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December 2018 / January 2019



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From The Rectory

Christmas... enjoying the build up?

“Christmas... I think I enjoy the build up more than the actual event.” I caught myself saying that to someone recently. They looked at me a little shocked. But on reflection, I think I hesitantly stand by my comment. Perhaps I should choose whom I say it to more carefully. However, my hunch is that I’m not alone in thinking this. As we draw close to the end of November, justifiably decorations start to appear outside houses and pre-Christmas events begin to fill the diary. I love it. Any earlier than about 20th November and it doesn’t feel quite right, but once the seal has been broken and the first mince pie has been consumed, I really enjoy the festive build up throughout Advent to Christmas Eve. I’m sure it has something to do with having children in the house. As their excitement builds, so does mine. Oddly, though, by the time we get to Christmas morning I usually sense that the wave of expectation has already broken.

People often say to me in late November... “Coming up to your busy time of year again Vicar.” If I could have a penny for every time I heard that, Mrs Weldon would get an even bigger Christmas present. “True,” I reply, “but some regular things in the diary do stop for Christmas,” I usually add. December is a busy time for me from a work point of view but probably not a lot more than any other month of the year. I think it is family life in the run-up to Christmas that makes life much busier, and that is the same for any family, not just a Rectory family. Also, I am fortunate enough to actually enjoy my job, mostly, so when the carol services begin to come thick and fast, generally I relish the challenge.

I think I’ve now put my finger on why I enjoy the build up to Christmas more than the actual event. During the pre-Christmas run in, especially the few days running up to Christmas Eve, the truths of Christmas are most apparent. This is when we all sing the carols and hear the story of the Child in the manger. By lunchtime on Christmas Day, most of us are elbow deep in food, family and wrapping paper. It’s no different in our household. Frankly like anybody, by 1pm on Christmas Day, I either want to be sat on the sofa with a glass of wine, or sat in the car on an empty A303 trying to beat our record journey time to the grandparents in Surrey (3hrs 10 mins – Christmas Day 2013); wine on arrival!

Technically speaking, Christmas starts at midnight on Christmas Eve, of course. But sometimes the obvious needs to be re-stated when the obvious has become blurred. Everything up until the moment the clock strikes

half-way through the Midnight Service is either Christmas Eve or Advent. 00:01 on 25th December is the first minute of the first day of the Twelve Days of Christmas. Indeed, some churches even here in Devon, do their carol service on either 27th December or on the first Sunday of Christmas. This is technically correct, if a bit impractical. Commonly, we would think this was “after Christmas”. In fact, it is mid Christmas.

Personally, I’m quite happy to do as most people do and most churches do, which is have our carol services and Christmas events throughout December in the build up to Christmas Day. I think this makes more sense practically. It is the time when people want to come out and join with others in the community before they baton down the hatches with family for a few days from Christmas Day onwards.

But I’m happy to do Christmas before Christmas for another reason too. The truths of Christmas are true any day. I’ll sing “Hark the herald” in June if I could. I’ll wonder at “God coming as man” any time of the year. “Christ the new-born King” is just as true on mid-summer’s day as it is half way through the Midnight Service on a chilly Christmas night. It’s the story that thrills in the end, or at least it should. That’s not to say annual remembrances at certain points in the year are not important; the moment matters. I’d be a bit miffed if my wife said to me on my birthday, “of course Nick, you were just as alive last week as you are today. So that car sponge I got you last week from Mole Avon – that was your present.” Cheers!

The point is this: it is the wonder of Jesus that matters most throughout the Christmas period. Before an all-consuming family Christmas kicks in, He deserves a little of our attention, and the build-up to Christmas might be the best time for that. Maybe that moment will come for you whilst watching a Nativity play, or hearing carol singers in the street; better still, singing carols yourself at a carol service? (Details of all carol services and Christmas events across the community are in this issue on page 17). For me, though, nothing beats carefully considering again the Bible’s account of angels, shepherds, and the Saviour who is Christ the Lord. That’s not the build up. That’s the main event. If the Christ of Christmas comes to me on 21st December, it’s no problem that He’s come early. He has come, and that is all that really matters any day of the year.

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Roundabout

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.

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E mail: nt.roundabout@gmail.com
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Visit Roundabout on its own website:
www.norhtawtonroundabout.com
(There are also links online via the websites of the
North Tawton Town Council and the
Sampford Courtenay Village Council).

Thank You

Greta Watkins family would like to thank everyone who gave and made food on the day of the funeral, also the ladies and gentleman who helped on the day, it was much appreciated. Thank you.

Rachel Willcock



The Guides will be running their Christmas Post delivery service from 1st December, the post box will be in the chemist, North Tawton. We deliver to North Tawton, Sampford Courtenay and Bondleigh, but boundaries are:

Ashridge, Sampford Chapple crossroads, Sampford Station, de Bathe moor, Cadditon Cross.
Can all cards be addressed clearly with name and address please? The last collection will be 10 a.m. on Saturday 22nd December.

Cost per card 25p.

**Remembered a century on,
casualties of the Great War.**

**Gunner William Brock of the
Royal Garrison Artillery aged
22 years.**

**He died on 20th December
1918 in Giesson Prisoner of
war camp and is buried in
Niederzwehren Cemetery.
He lived in Lakeway, North
Tawton.**



**(Although the Armistice came into force in
November 1918, casualties of the war
continued being recorded into the following
year. We shall mark four more from 1919
and they will be a sad reminder that the end
of the war was not an end of suffering. Many
who returned carried physical and mental
scars for the rest of their lives.)**

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NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

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

New North Tawton Town Councillor

The Council are pleased to welcome Dr. Peter Brickley as our new Councillor, filling the vacancy following the resignation of Mrs. K. Tizard. West Devon Borough Council received a request to hold an election, and as Dr. Brickley was the only candidate at the relevant deadline, he is automatically elected to NTTC. Cllr. Brickley has taken up a place on the Council's Finance Committee.

Council Meetings

Residents are always welcome to attend meetings of the Council – our regular meeting is the first Tuesday of each month. There is an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions on agenda items. Agendas are published on our noticeboard and website. Please note, our meeting in January 2019 will be on **Tuesday 8 January 2019**, as the first Tuesday will be New Year's Day.

Chapel of Rest, The Cemetery, Exeter Street, North Tawton

At their next meeting the Council's Estates Committee will again discuss possible uses for the Chapel of Rest. This building is no longer used for its original purpose, and we are very keen to find a suitable alternative use. The building has recently been re-roofed and re-wired, is of a good size and is solidly built. If you have any suggestions for using the building please contact the Clerk to the Council.

From hanging baskets to Christmas trees...

We've had a fantastic display this year from our hanging baskets and troughs. The troughs have now been replanted for the winter and spring, and the Christmas trees will be going up in the last week of November, including the large tree by the clock tower.

Christmas and New Year Refuse Collections

WDBC have supplied a calendar for refuse collection over Christmas and the New Year, this will be on our NTTC webpage, and we will display a copy on our noticeboard for your information. This includes information on collection of Christmas trees at the beginning of January.

Defibrillator Awareness Training

Richard Oaten, of the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust, will be running a defibrillator training session on Thursday 24 January 2019, at 7pm, in the Council Office, 14a The Square, North Tawton, EX20 1EP. To book a place, please contact the Clerk, telephone number below. The sessions usually take up to 2 hours, depending on numbers attending – the session could well be a bit shorter than this. We have 3 defibrillators in the Town, situated outside the Council Office in The Square, at the entrance to Strawberry Fields estate near the mini roundabout, and outside Fore Street Garage. The Council is considering installing a fourth at some stage. These machines are very user friendly, but nevertheless it is well worth undertaking the training to give you confidence if you ever have to use one of these machines – more and more are being installed in public places.

**North Tawton Town Council
would like to wish all residents and visitors
a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.**

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/>



The Editors are grateful, as we are sure you are, for the team of volunteer distributors who put "Roundabout" through your front doors all year. On behalf of everyone we thank them for their continuing efforts and we wish you and them, a merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

Hilary and Richard



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North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

So who else thinks of soap on a rope when remembering Christmas past? – okay, just me then. It used to be Pretty Peach hand cream for mum and soap on a rope for dad. With liquorice allsorts, crystallised orange and lemon slices and a box of Lings rose Turkish delight. Christmas? – tick, DONE! And whilst I'm wittering away about Christmas did anyone else have a 'Tunis' cake on their Christmas tea table? So very 1970's.

More festive ramblings later if you're good. Let's talk about R.A.P.I.D. UK – or rather relate some of the incredible experiences of our November speaker Graham Payne, who has been associated with this organisation since its inception in 1988. With it's initials standing for 'Rescue And Preparedness In Disasters' it's aim is to respond to global crises such as the aftermath of hurricanes, earthquakes and severe flooding by sending trained search and rescue teams. The 'Preparedness' refers to training U.K and international communities to be able to respond to and cope with disasters when they occur. All of the team members are volunteers and could be from the military or the Fire, Police and Ambulance services, together with engineers and builders who have all been put through 18 months of R.A.P.I.D. training before they can be deployed within hours of a disaster, anywhere in the world, with the sole aim of saving lives.

Graham had brought a selection of slides which gave more than a flavour of some of the rescue missions in which he has been involved. Pictures of the teams attempting to locate and rescue people trapped in all types of buildings which have collapsed following an earthquake, were followed by pictures of landscapes completely flooded. Graham explained that the way a building falls can make a huge difference to the survival chances of people inside. If it 'pancakes' or collapses straight down on itself the likelihood of finding people alive is far lower than if the same building were to skew sideways as this could create 'voids' in the debris where people may be trapped but eventually rescued. He went on to describe the use of carbon dioxide detector probes – a hole is made in the debris and the probe lowered into the building - if the levels of carbon dioxide are increasing this could indicate that people may well be trapped within. Sound locating equipment and search and rescue dogs are also vital to the team. Graham's talk brought forward a lot of questions from the ladies – good indication of a gripping and very interesting subject.

So now our W.I. can add two more skills to its CV – cheesemaking [following a superb tour of Taw Valley Creamery] and beermaking [after an excellent tour of Taw Valley Brewery]. Husband says he is happy to share some of his skills with us – how about learning to rotovate your veg patch and do a bit of 'scuffling' [translation for scuffling – move the soil about a bit], or he could demonstrate how to turn around a worn collar on a shirt – seriously, he can do it – I've watched him and then gone to Mole Avon to buy him a new shirt. He also has a wooden darning mushroom and YES, he knows what to do with it.

Our Pint and Pasty Quiz Night is looming, our 90th Birthday Lunch is on the horizon and our Christmas Party is just around the corner and you know what that means - "oh, okay – I'll have another mince pie if I must" and "no – I don't mind having it with that much cream" and "if nobody wants these left over mince pies I suppose I could take them home and give them to husband". Did I say give them to husband? I know Christmas is supposed to be a time for giving but really??

One of my favourite pre-Christmas games is try to guess which house in North Tawton will be the first to have a Christmas tree up in their window, closely followed by who will be the first to shout out 'OH NO – the fairy lights have stopped working'. Happy Easter.

Sue Knott

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The food bank still is in operation. At this time of the year especially please continue to remember those who need help via the Food Bank box (above) in St. Peter's Church porch.

Thank you.

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Friends of Okehampton Library Christmas Quiz Sheet - £1 each

Return completed quiz to Okehampton Library by 4th January 2019

1st correct entry drawn will receive a £10 book token and 2nd a £5 book token.

10:00-12:00 Monday 3 December – *Crafty Creations* Workshop

Learn to create beautiful paper flowers and take them home.

£10 per person – booking essential.

15:45-16:45 Monday 3 December – Christmas Craft

For children aged 5+ 50p per child, no booking necessary.

14:00-15:00 Thursday 6 December – Christmas Card Making

For under 5's and their carers – 50p per child, no booking necessary.

09:30-10:30 Friday 7 December – Christmas Card Making

For under 5's and their carers – 50p per child, no booking necessary.

19:00 Friday 7 December – A Night of Music

Ockment Centre, North Street, Okehampton

Local music groups including, *Uke'n Play*, *The Electroles*, *The Briars* and *Rough Diamonds*.

Refreshments but no bar- you are welcome to bring your own drinks.

Admission £5, advance tickets from Okehampton Library or Friends Group. Enquiries: 07500 759639

10:00-11:00 8 Saturday - Christmas Craft

For children aged 5+ 50p per child, no booking necessary.

10:00 Saturday 15 December – Christmas Story

Suitable for all children and their carers - Free event, no booking necessary.

Regular events for children

Tuesdays 10:00- 10:30 - Bounce & Rhyme for over 1 year olds

Free, no booking necessary.

Tuesdays 11:00-11:30 - Bounce and Rhyme for under 1 year olds

Free - no booking necessary.

1st Tuesday of the month - Book Club for ages 7 – 11

(except Aug/Sept) 15:45 – 16:45 Free - no booking necessary.

Wednesdays 09:30 – 10:15 - Duplo Builders & Storytime for ages 0-5

Free - no booking necessary.

Saturdays 10:30 – 11:30 Lego Builders for ages 5+

Free, no booking necessary.

Book Track for ages 6+ during library opening hours.

Free, ask staff for further details.

Children under 8 must be accompanied to all events by a responsible adult.

Okehampton Library

4 North Street

Okehampton EX20 1AR

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okehampton.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk

BINGO AT SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

It is with regret that the village hall committee have taken the decision to stop running the monthly bingo at the village hall.

The November and Christmas Bingo will run as usual and then in 2019 the monthly ones will stop, but we will run the Easter and Christmas ones as before.

We wish to thank the regulars who have supported us over the years, but due to declining numbers the decision has reluctantly been taken to stop.

CHRISTMAS BINGO AT

SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

WEDNESDAY 19TH DECEMBER

7 p.m. for 8 p.m.

Wine, chocolates and poultry prizes.

£40 Cash flyer

Raffle

FONTS

Who are we? What do we do? How can you help?!

FONTS (Friends Of North Tawton School) is a parent teacher association and a registered charity. We are a group of parents, grandparents, carers and staff who are best known for our fundraising events. Our aim is to support the school, its staff and pupils by providing funding for resources, equipment, and day trips which are outside the school's budget.

Our main objective is to aid and enhance the pupils' learning and primary school experience by providing additional funding as needed.

We are also a useful social function as our fundraising events provide the ideal opportunity for parents, carers, staff, pupils and members of our community to get together.

So please come along to our annual Christmas Fair from 3.20 p.m. – 5 p.m. on Friday 14th December held at the school. You do not need to have children at the school to attend; it is a community event and we would love to see you all!

Santa will be there in his wonderful grotto, there will also be various draws, stalls selling lovely items and Christmas gifts, face painting, games, refreshments and much more... Please do come along and support this event and in turn support our school and its children.

Other events to look out for and support next year are a Bags2School collection in January, Scholastic Book Fair in February and our Summer Jamboree in June.

We are also registered with 'Easyfundraising' which is a great online tool that you can shop through and every pound spent in your favourite shops online gives donations to your chosen charity of which we could be one!

We would like to say a massive Thank you to Bodmin Town Band for their very kind donation to FONTS following the 'Night at the Proms' held in the town hall.

If you have any questions, would like to get involved or just to keep up to date on events please contact us on friendsofnorthtawton@gmail.com or look us up on facebook.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas.

FONTS



A committee meeting of **North Tawton Twinning** was held at the White Hart on 31st October 2018 to discuss our visit to Blangey Le Chateau, Normandy France in 2019. We put forward the dates of Friday 17th May to Monday 20th May 2019 or Friday 26th April to Monday 29th April 2019, however these dates can be very flexible. Until we can confirm dates we have not finalised our travel plans. So far we have 11 people wishing to visit Blangey Le Chateau next year. If any one else is interested in joining us then please contact Jill Whiteley on 01837 880233 or Helen Perry at helenp1703@gmail.com

ROUNABOUT DEADLINE:

Community News, Articles, and Events are published (free of charge) in any edition, but must be received by the Editors no later than the 13th of the month before publication.

WHIST

AT

SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

Forthcoming dates:

Monday 3rd December

7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

2019

Monday 7th January

7.00 for 7.30 p.m.



As we near the end of the first term, I am feeling quite settled in my role as Head of School. I have been made to feel very welcome and supported by pupils, their families, our staff and members of the wider community.

Each term we open our school for a parent and carers evening. This term, despite the appalling weather conditions, the event was well attended. As I took round cups of tea and coffee, many comments were overheard: praise for the pupils' achievements, gratitude, and recognition of the hard work and dedication demonstrated by our staff.

North Tawton Community Primary School has been involved with teacher education for many years. This term, three B.Ed students from Plymouth University have joined us on placements from their second year degree courses. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students, but everyone in our school benefits – teachers and staff are able to be more reflective in their practice, and pupils are always receptive to fresh ideas and new faces.

I am very happy to announce that after a trial period we are proudly now hosting permanently Baby and Toddler group in our school hall. This new initiative is run by two dedicated parents, and the hall has proven to be an ideal venue. It has been great fun to watch everyone, even the youngest of babies, enjoying the space and the lovely activities. **Little Seedlings** runs every Friday morning 9 – 11 a.m.. If you know anyone who would like to attend do please tell them.



This year we were proud and honoured to have an important role in the Armistice Centenary Commemoration events, which culminated in the Service led by Reverend Weldon on a lovely Autumn day.

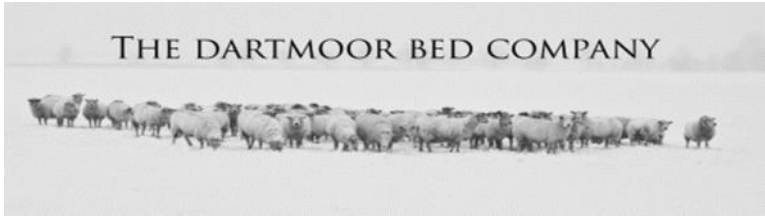
We look forward to being part of many more community events and our next project is to clear the very overgrown wild area in the school grounds. If you are green fingered, or enjoy a good bonfire please do contact us!

I wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas holiday and New Year.

Sunita Chauhan

Head of School

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82824**

Sampford Courtenay

**Carol Singing round the Village
Monday 17th December**

Meet at the Bus Shelter at 7 p.m.

**St Andrew's Sampford Courtenay
December Services**

**Sunday 16th December
Parish Communion 9.30 a.m. (No Evensong)**

**Sunday 23rd December
Candlelit Carol Service 6.30pm**

**Monday 24th December
Midnight Candlelit Communion 11.30 p.m.**

**Tuesday 25th December
Christmas Morning Communion 9.30 a.m.**

**Sunday 30th December
Morning Worship 9.30am**

Friends Of North Tawton Surgery

TURKEY AND TINSEL

**SATURDAY 8TH DECEMBER
NORTH TAWTON TOWN HALL**



7PM FOR 7.30PM



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EVENTS IN
NORTH TAWTON
IN 2019 ?
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THE**

**WHITE HART, FORE STREET
ON
WEDNESDAY 16TH JANUARY 2019
7PM**

**FOR A DRINK ON NANNY,
AND FIND OUT MORE**



TIBET

An illustrated talk by

Pam Kemp

on

**MONASTERIES, MONKS AND
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7.30 p.m. Sat. 19th January

**Sampford Courtenay
Village Hall**

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Light refreshments included

SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

WILL BE HOLDING THEIR

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON

WEDNESDAY 5TH DECEMBER

AT 7.30 p.m.

IN THE VILLAGE HALL

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE

INTERESTED IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HALL

ARE VERY WELCOME TO ATTEND.

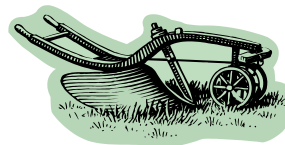
St Andrew's, Sampford Courtenay

Plough Sunday

Sunday, 13th January

at 9.30 a.m.

A Service of Holy Communion
& the blessing of ploughs & seed
'God Speed the Plough'



NORTH TAWTON TOWN HALL

The Town Hall Management Committee invites all "User Groups" to send a representative to our Committee Meetings. This will give you a chance to have your say in the running of the Town Hall and to, maybe, promote your ideas.

We also need volunteers to join our Committee as a Trustee - this need only involve as much time as you are willing to give!

Meetings take place on the second Monday of the month - the next meeting will be 14th January 2019, 7.30 p.m. Top Room.

All future meetings will be advertised by poster outside the Town Hall.

Lin Ford,
Secretary,
Town Hall Management Committee.

CHRISTMAS CASH BINGO

North Tawton Town Hall

Saturday, December 15th

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Christmas Services 2018



St Peter's North Tawton

- * Sun 2 December Christingle Service 11am
- Sun 16 December **CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE** 6.30pm
- * **Christmas Eve** Nativity Service 4pm
- * **Christmas Day** Family Service with Communion 11am

St Andrew's Sampford Courtenay

- * Sun 2 December Christingle Service 9.30am
- Sun 23 December **CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE** 6.30pm
- Christmas Eve** Midnight Communion 11.30pm
- Christmas Day** Holy Communion 9.30am

St James' Bondleigh

- Sun 16 December **CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE** 4pm
- * **Christmas Eve** Late Night Communion 10pm

St Mary's Honeychurch

- Sun 23 December **CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE** 3pm
- * all age service

Special for Christmas 2018...

- Friday 14 December **LIGHT UP A LIFE Carol Service** 6.30pm St Peter's North Tawton



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Saturday 15th December
The Football Club Christmas Coffee Morning
 10 – 11.30 a.m. in the Town Hall.
 Usual stalls, including draw, cash prize draw £100 first prize, hamper, bacon sandwiches, homemade cakes.
 There will be a few table tops available at £5.00 but no food or draws, please contact 89160.
 Father Christmas will be visiting from 10.30 a.m. so bring along the children.
 Proceeds for club funds.

Hospicecare
Light Up A Life Service
Tuesday 4th December
7 p.m.
Fairplace Church, Okehampton
Remember Someone Special This Christmas

North Tawton Baby and Toddler Group
 Little Seedlings Baby and Toddler Group.
 North Tawton Primary School Hall
 Friday mornings during term time,
 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 £2 per family (Everyone is very welcome).
 Please see our Facebook page for updates.

Sampford Courtenay Parish Website:
<http://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/>
 The website is managed by **Julie Carpenter**
 who can be contacted on
 juliec2911@hotmail.co.uk
 or
 admin@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk
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READING GROUP

MEETS last Tuesday MONTHLY 7.30 p.m.

AT THE NEW INN

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01837880171

ishgordon@live.co.uk

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Plumbing & Heating Engineer

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No.519960



stuartmoffat2@hotmail.com

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EX20 2DX



Full minutes can be viewed on our website www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk where any useful links are live. Plus check out our new [FACEBOOK](#) Page. Like and Share to help us spread SCPC news.

- 1) **DOG MESS** – a parishioner complained that there seems to be a recurrent incident of dog owners failing to clean up after their dogs when exercising them on the Green Lane from the Village Hall to Peacegate Cross. This is a very popular walk for all parishioners – so residents are politely requested to be responsible dog owners and good neighbours and please clean up after your dog.
- 2) **PLANNING** – a response had finally been received from WDBC Planning Dept re SCPC's query regarding WDBC failure to take into consideration SCPC comments to a recent Planning Application. Thank you to WDBC Cllr. Lois Samuel for her intervention and insistence that a response was made.
- 3) **NatWest Bank** – the Chairman is in the middle of lengthy correspondence with Nat West to resolve the situation where they have failed to maintain adequate records of changes of councillor signatures over at least the past 7 years.
- 4) **SAMPFORD COURTENAY RESILLIENCE PLAN** – as winter approaches SCPC reminds parishioners **DON'T BE SCARED – BE PREPARED!** – and please keep a watch out for any vulnerable neighbours. In the event of snow this year – SCPC does have a fund available, and is trying to obtain a second hand snow plough and gritter to fit a 4 x 4 vehicle. **If anyone knows of one for sale – please contact the Clerk on 01837 82285.**

SAMPFORD COURTENAY PARISH SURVEY 2018- If you are a parishioner and have not completed the survey yet – please try and find time to do so. The information you give is totally anonymous, but will be invaluable for future planning and budgeting for both the Parish Council and other groups and organisations in the parish. The easiest way to complete it is online via our website, but hard copies are available at The New Inn, The Countryman and the Church.

DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION is 31st December 2018. Thank you.

SEAMOOR LOTTO – Sampford Courtenay Parish Council has registered as one of the charities who will benefit from the new Lotto run by WDBC. If you have not bought your ticket yet, please sign up at <https://www.seamoorlotto.co.uk/support/sampford-courtenay-parish-council>

One Sampford Courtenay resident has already been a lucky winner and has kindly donated her winnings back to SCPC. Thank you very much.

SEASONS GREETINGS Sampford Courtenay Parish Council would like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year and remind you that there will be no monthly SCPC in January 2019 (unless a Planning Meeting is required). The next monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, February 5th.

Full Minutes of SCPC meetings 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 December 4th and February 5th.

Marion Pratt



Do you have a daughter aged 5 + ? If so, Girlguiding has four active groups in North Tawton she can belong to

Rainbows age 5 – 7 meet Wednesday 4.15 – 5.15 in the top room of the Town Hall: contact Laura 07590 309430

Brownies age 7 – 10 meet Monday 3.45 - 5.30 in the top room of the Town Hall: contact Annette 01837 880054

Guides age 10 – 14 meet Monday 6.30 – 8.30 in the Mortimore Room in the church: contact Jane 01837 89160

Rangers age 14+ meet alternate Thursdays 7.00 – 9.00 : contact Jennifer 01837 82752

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To include cheese and biscuits

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All funds raised will go towards
St. Mary's Church
Honeychurch

Sampford Courtenay Flower Club



The Village Hall
10th December at 2.30 p.m.
'Season's Greetings'
Pot Swop - Imposed
Tea Hostesses - The Committee
Competition "Gift Box"
A decorative parcel

Tuesday 15th January at 12.30 p.m.
Christmas Lunch
at The New Inn

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 p.m. -10 p.m. 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
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The North Wyke /North Tawton team are looking for players to keep the team going for the new season . If you would like to join us or give it a try please contact Jill on 880233 or
Steve : Steve.granger@rothamsted.ac.uk

CHRISTMAS IN BONDLEIGH

**Christmas Coffee Morning - Saturday,
15th December at 10.30 a.m.**

St. James' Church, Bondleigh. Come along to our beautifully decorated Church and catch up with friends and neighbours whilst enjoying a coffee and mince pie. Jill and Hazel will be selling a variety of Christmas floral decorations for your table, door etc. There will also be a produce stall and Christmas draw.

**Carols Around The Tree - Saturday,
15th December at 7 p.m.**

The Great Barn, Bondleigh (in the courtyard), accompanied by members of the Bondleigh Barn Band. Mulled wine and nibbles will be served. Donations in aid of Hospicecare & The Autistic Society.

Carol Service - Sunday, 16th December at 4 p.m.

St. James' Church, Bondleigh. This very popular service, led by Rev'd Nick Weldon and accompanied by members of the Bondleigh Barn Band will be followed by refreshments.

**Christmas Eve Communion Service - Monday,
24th December at 10pm.**

St. James' Church, Bondleigh.

Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay and Jacobstowe W.I.

The latest meeting was held on November 1st in Exbourne village hall.

Everyone was welcomed and Jerusalem was sung. The speaker, Peter Hood, had brought a large selection of games and toys, from the Middle Ages on. Members had a go at some of the games and toys. Peter was thanked by Margaret Hawkins.

After refreshments all the business was dealt with. The Jumble Sale result was disappointing as only £148 was made, but enough to pay for some speakers. It was decided to hold a Festive Lunch on Friday November 30th at the Countryman. Ann Langworthy reported that the skittles teams were booked up until Christmas and hopefully beyond. It was decided to open a Facebook page for the WI, Pam Pemberton to organise. There is still no news on the Group configuration. For the Christmas meeting, there will be Bring and Share party food, Secret Santa limited to £3, games and carols. Waitrose are having a party on November 13 for organisations who have benefited from their Community scheme. 3 members to attend.

The next Walk is on November 29th from Okehampton Station.

Ethel Nancekivell won the FOM and the competition for a game. The next meeting is the Christmas Party on December 6th in Exbourne village hall at 2.30p.m.

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Fantastic News from North Tawton Amateur Football Club

We are very pleased to update you all that after a year of hard work we can finally confirm that we are now the proud owners of The Wordens Football Field. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of our club and community who donated towards this cause and especially for the grants received from West Devon Borough Council and The Durant Trust. Thanks to Ashfords solicitors for all their work and legal advice.

We would also like to thank The Den Brook Community Fund for their grant towards our new mower enabling us to keep our pitches in tip top condition!

Many thanks once again and we plan to hold an open day in the new year to mark this occasion.

North Tawton AFC Committee.

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Bondleigh Rainfall

October continued this years' dry weather . Total rainfall was 75.7mm.

This was considerably more than last year's 49.1mm, but more than half of it fell over the weekend of the 14th leaving most of the rest of the month dry. Will this dry weather continue into the winter months?

Danny Semorad

LAKEWAY UNITED CHURCH
FRIDAY 21ST DECEMBER
CANDLELIGHT CAROLS 7 p.m.
CALL ROSE 01837 82130 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

LAKEWAY UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY JANUARY 20TH 2019 – 4 p.m.
T.A.P. (Tea & Praise)
THEME – NEW YEAR
SHORT SERVICE FOLLOWED BY
REFRESHMENTS
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FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Okehampton U3A University of the Third Age

The January meeting will take place at the
Ockment Centre, North Street at
2.30 p.m. on Thursday 31st January

There will be a talk entitled
Okehampton of Yesteryear
by
Mike Wreford

Mike who is the author of books on the West
Country will entertain us with stories of old
Okehampton. He will touch upon the dark and
dastardly characters including murderers who
inhabited the town's jails through the years, as
well as anecdotes on some of the more amusing
members of the community. His talk will be
illustrated with memorabilia and photographs

We meet at the Ockment Centre, North Street,
Okehampton, EX20 1AR at 2.30 p.m..
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

If you would rather turn up and
introduce yourself that's fine too.

Okehampton & District Local History **Society**

Wednesday December 12th
at 7.30 p.m.

Ockment Community Centre,
North St.
Okehampton

Reconstructing Dartmoor's Mediaeval
Landscape
Dr. Richard Sandover

Okehampton Parkinson's Support Group
Meet Castle Ham, Okehampton
4th Thursday every month 2-4 p.m..
Trips, activities, talks throughout the year.
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December 20th

BOW Village Hall

15:35 to 16:05

BELSTONE CORNER The Beeches

16:20 to 16:40

FRIDAY *monthly*

December 7th

NORTH TAWTON The Square

09:45 to 11:15

BONDLEIGH Old School

13:55 to 14:15

SATURDAY *monthly*

December 22nd

NORTH TAWTON The Square

10:00 to 12:00

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News from Sampford Courtenay

If you missed the Tedburn Community choir, who performed in the Village Hall on Friday, 19th October, then you missed a real treat. The 40 strong choir filled the hall with glorious arrangements of familiar music, from Beatles and Abba numbers, through Mack the Knife to *Joseph* - and it was difficult not to sing along! The MC had done his homework, researching the Prayerbook Rebellion and coupling it with the minutes of the Parish Council in a most amusing fashion. If they are invited to come again make sure to keep the date in your diaries – you won't be disappointed!

Many thanks to all who contributed so generously to the Shoebox Appeal and to Nick Weldon for transporting the 60 boxes to the Exeter centre for checking and distribution. We will know in due course where they have gone, but I expect it will be somewhere in Eastern Europe. This was the last year when toothpaste and sweets were allowed to be included, due to export restrictions, so don't forget next year – **no toothpaste and no sweets.**

There was an excellent turn out on 11th November, for Remembrance Sunday in St. Andrew's church and Armistice Day, in The Square, with wreaths laid by John Friend and Jim Brereton. The church bells rang out at 7 p.m. to celebrate the centenary of the ending of the First World War.

Many thanks to Patrick Roberts for repairing and painting the West façade of Church House. It's a notable improvement.

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

Many of you who have visited the hall recently will have noticed the appearance of tarmac in part of the car park. We had a contractor in to do this area to complete the disabled access to the new entrance and whilst the contractor was there, we put in a new mains water pipe. This cost in the region of £7,500 and we are very grateful to James McInnes, County Councillor for Hatherleigh and Chagford, who supported the project with a grant of £1000 from the Investing in Devon fund.

We held a quiz and pudding evening on November 10th and we would like to express our thanks to the fourteen teams who took part and to all those who donated puddings. We made a profit of £400, which is a very welcome addition to our funds.

Marion Weeks

R.N.I.B. TALKING BOOKS

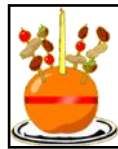
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8 p.m. START
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PLEASE HELP US TO HELP PEOPLE WITH LITTLE
OR NO SIGHT.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

St. Andrew's Church Sampford Courtenay



You and your families are warmly invited to our

Christingle Service

**Sunday, 2nd December
at 9.30 a.m.**

*Refreshments after the service and a time for
fellowship*

In aid of The Children's Society

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Saturday, 1st December

2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
in the Church Rooms
Sampford Courtenay



Teas



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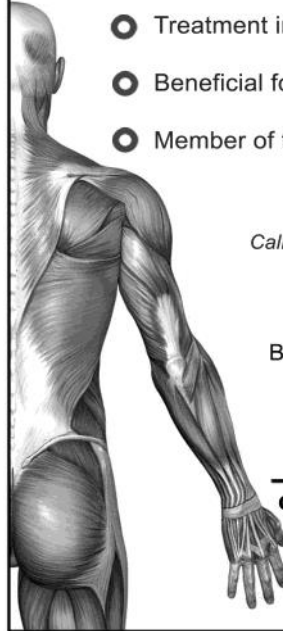
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6.30pm

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**On Thursday 17th, Friday 18th
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in St Peter's church, North Tawton

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Email: ritabullworthy@yahoo.co.uk

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December 11th, January 15th and January 29th

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 BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS & NIBBLES
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 MORE DETAILS NEXT MONTH

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 NORTH TAWTON TOWN HALL
 SATURDAY 1ST DECEMBER 10.00 a.m. till 12.00
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This year's Remembrance Service was held at 11.am on 11th November 2018 in St. Peter's Church North Tawton to commemorate 100 years since the end of the first world war. To remember all those who gave their all and honouring all those to whom we owe so much. The services in the church and at the cenotaph were well attended by many people. After the services, North Tawton branch president David Bale received a cheque for £410.00 from Mrs. J. Narramore, local war hero Alf Bolt's daughter, which was raised at the Tea Dance on 21st October this year in honour of her father.



We would like to thank everyone who attended and made our Tea Dance such a success. We had over 45 Lindy Hoppers from across the South West join us plus locals and family members. The Liberty Sisters were in fine voice and proved very popular. Thanks to all who brought along cake, especially the British Legions ladies led by Mary Fry, also for help with serving the teas and washing up afterwards. We raised an amazing £400 in total for the British Legion, a great achievement of which I am sure my father Alfred Bolt would have been proud. It was so successful it looks like this will become an annual event in memory of my Dad. Not forgetting thanks to everyone who donated prizes for our raffle, they are:

Gregory's
 Angel Hair Salon
 Roots Barber Shop
 Occasions Card Shop - Okehampton
 Little Gift Shop - Okehampton
 Waie Inn - Zeal Monachorum
 Bow Garden Centre
 Taw Valley Cheese Factory

Sew Vintage Shop
 Spar Shop North Tawton
 Roberta - Be Well Devon
 Mill End Hotel Chagford
 Castle Drogo National Trust
 Marsh Hair Exeter
 David Bale
 Sheila Bines



The Whiddon Mission Community
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
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St. Andrew's Sampford Courtenay	Mr. Malcolm Craig (880118)	Mrs. Sarah Hanks (851287)
St. Mary's Honeychurch	Mr. Ray Squire (851627)	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 Worship
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
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SERVICE at St. Mary's Church
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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

FROM THE REGISTERS

There are no entries in the Registers for November.

Pauses for thought

Christmas:

Up! Good Christen folk and listen
How the merry church bells ring
And from steeple bid good people
Come adore the new born King.

New Year:

Here we bring new water from the well so clear,
For to worship God with this happy New Year.
Sing reign of Fair Maid with gold upon her toe,
Open you the west door and let the old year go.
Sing reign of Fair Maid with gold upon her chin,
Open you the east door and let the new year in.

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St Peter's Church

Little Fishes

Be Still

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

St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay
Fourth Thursdays at 10 a.m.

There will be no Be Still in December

The next one will be on:
Thursday 24th January

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Church Flowers & Brass

Sampford Courtenay

Dec No flowers in Advent
Jan Shirley Reddaway

Honeychurch

Dec P. Squire
Jan M. Pyle

Bondleigh

Dec 2nd /9th Sheila Thorne
(no flowers, brass only)
Dec 16th/23rd/24th Barbara Dennis
(Christmas Flowers)
Dec 30th / Jan 6th Sheila Thorne
Jan 13th / 20th Jill Wilson
Jan 27th / Feb 3rd Julie Wilson

North Tawton

Flowers

Dec 2nd Lorna Dawe
Dec 9th Kennedy Gregory
Dec 16th
Dec 23rd / 30th Christmas Flowers
Jan 6th Christmas Flowers
Jan 13th / 20th Kay Webber
Jan 27th / Feb 3rd Sandra Delve

Brass

Dec Kay Webber & Lindsay Gibb
Jan Ann Merkel & Shirley Lambswood

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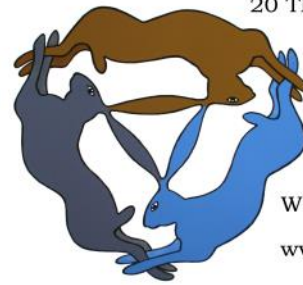
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