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# From The Rectory

## Why Keep Lent?

The church's calendar is marked by short festivals that are celebrated with joy, yet Lent is a period – a 'season' – of the forty days before Easter which is very much in a minor key.

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, and ends on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and represents the 40 days Jesus spent fasting and praying in the wilderness.

Lent is never celebrated but only 'kept' and is not so much marked by what we do but what we don't do: it's the season of giving things up. Exactly what you give up and how seriously you treat Lent varies enormously between denominations. Some keep it with great solemnity whilst other churches are much less concerned with Lent. Indeed one of the many bizarre things in church history is that a major turning point occurred in the Reformation in 1522 when Huldrych Zwingli publicly defended sausage eating during Lent!

Even among Christians who 'keep' Lent, there is no agreement on how it is to be kept. Many people try to give up something: chocolate, Facebook, alcohol, television or, I suppose, sausages! Even some people outside Christianity take Lent seriously: there are many who, while having no religious beliefs, feel that it's good to give up something for forty days. For them Lent becomes a second opportunity to have a go at failed New Year resolutions, or a 'Spring detox'.

But what is Lent all about? One word widely used by those who observe Lent is 'preparation'. In fact, you could argue that Lent is about three preparations.

Firstly, Lent is a *preparation for Easter*. Easter, with its message of Christ destroying sin and death through his death and resurrection, is the most exciting and triumphant moment in the church's year. It's such a big event that it demands a lead-in to prevent us from stumbling upon it unawares, all too easy in a busy world. Lent provides us with forty days of build-up to Good Friday and Easter Sunday in which we can (and should) ponder prayerfully our need to be saved by God. Lent reminds us of the universal problem to which only Easter's message of the death and resurrection of Jesus can provide the answer.

Secondly, Lent is a *preparation for Existence*. We live in an age that knows little of restraint. We overeat, overdrink, overspend and generally overindulge. It is almost considered a right that if we want something, we should have it now. Restraint is very biblical. Paul writes, *'For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives'* (Titus 2:11,12). Lent gives us the opportunity to practise resisting harmful and hurtful

desires. Strange as it may seem, to fight and win a forty-day-long Lenten battle over chocolate or coffee (or sausages!) may help us win a war over more important matters of our thoughts and actions.

Finally, Lent is a *preparation for Eternity*. If taken seriously, these forty days can seem to be a long and often wearying season when we never get our own way. For a time, pleasures are sidelined and joys postponed. But Lent is limited, and the shadows of the season are destroyed by the joyful triumphant dawn of Easter Day.

There is a splendid and encouraging parallel with our lives here. For many of us, life seems to run in what we might call 'Lent mode': hopes are unfulfilled, desires are frustrated and joys fall short of expectations. Yet as Lent is not the end of the story, neither is everyday life for those who follow Jesus.

As the celebration of Easter overtakes the solemnity of Lent, so, one day, the joys of eternity will overtake the troubles of this life. For Christians, there is a wonderful and certain hope that however deep a shadow or sadness has fallen over our lives, it will ultimately be lifted and replaced by an indestructible and unending joy. For those who love Christ, life's long Lent will end one day in an eternal Easter, in which death and sin are destroyed forever.

There are many opportunities in all our churches to worship and be thankful to our Lord during the week leading up to Easter (see pages 5, 7, and 32). One of those services is **Compline** - held in St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay, on the evenings of Monday 6<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 9 p.m.. The service lasts approximately twenty minutes.

Compline, or night prayer, is a Christian service of worship dating back to monastic life in the Middle Ages. Compline comes from the word 'completion'. In keeping with the earliest practices of the monastic communities, Compline invokes a sense of protection and peace for the night that is to come and thanks for safe passage through the day that has past. It is a short, gentle service of prayer and quiet reflection, giving the comforting feeling of God's love wrapped around us.

Lent helps us to learn to say 'no, not now'; it teaches us self-control and an expectation and an anticipation of what God may reveal to us. Lent isn't just a human exercise but a sacred discipline. Why not encounter our heavenly Father in a deeper way this Lent?

Revd Rita Bullworthy  
Assistant Minister  
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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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Sampford Courtenay Village Council).

## HOSPICE UK

Ian and Jayne Webber are holding a  
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**Good Friday** Friday 10th April  
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**Easter Day** Sunday 12th April  
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*I am the resurrection and the life John 11:25*

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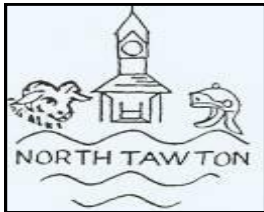
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## NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

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E-mail: [northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk)

### NTTC Website

The Council has launched its new website, which can be found at [northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk). The website will always be a work in progress. We welcome ideas from our residents about things they would like to see on the site which would make life easier for them and others. The new site can be accessed by smartphone and tablet, a big improvement on our old website. Please have a look and contact the Town Clerk if you have any helpful suggestions, thank you.

### North Tawton Cemetery

The Council's contractors work hard to keep the Cemetery maintained in a good condition. They need to access grassed-over grave plots to keep the grass cut neatly. Therefore, the Council has regulations about items that are left on graves. We try hard to be sensitive about this and leave items in place for a period of time. For the long term, the only flower receptacle allowed is one that is an integral part of a headstone and base. All other flower receptacles, plant pots, windmills, lights, and other items have to be removed from graves. We recently cleared some of these items, at the same time clearing old wreaths and dead plants and flowers. Items that people are likely to want to keep are stored carefully in our Chapel of Rest building within the Cemetery. If you are missing an item that you placed on a grave, please contact the Town Clerk who can arrange for you to view the items in the Chapel and reclaim your property, if it is there. We thank residents and visitors for their co-operation and understanding.

### Cleaner/Caretaker required for NT public toilets

As from the end of May 2020, the Council needs to appoint a new cleaner/caretaker for the town's public toilets. The toilet building is situated in Market Street just where the little cutway runs through to North Street. There is a male and female WC and a storage cupboard for cleaning materials etc.. The job involves opening the toilets at about 8 a.m., closing at 5 p.m. (the closing time may well change to 6 p.m.) and cleaning the toilets each day. One hour per day is allocated for this and the rate of pay is £11.00 per hour. The council would be open to splitting the job between two individuals if applicants come forward who are able to make a mutually agreeable arrangement. This would make it easier to arrange cover during holiday or sick leave. This is a job which may well fit in with child care responsibilities and could be ideal for two friends to share. If you are interested in helping to keep this facility open for residents and visitors, if you can undertake this work to the consistent high standard users deserve, and if you can commit to being reliable, please contact the Town Clerk.

### Lloyds Mobile Bank - Town Centre Car Park

As you may know, the Lloyds Mobile Bank is the only banking facility available to residents, apart from the banking functions offered by the Post Office. The Council reserves, or more accurately tries to reserve, a parking space in the main car park on Tuesdays so that the mobile bank can park safely and serve its customers. For those who use it, this is a crucially important facility, which our community is in danger of losing. Despite a new large notice explaining the arrangement and asking people to ensure the relevant space is left free, there have been several occasions recently where the mobile bank has not been able to park safely and has departed leaving customers very unhappy. Please can I ask everyone to leave the space clear on Tuesdays in future, thank you.

Sarah Say, Clerk to North Tawton Town Council

Stephen Webb, Assistant Clerk to North Tawton Town Council

[northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk)

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

The Office is now normally open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 am – 1pm

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

### Message from Devon County Council

Okehampton Household Waste Recycling Centre will be undergoing significant maintenance works from 24/02/2020 until 22/03/2020.

During the works, the site will be **closed to the public on 24/02/2020 to 01/03/2020 (inclusive) and 16/03/2020 to 22/03/2020 (inclusive).** The site will be open as normal at other times.

### St. Andrew's Parish Church Sampford Courtenay



**Communion Service  
for  
Mothering Sunday**

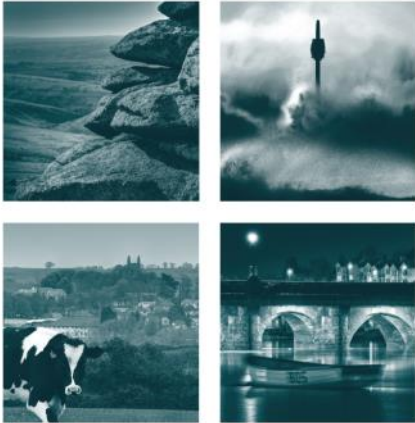
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## **North Tawton Afternoon W.I.**

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

Storm Ciara is doing her level best to distract me whilst writing this piece but husband tells me that we still have a roof, tv aerial and rubbish bin lids so all is well.

Husband is feeling smug. He thinks that he is the only person to have stuck fast to his New Year Resolutions. I have reminded him that you need to be doing the actual thing that you resolve to give up but he says I'm being picky. So he's given up smoking – (he doesn't smoke), he's given up drinking spirits – (a strong brew of tea was his limit) and he's being careful not to waste money on 'unnecessary stuff that we don't really need' – (that has always been the case and unfortunately includes occasional flowers for his wife as he will remind me that I can do a heck of a lot more with a bag of spuds).

Resolutions feature on the agenda for the W.I. at this time of year too. These are put together by members, after a lot of careful research, and have to be approved by both Federation and National Headquarters before they can be formally proposed and voted for. National campaigns such as Keep Britain Tidy were developed from W.I. resolutions. The whole process takes a full year and once all the votes have been counted, the resolution with the most support is taken to National's A.G.M. and voted on again before being adopted. Just to make things more interesting, North Tawton W.I. Committee members present each of the potential resolutions at our February meeting, with an opportunity for questions and discussion. After the very welcome cuppa and plain biscuit (my laptop seems to have written 'plain' when my fingers were supposed to write 'lovingly dunked in chocolate') our members vote individually for their most important resolution. The results are sent to Devon Federation and so the process goes on.

There are five resolutions on the shortlist this year: A Call to Increase Potential Stem Cell Donor Registration, Protect our Precious Helium, Time to Talk About Death and Dying, End Modern Slavery and Female Crash Test Dummies.

There was a diverse and interesting selection with well researched arguments and statistics to support each of them, but it was End Modern Slavery that received the most votes from our members.

Time for a bit of light entertainment in the form of Bill Murray. Bill came to live in Devon in 1965 when his parents took over the Burton Hall Hotel in North Tawton and he's been singing songs about country life, most of them humorous, learnt from older generations of singers at get-togethers in village halls, fairs and inns - one of them being the White Hart, North Tawton. He is a founder member of the Dartmoor Folk Festival and plays many of the old dance tunes on his English concertina at pub sessions all over the moor. He also recites hilarious dialect stories and anecdotes from Devon and beyond that he has gathered over the years. We were treated to The Farmer's Alphabet, What About a Little Drop of Cider and The Knitting Song/Bondleigh Canal (priceless) mixed with some lovely stories and memories of times in North Tawton. It was a lovely gentle half hour and much enjoyed by a very appreciative audience.

And finally – lots to choose from on our Trips and Visits table including another chance to have two puddings (rude not to) at the Waie Inn in celebration of our 91<sup>st</sup> birthday. There also seems to be quite a bit of interest in our Burlesque class. Let's make this clear. Having looked up a definition of the word 'burlesque' I'm convinced that we'll be pretty good at it, in fact we're awash with natural talent, as historically it was used to refer to an array of entertainment that combined comedy, caricature, ridicule and distortion. So that tidies that up nicely. Stop sniggering.

*Sue Knott*

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY IN AN ORCHESTRA?**

### **COME AND GIVE IT A TRY.**

The Chulmleigh and District Society is delighted to be sponsoring the opportunity for anyone who would enjoy the experience of playing in an orchestra to do so by playing alongside the Bondleigh Barn Band in an open rehearsal.

The band began in 2013 with six players and Richard Edwards, its musical director, meeting in a barn in Bondleigh. It now has over forty 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](mailto: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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North Tawton Climate Group

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Monday 9th March  
at  
The Community Centre at 7 p.m.

Our speaker will be Sarah Deere Jones  
from The Woodland Trust.

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**Deborah Taylor-Morris**

**Tel: 01837 82743**

**Email: [djtaylormorris@gmail.com](mailto:djtaylormorris@gmail.com)**

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### **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day**

Celebrations all day at Okehampton Library! From opening until we close, we will have tea/coffee and a piece of homemade cake for just £1. Listen to short stories all day. Husband and wife authors, A.J. MacKenzie, will be starting the day by reading their short story 'The Stable Door', followed by author Morgen Witzel reading 'Kitwancool'. Bring along your own favourite short story to read or pick one from our shelves. Are you a budding author who has written a short story you would like to read? Or just sit and enjoy listening to others reading!

Take a chance with our wrapped up 'Pot Luck' books – donated stock for you to purchase at only £1 for adults and 50p for children. You get to keep what you unwrap.

### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 10:30-11:30 – Mothers' Day Story, Craft & Cake**

Book onto our fun Mothers' Day event for under fives. Only £1 per child, bookable in advance. Listen to a story, make a family flower pot to take home and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee at 50p a cup, add a piece of cake for just 50p.

### **Saturday 28 March - Saturday 11 April - Find the Chicks**

Can you find all the chicks hidden in the library to be entered into a prize draw? 50p a go

### **READING WELL Collection for children**

Books to help you feel better. A brand new collection of books free to borrow from Okehampton Library. Reading Well for children recommends reading to help you deal with worries, feel better and boost your mood. The books have been chosen by children, carers, health experts and librarians.

### **Bananagrams!**

A fast and fun word game, available to play at the library. One hand can be played in as little as five minutes. It is ideal for group fun as well as being educational. We have the original and junior versions for you to play. Free to play, but donations are very welcome.

### **Wanted! Multimedia Donations**

Donate your good quality card games, board games, classic family games, jigsaw puzzles, video games and DVDs. Please check that everything donated is complete and in working order. Donated items will be sold at a future event to raise funds for Libraries Unlimited.

### **Donate Your Nearly New Books**

Donated books will be sold to support Libraries Unlimited, your local reading charity. Nearly new condition only [please](#).

### **Calling All Young Volunteers!**

Are you aged 14-19? Do you love reading? Would you like to help your local community? Why not help out in Okehampton Library on Saturday mornings? Collect an application form in branch

**Devon Libraries is part of Libraries Unlimited, which is a registered charity. Every penny raised goes directly towards library services which helps make a difference to people's lives and communities. To donate, please visit [librariesunlimited.org.uk](http://librariesunlimited.org.uk)**

### **Regular events for Adults**

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

Bring along your knitting, stitching, crochet or other portable project, for a chat with like-minded crafters.

Tea and coffee available at 50p a cup.

### **Regular events for Children and Young People**

#### **Tuesdays 10:00 - 10:30**

**Bounce & Rhyme** aimed at over 1 year olds  
Free, no booking necessary.

#### **Tuesdays 11:00 - 11:30**

**Bounce and Rhyme** aimed at 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.

#### **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 by visiting [www.devonlibraries.org.uk](http://www.devonlibraries.org.uk)**

### **Opening Hours:**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>09:00-17:00</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>09:00-18:00</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>09:00-13:00</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>09:00-17:00</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>09:00-18:00</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>09:00-13:00</b>



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### ROUNDAABOUT 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.

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**Rita— 01837 89168**

**Harriet— 01647 432402**



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## 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

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Opening hours are

Monday's 8.30 am --5.30pm

Tuesday's 8.30am --5.30pm

Wednesday's 8.30 am --1.00pm

Thursday's 8.30 am --5.30pm

Friday's. 8.30 am --5.30pm

Saturday's 8.30am --12.30pm

Sundays Closed

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Devon Sensory Outreach Service **NORTH TAWTON YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
Free, confidential and impartial service for people with hearing and or/visual impairment provided by the Sensory Team,  
Devon County Council.

Available on the third Thursday of each month in North Tawton Youth and Community Centre, Barton Street.

**10.30 a.m. and 12 noon.**

For further information contact: Care Direct 0345 155 1007 or 07966 596881



### Ashridge Court Farm

Call Carolyn on 07872598659 or 01837  
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or my facebook page at [www.facebook.com/alldunnup2015](http://www.facebook.com/alldunnup2015)



### Ashridge Events

**Spring Pop-Up Restaurant - Saturday 25th April**  
Tickets Available Soon

**Bluebell Woodland Walk - Saturday 2nd, May**

**Little Leg Friendly Walk at 10:30 a.m., Lunch Served from 12:30 p.m., Picnic Lunches Welcome,  
More Adventurous Walk at 1:30 p.m.**

**Ashridge Wood Fair - Saturday 27th, June**  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Autumn Pop-Up Restaurant - Saturday 5th, September**  
Tickets Available Soon

**Christmas Fayre - Saturday 28th, November**  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

North Tawton's  
**Spring Market**  
 Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March  
 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
 Town Hall

*Farm produce, cakes, wines and beers, plants,  
 crafts. Tea and Coffee*

**SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL**

**WHIST**

Forthcoming dates:

**2020**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

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, 26th March

*Josephine Collingwood*  
**Dartmoor**

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 wel-  
 come. 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.



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

Rainbows age 5 – 7 meet Wednesday 4.30 – 5.30 p.m. in  
 the top room of the Town Hall contact Jane 01837 89160  
 (at the moment)

Brownies age 7 – 10 meet Monday 5.45 - 7 p.m. in the  
 top room of the Town Hall contact Annette 01837 880054

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

Rangers age 14 - 17 meet alternate weeks 7 – 9 p.m.  
 contact Jennifer 01837 82752

Or go onto the website and you can register your daughter  
 on there using this address -  
[https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/  
 register-your-daughter](https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter)

The Guides are holding a

**Spring Coffee Morning**

on Saturday 21st March from 10 – 11.30 a.m.  
 in the Town Hall.

Limited table tops are available at £5 but no food stalls.  
 There will be the usual homemade cakes, draw, tombola,  
 hamper and toys/books.

If you would like a table, please phone 89160.

Come and join OKEHAMPTON CHORAL SOCIETY  
 with a programme to celebrate Springtime featuring  
 music by G. F. Handel:

Organ Concerto, The Cuckoo and the Nightingale  
 (soloist Roger Cleverdon)  
 Pastoral Serenata Acis & Galatea  
 with soloists Anna Dumbiotis (winner of the Plymouth  
 Young Musicians' Platform 2019)  
 William Collins, Jason Bomford, Tony Yates

Flute Sonata Opus 1 No. 11 (soloist Ruth Molins)

Saturday April 4th at 7:30 p.m. Fairplace Methodist  
 Church, Okehampton. Tickets at the door or from choir  
 members - £10 (students £5.00)



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### News from Sampford Courtenay Parish Council

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 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 Feb 4<sup>th</sup> 2020 Meeting**

- 1) Cllr. Lois Samuel from W.D.B.C. reported on the introduction of three-weekly black bag collection which is starting in certain areas soon. She also reported that the current C.E.O. of W.D.B.C., Sophie Hoskins, will be moving back to work for Cornwall Council in March. S.C.P.C. sent their best wishes and thanks for her support during her time at West Devon.
- 2) The following Planning Applications were considered:-
  - a) 3779/19/OPA – Outline Planning for new dwelling at 3 Part Shores Cottage – S.C.P.C. had received several objections to this application and therefore **OBJECTED** to this application at this time.
  - b) 4176/19/FUL – Erection of replacement timber frame barn at The Yard, Four Acres – **SUPPORTED**
  - c) 0008/20/FUL – Erection of Agricultural building at Beerhill, Honeychurch – **SUPPORTED**
  - d) 0147/20/FUL – Construction of car port and awning at The Hangar, Hayrish Farm – **SUPPORTED**.
- 3) **AIRBAND** – Parishioners were advised to check their bank statements to check they had not been debited twice for any installation charges by Airband.
- 4) **OPEN MEETING – 31<sup>ST</sup> MAR – 7.30 P.M. VILLAGE HALL** – will be taking a “Climate Emergency” Theme, with guest speakers. If you have any questions or queries you would like answered please let us know prior to the meeting.
- 5) **V.E. DAY CELEBRATIONS** – check out the Website for details of extra Dance Lessons, Costumes for Hire, Commemoration mugs & Raffle Tickets.
- 6) Cllr. Wilson is organising a **Table Top Exercise** to assess the efficiency of our Emergency Plan. It will take place at the Village Hall on Sat 4<sup>th</sup> April from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and is open to neighbouring councils and local parishioners.
- 7) **DEFIBRILLATOR** – Cllr. Wilson is currently negotiating with Western Power to establish an electricity source in the Square so that the Defibrillator can be installed.
- 8) **HIMALAYAN BALSAM CLEAN UP** – S.C.P.C. is planning a stream clean-up of this invasive weed on Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup>. All volunteers welcome.

**Please contact S.C.P.C. 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 meeting: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.**

### **Cushion Concert on Saturday, 2nd May, at 7.30 p.m.**

For the third year running, the augmented choir of St. Andrew’s Church, Sampford Courtenay and the Two Rivers Orchestra will join forces to present an evening of music in St. Andrew’s Church.

The programme will include Handel’s Organ Concerto Opus 4 No. 5 and Symphony No. 3 by William Boyce, as well as music by Bach, Purcell, Haydn, Walford Davies, Edward Bairstow and John Ireland.

Audience members are invited to bring their own cushions for ease and comfort on the church’s wooden chairs and there will be a glass of wine available during the interval.

Admission (£10 adults, £5 school age children) is payable on the door or tickets may be obtained in advance from these numbers (all 01837):

Richard Edwards 82376 (North Tawton) ; Roger Cleverdon 810320 (Hatherleigh);  
Malcolm Craig 880118 (Sampford Courtenay)

The proceeds from the concert will be given to **FORCE**, an Exeter based cancer charity which has recently opened a branch in Okehampton from which it is able to offer support to those who might otherwise have to travel for it to Exeter.

### 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

Email: [info@thefiloproject.co.uk](mailto:info@thefiloproject.co.uk)

[www.thefiloproject.co.uk](http://www.thefiloproject.co.uk)



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### A different kind of day care

The Filo Project is a not-for-profit social enterprise offering high quality small group day care for older people across Devon.

Our service is primarily for those who are socially isolated and may also be experiencing symptoms associated with early to moderate dementia including memory loss. Small groups give the time and space for people to feel at ease and to form friendships.

We work in partnership with Devon County Council, having passed a quality assurance process to become one of their Preferred Suppliers of day care.

The intimate environment is key, no client is overwhelmed by a large group. Our focus is firmly on peoples' personalities, preferences and capacities.



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82824**

## SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monthly whist drives – second 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.

7th March – Big Breakfast. Please book in advance

18th March - Easter Bingo 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m.

28th March – Exbourne Community Choir.

2nd May - Dog Show and Car Boot sale

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

15th May - Quiz and Puddings

26th June – Summer Ball.

Please visit the parish website

[www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk)  
for full details of the events nearer the time.

## Sampford Courtenay V.E. DAY Celebrations 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 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!

20th, 27th March

£5.50 p.p. per class

Come along and learn/refresh some  
steps ready for Dancing in the Street  
on

Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> 2020

For more info. or to "Enlist"  
contact

Marion Pratt on 82285 or  
SCPCClerk@aol.com



St. Andrew's Parish Church,  
Sampford Courtenay

Bell Ringers' Coffee Morning

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March

10 a.m. – 12 noon

Church Rooms

*Stock up with fresh vegetables for the  
weekend!*

Cakes, produce, books, draw, teas



### Sampford Courtenay Flower Club

Monday March 9th

2.30 p.m.

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

Sue Neal

*'Around the world in two hours'*

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

or by phone:

**07866 605184**

## SAMPFORD COURTENAY VE DAY 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS 2020

FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020 - 7.30 pm

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

**RATION STYLE SUPPER – followed by an  
E.N.S.A. STYLE VARIETY SHOW = £7.50 PP**

SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020 10.30 am

Sampford Courtenay Village Square

10.30 am – Craft Stalls

**12.00 pm – STREET PARTY LUNCH £7.50  
or Family Ticket 2A + 2C = £20**

12.00 PM – Entertainment by "The  
Hummingbirds"

1.30 pm – Clogs and Wheels

2.00 pm – Games and Races on the Village  
Green

4.00 pm – Auction by local Auctioneer  
Robert Pyle

PLUS

Military Vehicles

1940's FANCY DRESS COMPETITION

War-time Memorabilia Display

7.00 p.m. – 1940's Dancing in the Street

**N.A.A.F.I. Supper – £5.00 pp**

9.30 pm – Sound and Light Display

SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020

Sampford Courtenay Village Square

1.00 p.m. – Walking Treasure Hunt

3.00 p.m. – Service of Remembrance

**4.00 p.m. – Cream Teas – £5.00 pp**

**Bring your own crockery & cutlery please for  
all meals listed.**

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## READING GROUP

MEETS last Tuesday MONTHLY 7.30 p.m.  
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## **Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay and Jacobstowe W.I.**

The latest meeting was held on Thursday February 6<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall. We were entertained by Cecilia Lamon (violin) and a colleague playing the 'cello'. They began their performance by accompanying the singing of Jerusalem by members. They then played many pieces of wonderful music with introductions by Cecilia. They were thanked by Margaret Cleveland.

After tea a short business meeting was held. The May meeting will be held in Sampford Village Hall because of an election.

Congratulations were given to Margaret Cleveland for applying to the National Lottery for grant funding and being awarded £600, which is to be used to buy six smaller and more manageable tables for the Village Hall.

Suggestions are needed for speakers for the programme in 2021. The Coffee Morning is in Hatherleigh Old Schools on March 24<sup>th</sup> and members were asked to fill in a form saying what cookery items they can provide. The team for the County Quiz on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February is to be Gwyneth Leonard, Gillian Townsend Green, Anne Leaman and Sally Kenealy.

Flower of the Month winners were Shirley Reddaway and Gwyneth Leonard and the winner of the competition for the most interesting bell was won by Hilary Winter. The next meeting is in Exbourne Village Hall on Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>, when the speaker will be Ian Brooker, who will talk about the 'Role of the Dartmoor Ranger'. Everyone will be welcome.

*Margaret Weeks*

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AT LAKEWAY CHURCH  
FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH - 3 P.M.  
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ALL WOMEN, MEN AND CHILDREN WELCOME

LAKEWAY UNITED CHURCH  
T.A.P. (TEA & PRAISE)  
SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH - 4 P.M.  
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## **Sampford Courtenay Flower and Vegetable Show**

**SATURDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> AUGUST 2020**

Full Details on [Sampford Courtenay Website](#) or  
[Facebook page](#)

## **SPRING MEETING AND COLLECT YOUR SEED POTATO AND BUCKET ON**

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup>**

Come and collect your seed potato and bucket for this year's Heaviest Crop Class, and make suggestions for any alterations/improvements to this year's schedule: Wed Mar 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.



## **Notes From Blueberry Hill Market Garden**

Greetings everyone !

Preparations for the new growing season are coming along nicely this year thanks to the help of John and Jon, two splendid gardeners. Thanks to farmer, Phil, and Francis too, for all the post and tunnel help. We've all been working our way through the massive pile of horse manure purchased from farmers Viv and Jane, one of the fine investments we've made recently. Determined to adhere to a strict no-dig approach, the manure is being laid down in as many areas as it will cover. The garden compost will provide the rest of the mulch material.

Sowing of vegetable seeds is well under way, and vegetable plants will be available to buy from the beginning of April.

With the climate crisis on my mind for much of the time, I'm determined that we shall do our very best to play our part in mitigating the worst effects and helping to tackle it. I confess that until recently we used bagged compost, mainly to fit with the cash-flow situation. No more. *(continued on page 23)*

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(continued from page 21)

We now buy organic compost from Devon in dumpy bags: no more plastic. Our organic poultry feed comes in paper sacks and we shall seek to buy our seed potato from suppliers who don't pack them in plastic netting. The no-dig system we employ means that there is no soil disturbance which can release CO<sub>2</sub>, among other benefits. We are also learning to develop a permaculture system so that the garden will, in time, become self-sustaining and highly productive.

Now here's something new for you.... We often need to buy in top-up supplies from other growers in Devon, in order to fulfil our weekly vegetable orders. Thinking about the climate crisis, we would like to ask all you local growers if you would be interested in selling us your surplus produce. We'll buy it from you at a set price for each type of produce category, and we will make the same amount per KG on it. Our criteria are that no synthetic fertilisers are used, and that no chemical pest control or herbicides are used either. Not only should this encourage more home growing, but we will be able to supply more people with locally grown produce so that we'll all be doing our bit. Any surplus that doesn't go into the weekly baskets can be sold from our shop. Please e-mail me at [blueberryjacqui@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:blueberryjacqui@hotmail.co.uk) if you would like to get involved. Thank you to all who have visited the shop so far. It has been a good start. Thanks to Krzysztof Tchorek for the wonderful cabin.

Bye for now!

Kind wishes,

Jacqui

### News from Sampford Courtenay

Sampford Courtenay Flower Club held their annual New Year lunch at The Tom Cobley, Spreyton, on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January. The Club will continue to meet throughout 2020 on the second Monday each month in Sampford Courtenay Village Hall at 2.30 p.m.. The skittles match against Bondleigh took place in the Village Hall on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January. Sampford Courtenay were the winners with 415 points to Bondleigh's 376. Top woman for S.C. was Doris with 34 points, runner-up was Veronica with 31. Top man was Dave with 33 and runner-up was Raymond with 32. Bondleigh's top woman was Gisela with 32, runner-up Marilyn with 29 and top man was Graham with 32 and joint runners-up Richard and John with 29 points. Sampford Courtenay Bell Ringers held their annual dinner on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February at the New Inn. News about the Shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse: they were sent to Central Asia. While political and religious sensitivities continue within Central Asia, for the safety of the ministry partners living in restricted areas, they have asked Samaritan's Purse not to disclose details about the specific country to which your shoebox was sent. *Nicky Craig*

### NORTH TAWTON BOWLING CLUB

The new Clubhouse has withstood the winter gales! Winter has seen the indoor short mat bowls continue with club days/ nights on Tuesdays at 2.00 p.m. and Thursdays at 6.30 p.m. The indoor league sides have had a busy winter with mixed results but the enjoyment levels are high. This is run by Gordon Denham. of whom more later.

The E.G.M. saw proposals for the club for the coming summer of 2020; new accommodation for visiting teams; storage for vital green equipment; a new path for the far side of the green, giving access to the clubhouse from both sides.

Robert Arscott and Dave Cooper were thanked for their green maintenance and Life Membership of the Club was awarded to Gordon Denham, who as Club Secretary oversaw the funding and building of our new clubhouse. Gordon becomes Fixture Secretary and Anita Lamey becomes the new Club Secretary.

There will be a spring meeting for members on Tuesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30 p.m. and our Opening Day is **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 2 p.m..**

Everyone, including beginners, is assured of a warm welcome.

Mike Thwaites (President)



*picture: Gordon Denham being congratulated by Club Captain Jan Summers on his Life Membership.*

### What do Archaeology clubs do in the winter?



Some dig, of course; A.C.E. has done that in the past but, to be honest, digging mud in sideways hail palls after a while.

We tried walks of archaeological interest but kept having to cancel them because of the weather. So this year we decided to stay indoors and get on with identifying and cataloguing finds.

We started digging at Moistown near Winkleigh in 2013 and since then we have amassed over 3000 finds. These were mostly pottery but also metal, environmental finds, bones, shells and the like; also plastic and other modern materials. When the find is excavated its co-ordinates are recorded and it is given a find number. That is recorded on the plastic bag in which we keep it. Once we start the post-excavation work the find number is written on the find itself, where possible. It is difficult when it is a bit of baler twine and that is why we keep the finds within the plastic bags at all times. All the information also goes on to a spreadsheet; some of this is done on site. In the winter session each find is identified, weighed, measured and dated and all the information is entered on the spreadsheet.

We have been learning about pottery, of which we have the biggest number of finds. Eventually, when we have managed to raise some funds, we will have an expert to look at the more interesting pieces, but, in the meantime, we are learning to separate the industrial pottery from the medieval and so on. We have our own inhouse expert on bones, looking at the environmental finds. We have a few bones but there is no need to get too excited as they are of animals. The oldest piece of pottery we have found, has been identified as Saxo-Norman, circa 1066. We have quite a bit of medieval pottery. Industrial pottery is plentiful and to some, not very interesting. Think of the blue and white ware that you dig up in your gardens. We intend to put some pieces together to rebuild the original plate or cup or... chamber pot. !!

So, if you don't think excavation is for you, perhaps doing this sort of post-excavation work might interest you? If so, do get in touch.

Erica Williamson

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### **Bondleigh Rainfall**

Although a new year has begun, the weather has continued the same as at the end of last year with January having rain on most days. There was a short period in the middle of the month when there was no rainfall to record.

Total for the month was 90.4 mm. This was wetter than last year when only 61.3 mm were recorded in January.

*Danny Semorad*

### **North Tawton Environmental Trust - - tree planting project.**

The Trust owns a two acre field on the outskirts of North Tawton which was purchased thanks to a generous legacy from former trustee, John Wright.

We aim to establish this area as a nature reserve and community woodland according to his wishes.

We successfully applied for a grant of 420 sapling trees from the Woodland Trust which will be arriving in March. These are a mix of hawthorn, dogwood, wild cherry, silver birch, rowan, hazel, blackthorn, oak, crab apple, downy birch, holly and goat willow.

We are planning a planting weekend for the 28th and 29th March, weather permitting, and will welcome volunteers to assist at any time during the weekend. Light refreshments will be provided.

Please contact Carolyn 07840765285 or Chris 01837 82785, or email [ntenvirotrust@gmail.com](mailto:ntenvirotrust@gmail.com) for directions to site, - and please bring a spade or fork.

### **Bondleigh Events - Dates For Your Diary**

At St. James's Church

Saturday, 18th April at 10.30 a.m.

Coffee Morning

Saturday, 23rd May at 10.00 a.m.

Grand Plant Sale

More details to follow

### **SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL**

#### **PRESENTS**

#### **AN EVENING OF "LIGHT CHORAL ENTERTAINMENT"**

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**ON**

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

Ockment Centre, North Street, Okehampton  
7.30 p.m.

Wednesday March 11th

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

*Bill Hardiman*

### **Okehampton Parkinson's Support Group**

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Village Hall

BELSTONE CORNER

\* 15:30 to 15:50

The Beeches

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

##### **March 20th**

NORTH TAWTON

09:45 to 11:15

The Square

BONDLEIGH

13:55 to 14:15

Old School

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

##### **March 7th**

NORTH TAWTON

10:00 to 12:00

The Square

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**SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL**  
**EASTER BINGO**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March

Doors open at 7 p.m. for eyes down at 8 p.m.



**MUSICAL DIRECTOR**

The Okehampton Choral Society has a vacancy for Musical Director, with effect from September 2020. We are looking for an energetic and approachable person to help us consolidate on our successes to date and potentially carve out new directions. Rehearsals take place at Fairplace United Church, Okehampton, on Monday evenings from 7.15 to 9 p.m.. See website [okechoralsociety.org.uk](http://okechoralsociety.org.uk) for former and current programmes, choir history, etc. For more information, contact [enquiries@okechoralsociety.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@okechoralsociety.org.uk). Closing date 9.4.2020

**Clothes Swap Event!**

Are there any good quality clothes in your wardrobe you never wear or that no longer fit? Fancy a swap? Then bring up to five items along to the Community Centre on Barton Street on the 14th March from 10 to 12.30 where we will have a clothes swap! You can bring up to five items and take up to five away. The swap costs £1 to take part, and if you'd like to bring your items in advance then you can drop them off at the Community Centre between 6 and 8 p.m. on Friday 13th March. This event is being run in conjunction with the Repair Café, so why not bring something broken to get fixed as well?



**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;

14<sup>th</sup> March – 10am to 12.30

9th May at the Community Centre on Barton Street.

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

# BIG BREAKFAST



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February has finally started to bring a glimmer of hope as the daffodils are beginning to appear, reminding us that Spring is nearly upon us. As we mark the halfway point in the school year, we are, as ever, busy, busy, busy! As Head of School I can honestly say that no two days are the same. However, today's morning routine was slightly more unusual than most. As I drove up to the school gates I was greeted by... a pig! In the middle of the road! He was, I am glad to report, safely returned to his owner after some gentle coaxing into the back of a car! All in a day's work in glorious Devon before I had even got to my office!

#### Grandparents' Day

Earlier in the month eighty grandparents joined us for a packed two hours. The atmosphere was buzzing as grandchildren eagerly shared their work with their doting grandparents. Some of the children provided some musical entertainment, and the audience was completely mesmerized, especially by one of our gifted boys who plays the piano with such incredible skill. We were reminded that the role of grandparents is ever increasing and the support they give is invaluable and immeasurable. Many grandparents are even involved in our daily routines, including the school run. They are also supporting our drive to raise standards across the curriculum, especially with reading. This is the key to success as the evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day, not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. In fact, reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background. Many grandparents responded positively when asked if they were able to share this experience with their grandchildren. This proves what a valuable and often underused body of support we have in our school. Thank you to all those who attended.

#### Rotary Quiz

The annual Rotary Quiz is always an eagerly anticipated event. Those who qualify in the heats go on to the final at Okehampton College. I am pleased to report that we performed extremely well this year, with one successful team making it through to the finals. We were pipped to the post by a narrow margin of 0.75 points and were placed a very commendable second. Mrs. Ware and the whole school team were thrilled with the results. The children were great sports and worked well at school supporting each other. The calm considered approach won through in the end! What a super achievement for us all. Well done North Tawton!

Wishing everyone a happy start to another glorious Devon springtime.

With all best wishes  
Miss Chauhan  
Head of School





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Mrs. Rhona Bragg (82343)

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Mr. Danny Semorad (82319)

Mr. Graham Stokes (82240)

**St. Andrew's** Sampford Courtenay

Mr. Malcolm Craig (880118)

Mrs. Sarah Hanks (851287)

**St. Mary's** Honeychurch

Mr. Ray Squire (851627)

Mr. Richard Weeks (851269)

*(All numbers are 01837 numbers unless otherwise stated)*

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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. 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

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 Elder & Secretary    Mrs. Rose Dadds (82130)  
 Asst. Secretary    Mrs. Jean Boardman (82159)

Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.  
 (no 11 a.m. service on the third Sunday  
 T.A.P. at 4 p.m.)

**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
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1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Special service	Bible Study
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3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Ministry	No service unless advertised otherwise
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Prayer & Communion	DVD
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Prayer & Communion	No service unless advertised otherwise

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Funeral

Thursday 6th February

Eddy HODGE (90)

St. Peter's Church

### Winter / Spring 2020

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

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April

Pam Clayton

### Honeychurch

March

Karen Squire

April

Marilyn Weeks

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March 1st

Sheila Thorne

March 8th / 15th

Lin Warre

March 22nd / 29th

Hazel Towell

April 5th / 12th

Nikki Jourdan

April 19th / 26th

Carol Jones

### North Tawton

#### Flowers

March 22nd

Mothering Sunday

April 12th

Easter Flowers

April 19th / 26th

Easter Flowers

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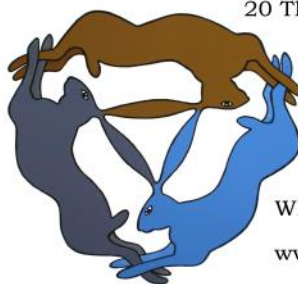
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