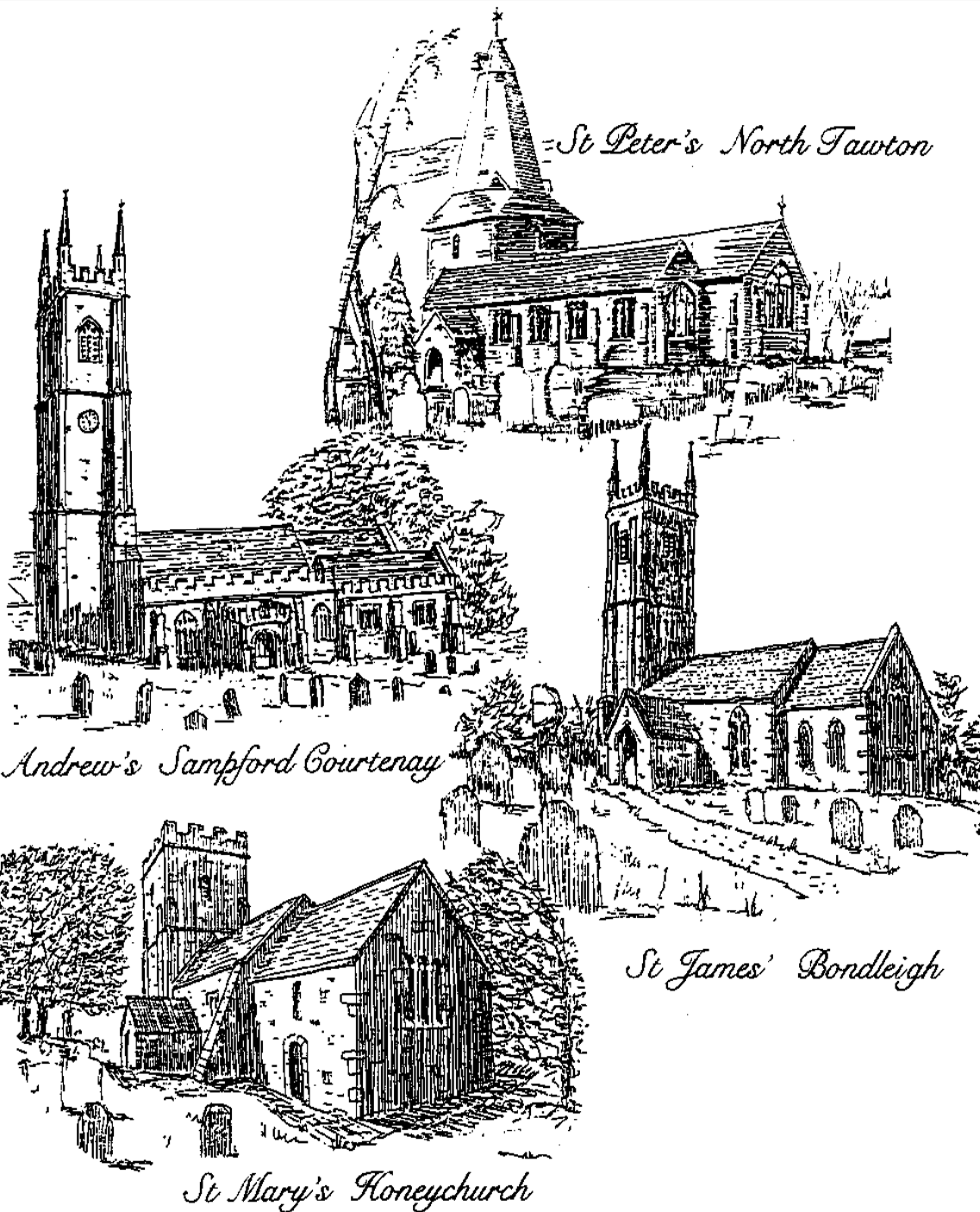


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From The Rectory

Vaccination hope

As I write, the vaccination roll-out is moving ahead at a remarkable pace. It comes tragically too late for so many people, but the Government claims there can be 15 million vaccinations by mid-February. I think even half that would be a great achievement. At the pace the various doctors in my family have been jabbing people since late December, I can believe we might just do it. "Vaccination is the way out of this crisis." "Vaccination offers hope and a return to normality," we have been told. No doubt there will be further bumps in the road, and the media will depress us all by highlighting them, but I am beginning to believe that the end of the virus stage of this crisis might be in sight. Only then, I suppose, can the economic fight-back truly start. As for the social, mental and spiritual damage Covid has wreaked, the recovery required there will need a lot more than a mere jab in the arm. But let's stay positive. Vaccination offers hope, as it has since 1796.

I've been doing a bit of research into the history of vaccination... lockdown boredom perhaps! In 1796 in Gloucestershire, local doctor and scientist Edward Jenner investigated an old wives tale: milkmaids never die of smallpox. Convinced there was a scientific reason and not some hocus pocus, he worked out that milkmaids were often carriers of cowpox, a comparatively harmless virus contracted from touching cow udders. Previous attempts by physicians to inoculate people against smallpox had achieved poor results and many deaths. But by exposing people to cowpox first, Jenner established that immunity to smallpox was created. So "vaccination" was invented; the Latin "vaccinus" meaning "from the cow." And there is a link to North Tawton.

Edward Jenner is considered the "father of immunology" and his work is said to have "saved more lives than the work of any other human." I wonder what he would have made of such a eulogy. In fact, we needn't wonder, because shortly before his death in 1823 he said, "I am not surprised that men are not thankful to me." (Well, Edward, we are thankful to you, especially in 2021!) "But I wonder that they are not grateful to God for the good which he has made me the instrument of conveying to my fellow-creatures." Amen Dr. Jenner! With every jab, we should thank our Creator, for he is God of science and medicine as well as faith. So what is the link to North Tawton then? It's a little tenuous, but worth noting.

In the same year Jenner made his discoveries in Gloucestershire, a young Samuel Budd was starting out as a doctor in North Tawton. The family home was Melhuishes in the Square, which presumably also doubled as his surgery. Here, Budd practiced medicine all his life until his death, aged 69 in 1841. Samuel and Catherine Budd had ten

children, six of whom entered the medical profession. Their story is told in the Book of North Tawton, and the family memorial stone is still visible in the churchyard today. (Do take a look on your daily exercise. It is south east of the church building at the chancel end, tall and with a Celtic cross on top.) One son, Christian Budd, would continue the family practice for another 40 years after his father's death. But another, William Budd, would play a crucial role in the early study of infectious diseases pioneered by the likes of Jenner. William caught typhoid whilst studying in Paris. He returned home to North Tawton to recover, and in 1839 he documented a typhoid outbreak in mid Devon, showing that the disease passed from person to person by infected drinking water. Whilst working in hospitals in Bristol, he learnt how to reduce infection and mortality from diseases like typhoid, TB and cholera. His work influenced Florence Nightingale and her reform of nursing practices. William Budd's legacy is not as great as Jenner's or Nightingale's, but extraordinary and inspiring nevertheless.

Samuel Budd administered smallpox vaccinations in North Tawton, and lived just long enough to see the first Vaccination Act of 1840, which provided vaccination for all free of charge. By 1980 the world was free of smallpox. So as a child of the late 1970's, I didn't receive a smallpox vaccination. It was deemed unnecessary in the UK by then. But like most of you, I did receive a plethora of other jabs, each of which I consider a great blessing from God... polio, tetanus, measles, rubella, whooping cough and BCG. Most of these are now given as combined jabs. My children have had them. Just a little pinprick, and we get on with our lives. But what a privilege to be free from these diseases, a privilege that now extends to coronavirus in the greatest vaccination programme ever attempted.

So over this year, as we all roll up our sleeves for a jab, I hope we will also do as Edward Jenner suggests: thank God for his goodness in saving us, physically. It's an echo of the spiritual salvation offered by the One who, beyond even Jenner, has saved more lives than any other human. I hope we will also consider what we are being saved for as well, as we exit corona. As we each roll up our sleeves for a jab this year, perhaps ask yourself in what other ways you could roll up your sleeves to aid the recovery.

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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,
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St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay
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The next ones will be on:
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Covid 19 – current lockdown

I'm very glad that during the big lockdown last year we couldn't see into the future, as here we are in the midst of our third lockdown. It's different this time though, with new variants, and understandably we are all concerned about the current situation. Here is an extract from a statement by Devon's Director of Public Health:

"Devon residents have done well over the Christmas and New Year period to help prevent the sharp rise in positive cases that many other parts of the country are currently experiencing. The new strain of coronavirus is exceptionally good at spreading between people...I ask everyone to follow the new national lockdown restrictions. Please, stay at home and only go out when you need to, minimise your contact with other people, continue to follow social distancing rules, wear a face covering in public places, and wash your hands properly and regularly."

Covid 19 – What are we doing to help here in North Tawton?

The North Tawton Community Support Group, which includes members of the Council, members of the WI, and members of St. Peter's Church, is still operating and many volunteers are ready and willing to help where they can – with shopping, collecting prescriptions, providing a friendly voice on the end of the phone, and so on. Contact the Town Clerk in the first instance or check our website for alternative contacts.

Don't forget the 'Big Red H' – put this in your window if you need help, and please look out for these signs when you go out for daily exercise or for other permitted reasons for leaving your home.

The Council is aware that help is sought and provided via the NT Facebook Hub, and by individual volunteers.

We have a wonderful community here in our Town – on behalf of the Town Council can I pass on sincere thanks to everyone who has helped their neighbours during the pandemic.

Covid signs for display in the street, and extra free signs for businesses

At its most recent meeting the Council informally agreed to produce covid advisory signs to put on lampposts around the town. We're also providing some extra signs for our town centre small businesses, just in case they are needed. We know you are all working hard and doing your best, but as the situation is generally agreed to be deteriorating we wanted to try and provide some more advisory signage to help you out. We'll deliver these to you, and you can decide if you want to use them or not. These actions are being taken due to concern about the current pandemic situation.

Disabled Parking Bays in the Town Centre Car Park

The Council is very concerned about the fact that these spaces are frequently used by non-blue badge holders, who are potentially depriving those with disabilities from parking close to the town centre. Surveys have been undertaken and much thought given to this matter. The Council proposes to create 2 extra parking spaces by removing one of the disabled bays, and to then discourage non-blue badge holders from parking in disabled bays. We want to fully consult users of these bays before a final decision is made, we have no intention of disadvantaging blue badge holders. If you have an interest in this issue look out for further information in the near future on our noticeboard, our website and facebook pages, the NT Community Facebook Hub, and possibly on flyers to be distributed. We'll let you know the best way of commenting on the proposal.

Litter Bins – please only use them for actual litter

I've been asked to remind residents not to put household waste in public litter bins. The bins are emptied on a regular basis, which only allows for litter and dog fouling bags – if bins are filled with other waste, there's no room for dog bags etc. – this is now happening, meaning that litter and dog bags are dumped on the ground by the bins. Residents may be unaware that people can be fined by WDRC for putting household waste in litter bins. Obviously no-one wants that to happen so please recycle waste wherever possible, and put household waste out for the fortnightly collection. Thank you for your co-operation.

Snow/salt Wardens

Could all wardens please let Steve Whiteley know if you need more salt for the bins in your area. Also, we still need a volunteer warden for the Essington area – its not an onerous task, but it's a very important one in times of severe frost or snow. If you live in this area and would be willing to help please contact the Town Clerk in the first instance.

New Assistant Town Clerk

We've appointed a new Assistant Clerk, Mrs Melanie (Mel) Bickle. Mel is an experienced clerk in her own right, is very well qualified, and we are very happy that she chose to apply for this post and that the Council was able to appoint her. Both Clerks are working from home as far as possible at present, but you may speak to Mel if you ring us and will certainly see her at some of our online meetings.

Sarah Say

Town Clerk

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North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

Pick a date. Go on – pick any date in 2021. 14th May you say? Wait a minute – just flicking through the North Tawton W.I. calendar. And who is that I see? It's that saucy minx Hilary. And what on earth is she planning on doing with that huge Victoria sponge? Give me another date then. 21st April? Well I declare – it's those naughty ladies Greta and Lorna, fascinators firmly fixed in position, eyeing up a Devon cream tea. And that's just two months. [Wait till you get to October] Well it seemed like a good idea at the time when the suggestion of 'why don't we put together a North Tawton W.I. calendar?' was floated at a Zoomstyle Committee meeting. We know it's been done before but why not? So there then followed a frantic cry for photographs of every member. This could be tricky. That would mean over 50 photos. But hang on a minute. Don't forget that you're dealing with **North Tawton W.I.** and underestimate them at your peril. Admittedly there were a few arms that had to be very gently twisted but they gave in eventually. And so the calendar was compiled, printed and delivered in a wonderful Christmas goody bag [with lots of other lovely things] to every member. And one more thing. No scones or sponges were harmed in the making of this calendar.

So did your fairy lights make it through to 12th night? Are you still working your way through the Christmas cake? I firmly believe, certainly for at least the first couple of weeks of a New Year, that it is perfectly acceptable to eat strange combinations of food in a bid to rid the kitchen of all those festive ingredients. Husband is currently enjoying brandy butter on his porridge; lunch will consist of sandwiches filled with Roast Turkey and Stuffing, Crisps and it looks like our evening meal will involve some marzipan stuffed dates and a Terry's Chocolate Orange. Not sure if we'll need a bit of gravy with that.

But back to W.I. stuff for a moment. As well as the stunning calendar, useful soap on tap, delicious handmade chocolate truffles and beautifully crocheted snowflake tree decoration in our Christmas goody bag, there was a chance to develop my [ever so slightly reluctant] crafting skills. Another suggestion that popped out of a Committee meeting was 'why don't we make a Lockdown Quilt?' In this particular case a 'mini' quilt – or rather a table runner – that could adorn the Presidents table at our meetings and we could gaze at it and say 'oh look, I made that bit'. Which is how, one deepest darkest January evening, husband was heard to say 'should I clean my glasses or are you actually sewing?' He has, quite rightly, very little faith in my ability to wield a needle. However – contrary to his belief, and thanks to some very easy to follow instructions, I managed to produce four hexagons, stitched together, as per pattern. I don't want to get ahead of myself but I'm thinking of ordering a Brother Innov-is VQ2 longarm sewing and quilting machine which apparently will allow me to 'express my creativity' and whose 'long arm is perfect for larger projects like coats and quilts' or maybe I'll get a Continental M7 Professional that will 'expand my sewing horizons and give me contemporary features that I will love'. On the other hand – a pack of those clever needle threader thingies would be useful as that took me longer to do than the stitching.

Incidentally did you know that the Welsh word for Zoom is 'chwyddo'? And the Zulu translation is 'sondeza'. No need to thank me – just thought it might be useful.

Sue Knott

As a member of North Tawton WI I feel I must pay tribute to our wonderful President and Committee.

From the very outset of "lockdown" they have all been hard at work keeping us informed with the monthly Newsletter, amused with some of it's content, keeping our brains busy with weekly quizzes, happy when we are a winner of the weekly draw prize and delighted with our goody bags, delivered at the time we were celebrating Devon Federation's 100th birthday and again at Christmas.

Everyone has been contacted whether by using modern technology or in person (socially distanced of course). We have even gained a new member!

In normal circumstances the WI is, amongst other things, a lifeline to many, particularly those who are living alone so in these very difficult times it means so much more.

Thank you Madam President and Committee

Claire Weller



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We have all been affected by the strangeness of 2020 and we, in ANTS, cannot wait to be back out on stage giving you something to smile about. Obviously, at present, we can't advise you of any planned forthcoming productions, but we are regularly in touch with each other and geared up to restart as soon as we can.

We have been keeping ourselves busy by doing radio plays on Zoom and hope to record one for broadcast through our website. We will keep you posted on our progress.

ANTS wish you all a safe and healthy 2021 and our thoughts are with all of you who have been directly affected by Covid-19.

We can't wait to experience the roar of the greasepaint and the smell of the crowd (or something like that!!) as soon as possible.

Take care of yourselves.

GIRL GUIDING NORTH TAWTON

Just an update on all our Guiding groups in North Tawton since the lockdowns began in March. We have tried to continue with our weekly meetings using Facebook and Messenger. On our usual meeting nights the girls have been sent various badges and activities to complete, to try and keep things as normal as we can. We were then allowed to meet outdoors in July which was lovely seeing them face to face and for them to meet their friends they hadn't seen for many months. This continued until the end of September when we were allowed to meet indoors. All the outdoor and indoor meetings have been following the rules and regulations that have been set down and social distancing. November lockdown meant we went back to online badges again before face to face in December. Now we have again had to return to online for this term. We have had a couple of Zoom meetings with the Guides and a virtual sleepover which they seemed to enjoy. We hope by offering these activities it will keep them interested and we will see them all again when we are allowed. All the badges and activities are optional but they do like to add to their camp blankets or sashes. As some of you would know, the Guides & Brownies should have been putting on their pantomime in the February half term. This obviously can't happen but we will hopefully be able to put it on later in the year.

There are spaces available if you have daughters age 5-14 and they would be able to join the online activities for now, if you would like more information you can contact Jane on 89160 or go the Girlguiding website and register your interest on there.

Thank you
Jane Simons

The February SCEnSus Monthly Challenge

Here we are, well into the New Year by now! We hope that you had a go at looking at the New Year's Resolution challenge that we set for January? The idea was that more than one person in the household would go through it and, together, work out what your priorities should be for the year. Did you do it and, if so, do you know what the main issues are for your household? As we said before, it is clear that unless each of us and every household changes how we live then we're not going to have much impact on the situation and climate change will continue to get worse. If you haven't yet done the January challenge it can be found on the Sampford Courtenay website – why not download it and see what difference you can make! If you did do it and have any feedback on the process or to tell us about any surprises that you've had along the way then we'd like to hear from you.

So, February's challenge is about Food miles

This is similar to November's challenge which you might have seen. The challenge is to have at least one family meal each week in the month where all (or most, at least) have been grown locally – preferably within 15 miles of your home. During the rest of the month, read the labels on food packaging and find out where your regular food items come from. We should all try to reduce our food air miles. Children could get a map of the World and mark on it where some of their favourite food items come from.

If you want extra food based challenges, do you know which of the foods you eat are organic? Could you eat more organic, locally grown foods? Could you start planning now and choose vegetable seeds to plant and grow later in the year?

Also, your **Woodburner** – If you have one, make sure you have adequate supplies of dry, seasoned wood to burn because the new legislation comes into effect this month. Also, can you reduce your use of firelighters to light fires and sweep chimneys regularly to reduce chemicals and particles in the atmosphere.



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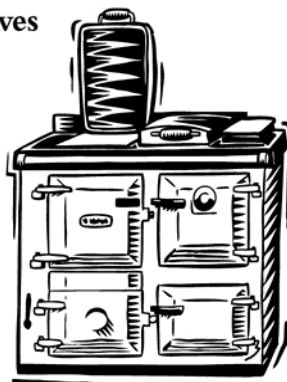
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Bondleigh Festive Mini Market

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make the Festive Mini Market such a wonderful success. Not only an enjoyable morning, but it raised an amazing £734.10p towards the medieval glass project.

Special thanks to Danny & Jane for hosting this "outdoor" event and to Hazel, Jill and Sonia for the wonderful selection of beautifully made decorations.

We are very grateful to everyone who donated towards the draw and the Churchwardens stall and to all who helped set up, run the stalls and clear away afterwards.

Finally, we wish to thank everyone who came along and supported us and for spending so generously!

ALSO

Christmas Carol Service

Thank you to everyone who came along and enjoyed our Christmas Carol Service on Sunday, 20th December.

We would like to thank those who decorated the Church so beautifully with Christmas trees and floral displays.

Also, thank you to Nick and Rita for leading our lovely service, members of the Sampford Courtenay Choir and Bondleigh Barn Band who provided such delightful singing and music and the bell ringers for ringing it in!

The collection was added to the Harvest Festival collection and we have made a donation of £210.00 to Children's Hospice South West.

Caroline Stokes
on behalf of
St James' PCC

Bondleigh Rainfall

Happy New Lockdown!

Despite everything else the weather seems to continue, although it has stopped raining for a few days. I do believe the weather has slipped from being the main topic of conversation at times during the last year.

November was relatively dry for a winter month with only 77.4 mm. This compares to 150.1 mm. in 2019. However, December more than made up for it with 183.1 mm.. Although this was only 10 mm. more than in 2019, rain fell on most days of the month.

Looking back over 2020 the weather was a real rollercoaster, doing it's best to keep our minds off other issues. Total rainfall was 1246.7 mm.. This makes it the wettest year since 2012.

Last winter was wet, culminating in 211.3 mm during February. By the end of May we were in a drought situation having had only 5.3mm during that month. June was wet with 150.3mm and so the year went on with one month wet and the next relatively dry. August was exceptional for a summer month having 180.9 mm.. Thunderstorms on the 13th gave 53.6 mm. in Bondleigh, but with heavier downpours in other nearby locations. 2021 has started dry and cold, so what comes next? Watch this space!

Danny Semorad

Thank you

John and Jane would like to thank everyone for their love, support and donations since the death of their dad, Martin Eyke.

Also to everyone who attended his funeral during these difficult times.

Thanks also to Rev'd Nick Weldon for his support and to Rev'd Rita Bullworthy and organist Roger Cleverdon for helping with the service.

EasyFundraising

Fundraising really couldn't be any easier ... and it doesn't cost you anything! If you sign up with EasyFundraising, giving Sampford Courtenay Village Hall as your chosen charity, you can send a donation every time you make an online purchase from any of a long list of retailers and service providers from the AA and Able and Cole, through eBay, to YouGardern.com, YogaClicks and the Zoological Society. A donation will be made without any extra cost to you. The sums are relatively small, but they all add up!

So far £310.58 has been raised for the Village Hall by just 26 loyal supporters. Please do sign up and join them to help our valuable community building at:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sampfordcourtenayvh/>

Thank you.

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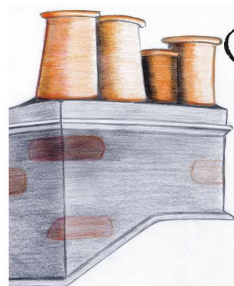
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Den Brook Community Fund - Announcement

Until now, the Den Brook Community Fund has only been permitted to provide grants to support Capital-funded projects.

However, for a limited period, the Committee is now also able to consider grant applications which will partly compensate local organisations experiencing reductions in their income arising directly from the effect of the Covid-19 epidemic.

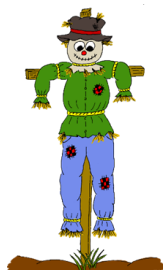
As before, this applies to charities, not-for-profit organisations, clubs and societies who are based in the five parishes listed below adjacent to the wind farm.

In addition to completing the application form organisations will need to submit copies of their accounts and bank statements for 2019 and 2020 and declare receipt of any other grants they may have received or for which they are applying. The Committee will meet regularly to consider applications.

The new “**Revenue Compensation Application**” pack containing a Guidance Sheet and the application form, is available by post from Den Brook Community Fund, c/o North Tawton Town Council Offices, 14a The Square, North Tawton, Devon EX20 2EP or by e-mail at denbrookcommunityfund@gmail.com

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

SAMPFORD COURTENAY FLOWER SHOW 21st AUGUST 2021



Hopefully, this year's Flower & Produce Show will be able to go ahead in some form. Therefore, the proposed date is Saturday, 21st August.

Whatever happens in the coming months, we will be carrying on with the Blue Bucket/Seed Potato Class – to see who can grow the heaviest crop from just one potato.

These will need to be ordered – so if you are interested in taking part this year – please let Marion & Bill know by either emailing

marion174@btinternet.com
or ringing 01837 82285 by 1st March.

The Big Breakfast is back! But this year it's takeaway

Saturday, 27 February, 8.30–10am

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News from Sampford Courtenay Parish Council

Full minutes can be viewed on our website www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk where any useful links are live.

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

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

1. SCPC – held their 1st Dec & 5th Jan 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. JANUARY LOCKDOWN – the Incident Management Team is up and running again with 21 volunteers offering to shop, and fetch medication for any vulnerable parishioners.
3. WDBC GRANTS AVAILABLE – Cllr. Lois Samuel gave details of current Covid grants available. Details can be found on the full Minutes or from WDBC.
4. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSIONS – SCPC will be holding some informal, Q & A sessions (via Zoom at the moment, but hopefully face to face in the near future) Tuesday 16th February, 7 p.m. – Topic War Memorial; Tuesday 16th March – Topic -Village Green, Community Garden & Skate Ramp. For more details or to submit your comments on either topic please contact the Clerk.
5. COMMUNITY INFORMATION HUBS (Noticeboards) – suggestions for locations for further noticeboards in the parish are requested.
6. PRIORITY POST BOXES – (marked with a Blue Sticker) – these are currently recommended for use to return Covid Tests. There are currently none in SC, so SCPC will contact the Royal Mail to see if this can be rectified.
7. OKEHAMPTON – EXETER RAILWAY LINE – SCPC and neighbouring parishioners have received notification of proposed works on this line through SC. If you have any comments please let the Clerk know.
8. FOOTPATHS – work on top of Cliston Lane should soon been completed.
9. PLANT STALL – will be reopened for your produce and spare plants, seeds etc. From now on monies raised will be for VILLAGE HALL ROOF-US FUND.
10. KEEP SAFE, KEEP ALERT - the best way to keep up to date is to sign up for emails via Julie and the Website, alternatively please contact the Clerk (details below) to either receive regular Covid Newsletters by email or printed copies. If your circumstances change and you wish to submit a Request for Assistance form – just contact Marion as per below.

Please contact SCPC Clerk – Marion Pratt at SCPCclerk@aol.com or on 01837 82285 if you would like to raise any issues. Even better, come along to a meeting.

Next meeting: 2nd February

Sampford Courtenay Parish Council would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and hope we can soon all get together again.

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January



February



March



April

5th - SCPC Meeting Zoom
 6th - Plough Sunday
 19th - SCPC Q & A –
 GENERAL
 29/31 - RSPB – Garden
 Bird Watch

2nd - SCPC Meeting
 Zoom
 13th -Murder Mystery
 16th -SCPC Q & A –
 WAR MEMORIAL
 ZOOM
 27th -Big Breakfast to
 take away

16th - SCPC Q & A –
 VILLAGE GREEN
 20th - Great British
 Spring Clean
 24th -Flower Show
 Spring Meeting & col-
 lect potatoes & buckets.

2nd - Easter Egg Trail
 27th -SCPC Open Meeting



May



June



July



August

1st - Dog Show
 22nd - Music event
 22nd - Bee and bug count

13th - Himalayan Balsam
 Stream Clean
 19th -Mid-Summer Ball

1st - Scarecrow Trail starts
 21st - Flower and Veg
 Show



September



October



November



December

4th - Music event

30th - Pumpkin Trail

13th - Countryfile Chil-
 dren in Need Footpath
 Ramble

6/11th - Christmas Cheer &
 Santa's Grotto

Wanted—a volunteer !

**A person to take on temporary delivery of Roundabout for the outlying area
 around Corscombe.**

If you are able to help, please contact Malcolm Craig on 01837 880118.

Design a litter poster

Could you design an eye-catching poster asking people not to drop litter? SCEnSus group hopes to produce a selection of posters to display on parish noticeboards, litter 'blackspots' and local fast food outlets asking people to take their litter home rather than dropping it.

Open to all ages - young and less young!

Please send your poster to

Joy Tucker at bobandjoytucker@gmail.com or

Bridgelea, Wellsprings Lane,
Sampford Courtenay EX20 2TD.

Closing date 31st January 2021. Thank you.

St. Andrew's Church Sampford Courtenay

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News from Sampford Courtenay

A Christmas Singalong on Zoom was organised on December 18th and the next one is scheduled for January 21st. See the Parish website for details. Despite restrictions, St. Andrew's candlelit Carol Service was held on December 20th with a reduced number of carols, sung by the choir only, and just three lessons read by Marion Pratt, Carolyn Richards and Carolyn Knapman. Both the choir and congregation observed hand sanitising and social distancing.

A group of parishioners braved the cold and wet conditions on 21st December to sing carols at The Beeches. It was much appreciated by the residents. Carols were also sung in The Square and in the garden of the New Inn on 22nd December and the collection was divided between the pub and Children's Hospice South West.

Midnight Holy Communion was held at St. Andrew's on Christmas Eve at 11.00 p.m. and a service was held on Christmas morning.

Sadly, because of the corona virus, New Year's celebrations were curtailed. The church tower was not floodlit, there were no bells to ring out the old year and ring in the new and no warm brazier around which to exchange greetings and to sing 'Auld lang syne'. Plough Sunday was still celebrated on January 10th with Joe Stoneman and Richard Knapman pushing the vintage horse drawn plough up the aisle, together with a sample of soil and a small sack of wheat for blessing. Joe read the lesson and the choir singing the anthem 'Thou visitest the earth', but there were no tractors and ploughs gathered in The Square for blessing.

Nicky Craig

Sampford Courtenay – Past, Present and Future – an idea

You may have read in the December/ January Roundabout (p. 9) and on the website about this initiative - please take a look if you haven't already. There are lots of things that we can do within this but to start with we're asking that people think about preparing their own 'History of my Property'. Some people have already started and it's an ideal lockdown activity for people of all ages – maybe get the whole family involved!

Let's make the history of Sampford Courtenay 'real' – Can you research your own home and its history ... produce a 'timeline' for your house and summarise the exciting bits. When was it built? Who lived there and when? What did they do for a living? Any significant changes since it was built and why? Any funny events or happenings? Try to include 2 or 3 photos or illustrations. We don't need an essay, anything from a paragraph or list of bullet points and no more than 2 pages. Once we've got several of these we will display them, possibly even think about putting them together in a second 'Orange book' (Sampford Courtenay & Honeychurch 2003, Stephanie Pouya). We might get our tech-savvy folks to interview some of our characters about their homes and their memories and experiences in the Parish.

When you've got something that you want to share, even if it isn't in its final 'completely finished' form, don't worry, just send it to: wilson548@btinternet.com. Who knows what we'll find out when we start putting it all together!

This is an independent initiative that has come from an interested Parishioner who hopes to create a local history group to work alongside the other established groups in the Parish.

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Dear community members

The latest Lockdown, even at very short notice, has not dampened our school community's enthusiasm and love of learning.

The children who continue to attend school have quickly adapted to the online learning organised by our amazing teachers. This time around we are even more determined to ensure that we maintain the highest standards in learning. This includes improved communication with children and parents/carers at home. The marvels of technology allow us to quickly set up live meetings, and we all love to see the smiley happy faces learning at home. It's great that we don't miss the special personal connection with our children. It's also great that they can continue to see their friends, albeit in a virtual capacity!

In their homes, surrounded by their family, curious pets and an array of cuddly toys, the children are fully immersed in a different but consistent daily routine. Work is set daily and remote learning is fully in place making sure a wide curriculum is offered and the children are fully engaged.

The teachers and support staff are formidable experts in managing all the new technology (which fails dreadfully when the WIFI crashes!). They assess and comment on the work being returned throughout the day and interact with those children who are on site. The new way of learning also means that the children, at school or at home, can be grouped to meet virtually when needed.

A plethora of online resources is now becoming more readily available to address the increased demands, offering experiences our children are sorely missing. Zoos and art galleries have opened their doors giving virtual tours and we have our own specially designed PE sessions delivered by Southampton Football Club (Saints) on a live stream every week.

The team at North Tawton has shown extraordinary dedication in facing the challenges of this pandemic, and we continue to reassure children and parents/carers that educational standards remain high on the agenda.

We must all look after each other and give the necessary support to one another, doing the very best that we can. Stay safe and well,
Miss Chauhan





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 BCP
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 Common Worship

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 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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5 th Sunday	Prayer & Communion	No service unless advertised otherwise

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

Thursday 7th January

Ian FILE (83)

Exeter Crematorium

Thursday 14th January

Moira POPHAM (96)

East Devon Crematorium



The food bank remains open and is even more vital for some during lockdown. 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

Out of the deep have I called unto thee,
O Lord: Lord, hear my voice.

O let thine ears consider well: the voice of my complaint.

If thou, Lord wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss: O Lord, who may abide it?

Psalm 130
(The Book of Common Prayer)

Pause for thought

Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord:
Lord, hear my voice; let your ears consider well
the voice of my supplication.

If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss, O
Lord, who could stand?

Psalm 130
(Common Worship)

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 Feb 28th / March 7th Sheila Thorne
 March 14th / 21st Lin Warre
 March 28th Hazel Towell
 17th February to April 3rd Lent Brass only

North Tawton

Flowers

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 February 21st / March 28th
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April 4th Easter Flowers

Brass

February Margaret Arscott
 March Kay Webber & Lindsay Gibb

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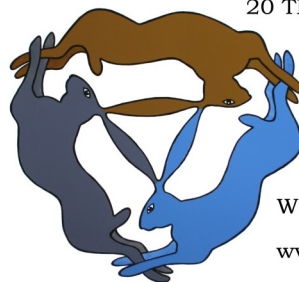
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