website)		kc@christopherkemp.com

**Local advertising** - free advertising for anybody who lives in Combe Raleigh or who regularly trades there - please send your details to [raleighrag@gmail.co](mailto:raleighrag@gmail.co)

**Airfield Classic Cars**

*Specialists in classic car restoration, repair, maintenance and servicing*  
Tel: 01404 891713  
Email: [info@airfieldclassics.co.uk](mailto:info@airfieldclassics.co.uk)

**Churchill's Body Repairs Est 1986**

*We carry out insurance and private work to all vehicles in our fully equipped body repair shop.*  
Tel: 01404 42441 or 07810 373870

**Nicky Salter Counselling**

*Confidential counselling service*  
Tel: 01404 519181 or 07922317465  
Email: [salternichola@gmail.com](mailto:salternichola@gmail.com)

**Tip Top Trees**

*Specialists in tree work; landscaping and fence works; general gardening; logs*  
Tel: 01404 47103  
Email: [info@tiptoptrees.co.uk](mailto:info@tiptoptrees.co.uk)

**Connetts Farm** *Mushroom compost, ornamental bark, wood chip, topsoil, manure - bulk orders can be mixed. Small bags or dumpy bag. Delivery available at cost.*  
Tel: 07809 870230 or 01404 891684 or 07860 459745 or 01884 841694  
Email: [connettsfarm@outlook.com](mailto:connettsfarm@outlook.com)

**FAB Trim Landscaping**

*Landscaping, patios, ponds, stone walling, digger work, fencing*  
07411 465374 [fabtrimlandscaping@outlook.com](mailto:fabtrimlandscaping@outlook.com)



If someone appears to be having a heart attack

CALL 999 immediately  
Answer the questions and ask for an ambulance

Then go or send someone quickly to get the  
**Village Defibrillator**

It is kept on the veranda of the Village Hall, which is halfway down the village street

**Postcode EX14 4TQ**

Go up the steps and turn right, lights will come on to help you if it is dark.

The defibrillator is not locked and is ready to use  
On returning to the patient the machine will tell you exactly what to do  
It is not possible to harm the patient.

**The only risk is DELAY**

Even in a little village like ours this machine has already saved one young life, they really are a "life saver"



Honiton District  
Lions Club CIO Mole Screening Day

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of April @ The Mackarness Hall,  
Honiton.

Walk-in service from 9am-1pm.

Cost to each patient is £5. Honiton Lions will  
match this donation, and all proceeds will be  
donated to Cancer Research UK.

Dr Tony Downs Consultant Dermatologist will be  
the medical professional in attendance.

Tea and Coffee will be available at a small  
additional cost.

Any Questions please contact Brian the Lion on  
07966173828.

