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February 2020

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From The Rectory

“And the award goes to...”

As you may have noticed, it is awards season. The Golden Globes were in early January, and in February it's the BAFTA's, then the Oscars, and then the BRIT Awards. One or other of these celebrity shindigs might possibly grab your attention momentarily in the coming weeks, especially at this wet and cold time of year when there are less local events to propel us off the sofa and out for the evening. Most years, I will partially tune in to award season, not least because it's useful for pub quizzes...

“Which film won best picture at the Oscars in 1996?”

Braveheart - I know that one; although I'm struggling to remember any since The King's Speech about 10 years ago. Sometimes you also get a half decent performance at the BRIT Awards too in-between the screaming fans, the shout-outs and the make-some-noises. But awards ceremonies are tedious, don't you think? I never last more than half an hour or through one cycle of advert breaks. And these days, they tend to be hamstrung by diversity issues as well, making them even more tiresome. It would be better to use the time to actually watch the film or listen to the album.

But have you noticed the growing trend in recent years of snazzy award ceremonies for ordinary people too...? people who have made some considerable unsung difference in their community in some way. The biggest is the Pride of Britain Awards for people who have “made the world a better place”. Then there is the Unsung Hero Award for “non-medical NHS staff and volunteers”, and the BBC Sports Unsung Hero Award for a “sportsperson who has made a substantive yet unrecognised contribution to sport.” The ceremonies are often now on telly, and are covered ever more widely in the press year on year. They make a nice contrast to the star-studded, over-hyped and over-long celebrity ceremonies where the dresses, the speeches and the red carpet have just got too ridiculous. It is really great to see “Mandy from Middlesbrough” who has taught 5000 children to swim over 50 years of service, collect her award from Carol Vorderman, and tell the country how proud she is of all the children who have learnt to swim under her tuition. We love our heroes these days, and we crown lots of them. But maybe it is getting a bit OTT though.

I am all for national recognition where it is deserved. Indeed, some years I have skipped passed the celebrities and looked well down the New Year's Honours list, to the names that no one has ever heard of. There it says next to a name “services to healthcare charities” or “services

to agriculture,” or to some other good cause or sector of work. I've googled the person's name and found a truly inspiring tale of selfless service conducted over many years far away from the limelight. I can think of few people around here who deserve the red carpet or the letters after their name. But they probably won't get either, and some wouldn't want public recognition anyway, because the private satisfaction of the task itself is praise enough.

That is perhaps the only draw-back of our modern obsession with crowning heroes. We under-value the attitude we should all seek to nurture in ourselves and in our children, of just quietly knuckling down and getting on with it, despite the cost and despite the lack of recognition. I guess we could call it “gracious grit” – the attitude that scrubs and serves, grafts and grinds, and persists in doing so when no one is watching. That is how businesses prosper, institutions make a difference, and families thrive. God knows, though. He sees, and one day he promises that all that is concealed will be revealed.

I'm reminded of a prayer that I think I first prayed at school in South Devon when I was 8 years old. It is attributed to Saint Ignatius of Loyola of whom I knew nothing until looking at his Wikipedia page a moment ago. Fascinating chap! You probably know the prayer...

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will. Amen.

Amen indeed! That's the attitude of gracious grit worth praying for and developing in the year ahead. It just might get you an award one day, or letters after your name; but in all likelihood, neither. However it will get you the satisfaction of knowing that you've made a true difference somewhere or to someone. For as another great Oscar winning film testifies... “what we do in life echoes in eternity”. Name the film, the actor, and the year!?

Rev'd Nick Weldon (Vicar)

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

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

Contributions should be sent to
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EX20 2BZ
(tel. 01837 82376)

E mail: nt.roundabout@gmail.com
no later than 13th of the month before publication
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www.norhtawtonroundabout.com
(There are also links online via the websites of the
North Tawton Town Council and the
Sampford Courtenay Village Council).

St Andrew's, Sampford Courtenay
Ash Wednesday Communion
26th February at 7.30pm
To include the Imposition of Ashes

Two dates for your diary:

There will be a full choral Evensong at St.
Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay on
Sunday, 15th March at 6.30 p.m..

The augmented choir of St. Andrew's will be joined
at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday 2nd May by the Two Rivers
Orchestra to present a concert together.

This will be a third joint concert to be given in St.
Andrew's Church by the choir and orchestra.

Everyone will be most welcome at either or both
of these occasions.

HOSPICE UK

Ian and Jayne Webber are holding a
Coffee Morning & Silent Auction for Ian's
London Marathon.
Saturday 7th March
10 a.m. - 12 noon
North Tawton Town Hall



Drop in anytime between
10.30 a.m. - 12 noon
in the Mortimer Room,
St. Peter's Church

For more information contact
Carol Flowers
01837 851841

Dates: February 11th and 25th
March 10th and 24th

Nanny Knight's Revel

*Following a successful 2019 Revel, its
time to plan the next one ...*

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Wednesday 12 February 7.30pm
to contribute your ideas and claim
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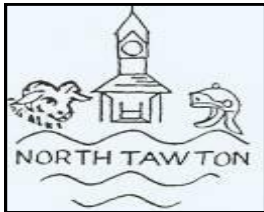
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NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk: Mrs. Sarah Say
14A The Square
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Tel: 01837 880121

E-mail: northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Plastics Recycling

West Devon Borough Council has now introduced kerbside recycling for plastics which were not able to be recycled previously – i.e. yoghurt pots etc. – therefore the volunteer group which has been collecting the plastics over the past four years has now disbanded. Over 7.5 tonnes of plastics have been collected for recycling during this period. The Council wishes to thank all the volunteers who gave up so much of their time to help this initiative.

NTTC Contractors List

The Council wishes to update its lists of contractors willing to undertake works for the Council. We are particularly interested in including contractors who are based within the parish of North Tawton. Contractors must be suitably qualified, have appropriate insurances, and able to provide references. Categories of works for which we need contractors from time to time include:

- Tree Surgeons
- Electricians
- Plumbers

Reporting of HGVs passing through the Town Centre

Residents will be aware of this issue, and may be aware that the Council continues to collate reports of HGVs to pass to Gregory Distribution. Information required is as follows:

- Date and time of incident
- Any obvious signwriting and colour of the vehicle which will help identify it

Number plate of vehicle if possible.

This information will help the company identify the vehicle and follow up the report.

Please email any reports to NTTC for the time being, and watch this space for further information in the future.

Sarah Say, Clerk to North Tawton Town Council

Stephen Webb, Assistant Clerk to North Tawton Town Council

northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk

<http://www.northtawtontowncouncil.co.uk/>

I normally work Monday and Wednesday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

My colleague Stephen Webb works on Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

For urgent queries from funeral directors regarding burials please ring the above number and refer to the answerphone message.

St Andrew's Parish Church, Sampford Courtenay

Bell Ringers' Coffee Morning

Saturday 21st March
10 a.m. – 12 noon
Church Rooms

Stock up with fresh vegetables for the weekend!

Cakes, produce, books,
draw, teas



St Andrew's Parish Church Sampford Courtenay

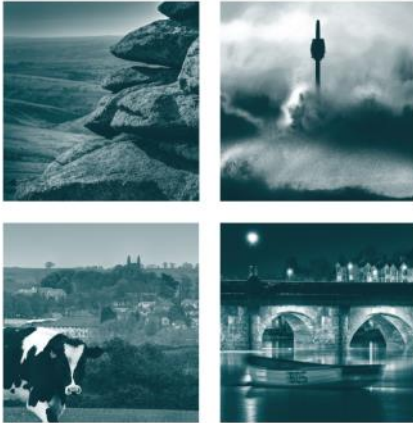
Communion Service for Mothering Sunday

Sunday, 22nd March

9.30 a.m.
All welcome



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North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

And relax. That 'normal service has been temporarily suspended because it's Christmas' bubble has been carefully deflated and packed away along with the tinsel and fairy lights until at least August. So I'm now trying to concoct a tasty recipe from half a bottle of apricot brandy (spur of the moment purchase) a packet of brussels sprouts flavoured crisps (husbands' idea) and some left over Stilton. Stand aside Delia.

Is it just me or does anyone else decide that Christmas is a good time to make completely irrational purchases of food and drink which will still be hovering around come the middle of January, forcing you to look straight faced at husband and say 'oh yes – that's a vital ingredient for my (insert name of exotic Greek/Russian/Mexican recipe here – he'll think you're a domestic goddess)'.

Graham Hurley's writing career started aged 14 when he wafted downstairs wearing his father's green silk dressing gown and announced to his parents that he wanted to be a novelist and he was going to start on Monday. Armed with paper, a typewriter, and carbon paper he sat in his bedroom on the given day and waited for something to happen..... but it didn't. A few years later after boarding school and university, where he gained an English degree, it was back home to Clacton-on-Sea with no job and no money. His parents encouraged him to find employment by circling a variety of job adverts in the local paper - eventually this worked and he became a 'promotion script-writer' with Southern Television. Sounds glamorous? Not according to Graham. He was writing the script for that 'bit' between programmes where the announcer says 'well that was Hughie Green with Opportunity Knocks and now it's time for Coronation Street'. But this paved the way to jobs as a researcher, then a director and Graham spent the next 20 years involved in making interesting and exciting documentaries for ITV. However, he still wanted to write. Graham then had the idea for 'Rules of Engagement' which led to an ITV commission and, at last, a two-book contract with Pan Macmillan. Two more international thrillers followed. A loss of contract between ITV and Southern Television meant that Graham was out of work, but this presented the chance to take a leap and become a full-time novelist.

A leap that has proved to be very successful (26 novels to date) but only because of Graham's hard work and dedication to research whilst writing his books. Graham's love of reading has been life long and his success as a novelist is evident, but interestingly one of the most important things to get right, he told us, is the book cover. So should you judge a book by it's cover? This novelist's answer to that is an emphatic 'yes'.

Feedback from our coach trip to Wells earlier in December was pretty positive –comments such as 'lovely food in the Cathedral's Refectory', 'beautiful festive decorations in the Bishop's Palace', 'interesting independent shops' and 'did you realise we were on a Chinese coach with a Cummins engine?' (and apparently that's a good 'un) No, dear husband – how could I have missed this? Why hadn't I known that back in 1919 Clessie Lyle Cummins founded a company that would produce the world's finest engines? Every day is a school day.

Feedback from our Christmas party was also very positive – tasty food and great entertainment. Slight tinge of disappointment for me when I realised I had failed to eat my own body weight in mince pies. So, what does 2020 hold for us? A trip to a restored mill in May, a rummage in Heathcoat's factory shop in June, a Steel Pan Drum taster session in July andhang on a minute.....that can't be righta Burlesque dance class??

Sue Knott

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The band began in 2013 with six players and Richard Edwards, its musical director, meeting in a barn in Bondleigh. It now has over 40 players who meet once a fortnight to enjoy making music together. It has been invited to play in public increasingly and has raised over £13,000 for local causes and charities.

Richard said "This is an opportunity for anyone who fancies the idea to come along and enjoy the fun of making music with other folk. In rehearsal the band will prepare music it has not seen before and would welcome visitors to sit with them and play along. We cater for violin, viola, 'cello, double bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, trumpet, french horn, tenor saxophone, acoustic guitar, banjo and keyboard. If you play another instrument please be in touch and we shall endeavour to make provision for you".

To participate in this free event please contact Liz Wesson t. 01769 580005 or email liz.athome@live.com giving your name, instrument, what sort of standard you are (however rusty, whatever age) and saying if you would like afternoon tea. Music will then be prepared for you accordingly.

When: Saturday 14th March 2020

Where: Chulmleigh Pavilion, Leigh Road, Chulmleigh EX18 7JW

Time: 3pm rehearsal 4.30 p.m. afternoon tea 6-7 p.m. concert

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Thursday 6th February 16:00-17:00 *Harry Potter Night*

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Optional dress code of best wizarding robes or fancy dress.

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£2.50 per child, bookings in advance, spaces limited. Recommended for ages 7+

Friday 21st February 14:30 -15:30

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aimed at over 1 year olds

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Tuesdays 11:00 - 11:30

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1st Tuesday of the month 15:45 - 16:45

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except Aug/Sept) Free - no booking necessary.

2nd Tuesday of the month 15:45 -16:45

Lego Animation Club for children aged 7+
£1 per child, booking essential.

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.

Please see our library website or Facebook page for any additional events and library services. www.devonlibraries.org.uk

Opening Hours:

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Monday | 09:00-17:00 |
| Tuesday | 09:00-18:00 |
| Wednesday | 09:00-13:00 |
| Thursday | 09:00-17:00 |
| Friday | 09:00-18:00 |
| Saturday | 09:00-13:00 |

The Rainbows are looking for a new Guider. Their previous leader finished at half term and we need someone to replace her.

The Rainbows are aged 5 – 7 and meet for an hour on Wednesdays from 4.15pm – 5.15 pm in the upstairs of the Town Hall.

There are 10 girls at the moment and 4 on the waiting list and the group is an important part of Girlguiding North Tawton.

If you are age 18+ and are interested or would like more information then please contact Jane on 01837 89160. Thank you.



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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.

CRIPPSEY BRASS



Peter Cripps would like to thank all who have supported him over the years when he has presented 'Carols on Christmas Morning' in the Square. £1040 has been raised for The Devon Air Ambulance



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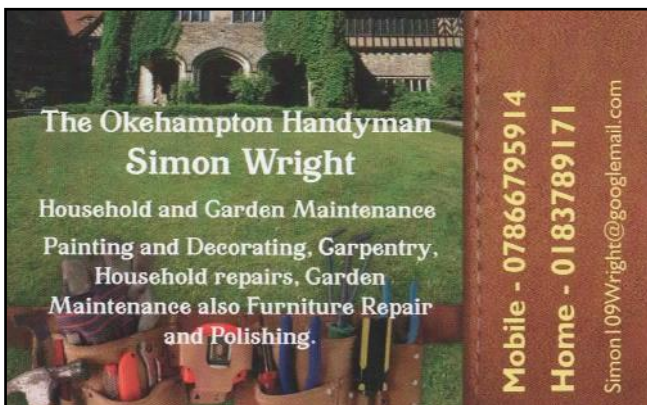
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Pause for thought

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
And purge away my sin;
From earth-borne passions set me free,
And make me pure within.**



VE Day Celebrations

North Tawton Royal British Legion is having a celebration for VE Day on 9th May by having a display in the Town Hall of anything related to WW2 or any items from the 1940's. If you have anything that you would be willing to lend or if you would like to do your own display on the Saturday morning then please ring Monica on 01837 82368. There will also be events going on at the Rugby Club in the afternoon and a church service on the Sunday, more details to come later.

SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

WHIST

Forthcoming dates:

2020

Wednesday 12th February

7 for 7.30 p.m.

Okehampton U3A

University of the Third Age

This month's meeting will take place at the Ockment Centre, North Street at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, 27th February

Bryan Short

The History of Coinage

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.

Friends of North Tawton Surgery

Twenty five years ago Dr. Warre was given a defibrillator by the British Heart Foundation. The proviso was that the surgery would fund the annual maintenance charge plus the cost of the batteries. A not inconsiderable sum.

Someone suggested forming a Friends of the Surgery to help fund the cost. Dr. Warre was adamant that this group should act independently of the surgery. A letter was put in the Roundabout magazine asking for any patients who were interested to form a group. And so the Friends of North Tawton Surgery was born. The first President was Vera Taylor and the last Brenda Gerry (both deceased). Lorna Dawe is the only member who has been in the group since its inception. Money raised via coffee mornings, quizzes, afternoon teas and the famous 'Turkey and Tinsel'. Among the items funded by FONTS have been the furniture for the waiting room, couches in the clinical rooms, the seat in the car park, the stair lift to enable Physio patients to get up to the Physio room, home blood pressure monitors and many ancillary items.

At the present time only Lorna and three committee members remain. It has therefore, sadly, been decided that FONTS must cease.

Lorna would like to thank everyone involved with running the Group, especially the Officers and Committee Members. Without their hard work the Group would not have functioned. Thank you to everyone who helped at various events. Lorna would also like to thank Nigel Davies for his many years as compere and entertainer at Turkey and Tinsel and also Sophie Hawking for producing the dancers who have entertained beautifully over the years. Thank you too for all the entertainers who gave their services for free. Thank you also to John and Lin Warre who have been supportive throughout. Finally, Lorna would like to thank everyone in North Tawton and surrounding villages for attending and supporting FONTS and to people who have kindly given donations. Without you the quest would have been in vain.

Lorna would like to thank all who attended Turkey and Tinsel in December when a magnificent £550 profit was made.



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News from Sampford Courtenay Parish Council



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 S.C.P.C. news.

SEAMOOR LOTTO – Sampford Courtenay Parish Council has registered as one of the charities which will benefit from the new Lotto run by W.D.B.C.. 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 Jan 7th Meeting

1. Cllr. Wilson welcomed everyone and wished them a Happy New Year, and expressed the council's thanks to the Bell ringers and everyone else who contributed to the Annual Ringing out of the Old Year and ringing in the New and singing around the brazier in the square. A certificate of Thanks and Recognition can be found on the Website and Facebook page.
2. A member of the public highlighted that WDBC had failed to publish a Planning Application over the Christmas period, thus shortening the time available to view and make comments. She had notified the Chair who, on contacting WDBC Planning Dept, managed to get the consultation period extended. Thus there was only 1 Planning Application considered at this meeting – which was unanimously SUPPORTED.
3. Cllr. Wilson reported that sufficient funds have been raised to lease a Defibrillator for a four year period. It is recommended that the Unit be situated in the square and once a suitable electricity source is established, the unit can be in place six weeks after an order is placed.
4. Cllr. Wilson and the Clerk have had a meeting with representatives from Devon Highways as part of their new "Doing What Matters" Scheme. DCC took on board all the information councillors and parishioners had collated regarding the state of the roads around the parish and the continued concern about excessive speed at various spots.
5. Christmas Cheer raised a profit of £282 to go towards the VE celebrations in May. It has been suggested that this will become an annual event and hopes that families will come and visit Santa's Grotto and join in the festive cheer.
6. To raise further funds for VE Day – Cllr. Wilson is organising a Murder Mystery on Fri 21st February at the Village Hall. Tickets will cost £7.50 and are limited, so book yours now by ringing 01837 82285.
7. After several months of deliberation and debate SCPC set the Precept for the coming year at £9,996, an increase of 34p per week per household.
8. Cllr. Wilson has submitted an application for Pocket Park funds to enhance the facilities on the Village Green – additional seating, adult gym equipment and re-establishing the Wild Flower Meadow are just some of the ideas.
9. Cllr. Joy Tucker is working towards a parish Climate Emergency policy and as such has invited Mike Davies and WDBC Mayor Tony Leech to attend our next Open Meeting on 31st March to talk about how WD are tackling this subject.
One of the suggestions for Sampford Courtenay for next year – was a mass collection of Christmas Trees – with just one trip to the Recycling centre!

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: Tuesday Tues 4th Feb and Tues 3rd Mar.

Pledge for Nature

'It's time to act! Pledge for Nature is a new campaign, launched at the end of January 2020, which aims to support and encourage communities in north Devon to help nature to flourish again.

Actions might include creating flower and insect-rich habitats, planting new woodlands, and improving our spaces for wildlife. Getting involved with the campaign is a great way to get practical tips on what you can do and to find out about many local projects and initiatives you can get involved with.

Pledge for Nature is being co-ordinated by the North Devon Biosphere, a cross sector partnership working to protect north Devon's unique natural environment. It is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Devon County Council and a successful Crowd funder.

Pledgers are invited to sign up to take action for nature at biosphere.org.uk/pledge-for-nature.

Bryony Paul
Pledge for Nature Coordinator
North Devon Biosphere

A day with The Filo lasts more than just a day.

'I'm so happy with how my husband has settled at The Filo Project. He never says he doesn't want to go. I don't need to stay and I'm very pleased to have a few hours to myself. I feel "at ease" dropping him and I don't need to worry about him whilst I'm gone.' Wife of client

'Dad was so happy at The Filo Project, the only days he would get up were the Tuesdays and Thursdays when he came to you.' Daughter of client

'I just wanted to reiterate how important the Filo group is for John. On a Tuesday and Thursday evening, following his Filo sessions, he is at his best. He is in a good mood, he is not worrying about things or falsely accusing people of things. On Mondays and Wednesdays when he is struggling with his Alzheimer's I can usually help bring him out of his confusion, paranoia and depression by talking about where he is going the next day.' Carer of client

'After mum dying in September I was concerned dad would become isolated and withdrawn, he was never the outgoing type after losing my mum for sole company for nearly 60 years. For him The Filo Project has been amazing, he is a more confident person who engages in daily life and has a good sense of contentment. The great thing is it has stimulated him to the degree where he now lives a fairly normal life, cooking, cleaning and really making a good effort. We have days when his short term memory is not so good but he doesn't rely on me so much. He's gone from telephoning me 9 times a day to possibly 4 times a week. To sum it up dad was a hostage of his vascular dementia, feeling uneasy in public, not knowing what to say or do. The Filo Project has given him a new lease of life and a greater way of coping with his illness.' Son of client



To find out more about the Filo Project

please get in touch

Tel: 0333 939 8225

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SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

A few dates for your diary:

Monthly whist drives – 2nd Wednesday of each month – 7 for 7.30 p.m..

Yoga classes – weekly on a Tuesday.

Tap Dance – weekly on a Thursday.

Table Tennis – weekly: ring 01837 851659 for details.

2020

21st February - Murder Mystery and Buffet

28th February - 1940's Dance Class

7th March – Big Breakfast.

28th March – Exbourne Community Choir.

8th, 9th, 10th May V.E. Day celebrations
(details to come)

26th June – Summer Ball.

Please visit the parish website

www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk

for full details of the events nearer the time.

John Askew Memorial Service

Many thanks to all who attended John's memorial service on 27th September and for all the cards and messages. £200 was raised in aid of Hospice Care and Marie Curie.

Ishbel Askew



Sampford Courtenay Flower Club

Monday February 10th
2.30 p.m.

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall
Vivienne Thompson
'I thought it was all over'

“For more information contact the Chairman,
Nancy Passmore on 01837 658779

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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07866 605184

Sampford Courtenay VE DAY

Celebrations

8th – 10th May 2020



1940's Style Dance Classes

Run by Project Dance Devon

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

7.30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Put these dates in your diary!

28th Feb, and 24th Apr

£5.50 p.p. per class

Come along and learn/refresh
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Saturday, May 9th 2020

For more info or to “Enlist”
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Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay and Jacobstowe W.I.

The latest meeting was held in Exbourne Village Hall on Thursday January 9th. The president welcomed everyone and Jerusalem was sung. The speaker was Nancy Passmore, whose subject was 'The Wonderful World of Winter Foliage'. She had brought a large amount of foliage etc. from her garden and with winter and spring flowers she made wreaths and other amazing arrangements. It was astounding what could be done in the dead of winter.

Nancy was thanked by Rosemary Lowe.

After tea the business was dealt with, the main item being to vote on resolutions to go to the national annual meeting in London. The resolution chosen was to call for more people to sign up to Stem Cell Registration. Members were asked to make up a team for the County Quiz on February 15th and were also asked if they could find speakers for next year. The next walk is from Abbeyford on January 31st.

Flower of the Month winner was Nicky Craig and the competition winner for a foliage arrangement was Margaret Hawkins.

The next meeting is in Exbourne on Thursday February 6th at 2.30 p.m. when the speaker will be Cecilia Lamon, whose subject will be 'Music in Medicine'. Non members always welcome.

Margaret Weeks

SAVE THE DATE

NORTH TAWTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION QUIZ NIGHT !!

£5.00 pp (max 6 people per team)
includes refreshments !! , bar open

7 p.m. Friday 7th February 2020

**Venue: NORTH TAWTON BOWLS CLUB,
NORTH STREET.**

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PLEASE CONTACT MARION on
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North Tawton Twinning has been going for nearly 44 years and is open to all. We are looking forward to a visit from our French friends from Blangy-le-Chateau next May. We will be hosting and entertaining – why not join us!. We will keep you all informed.



North Tawton Twinning Association

The History of Twinning



Town Twinning started as an official relation-ship builder in Europe after the second world war. The idea was simple: repair damaged relationships between France, Germany and the UK. Find towns which had suffered during the wars and pair them. Then encourage people from these areas to meet, mix and get along.

There are now thousands of towns and villages proudly declaring, as you enter their territory, with which partner communities they are twinned. In 1975 North Tawton was twinned with a lovely little town in Normandy (close to Honfleur and Caen) called Blangy-le-Chateau.

In the early years, North Tawton Twinning Association was a much larger group – exchange visits were arranged between the Primary Schools, the Fire Service and the Football Clubs. Members would travel by coach, via a ferry from Portsmouth to Caen, to spend wonderful weekends, staying with host families in their homes and experiencing a French life for real. Many from North Tawton experienced their first taste of snails and mussels or “Moules et frites”. Many friendly tournaments of football, boules, and petanque were “fought” as on the fields of Agincourt. It was even known to have “Country Dancing” in the Town Hall, with bi-lingual calling of the dance steps.

Now, partly because of the necessary regulations around Child Protection, the school cannot make exchange visits unless accommodation is available en masse in a School Hall etc. and the rest of us are all 45 years older.

However, although older and a smaller group, we still enjoy bi-annual visits. Recently we have travelled by car, via Plymouth to Roscoff on overnight ferry, and a pleasant four hour drive through picturesque French countryside and historic towns and villages. Once we arrive we are greeted in the Town Hall by the Mayor and twinning committee, where we meet our hosts, then fed, wine and dined and transported to visit a variety of historic and scenic venues before returning home happy and exhausted.

In between time, the committee aim to raise funds to cover the expenses incurred when they visit us. (i.e. Transport, entry to National Trust Houses and meals out in local pubs etc.) and we are always looking for new suggestions on how to raise funds and encourage more people to join the Association.

If this has sparked an interest – why not come along to our AGM at the White Hart Inn on Wednesday, 19th February, at 7.30 p.m. and find out how you can get involved.

To all those ‘youngsters’ ex-pupils and previous twinners - it would be a chance to revisit / perhaps catch up with old friends !!!! A group from Blangy will be visiting North Tawton this May – please join us and meet some of our lovely French friends.

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News from Sampford Courtenay

Forty Christingles were made and presented at the Christingle service in St. Andrew's church on Sunday, 1st December. The children especially enjoyed the sweets on the cocktail sticks and £125 was raised in aid of the Children's Society.


A record £930 was raised at St. Andrew's Bazaar, held in the Church Rooms on Saturday 7th December. Carols at the Inn was, once again, a most enjoyable occasion, on Tuesday, 10th December, when members of the Sampford Stompers accompanied the singing. The children placed figures in the crib and a raffle was held in aid of the Children's Hospice South West. Prizes were an iced cake, donated by Barbara Peart, and a meal at the New Inn kindly donated by Malcolm and Karen. A lot of hard work went into setting up "Christmas Cheer" organised by the Parish Council, and held in the Village Hall on Saturday 14th December. There was plenty of seasonal food and drink available as well as Christmas crafts and a visit to Santa's Grotto. The profit will be put towards the VE day celebrations to be held later in the year.

Carol singing round the village took place on Friday, 20th December and the singers were sustained by mulled wine and nibbles at the home of Rory and Lynn Robinson. £148 was raised for the Children's Hospice South West. The Candlelit Carol Service was held in St. Andrew's church on Sunday 22nd December. New Year's Eve was celebrated round the brazier in The Square while the bell ringers rang out the Old Year with muffled bells and rang in the New Year with the muffles off.

There was a good congregation, including many farmers, for the Plough Sunday service on 12th January. The old plough was pushed up the aisle by David Weeks, followed by Joe Stoneman and Richard Knapman with a sample of soil and a sack of wheat seed. Tractors and ploughs assembled in The Square were blessed by the Rev'd Nick Weldon.

Sampford Courtenay Flower Club held their New Year lunch at The Tom Copley at Spreyton on Monday, 13th January. It will continue to meet on the second Monday in the month at 2.30 p.m. in Sampford Courtenay Village Hall.


Nicky Craig



YANTS Youth Theatre present...

RAFUNZEL

THE PANTO



Rapunzel, a wannabe punk, is trapped in a tower by her psychotic, power-hungry captor, Dr Grimm. Surrounded by voices in her head, Rapunzel longs to be free, but who will rescue her? Can the dashing Prince Lee save Rapunzel or will he, like everyone else in the town, fall under the hypnotic power of Dr Grimm?

The story is crazy, and the characters are even more so. You won't be able to resist singing along to some energetic songs ranging from The Spice Girls to Sia, McFly, Katy Perry, Lady Gaga, Bruno Mars, and a whole lot more in between.


February Half Term 2020

- Thursday 20th Feb: 7.30pm
- Friday 21st Feb: 7.30pm
- Saturday 22nd Feb: 2.30pm

Tickets are on sale
in North Tawton Post Office

- Adults: £6.50
- Children: £4.50

YANTS is the youth theatre arm of Actors of North Tawton Society (ANTS)

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Bondleigh Rainfall

December 2019 has been a wet month with almost three weeks of continuous rain. The total amount is 173.3mm. After a generally dry year the wet Autumn months have made 2019 wetter than average at 1097mm..

I have been measuring the rainfall in Bondleigh since 1997 and have accumulated some quite interesting figures. The average annual rainfall now stands at 1001mm with 2012 being the wettest at 1380mm and 2003 the driest, at only 680mm.. The three Autumn months of 2019 amounted to 455mm.. However in 2012 it was 565mm and in 2000 it was 581mm. The wettest month was December 1999 with a total of 275mm.

Danny Semorad

Okehampton & District Local History Society

Ockment Centre, North Street, Okehampton

No Meeting in February

Wednesday March 11th

The Murderer's Gift : Doccombe Manor in the Middle Ages

Bill Hardiman

Okehampton Parkinson's Support Group

Meet Castle Ham, Okehampton
4th Thursday every month 2 - 4 p.m.
talks throughout the year.
Contact Geoff on 01837 55813

MURDER MYSTERY @ CHAPPLE HILL MANOR

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THURSDAY *monthly*

February 6th

BOW Village Hall
14:45 to 15:15

BELSTONE CORNER The Beeches
15:30 to 15:50

FRIDAY *monthly*

February 21st

NORTH TAWTON The Square
09:45 to 11:15

BONDLEIGH Old School
13:55 to 14:15

SATURDAY *monthly*

February 8th

NORTH TAWTON The Square
10:00 to 12:00

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Mongolia and the Khazaks



An illustrated talk by Pam Kemp about Mongolia and the Khazaks who hunt with Golden Eagles and the Eagle Festival they hold

at Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

on Saturday 22nd February 2020

at 7.30pm

Tickets £6.00 to include homemade soup & roll

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ST. MARY'S HONEYCHURCH

Richard and Raymond, Churchwardens for St Mary's, would like to thank everyone who attended/made a donation towards the Honeychurch quiz at the end of November. Just over £450 was raised and this is a fantastic addition to the church funds.



A space to meet people, have a coffee (or tea!) and get broken things mended

Our first repair café was a huge success, with lots of people coming to see what it was all about and get their items fixed for free.

Our next planned events are;

15th February – 10 to 12.30 and

14th March – 10am to 12.30 at the Community Centre on Barton Street.

For more information go to <https://fb.me/NTRepairCafe>

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2020 has started well with the children and the staff eager to welcome the first signs of spring. I am currently writing this as storm 'Brendan' sweeps through, causing much disruption to our Devon lanes and countryside!

This term is an incredibly busy one as we continue to focus our efforts on raising the standards in reading. Our new phonically decodable books, bought by the extensive fundraising by our parent and teacher association FONTS - (Friends of North Tawton School) have just arrived in school. The children in the early years have loved having brand new books to read. Updating and restocking our out of date and depleted stocks is an ongoing and expensive consideration, but one that is so valuable and necessary to ensure our children are keen to read and are fully supported when promoting a love of reading. Lots more fundraising to help support this campaign is planned for the coming year, look out for opportunities where you could get involved as all the children will need to continue reading as they progress through the school.

Grandparents' Day

This annual event invites the grandparents of children to visit the school and find out about their child's learning. Following a short presentation held in the school hall the children have time to share their work with their grandparents. The grandparents are given a virtual tour of the school and become familiar with our aims and aspirations. The attraction of squash and a biscuit is an additional treat for the children while the adults enjoy a cup of tea. This event is a wonderful way to recognise and say thank you to the additional caregivers who offer the family the much needed and often forgotten support in ways that are quite unique. If you are a grandparent of a child at our school then keep the date free! Thursday 6th February 9-11a.m.. We look forward to seeing you there!

Wishing you all the very best in 2020!

Miss Chauhan
Head of School

A note from the Academy Committee

The Three Hares cluster of schools consists of Chagford Church of England, South Tawton and North Tawton primary schools and was created in January 2018, as part of the schools joining the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust. The Academy Committee (formerly known as the Governing Body) is looking for individuals to volunteer as governors and is inviting applicants to get in touch. The Academy Committee is responsible for ensuring the clarity of the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the Three Hares, holding leaders to account for the educational performance of the schools, and overseeing financial performance. Certain skills are useful, but the most important contribution you could offer is your time. Governors carry out visits to the schools, have areas of focus (such as premises, finance, safeguarding) and attend monthly Academy Committee meetings to monitor and review the performance of the schools. It is an interesting, challenging and rewarding position to hold. Successful applicants will be subject to Trustee approval, references and DBS checks.

If you are interested in finding out how you could support and guide your local schools as a Three Hares governor, please contact Carolyn George on cgeorge@dartmoormat.org.uk

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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. James' Church
Bondleigh

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

SERVICE at St. Mary's Church
Honeychurch

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

Lakeway United Church
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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) |
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|------------------------|--------------------|--|
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| 3 rd Sunday | Ministry | No service unless advertised otherwise |
| 4 th Sunday | Prayer & Communion | DVD |
| 5 th Sunday | Prayer & Communion | No service unless advertised otherwise |

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism

Sunday 17th November

Charlotte Joyce ARSCOTT (5 months)

St. Peter's Church

Sunday 24th November

Amelia Mae JONES (9 months)

St. Peter's Church

Wedding

Thursday 12th December

Richard GORDON and Heather SMITH

St. Andrew's Church

Funeral

Tuesday 10th December

Clifford Ralph SQUIRE (78)

St. Andrew's Church

Winter / Spring 2020

Toys, craft, games, activities,
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Tea/coffee, biscuits, time to relax, chat
and make new friends for PARENTS.



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.

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Thursday 27th February 2020

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Sampford Courtenay

February

March

Nicky Craig

Shirley Reddaway

Honeychurch

February

March

Pat Squire

Karen Squire

Bondleigh

February 2nd/9th

February 16th / 23rd

26th February to 9th April Lent. Brass only

Except for Mothering Sunday 22nd March

March 1st

March 8th / 15th

March 22nd / 29th

Nicola Raffan

Sonia Rix

Sheila Thorne

Lin Warre

Hazel Towell

North Tawton

Flowers

February 2nd/9th

February 16th/23rd

February 26th

March 22nd

Hilary Edwards

Maureen Drake

Lent (no flowers)

Mothering Sunday

Brass

February

March

Margaret Arscott

Lindsay Gibb &

Kay Webber

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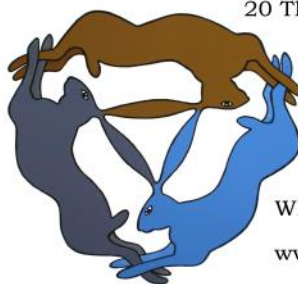
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