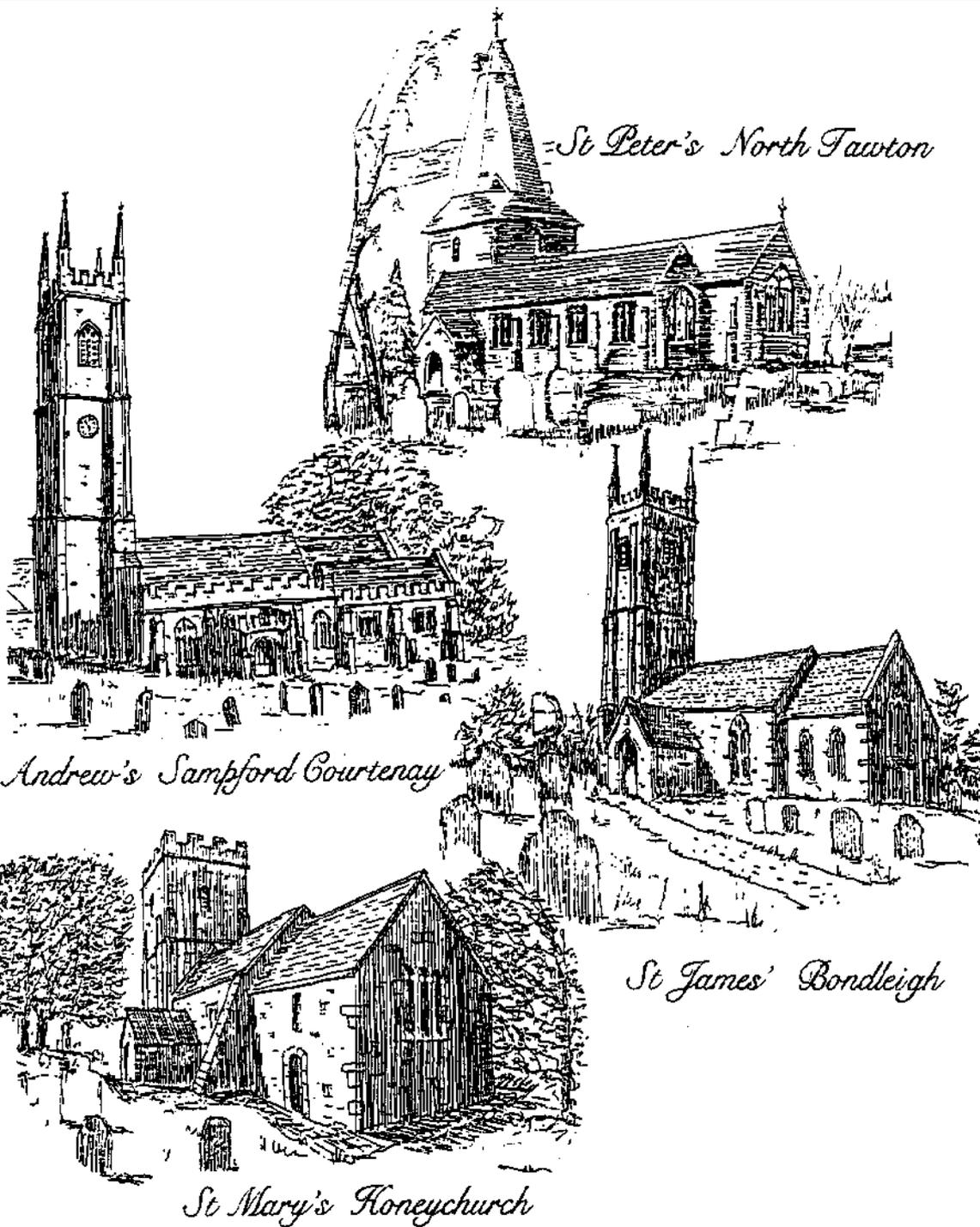


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From The Rectory

Corona-pestilence... strange days

What strange days we live in! I have been desperately trying to think of something else topical and interesting to write about this month, but I don't think I can avoid it... the big C... coronavirus. It's what everyone is thinking and talking about at the moment. So here goes...

Now, I write this on a quiet Friday afternoon in mid-March. And it really is quiet today. For once, it is neither raining nor windy, the birds are singing outside, it's just about warm enough to have the window open, and hardly a car has passed the Rectory in the last hour. A quick glance on the BBC website and it seems everyone is "working from home" today. Offices, train stations, airports and town centres are deserted, and the scene is repeated all across Europe and much of the world today. What strange days we live in! I don't think I've ever witnessed anything like this before. None of us have, probably.

The situation is changing rapidly, and everyday it seems there are new directives from government. So by the time this publication has reached your doorstep undoubtedly things will have changed again. Perhaps your friendly Roundabout deliverer could be the only person out and about by the end of March. Did they touch your letterbox? Were they wearing a hazmat suit? (And that reminds me, I really should clean this computer keypad... disgusting!) Strange days.... sporting fixtures off, close gatherings of 100 people or more discouraged. Will schools be closing early for Easter? And then there is the rumour-mill and the media circus. Are we making too big a deal of this, or should we be making more of a fuss? I realise in daring to write about this I might be contributing to either. You decide. Strange days.

May I offer a few Christian reflections on this current corona-crisis? The first is: we have been here before as a human race. This may be the greatest public health crisis in a generation, as Boris says, but actually plague and pestilence are nothing new. They have occurred numerous times in history, not least in Biblical history. It was relatively common in Roman times for some horrible disease to decimate the empire. Famously, the Black Death swept through Europe in the 14th century, and the Great Plague terrorised London in 1665, both of which were utterly ghastly at the time, but they didn't half liven up dull history lessons! It feels like any comparison between these deadly pestilences and the current crisis over Covid-19 is a little overblown, but perhaps not. As I write today on 13/03, the statistics are alarming... just under 150 thousand infected worldwide with just over 5 thousand deaths, 798 infected in the UK and 10 deaths... so far. Personally speaking, as a young(ish), fit(ish), healthy man I am not worried about getting coronavirus, nor am I worried for my family who are all younger and at least as healthy as me. But I can think of

plenty of people I know and love for whom it could be much more serious. So it may be nothing new historically, but it is unprecedented for you and me, so we really should abide by all the advice being thrown at us at the moment.

This leads to a second Christian perspective on the matter in hand (very clean washed hand). Pestilence is no respecter of persons. I hear at least one Member of Parliament has coronavirus, the Canadian Prime Minister's wife has it, so does the actor Tom Hanks. It doesn't matter how rich or important you are, viruses are a great leveller. In this way, they are like the bush fires in Australia, or the floods in the Yorkshire and the Severn Valley. You can try your best to "be prepared" but one day we will all succumb. NEWS FLASH....! Just had the dreaded call from school. Sounds like my "quiet working from home" Friday is about to be interrupted. My youngest daughter is unwell. Back soon... Have we got enough toilet roll?

UPDATE.... I think we're going to be okay. Daughter is now parked on the sofa in front of CBeebies, with a hefty dollop of Calpol in her tummy. She hasn't even got a temperature, so maybe the Rectory lockdown I was contemplating on the run up to school will not now be necessary.

Back to the spiritual lessons of Covid-19.... Another one that strikes me is that it is proving not only to be a great leveller, it's also a great revealer. Hearts and minds are being exposed by coronavirus. When we feel that our health and our wealth are under attack the real you, the real me is exposed. For example, I cannot understand why anyone would panic buy toilet roll, or anything for that matter. It just seems so selfish and unnecessary. I'm really not very worried about contracting the virus myself, but I'm gutted that sport is being cancelled everywhere and that our savings as a family are being severely affected by the markets. What does that say about me? And what is the crisis revealing about you? When the two great securities of health and wealth come under threat our idols are exposed. In that one sense then, perhaps coronavirus is going to be good for us. Maybe we are being taught an ancient and much needed lesson, as Moses prayed in Psalm 90, "teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Daughter now asleep. All is well.

Rev'd Nick Weldon (Vicar)

01837 880183

npweldon@gmail.com

(the vicar is right - even before sending "Roundabout" to press, further changes have reached us which are included in this edition. More are to be expected before the next "Roundabout". Wherever possible, please circulate changes to this month's notices keeping in mind the advice on safety for the elderly and vulnerable which we are promised will come daily, with changes as they become necessary. Editors)

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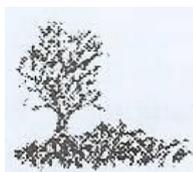
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North Tawton
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Tel: 01837 880121
E-mail: northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Salt Bins

The Council has worked with Wain Homes to arrange installation of 2 new salt bins on the Bathway Fields development. The Council has purchased the bins and we are grateful to Wain Homes for providing a site and putting down paving slabs for the bins to stand on. Please could we remind residents that these bins are not to be used for refuse or dog fouling as has been the case on several occasions – remember that dog fouling bags can go in ordinary public litter bins, so there will always be a bin nearby. We all hope that we will not have any more weather bad enough to need the salt but when it is needed then it must be accessible and not contaminated with waste materials. Thank you for your co-operation.

North Tawton Neighbourhood Plan – Referendum - May 7th

The Neighbourhood Plan has now successfully completed the Examination Stage and can proceed to Referendum which is very good news.

The Referendum is organized by West Devon Borough Council elections unit. All residents on the electoral roll will be eligible to vote and If more than 50% of those voting in the referendum vote 'yes', then the Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the statutory development plan for the North Tawton area.

The Neighbourhood Plan and all the appendices, including the Town Design Statement, can be found on the North Tawton Town Council website. Hard copies will be available for reference in the Council Office and other venues around the town including pubs, café, takeaways, shops, Doctor & Dentist surgeries, Community Centre & Mortimer Room. This is a very important milestone for North Tawton and we would encourage residents to read the Plan and decide how you want to vote.

Thanks to everyone who has been involved with the development of the Neighbourhood Plan over the past few years. It has been at times a long uphill struggle but it's thanks to you all that we have got to this very important stage.

Watch out for further information – but don't forget to vote on **7th May**.

Coronavirus

At the time of writing, the Council Office is open to the public and the Town Council plans to hold its next Full Council meeting on 7th April. However, now that the Government has announced that the initiatives to combat the virus have moved from the "Containment Phase" to the "Delay Phase" the Council will review public facing services and public access to meetings in the light of developing guidance from central government.

Any details of changes to Council services and public meetings will be placed on the Noticeboard outside the office and published on our new website – northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

2020/2021 Budget.

At its meeting on 3rd December 2019, North Tawton Town Council set an expenditure budget of £123,459.45 – an increase of 2.46% from 2019/20. In seeking to minimise expenditure, the Council agreed to reductions in Administrative costs and limited increases to inflationary measures only.

Set against this, the Council faces a significant loss of income for 2020/21 as West Devon Borough Council decided to cease payment of the Council Tax Support Grant of £3562.00 and has indicated that it will charge the Town Council business rates for the car park, likely to be about £1812 for 2020/21.

In order to mitigate against the net loss of £5,374 and accommodate inflationary increases, as well as maintaining current levels of service, the Town Council voted to increase the Town Council Precept from £111,682 in 2019/20 to £122,189 for 2020/21 - an increase of 9%. West Devon Borough Council predict that as a result, householders who occupy Band D properties in North Tawton for example, will see an annual increase in the parish share section of the Community Charge bill of £14.93p for 2020/21. Bands A – C will obviously pay less than this.

In sharing comparable costs of other Parish Councils across West Devon, the Borough Council has calculated that on average, precepts have risen by 13%, with one parish requesting a 92% increase.

Sarah Say, Clerk to North Tawton Town Council
E mail: northtawton.towncouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Stephen Webb, Assistant Clerk to North Tawton Town Council
<http://www.northtawtontowncouncil.co.uk/>

The Office is now normally open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 am – 1pm
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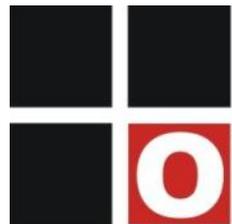
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North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

We have an upstairs window that looks due west and occasionally you will hear husband mutter 'tis looking black over Bill's mother'. I do not know who Bill is. Let alone his mother. Apparently Ray Moore used this phrase to describe bad weather approaching. Husband tells me that Ray was a Radio 2 disc jockey back in the 80's [does anyone say 'disc jockey' anymore apart from husband?] but my ears were tuned in to Radio 1 back then listening to the likes of Gary Davies, Peter Powell and the occasional burst of Tommy Vance [remember him?] I feel very sorry for Bill's mother – she must have dreaded the weather forecast.

Moving on. Husband will sometimes refer to me as 'the present Mrs. Knott'. I think he nicked this from the late Sir Terry Wogan. [interestingly my laptop has just tried to correct the word 'Wogan' and replace it with 'Wonga'] The present Mrs. Knott is not particularly bothered. I just hope that any future Mrs. Knotts are prepared to fill their spare bedrooms with trays of chitting potatoes. [laptop doesn't recognise 'chitting' and wants to replace it with 'chatting'] Talking of marriage – our speaker this month was brave enough to display the title of her talk as 'Wedlocked – [women know your place!]' Sun Jester – a team of three, Towse, Graham and Bronwen (plus Daisy the Yorkshire terrier) – were here to reveal the history of marriage and how, in the past, women had very few choices regarding the path their life would follow and who they would marry. Did you know that the term 'spinster' originates from the 1300's when an unmarried woman could end up doing lower status and lower income jobs such as spinning wool? And how about 'The Wandering Womb'? A condition where the womb could travel throughout the body from as far as the big toe to the back of the brain – commonly called 'hysteria' - which is derived from the Greek word for womb 'hystera'. The Victorians were very suspicious of women's reproductive health, with doctors insisting that the menopause was the gateway for 'hysterical nymphomania' which gave a husband a good reason to have his wife incarcerated. Bearing in mind that a wife was very much a man's property, along with her personal possessions including her private letters and diaries, how could a woman fight against it? Fast forward to 1962 and the story of Stephanie Shirley [now a Dame] who started up her own software company but had to use the name 'Steve' Shirley in her business development letters in order to get attention. Situations and circumstances may have changed a lot since Victorian times but, as Towse showed us, there are still a few glass ceilings out there! [incidentally – although Daisy didn't contribute very much to the presentation, she did look very cute]

A very welcome cuppa with the obligatory biscuit led us gently into the business bit. No time to snooze ladies – get your diaries out and prepare to fill them with exciting events and activities. Fancy a Felt Craft workshop? Throw caution to the wind, dig out your feather boa[I know you've got one] and try a Burlesque class. Or dare to do a 'Drive for Life' workshop and brush up your driving skills. Not forgetting our trip to Bridge Mill, Holsworthy where we can explore the historic water mill, cottage garden and wildflower meadows and take tea and cake as refined W.I. ladies are so terribly good at doing. I do love a dainty cake fork and a pretty doily – don't you??

Sue Knott

Den Brook Community Fund

At its meeting on 4th March, the Den Brook Community Fund Committee voted to award grants to the following organisations – North Tawton Bowling Club, North Tawton Rugby Club, Spreyton Village Hall, South Zeal Toddlers Group and the Bow Recreation Group CIC. Two of the grants were for the installation of significant storage provision, others were for installation of a new floor, nursery equipment and also for replacement windows. The total amount of the grants came to £16,645.80.

The Committee will meet again in September to consider the next "round" of grant applications and the deadline for receipt of applications from organisations wishing to apply for funding is 31st July 2020.

Guidelines, Terms and Conditions and the Application Form can be obtained from the North Tawton Town Council Office 14a The Square, North Tawton, EX20 2EP, or by e-mailing denbrookcommunityfund@gmail.com.

The Den Brook Community Fund is administered by representatives of Bow, North Tawton, South Tawton, Spreyton and Zeal Monachorum Parish Councils.

Handel (and others!) at St. Andrew's

A Cushion* Concert

in aid of FORCE

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and the Two Rivers Orchestra (Conductor— Richard Edwards)

The programme will include

Handel's Organ Concerto Opus 4 No. 5

(Organ solo—Roger Cleverdon)

Symphony No. 3 by William Boyce (1710—1779)

Trumpet Tune and Air by Henry Purcell (1695—1755)

(Trumpet solo—John Courtie)

and anthems by Purcell, Boyce, Haydn, Edward Bairstow and John Ireland.

Saturday, 2nd May, 2019, 7.30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church,

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Roger Cleverdon 810320 (Hatherleigh) Richard Edwards 82376 (North Tawton)

Malcolm Craig 880118 (Sampford Courtenay)

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Proceeds from the concert will be given to FORCE which has recently opened a branch in Okehampton to offer more local support to those in need of it.

*Cushion Concert: please feel free to bring your own cushion to ease your comfort on the wooden chairs in the church

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Wednesday 1 April 11:00-12:00 – Spring Lantern Craft

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Tickets £2 each, bookable in advance

Friday 3 April 14:00-15:30 – Family Lego Animation

Nurture your child’s creativity with Lego Animation! Work with your child to develop stories and explore animation techniques. You will need to download the Aardman ‘Animate it!’ free app from the App Store onto a tablet or smartphone that has a camera and bring the device with you to the session. £3 per animation station. Bookings and payment must be made in advance in the library. Ages 5+

Wednesday 8 April 11:00-12:00 - Dogs Trust ‘Doggy Tales’ & Activities

with Stacey a Dogs Trust Education and Community Officer.

Bring along your favourite dog story to share on the day.

FREE literature and advice about how to behave safely around dogs will be available - leaflets, posters, stickers etc. Age 4+ Bookings in advance at the library.

Saturday 18 April 10:00-12:00 – Homemade Cake Sale & Coffee Morning

Treat yourself and enjoy some homemade cake and biscuits, to eat in with a coffee or to take home. We’re raising funds for Libraries Unlimited, the charity which runs this library. Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity, every penny raised goes directly towards library services that help make a difference to people’s lives and communities.

Saturday 18 – 25 April - ‘Unlock the Mystery’ Treasure Hunt

To celebrate the publication of Ally Carter’s new book ‘Winterborne Home for Vengeance and Valour’, unlock the mystery treasure hunt at Okehampton Library for the chance to win a copy of this new action-packed publication. Limited freebies to give away too! Age 5+

Saturday 25 April 10:30-12:00 – Learn to Draw Manga!

Manga Drawing Workshop for Beginners. Come along and learn to draw 'chibi style' manga characters with kawaii artist HOSHiko. Suitable for ages 13yrs +. Bookings in advance, spaces limited £5 each in Okehampton Library or book through Eventbrite (fees apply).

Saturday 25 April 10:00-12:00 - Book & Games Sale

Grab a bargain! A good selection of second hand books, jigsaw puzzles, family board games, card games, video games and DVDs. Prices start from just 50p

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

All 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.

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

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



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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.

North Tawton Climate Group

The next meeting of the North Tawton Climate Group will be on Monday 13th April , 7 p.m. at The Community Centre. Our speaker will be Chris Jordan of the Green Party.

A contribution of £1 towards the hire of the room would be gratefully accepted, with any excess going into a tree fund. After the talk there will be continued discussions about the projects we are working on. Everybody welcome.



READING GROUP

MEETS last Tuesday MONTHLY 7.30 p.m.
AT THE NEW INN
CONTACT ISHBEL ASKEW
01837 82280
ishgordon@live.co.uk



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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

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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



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or my facebook page at 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 28th March

NOW CANCELLED

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 8th April

7 for 7.30 p.m.

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 4.15 p.m. – 5.15 p.m. 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.

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall - Christmas Quiz answers

First of all, thank you to everyone who bought a Christmas Quiz. There were 6 answer sheets returned that were all correct, so a draw was made at our February meeting and the winner was Karen Whybrow of The New Inn, Sampford Courtenay. The answers are as follows.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Caspar, Melchior, Balthazar | 21. Dasher, Dancer, Donner |
| 2. Tom Smith | 22. Turkey |
| 3. Yuletide | 23. Mexico |
| 4. Turkeys | 24. The Snow Queen |
| 5. Bohemia/Czech Republic | 25. Jingle Bells |
| 6. A Visit from St Nicolas/
T'was the Night Before
Christmas | 26. Hen |
| 7. St Francis of Assisi | 27. Norway |
| 8. Pacific and Indian Oceans | 28. Clockwise |
| 9. Sending Christmas cards | 29. Arrival |
| 10. It was 2 sizes too small | 30. Raymond Briggs |
| 11. Ilex | 31. Tree resin |
| 12. Camel | 32. Candy canes |
| 13. Tchaikovsky | 33. Rudolph the Red Nosed
Reindeer |
| 14. St Nicholas, St Lucia, St
Stephen | 34. Pick a berry |
| 15. Joe & Jack | 35. 24 |
| 16. Invisibility cloak | 36. Before |
| 17. Narnia | 37. Charles Dickens |
| 18. George V | 38. The Annunciation |
| 19. Loves Labours Lost | 39. Oliver Cromwell |
| 20. Georgia, Arizona, Indiana | 40. Jesus |

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, 30th April A.G.M.

Followed by
 James Ellis
 "Nitty Norah"

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.

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

NOW CANCELLED

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)

Advance notice of a change to Evensong Services at St. Andrew's, Sampford Courtenay

From May 2020 onwards, the monthly Evensong service will start half an hour earlier at the new time of 6 p.m. on third Sundays in the month. Other services times will be unaffected, and the new time will take effect on Sunday 17th May.



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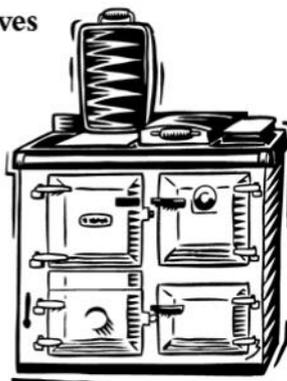
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News from Sampford Courtenay Parish Council

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 Mar 3rd 2020 Meeting

- 1) SCPC is carefully watching the situation re **Coronavirus** and has prepared its own Plan (can be viewed on the website) should anyone become infected in the parish.
- 2) **VE DAY CELEBRATIONS** – again, we are hopeful that the planned celebrations will be able to take place in May. Check out the Website for details of extra Dance Lessons, Costumes for Hire, and to pre-order your Commemorative Mug to use over the weekend.
- 3) **VJ DAY** – SCPC is aware that for many WW 11 did not end on May 8th 1945, with loved ones still fighting in Asia. We therefore plan to mark VJ Day by planting a Peace Tree on the Village Green.
- 4) **OPEN MEETING – 31ST MARCH** – 7.30 PM – Sampford Courtenay Village Hall looking at local plans to help tackle Climate Emergency. **Thank you to everyone who noticed the mistake on the Chair's letter. The square will be closed on Sat 8th May NOT June.**
- 5) 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 4th April from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and is open to neighbouring councils and local parishioners.
- 6) **Murder Mystery** – thank you to everyone who supported this fun event. A profit of £450 was made to go towards costs of VE Day Celebrations.
- 7) **Parish Spring Clean** – our annual tidy up around the parish is booked for Sat. April 18th. Please let us know if you can come and help.

Please contact S.C.P.C. 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: Tues 31st Mar & 5th May

Sampford Courtenay Events

Venue Date

SCPC Open Meeting – SC Village Hall	Tues. 31st March
Table Top Exercise – SC Village Hall	Sat. 4th April
Parish Spring Clean	Sat. 18th April
Cushion Concert – St. Andrew's Church	Sat. 2nd May
Family Dog Show – SC Village Hall	Sat. 2nd May
Ration Supper & Variety Show	Fri. 8th May
Street Party, Stalls, Games & Entertainment	Sat. 9th May
Treasure Hunt, Commemoration Service & Cream Teas	Sun. 10th May

WEST COUNTRY EMBROIDERERS SPRING FAIR

18th & 19th April
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The sessions will contain plenty of time to practice the skills being learnt. Throughout, the emphasis will be learning in an enjoyable, supportive and friendly atmosphere.

The sessions will run from 7 p.m. to 9.45 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Morchard Bishop Sports and Social Club. You do not need a partner and the sessions are free except for a £2 charge towards hiring the venue, refreshments/bar.

If you are interested, contact me – John Chater, (3 star master – English Bridge Union) 01636 877096, j.chater@zen.co.uk

Sampford Courtenay
Family Dog Show and Car Boot
AT
Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

On
Saturday 2nd May
At 1 p.m.

Schedules for the dog show are available either
before or on the day.

Also see website

www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk

CAR BOOT

Cars £4

Vans £6

Any car or van towing a trailer or having a gazebo
£10

Ring 01837 851269 for further details

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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. 6 - 7 p.m.

Tap Dance – weekly on a Thursday. 10.30 a.m.

Table Tennis – weekly: ring 01837 851659 for details.

2nd May - Dog Show and Car Boot sale
8 th, 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

for full details of the events nearer the time.

Sampford Courtenay VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Full Details on Sampford Courtenay Website.
or [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/sampfordcourtenay)



HAVE YOU

PRE-ORDERED a commemorative
ECO Mug - £2 each?
RESERVED YOUR TICKETS for the various
events being held over the weekend?
(Meal tickets are limited) **CONTACT –**
MARION 01837 82285



Sampford Courtenay Flower Club

Monday April 6th
2.30 p.m.

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall
Celia and Jill

'Springtime workshop

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

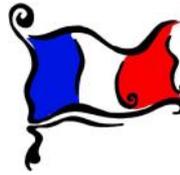
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NORTH TAWTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Hello North Tawton ! This year we are planning to receive our French friends from Blangy-le- Chateau. Our French friends are travelling on Wednesday 20th May and will depart on Monday 25th. We have activities scheduled and would like to know if anyone outside the committee would like to join us for:

dinner at the Railway on Thursday 21st May
dinner at Graylings fish'n'chip restaurant on

Saturday 22nd May

bowls/ Sunday lunch bowls at the Bowling club
24th May

We do of course have other plans so if you would like to come along and meet, take part you would be most welcome to do so. You do not have to be fluent in French, you do not have to commit to hosting - just join in what and when you would like to. Our French friends look forward to the friendship and learning about the cultural side of life in North Tawton/England as we do when we visit Blangy alternate years. Please contact either:

Jill Whiteley on 07800 659399 or

Pete Henshaw on 07718 133318



75
VE DAY
75th ANNIVERSARY
A MEMORABLE YEAR OF CELEBRATION
8TH MAY 2020

Sampford Courtenay Remembers
3 Days of V.E Day Celebrations
8th, 9th, 10th of May 2020

Friday 8th May 2020 7.30pm
Sampford Courtenay Village Hall
Come and join us for a Ration Style Supper
Bring your own Cutlery and Crockery please
Eco friendly commemorative mugs will be on sale

Followed by an
Ensa Style Variety Show
featuring hosts of local talent
Tickets £7.50 per person
Pre-booking essential call 01837 82285

Saturday 9th May 2020 from 10.30am
Sampford Courtenay Village Square
Craft Stalls, Military Vehicles, Wartime Memorabilia Display,
1940's Fancy Dress competition
12pm - Entertainment from the 'Humming Birds' & Street party Lunch
£7.50pp or a family ticket 2A+2C £20 Please bring crockery and cutlery
1.30pm - Clogs & Wheels
2pm - Games & Races on the Village Green
4pm - Auction by local auctioneer Robert Pyle
7pm - 1940's Dancing in the street
NAAFI Supper - £5 per person

Sunday 10th May 2020
Sampford Courtenay Village Square
1pm - Walking Treasure Hunt
3pm - Service of Remembrance
4pm - Cream Teas **£5 per person**
Please Bring Your own Cutlery & Crockery
Eco Friendly Commemorative mugs will be on sale

Discounted tickets for all three days are available £20 per person saving £5
Tickets are limited so please book early 01837 82285

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No.519960



stuartmoffat2@hotmail.com

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EX20 2DX



Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay and Jacobstowe W.I.

There was a large attendance at the latest meeting held on Thursday March 5th. The president welcomed everyone and Jerusalem was sung. The speaker was Ian Brooker, an Exbourne resident, who gave a very interesting presentation on his job as a Dartmoor Ranger. He explained about the various things the job entailed - from dealing with litter, repairing stiles and gates, and generally looking after the moor. He is helped by volunteers and he also explained about the role of commoners. He answered many questions and was thanked by Wendy Taylor.

Business was dealt with after refreshments. The Quiz team had pulled out of the competition because of the weather. Final arrangements were made for the Coffee Morning to be held in Hatherleigh Old Schools on Tuesday, March 24th. The smaller tables which had been funded by a National Lottery grant had arrived and were put to good use. It was suggested that the outing be to the Tiverton Canal, but it is impossible to book for this year. A trip to Exeter Museum was suggested.

The Ladies Walking Group will be walking at Bridestowe Station on Friday March 27th. Flower of the Month winner was Sally Kenealy and the winner of the competition for a postcard of Dartmoor was Bonnie Stenning.

The next meeting is at Sampford Courtenay village hall on Thursday April 2nd at 7.30 p.m.. The speaker will be Rebecca Springbett whose subject will be Devon in Sight. All welcome.

Margaret Weeks

LAKEWAY UNITED CHURCH
T.A.P. (TEA & PRAISE)
SUNDAY 19th April- 4 P.M.
WITH REV LIZ SINGLETON
SHORT SERVICE
FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS
ALL WELCOME
CONTACT ROSE DADDS FOR INFO. - 01837
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LAKEWAY UNITED CHURCH
BEETLE DRIVE
THURSDAY 14TH MAY - 7.30.p.m. START
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NORTH TAWTON TOWN HALL

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Have fun!

Sampford Courtenay Flower and Vegetable Show

SATURDAY, 22nd AUGUST 2020

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

2020 SCHEDULE

Check out the new schedule for this year's show on Sat 22nd August and start planning your entries.

Full schedule can be downloaded/viewed on the Website.

Thursday 16th April

The Guides have a **QUIZ** in the
Town Hall
7 for 7.30 p.m. start.
Teams of 6 maximum
£2 per person
All questions are written down .
Tea, coffee and homemade cakes available .

Proceeds for Guide funds.

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 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.

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News from Sampford Courtenay

A service of Holy Communion was held on Ash Wednesday, 26th February, at St Andrew's Church, which included the Imposition of Ashes.

Congratulations to Nicky Courage and her team for producing the Big Breakfast, held on Saturday 7th March in the village hall, between 8.30am and 11.30am. This well supported event, organised by the village hall, included a full English Breakfast of two eggs, two rashers of bacon, two chipolata sausages, mushrooms, tomatoes, black pudding, toast and marmalade, tea or coffee, all for £7. A raffle was held and the proceeds will be used for improvements to the hall.

St Andrew's Sampford Courtenay
Lent Holy Communion Services
Followed by Lenten lunches

Wed 18th March and Wed 1st April at 12 noon.

Services at St Andrew's during Holy Week

Compline

Monday 6th April, Tuesday 7th April,
Wednesday 8th April at 9 p.m..

Maundy Thursday
Thursday 9th April at 7.30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross
Good Friday 10th April at 2 p.m.

Easter Sunday
12th April
Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m.

Nicky Craig

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Applications should be made in writing to:

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

Applications must be sent before the **SAT. 2nd MAY 2020**. Applicants will be advised if a grant has been awarded as soon as possible after that date. It is emphasized that these grants are small and are made entirely at the discretion of the Trustees.

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Bondleigh Rainfall

February is usually the driest of the winter months, so this year it has been exceptional making it the wettest February I have recorded. The total was 211.3mm., just over 8ins. This compares with 58.3mm. last year and only 34.1mm. the year before. In fact we have to go back to 2014 and 2002 for years with over 100mm.. They were 162.4mm and 185.8mm respectively. March has arrived now and hopefully Spring is not too far away.

Danny Semorad

Okehampton & District Local History Society

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

Wednesday April 8th

A.G.M.

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

GRAND SUMMER BALL

FRIDAY 26th JUNE
7pm

Live band and bar
Welcome drinks and canapés
Followed by
Dinner and Dance
(Dress – Black Tie/Formal)

Tickets £35 each

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Nicky Courage 01837 880300

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Okehampton Parkinson's Support Group

Contact Geoff on 01837 55813

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PLEASE NOTE TIMES HAVE CHANGED ON THURSDAY VISITS*

THURSDAY *monthly*

April 2nd / 30th

BOW Village Hall
* 14:45 to 15:15

BELSTONE CORNER The Beeches
* 15:30 to 15:50

FRIDAY *monthly*

April 17th

NORTH TAWTON The Square
09:45 to 11:15

BONDLEIGH Old School
13:55 to 14:15

SATURDAY *monthly*

April 4th

NORTH TAWTON The Square
10:00 to 12:00

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

Coffee Morning

St. James' Church, Bondleigh

Saturday, 18th April at 10.30 a.m.

All the usual popular stalls - and draw
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Do come along and enjoy catching up
with friends and neighbours over
coffee and cake.

Date for your Diary!
Saturday 23rd May
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North Tawton dad's special reason for taking on second London Marathon



A bereaved dad from North Tawton is re-lacing his running shoes to take on the Virgin Money London Marathon for a second time in aid of the charity that help him when his son died. [Luke Compton](#), said his 'world fell apart' the day 18-month-old Kaleb passed away in June 2015, and that running has been his way of dealing with grief. Since 2015, Luke has completed more than 50 half marathons all over the country and ran his first London Marathon in 2017, raising more than £7,000 for Children's Hospice South West (CHSW).

On Sunday, April 26, he will be proudly taking on the famous road race again for the charity.

"I always said if I was to do a marathon, it would be London and it would be for Children's Hospice South West," said Luke, 30.

"In 2017 I had that chance to run it for CHSW and completed it in 3hrs 48mins. I also said 'never again' but fast-forward a few years and here I am again, deep into marathon training. Running is my 'way out'; it's my way of having my time to think about Kaleb and what I could do to help CHSW".

"I remember seeing a quote a few years ago and every time I read it, it reminds me of Kaleb, the London Marathon and CHSW – 'thousands of miles separate us, 26.2 unite us'."

After Kaleb died, Luke spent some time with him before his funeral at the charity's Little Bridge House children's hospice, near Barnstaple. Luke said he remembers the fear, heartache and pure devastation he felt driving from North Tawton to the hospice the day Kaleb died.

"My world had just fallen apart but the time we spent together at the hospice is something I will forever thank CHSW for – warm, happy and life-lasting memories, moments I will never forget. The children's hospice was and remains the most incredible charity and I promised from that day on I would do anything possible to help and raise awareness to thank them for everything they did for Kaleb and continue to do for me."

Luke and his family have supported CHSW ever since, forming the Kaleb's Thumbprint Friend's Group to help raise money and awareness. The hairdresser hopes to raise £10,000 by taking on the London marathon again but said raising awareness was as important to him as raising the money.

He said: "I won't be running London 2020 in memory of Kaleb, but for everybody contacted to CHSW – the children who use the hospice for respite and support; those who have used it for end-of-life care; and sadly for all the children who have no idea that it is there for them in the future".

(As we go to press we understand the London Marathon will be postponed until later in the year. We hope Luke's sponsors will be patient and keep their support for him for this worthy cause. Editors.)



VE DAY
75TH ANNIVERSARY
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION
8 - 10 MAY 2020

Friday 8th May (Bank Holiday)

12 noon onwards The Fountain Inn will be hosting an Indoor Street Party. **Snail racing** will be part of the fun for all the family. Don your 40's fashion and join in the celebration!

3 p.m. (on the dot!) The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of World War 2 At the precise time that Churchill, 75 years ago, announced the end of the war in Europe, pubs all over the land will be asking their customers to raise a glass and take part in the toast. **North Tawton's pubs** have all agreed to partake in this so take your pick! If by any chance you are not in a pub you can join in at home with drink of your choice.

6.55 p.m. A Cry for Peace around the World Gather in The Square to hear our **Town Crier, Jim Brereton**, join with voices all over the world undertaking this special international Cry for Peace.

7 p.m. Ringing out for Peace Church bells will be rung in North Tawton, throughout the nation and around the world, in celebration of the peace and friendships we share today.

Saturday 9th May

10 a.m. - 1p.m. Town Hall North Tawton Royal British Legion will be hosting a display of **Wartime Memorabilia**. Tea and coffee will be available. Take a walk down Memory Lane or learn a bit of local history!

1p.m. onwards North Tawton Rugby Club Picnic by the pitch

Pack a picnic and something to sit on, and bring the whole family to the Rugby Club for an afternoon of fun. The Club has booked **The Hummingbirds**, a close harmony trio who sing in the authentic style of the 40's. Performance will begin at **2 p.m.**. Tea, coffee, cake and scones will be available, kindly catered by **North Tawton W.I.** and the bar will be open. Dancers from **Sophie Sian's School of Dance** will be performing too, so come and join the fun.

Sunday 10th May 11 a.m. A service of celebration and commemoration in the Memorial Park

led by the Rev Nick Weldon.

Tea and coffee will be available after the service.

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 for former and current programmes, choir history, etc.

For more information, contact

enquiries@okechoralsociety.org.uk. Closing date 9.4.2020

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Well, I may have spoken too soon when I mentioned the sunshine and the daffodils in my last article! The rain seems relentless and now the worrying coronavirus is taking over events at an alarming rate. We are watching the news unfold and are keeping safe in school as we follow the guidance and recommendations.

The school is as busy as ever. We celebrated World Book Day in March with our usual excitement and enthusiasm. This year we decided to focus on seven particular authors: Julia Donaldson, Oliver Jeffers, Roald Dahl, Ted Hughes, Malorie Blackman, Eva Ibbotson, and Michelle Paver. Our focus, as always, is to read every day and to see how we can push boundaries and introduce our children to literature that challenges them. We want all the children to be exposed to more varied and extensive vocabulary and experiences, and every year we are finding new approaches to keep everyone interested! This year we have been regularly visited by the excellent and entertaining local story teller Merrick Durling. As well as working directly with the children, Merrick has been leading training sessions with our staff. He has given us lots of new ideas and introduced us to new approaches to storytelling. I have been especially impressed by his teaching of new ways to enthuse the listener through the art of storytelling and how to create mystery and intrigue. This is a talent and skill that is sadly being forgotten, as the art of storytelling is slowly becoming a thing of the past. The children have embraced the new experiences and challenges, and they particularly enjoyed dressing up! They arrived on a beautiful sunny morning dressed in a myriad of colourful characters. They stayed in character all day and still managed to focus on their learning. The children were not alone and were joined by the staff members who also participated in the dressing up fun!

Hopefully we will soon see a proper start to spring, and I wish everyone health and happiness in these uncertain times.



With all best wishes
Miss Chauhan
Head of School

Sampford Courtenay Residents.

I am an historian just finishing work on a new military history of the Western Rebellion of 1549 to be published by Helion Books in the summer. I have visited the Sampford Courtenay several times in the course of my researches and have been grateful to speak to several villagers. I am told that over the years artefacts which may date from the time of the rebellion and its closing battle have been found frequently in the village and surrounding fields and, purely for my own personal interest, I would very much like to hear from anyone who has found or is in possession of any relics, large or small, which might survive.

I can be contacted via email at ed_foxe@hotmail.com



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TEAM VICAR: North Tawton **Rev'd Nick Weldon** (880183) npweldon@gmail.com
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TEAM RECTOR: Chagford **Rev'd Paul Seaton-Burn** (01647 432880)
The Rectory, Chagford, TQ13 8BW

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St. Andrew's Sampford Courtenay	Mr. Malcolm Craig (880118)	Mrs. Sarah Hanks (851287)
St. Mary's Honeychurch	Mr. Ray Squire (851627)	Mr. Richard Weeks (851269)

(All numbers are 01837 numbers unless otherwise stated)

SERVICES at St. Andrew's Church
Sampford Courtenay

1st Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Morning Worship
2nd Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion BCP
3rd Sunday	6.30 p.m. (6.00 p.m. from May 2020)	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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(no 11 a.m. service on the third Sunday
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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)
3rd Sunday	11 a.m. All-age Worship
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1 st Sunday	Special service	Bible Study
2 nd Sunday	Prayer & Communion	Tea & Talk
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

Funeral

Monday 17th February Marion OWEN (87)
Tuesday 25th February Jim BALSDON (68)
Tuesday 3rd March Doris WHEBLE (99)

St. Peter's Church
St. Andrew's Church
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Be Still

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Fourth Thursdays at 10 a.m.**

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Thursday 23rd April 2020

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A black and white photograph of the North Tawton Community Centre building, a stone structure with Gothic-style windows. The text is overlaid on the image.

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May 31st

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North Tawton

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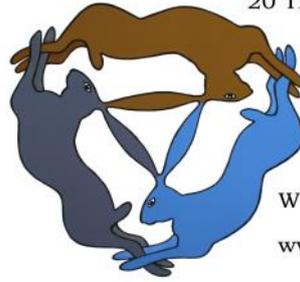
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