



# Sunday Snippets

2nd February 2020

**Thank You**

After his fall, it is pleasing to learn that David Bettison is making slow but steady progress, albeit continuing to feel considerable discomfort due to his cracked ribs – especially if coughing or sneezing! David is extremely grateful for the interest shown in his welfare, for all the get



**Valentine's Quiz Night**

We have now received details of the Quiz Night at Christ Church on 14th February. It will start at 7.00pm with an admission fee of £5 per person which also covers the cost of supper. Sounds like a bargain and everyone will be welcome to participate.



**Sporting Achievements by Pupils of St Matthew's**

What a fantastic coverage there was in the Herald's sports pages of table tennis successes achieved by Hugo, Leo, Archie and Ollie, pupils of St Matthew's CE Primary Academy. The sporting prowess was first demonstrated when they competed and came out on top in the Devon Schools Table Tennis



Championship, qualifying them to compete in the regional finals. Here they met the best teams from Cornwall, Dorset and Somerset, with the first match against Millfield Prep ending in victory. Next came Archbishop Benson School from Truro and then Park School from Bournemouth with victories that qualified St Matthew's for the final where they once more met Archbishop Benson. After a titanic struggle they emerged victorious yet again and are now destined for a tournament involving the best teams from London, West Midlands and the Home Counties. The winners of that event will qualify to compete in the National Finals. Whatever the outcome, Hugo, Leo, Archie and Ollie have done St Matthew's proud and should be an inspiration for all at St Matthew's.

**Notice Board Display**

Sue Lake has changed the display on the churchyard notice board to the seasonably apt one of snowdrops, a number of which are well represented in the bed nearby.



**Wanted – Duvet Covers**

The Open The Book Team are looking for Duvet covers suitable to make costumes for the Open The Book productions in St Edward's and St Matthew's CE Primary Academies. If you have any that have passed their useful life or are surplus to requirement please let Carrie, Derry or Rev Keith know. Double or single cotton or poly-cotton ones will be most welcome.





# Sunday Snippets

2nd February 2020

## Special Date

The usual special date in February (for those romantically inclined) is Valentine's Day – the 14th. This being a leap year, the 29th could be seen as being special but today is the most unusual, 02.02.2020 being the only palindromic date in our lifetime. There are only 12 such dates, the others being 01.01.1010 and 11.11.1111 many centuries ago, 12.12.2121 in the next century and 03.03.3030 to 09.09.9090 in succeeding millennia.



## Council Obtain Grant to Help Rough Sleepers

Thanks to a Government grant of over £750,000, services that help rough sleepers off the streets and work with some of the most vulnerable people to support them into homes can continue for another year. The money has been allocated by the Ministry from Housing, Communities and Local Government after a successful bid from the Plymouth City Council.

The money will be allocated to the Plymouth Alliance, a partnership between the Council, Bournemouth Churches Housing Association, Harbour, Shekinah, the Zone, Plymouth Access to Housing (PATH), Livewest, Livewell Southwest and Hamoaze House.

It will be used to continue to provide a variety of services to give a rounded response towards ending rough sleeping, including both support and temporary accommodation offers, as well as the following initiatives:



- The multi-agency rough sleeper team work intensively on a one-to-one basis with some of the most entrenched rough sleepers to give individual support to move away from the streets and into a home.
- A 12 bed house is now available to people who have found themselves at risk of rough sleeping and just need somewhere to stay for a short period with 24 hours a day support staff.
- Local and supported lettings officers to work with landlords to attract new properties for some of the most vulnerable and support both the landlord and the new tenant.
- Newly funded this year will be a specialist complex needs social worker who will link in across all these services giving another layer of support to make sure the most vulnerable can access the right support at the right time.

## Only Joking!

The local pub was so sure that its landlord was the strongest man around that they offered a standing £1,000 bet. The landlord would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran into a glass and hand the lemon to a customer. Anyone who could squeeze one more drop of juice out would win the money. Many people had tried over time but nobody could do it. One day a scrawny little man came into the pub, wearing thick glasses and a shiny suit and said in a tiny, squeaky voice, "I'd like to try the bet." After the laughter had subsided, the landlord said OK grabbed a lemon and squeezed away. Then he handed the wrinkled remains of the rind to the little man. But the crowd's laughter turned to total silence as the man clenched his fist around the lemon and six drops fell into the glass. As the crowd then cheered, the landlord paid the £1,000 and asked the little man, "What do you do for a living? Are you a lumberjack, a weightlifter, or what?" The man replied, "I work for the Inland Revenue."

