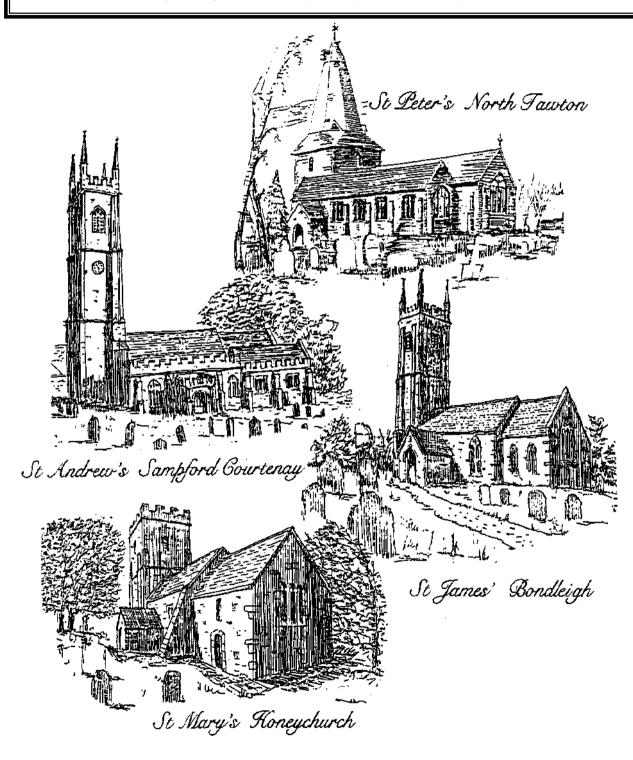
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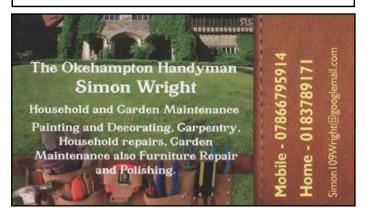
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From The Rectory

Times like these

"It's times like these you learn to live again," so sing the Foo Fighters and multiple other artists who covered the song recently for a charity single during lockdown. Both the original and the cover version are great songs. You can see why it was chosen for the single. The lyrics point to obvious reliefs in this year of pandemic... coming together, helping others, and reconsidering ultimate things in life.

But will we learn to live again? Did we know in the first place? And "times like these" presupposes some prior experience. I don't think anyone alive in the UK today has ever experienced times like these before.

It seems like there is big switch around slowly creeping across the nation as we ease out of lockdown and head towards something called the "new normal." It's a switch around in the general national outlook from fear of the virus itself, which peaked in early May, to fear of the consequences of the virus, which is yet to reach its peak, I think.

I say "I think" because there is another very prevalent virus that seems to have accompanied Covid-19. It's very infectious. I think I've had a touch of it myself. Let's call it DTBR... that creeping "Desire To Be Right" in our personal opinions about coronavirus. It can infect anyone, from your next-door neighbour, to the media, to politicians, and Vicars are definitely not immune. "There's going to be a second wave, you know." "It can live on surfaces for 4 days." "Face-masks and Fairy Liquid are the answer." Despite the total lack of any prior experience of pandemics, the strident opinions of some have been impressive. I guess it's because we are all searching for the holy trinity of hope... clarity, certainty and security. Health warning... this article might have a touch of DTBR about it!

As we come out of the bomb shelter of Government restrictions to assess the havoc Coivd-19 has wreaked on our society and economy, it is a gloomy and worrying scene. Perhaps more so than when infections were at their height, I think the holy trinity of hope is called for. No amount of crowd-less sport on TV, or half-price meal deals, or TV boxset binges is going to cover over the long-term affects of this year.

The Himalayan sized mountain of debt the Government is creating to try to mitigate against the effects of the disease is staggering. I cannot comprehend the numbers, but I have seen reports that spending could top £300bn by the end of the year. Three hundred billion! I guess that means for the rest of my lifetime, and probably most of my children's too, 2020 will be being paid off. What a challenge that will be for the whole country. Everyday there are reports of company closures and job redundancies. Household names are

disappearing from the high street, major companies laying off thousands of workers, and many are returning from furlough to find that they don't have a job any more. Some young people have had their education broadsided at a key time too. I think my children are young enough that the negative effects on their education will not last beyond this summer. But my heart goes out to those who were supposed to sit exams or graduate this summer, and to those for whom school is often a refuge away from the difficulties of home life.

Quite obviously money is not going to fix everything, and perhaps one of the lessons of the Covid crisis is that we should rely more heavily on other God-given securities.... family, faith, relationships and community cohesion. Yes, I admit, that is easy for me to say coming from a position of relative financial security in my household. But I believe it to be true nonetheless. The exit strategy from this crisis cannot be just to part with our cash to restart a ravaged economy. We need to invest in hearts, our own and those around us. Thankfully, there have been many stories of this kind of relational security kicking in recently.

The years ahead are going to call for a depth of character and courage that our country and local community has not required since wartime. So I would challenge us all not to look for the holy trinity of hope where she rarely can be found... the bank, the State, the media, the high street, or the pub, helpful to a point some of those may be. Try looking into hearts instead, our own and the hearts of those around us. If the lesson of this year is to learn to live again, then we will have missed the lesson if we don't consider more fully where our hope lies.

It's been great to hear that lots of you have been tuning into online church content in recent months, locally and nationally, whether you go to church regularly or not. The uptake has been unprecedented, and so like many churches we are going to keep the online content going even though we can now meet in church again. You can find it all on the web address below. At the moment we are not permitted to sing in church, although we will be at the Bondleigh Big Sing service outside in the farmyard next to St. James' Church, 11 a.m. Sunday 26th July. But when we do sing, we often sing a hymn called "In Christ Alone." "In Christ alone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength my song." I've always looked to Christ for clarity, certainty and security. But if "times like these" are going to help us learn anything, then a fresh look in His direction would be wise as we seek to rebuild in a post-covid world.

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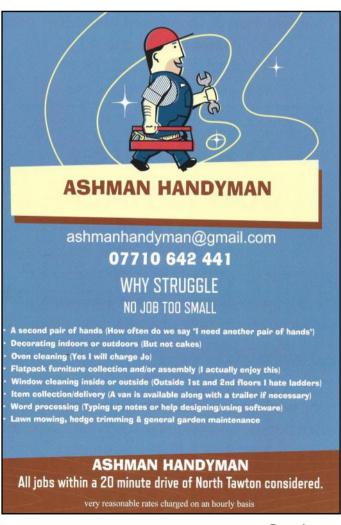
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OBITUARY

Gill Hoggins

It was with great sadness at the meeting of North Tawton Town Council on Tuesday 7th of July that the chairman announced the death of former colleague Mrs. Gill Hoggins, who had died the previous day. Councillors, staff and members of the public present were equally saddened at this news, and gave a rousing round of applause in recognition of all that Gill had done and achieved, for both the Council and North Tawton in general.

Gill was a Councillor for 30 years, for 10 of which she was Chairman.

"Her service for North Tawton Town Council was remarkable, she was a one-off, unique, and her inimitable style of Chairmanship will long be remembered" [quote from Mrs Carol Hughes] Gill had a very hands on approach to being a Councillor and would often say, "I will go and visit him/her in person," rather than have the toing and froing of a lot of paperwork.

She played a major part in negotiating the acquisition of the Town car park and the Council office from the Strawberry Fields Developer. Most meetings took place face to face around her famous large oak dining table, at which anybody who was anybody had sat at one time or another.

Gill was President of the evening W.I. for many years, also a North Tawton Twinning committee member, and had a long standing association with North Tawton Rugby Football Club, of which she was a life member and trustee. She was involved in NTRFC through the whole of her married life, was the driving force behind their move from Butts to Taw Meadow, and was also a huge supporter of Ladies Rugby. She was the first woman to serve on Devon RFU, and in fact the first woman to serve on any County Committee. Whilst on Devon RFU she worked with Nick Leonard, a development officer, in introducing Tag Rugby.

Gill, dare I say it these days, was a woman in a man's world - she played darts for the Fountain Inn men's team. In the 60's, when young Ladies were sipping Babycham or vodka and lime, Gill was drinking pints of draught Bass! - something unheard of in those days.

I have known Gill for well over 50 years, it was a privilege to call her a true friend. She will be greatly missed by all.

Steve Whiteley

Chairman, North Tawton Town Council.

The Bondleigh **Big Sing**

11am Sunday 26th July

outdoors at the Barton next to St James Church

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we are not permitted to sing in church at the moment but we can sing outside in the fresh air with distancing. So in place of the usual Patronal service everyone is invited to bring a deckchair and a flask of coffee/tea, and enjoy singing your favourite hymns in the sunshine (we hope).

St James Church Bondleigh



We have received a request for help from abroad and wonder if there are descendants still living locally who might be able to help? Information is sought about a young man, surnamed Lee (it might be spelt Lea or Leigh) who served in the 9th Battalion of the Devon Regiment and was killed in an attack on Polderhoek Chateau on 10th October 1917. It is believed he was from Winkleigh. That might mean one of a number of different things:

- a) he was born there,
- b) he lived there or
- he enlisted for service in the army there.

One of his comrades was Eric Tucker from Sticklepath who served in the same regiment as a Sergeant. Eric survived the war. We would be glad to hear from any of his descendants too.

If you can offer any information about these two comrades, we would be glad to hear from you.

Hilary and Richard (Editors of "Roundabout" Magazine)

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FRIDAY monthly

August 7th

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

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

Contributions should be sent to Hilary and Richard Edwards, Shellsley, Exeter Street, North Tawton, EX20 2BZ (tel. 01837 82376)

E mail: nt.roundabout@gmail.com
no later than 13th of the month before publication is required (and earlier, if possible)

New advertisers are always welcome. Advertisements can be arranged for shorter periods than one year or for single editions.

Visit Roundabout on its own website:
www.northtawtonroundabout.com
(There are also links online via the websites of the
North Tawton Town Council and the
Sampford Courtenay Village Council).

Churches now open again

I am please to report that all four parish churches are now open again during the day. Please do drop in for private prayer whenever you wish, but please use the hand sanitizer provided and observe distancing measures if others are in the building at the same time.

Sunday services, weddings and funerals can happen again in church now with the necessary safety measures in place.

Revd Nick Weldon

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Website: northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Mrs Gill Hoggins

It was with great sadness that the Council learned of the death of Mrs. Gill Hoggins, former Chair and long time and highly valued Council member. We send our sincere condolences to Gill's family at this very difficult time. An obituary from Cllr. S. Whiteley appears on page 5 in this edition of the "Roundabout".

Memorial Park - Children's Play Area

Further to the Government advising on re-opening play areas, the play area in the park has now been re-opened. Notices will be in place with advice about the use of this area. Residents and visitors should be aware that by its very nature the equipment is a 'high touch' area. The Council has had a risk assessment undertaken, and has referred to appropriate guidance, prior to making the decision to re-open this area and we ask parents to refer to the notices, with particularly making sure that you take anti-bac wipes or hand sanitiser with you for children to use before and after using the equipment, and making sure children wash their hands thoroughly when they get home again.

Bus timetables - from 14 June 2020

We have just been advised that timetables as from the above date are not being printed but will be available online only. The relevant link for West Devon is: http://www.devonbustimetables.info/west_devon_new/. This link will also be available on the NTTC website and will be posted on our Facebook page and the NT Facebook Hub.

New Green Homes Grant - up to £5k for insulation, double glazing and more

The Government has announced this new scheme due to be launched in September 2020.

- Vouchers worth up to £5,000 will be issued to homeowners in England to make their homes more energy efficient. Eligible homeowners can use the vouchers to help pay for environmentally friendly improvements such as installing loft, floor and wall insulation or double-glazing.
- You can apply for a voucher once the scheme is up and running in September, and you can then spend it to improve your home.
- For most homeowners, the vouchers will be worth about two-thirds of the cost of the energy efficient improvements, up to a maximum of £5,000 per household. For example, the Treasury says a homeowner installing cavity wall and floor insulation costing £4,000 would only pay about £1,320, with the Government contributing the remaining £2,680 through the voucher scheme.
- Those on low incomes will be able to get more the Government will cover the full cost of energy efficient improvements, so you won't have to pay anything the vouchers could be worth up to £10,000 per household.
- Green improvements such as insulation can also help cut your energy bills you may able to save hundreds of pounds a year by installing relevant measures.
- Please note there may be an assessment of your home before you can apply there are no details as yet, but you may not qualify for everything you would like.

NTTC is very keen for eligible residents to be able to apply under this scheme, and we will keep you Informed – check our website for updates.

North Tawton Town Council Cemetery in Exeter Street

We are discussing improvements to the cemetery, including measures to make it easier to find specific burial plots. We will also be displaying new notices explaining the cemetery regulations, especially around what is and is not allowed on individual graves. This allows us to maintain the cemetery grounds properly for everyone, and we thank relatives and friends for their cooperation in this matter.

Finally – with the gradual lifting of lockdown measures, we urge everyone to observe up to date social distancing guidelines and appropriate hygiene measures. Please help to keep yourselves and others safe.

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North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

'The House of Ricardo' continues to welcome its only customer. No booking required. Just sit opposite him at the dinner table and all of a sudden you'll hear – 'I think your fringe needs trimming' and that's before he's had his pudding. Post pudding, his scissor happy eyes will wander more widely and before you can say 'shampoo and set' he's grabbed the kitchen scissors and is 'levelling up the sides and the back'. I have no idea what's going on at the back but he reassures me that it's okay for me to be seen in public places. I don't want to over inflate his ego but I've actually had one or two friends ask if he does perms.

So, what's the latest from W.I. circles? Well, thus far we've had two lucky recipients of the 'Jam on Top for July Scone Bomb' weekly draw. What a mouthful you may ask and how right you'd be. Every Friday in July a lucky member is on the receiving end of six home-made scones accompanied by the compulsory jar of strawberry jam and pot of clotted cream. The penalty for winning is that you have to have your photo taken – hopefully smiling beatifically [I think that means in a blissy sort of way] and clasping the goodies to your chest as if your life depended on it. And that's not all. A sudden wash of alliteration has led us to contemplate doing more prize draws with 'An Arrangement for August' right through to 'Naughty November' and 'Decadent December'. It's worrying what lockdown can do to the W.I. Committee's collective mind.

I've decided that if you had a birthday or anniversary during lockdown then it doesn't count. Which means husband and I are both a year younger than we should be. It also means that we've only been married for 12 years. The following table demonstrates what wedding anniversaries mean in the Knott household.

Year	Traditional	Knott Version
1st	Paper	Bailer Cord
5th	Wood	Boiler Suit
10th	Tin	Wellies
15th	Crystal	Wheelbarrow
20th	China	Chainsaw
25th	Silver	Cordless Drill
30th	Pearl	Farmer's Weekly Subscription
40th	Ruby	Rotavator
50th	Gold	Tractor
60th	Diamond	New Land Rover
70th	Platinum	Farm with 250 acres

[Husband has pointed out he'll be 125 years old when we celebrate our platinum anniversary - oh well]

Sue Knott

Art in the Garden

Established Bondleigh artist, Celia Olsson, will be inviting you to her studio to view her new work this year during the forthcoming county-wide arts event, Devon Open Studios. It is the largest showcase for artists in the county and Celia will be joining hundreds of artists opening their doors over 16 days from 12th to 27th September 2020.

Painting is a part of Celia's everyday life and her vibrant interpretations of Dartmoor and the Devon countryside and of her voyages to many parts of the world created in watercolour and mixed media are becoming well known. Celia spends many hours experimenting with colour and with different media to create texture. In some of her paintings she uses collage and found objects. Whilst travelling she keeps a sketch journal for each voyage and uses these to inspire her paintings. This year sadly she has not been able to travel so many of her paintings are inspired by memories these sketches invoke.

During lockdown Celia has been experimenting with new methods and also thinking about the meaning of distance, isolation and uncertainty and this is reflected in her new paintings which will be on show during Devon Open Studios.

Celia is looking forward to the event and hopes that Devon Open Studios will help raise her profile. Free to the public, the event provides a unique chance to see the new work in a relaxed and informal environment in her garden studio at Little Linhay, Bondleigh.

Devon Open Studios produces a comprehensive digital guide to help visitors plan their own art trail and combine browsing art with enjoyment of the county's fantastic scenery. The guide will be available to view and down load on the Devon Artist Network Website in early August. www.devonartistnetwork.co.uk.

Celia Olsson www.celiaolssonartists.co.uk Contact details: email Celia.olsson.art@gmail.com Tel: 01837 82 796





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This term has certainly been a challenge! In the face of unprecedented circumstances our school community has demonstrated the most wonderful spirit of cooperation, kindness, patience, creativity and resilience. I am so proud of our achievements, and grateful to everyone who has worked so hard to ensure that our school continues to be a successful centre of teaching and learning.

At very short notice we have transformed the organisation, structure and operation of the school. We have all learned to work in new ways, and we have discovered more about health and safety than we ever thought was possible, even for a primary school!

Adapting to change of this kind would not have been possible without the cooperation, determination and enthusiasm of our super school community.

Our staff and teachers, many of whom are parents themselves, have worked tirelessly as a united and forward thinking body. They have ensured that their professional duties have taken priority, and they have kept the children's welfare and wellbeing at the very centre of all activity. They have put themselves at risk, given up their holidays to work, and have made the transition to online teaching with great skill, often using technology in the most creative ways. What a brilliant and supportive team!

Our parents and carers have become a closer community – supporting and helping each other, and working closely with us to make sure that learning remains fun, meaningful and safe. They have become expert online teachers and have shown great resourcefulness and creativity, incorporating learning opportunities into their busy everyday routines. They have made the most of extra family time and have followed our advice and guidance with patience and understanding.

And then of course, there are the children. These marvellous young people have been a credit to themselves, their families and their school. They have been resilient and thoughtful, they have worked superbly well under pressure, and they have learned how to work cooperatively alongside others in the most challenging circumstances. They have been self-disciplined and have kept up the school routines. The have helped their parents, each other and themselves with perseverance and tolerance. They have enjoyed the gardening, the art and the baking. They have become big brothers and sisters. They have missed their birthday celebrations. They have missed their friends and seeing their families. They have read books, written books and stories, and have painted masterpieces. Most of all, they have learned that the most enriching and uplifting experiences can come from adversity, and I am certain that these will be lifelong lessons.

I do hope that you are all keeping safe, well and happy in these uncertain times.

I look forward to resuming my articles in September. Have a good summer.

Miss Chauhan, Head of School

ROUNDABOUT 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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READING GROUP

Normally meets 4th Tuesday MONTHLY
7.30 p.m. AT THE NEW INN
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for further information or to join
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0183782280
ishgordon@live.co.uk



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Sampford Courtenay Saturday Bake Stall.

As this year's Flower Show has been cancelled, we are going to incorporate the Produce Classes into a Saturday Bake Stall at various venues throughout the Parish. If you would like to try your hand at baking and donate to be sold at the stall, or merely come along and buy – we would be very grateful.

Date	Please bake and donate	Venue – 11am
		Venue – Train
18 th July 2020	Scones and Fruit Cake	The Square
25th July 2020	Fairy Cakes and Quiche	The Beeches
1st Aug 2020	Lemon Drizzle &	The Square
	Sausage Rolls	
8th Aug 2020	Biscuits & Quiche	Sampford Chapple
15th Aug 2020	Victoria Sandwich & Jar	The Square
	of Jam	
22 nd Aug 2020	Fairy Cakes and Jar of	্দীhe Countryman
	Chutney	
29th Aug 2020	Decorated Sponge &	The Square
	Meat Pie/Pastie	

If there is any stock left over at the alternate locations – we will come back to the Square at 11.35 am each week.

Anyone unable to get their entries/donations to the stalls by 10.45 am each Saturday feel free to drop them off to Marion or Michele on the Friday before, or give me a ring on 01837 82285 if you want us to collect.

Many thanks.

North Tawton Vegetable Group

A vegetable group has been started for the people of North Tawton and the surrounding area.

The group is being conducted through a group WhatsApp.

Its purposes are to:

- Enable 'members' to swap or give away extra plants or seeds they may have.
- Obtain advice and guidance on issues you may have.
- Give recommendations on planting times and seed quality.

If you would like to be part of this group, please text Rosemary Davies on 07752 865567. We look forward to hearing from you!



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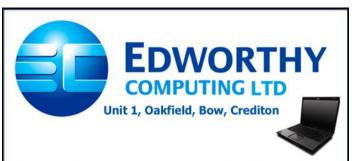
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Ashridge Events

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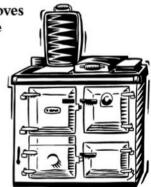
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Devon Mobile Libraries will be back on the road bringing books to you from July 13th 2020. To make sure that customers and staff are safe, we will only be offering a new type of contactless service for the time being. It's called **Choose & Collect**.

What is Choose and Collect?

- a free delivery of up to 5 books or audiobooks per person
- selected by staff based on your reading preferences
- · you collect from your usual mobile library stop
- selections available for adults and children.

How do I make sure I get a Choose and Collect delivery

- Even if we rang you to offer you your first delivery, we regret we can't do this
 every month. You must contact us to order again.
- Order at least 1 week before the mobile library visits your village or stop.
- You can check Torrington Mobile Library timetable on our website: www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/mobilelibraries
- Order a delivery by emailing torrington.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk or calling 01805 622107 during normal opening hours: Tue 10-6, Thu 10-5, Fri 10-1. Sat 10-1
- Remember to tell staff you are a mobile library customer.
- New customers are welcome, just mention you wish to join the mobile library.

What else do I need to know?

- If you are experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms please don't come to the library.
- We will bag up your books ready for collection, they will have already been issued to your library card to reduce contact.
- Please use our hand sanitiser station and follow social distancing rules when you
 collect and return items. All returned items will be guarantined for 72 hours.
- We can only deliver pre-ordered selections for now, and regret that staff can't check the shelves for items while you wait during this phase of reopening.
- Items will be collected and returned at the entrance of the mobile library. You
 won't be able to enter the vehicle to browse or choose for yourself.
- We look forward to seeing you again, please be patient while we get used to this new way of working.

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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.

<u>SEAMOOR LOTTO</u> – 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 for August Roundabout

- 1) Virtual Yoga A big thank you to Jean Harris for her support during lockdown. She has regularly run "Virtual Yoga" classes at least twice weekly. Parishioners and visitors of all ages have benefitted from her exercise sessions. Jean is going to continue to run her Yoga sessions Virtually until she can run them again "live" at the Village Hall. For details of how to join please see our Facebook or Website page.
- 2) Environmental & Sustainable Living Group has been set up by Cllr. Joy Tucker, a Virtual meeting was held on 16th June and a second meeting was held on 14th July. But there is still time to volunteer by contacting the Clerk or Cllr. Joy Tucker.
- 3) Plant Swap a stall has been set up in the Square for parishioners to swap excess seedlings or plants. Almost £300 in donations has been generated so far to go towards a "Freedom Party" when it is all over.
- **4) Website** our website has a **Coronavirus page** on which up-to-date government and health advice is listed. Please take a look and sign up at the bottom of any page to receive emails containing advice or news of more fun Virtual activities.
- 5) SCPC held their 7th July meeting virtually on Zoom with 2 parishioners also joining in. Using Zoom does enable "remote" parishioners to attend the Parish Council meeting from the comfort of their homes. Full minutes can be found on the Website.
- 6) WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY The Clerk and Chair attending an Online Training session to prepare for getting as much of our Website accessible to all users by Sept 2020. If there are any users of our Website with specific accessibility needs we would be pleased to hear from you so that we can try and make it more accessible for you.
- 7) NEW GENERAL WASTE AND DOG BIN the meeting agreed to purchase an additional waste bin for the parish. If you have any preference for where this should be sited please let us know.
- **8) MAINTENANCE OF GREEN LANES** SCPC has been successfully granted P3 funds to help with the Maintenance of the Green Lanes in the parish. If any contractors would like to tender for this work please contact the Clerk.
- 9) BT PHONEBOX the meeting agreed to "Adopt" the kiosk which is scheduled to be removed from Sampford Station and move it to Sampford Chapple to replace the kiosk that was removed by BT in error. SCPC has also been donated paint and materials to refurbish both kiosks and would welcome any volunteers to help with this task.
- 10) PUBLIC TOILETS & PLAY AREA HAVE BEEN RE-OPENED users are asked to please note the safety notices and guidance. PLEASE NOTE ALSO THAT THE VILLAGE GREEN IS A NO DOG AREA.
- 11) **KEEP SAFE, KEEP ALERT** we hope that we will soon all be able to get together again, but until then please heed all the current advice on our Website Coronavirus page and stay safe.

Please contact SCPC Clerk – Marion Pratt at <u>SCPCClerk@aol.com</u> or on 01837 82285 if you would like to raise any issues. Even better, come along to a meeting. Next meetings VIRTUAL MEETING Tuesday 4th August

A call to help Sampford Courtenay live sustainably

The first task of the group will be to agree on a snappier title than the 'Sampford Courtenay Environmental and Sustainable Living Group'! The aim of the group is to formulate a plan of realistically practical steps we can take in our community to live as 'lightly' in our surroundings as possible - whether that involves a community garden designed with wildlife in mind, sensitive street lighting to avoid effects on insect life, light pollution etc. or recycling/reuse initiatives ... or any other priorities that you might have. None of us need to be experts - we just hope to do what we can. If our plans go well, perhaps we could tackle the greater global climate issues next year!

In the meantime, please contact Joy Tucker at bobandjoytucker@gmail.com or on 07749522996 to find out more. It is hoped that we will be able to organise a Zoom meeting for all those interested and, in due course, invite speakers who have knowledge and experience of similar local initiatives to join us on Zoom to help us get going. I look forward to hearing from you.

Joy Tucker



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News from Sampford Courtenay

Zoom has continued to keep people in touch whilst still maintaining social distancing. The Grumpies, for example, have elected to meet in this way for a general chat and Heather and Rick Gordon have introduced their Zoom Singalong, a novel way of beating the singing ban, every other week. Singing is also banned by more than one person in the now open church, but that has been overcome by choir members singing the hymns as solos, with the congregation accompanying them by humming. Bell ringing, too, is banned, but St. Andrew's is in the unique position of having a 'bubble' team of six, all from the Squire family.

Nicky Craig

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

1

admin@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk or by phone:

07866 605184

SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Village Hall Committee hopes that everyone is well and coping with the ongoing situation, albeit as restrictions are eased.

We are monitoring the latest guidance and advice regarding how and when village halls can re-open their doors. We look forward to welcoming you again as soon as we can.

Please visit the parish website

www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk for the latest information.

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FLOWER SHOW 22ND AUGUST 2020

Regrettably, it has been decided to cancel this year's Sampford Courtenay Flower and Vegetable Show which was scheduled for Saturday 22nd August.

The Show entails a considerable amount of organisation and relies on the support of the whole parish to make it a viable success. In this current situation we do not feel it would be responsible of us to expect parishioners to gather en-masse in a limited space until we are all sure it is safe to do so.

However, we are hoping that you will enter the following classes by emailing photos and measurements to me at marion174@btinternet.com just for fun.

Measurements to be made and photographic proof to be taken on/or near Sat 22nd Aug. Results will then be listed in September Roundabout.

Longest Runner Bean

Heaviest Single Potato

Heaviest Crop of Potatoes from one seed potato (grown in your blue buckets -

purchased before lock down)

Limerick with a "Coronavirus" Theme

Children – Limerick with a "Home Schooling" Theme

Scarecrow – suggested theme "a book character" or anything else you want to do. If they can be on display by August 1st and let me know where they are so I can do a trail for the public to judge like last year.

Tallest Sunflower

Longest Dock Leaf

Decorated cake with Lockdown theme

Photo/picture theme – "Life in Lockdown"

Flower Arrangement on the theme of "Keeping Safe".

Children – picture with theme of "Somewhere over the rainbow"

Doorstep Trail Sale Sunday 26th July from 1.30pm - 4.30pm

There will be on this Sunday all around North Tawton table top sales in people's gardens and driveways for you to come and browse and get yourself a few bargains.

There will be a list in the Post Office window from Saturday 18th July with the addresses of the homes taking part. It will also be on the Community Hub Facebook page.

Each house will have balloons outside to make it easier to find, can you please have plenty of change and observe social distancing at all times. Each stall holder has paid a small charge which is being given to Kaleb's Thumbprint, a charity based in North Tawton

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Our usual fund raising evening in North Tawton

will not take place this autumn as we cannot

predict how the Government regulations for social distancing will look in October.

Sue Knott & Carol Hughes

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From this day forward... a tale of two weddings and a lockdown

I am delighted to say that on Saturday 25th July at midday, Dewi Morris and Emma Goodman will be married in St .Peter's Church North Tawton. Let's just say, the build up to their wedding has been.... interesting!

For me, it all began in December last year when I picked up the phone to a chap with a broad welsh accent. "Hello my name is Dewi Morris, and I'd like to get married at your church." Of course my initial response was, "Great! Who's the lucky girl?" But I quickly caved in and asked if he was the former England rugby scrum-half of the same name. "No, I'm not that Dewi Morris," came the reply. "He was a traitor and we are not related." (It's immaterial, but there is a Dewi Morris from Wales who defected to play rugby for England in the early 1990's. Very good he was too.)

Anyway, back to "getting married Dewi." He told me his fiancée was Emma Goodman who lives here in the parish, and so they wanted to get married in North Tawton. It wasn't long before we met, and up until March all the arrangements for a summer wedding this year were clicking into place. And then you know what happened, resulting in a Government ban on weddings, the first time in British history.

Shortly after this I emailed all my summer wedding couples explaining the situation and giving them the option to postpone their big day, or wait to see if a wedding could still happen on their scheduled date. Some postponed, others stuck to their plans.

Dewi and Emma wanted to stick with 25th July, in the hope that they could go ahead albeit with only a few people present if necessary. However, their domestic situation quickly became the source of quite a large problem. They did not live together, and Dewi lives in Wales. This meant that, apart from online, the happy couple did not see each other for four long months!

If that was not difficult enough, the problem was exacerbated by the fact that Dewi is a police officer and Emma is a teacher. So there was no way Emma could quickly move to Wales and work from home. She still needed to be in school in Exeter during the summer term. Up until 6th July, there was a 5 mile travel limit in Wales, so apart from travelling to work, Dewi has hardly left Caerphilly since March. If in a flight of passion, he had made a bolt for the Severn Bridge and been caught, his colleagues could have arrested him. Hardly a situation that makes for good marriage preparation! And in any case, living together before marriage would have cut against their Christian belief too. My heart really went out to them.

Meanwhile, I was battling hard behind the scenes to get the marriage ban lifted for couples like Dewi and Emma who were prepared to forego the "big-white-wedding" for the sake of just getting married this summer. Simon Quick and Rowan Hodgson were another of my couples who wanted to stick to their original summer date too, although for them not with the added cross-border issues.

But back in May, with emails and Zoom meetings going back and forth, it was all very up in the air. Both couples were prepared to go ahead, if necessary, with the minimum number present for a legal wedding... 5 people: themselves, two witnesses and me. We all fully appreciated that big weddings with dozens of guests would not be wise or possible this summer, but at that stage not even small ones were allowed. In my attempts to fight the case for small weddings, I spoke to the Archdeacon; I raised it at a Zoom-meeting of clergy with the Bishop of Exeter; I even wrote to our MP Mel Stride about it, twice. (He sends his best wishes to both couples by the way!) All were very sympathetic, but largely powerless to change anything. It wasn't looking good right up to the third week in June. Meanwhile, Emma was having wedding dress fittings wearing a mask, and Dewi was policing a lockdown that was keeping him from seeing his beloved.

Another factor was bubbling away in the background too. Normally couples are married by banns. Their names are read out on three consecutive Sunday services at their parish church in the run-up to the wedding, and if there is no legal impediment they can marry. Where couples live together, or in the same parish, this would normally be in just one church. But until 5th July, church services were banned in lockdown too. For both couples this should not have posed a problem because each would have enough Sundays once services restarted for their banns to be read before their respective big (small) days. For Dewi and Emma it was going to be close, but doable.

Except.... Dewi lives in Wales! Arrgh! (I can see why the other Dewi Morris defected now!) The problem was, I had just enough Sundays before the wedding to call their banns here in Devon, but churches in Wales did not reopen on 5th July, so there would not be enough time there. Fortunately, there are other legal means of marriage in the Church of England, Common License being one. It costs a bit more and requires a meeting with the diocesan lawyer. So after four long months apart, Dewi and Emma met in Exeter for a romantic trip to see the lawyer and get their Common License. I bet the lawyer felt like a bit of a gooseberry! (continued on page 31)



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Update from Okehampton Library Devon Libraries

We wanted to update you on our plans now that lockdown restrictions are changing. Our team has been busy preparing so that we can safely welcome you back into our libraries in a phased approach.

Libraries are a vibrant part of our communities and we welcome many visitors to our 50 libraries across Devon. We will be starting with a contactless 'Choose & Collect' service which will be available at most of our libraries and we also anticipate four pilot libraries opening initially with limited public access to the building and bookable sessions on public computers. We will be operating on reduced opening hours and our phased plan will enable us to operate in a socially distanced way.

From Monday 6th July, we will offer a limited service at three pilot libraries (Braunton, Chudleigh and Honiton) and will roll out opening across Devon in the following weeks. Both mobile libraries and the home library service have extra considerations for social distancing and we will announce our plans for them shortly.

We have extended current loans through to the end of August 2020 in order to phase book returns. Please can we request that you continue to hold onto books, CDs and DVDs. We do not require you to make a special visit to your local library to return items and you will be able to return them from when your library reopens throughout July and August. There will be no fines as your current loan period has been extended.

To read the full announcement, please view our Libraries Unlimited news update

Our library service continues online so that our libraries remain open, wherever you are in Devon, and our staff will continue to support our digital library service.

You can view and explore our <u>catalogues and resources online</u>. We have eBooks, audiobooks, eMagazines that you can access for free using your library card. We have added new online resources such as <u>Ancestry Library</u> Edition and Medici.TV which are fully accessible from home

Okehampton Library

Email: Okehampton.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk

Phone: 01837 52805

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You Tube channel: www.youtube.com/channel/UCbWB8q3KIYV3mpb84ZE5RHg

We are looking forward to seeing our customers even though the service that we provide will be a bit different at this time.

We will be offering a 'Book Delivery' service, towards the end of June, to customers who are unable to visit the library. Customers would need to live locally to the library as staff will be delivering on foot. If you would like to use this service, please contact us to make arrangements.

Okehampton Library will re-open with a contactless 'Choose & Collect' service from Monday 13th July. Please look out for details of our revised service and opening times on our Facebook page.

Okehampton Library's online services

Facebook

- online groups: Virtual Wonders, Arts & Craft Creations, Book Chat, Animation, and Lego Builders.
- see our regular posts

You Tube channel

- Children's craft's
- Bounce & Rhyme, aimed at children under 5.
- Story times aimed, at children under 5.

Book Track - for children aged 6+. A challenge to read 100 books. Please email for details.

You can visit our website for more digital services. https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity (1170092) responsible for running Devon Libraries and Torbay Libraries. You can support us to continue delivering life changing library services, find out more here: librariesunlimited.org.uk/support-us

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

From all the team at Okehampton Library, Carole, Fiona, Ellie and Liz





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The Last Jar

I am just opening the last jar of jam I boiled up from Bill Folland's plums - the last batch he gave me from his freezer the last time I saw him, only a week or so before he died.

Each jar has refreshed my memory of rambling chats with Bill - about pitchforks and reaper-binders, working horses, hand-milking by tilley lamp, and of course his lifelong love affair with bells.

The air hisses in as the lid turns.

I'm going to make this last one last.

Martin Olsson

Plums

In the corner of our garden There grows a young plum tree, T'was in a bunch of saplings Bill gave to Hilary....

Last year it's boughs were laden We'd plums enough and more Some even went to Gisela... She said – "Bill's plums I just adore"!

This spring the tree had blossom But bees were not about..

So Bill's little tree is resting There's a lot of it about.....

No plums this year for making jam But just you wait and see... Next year if bees are busy A bag of plums – Bill's plums – upon your step will be..

Meanwhile in Bondleigh 'proper' The tower stands tall to see Soon, soon the bells will ring again More of Bill's legacy.

S.R.

Mrs. Owl & Eric

A single Mum's life is exhausting With all the hard work to be done Mrs. Owl knew her chances of meeting A new boyfriend, were virtually none.

She sat in her nest just day-dreaming Waiting for 3 eggs to hatch Whilst a new bird had moved into Bondleigh It seemed he's a bit of a catch.

Eric was truly exotic
As she listened, her heart skipped a beat
He could mimic and whistle so many tunes
She wondered if they'd ever meet.

When her eggs revealed dear little hatchlings Mrs. Owl squawked a loud "Twit Twoo" In no time at all, an echo came back As Eric had copied that too.

They struck up a strange conversation She invited him over for tea But Eric had quite a big problem He lived in a cage, locked securely/

He longed to soar high in the skyline He wanted to dive and to dip But as far as he could remember His wings had an annual clip.

Mrs. Owl can be quite resourceful She flew down, after preparing the tea She prised open the latch with a twist of her beak And Eric was finally free!!

Her nest was brim full with the finest That's when the next problem began As Eric ate nuts, seeds and posh fruit Parrots are mostly vegan.

Mrs. Owl and her hatchlings are different They love mice and juicy earthworms Insects, beetles and woodlice This made poor Eric's tum churn!!

The babies just tucked in with gusto And fell asleep – a very cute sight Eric, in love, wasn't hungry And he stayed for most of the night.

Summer passed by with them courting When the babies grew up, off they flew Eric still whistled "The Great Escape" theme No one knew, it was actually true.

Eric was finally happy Snug cage, lots of food and now love And the following spring Mrs Owl was sitting On three new eggs, in her nest, high above.

This spring, life is so very much better Eric loves her with all of his heart They frequently meet up together 'though independently eating apart/

These Owlets are a bit of a puzzle They can whistle and they chatter away Growing wise, but with flamboyant tail feathers Owl mixed with an African Grey!!

Caroline Stokes





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The North Tawton Branch of The Royal British Legion is sad to announce the death of David Bale.

He passed away on 21st June. Aged 87.

David was a staunch member of the Royal British Legion (North Tawton Branch) for many years. He served as Branch Honorary Secretary for many years and was a source of immense knowledge concerning the Royal British Legion which he also served as a Welfare Officer (dealing with cases of ex-service men and women and their families when they needed support through illness, financial difficulties etc.) He was latterly the President of the North Tawton Branch.

Despite the fact that he lived in Exmouth, he rarely missed a meeting or other activities organised by the Legion. Many people will remember him fulfilling the duties of Parade Marshall on Remembrance Sundays, a task he took over from Clifford Westlake. David was also greatly interested in researching the service of all the North Tawton men who gave their lives in the 1st and 2nd World Wars. As a result of his diligent work he produced a Book of Remembrance listing all the names of those men which included details of when and where they died and where their graves are to be found. On Remembrance Sunday David would read out the names of all these men during the service. The Book of Remembrance can be seen on the window sill on the North Aisle of St. Peter's Parish Church.

David was also able to provide information for books produced by Alan Parkinson on Okehampton and District's Great War and Wartime Memories – North Tawton Schooldays 1939 – 45.

David served in the RAF for nearly 30 years and was stationed in the Canal Zone, Singapore, Germany, the Persian Gulf and Labuan (Borneo). He wrote and had published a very interesting book on RAF Labuan which includes its history and his own memories of service on the base. He also worked in local government in Oxford and Wales.

David was born and grew up in North Tawton – it was very much part of his life. He will be greatly missed by the people of this community. A true gentleman.

David's widow Phyllis Bale wishes to thank everyone for their lovely cards and tributes to David. He wished for a 'do' at North Tawton Rugby Club when hopefully friends and family will be able to come. He is being cremated on 7th July at 12.15 but of course we are limited to 20 people, just immediate family and his god children.

DAVID SIMMONS

Sometimes when you least expect events to change your life forever they conspire to do just that. The world was and is consumed with a virus that undoubtedly will affect the future of everyone, yet strangely bore no relation to my dear husband David who you all know recently lost his life to cancer. Many times since then my life has seemed impossible to bear, I miss him so much. Yet the unbelievable support that I and my family have received from family, neighbours and friends has been so comforting that I do believe we will be able carry on and eventually find some peace of mind. The world moves on at such a pace that sometimes normality goes unseen and those who are there for you may seem invisible. We know now that that is not to be the case with our friends and neighbours in and around North Tawton.

I will never forget the uplifting sight of our neighbours and Ralphie, Tommy and Freddie standing with their family by the roadside with their diggers, tractors and trucks being paraded in honour of David to say a fond farewell on his final journey. David would have been so proud. I was so proud. I thank you all.

Sue

(continued from page 25)

I am pleased to report that everything is now sorted. The happy couple have their license, and 30 of their immediate family are poised to gather in St Peter's Church on 25th July (at 2m distances of course). There will be no singing sadly, but there will be much joy, as Dewi and Emma finally get married. In the same way there will be much joy on 8th August too when Simon and Rowan make their vows as well.

Most importantly, despite everything that lockdown has thrown at them, both couples are still very much in love. My prayer for both couples for their wedding days, is that from this day forward, life will be a lot simpler and happier for them all.

Revd Nick Weldon

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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

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3rd Sunday 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion

SERVICE at St. Mary's Church Honeychurch

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SERVICES at St. Peter's Church North Tawton

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2nd Sunday 11 a.m. Informal Communion

6.30 p.m. Evensong (Apr - Oct)

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5 th Sunday	Prayer & Communion	No service unless advertised otherwise

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

Friday 19th June Hugh FRANKLIN (88) Exeter Crematorium Tuesday 30th June John HORN (78) St. Andrew's Church



Bondleigh Rainfall

Our rainfall has certainly lived up to its reputation. After a hot dry Spring, June has got things back to normal. Many thought we were heading for a 1976 Summer. For those of us that can remember, it was the driest summer ever. All before we had been told about global warming! Total rainfall for the month was 150.3mm (6ins). The second wettest June I have recorded after 2012, which had 170mm.

Danny Semorad

Devon Sensory Outreach Service NORTH TAWTON YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

The food bank remains open and is vital for some. Please continue to remember those who need help via the Food Bank box in St. Peter's Church outer porch.

It is accessible there during the day.

Thank you.

NORTH TAWTON TOWN HALL

Bookings: Annette 01837 880054 Secretary: Lin 01837 880031

Pause for thought

(an extract from the Book of Common Prayer)

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations.

...... Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are in any way afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings and a happy issue out of all their afflictions.

And this we beg for Jesus Christ, his sake. Amen.



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More on Treacle Mining - Bondleigh's best kept secret

Oh good!! Having followed and read about treacle mining at Dunchideock and the treacle mines at Combe Martin (found by archaeologists working on the Roman ruins nearby) and of mining at Tamerton and in the Tamar Valley. I am really excited to learn of Bondleigh's involvement in this work so close to home! My father was a good friend of the well known treacle mining expert the late Mervyn Madge and told me of his collection of papers and documents which included a proposition from a well known producer of mining equipment to adapt and supply equipment appropriate for use in a treacle mine. As a long standing member of the council of the Royal Society of Pharmacists, Mervyn was an enthusiastic proponent of beneficial effects of fresh mined treacle - but he was always concerned about the risks of overindulgence!! I read and enjoyed his book on treacle mining in the Tamar Valley.

I am doubly delighted as any existence of treacle mining nearby may solve something that has puzzled me for years. A nearby horse pond which is fed by water spring nearby seems to be very attractive to horses and other animals - who drink from it at every opportunity - maybe the reason for this is that somewhere underground the aquifer feeding the spring flows through the treacle deposits underground. This is very exciting as Springs producing treacle water are very rare - if my guess is right this will potentially clear up something that has puzzled me for years.

I realise that treacle mines are mostly on private land - and for safety reasons owners do not want strangers wandering over their land but I hope that when life gets back to normal, it will be possible for someone to conduct parishioners of Broadwoodkelly for a guided tour of the workings.

Please pass my thanks back to your correspondent and tell him/ her that I look forward to reading of more researches in "Roundabout".

Alex Penny

(So please keep sending in more information! Editors)

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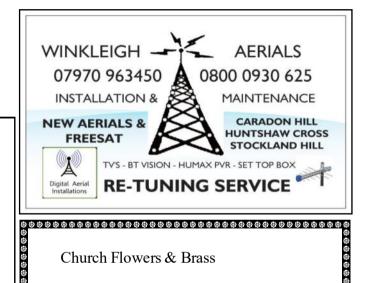
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North Tawton

Flowers

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July 19th / 26th Anita Lamey

Aug 2nd Lindsay Gibb

Aug 9th Wedding Flowers

Aug 16th Lindsay Gibb

Aug 23rd / 30th Monica Simmons

Brass

July Mary Fry

August Frances Brooks

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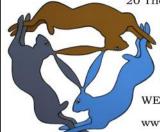
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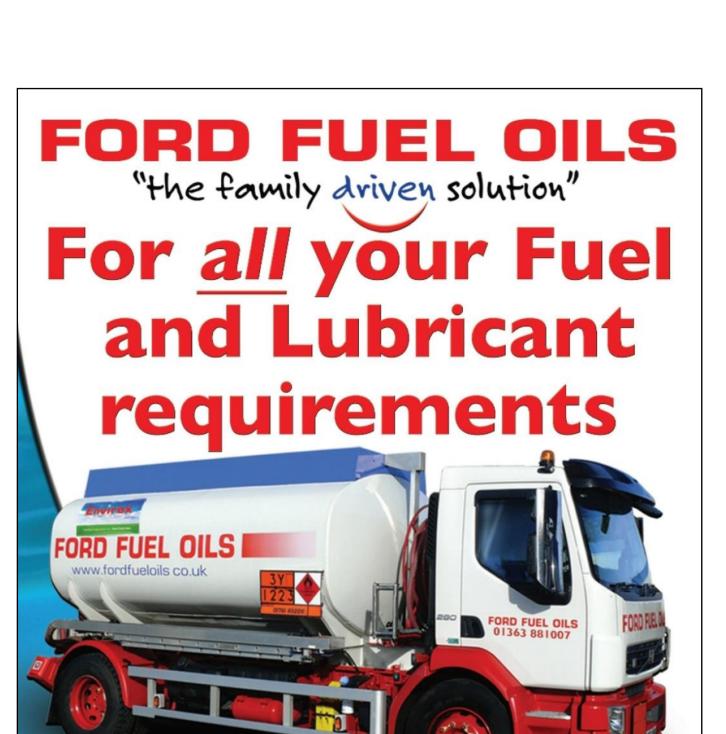
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