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# From The Rectory

## Two tribes

“The more I think about it the less sure I am that anyone truly knows the implications of the UK either staying in or leaving the EU. Everyone is guessing.” That is a quote from the May 2016 edition of Roundabout. Nearly two years later, I’m afraid to say I feel the same. On the one hand, like many people who voted in the EU Referendum June 2016, I’m appalled that after so much Brexit water has passed under the bridge that our Government appears to be in such a poor state of readiness for March 29<sup>th</sup>. (By the time this is published the deadline might even have been extended!) On the other hand, again, like many people who voted in June 2016, I’m so wearied by the whole Brexit debacle that I’m not sure I care very much about the outcome any more. My conscience kicks in there, because that’s an attitude I’m not proud of. But I fear it’s the overwhelming attitude of the country now, no matter which box you crossed in the referendum. It does feel like the last two years has wounded the soul of the nation.

Look, with 29<sup>th</sup> March approaching, I feel that I must write something about Brexit, albeit reluctantly. I’ve only touched on it briefly in the last few months. My last proper treatise was in May 2016, so it’s about time. And I imagine, if you were not interested then you would have stopped reading by line two. Now that you have got this far, permit me to engage your soul about this vexed subject of Brexit.

Despite the current national restlessness and division, I can foresee that we will make the best of Brexit one way or another. Undoubtedly there will be short-term losses, especially if we leave the EU with no deal. I imagine the country will go into a period of recession, and that getting goods across the border at Calais could be very difficult for a while. I worry about our farmers too and how they will be affected, and the potential damage to the fragile peace in Northern Ireland. But I also imagine that in five years time there will be successes to celebrate too. After all, the country has come through periods of far greater uncertainty before, and responded positively. There’s a little bit of me that wonders if March 29<sup>th</sup> will turn out like the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2000 – a huge fuss about not very much. Remember the “Millennium Bug”?

Some will celebrate March 29<sup>th</sup> as though it were some kind of “independence day”. For others it will be a sad day as they mourn the fracturing of our relationship with the rest of Europe. For most people it will probably just be a day to shrug the shoulders and get on with life. I think it will be day to stop and pray, and reflect on what has definitely been the most sorry chapter in our national life in my life-time, but then to knuckle down and get on with making the best of things in our little part of the world.

To help with that, I’ve been challenged recently about how we might all heal some of the division that Brexit has sown across the country. I voted to remain in June 2016. I thought it was the least bad of two undesirable options. That’s the tribe I find myself in. I don’t think I have fallen out with anyone in the opposing tribe. But I read recently, that since 2016 the old tribes of class or wealth, political Left and Right, and even county or country loyalty have been superceded by two new tribes. You are either a Leaver or a Remainer, and these two narratives are threatening to eclipse all others. I’d like to think that here in West Devon we’d be a bit more balanced and a bit more chilled out than that, but I have witnessed strong tribal rivalries expressed even here.

The article I was reading went on to give some very helpful advice to both tribes about how they should view the other as we exit the EU. To Leavers, the encouragement is to be honest enough to accept that March 29<sup>th</sup> will bring some pain before it brings gain, and that that pain is not the fault of Remainders for negotiating a bad deal. Any deal was bound to be a compromise. There is no perfect way to extricate Britain from 40 years of purposeful European integration. So Leavers, please do all you can to lessen the pain the country may feel once we leave.

The challenge to Remainders is to show they fully accept the result of the referendum by working hard to make the best of the situation we are now in, and not blame Brexiteers for the inevitable short-term losses the country may suffer. Remainders need to accept that the price of living in a democracy is that sometimes we have to be good losers, and any attempt to thwart the decision of the referendum would be dangerous for democracy. Personally, this is why I am not in favour of a “People’s Vote”. We’ve had one already.

I hope that in a local community like ours, our tribal loyalty to one another and to the red soil of our parishes will come to fore and drown out the Brexit barracking. It needs to. Too much damage has been done. A time of healing is needed, or better still, physiotherapy. Like a player trying to return from injury stronger and fitter, I hope the task of getting on with making the best of Brexit will in itself be the physio our country needs. Then, hopefully one day soon two tribes will again be one nation.

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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.

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North Tawton Town Council and the  
Sampford Courtenay Village Council).

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

**Driver Herbert Stentiford aged  
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who died on March 13th 1919  
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He lived at Higher Newland  
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**Private William Arscott aged  
18 of the 52nd Battalion of the  
Devonshire Regiment. He died on March  
23rd in Etaples Hospital, France. He lived at  
Crooke Cottage, North Tawton.**

**Private Frederick Tiller aged 36 of the Duke  
of Cornwall's Light Infantry. He died on  
March 30th in Egypt and is commemorated  
on the Alexandria War Memorial. He lived in  
Barton Street, North Tawton.**

**Lance Corporal Samuel Horn aged 31 of the  
1st Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment. He  
died of wounds in March 1919 and is buried  
in Sampford Courtenay Churchyard. He  
lived at Sampford Chapel.**



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Website : [northtawtontowncouncil.co.uk](http://northtawtontowncouncil.co.uk)

### **Mrs Rosalind Rice, Clerk to NTTC 2011 – 2018**

Most of you will be aware that Mrs. Rice (Ros) passed away on 15 November 2018, following a long battle with her illness, a battle which was fought bravely and without complaint.

Ros took up the post of Clerk to the Council in 2011, and she truly 'took the job and made it her own'. She was dedicated to doing the very best for the town in which she lived and had brought up her family. Ros constantly worked hard to improve so many of the ways in which the Council operates on a day to day basis, and was unfailingly professional and meticulous in everything that she did here.

Sarah Say had the privilege of working as Assistant to Ros for 2.5 years, and says that she has only been able to carry on the work of the Council thanks to the training, help, and support she received from Ros during the time they worked together. We have all missed Ros very much, and wish to place this very heartfelt tribute to her memory, whilst our thoughts and prayers naturally continue for her family.

### **Stephen Whiteley, Chair of North Tawton Town Council**

*For various reasons this tribute was not able to be published until now. The Council thanks Mr. G Rice for his kind permission for us to do so at this time.*

### **Defibrillators and Defibrillator Training**

The Council has signed a new agreement with the South West Ambulance Foundation Trust for provision of 2 brand new replacement defibrillators, to include the relevant support package for the next 4 years. These defibrillators are situated outside the Council Office at 14a The Square, North Tawton, EX20 2EP, and outside Fore Street Garage, EX20 2ED. (The defibrillator located at Strawberry Fields was purchased by the Council and is outside this agreement). New boxes have been provided, so the equipment will look different, but it still operates in exactly the same way.

The package agreement includes annual defibrillator training, which is not generally well attended. We would like to try and provide training sessions at convenient times for our residents – so, please email or write to the Clerk (contact details at foot of page) and let us know of days and times that you think would be convenient – for example, Saturday mornings might be more helpful.

### **Seamoor Lotto**

SeaMoor Lotto was created in 2018 by South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council. Set up to support community projects in the local area, the SeaMoor Lotto operates on the principle of raising money within the community for the community.

In a time of shrinking budgets and increased community need, SeaMoor Lotto enables people to support the causes they care most about, helping good causes to connect with their supporters.

A ticket for the SeaMoor Lotto costs £1 per week and 60p returns to the local council to be devoted to good causes; of that 60p, 50p goes directly to our local area and 10p across the district generally.

Just do an online search for SeaMoor Lotto, go to 'Buy Tickets' – you can choose a cause to support, e.g. North Tawton Town Council, or another cause. You have to be over 16 to buy a ticket.

Sarah Say,  
Clerk to North Tawton Town Council

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**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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## North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

### Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

According to husband, I've just had a 'lovely day out'. First stop – Mole Avon – to look at the wood. Should I get '6be4' or '4be4'? We stop to admire the galvanised wheel barrows and look longingly at the railway sleepers. Then it's inside to check out the incredible range of wellies and boiler suits. Is he the only man on the planet to have 'best' 'good' and 'not so good' wellies? With the same grading in boiler suits? This is not supposed to be an advert for Mole Avon but letting husband loose in there is like the proverbial small child in a sweet shop. I can summon up only a tiny fraction of his enthusiasm for strimmer cord and coach bolts and screws. (he has just given me a detailed description of what makes a coach bolt different to a coach screw – you do not need to know this, believe me). We're through the tills, we're heading for the exit and he suggests 'let's get some seed potatoes' HURRAH. I can sense the possibility of a trade-off looming – seed potatoes in exchange for tea and Bakewell slice at the garden centre. Deal? Done.

Let's move on to teaching English to village children in Tanzania. Which is precisely what retired police man David Harvey applied to do in 2008 when he came across a volunteering opportunity in a newspaper. The charity 'Village Africa' was set up in 2006 by Caroline Johnston and a local village priest and is based in the village of Yamba, high up in the Western Usambara mountains in Eastern Africa. David described his initial arrival in Milingano followed by the challenging trek, on foot for the last couple of miles, up into the mountains to Yamba (the views were stunning). The village houses were made from wattle and daub, the roof was either galvanised (a sign of wealth) or grass and split banana leaves. Two streams running through the village were used for everything and as a result were heavily polluted. Plastic containers (a very precious commodity) were used to collect the mountain mist water that would run off the roof tops. The soil was very shallow but surprisingly fertile which allowed the villagers to harvest three crops per year of plantain, beans, maize and potato. However, David described them as living life virtually on the edge of drought conditions. Despite the tough environment the villagers seemed happy and content – teaching the children was fun and David tried hard to make lessons colourful and active with as much learning as possible taking place outside. A typical morning started with exercise (regardless of the fact that some pupils had just walked three miles through the bush to school) followed by assembly and the Tanzanian National anthem. Cookery lessons for the girls would include how to pound plantain – football for the boys would involve a ball made from plastic bags wrapped up with string and elastic bands. Everyone loved to make music - whether it was playing homemade guitars or singing - and the school even had its own drum band. David's particularly special memories are of the spectacular scenery, the sunrises and sunsets, and the people – especially the children. He may only have been there for three months but the impact of his Village Africa experience was clearly profound.

The Devon Federation W.I. quiz is almost upon us – we are furiously revising (maybe not that furiously) we are hoping that the cake selection at half time is as yummy as in previous years and that (as happened one year) the team next to us is composed of a gluten free lady, a vegan, one lady with Type 2 diabetes and another lady 'trying to be good'. I'm proud to say we helped them out.

We are invited to sign up for a bluebell walk on Dartmoor in May or experience a Medieval Day at Church House, South Tawton. Want to know more about late medieval lifestyles including fashion and makeup tips? There will even be an opportunity to do some fifteenth century dancing. My mind is suddenly filled with images of husband at a recent 'wedding disco' – when I asked him about his unusual 'style' he said 'those moves are all my own work'. I've just checked fifteenth century dances on YouTube – step, step, step hop - it's him!!

*Sue Knott*

### Building the Dream

A number of years ago, many of you will remember we advertised for people who shared our dream of building their own house, asking them to register with us as we were looking to apply for planning permission on part of our field.

We, eventually, obtained our outline planning consent and many of those who have come on the journey with us have registered their interest in the available plots. We do, however, still have two plots available and would love to give further North Tawton people the opportunity to fulfil their dream.

If you would like more details, or to come up to the site to see what's happening, please email us at [nigel-ro@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:nigel-ro@tiscali.co.uk)

or telephone 01837 82138.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Nigel and Rosemary

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**Wednesday 6 March 10:00-11:00— ‘Tiger Who**

***Came to Tea’ party***

Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Judith Kerr’s story with us. Story, followed by activities and tea party. Suitable for children under 5 and their carers . Free, donations Welcome.

Chance to win a copy of ‘The Tiger Who Came to Tea’

**Thursday 7 March 10:00-15:00 — World Book Day - ‘Meet the Authors’**

Several authors will be here to chat about their work and how they got published. Copies of their titles will be available to purchase and to be signed by the authors. Further details available from staff. Free event.

Refreshments will be available, donations welcome

**Thursday 7 March 15:45-16:30—World Book Day - Stories and Games**

*Celebrate stories. Love Reading.*

Join us for some World Book Day stories and games.

Suitable for children age 5+. Free, donations welcome

**Saturday 9 March 10:00-12:30—Family Lantern Workshop with Wren Music**

Entry by donation, children over 8 and families welcome

**Wednesday 20 & 27 March 10:00-12:30 - Basic Computer Training**

Are you confused by computers? Sign up to our free IT sessions for beginners! The sessions will be delivered by Elite Training South West. This course runs over 2 sessions – booking essential

**Friday 29 March 09:45-10:45 – Mother’s Day Story & Craft**

Story and craft for under 5’s and their carers, to celebrate Mother’s Day.

50p per child - no booking necessary

You are welcome to arrive early and have a cuppa, only

50p per cup

**Regular events**

**Adults**

**Every Tuesday 13:30-14:30– Knit & Natter**

Bring along your knitting, stitching, crochet or other portable project, for a chat withlike-minded crafters. Tea and coffee available at 50p a cup.

**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 15:45 – 16:45 – Bookworms Book Club for ages 7 – 11**

(except Aug/Sept) Free - no booking necessary

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

Free - no booking necessary

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month 15:45-16:45 - Bunala Book Club for ages 12+ Ask staff for further details**

**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

01837 52805

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March  
Guide **Spring Coffee Morning**

10.00 – 11.30am

in the Town Hall.

Usual stalls, ,draw, hamper etc

Proceeds for Guide funds.

Table tops available £5.00 but no food or draws

Contact 89160 to book.

**QUIZ SHEETS**

If you enjoy the quiz sheets that used to be around a lot, the Guides have made one for you to hopefully enjoy and fill a few hours !! They are £1 each and there will be a cash prize ,winner to be announced at the coffee morning on 30th March. The sheets are available from any Guide or Guider or contact 89160 if you would like one.



An evening with  
**The Bodeligh Barn Band**

Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> March

at the Village Hall in Bow starting at 7 p.m.

(doors open at 6.30 p.m.)

Come and hear a band of over forty players in a wide selection of music suitable for all the Family, with opportunities to join in if you wish. A light-hearted evening with refreshments available in the interval.

## OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

### ROMAN REMAINS STUDY DAY ON AUGUST 10th.

The Roman occupation of Britain lasted from about AD 50 until AD 450. At several different periods during that time North Tawton was the site of important military bases probably guarding the crossing of the River Taw on the road which led through Exeter and Okehampton. Some of these military camps would have had thousands of troops present with accompanying buildings.

Recent excavations in the building site to the East of Okehampton have provided a clearer view of the importance of this area. There is archaeological work being carried out on the North Tawton sites during this year. Some of this in association with building work, some by a group of archaeologists from Exeter University and the County.

Our Society is organising a study day in North Tawton on 10th August 2019. This will include illustrated talks on the Roman Features which are visible in the area of De Bathe Cross and Newland Mill. By courtesy of Rev'd Nick Weldon these will be given in St. Peter's Church North Tawton starting at 2 p.m.

We are pleased that we will get information from a group which will include local archaeologist Steve Stocker who has a full and up to date knowledge of the Roman features in the area, Chris Smart who has a wide knowledge of the Roman Forts in Devon and Joao Fonte who is experienced in modern archeological methods and has a wide knowledge of the Roman Military.

Some of the Roman features are visible from public roads and footpaths. By the generosity of several local landowners we will be able to visit other local sites where the Roman features can be seen. The arrangements for these escorted visits will be published nearer the time and numbers may have to be limited.

This event will be named after Dr. Jean Shields BEM who contributed so much to the historical knowledge of our area.

We always welcome visitors to our meetings and I hope that those of us who live close to these important historical features will be able to attend. There will be a small charge to cover temporary membership of our society.



Celebrate Mothering Sunday

31st March 2019

St Peter's North Tawton  
at 11am

Bring Mum  
& all the family





The first signs of Spring really are here. It is hard to imagine that we had to close the school just a few weeks ago because of the snow!

Driving through the lanes to Chagford School, to meet local heads, the blue skies and fluffy clouds were a welcome sight. Nevertheless, the pupils (and staff) were of course delighted to have a day off school during the snow. I am sure that everyone enjoyed the time with their families building snowmen and riding sledges.

Can you believe we are half way through the school year? We are very busy as always, encouraging the children to read more in our efforts to drive up writing standards. We have created a 'Word Wall', enticing pupils to think about using more adventurous words and learning new ones! We also have challenged each of the classes to read more with our 'Read in February' competition. The winning class receives a little treat – as does the class teacher! Watch this space for the winner, and for the Writer of the Month.



This term we held our second annual Grandparents' Day which was a huge success. The hall was full of admiring Grandparents who loved the school choir, and listening to their grandchildren singing. A short presentation followed, sharing photos and information about all the learning that takes place in our school. The grandchildren from all the classes then spent time sharing books with their Grandparents. The school received many positive comments and much praise for the hard work and commitment shown by our dedicated staff. Many of the Grandparents said how impressed they were with what they saw in the books, and noted how much expectations have increased since they were last in classrooms! Above all they were "bursting with pride" and admiration for the school and all the staff. It was a super morning and we hope to welcome you to join us for the next 'Open Celebration Assembly' held in the school hall at 2:45 p.m. on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March.



Until next month,

Sunita Chauhan  
Head of School





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THURSDAY	9.00 AM - 5.30 PM
FRIDAY	9.00 AM - 5.30 PM
SATURDAY	9.00 AM - 1.00 PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED

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**t:01837  
82824**

# Nanny Knight's Revel 2019

**It's back!!**

Following our events in 2012, 2013 and 2015  
We are organising a Revel for 2019

**Save the dates!!**

**The Revel will start in the Park on Sunday 11th August  
And will conclude on Saturday 17th August at the Rugby Club.**

There will be the usual races and activities at these venues,  
as well as numerous events happening throughout the week  
including a Tea for the Seniors of North Tawton on Wednesday 14th  
and quizzes, storytelling, music and entertainment

**Watch this space - more will be revealed!**

We can't wait to see you all during the Revel, make sure you can say  
"Us wuz there"!!

Keen Gardeners?

We are looking for people to take part in an open gardens event on Friday, 16th August, part of the Nanny Knight Revels which will be taking place in the town for the whole week 11th to 17th August. If you would be happy to invite people to look around your patch, however big or small please contact us

[organiser@theartandmusic.com](mailto:organiser@theartandmusic.com)

07890 850877

## **Nanny Knight's Nasturtiums**

Collect your Nanny Knight Nasturtium seeds and plant pot from the Post Office from Saturday April 6th. Grow your seeds in the pot and bring it along to the marquee on August 17th. The most beautiful nasturtium, in the opinion of the judge, will be the winner of this special class. Any age can enter - and any secret growing potion can be used! Only 30 Nanny Knight's nasturtium pots will be given away, so hurry to the Post Office during the week beginning April 6th, and get growing.

## When you need advice we have the solution

Call our Okehampton office 01837 51 21 00  
Rosemary House, Market Street EX20 1HN

Call our Crediton office 01363 77 55 66  
Manor Office, North Street EX17 2BR

Call our Exeter office 01392 42 42 42  
15 -17 Southernhay East EX1 1QE

Other offices at Budleigh Salterton, Ottery St Mary  
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Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

Tuesday 6 - 7pm

The Ockment Centre

Tuesday 9 - 10am

Friday 9 - 10am

Follygate and Inwardleigh Parish  
hall

Wednesday 6.30 - 7.30pm

£5 drop in.

Contact me for more information

[jeanharris50@hotmail.com](mailto:jeanharris50@hotmail.com)

07929278788

Bring a mat. I have spares!

See you on the mat

### DEVON SENSORY Service

Free, confidential and impartial service for people with hearing and/or visual impairment, will be available in North Tawton Town Hall Foyer on the third Thursday of each month from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon  
Telephone 01392 383730

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# OKEHAMPTON CHORAL SOCIETY & ORCHESTRA

SPRING CONCERT 2019

MOZART: SOLEMN VESPERS

HAYDN: MARIA THERESA MASS

WILSON: THE PRAYER OF SAINT PATRICK

Conductor:  
ANDREW WILSON

Leader:  
PAUL MATHEWS

Soprano: Margaret Aagesen Hughes  
Mezzo Soprano: Louise Mott  
Tenor: Andrew Henley  
Bass: Julian Rippon

ALL SAINTS' PARISH CHURCH, OKEHAMPTON, DEVON  
SATURDAY 16TH MARCH, 2019, 7.30pm  
TICKETS (£10 STUDENTS £5) FROM "CARGO CULT" OR ON THE DOOR.

## OKEHAMPTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Okehampton Choral Society will be performing a special programme for their next concert on **SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH** at **All Saints Parish Church, Okehampton** starting at **7:30pm**.

The opening work is Mozart's "Solemn Vespers" a work of sublime beauty, written when he was 24. It includes the wonderful "Laudate Dominum" - a haunting melody and perhaps the most famous part of the work. Following this will be Haydn's "Maria Theresa Mass" which was written towards the end of his long successful career and is full of his typical joyous energy.

The concert falls on the eve of St. Patrick's Day and to celebrate this the society will be giving the premiere performance of an exciting new piece for choir and orchestra "The Prayer of St Patrick" by the society's conductor, the composer Andrew Wilson.

The choir will be accompanied by a full orchestra led by Paul Mathews and will be joined by a starry line up of professional soloists. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Tickets are £10 (£5 students) available from choir members, Cargo Cult in The Arcade or on the door.

### News from the Castle



Hi everyone,

It is only a few weeks now until the castle re-opens for the new season and we have been busy painting, plastering, moving collection items and getting ready to welcome everyone. The big day is Saturday 9th March and the castle is then open 7 days a week until the end of October. We are really looking forward to sharing the ongoing re-presentation of the castle which will continue throughout the year as the final parts of the building conservation work is completed.

For the past few years, we have had a second hand book shelf in the café which raises money for conservation projects at Castle Drogo. It is with great pleasure that I can announce that all monies raised this coming year will go towards restoration of the stained glass windows in the Chapel and replacement benches for the garden.

If you have any spare books (decent quality please!) please do drop them off with the visitor centre team. We especially would like children's books as they fly off the shelves as quickly as we put them on! We would also like travel, gardening, and crime/thriller but would welcome all genres. If you have loads (i.e. 10 boxes) we may be able to help with collection too.

We are also looking for a couple of people to join the book team. The role is to check stock levels and display, and we would especially like help on Sundays. You can easily tie it in with other volunteering too so, if you have been thinking about being one of our brilliant storytellers in the castle, you can easily do both. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the book shelves by donating books or buying books over the past few years. The biggest thanks must go to the brilliant team of volunteers who manage and organise the bookshelves and have been instrumental in making it such a success.

Paula  
Community Engagement Officer, Castle Drogo  
01647 434130, paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk



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## **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION.- NORTH TAWTON BRANCH - Founded Feb 1922**

Brian Balsdon who died recently had been a tower of strength in his help and expertise and gave some hope of the Branch surviving against the odds. Brian became Membership Secretary at a time when RBL was undergoing major changes, some of which meant members were not receiving cards, making it almost impossible at Branch level to know member numbers. By patient application Brian resolved this. As Vice Chairman he was a reliable member of the committee. At the 2018 AGM he became Chairman.

Tribute should be paid to Barry Ware, who has been Branch Chairman for almost twenty years, through a long illness and difficult times. He has sustained the Branch, the annual Auction funding the Christmas widows payments and has organised regular Mystery trips for several years. Barry took over as the last of the World War Two veteran members could no longer manage.

Clifford Westlake was Chairman for many years, Reg Farley, Reg Fry, Alf Bolt and Les Skinner were long term members. One of the innovations, still being presented was the Legion Shield awarded at the School at the end of Term, the staff deciding the winner and certificate recipients.

Viewers of "Dad's Army" will have seen the scramble to enlist in the Local Defence Volunteers, in fact this task fell to the Legion Chairman Bill Heath, who later segregated the older veterans to form the North Tawton Post of the Royal Observer Corps. Major Legion events pre-war had been the Children's party and the Garden Produce show.

Nationally the Legion made much of the 90th Anniversary because of the uncertainty of Branches lasting until the Centenary. In order for the North Tawton Branch to reach our Centenary in 2022 we need new members. Please consider how you can help.

David Bale PRESIDENT.

### **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](mailto:juliec2911@hotmail.co.uk) or [admin@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk) or by phone:

**07866 605184**

### **North Tawton Baby and Toddler Group**

Little Seedlings Baby and Toddler Group.

North Tawton Primary School Hall

Friday mornings during term time,  
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£2 per family (Everyone is very welcome).

Please see our Facebook page for updates.



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## READING GROUP

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AT THE NEW INN

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4, Park Houses, North Tawton

EX20 2DX



Full minutes can be viewed on our website [www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk](http://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.

**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>

**Notes from SCPC Feb 19**

1. There has been a 32% response of households in the Parish to the Survey. Cllr. Wilson will present the results at the Open Meeting on Tues 21<sup>st</sup> May. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the survey.
2. Cllr. Wilson has also set up a “Just Giving Page” on the Website and Facebook page to try and raise funds towards a Defibrillator for the parish.  
SCPC have endeavoured to reduce or maintain the Annual Precept for the past 4 years, and the current allocation just covers the annual running expenses for the parish. Therefore alternative funding has to be sought for any other projects in the parish. Your support for these projects is always appreciated.
3. The recent snow fall reminded us that several of the new Snow Warden volunteers still need the basic training – this will be available at the Village Hall on Sat 16<sup>th</sup> March for all new volunteers. (You will be able to enjoy a “Big Breakfast” while you are there)
4. After a recent enquiry by a parishioner whose access to Berrydown Plantation had been challenged by the landowner – SCPC have contacted the Forestry Commission who has reported that according to them “the whole of Berrydown Plantation is dedicated for open access under s.16 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. This entitles the general public to open access for the purposes of running, walking, climbing, sightseeing and birdwatching.” Further advise on vehicular access to the designated car park in this area is being sort.
5. Early warning of up-coming events for your diary.
  - a) Local Elections 2<sup>nd</sup> May – anyone wishing to stand as a Parish Councillor please get in touch with the Clerk.
  - b) Tues 7<sup>th</sup> May – SCPC AGM followed by normal monthly meeting.
  - c) Sat 18<sup>th</sup> May – Village Spring Clean – come and help tidy the parish and then enjoy a pasty and glass of cider with SCPC to say thank you for your efforts.
  - d) Tues 21<sup>st</sup> May – Spring Open Meeting – a chance to come and hear the results of the Survey and contribute to how SCPC and other groups in the parish should plan for your future in the village.

Please contact SCPC Clerk – Marion Pratt at [SCPCclerk@aol.com](mailto:SCPCclerk@aol.com) or on 01837 82285 if you would like to raise any issues. Even better, come along to a meeting. Next meetings Mar 5<sup>th</sup> and Apr 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*Marion Pratt*

**Sampford Courtenay & Honeychurch Flower & Veg Show Brainstorm Meeting**



**Fri Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019 7.30pm at Sampford Courtenay Village Hall**

- Pick up your seed potato & bucket for “Heaviest Crop” Class.
- Make suggestions for this year’s Schedule

This year’s show will be on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> Aug 2019



**North Tawton Twinning Association**



**QUIZ & PUDDINGS**  
**FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> March – THE BOWLING CLUB, NORTH TAWTON – 7.30 p.m.**  
**OPEN TO EVERYONE!!**

Teams of up to 6 persons.  
Cost £5 per person to include puddings; or £2 per person if you don’t want to sample the lovely deserts.



**CLUB BAR WILL BE OPEN!**  
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Than

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For more information contact Marion Pratt on 82285 or email [marion174@btinternet.com](mailto:marion174@btinternet.com)

*Merci Beaucoup!*

Just come and enjoy the fun, you don’t have to become part of the Twinning



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### Sampford Courtenay Flower Club

Monday March 11th

2.30.p.m.

The Village Hall

Mary & David Nunn

Talk on World NAFAS Show in Ireland



**A date for your diary** -  
do you remember these birds?

**Concert at St. Andrew's Church,  
Sampford Courtenay**

**on**

**Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7.30 p.m.**

Last May, the two Rivers Orchestra and the augmented choir of St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay gave a concert in aid of Children's Hospice South West under the title "The Cuckoo and the Nightingale".

The same forces will give a second concert this year in aid of the Devon Air Ambulance and St. Andrew's Church.

Roger Cleverdon will be the soloist in Handel's Organ Concerto, Opus 4, No. 4 and William Boyce's 4<sup>th</sup> Symphony will be performed together with music by Byrd, Purcell, Maurice Greene, Boccherini, Mozart and Elgar.

Tickets, price £10 for adults and £5 (under 18's) will include wine (soft drinks) in the interval and can be obtained on 01837 82376.

### **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.

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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  
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THANK YOU

JOHN RIDGWAY 1931-2019

Denise, Barry and family would like to thank everyone for their messages of sympathy and donations to the Devon Air Ambulance Trust in John's memory. Grateful thanks also to the Rev'd Nick Weldon and the Rev'd Rita Bullworthy for their help and support.



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### **Bondleigh Rainfall**

2019 started dry with no rain measured until 16th. By the end of the month the total rainfall amounted to 61.3mm. Most of this fell in the last few days as either rain or snow.

January 2018 was very different, having a total of 153.2 mm.

*Danny Semorad*

### **Okehampton & District Local History Society**

Ockment Centre, North Street, Okehampton

Wednesday, March 13th,  
7.30 p.m.

Medieval towns in Devon and Cornwall  
*Tony Wood*

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#### **FRIDAY** *monthly*

#### **March 8th / April 5th**

NORTH TAWTON The Square

09:45 to 11:15

BONDLEIGH Old School

13:55 to 14:15

#### **SATURDAY** *monthly*

#### **March 23rd / April 20th**

NORTH TAWTON The Square

10:00 to 12:00

Library Membership is FREE.  
Join at any age - no lower age limit  
(toddlers can join!).

### **Okehampton U3A**

University of the Third Age

The March meeting will take place at the Ockment Centre, North Street at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday 28th March.

There will be a talk by

### **Devon Freewheelers**

Devon Freewheelers is a registered Charity with a team of volunteers who are dedicated to supporting our NHS in delivering essential blood supplies and other medical products on an urgent basis. The Freewheelers have a fleet of eleven motorcycles and provide a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week service. The team completed over 4,000 missions in 2018 and the talk will cover the wide range of deliveries which they make and the motorcycles which they use.

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](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/okehampton) .

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



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## News from Sampford Courtenay

Plough Sunday was celebrated at St. Andrew's on 13<sup>th</sup> January with the horse drawn plough being pushed up the aisle by members of the Young Farmers' club, Seeds and soil were blessed, as were the tractors and ploughs, both vintage and modern, which had gathered in The Square.

The Flower Club enjoyed a New Year lunch at The New Inn on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January and the Bell Ringer's did likewise at The Countryman on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> February.

A memorial service was held at St. Andrew's on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February for Mark Smith, husband of Heather Smith of Fernhills Moor. Mark died on Christmas Eve aged 78. The service and interment of ashes was led by the Rev'd Rita Bullworthy and included a poem by John Gillespie Magee Jr. A tribute to Mark was given by Mark Ordish and the choir, led by Roger Cleverdon, sang A Gaelic Blessing by John Rutter. A collection in memory of Mark was taken for Children's Hospice South West. Josie Reddaway of Middletown, Honeychurch, wife of Stewart and mother of Michael and Robert, died suddenly on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> January. She supported significantly events at Sampford Courtenay, particularly organising the refreshment stall at the Summer Fete and Christmas Bazaar. She will be sadly missed in the village.

Pam Kemp gave a most interesting, illustrated talk on Tibet in the Village Hall on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> January.

Don't forget the bell ringers' coffee morning on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, where you will be able to purchase your vegetables for the weekend.

*Nicky Craig*

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

The latest meeting was held on Thursday February 4<sup>th</sup> in Exbourne village hall. The president (Margaret Cleveland) welcomed everyone and Jerusalem was sung. The speaker was Martin Thornton from the North Dartmoor Rescue Group. He gave a very comprehensive and interesting presentation on the work of the rescue groups, explaining about training for various situations, as well as showing several rescues, including when they went to York to help with the flooding. He was thanked by Rosie Dunn.

At the meeting that followed a team was picked to go to the DFWI Quiz at Morchard Bishop on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Ann Langworthy reported that the Exbourne WI Facebook was up and running. Some business matters were postponed to the next meeting as there were several members absent, some of them because of illness. These included the proposed celebration for the 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration, the annual lunch and the summer outing. A spring visit to the Solland Cider Farm is to be arranged to see the apple blossom.

Final arrangements were made for the Coffee Morning in Hatherleigh on March 12<sup>th</sup>. There is still no action on what is happening with the Groups. We are the only ones left in the Hatherleigh Group with Bratton Clovelly. The next Walk is on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Bridestowe Station for a walk on the Granite Way.

Flower of the Month winners were Sally Kenealy, Ethel Nancekivell and Bonnie Stenning. Competition winners for a picture of Dartmoor also ended in a tie, the winners being Nicky Craig, Pam Pemberton and Sally Kenealy.

The next meeting is in Exbourne village hall on March 7<sup>th</sup>, when Sue Enderson will explain 'Why cut up fabric and sew it back together again?'

*Margaret Weeks*

St Andrew's, Sampford Courtenay

Holy Communion with the  
Imposition of Ashes

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 p.m.

**St. Andrew's Church  
Sampford Courtenay**

**CHORAL EVENSONG**

**Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>  
6.30 p.m.**



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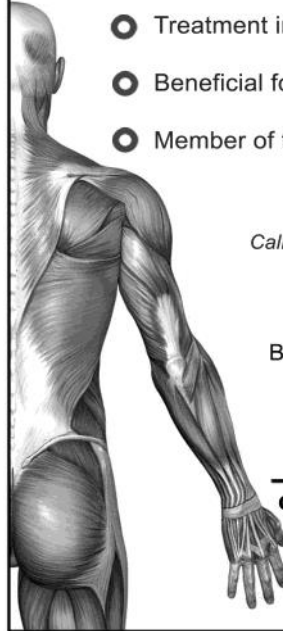
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St Andrew's Parish Church,  
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## Bell Ringers' Coffee Morning

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### NORTH TAWTON BOWLING CLUB

This is catch up on the news from the Club as we await the start of the 2019 summer season. As usual the work and events do not stop for the winter. So the club has organised various events for these long winter nights. We started with the AGM on 7th Nov. which was well attended and the following are just some of the highlights of a successful meeting

The Chairman is again John Kinsey and the first lady ever as overall Club Captain is Jan Summers. The Ladies Captain is Pam Davis. Steve Adams has taken over the most important role of fixture secretary from long standing Robert Arscott and Gordon Denham continues as our hard working Secretary. Special mention was made of the Club's Pub Fun Day which raised a huge amount of revenue. It was noted we managed to get another Men's O.60s team into the very popular Exeter League.

The surprise of the evening (for them anyway) was the award of Life Membership to Robert and Margaret Arscott. This was for all their hard work over many years. Well Done Both.

Our Coffee Morning in the town hall plus Quiz Evening in the club on 17th Nov raised the combined total of £1000. This will not stay long in the coffers as we are spending or will have spent approx. £4500 on the green, mainly on drainage, edging and seeding. Add to that a new mower and various work parties. It is money well spent.

The next event was the club dinner on 2nd Dec., held for the second year running in the Club House with food supplied by Kirstie's Kitchen. It was well attended and successful with no long speeches!

Cups presented by the Club Chairman included Ladies and Men's Champions - Margaret and Robert Arscott, Avery Cup - Lloyd Reynolds, Benham cup - Ashley Austen, Stoneman Cup - Lloyd Reynolds and John Kinsey, Ladies Rose Bowl - Jan Summers, Handicap Cup - Jan Summers, Ladies Pairs - Margaret Denham and Pam Davis. Captain Tom Watson presented the club person of the year to Pam Davis.

The indoor short mat continues to go forward with Club days on Tues 2 p.m. and Thurs 7.30 p.m.. We have two teams in the league now. New mats have been purchased so we continue our winter indoors with much optimism.

2019 includes the continuation of the successful Quiz Nights: the next one is on Saturday, 9th Feb.

Work on the green continues under the watchful eye of Rob Arscott and Dave Cooper; painting and fencing with John Kinsey as overseer!!!

The provisional date for Opening the green for the summer season is Saturday. April 12th. This is open to all. New and old members are welcome and for the first time in many years we welcome a touring side ( West Sussex) We hope this is the start of new ventures for the club and may be the club itself going on tour???

Since the opening of the new club house, North Tawton Bowling Club has experienced a new lease of life with enthusiasm both on and off the Green. Hopefully this will transfer to all our Teams in their leagues this year. We also feel we have a new rapport with North Tawton itself with many outside functions taking advantage of our new facilities, pleasant surroundings and ample parking

*Mike Thwaites (President)*

#### COFFEE MORNING & SILENT AUCTION

In aid of Hospice UK  
(to assist Ian Webber's London Marathon fundraising)

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#### **Friends of North Tawton Surgery**

Dates for 2019:

13th April: Coffee Morning  
6th June: Quiz Night  
7th September: Coffee Morning  
10th October: Quiz Night  
14th December: Turkey and Tinsel

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**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

Provision for children at all 11 a.m. services  
 Sunday Club 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays

**SERVICES at St. James' Church**  
**Bondleigh**

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

**QUAKERS**

Ockment Centre,  
 North Street, Okehampton  
 EX20 1AR  
 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

**ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**Devon Parish of Holy Prophet Elias**  
 For details of services contact  
 Celia or Martin Olsson (82796)

**Lakeway United Church**  
 North Tawton  
*Methodist / United Reformed*

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

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### FUNERAL

Wednesday 19th December 2018  
Friday 18th January

Geoffrey Martin PADDON  
Brian BALSDON (68)

Lakeway United Church  
St. Peter's Church

Thursday 24th January

John RIDGWAY (87)

St. James' Church

### INTERMENT OF ASHES

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Stephen Mark SMITH (78)

St. Andrew's Church

### BAPTISM

Sunday 20th January

Willow Sonia GOSNEY (4 months)

St. Peter's Church

Sunday 10th February

Delilah Kate RICE (15 months)

St. Peter's Church

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

The next one will be on:  
Thursday 28th March

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### NORTH TAWTON TOWN HALL

Bookings: Annette 01837 880054

Secretary: Lin 01837 880031

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Next meeting March 2nd

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For further information contact

Charlotte Sampson 07706 942901 or

[charlotte.sampson22@gmail.com](mailto:charlotte.sampson22@gmail.com)

Mar 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>

Apr 8<sup>th</sup> ;



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## Church Flowers & Brass

### Sampford Courtenay

March Shirley Reddaway  
April Pam Clayton

### Honeychurch

March M. Pyle  
April V. Matthews

### Bondleigh

Mar 3rd Sonia Rix  
Mar 10th / 17th Rose Smith  
Mar 24th / 31st Pam Evison  
Apr 7th / 14th Nicola Raffan  
Apr 21st / 28th Nikki Jourdan  
March 6th to April 18th Brass only  
March 31st Flowers for Mothering Sunday  
April 21st Easter Flowers

### North Tawton

#### *Flowers*

March 3rd Mary Fry  
March 10th - April 18th Lent No Flowers  
April 21st Easter Flowers. All helpers

#### *Brass*

March Lindsay Gibb  
April Jane and Monica 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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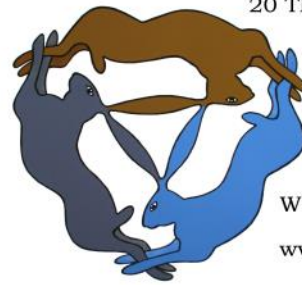
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