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## From The Rectory

### To sing or not to sing

A few months ago I remarked in Roundabout about how quiet it was in our community. It was just before lockdown. As people were beginning to stay at home, most noticeably the traffic was falling light. You could hear the birds singing. In some ways it was blissful.

That quiet has morphed in recent weeks. It is great to hear children outside playing at school break time once again. The roads are busy, and shops, pubs and businesses are filled with the chatter of people going about their business, albeit rather muffled behind face-masks in many locations. But places that usually throng to the sound of large gatherings remain quiet: sports stadiums, theatres, halls and churches.

Unlike sporting arenas, which remain empty except for players, coaching staff and fake crowd noise, our church buildings have had plenty of people back in them since July (socially distanced of course) but our gatherings have been much quieter than normal because we are not yet permitted to sing. This has been really hard, because singing is integral to Christian gatherings, and we love it.

The news today, as I write, is full of speculation about how the new "Rule of Six" will affect family gatherings and social events this autumn. Even the prospect of large Christmas celebrations has been called into question. So it could be a very quiet end to the year. Happily, church gatherings are exempt from the Rule of Six, because they are not social gatherings, and we have all the necessary Covid-safe measure in place. Choirs and worship bands are now permitted to sing and play again, and so where we have these in our churches (Sampford Courtenay and North Tawton) we are beginning to get back to normal. But still, for the time-being, congregations should not sing. Having said that, though, since the requirement for worshippers to wear face-masks in church, the non-singing has been getting a little noisier each week when music is played! Seriously, one hopes the silence may be broken soon, because if we are permitted say a muffled Lord's Prayer together behind a mask, why can't we sing quietly too?

If you are not a church goer, or have not been to church recently, it is hard to explain how not singing feels to Christians when worship music is being played. It is a bit like being an Exeter Chiefs fan (other less good rugby teams are available) watching a match at Sandy Park, and being told you cannot cheer when points are scored and the game is won (as it nearly always is with the Chiefs). In

a similar way, Christians take great delight in who God is and what he has done for us, and one of the main reasons to gather on a Sunday is to declare that as a congregation in song. Saying it just doesn't quite hit the mark. His praises should be sung.

There is another Christian discipline, though, which is also important... fasting. Fasting is often a Lenten activity. Traditionally, it is a time of abstinence from food to concentrate on prayer and a fresh dependence on God. But fasting from other things has become fashionable in modern times... a social media fast, a news media fast, or a clothes shopping fast. Ultimately fasting is good for us, and so this imposed singing-fast might actually be doing some good for our congregations even if it is just the extra delight we will feel when we can break our fast sometime in the near future (we hope). What hymn or song should we break-fast with?

What other good might the singing-fast be achieving? Since our churches reopened for gathered worship in July we have still had lots of music in our services, but for listening to only. In Bondleigh and Honeychurch this has been on CD and MP3. In Sampford Courtenay we have had soloists sing and musicians play. So there has been plenty of worship, just quiet worship. In North Tawton we have used videos of Christians worshipping all over the world during lockdown. Seeing the faces of fellow believers praising and playing instruments in their lounges, kitchens and bedrooms has been surprisingly encouraging in these strange days. In fact, despite the quietness and restrictions, we have felt more connected to the worldwide church than normal.

Perhaps another benefit of the singing-fast could be the realisation that we live (normally) in a very noisy world, with a cacophony of sounds all competing for our attention. I find stillness and quietness hard. I have always loved the big noise of the sports stadium, the rock concert, and rousing congregational worship. It will be great when they are all back. But maybe modern life is too noisy too often, even in our churches. Perhaps God is calling for less noise in our ears. Maybe then our hearts might be better attuned to His still small voice within that can so easily be drowned out. Why not have a quiet think about that?

**Rev'd Nick Weldon (Vicar)**  
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#### **October 15th**

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14:45 to 15:15

BELSTONE CORNER    The Beeches  
15:30 to 15:50

### **FRIDAY** *monthly*

#### **October 2nd / October 30th**

NORTH TAWTON              The Square  
09:45 to 11:15

BONDLEIGH                  Old School  
13:55 to 14:15

### **SATURDAY** *monthly*

#### **October 17th**

NORTH TAWTON              The Square  
10:00 to 12:00

Library Membership is FREE.  
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(toddlers can join!).

## Roundabout

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, by members of the four churches, or by the Editors.

Contributions should be sent to  
Hilary and Richard Edwards,  
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Exeter Street,  
North Tawton,  
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North Tawton Town Council and the  
Sampford Courtenay Village Council).

## Be Still

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**Fourth Thursdays at 10 a.m.**

The next one will be on:  
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**Sampford Courtenay Parish Website:**  
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The website is managed by **Julie Carpenter** who  
can be contacted on  
[juliec2911@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:juliec2911@hotmail.co.uk)  
or  
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## Help wanted please!

The Rainbows are looking for another adult helper. Rainbows are the youngest section of Girlguiding and are age 5-7 and meet on a Wednesday from 4.30 - 5.30 p.m.. You would need to be over 18 and female. If you would more information on becoming an assistant Guider or Unit Helper then please contact Jane on 89160.

## Walking Treasure Hunt and Takeaway Cream Teas

on Saturday 26th September .

The Guides are holding another Walking Treasure Hunt at 2.30pm starting at Church Cottage, 5 Exeter Street cost £1 adult and 50p child, followed by Takeway Cream Teas from 3.00 p.m.. Please bring your own cake box. There will also be a draw. We are keeping everything crossed for dry weather this time !! Proceeds for Guide funds.



Do you have any daughters aged 5 + as we have all sections of Girlguiding available for them in North Tawton.

Rainbows age 5 - 7 meet Wednesday 4.30 -5.30 p.m. upstairs in the Town Hall

Brownies age 7-10 meet Monday 5.45 -7.00 p.m. upstairs in the Town Hall

Guides age 10-14 meet Monday 6.30 - 8.30 p.m. Mortimer Room

Rangers age 14-18 hoping to restart in summer 2021

If you are interested or would like more information contact Jane on 01837 89160 or go on the Girlguiding website and register your interest on JOIN US ,and the unit Guider will contact you direct.



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Assistant Town Clerk: Stephen Webb  
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Website: [northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk)

Tel: 01837 880121

## **Forthcoming Vacancy – Assistant Town Clerk**

I have really enjoyed working for North Tawton Town Council for the last couple of years, but regrettably, the time has come for me to retire from my post on 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Accordingly, the Town Council will be meeting to approve the recruitment process for a new Assistant Town Clerk. If you would be interested in working for the Council, please keep an eye on the noticeboard and our website.

Please do not contact the Council until the advertisements appear. - Stephen Webb

## **Contractors List**

The Council is in the process of reviewing our Contractors List. If you are interested in providing Electrician, Painting and Decorating or General services for the Council, please contact the Clerk on the number above. Please note that applicants must have in place an up to date £5million Public Liability Insurance Policy.

## **Complaints of Anti-Social Behaviour.**

The Council has received a number of complaints from residents in Fore Street regarding unacceptable levels of noise from 11.30pm into the early hours of the morning. In addition to the noise which deprives residents of their sleep, bottles and glasses have been smashed and jagged fragments of glass left on the pavement and in the road which pose a potentially serious health hazard. Criminal damage to a motor vehicle parked in the vicinity has also been reported.

This totally unacceptable behaviour has been reported to the Neighbourhood Police team and an incident log no 497-5/9/20 has been raised – please quote this number if further complaints arise. The Environmental Health Team at West Devon Borough Council has also been notified to ascertain what action it is able to take in relation to these complaints.

## **Community Emergency Plan - Covid-19**

On New Year's Eve 2019, we all looked forward to what 2020 might bring. Never in our wildest dreams could we have imagined the events of the last few months were ahead of us. Our world changed. Staying indoors for 12-14 weeks was not easy, both physically and mentally. That's when some of us felt really old and "vulnerable", relying on others for help in one way or another.

I would like to say a big thank you to all those who helped, and are still helping, neighbours, friends and relatives through this crisis and also the businesses that kept serving the town in very difficult circumstances as well as those that started doing home deliveries, and diversified into selling basic items, baking etc. Thank you, too, to all who helped distribute the leaflets NTTC produced.

North Tawton Town Council is obliged to keep a copy of a Local Emergency Plan, now called Community Emergency Plan [CEP] which doesn't specifically mention pandemics. We are in the process of updating the C.E.P., to include a section on pandemics. You will soon receive a copy of NTTC's Emergency Advice for information regarding possible situations.

Once the Council has approved the plan, we will be looking to appoint volunteers to various roles defined within the plan (Volunteers must be willing to have their names and details kept on file) to facilitate a fast response in the event of a community emergency.

NTTC does not have access to lists of vulnerable residents. However, if you consider yourself vulnerable and would like to register your details with the council, feel free to do so. They will be kept in the strictest confidence, and can be removed whenever requested.

Things have started to get back to a sort of "normal", but as I write this the Government has started to put restrictions in place again. Fingers crossed we don't have a second wave.

Remember, the volunteers listed in the Council's second leaflet are still there if needed. You may not want physical help, but just someone to chat to; most are good listeners.

Keep safe - Cllr. Steve Whiteley.

## **Climate Questionnaire**

Sincere thanks to all residents who completed and submitted our Climate Questionnaire. Entries closed on 31<sup>st</sup> August and we are now analysing the results which will help us prioritise local initiatives in response to the Climate Emergency.

## **October's Sustainable Living ideas**

As part of the above initiative, we plan to include a monthly "Sustainable Living" ideas item each month. If you have some good ideas for this item you would like to share with us, please e-mail the Clerk and indicate whether we may attribute them to you (name or just initials) or if you prefer to remain anonymous!

Re-purpose your old T-shirt

Cleaning your home is no easy task. Instead of going out to buy paper towels or sponges, why not try using an old T-shirt as a dish cloth or duster. Not only are you repurposing but they can be washed and used again and again.

Make your own eco-friendly cleaner.

Making your own cleaning solution is easier than you think. It is safer for you, your family and the planet. Use a 50/50 white vinegar and water mix with a few drops of essential oils for a nice smelling eco-friendly option.

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

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

Good news. In fact, make that wonderful news. The courgette mountain has been reduced to a tiny hillock. But there is sad news. In fact, make that disastrous news. We have been the victims of swede fraud. The swede seed that were carefully tilled earlier in the year have not come up as swedes. This is not a laughing matter. This is serious. The veg grower's oracle [I wonder who that could be] started noticing that there was a bit of an issue a couple of months ago. Husband peered under the netting and muttered 'they're not the right colour you know' and 'they've got too much tops'. I seem to remember making soothing noises, however, the mutterings continued. Then he dug one up and declared it to be ..... a turnip. We now have a 40-metre row of turnips – that are supposed to be swedes. Husband was not happy. This must be dealt with. The seed packet was retrieved and a phone call was made. A replacement packet of swede seed should be dropping through our letter box any day now. Anybody want to give a loving home to a turnip?

Talking of vegetables – this month is Soupy September. Every Friday in the month one lucky lady will have her name drawn from our virtual North Tawton W.I. hat – she will then find herself on the receiving end of a batch of home-made soup with bread rolls to accompany. Once again, the winner will be obliged to pose for a photo – clutching the jug of soup and bread rolls as if she hasn't eaten for a week. Little does the lucky lady suspect that the jug contains ..... turnip soup. In fact, it's turnip soup every Friday.

I've just done a bit of turnip research [like you do] and I've learnt a new word. Cruciferous. A turnip is a cruciferous vegetable as are cauliflowers, brussels sprouts, cabbages and radishes along with many others including the 'Sputnik' styled kohlrabi. I can safely say that husband has never [and will never] look at me over the seed catalogues in the New Year and say 'darling, shall we grow some kohlrabi for a change?' I've also learnt another new word. Raffinose. Apparently it is a 'complex sugar' found in cruciferous vegetables. If you were to eat too many cruciferous vegetables, such as turnips and kohlrabi, you may find that all that raffinose gives you an unwanted side effect. I will refrain from going any further. Try saying 'cruciferous' several times in quick succession. It feels like your lips are having a workout.

And finally. Watched anything entertaining on TV in the past five months? Until last September our main televisual source of entertainment was a tubed TV that stood in a rather self-imposing manner in our lounge. It was enormous. It took up most of the room. It was handy for balancing the Christmas cards on. Husband would say 'what's the point of replacing something that still works?' It eventually gave up the ghost and, in its place, stood a very slim, very sleek version. Catchup TV had become a reality. Did you ever watch Spooks – the drama series about MI5? Did you know there were 10 series? Yes 10. We are hooked. Totally addicted. We are just about to start series seven. Just one tiny thing - guess I'll have to use sticky tape to hold the Christmas cards in place.

*Sue Knott*

## **SCEnSus group Recycle and Reuse Sale (incorporating Bake Sale)**

**Saturday, 17 October, 10.30 a.m. –12 noon  
In and around Sampford Courtenay**

A 'table-top' sale of used goods, cakes and home produce, with stalls on sellers' own property (option to set up on pre-arranged 'plot' at the Village Hall if required).

**Bake Stall in village**

**Please bring your own reusable cups for refreshments and also your own bags**

Sellers are asked to ensure that their items do not obstruct the roadway and that they follow the current guidance on Covid 19 with regards to social distancing and numbers of buyers present at any one time.

Sellers please contact David on [davidbottingpage@hotmail.com](mailto:davidbottingpage@hotmail.com) or 01837 851725 (Answerphone) by Friday, 16th to be put on the list for the 'Sale Trail'. Please let David know of any 'significant' items you have for sale so that these can be listed on the trail

**Stall fee £5.00**

**Fees and donations from sales to go towards the Village Hall Roof Appeal  
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bobandjoytucker@gmail.com**

August 2020

Dear members of the local community

Our Village Hall was a school until the early 1950s. When the school closed, the building was purchased for the residents of Sampford Courtenay by a group of local people. The Village Hall Committee, as trustees, ensures that the hall continues to act as a community centre in the spirit in which it was established all those years ago.

The new Village Hall kitchen, meeting room extension and foyer, offering disabled access and amenities, have been a great success. This means that the hall has been able to offer enhanced facilities to existing events and hirers, as well as attracting more activities. These include yoga, dance classes, table tennis, quizzes, musical events, as well as wedding parties and children's parties, to name a few.

The committee now faces the significant challenge of replacing the roof and the large window adjacent to the new entrance, both of which are in very poor condition. The slates will need to be removed from the roof; the best of them will be reused. There is currently no insulation in the main roof; this will be brought into line with modern standards. The chimney stack needs attention to make it weather-proof. The large window will need to be custom built. There is a lot of work involved with these repairs and quotes have been sought. Based on these quotes, the cost of undertaking the work will be in the region of £150,000. Patch repairs have been undertaken to try to keep the building watertight but we are now at a point where urgent action is needed.

We are writing to parishioners for help. The Village Hall Committee is investigating what grants and other funding may be available, but it is clear that a great deal of additional fundraising will need to take place. We would like to ask you for your views and ideas on how we can achieve this target and save our valuable parish resource. There are many ways that you can help. For example, it could be fundraising ideas, offers to organise activities or events, knowledge of other individuals or organisations which could help, or making a donation yourselves.

The Village Hall is an important resource for everyone in Sampford Courtenay. We need your help to keep it open and in a condition to ensure its ongoing use. If you would like to help please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Joy Tucker  
(Chair)

PS Please see <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/> for further details and how to donate using Gift Aid. Please make cheques out to Sampford Courtenay Village Hall and send to the above address or bring along to an event. Thank you.

A class in the Sampford Courtenay Virtual Flower Show was for a Limerick with a Coronavirus Theme. Here are some of the entries.

During Covid I've scrubbed my hands raw,  
Till the skin is all cracked, red and sore,  
If I hear someone cough,  
I yell out "Bugger Off!"  
And I run home to scrub them some more.

The problem with Covid 19  
Is it's a virus that cannot be seen.  
It's found in the air,  
On door handle and chair  
So wear a mask and keep your hands clean

More on Page 27



### 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.

# A.M.B

**Adam Mark Butler**  
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## READING GROUP

Normally meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday MONTHLY  
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Until pub re-opens, we are holding zoom meetings  
for further information or to join  
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### **News from Sampford Courtenay Parish Council**

Full minutes can be viewed on our website [www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk) where any useful links are live.

Plus check out our new [FACEBOOK](#) Page. Like and Share to help us spread S.C.P.C. news.

**SEAMOOR LOTTO** – Sampford Courtenay Parish Council has registered as one of the charities which will benefit from the new Lotto run by W.D.B.C.. If you have not bought your ticket yet, please sign up at <https://www.seamoorlotto.co.uk/support/sampford-courtenay-parish-council>

1. **SCPC** – held its 1<sup>st</sup> Sept meeting virtually on Zoom with 4 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.
2. **BROADBAND** – SCPC will be sending out a consultation paper to residents to report back on their broadband/mobile phone experience and satisfaction to send to relevant councillors and ministers to try and ensure some action is taken on the lack of efficient broadband connectivity in the Sampford Courtenay area. In the meantime, SCPC is asking Parishioners to get onto the Openreach website and click the “Check my Availability”, enter your postcode and find your address then click “Sign me up” under the Full Fibre Link. Hopefully the more people who register the higher up their priority list we will come.
3. **WEBSITE** – please check out the new “Search” facility and new layout of our website and let us know what you think.
4. **WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY** –. 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. Please check out the Parish Council Tab on our Website for details of “Plug ins” that could help you access any website more easily.
5. **BT PHONEBOX** – SCPC will be consulting with parishioners regarding whether they are happy for the phone box in the square (which has not been used for calls for over 4 years) to be adopted by SCPC and used to house the defibrillator.
6. **KEEP SAFE, KEEP ALERT** – in trying to get back to the “New Normal” SCPC has wound up the IMT team of Volunteers but the Clerk will still be sending out a fortnightly Newsletter with relevant local information and current official safety guidelines. If you are not already receiving these Helpsheets, just let the Clerk have your email address. Plus, if circumstances change, please get in touch so that we can provide help.

Please contact SCPC Clerk – Marion Pratt at [SCPCClerk@aol.com](mailto:SCPCClerk@aol.com) or on 01837 82285 if you would like to raise any issues. Even better, come along to a meeting. Next meeting 6th October

### **Thanks for COVID response**

To reflect the many positive and appreciative comments that they have heard, members of Sampford Courtenay Village Hall Committee would like to say ‘thank you’ to Marion Pratt (SCPC Clerk), Michele Wilson (SCPC Chair) and all of the numerous volunteers who have done so much to support the community and those working in front-line services during this difficult time.

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## News from Sampford Courtenay

The funeral of Valerie Emily Hawking, who died on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August, took place at St. Andrew's Church on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August. The service was conducted by the Revd Rita Bullworthy and Vicki Brown and was followed by interment at St. Mary's, Honeychurch. The soloist was Will Collins. Donations in lieu of flowers, for Honeychurch Parish Church and Hospicare, may be sent to R. Gist and son Funeral Directors 18 Castle Street, Torrington EX38 8EZ.

Zoom activities are still happening with Bingo, Coffee Morning, Quiz and Sing-a-long (see the village web site for more details) but Sampford Courtenay Flower Club has had to close their meeting, scheduled for Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September and which they hoped would be the first club in the village to start up after the lockdown. They will probably not restart until the New Year. Singing in the church can be resumed by the choir but with all necessary precautions carried out.

Thanks to Marion Pratt and Bill Robertson for rescuing the Flower and Produce Show from the jaws of Covid19, even if only virtually, and providing those who participated with some precious fun and entertainment.

Overall winners of the baking competitions were 1<sup>st</sup> Michele Wilson with 19, 2<sup>nd</sup> Shirley Reddaway with 16 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Marion Pratt with 10. Other results as follows;

### SAMPFORD COURTENAY VIRTUAL FLOWER SHOW 2020

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	1ST	2 <sup>ND</sup>	3RD
1	Longest Runner Bean	Bill Robertson 50 cm	Jackie Hedges 47 cm	David & Shirley McClement 34 cm
2	Heaviest Single Potato	Barbara Smith 600 g	Bill Robertson 560 g	Barbara Smith 536 g
3	Heaviest Crop from single seed potato	Malcolm Craig 3109 g	Joe Stoneman 2773 g	Barbara Smith 2683 g
4	Limerick with a Corona Virus Theme	Arthur Richards	Jackie Hedges	Nicky Craig
5	Children's Limerick on Home schooling	0	0	0
6	Scare Crow	Nicky & Kevin Courage Mrs Tiggywinkle	David & Gaynor Botting Page Charlotte's Web	Rory & Lynne Robinson Where's Wally?
7	Tallest Sunflower	Marion Pratt 2.76 m	John Palmer 2.61	Malcolm & Nicky Craig 2.15 m
8	Longest Dock Leaf	Evans family 34 cm	0	0
9	Decorated Cake with Lock-down Theme	Shirley McClement	Michele Wilson	0
10	Photo of Life in Lockdown	Karen Iles Marion Pratt	Karen Iles Charlie Clatworthy Edwards	Michele Wilson
11	Flower Arrangement on "Keeping Safe"	Michele Wilson	Shirley McClement	Sophie Price Marion Pratt

The most popular class was the heaviest potato from a single seed. Each contestant was furnished with an empty animal feed bucket and a single potato to grow through the season and this was then weighed in The Square and the result was as follows.

#### THE HEAVIEST POTATO FROM A SINGLE SEED

NAME	WEIGHT g	Position	NAME	WEIGHT g	Position
Malcolm Craig	3109	1	Marion Pratt	1147	12
Joe Stoneman	2773	2	Sue Robertson	1000	13
Barbara Smith	2683	3	Elizabeth Crisp	980	14
Gillian Townsend Green	2048	4	Michele Wilson	879	15
Jackie Hedges	2039	5	Bill Robertson	852	16
Bridget Grindley	1802	6	Andy Wilson	840	17
Colin Coleman	1743	7	Chris & Roisin	818	18
Jim Stacey	1335	8	Pauline Houben	806	19
Hugo Van Houben	1325	9	James Rogers	598	20
Frances Weeks	1266	10	Charlie Goundry	388	21
Shirley McClement	1262	11			

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**What to expect at Okehampton Library:**

**Customer Numbers**

There will be a limit on the number of customers at any one time and therefore safe queuing will be in place to enter the library.

**Face coverings**

Customers must wear face coverings (unless a customer is exempt) to ensure that we keep each other safe.

**Hand sanitiser and cleaning**

A hand sanitiser station is in position to enable customers to sanitise when entering the library. Cleaning will be in place for services such as the public computers and self-service kiosks and regular cleaning of other areas is in place.

**Test & Trace**

Customers can voluntarily provide us with their name and telephone number to support NHS Test and Trace.

**Social distancing**

We have changed the layout to ensure adequate space for customers to move around in safety in a one way system and the floor space has been marked up to support social distancing and it is requested that 2m social distancing is observed by all staff and customers.

**Quarantining returned books**

All books and items returned to the library will undergo 72 hours quarantine before they are removed from customer accounts. Customers will be asked to place returned items into a box near the library entrance to keep them separate for quarantining. The maximum number of book loans has been increased to 24. This is a temporary measure and it will be reviewed in December 2020.

**Browsing books – quarantining**

We recognise that our customers enjoy browsing and that glancing through a book before is often an integral part of the experience. In the event a customer changes their mind, a 'browsing box' has been put in place, where customers can safely leave a book or item they have handled and no longer wish to borrow.

**Booking computers**

Computer access sessions are limited to 1 hour and are bookable by phone, email or in person. Computers are situated to allow for 2 metres social distancing and are cleaned between every use. The number of computers available has been reduced because of this safety measure.

**Computer support**

New links are available on the public computer desktops for help with computers and IT queries. Staff will not be able to give assistance with the computers at this time.

**Children's libraries**

We invite families to use the library. A range of children's fiction stock is available in the main library. Staff will be able to bring you any other items that you require from the children's library, including picture books and we do have a range of picture book bags available with activity sheets. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult in the library.

Staff would encourage parents and carers to speak with their children before they visit the library about social distancing and also to let them know that whilst the library experience will feel different, their library still loves them and wants them to enjoy reading and learning!

**Choose & Collect**

There will also be a Choose and Collect service for those who do not wish to browse or are unable to enter the library. To book a space, call or email in advance to book this contactless service.

**Events**

We very much look forward to the day when we can restart our events and activities. Please visit Okehampton Library social media and website for details of the amazing online programme available over the next few months.

Many thanks for your support.

**Welcoming you back safely. Please check our website for safety guidance <https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/coronavirus-updates>. Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OkehamptonLibrary/>**



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Week Commencing 7th September our opening hours are

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Tuesday's 8.30am -- 5.00pm  
Wednesday's 8.30 am -- 1.00pm  
Thursday's 8.30 am -- 5.00pm  
Friday's. 8.30 am -- 5.00pm  
Saturday's 8.30am -- 12.30pm  
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"Let's hope it is a good one."

September 2020

Welcome back!

We were forced to close on March 21<sup>st</sup>, but we are now fully open as of September 8<sup>th</sup>.

What a long time to run a school without having the full quota of children!

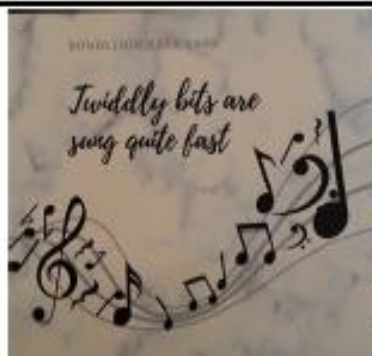
Following very strict guidance, and very careful planning, stringent measures are in place to ensure that safety is still our priority. The children have returned to quite a different school with many different procedures and arrangements, including lots of additional handwashing and the segregation of class bubbles. I am very pleased to report that they have adapted to the new routines very happily and quickly. The tables all face forward and teachers observe their distance where possible. There are no whole school gatherings, but with the wonder of technology a 'Zoom' assembly is a welcome alternative! Playtimes and lunchtimes operate differently but the children seem unfazed and are just glad to be back with their friends, teachers and support staff.

We are very fortunate to have such fabulous grounds, and the lovely recent weather has allowed us to enjoy the outdoors as much as possible. We have plenty of space to allow the children to enjoy each other's company without the need to get too close.

Our amazing staff team has also been thrilled to welcome the children back. The objective is to 'catch up' for all the missed learning, although we are also mindful that this may take time. The children have been an absolute credit and are resilient and positive. I have every confidence that with time, care and patience they will meet their targets and enjoy school life once again.

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

Miss Chauhan



#### Twiddly Bits for Charity

Last year, film maker Geoff Hodgkinson from Exbourne and his colleagues from the Tiverton Camcorder Club were commissioned by the Bondleigh Barn Band to capture the story of how the band has grown over the previous seven years from 6 players to over 50. During 2019, the film makers worked in rehearsals and at evenings when the band played in public to produce a polished, technically sophisticated result just as the nation was plunged into lockdown !

The band had hoped to present a series of evenings to invite locals to see the film and, as had been its custom over the years, to devote any proceeds to charity. As filming was done at Belstone (at the Fair in July), Sampford Courtenay Church (for the Bellringers in

September), Fairplace Church in Okehampton for the Mary Budding Trust in November) and Bondleigh Church (Carol Service in December) it was hoped there would be interest, not least from those who attended and ran the risk of appearing in the film.

As it seems unlikely that public gatherings can go ahead safely for some time, the band has decided to make available DVD copies of this documentary film, called "Twiddly bits are sung quite fast" at a cost of £5 each, £2.50p of which will be given to our local North Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (Over and Above) in recognition of the work it has done to keep us safe during the pandemic. If you would like a copy, please send a cheque (payable to the Bondleigh Barn Band) with your postal address and, while stocks last, we will arrange for delivery of a copy to you. You can see a trailer from the film @

<https://youtu.be/lcV2XyEC724>

Edwina Hill, Andrew's Corner, Belstone, Okehampton EX20 1RD (tel. 01837 840332)

Richard Edwards, Shellsley, Exeter Street, North Tawton, EX20 2BZ. (tel. 01837 82376)

Paul Cherrett, Clapper Cottage, Bondleigh, EX20 2AU (tel. 01837 82980)

Peter Howard, Orchard House, Exeter Road, Winkleigh, EX19 8HW (tel. 01837 83362)



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Facebook: Mike Bailey



There once was a girl called Ramona  
Who used to drink lots of Corona  
She'd meet with her mates  
And drink a whole crate  
But since Covid Ramona's a loner.

During Covid we stayed home together  
Enjoying the fabulous weather  
Sitting out in the sun  
With our tea and a bun  
We wished it could go on forever.

During Covid we stayed in our home  
With our hand sanitiser and phone.  
We could still call the pub  
To order great grub  
So there was no reason to moan.

A lovely young lady called Iris  
Avoided the Coronavirus.  
She observed the lockdown  
Never going to town  
And wrote out these lines on papyrus.



## Kaleb's Thumbprint

Raising money and awareness for Children's Hospice South West  
Registered Charity Number 1003314

### Virtual London Marathon

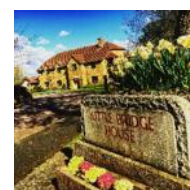
Luke is running 30 Miles from North Tawton Cemetery to Little Bridge House,  
Fremington.

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020

9:00am start



<u>Passing point</u>	<u>Predicted pass time</u>
North Tawton Clock Tower	9:05am
Winkleigh	9:50am
Dolton Beacon	10:30am
Beaford	10:55am
Rosemoor	11:30am
Torrington	11:40am
Puffing Billy	11:55am
Instow	12:45pm
Fremington	1:20pm
Little Bridge House	1:30pm



#### Kaleb's Thumbprint Marathon Update

As most people are aware the London Marathon 2020 is not taking place. Instead, Luke will be doing the Virtual London Marathon plus a little bit more. Luke will be running 30 miles from North Tawton Cemetery to Little Bridge House, Fremington. #RunToCHSW

Please see poster above for predicted times for passing points, we'd love to see people safely get behind Luke and wave/clap him on his way.

For anyone who took part in 'predict a time' we will be using the time when Luke reaches 26.2 miles on his 30 mile run. We will be in contact with the winner in due course.

Lastly, we would like to say a big thank you to those who took part in the Sale Trail. We are still receiving donations currently we have £421.00. A special thank you to Jane, Celia and Maggie.

**The Whiddon Mission Community**  
**North Tawton, Bondleigh, Sampford Courtenay, Honeychurch**  
**Chagford, Gidleigh, Throwleigh, Drewsteignton, South Tawton, Spreyton and Hittisleigh,**

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**ASSISTANT MINISTER:** North Tawton

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Mrs. Rhona Bragg (82343)

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Mr. Danny Semorad (82319)

Mr. Graham Stokes (82240)

**St. Andrew's** Sampford Courtenay

Mr. Malcolm Craig (880118)

Mrs. Sarah Hanks (851287)

**St. Mary's** Honeychurch

Mr. Ray Squire (851627)

Mr. Richard Weeks (851269)

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

**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	6.00 p.m.	Evensong (from May 2020)
4th Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion BCP
5th Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion Common Worship

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

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

**SERVICE at St. Mary's Church**  
**Honeychurch**

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

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

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

**SERVICES at St. Peter's Church**  
**North Tawton**

1st Sunday	11 a.m. Morning Worship
2nd Sunday	11 a.m. Informal Communion 6.30 p.m. Evensong (Apr - Oct)
3rd Sunday	11 a.m. All-age Worship
4th Sunday	Traditional Communion
5th Sunday	Informal Communion

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	11 p.m.	6.30 p.m.
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Special service	Bible Study
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Prayer & Communion	Tea & Talk
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Ministry	No service unless advertised otherwise
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Prayer & Communion	DVD
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Prayer & Communion	No service unless advertised otherwise



## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Weddings

### Funeral

19th August      Valerie Emily HAWKING (95 years)      St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay  
followed by Burial - St. Mary's Church, Honeychurch.



The food bank remains open and is vital for some.  
Please continue to remember those who need help  
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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

“There was never any thing by the wit of man  
so well devised, or so surely established, which (in  
the continuance of time) hath not been corrupted; ”

*(Opening words of the Preface to the First Book of  
Common Prayer, first printed in 1549 in the reign  
of King Edward VI.)*

### Bondleigh Rainfall

Total rainfall for August was 180.9mm making it one of the  
wettest months recorded and certainly the wettest summer  
month. Also, nearly all this rain fell between the 13th and  
27th. The thunderstorms of 13th/14th accounted for  
53.6mm. The continuous rain has brought us rapidly into  
Autumn. An 'Indian' Summer would be most welcome now.  
Danny Semorad

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Church Flowers & Brass

### Sampford Courtenay

October  
November

Sarah Hanks  
Sheila Cartwright  
& Jackie Marden

### Honeychurch

October  
November

Marilyn Weeks  
Mary Pyle

### Bondleigh

October 4th / 11th  
October 18th / 25th  
November 1st / 8th  
November 15th / 22nd  
November 29th

Barbara Dennis  
Jill Wilson  
Julie Wilson  
Pam Evison  
Nicola Raffan

### North Tawton

#### Flowers

October 4th / 11th / 18th Harvest Flowers  
October 25th / Nov 1st Mary Fry  
November 8th / 15th Royal British Legion  
November 22nd Jo Fear  
November 29th Lorna Dawe

#### Brass

October Joan Nicholls  
November Anita Lamey

\*\*\*\*\*

We are always in need of more people to help with the brass cleaning and the flowers at St Peters.

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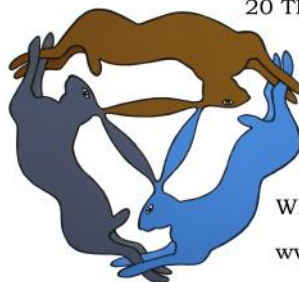
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