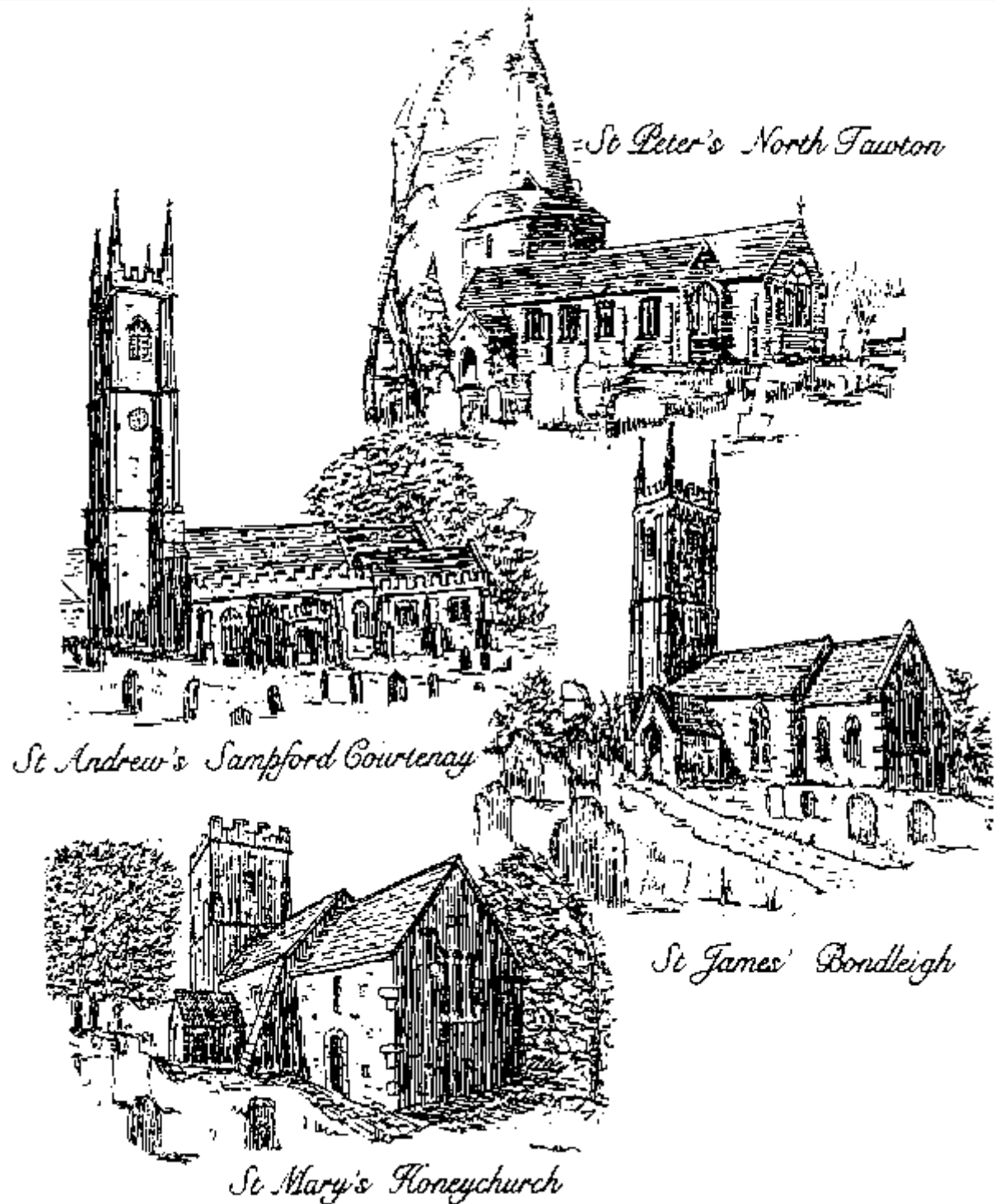


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From The Rectory

Gifts for the Homeless

A couple of weeks ago, I was privileged to meet an amazing family just outside Exeter. As well as working full time on their dairy farm, one of their barns is now the hub for the Exeter Food Bank. Also, they co-ordinate Wednesday night Café, held in the Chapter House of Exeter cathedral, which reaches out to the homeless and vulnerably housed of the city. They shared some heart wrenching stories of individuals, and they conveyed how important it is to make homeless people feel *significant*, to offer them *sympathy* and give them *support*.

According to a recent report from Shelter, more than 1,000 people across Devon are officially homeless. Not just in the larger urban areas such as Exeter (which has one of the highest homeless rates in the west country) but also in the more rural, remote parts of the county – and, in fact, not far from our own front doorsteps.

Homeless people seem to be an increasingly common feature of our urban landscapes, sitting on the streets with their sleeping bags and blankets. But such people only represent the visible tip of an iceberg; there are also the ‘hidden homeless’, camped out on the floors of friends but who have nowhere to call their own.

Attitudes to the homeless vary. Some people dismiss ‘the homeless’ with no sympathy: ‘it’s their own fault’, ‘they should get a job’. Others throw them coins and move on swiftly. Others are troubled and ask why doesn’t the government do something about them? The reality is that most of us don’t bother ourselves too much with the plight of those who are homeless. After all, we like to live in tidy worlds of warmth and cleanliness, and these untidy, bedraggled and troubling people just don’t fit in.

The Bible in Lamentations 3:19–21 echoes the discomfort of the homeless:

‘The thought of my suffering and homelessness is bitter beyond words. I will never forget this awful time, as I grieve over my loss. Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this.’

We have just had one of the coldest nights of the winter, and sitting in my cosy, warm study I can’t help but consider the plight of homeless people. We can at least offer them three gifts.

First, *the gift of significance*. There are many unfortunate aspects of being homeless but one of the worst is the way that you become insignificant; you become, in effect, invisible. People may step around you as if you were some sort of hazard but deep down, where it really counts, they do not see you. You can also be dehumanised by simply being reduced to ‘an issue’ and referred to as ‘the homeless’ as if you were some urban nuisance like waste disposal.

Yet homelessness is about *people*. Every homeless person is an individual with a history of hopes that failed, dreams

that became nightmares, and promises that were not delivered. They are like us except for this one thing: with them life went wrong. Every single person on the pavement has a sad and complex story. They are people and one size does not fit all.

If we are Christians we have even stronger reasons for treating such people as being significant. We should remind ourselves that a homeless person is someone made in the image of God. Jesus was born into homelessness, and said of himself that he had ‘*no place even to lay his head*’ (Matthew 8:20) and who, for our sake, was reduced to public humiliation.

If you regularly pass the same individual, try to get his or her name and, from then on, greet them with it. It’s a reminder to them, and to us, that they are human and not a statistic.

Second, *the gift of sympathy*. These are people for whom something went so badly wrong that they started down the slippery slope that leads to life on the pavement.

In today’s merciless world, mistakes go unforgiven and any slippery slope is well lubricated: landlords evict, banks foreclose, bailiffs arrive and doors are closed. And once you are down you tend to stay down. It’s not easy applying for a job when your address is ‘no fixed abode’, or looking for jobs from a park bench, or remaining employed when you can’t wash regularly. In every statistic the odds are stacked against homeless people: they are more frequently abused, have worse health and have appallingly low life expectancies. Take a moment and replay your own life. It’s not hard to find a point where, had events been only slightly different, it could be you or me out there shivering, holding out our Styrofoam cup. Indeed, ‘*There but for the grace of God go I.*’

Finally, *the gift of support*. We may want to give money but a thoughtful and strategic approach to giving support is better. Because of the complexities involved, getting people out of homelessness is hard. It takes time, money and sustained effort.

It is encouraging that many of the initiatives with homeless people have come out of Christianity; the Salvation Army, Shelter, Crisis, St. Petrock’s in Exeter. One of Jesus’s sayings is, ‘*It is more blessed to give than to receive*’ (Acts 20:35). To offer those who are homeless, significance, sympathy and support isn’t easy. But here, from the most reliable authority, we have the promise that if we do so we will be blessed.

Revd Rita Bullworthy
Assistant Minister

(One form of help easily done is through contributing to the Food Bank. The box is inside the porch of St. Peter’s Church, North Tawton. Please leave your food offerings there. Editors.)

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is published for the community on behalf of the four parish churches of North Tawton, Sampford Courtenay, Bondleigh and Honeychurch.

Opinions expressed by contributors are their own and are not necessarily endorsed by the Vicar, by the PCC, members of the four churches, or by the Editors.

Contributions should be sent to
Hilary and Richard Edwards,
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(There are also links online via the websites of the
North Tawton Town Council and the
Sampford Courtenay Village Council).

Remembered a century on, casualties of the Great War.

**Driver Albert Hunt of the
Royal Garrison Artillery. He
died on 14th March, 1918 aged
25, in North Tawton having
lived in Bathe Moor Cottages**

**Private Frederick Samuel Pyke
of the Royal West Kents.
He died on 26th March, 1918
aged 28 in France. He has no
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commemorated at the British Cemetery at
Pozieres in Picardy.
He lived at Sampford Courtenay Station**



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14A The Square
North Tawton
EX20 2EP
Tel: 01837 880121
e-mail: northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Community Group for improving or creating local amenities

North Tawton Town Council acknowledges the valuable contribution that local businesses and voluntary groups are making to our community and wishes to support initiatives that can further enhance the lives of our residents.

Within the town there are premises that are vacant or under-used and there may well be needs and interests that are not being met.

If you are interested in helping to form a community group to discuss and develop ideas, please contact the Town Council in the first instance. The Council will help to facilitate some initial meetings if significant interest is shown.

Dangerous and illegal parking – who can help?

Everyone is aware of all the parking issues we have here in North Tawton, but the Council continues to receive numbers of complaints about this issue. Even today, an incident of 'double parking' in The Square (even though only for a short period) led to a complete gridlock around The Square.

The Council has ongoing concerns about traffic and parking, and has already agreed to form a working group, due to have an initial meeting in the near future, to discuss these issues and try to come up with viable solutions. In the meantime, who should residents contact if they have a complaint?

- 1 Dangerous Parking – can be defined as wilful and unnecessary obstruction of the highway, or leaving vehicles in a dangerous position, or sometimes it can refer to parking on the pavement in such a way that wheelchair users or those pushing buggies or prams have to divert onto the highway as there is no room on the pavement. The police have previously advised that specific incidents should be reported to them on the non-emergency contact number – 101. They will need details of the vehicle itself, and where it is parked, and will attend if it is possible to do so.
- 2 Illegal Parking – this can be a complex issue, but essentially drivers should be aware of road markings and restrictions and park accordingly. Cars should be parked within 50cm of the kerb unless in a parking bay. Don't park on areas of hatched white lines. Illegal parking is enforced by Devon County Council, and can be reported on their dedicated webpage. The easiest way to find this is to do an internet search for 'Devon Highways report a problem' and you will see where to report parking issues on this page. Alternatively, ring Devon Highways on 0345 155 1004 or 0845 155 1004 – check charges with your telephone network provider first.

Plastic Waste Recycling – town centre car park

A new calendar will be published soon, giving the dates for the coming year, but meanwhile remember it is usually on the 3rd Saturday of each month, and posters will be displayed outside the Council Office in The Square.

Rosalind Rice Clerk, to North Tawton Town Council
or Sarah Say, Temporary Clerk to North Tawton Town Council
14a The Square, North Tawton, EX20 2EP
Tel: 01837 880121

e-mail: northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk
<http://www.northtawtontowncouncil.co.uk/>

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Date for your diaries:

Our Annual Auc on and Draw is being held at The White Hart on Saturday, 21st April, at 7.30pm. This is usually a very enjoyable evening with a variety of items for the auc on and, of course, the draw. If you feel you would like to donate to the Auc on or Draw please contact me or any RBL member. All dona ons will be greatly appreciated, so come along on the night and join in as there will be many bargains to be had.

On a sad note we have lost a valued member of the branch Mr. Alf Bolt who passed away in February.

Barry Ware

Saturday 17th March

The Guides have a coffee morning in the Town Hall, Draw, hamper, homemade cakes, tombola etc. Table tops available £5.00 but no food. To book please phone 01837 89160. Proceeds for Guide camp funds.

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Traditional Communion

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March of Witness
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Easter Sunday Celebration 1st April 11am
all-age communion service

North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Our February meeting was on February 7th

Members beat the cold this month by taking part in a "sitting keep fit" programme which was presented by local keep fit instructor Emma Jefferies. We might have been sitting down but accompanied by music we exercised with various moves for 45 minutes non-stop, encouraged by Emma. Our members are pleased that she will be making a return visit later this year.

With our A.G.M. coming up in May this year, we will be looking for new members and, hopefully, members willing to join the Committee which meets monthly. Whatever your particular skills and abilities you will be very welcome to come and join a happy group of ladies who enjoy various clubs – amongst which are Luncheon, Supper, Walk and Talk, and Scrabble.

We enjoy a variety of speakers each month on such varied topics as Nordic Walking, British Wildlife, the running of a Weight Management Clinic with the emphasis on support to people needing that extra encouragement, the charity Compassion UK which sponsors schoolchildren in Africa and the Asian continent and Titanic – the lives, after 1912, of the various survivors. Our programme changes each June and some interesting speakers are already in the pipeline. Our anniversary outing this year will be at Exeter College where we will be enjoying the luncheon laid on by the Catering students at the College.

*Jane Hunt-Webb
Secretary*

ENID WESTLAKE'S 90th BIRTHDAY PARTY

Sunday, 14th January, 2018 was a reason to celebrate for the Westlake family and the friends of Enid when a party was held at the Rugby Club to celebrate her 90th Birthday.

Enid would like to thank everyone who came along to make her birthday such a special occasion. Donations made on the day amounting to £320 were shared between Alzheimer's and The British Heart Foundation.



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A Community Armistice Commemoration

To mark one hundred years since the signing of the Armistice in 1918, local historian, Alan Parkinson, has written a commemoration for performance in October, showing how our local community was affected by the world war from 1914 -18. Alan's script requires actors, speakers, (some of whose parts may be recorded in advance) singers to perform songs of the period, (in which the audience will be invited to join) and it will make use of photographs and letters of the period.

Anyone interested in taking part is invited to a preliminary meeting in the Mortimer Room at St. Peter's Church at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 20th March when we shall give more details about the event, sing some of the songs to be used, and audition those who wish to be considered for acting, singing or speaking roles. Rehearsals will start in earnest in September.

It may be you are interested but unable to attend on 20th March. If so, please contact before 20th March:

Richard Edwards (01837 82376) if you would like to be involved in the singing.

John Palmer (01837 851659) if you would like to be an actor or speaker.

Acting roles will involve learning your part. Speakers' and Singers' roles will not!

Please also come along if you may be interested to help front of house or backstage. All are welcome!

The Commemoration is written so that it can be put together at short notice. Preliminary rehearsals are likely to be on three Tuesdays in September: 11th, 18th, 25th, two Tuesday evenings in October: 2nd and 9th (the 9th to be the "Dress Rehearsal") before performances at the end of that week.



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The spring half term holiday always marks a significant point in the school year. We are now officially half way between the last summer holiday and the next one. As the days start to draw out, our thoughts start drifting towards exciting trips away and all those school activities we can enjoy during the summer months.

One of the recent highlights in school was our inaugural Grandparents' Day. We welcomed over 50 grandparents to the school who were invited to have a tour of the classrooms and see their grandchildren hard at work. They were shown around by some of the older pupils who acted as tour guides. Grandparents play such a big part in many children's lives. I see many dropping off in the morning and collecting after school. I was conscious that they rarely see much beyond the school gate. We thought it would be a nice opportunity to look around the school and see what goes on in the classrooms. We also wanted to thank them for the time many spend with the children helping them read or do their homework.

With this in mind, the grandparents had a couple of short talks by two of the teachers on helping children learning their times tables and tips on getting the most when hearing them read. The morning ended with a performance from the school choir. There was barely a dry eye in the house when they sang 'You raise me up' accompanied by a montage of photographs of the children and their grandparents.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the morning and the feedback as people were leaving was lovely. They were impressed by the children who acted as guides not least as they were so proud of their school. For some of our visitors it was a walk down memory lane as they had attended the school as children themselves. It was a real pleasure to welcome everyone so many thanks to all those who attended. Hopefully we may be able to run it again next year.

Football and netball fixtures have started again after a mid-season break. Results have been generally positive and both teams are hoping for a good finish to the season. Our indoor athletics team qualified for the area finals for the first time and put in a very creditable performance. Similarly, our school quiz team has qualified for the Rotary Club quiz final taking place shortly in the Octagon Theatre at Okehampton College.

A big focus this year has been encouraging children to read more. Our Christmas reading challenge was a great success with over 80 children completing it. All the children were given a book mark before the Christmas holidays and each time they read, they were able to mark this off. All those who returned their completed book marks received a certificate and were entered in to a draw. The winners were Amelia in Oak, Sam in Chestnut, Travis in Beech and Mei Ling in Hazel. The class with most completed book marks was Beech. Over half term we had an 'extreme reading' competition where children were challenged to get a photograph of themselves reading in an unusual place. To inspire the children, some of the staff were caught reading in some unlikely places!



Best wishes
Nick Alford
Headteacher



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**Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay and
Jacobstowe W.I.**

The latest meeting was held in the village hall on Thursday February 1st.

The president welcomed everyone (including two visitors) and Jerusalem was sung.

As the advertised speaker did not arrive, the time was taken up with business including a lot of correspondence. A vote of thanks was given to Hazel Carvil, the programme secretary for an interesting programme for the year. Members who were not at the last meeting voted on the Resolutions and the competition for the Group Meeting in April was decided. Arrangements for the Coffee Morning in Hatherleigh on March 13th were made and the team for the County Quiz on February 17th was picked.

The annual lunch is to be held at Strawberry Fields, Lifton on March 22nd. There is to be a Women Walk the World Event on Sunday April 29th and it was decided that the walking group could incorporate this with their monthly walk on April 27th.

FOM and the competition for any sort of dog were both won by Doris Piper.

The next meeting will be in the village hall on Thursday March 1st at 2.30pm and the speaker will be Olive Kent, whose talk will be entitled 'Memories of a South Pacific Island'.

Margaret Weeks

Bondleigh Rainfall

January Rainfall

The New Year has started with more of the same. Apart from a few days during the 2nd week there has been rain on nearly every day of the month. The total was 153.2mm compared to only 58mm last year. As the days begin to lengthen it will surely start to improve!

Danny Semorad

**St James's Church Bondleigh
Sunday, 11th March, 11.00am
Mothering Sunday Service**

Led by Rev'd Rita Bullworthy, this will be a "child-focussed" service with activities for the children. Each lady attending will be presented with a posy of flowers.

Bring family and friends along to celebrate this special family day and enjoy a tea/coffee and get together after the service.



READING GROUP

**MEETS last Tuesday MONTHLY 7.30 pm
AT THE NEW INN
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**St Andrew's Parish Church, Sampford
Courtenay**

**Bellringers'
Coffee Morning
Saturday 17th March
10.00am - 12noon Church
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Sampford Courtenay Parish Website:

<http://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/>

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Plus check out our new [FACEBOOK](#) Page. Like and Share to help us spread SCPC news.

SCPC Meeting 16th Jan 2018

New Banking Arrangements – with news of the closure of the Okehampton and Crediton branches of Nat-West Bank – SCPC is looking into new banking arrangements for the future.

Public Toilets – Cllr C Coleman has been undertaking the regular cleaning of SC Public Conveniences for the past 2 years as a contribution in kind towards the War Memorial Fund. However, SCPC would like to arrange the Annual Deep Clean before the tourist season arrives. Anyone wishing to tender for this job please contact the Clerk.

March & Future SCPC Meetings – the coming weeks are going to be busy with SCPC Meetings:

March 20th – Regular SCPC Meeting.

March 27th – Annual Parish Open Meeting – come along and give us your ideas on how you would like SCPC to represent you; plus let us know your ideas for future projects in the parish.

April 3rd – Regular SCPC Meeting – in order for this Roundabout Report of SCPC meetings to be more up-to-date, Monthly meetings will be moving to the 1st Tuesday of the month starting on April 3rd.

Minutes of SCPC January meeting can be viewed on our Website.

Please contact SCPC Clerk – Marion Pratt at SCPCclerk@aol.com or on 01837 82285 if you would like to raise any issues. Even better, come along to a meeting. Next meetings Feb 20th.

Marion Pratt

Sampford Courtenay Flower and Veg Show 11th Aug 2018



**Judges' Question Time – Friday March 16th –
Sampford Courtenay Village Hall 7.30 pm**

Collect your **Seed Potato & Bucket** for the Heaviest CropClass in this year's show. Please book your potato & bucket by contacting Marion or Bill on 01837 82285 or marion174@btinternet.com

Collect your **Scarecrow Card** – to display with your Scarecrow outside of your home by 1st August 2018. Plus have your questions ready to put to 2 of our regular judges who may be able to give you tips on what makes a prize winning exhibit.

Check out other classes you may wish to start preparing for on [Sampford Courtenay Website](#). Or [Facebook page](#).

Please note new date for Flower Show – it is going to be a week earlier to fit in with the judges!



Sampford Courtenay Flower Club

2.30 p.m.

Tracey Johnson

'Wild About Craft'

Tea hostess - Shirley Reddaway

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News from the Castle

Hi everyone

We finally seem to be heading towards Spring. It is lovely to see snowdrops in the garden and daffodils starting to appear. The garden is open every day now if you feel the need to stretch your legs and the Castle will re-open for the new season on Saturday 3rd March. We are very excited about a new art installation in the Library this year inspired by the incredible architecture created by Edwin Lutyens when designing Castle Drogo. This feels appropriate as we are now in our final year of building work.

We have just completed a wonderful First World War project in Drewsteignton as part of the Devon Remembers Heritage project. We had such a lovely warm welcome from many people when we hand delivered copies of original WW1 postcards – even being invited in for tea and biscuits! It may have been helped by our original costumes of postman and postmistress. It was wonderful to see so many people from Chagford History Society at the talk and display which took place on 29th January. It really was a very moving and poignant event, finishing with the Chagford Bell Ringers completing 100 peals of the church bells. I must confess to getting a bit misty eyed.

We have another First World War project underway at the moment too which is part of a national project called Away From the Western Front. We have been working with Okehampton College to create a history, music and drama performance and exhibition inspired by the story of a Drewsteignton lad called William George Arcscott. The college plan to perform the finished piece at Drogo on Friday 9th March. Please get in touch if you would like to know more.

Best wishes to you all,

Paula
Community Engagement Officer, Castle Drogo

News from Sampford Courtenay

Plough Sunday was celebrated at St. Andrew's on 14th January when the horse-drawn plough was pushed up the aisle by members of the Young Farmers Club for a blessing, together with a sample of wheat and soil. The congregation gathered in The Square afterwards for the blessing of the tractors assembled there. *(see Picture on page 27)*

A service of thanksgiving in St. Andrew's church followed the cremation of Peter Reddaway on Tuesday 23rd January. The church was packed to hear the eulogy, given by the Rev'd Nick Weldon and the choir sang Mozart's Ave Verum. Afterwards light refreshments were served in the Village Hall. Donations in excess of £800 were given in memory of Peter for the Lyme Ward Trust Fund.

A skittles match, held in the Village Hall on Saturday 27th January, resulted in a win for Sampford Courtenay with 568 against Bondleigh with 538. Top man for Sampford Courtenay was Colin with 36 and top woman was Veronica with 32. Top man for Bondleigh was Raymond with 40 and top woman Jen with 27. The next match will be on Saturday April 21st. The bellringers held their annual dinner at The Post Inn, Whiddon Down, on Friday 2nd February which was attended by 30 ringers and guests.

The baptism of Wilfred Lloyd Owain Hanks took place during the service of Holy Communion at St. Andrew's on Sunday, 11th February. His grandfather, the Revd Robert Lloyd-Richards, officiated, assisted by the Rev'd Rita Bullworthy. Sampford Courtenay Flower Club held its first meeting of the year on Monday 12th February in the Village Hall. Fiona Hammond's demonstration was *Imposed*, with the committee providing the flowers, foliage and containers. Fiona then had 2 hours in which to plan her arrangements, prior to the meeting. Seven beautiful arrangements were constructed, to the delight of the members, seven of whom won them in the subsequent raffle. The next meeting will be on Monday 12th March at 2.30pm and new members and visitors will be made very welcome. The Flower Club will be holding a Jubilee Sale in Exbourne Village Hall on Saturday 17th March at 2.15pm.
Nicky Craig

From the North Tawton Parish Records:

From around the turn of the twentieth century, one of the major effects of improved medical practice has been to reduce infant mortality. Nowadays we expect a child and its mother to come safely through the time of its birth and for it to have every prospect of a full life's expectation. That has not always been the case and our parish records contain many sad instances of children who died as infants. Our ancestors lived closer to death than we do. Life expectation was shorter, medical practice less developed and disease more easily flourishing in insanitary living conditions.

One case from the grave records of St. Peter's Church in North Tawton tells a particularly heart-rending story. John and Charity Wensley lost the following children: William (7 weeks) in 1767, Sarah (3 weeks) 1768, Charity (2 weeks) 1769, Anthony (7 years) 1772, and Richard (15 months) 1772.

One hopes that the couple were able to raise other children to help them bear the trauma of losing so many. Whether or not they had that solace, the parents lived much longer themselves and were buried in the same churchyard, Charity aged 57 in 1795 and John aged 88 in 1819.

But what would John and Charity have given for the kind of health care we enjoy today for our young families?

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The March meeting will take place at the
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**There will be a talk entitled
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We meet at the Ockment Centre, North Street, Okehampton, EX20 1AR at 2.30PM. Okehampton U3A welcomes new or prospective members, who will receive a warm welcome. The only requirement is that members are not in full time employment. More information can be found at www.u3asites.org.uk/okehampton or please contact our chairman at janinzeal@gmail.com. If you would rather turn up and introduce yourself that's fine too.

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SATURDAY *monthly*

March 17th

NORTH TAWTON The Square

10:00 to 12:00

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ACE Archaeology Club

We are now busy planning for another year of archaeology. There is so much going on.

We have changed the dates of our Moistown dig so that we do it all in one go instead of spreading it out and doing a week in spring and two weeks in the summer. We decided that putting up the tents and then taking them down twice and covering and uncovering the trenches twice wasn't a good use of time and energy so we will be digging from the 30th June to the 25th July. This also covers the Council for British Archaeology festival on the 21st and 22nd July, for which we will be doing our bit. As well as the opportunity to have a look around our site and find out more from the exhibition, there is the chance for visitors to have a go at digging. The 'Have a go trench' is usually full of children but we would love some adults to try it as well. You never know, you might like it.

We have a small group of people now starting to work on the thousands of finds that we have, mostly pottery sherds. We have to do a crash course in how to identify the different types of pottery. We have found some pieces dating from the Saxo-Norman period and quite a bit of later medieval as well as the ubiquitous blue and white ware! So have a lot to get our heads around.

Of course, we aren't the only ones doing archaeology and we hope to have some involvement in work that will be going on in the National Trust estate at Fingle Woods. Information will be out on that later in the year on the Castle Drogo website and the Woodland Trust website. Finally, this year is Ace's 21st birthday, so we will be having a party in July to celebrate that.

For more information on what we are up to, do have a look at our Facebook page or our website

www.acearchaeologyclub.wordpress.com

Or contact us on surica47@gmail.com

Erica Williamson (Secretary)

Spring Embroidery Fair

Cheriton Bishop Branch will again be holding their Spring Embroidery Fair in April 2018. The dates for this event in Cheriton Bishop Village Hall, are Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th April, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm, admission free.

We warmly invite you to our Fair, which is now into its twentieth year and hope to provide you with a lively exhibition. On show will be a varied mix of embroidery and textile art, with examples of members' work resulting from workshops and day schools, as well as individual member's displays and stands, with some items for sale. There will be on-going demonstrations throughout the weekend and a number of trade stalls with fabrics, threads and books, making this fair a real celebration of all aspects of contemporary and traditional embroidery. New for 2018 is a World War I themed archive of popular embroidery, fashion, and sewing items from the era; plus a colourful display following the group's recent study tour to India.

Otherwise reluctant spouses may be attracted by the delicious homemade lunches, which are definitely an added bonus to your day! Children (and everyone else!) are very welcome to 'have a go' on a demonstration table.

Cheriton Bishop is very accessible from the A30 between Exeter and Okehampton, and is close to Fingle Bridge and National Trust-owned Castle Drogo – ideal for an enjoyable day out with friends and Family: Cheriton Bishop Village Hall, Cheriton Bishop, Exeter, (EX6 6JA)

Contact Details: Felicity Dudbridge on 01392 811647, email: felicitydudbridge@gmail.com

Website: wcecheritonbishop

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Mondays at Winkleigh Sports Centre:

NEW CLASS 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. Dancing Tots – Walking confidently – 2.5 years

Tuesdays at North Tawton Town Hall:

3:15 – 3:45 p.m. Baby Ballet – 2 Year Olds
3:45 – 4:30 p.m. Pre Primary Ballet – 3 and 4 Year Olds
4:30 – 5:15 p.m. Primary Ballet – 5 and 6 Year Olds
5:15 – 6:00 p.m. Grade 2 Ballet

Wednesdays at North Tawton Town Hall:

NEW CLASS 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. Dancing Tots – Walking confidently – 2.5 Years
4:00 – 4:45 p.m. - Grade 1 Ballet
NEW CLASS 4:45 – 5:45 p.m. Jazz - 11+ Year Olds

Thursdays at North Tawton Town Hall:

4:00 – 4:45 p.m. Jazz - 3 – 5 Year Olds
4:45 – 5:30 p.m. Jazz - 6 – 8 Year Olds
5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Jazz – 9 - 11 Year Olds

For more information, to book your child a place or any questions you maybe have, email sophie_sian@rocketmail.com or phone 07545184936



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**Sampford Courtenay
Village Hall**

A couple of dates for your diary: -

Family Dog Show and Car Boot
Saturday 5th May

Quiz and Pudding Evening
Friday 18th May at 7.30 pm

More details to follow.

Sampford Courtenay Grand Fete
Saturday 16th June 2018
From 12 noon

Join us in the magnificent grounds of
Culverhayes, Sampford Courtenay for:

Craft and food stalls
Old-fashioned games
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Live music
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**Craft stalls at this all-afternoon event
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and to reserve a stall, contact
Rosemary Lowe on 01837 851248 or
email higherclistonfarm@gmail.com**



The clergy and choir lead the congregation of St Andrew's Church Sampford Courtenay for the annual service of the blessings of the ploughs

Kaleb's Thumbprint

In aid of Children's Hospice South West

Easter Coffee Morning

31st March 2018

10am-12pm



North Tawton

Town Hall

Raffle

Hamper

Cake stall

Table tops £5 please call 01837 82443 to
book

Lucky Dip

Tombola

Refreshments



**Women's World Day of Prayer 2018 -
All God's Creation is Very Good!**

This is an invitation to attend this year's service, to be held at North Street Chapel, North Street, North Tawton, at 2.30 pm on Friday 2 March 2018.

We'll be joining an estimated 3 million people around the world that day in a service which has been written this year by the women of Suriname in South America.

Starting in Samoa as the sun rises, and ending as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa, the service will remind us all that we have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in. With its vast rainforest and wealth of resources, Suriname asks us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, as well as for the situation in Suriname and concerns for the future.

This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our planet and its inhabitants – so this invitation is to women, men, young people, and children – please come and join us for this service, which addresses topics very relevant and of concern to us all. There will be some refreshments and a time to chat afterwards.



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ARE YOU JUST STARTING AN APPRENTICESHIP ?

This Trust has a small income which can be applied in promoting the education, including social and physical training, of boys and girls of small means resident in the **Parish of North Tawton**. Small grants can be made towards expenses of students going to University, College or taking apprenticeships etc.

Applications should be made in writing to:

Clerk to the Trustees
North Tawton School Lands Charity
5 BOUCHIERS CLOSE
NORTH TAWTON
EX20 2DB

and should state the name, age and address of the applicant and give details of the type of education they are pursuing.

Applications must be sent before the **30th April 2018** Applicants will be advised if a grant has been awarded as soon as possible after that date. It is emphasized that these grants are small and are made entirely at the discretion of the Trustees.

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall Management Committee Christmas Quiz

Thank you to everyone who supported the Village Hall by buying one of the Christmas quizzes.

The winner of the quiz was **Mrs Gina Dale from Belstone.**

The answers are as follows.

1. Romeo - Juliet
2. Starsky - Hutch
3. Tarzan - Jane
4. Bonnie - Clyde
5. Castor - Pollux
6. Thelma - Louise
7. Romulus - Remus
8. Batman - Robin
9. Rhubarb - Custard
10. Mapp - Lucia
11. Pongo - Perdita
12. Dolce - Gabbana
13. Topsy - Tim
14. Orpheus - Eurydice
15. Samson - Delilah
16. Cain - Abel
17. Cupid - Psyche
18. Calvin - Hobbes
19. Wallace - Grommit

20. Rosencrantz - Guildenstern
21. Mork - Mindy
22. Antony - Cleopatra
23. Barbie - Ken
24. Titania - Oberon
25. Dastardly - Mutley
26. Rodgers - Hammerstein
27. Pyramus - Thisbe
28. Itchy - Scratchy
29. SpongeBob - Patrick
30. Chip - Dale
31. Tristan - Isolde
32. Kevin - Perry
33. Bert - Ernie
34. Popeye - Olive Oyl
35. Abelard - Heloise
36. Hiawatha - Minnie Ha Ha
37. Ren - Stimpy
38. Porgy - Bess
39. Othello - Desdemona
40. Don Quixote - Sancho Panza
41. Hansel - Gretel
42. Cheech - Chong
43. Mario - Luigi
44. Waldorf - Stadler
45. Dante - Beatrice
46. Super Ted - Spotty Man

47. Quasimodo - Esmeralda
48. Perseus - Andromeda
49. Pierrot - Pierrette or Columbine
50. Troilus - Cressida
51. Cathy - Heathcliff
52. Isis - Osiris
53. Laurel - Hardy
54. Basil - Sybil
55. Laverne - Shirley
56. Cagney - Lacey
57. Sylvester - Tweetie Pie
58. Captain - Tennille
59. Snow White - Rose Red
60. Asterix - Obelix
61. Abbott - Costello
62. Simon - Garfunkel
63. Rocky - Bullwinkle
64. Barnum - Bailey
65. Hero - Leander
66. Jekyll - Hyde
67. Ferdinand - Isabella
68. Lilo - Stitch
69. Fogg - Passepartout
70. Adam - Eve



DARE has successfully been providing independent and impartial advice on the SMART meter roll out in North Tawton and the surrounding area, through our SMART Energy GB funded project. We have been very warmly welcomed by a number of groups including the Bow Friendship group, North Tawton's Tuesday Chat group, the Create and Craft group and those attending the Bow Christmas Market. We have also held a number of open surgeries in North Tawton, which were kindly hosted in the Town Council Offices. Following on from these events, we have found a number of queries have become a running theme of our sessions. Therefore, we thought we would answer these questions through this article and make readers aware that they can contact us should they need any further information.

Do I have to have a SMART Meter?

SMART Meters are not mandatory, it is your choice as a consumer if you wish to have one installed. However all of the major energy suppliers have to offer you the chance to have a SMART meter by 2020 and you can ask your supplier for a SMART meter to be installed. Also, it is worth noting that eventually they will stop the manufacture of normal meters, if you have a fault with your meter in the future it may have to be replaced with a SMART meter if your supplier isn't able to source a traditional meter.

Do I pay for a SMART Meter?

No, you should not pay any fee for the SMART meter to be installed or for the home energy display unit, if someone asks for money to install a SMART meter it is a scam.

Why would I want a SMART Meter?

SMART Meters are very useful if you find the manual reading of your meter difficult, or if you don't like energy company representatives visiting your property to read the meter. They are designed to see an end to estimated billing, which can cause consumers a great deal of distress and lead to a large number of over-payments. The home energy display can help you identify high energy using appliances, or reveal the consumption of appliances being left on stand-by and gives you your consumption information in pounds and pence, which is easier to understand.

Can I change fuel supplier I like to switch to get the best deal?

Currently you can switch supplier, although the tariff information will disappear from the home energy display and you may have to take manual meter readings again for your new supplier. There are two generations of meters; SMETS1 & SMETS2. SMETS1 meters communicate with one supplier, SMETS2 have been introduced to overcome this issue and will communicate with a data control company which will then feed consumption information to your supplier, this means you will be able to switch and maintain all functionality. Only SMETS2 meters will be installed from July 2018 and a software change will happen to all SMETS1 meters to make them compliant before 2020.

Will a SMART meter work in every home?

Unfortunately, not all homes are suitable for a SMART meter. This may be because of difficult access to the meter, a long distance from the meter to the home, certain wall construction types which hamper the signal and areas of poor mobile phone signal. The SMETS2 meters have been introduced to try and overcome some of these issues, namely poor phone signal, but it is important to make your supplier aware of any of these matters when they offer you a SMART meter, so they can check if your property will be suitable. The Smart Energy GB in Communities fund is a central part of Smart Energy GB's work to ensure everyone in Great Britain hears about smart meters and knows how to use them to get their gas and electricity under control. The fund is managed by Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), which has 45 years' experience in designing and delivering strategic grant-making programmes to part of the Smart Energy GB in

Communities programme, which is being delivered by a consortium of charities - National Energy Action (NEA), Energy Action Scotland (EAS) and CAF. If you would like further information please call us on 01837 52600 or visit

Okehampton Parkinson's Support Group

Meet Castle Ham, Okehampton
4th Thursday every month 2-4 p.m..

Exercise classes on all other Thursdays
for anyone with limited ability + their carers
Trips, activities, talks throughout the year,
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Pause for Thought

Lives again our glorious King;
Where, O Death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, He all doth save;
Where thy victory, O grave?

Local runner, Ian Webber, is training for his seventeenth consecutive London Marathon, which will be taking place on Sunday 22nd April. This year, Ian will be raising money for Hospice UK.

- *Hospice UK is the national charity for hospice care. They support the work of our local Children's Hospice South West, Hospiscare (in Exeter), North Devon Hospice, Rowcroft (The Torbay & South Devon Hospice) and St Luke's Hospice (Plymouth) as well as many other hospices across the UK.*
- *Hospice care changes lives. Hospices care for people with a wide range of conditions including cancer, motor neurone disease, cardio-vascular diseases, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease. Hospices are also increasingly supporting people with multiple life-limiting conditions including dementia. Hospice care is provided in a range of settings such as hospice inpatient units, as well in people's own homes.*
- *Local charitable hospices need to raise £1.9 million every day from their local communities to fund the care they provide. Adults' hospices in England receive on average a third of their funding from the government. Children's hospices typically receive much less government funding, on average 17% of their running costs.*

Ian is always grateful for our support. To sponsor Ian this year, you can either visit Ian's Justgiving fundraising page: <http://www.justgiving.com/ianwebberlm2018>

or pass your donation in an envelope with your details to Jayne (Ian's wife) in North Tawton Post Office.

Ian and Jayne will also be holding a coffee morning at North Tawton Town Hall on Saturday 3rd March – from 10am to 11:45am – and will be pleased to see you.

COMMUNITY MEETING

West Devon Community and Voluntary Service has completed a consultation with young people in North Tawton (on behalf of North Tawton Youth and community centre) to look at what they would like to see in terms of services and support in the town.

You are invited to come to a community meeting on

Wednesday 28th February 6.00pm
North Tawton Youth & Community Centre, Barton Road, North Tawton

to hear the results from the consultation and have your say about how we can support young people in our community in the future.

If you have any questions, please contact Francesca Bliss at Francesca@westdevoncvcs.org.uk

**First published in "Roundabout" in February 1991
(an extract thought to be from a local newspaper of 1912)**

A capital variety entertainment took place in aid of funds to place incandescent burners in the parish church. The Hall was packed with a representative gathering, who thoroughly appreciated the evening's programme. The first item was a pianoforte duet by Miss C. Letheren and Mr. H. Manuell, the rendering of which evinced great skill on the part of the performers. Mr. Ingles then sang "If I should plant a tiny seed of love" which was deservedly encored. "Widdecum Fair" was selected as the encore. This was followed by a vocal duet "Our Farm" by Mr. J. Taverner and Miss W. Taverner, who delighted the audience and were recalled. A sketch entitled "Miss Priscilla's Cat" was then performed by the Misses R. Sloman and B. May, two youthful performers who gave their parts with great skill. The Rev. E. Paine gave a song in his well-known style, which was followed by "Drum Roll" by Mrs. Matthews, always a favourite with North Tawton audiences. She won an encore and was received with enthusiasm. "Molly", a song by Mr. Ingles was loudly applauded. Lastly the Rev E. Paine sang "Three for Tom" in capital form, and deservedly won an encore.

The second part consisted of a play entitled "The Little Rebel" by the North Tawton Dramatic Society. The Characters were taken as follows:- Mrs. Wingrove, Mrs. May; Laura, her daughter, Miss D. May; Kitty Winks, Miss W. Taverner; Mr. Ormeston, Mr. May; Mr Poppincourt, Mr C. Whitmore. The Play reflected the greatest credit on the performers who were rewarded with applause. Mrs. May acted her part in a bright and jovial manner and elicited roars of laughter. Miss D. May made a charming schoolgirl, and Miss W. Taverner well acted the part of Kitty Winks. Mr. May acted the lover in a delightful way, and Mr. Whitmore well performed the part of would-be suitor. A dance which followed, was well attended. Hearty thanks were tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Way, who were responsible for the evening's entertainment.

To which Dr. Jean Shields added (in 1991) the following notes :

Miss Connie Letheren: her parents had a business (shop) in The Square. The Taverners who lived at Melhuishes in The Square when I knew them, originally owned Newlands Mill. James Taverner was a Church Warden. Mr. Ernest May Lived at Crooke (later moved to de Bathe). He was also a Church Warden. His daughter, Miss Daisy May, became Mrs. Tucker, lived at Crooke, and she, too became Church Warden and is mother of David Tucker (present Church Warden). Mr. C. Whitmore was a cousin of the Mays and was probably spending a holiday with them. Miss Sloman: the Slomans farmed at Middleton, Honeychurch. Mrs. Matthews was perhaps wife of Harold F. Matthews of Nichols Nymet.

Okehampton Table Tennis Club

Our new session has now started at the club, which is situated behind the Post Office building in Castle Road, Okehampton.

Monday evening from 7 pm -10 pm open to beginners or anyone renewing their love of table tennis perhaps.

The session is a fun and social session open to all ages and abilities. Why not give it a try?

for more information visit our website
www.okehamptontabletennisclub.co.uk or
email: coaching@okehamptontabletennisclub.co.uk

Winter / Spring 2018

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St Peter's Church

Little Fishes

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We can attend one any community-based meetings to offer one-to-one advice on saving energy and money.

We invite people to bring along their fuel bills and we will help them explore better tariffs.

Home visits

We also offer a home visit service where we assess your current use of energy and issues such as damp or condensation and then we recommend helpful changes. We help find the best value energy price and can work with your energy supplier to improve your circumstances.



If you would like more information please contact Devon Communities Together:

T: 01392 248919

E: info@devoncommunities.org.uk



Holy Week at St Andrew's

Monday 26th March, Tuesday 27th March,
Wednesday 28th March
Compline at 9.00pm

Maundy Thursday 29th March
Holy Communion and stripping the altar
at 7.30pm

Good Friday 30th March
Stations of the Cross at 2.00pm

Saturday 31st March
Decorating the church for Easter Sunday

St Andrew's Church
Mothering Sunday
11th March 9.30am
Distribution of posies

Sampford Courtenay Flower Club
Jumble Sale
Saturday 17th March at 2.15pm
Exbourne Village Hall
Jumble, bric-a-brac, jewellery, books,
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St Andrew's Lent Lunches
Wednesday 7th March and
Wednesday 21st March
Following a service of
Holy Communion at 12 noon

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North Tawton, Bondleigh, Sampford Courtenay, Honeychurch
Chagford, Gidleigh, Throwleigh, Drewsteignton, South Tawton, Spreyton and Hittisleigh,

TEAM VICAR: North Tawton	Rev'd Nick Weldon (880183) npweldon@gmail.com	The Rectory, Essington, North Tawton. EX20 2EX
TEAM RECTOR: Chagford	Rev'd Paul Seaton-Burn (01647 432880)	The Rectory, Chagford, TQ13 8BW
ASSISTANT MINISTER: North Tawton	Rev'd Rita Bullworthy (89168) ritabullworthy@yahoo.co.uk	
CURATE: Chagford	Rev'd Dr. Harriet Every (01647 432402)	

CHURCHWARDENS

St. Peter's North Tawton	Mr. Paul Andrews (82648)	Mrs. Rhona Bragg (82343)
St. James' Bondleigh	Mr. Danny Semorad (82319)	Mr. Graham Stokes (82240)
St. Andrew's Sampford Courtenay	Mr. Malcolm Craig (880118)	Mrs. Sarah Hanks (851287)
St. Mary's Honeychurch	Mrs. J. Reddaway (851251)	Mr. Richard Weeks (851269)

(All numbers are 01837 numbers unless otherwise stated)

SERVICES at St. Andrew's Church
Sampford Courtenay

1st Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Morning Praise
2nd Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion BCP
3rd Sunday	6.30 p.m.	Evensong
4th Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion BCP
5th Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion Common Worship

SERVICES at St. Peter's Church
North Tawton

1st Sunday	11 a.m.	Morning Worship
2nd Sunday	11 a.m.	Informal Communion 6.30 p.m. Evensong (Apr - Oct)
3rd Sunday	11 a.m.	All-age Worship
4th Sunday		Traditional Communion
5th Sunday		Informal Communion

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SERVICES at St. James' Church
Bondleigh

1st Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
3rd Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

QUAKERS meet at Castle Ham Lodge
Castle Road, Okehampton
Sundays at 10.30 a.m.
All visitors welcome

SERVICE at St. Mary's Church
Honeychurch

1st Sunday of the month at 3 p.m.
Evensong and Holy Communion

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For details of services contact
Celia or Martin Olsson (82796)

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North Tawton
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Circuit Minister	Rev'd Liz Singleton (52302)	
	(Mob. 07450 676936)	
Elder & Secretary	Mrs. Rose Dadds (82130)	
Asst. Secretary	Mrs. Jean Boardman (82159)	

Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

North Street Chapel North Tawton
Previously Gospel Hall

Mr. C. Milton (82708)

1st Sunday	11 a.m.	Family Service
	6.30 p.m.	Evening Service
Other Sundays	11 a.m.	Morning Service Communion
	6.30 p.m.	Evening Service
Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Prayer Meeting



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FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism

11th February 2018 Wilfred Lloyd Owain HANKS (10 months) St. Andrew's Church

Funeral

Tuesday 23rd January Peter REDDAWAY (85) St. Andrew's Church

Friday 26th January Shirley DENNIS (77) St. Peter's Church

Friday 2nd February Carolyn Margaret LYDDIATT (79) St. Mary's Church

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Be Stil

A short informal monthly service of themed prayers, recitations & readings and creating space to dwell in the presence of God

St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay
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May 14th, June 11th and 25th, July 9th



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Church Flowers & Brass

Sampford Courtenay

Mar Shirley Reddaway
April Pam Clayton

Honeychurch

Mar S. Svedang
April J.Reddaway

Bondleigh

Mar 4th /11th Caroline Stokes
Mar 18th /25th Sheila Thorne
April 1st / 8th Sonia Rix
(Easter Flowers April 1st)
April 15th /22nd Rose Smith
April 29th Pam Evison

North Tawton

Flowers

March 25th Lent - No Flowers

Easter Lilies: If you wish to make a donation of an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one please contact Kay, Jo or Mary (82640)

April 1st / 8th /15th Easter Flowers
All helpers
April 22nd Ann Markel
April 29th Shirley Lambswood

Brass

Mar Shirley Lambswood
April Monica and Jane Simons

We are always in need of more people to help with the brass cleaning and the flowers at St. Peters.

You do not need to be an expert flower arranger so, if you would like to have a try, please contact Kay Webber (01837 82787) or Jo Fear (01837 82553)

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