

Luppitt Reunion Trivia Trail

LUPPITT

It is suggested that the name stems from LOVE PIT, Love Pit or Lufa's pit, derived from early religious settlers in a low pit or hollow

LUPPITT VILLAGE HALL

Work started in October 1977 to improve our Village hall. The kitchen end was demolished a new kitchen, entrance hall and toilets built. The builders were Mr Brian Pulman and Mr Bernard Clapp together with volunteers from the village. This was funded by a bequest from Mr Bill Walden, former resident of The Old Vicarage, and a rural aid scheme from East Devon District Council. The grant given was £6,600 which almost covered the cost of this work.



Bill & Bessie Walden outside The Old Vicarage

In May 1979 another application was made to EDDC but many issues were encountered between 1981 and 1984 and the village was without its hall during this time. In 1985 the work was completed by J R Layzell of Awliscombe and the hall was used again for the first time on 21 September 1985.

Find out how Luppitt came to have a Village Hall further up the hill ...

DID YOU KNOW?

The Church holds a Harvest Supper and auction of produce on the Monday evening following the Harvest Service? In 2020 this could not be held due to Covid restrictions. It is hoped that the event will be held again this year!

GROVE PARK

Grove Park was built in the early 1980s on land formerly belonging to Newmans. Can you spot a memorial stone in the gate post?

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THE FIRST VICAR OF LUPPITT

The first recorded Vicar of Luppitt was Henry le Flemmyng in 1247 (245 years before America was discovered by Christopher Columbus)

What was happening in England in 1247?

13 June – Coinage reform introduces a new silver coin and establishes seventeen local mints.

Romford was established as a market town.

The **Bethlem Royal Hospital** was founded in London.

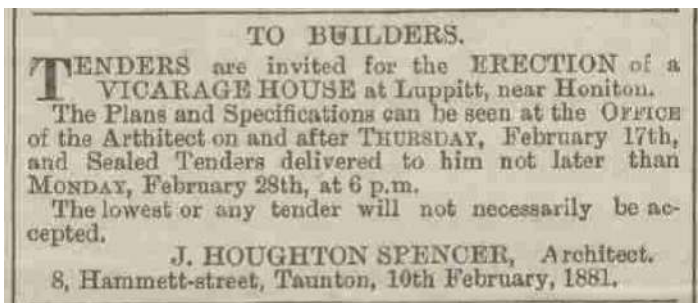
Source: Wikipedia

VICARAGES

St. Mary's Church is surrounded by 3 former vicarages

The first, now known as **The Old Vicarage** was built on the site of a former Vicarage already in existence in 1801. It is alleged that the new Vicar refused to occupy the original house because it was in a state of disrepair and so a new Vicarage was built, the now **Luppitt House**.

For many years Luppitt House was a centre for Village activities with gardens that included the Village tennis court.



Western Times 1881



21 Jan 1898 Western Times

In 1970 a new Vicarage, **Glebe Cottage**, was built on land adjacent to Luppitt House in expectation of the installation of a new Vicar. The Diocese was petitioned to allow part of the site, alongside the road, to be retained as a car park. Rev P Allcock was appointed on 2nd July 1971. He was the last Vicar of Luppitt. St. Mary's is now one of 6 Churches of the Dunkswell Mission Community and Luppitt no longer has a resident vicar.

What else was happening in 1971?

Education Secretary Margaret Thatcher's proposals to end free school milk for children aged over seven years were backed by a majority of 33 MPs.

The EEC agreed terms for Britain's proposed membership and it was hoped that the nation will join the EEC next year.

The UK and the Republic of Ireland both switched to decimal currency

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NEWMANS

Newmans was built in the 1920's by the Bishop family who owned the whole section of land including the old Post office, which used to be in the lower section of Town Cottages, and the field behind.

The current owner has bought the property twice, most recently in 2007!

THE ORIGINAL VILLAGE HALL

The Bishop family bequeathed the original Village Hall. This was an old wooden army building that was built in 1948.



Mr. Bishop opening the Village Hall July 1950



Group at opening of Village Hall July 1950

The Luppitt Players produce a Pantomime every other year in the Village Hall as well as other shows. Speak to Steve Berry if you would like to join them

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The Mede

The Mede was built by Tony Clapp in the early 1980s on a plot of land that had been part of Luppitt Inn Farm owned by Albert and Mary Wright.



Aerial view of The Mede Showing original buildings in bottom right



View of original buildings and new perimeter fence for the plot

Tony built a stable for his daughter Holly for her pony Jack and their names are marked in the concrete support pillars inside the stable. There is a tethering ring by the front step of the house



The original barn was demolished before building work commenced.

Does anyone know if stone from the original buildings was used to face some of the external walls of The Mede?

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THE LUPPITT INN



“Unspoilt basic farmhouse pub tucked away in lovely countryside, an amazing survivor, run by chatty veteran landlady (almost a centenarian) with help from her granddaughter; corner servery and single table in tiny bar, another room (not much bigger) with fireplace and darts, cheap Otter tapped from a polypin, intriguing metal puzzles made by a neighbour, no food or music, lavatories across the yard; only open Thurs and Sat from 7.30pm.” **Good Pub Guide**

The Luppitt Inn is temporarily closed following the death of Mary Wright in January this year. However, shortly before her death Mary and the Luppitt Inn went viral and Sky News wanted to interview her!

The Luppitt Inn of today was built after 1878. The Red Lion, previously on the site, was destroyed by fire in May 1877.

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THE OLD POST OFFICE



Originally the post office was in what is now Town Cottage.

One of the Postmistresses was appropriately called Mrs Stamp

When Mrs Amelia Middleton was Postmistress lads from the school would draw water for her on wash day.

Mrs Middleton's son Sid took over as Post Master. He spent his whole life in Luppitt and grew wonderful chrysanthemums.

Honiton News for 30th August 1996

"A stint of 25 years by Sid Middleton behind the counter of the Luppitt Post Office, Honiton has been rewarded. Mr Middleton took over from his Mother who had been running it for 25 years before that. He was an auxiliary at the time. Mr Middleton was presented with a crystal vase and paperweight and long service certificate at a ceremony at the Heathfield Inn, Honiton."

The Post Office closed in the early 2000s when new technology was introduced.

On 31st May 1877 the Red Lion pub burnt down

"Great fears were entertained that the cottages opposite, and which twelve months ago were nearly burnt down, would have shared the same fate, but being kept well soaked with water, the danger happily passed over."

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THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE

Luppitt's National school was built in the year 1873 and opened on 7th July the same year by Mr George Berry (master) and Mrs Charlotte Berry (mistress). The managers then were: Rev George Watts Grainger BA, Vicar (Treasurer and Correspondent), Capt J K Simcoe RN of Wolford and George Potter Blake of Greenway.

Building of a cloakroom was not commenced until Tuesday 14th November 1893!

The School closed in the late 1960s and was subsequently converted to a house. Originally the building was H shaped with the East end the house, the middle section the junior classroom and the end nearest the road the senior classroom. This classroom was knocked down during conversion.



Luppitt School children



Olive Clapp, one of Luppitt's older residents, taught at the school.

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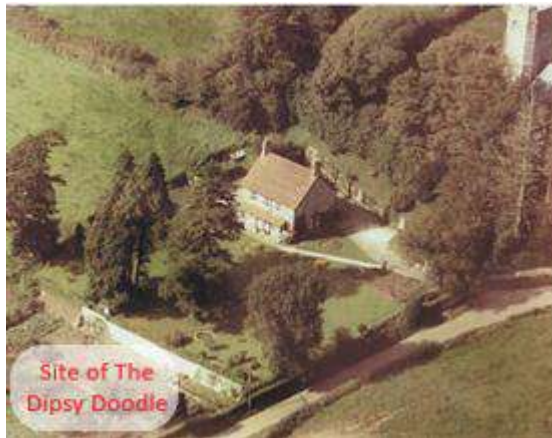
THE DIPSY DOODLE



Built by Eric and Ann Clapp in 1984, in what had once been the vegetable garden of the Old Vicarage. It was called The Orchard, but re-named in April 1991 by the new owners. At the time it was the only house called The Dipsy Doodle in England.

The first record release of the song was in late 1937 by Tommy Dorsey. The early recordings were all published as foxtrots, but with the tempo varying between about 42 and 50 bars per minute, the faster recordings were clearly aimed at the jitterbugs. As time went on, it was adapted to other rhythms - there were a couple of mambo versions; the first proper jive-tempo recording was by Bill Haley in 1957 (and interestingly, it was one of the slower versions).

dipsy-doodle verb US informal: to keep changing direction:
That plane was dipsy-doodling all over the place.



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THE OLD VICARAGE

In 1909 The Old Vicarage was called Hillside. It is unknown for how long this name was in use.

LUPPITT.

WILL BE HELD AT
HILLSIDE, LUPPITT,
IN AID OF THE CHURCH CHOIR FUND, ON
Tuesday, June 22nd, 1909,
From **4** to **6** p.m.
Admission **2d.**, to be returned on the first 2d. purchase.

ALSO A
GARDEN SOCIAL EVENING
FROM **6** TO **10** P.M.

*Music,
Refreshment Stall,
Games, &c.*

*The Garden
will be
Illuminated!!*

Admission **6d.**, by ticket only, which may be obtained from
the **Members of the Choir, Mrs. W. Wright, at the Gate,**
and from **Mrs. Thorpe, Hillside,** who will be glad to receive
contributions for the above.

E. DIMOND, PRINTER, &c., HONITON.

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THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE 1977

Jubilee trees planted at Luppitt

The village of Luppitt ended its Silver Jubilee commemoration last week when a number of villagers gathered at the hillside below St Mary's Church, to see two trees, a copper beech and an Acer Drummondii, planted by Mr Davey, an East Devon Councillor, in the presence of the organisers – Mr Trott, the committee chairman, Mr Ewins, Chairman of the Parish Council and Mr Haynes.



The planting



Can you recognize any of the children in the back row? One of them now farms near the Village Hall.

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Welcome to your Church! Do please come inside to enjoy the breathtaking views and explore this ancient building. There is evidence that the original Church was built around the time of the Norman Conquest 1066 – 1075 and it seems it may have been completely rebuilt around 1310.

What to look for in the Church and Churchyard

Luppitt's Millennium monument **Puzzle Bench**: to the right of the path before the porch. Can you spot the spelling mistake?

The **Ceiling**: Look upwards, the ceiling is built like a ship

The **Angel Gate**: Secures the tower stairs while allowing ventilation

The **Font**: Found by Rev. W. T. Perrott in about 1890 while digging in the bank near the Churchyard boundary. Spend a few moments looking at the carvings

There are **8 bells**: 4 originally surveyed in 1553, 2 lighter bells were added in 1928 and another two in 1974 to give a full octave

The **Ellacombe Apparatus**: Invented 200 years ago this year this is a system to allow the bells to be rung as chimes. It allows the playing of simple melodies on the bells which you might hear on Sunday mornings.

There are copies of "A Glimpse of the Past and Present of St. Mary's Church Luppitt" just inside the Church with more information.

Take your time to explore before returning down the hill for a cream tea or a drink!

Did you know?

The Church building and Churchyard are maintained by volunteers from the Parish. Help is always required!

You can learn to be a bell ringer and join the Luppitt team.

To be part of the Church of England and to contribute to the cost of Mission Community clergy in 2021 the Diocese demands £14,562.00 from Luppitt.

You can make a donation to the Church specifically for maintenance of the building and Churchyard. These donations will not be used to pay the Diocese.

You are welcome here any time, it is your Church.