

Change of premises for Bovey food hub

THE Bovey Affordable Food Hub is moving.

Having called the town's Scout Hut home for many a month, the Bovey Food Hub, which supports the community of Bovey Tracey and surrounding area through the provision of food boxes, is vacating the

premises for the Methodist Church.

From December 6, the food hub will be open at the above mentioned premises from 11.30am to 12.30pm each Tuesday henceforth.

Existing members are invited to come and see the new location and pick up a bag of fresh fruit and veg-

etables, bread and other fridge and cupboard items for under £5 per bag.

New members are very welcome also, particularly those who are struggling to pay bills or having to choose between whether to heat the home or fill the belly; persons are invited to come and see what the food hub has

to offer.

You can sign up to receive a membership card and free tote bag.

The main hall of the Methodist Church will also be operating as a warm space from 11am to 1pm, with free tea, coffee and bowl of soup available to boot.



Blooming fantastic Poppy Appeal total

THIS year's Poppy Appeal in the Newton Abbot area has raised more than £40,000.

A delighted Richard Underhill, chairman of the town's Royal British Legion and Poppy Appeal Organiser, thanked everyone who had made this possible.

He said: 'This was another successful Poppy Appeal for Newton Abbot.'

'The Poppy represents all those who lost their lives on active service in all conflicts; from the beginning of the First World War right up to present day.'

'It also honours the contribution of civilian services and the uniformed services which contribute to national peace and security and acknowledges innocent civilians who have lost their lives in conflict and acts of terrorism.'

Mr Underhill said: 'Now the dust has settled and everything is packed away for another year I would like to thank all the volunteers who collected in all weathers, those volunteers who worked on our static sites at Asda, Sainsbury's, Trago and the Indoor Market, also the Poppy Co-ordinators from Bovey Tracey, Ipplepen, Abbot-skerswell, Ogwell, Denbury, Kingskerswell and Broadhempston who help make our Poppy Appeal a success.'

'A great team effort from everyone - again thank you.'

'A big thank you must go out to the public who supported this year's appeal and very generously donated money.'

'Together we have raised, so far, a magnificent £41,588.75 already exceeding last year's total with money still trickling in.'

Fraud denied

AN Ipplepen man has denied a fraud involving the sale of a caravan.

Lee Vian, aged 44, of Woodville Caravan Park, Totnes Road, has pleaded not guilty to committing fraud at Kingsteignton by purporting to sell a caravan, after receiving a deposit, of £390.

He elected a trial and the case was adjourned to December 9 to clarify whether a refund has gone through. If so, the Crown Prosecution Service has indicated it will discontinue the case.

Blind pensioner left cold, hungry without power

BY PATRICK BEASLEY

ENERGY giants EDF left a partially sighted pensioner cold and in the dark after turning off her power for two full days on some of the coldest days of the year so far.

Agnes Taylor, 73, lost all power to her home first thing last Wednesday. With the help of her brother Sam, she was able to contact EDF who said they would send out an engineer within the next hour or so. No-one turned up and she was left cold and hungry all day.

'I couldn't even have a hot drink,' she said. 'I rely totally on electricity for cooking and heating and the house was so cold. All I could do was keep walking from room to room to stay as warm as possible.'

'It was a very long day and bitterly cold. Eventually the only way to stay warm was to go to bed and lay there.'

'All the time I was more worried about my dog Tia. She is 11 and unwell, I've been so concerned about her health - more than mine!'

Agnes, from Kingsteignton, is fiercely independent and didn't want to burden her neighbours, but as the day wore on she became so distressed she called the Mid-Devon Advertiser for help.

'It's so hard to speak to anyone,' she said tearfully. 'Years ago you used to be able to go to the SWEB office in town if you had a problem and talk to a real person!'

This paper called the EDF helpline and was kept on hold for 40 minutes before an operator picked up. When they were told the reason for the call the operator hung up.

After eight hours without electricity her power was switched on remotely.

'My brother came around and we never saw an engineer.'

'I was assured there had been a mix-up with my payments. I had been paying by direct debit, but unbeknown to me, EDF had stopped them. I wasn't aware of this as I find it difficult to read small print, I had detached retinas and have no sight in one eye and only 20 per cent vision in the other. So I couldn't read my



● Agnes Taylor and her pet Yorkie Tia.

bank statements.'

In July, when Agnes received a final demand in estimated bill from EDF for some £1,600 she finally realised something was amiss and went to Citizen's Advice in Newton Abbot.

'They helped quash the bill and a new payment method was set up,' she said. 'I was paying in £150 month. The most recent payment was a week before, and I know I was still in credit when the power was switched off - I asked a neighbour to look at the meter, but EDF are saying there was nothing on the meter.'

After the power was restored on that Wednesday evening Agnes thought it was all settled, however, the power was switched off again on Friday morning and once again after several attempts, contact was made with EDF, who turned the power

back on at the end of the day.

Agnes said: 'This has played havoc with my health. I am diabetic and couldn't have anything warm to eat or drink on either day.'

'What's more I had decided to spoil myself for once, and used some of my cost of living allowance to buy some nice food for Christmas. With the freezer being off, all that has now been ruined.'

Agnes said: 'EDF have apologised and admitted there has been a mistake and asked me what it would take for me to drop a complaint. They have offered me just £250, which is an insult.'

'They have shown they have no consideration for pensioners - or people with disabilities.'

● The Mid-Devon Advertiser contacted EDF for a comment, but none was forthcoming at the time of going to press.

Speeding table of shame

DRIVERS of Ford cars lead a table of shame of drivers who are breaking the speed limit around Newton Abbot.

The Newton Abbot Speed Watch campaigners aiming to make the town's roads safer have come up with a table of the vehicle drivers who are breaking the town's speed limits the most

In record order they are:

Make	Number
FORD	91
VAUXHALL	47
PEUGEOT	33
VOLKSWAGEN	28
CITROEN	25
MERCEDES	25
NISSAN	21
TOYOTA	17
RENAULT	17
HYUNDAI	16
BMW	14
AUDI	14
HONDA	11
KIA	10
VOLVO	10
MINI	9
SKODA	7
FIAT	7
MITSUBISHI	7
ROVER	6
MAZDA	6
SUZUKI I	5
SEAT	3
JAGUAR	3
PORSCHE	3

RENDELLS

NEWTON ABBOT MARKET DECEMBER SALES

Wednesday 7th at 11:00

December Sale of Prime, Culls, Stores, Cows & Calves inc 5 LIM Strs 8-10mo, 3 SIM X Strs 10-12mo, SD Hfr 12mo, AA Hfr 12mo, 2 SD Hfrs 18mo, 2 SD X Hfrs 18mo, SD Bull 18mo, 2 SIM X Hfrs 20mo, CH Cow with Hfr Calf at foot (1st calver), LIM Cow been running with SD Bull (2nd calver) & LIM Cow with Bull Calf at foot (4th calver) plus Show and Sale of Prime Lambs followed by store sheep and cull ewes.

Wednesday 14th at 11:00

Sale of Prime Lambs, Cull Ewes and Store Lambs.

Wednesday 21st

Newton Abbot Market Christmas Dead Poultry Sale.

Entries Invited.

Newton Abbot Office on 01626 353881

www.rendells.co.uk

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