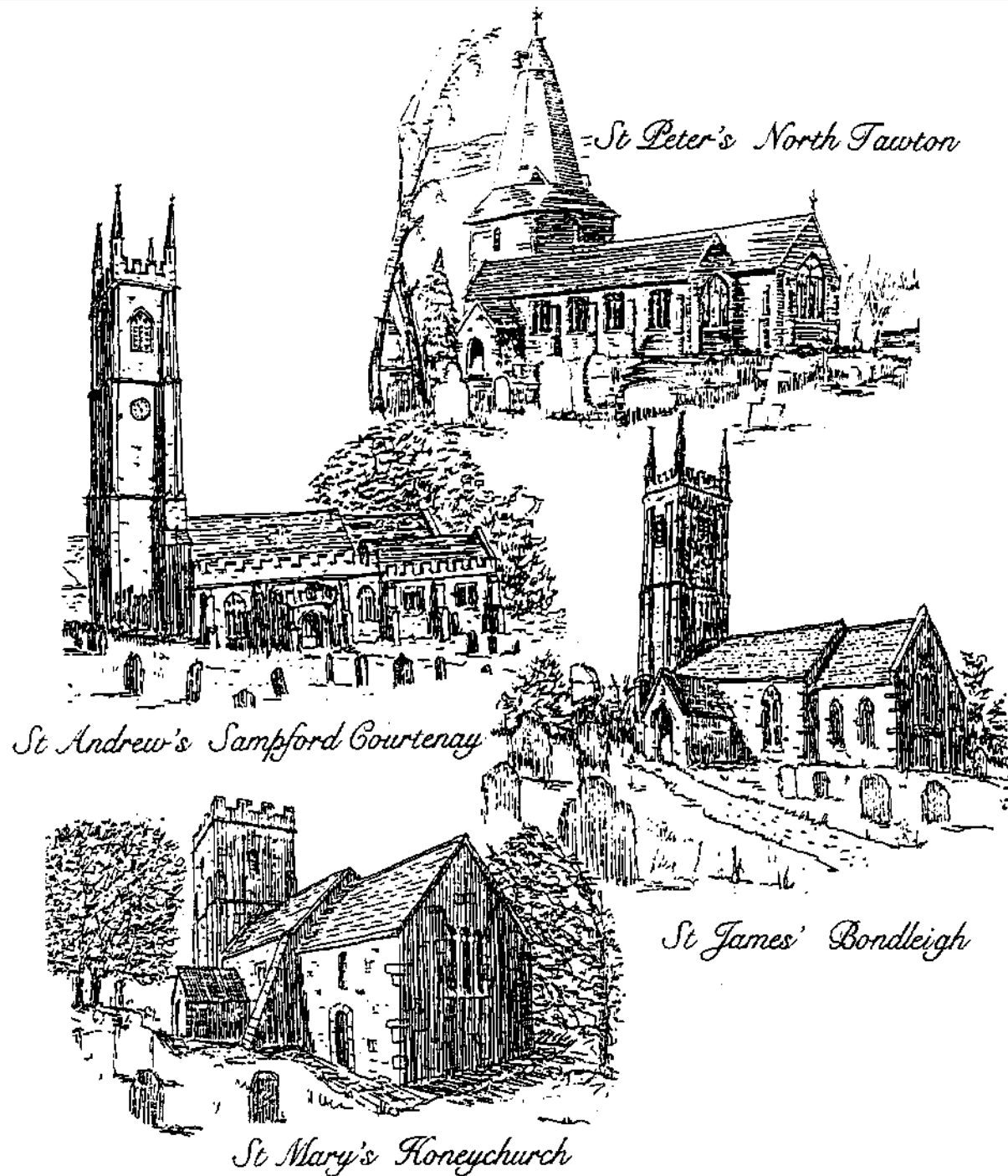


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From The Rectory

Leaving Devon

“Why on earth would you want to leave Devon?”

This was the question I was asked recently. “There are some other nice places too,” I replied.

Interestingly, the question came from someone in my new parish in Oxfordshire. As some of you will know, the Weldon family are off to pastures new in September. After 10 years here, we are moving to Marcham near Abingdon.

Devon is lovely as we all know, and despite the showery August we’ve had, it is particularly lovely to see the harvest coming in and the corn stooks standing in the fields. We will really miss Devon. However, we all know that behind the picture-postcard idyll there is a huge amount of work and stress for those for whom the west country is their home and workplace rather than their holiday destination. Despite the question, I’m sure my new parishioners up country are well aware of that, for much of Oxfordshire is farmland too. Indeed, the county now has its own farming champion in the wonderful Kaleb Cooper, the real star of Clarkson’s Farm – the Amazon Prime TV show set on Jeremy Clarkson’s farm.

Nevertheless, I have asked myself a few times since getting the job as Vicar of Marcham... “why am I leaving Devon?” We’re moving for multiple small reasons that add up to enough, I think (?) They include: feeling God’s call to a new challenge; it feels like the right time to go; moving now will be less costly on the children than in a couple of years’ time; 10 years is a decent stretch for a first Vicar job; all of our wider family now live up country; our churches here are in good health and in need of fresh blood with a fresh vision. Adding them up, we are sure we are doing the right thing. Ultimately, trusting in God’s providence, we felt we had to push the door to see if it opened. And it did. So while we feel we have the energy and the passion for a new challenge, we’ve got to go. I can well imagine we may be back one day. We’ll really miss the beach.

Much has changed since we moved here in July 2011. We came with a toddler and a baby. Samuel is now nearly a teenager, Emily finishes primary school next year and Olivia is, well... big(ish). Jane has done one round of maternity leave and worked at two local GP practices. We’ve seen a few changes of church wardens and treasurers across our four churches, but nothing like the number of changes that some churches have gone through in the last decade. And all four churches are open and thriving, as is the case in many rural communities across the UK. Don’t

believe the hype about the imminent death of the rural church! It is tough, and there are huge challenges, but God is building his church.

Since July 2011, I have taken 52 weddings, 43 baptisms and 140 funerals, some in particularly tragic circumstances. And this is my 91st article in Roundabout. In that time, we’ve had about 1500 Sunday services, numerous midweek activities and meetings; and, praise the Lord (!) we have seen lots of people grow in faith and a few come to faith in Christ too. We have sent two people into full-time ministry, and a dozen young people presented for Confirmation. I came eager to serve this community with the gospel of Christ, and in his strength alongside lots of other people, especially my wonderful clergy colleague Rita Bullworthy, we have been enabled to do that with fruitful results. Covid has hugely affected the final stretch of my time here, and that has been really difficult. But overall, I think the four churches are in good heart. Incidentally, we have been given assurances by Exeter Diocese that I will be replaced with a full-time minister in due course. The vacancy will last at least a year, so please do give your full support to Revd’s Rita and John, parish worker Wez, the churchwardens, and all who serve in our parish churches. In that way, they will be able to continue to serve you throughout the vacancy and beyond.

We will treasure so many happy memories from our time in this community (and not a few surprises too) ... lots of wonderful friends of all ages and backgrounds who have been so kind to us; lots of fun on farms in and out of tractors, combines, quad bikes and even a tank once; a double wedding; various garden fetes, Nanny Knight’s Revels, nativity plays and services; Oke rugby fixtures; North Tawton football fixtures and cup finals; pony days; beach trips to Bude; climbing tors on Dartmoor; school assemblies and sports days; Exeter Chiefs matches; countless bikes rides, runs and walks around the lanes; and, of course, four fantastic musicals in church... Joseph, Another Story Begins, Oliver and Jesus Christ Superstar. It’s been great fun. We have loved our time amongst you. So why am I leaving? Too late now. Just don’t ask me what I found once in St Peter’s Church vestry!

God be with you till we meet again. Bye for now.

Rev’d Nick Weldon (Vicar)
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FRIDAY *monthly*

September 17th

NORTH TAWTON The Square
09:45 to 10.45

BONDLEIGH Old School
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SATURDAY *monthly*

September 4th

NORTH TAWTON The Square
10:00 to 12:00

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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,
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)

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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).

Be Still

A short informal monthly service of themed prayers, reflections & readings and creating space to dwell in the presence of God

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Would you like to join North Tawton Town Council as one of our Councillors?

At the time of writing there are 3 vacancies on the Council. We will be considering co-option of one applicant at our September meeting – there will still be 2 vacancies to be filled by co-option (as no-one requested an election).

Why become a Town Councillor?

Town Councillors are elected representatives who volunteer their time to work on behalf of local residents. By becoming a parish councillor you can be a voice for your community, somebody to whom residents will look for help, guidance and support. You will be involved in local decision making and strategic planning to benefit the people you serve. Seeing your community change for the better, as a result of decisions you have helped make, can give you a huge sense of achievement and pride.

These are just some of the roles and responsibilities of a Town Councillor:

A North Tawton Town Councillor is one of 12 individuals, supported by the Town Clerks, who represent residents within the Town to help ensure their views are heard and considered.

As a Member of the Council you will help to make decisions regarding the finances involved in delivering local services.

You'll be helping us to protect and improve the built and natural environment of North Tawton. This may involve contributing to long term policy development or being part of the team that assesses and comments on local planning applications.

Liaising and working in partnership with other organisations, agencies or neighbouring parish councils where necessary.

How much time does being a councillor take?

How much time you are able to commit will be up to you and what level of involvement you are hoping for. You'll be expected to attend the monthly Town Council meetings and any extra meetings that are necessary. You need to be free to attend meetings of Committees or working groups you join.

For more information, eligibility criteria, and an application form please go to our website, there is a link from the front page. Alternatively, contact the Town Clerk. We can arrange for you to speak to one of our existing Councillors for an insight into the role if you wish.

Special "Annual Town Meeting" – Thursday 23rd September 2021, Town Hall

Because of Covid restrictions, the Annual Town Meeting had to be held via zoom, with the proviso that a special public meeting would be convened when possible. This has now been arranged for 23rd September in the Town Hall – time to be confirmed. This is your chance to attend a public meeting, to find out what the Council has been doing and what its plans are, and to have some input into various ongoing and future projects.

Please check our noticeboard, website, and the facebook hub for more details in due course, and we look forward to seeing you there. This event will be risk assessed and relevant precautions put into place – it may be necessary to restrict numbers attending.

Durant Trust

I apologise that the entry re the Durant Trust in last month's Roundabout was a little confusing – I confirm that a meeting of the trust took place in July and the next meeting will take place in November. If you sent in your application very recently, and have not heard from the Trust, this means your application will be considered in November. Thank you. Sarah Say, Secretary to the Durant Trust.

Sarah Say

Town Clerk

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North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

Husband has been inspired. By the Tokyo Olympics. He has informed me that he is in training. Serious training. He has joined the North Tawton Triathlon Club and he is totally committed. Slight variation to the three required disciplines however. Husband has gone for hedge cutting, mowing and rotavating. He's aiming for gold. No other colour medal will do. I'm so proud.

Meanwhile – back in the real world. I do love a good buffet – don't you? I adore a cocktail sausage, a cheeky cheese and pineapple speared on a stick and a good ol' traditional egg sandwich. Bring it on. So we did. North Tawton W.I. were back in the club. After 17 months. (the rugby club – not a night club – don't be ridiculous). And apart from a few different hair styles it felt like old times. Old times with sandwiches, sausages, cheese and pineapple, cake, a nice cup of tea – and a glass of fizz. It was simply lovely. The room was full of chat, laughter and affection, with a definite hint of relief and pride that our precious W.I. had 'survived' and our membership was flourishing. Don't want to sound soppy but I think a few of us felt quite emotional – and if you are in the habit of flicking through the Crediton Courier then you may well have seen us partying on down – (does anyone actually still say that?!) The only thing that was missing? Mince pies. Nothing wrong with having a mince pie at a summer party. Guess I'll have to wait for our Christmas party. Is there a prize for producing the first article in Roundabout to mention the 'Christmas' word?

Oh yes. Mustn't forget to mention a rather special presentation. One of our ladies has been a member for over sixty years. How many?! Was she a toddler when she joined? Congratulations were conveyed to Kennedy who has been a loyal member since 1958. Remarkable achievement.

The group project of a patchwork table runner made during lockdown had its grand unveiling (see below). Looking ahead – we're starting to put events back in the W.I. diary. The John Lewis Lock-in is proving popular and our Quiz and Pasty night is booked for November. The Walk and Talk group are walking and talking (as you do) and our programme lists a variety of speakers for our monthly meetings ranging from 'Clothes Styling' to 'Whale Watching' and 'Ann Widdecombe' to 'Farmer Luxton' – an eclectic mix wouldn't you say?

So, did you see us out and about last month with our litter picking sticks? Did you notice that we'd made an effort to dress up? Husband has just said that in his opinion we always look that glamorous – now he's making me nervous, I'm guessing that a trip to Screwfix/Tool Station/Machine Mart is brewing and he wants me to go with him. He can then count it as a 'nice day out' – and if he throws in a cup of tea and a snack at the Pitstop Café, Marsh Barton then it goes from being 'a nice day out' to 'a mini break'. I am beyond lucky.

Husband is busy preparing for the Okehampton Show. He is buffing beetroot, measuring his runner beans and tenderly removing spuds from their earthy bed. That almost sounds poetic. He has high hopes for his spuds. The adrenaline will be surging through his veins when we enter the 'Shed', on the morning of the show, and look to see if there is a certificate next to the paper plate upon which rest his lovingly grown spuds. I can't bear the potential disappointment if there is no certificate. There will be a lot of consolation cake/chocolate consumed if there is no certificate.

I've just had a thought. If husband makes it through to the Paris Olympics with his rural version of the triathlon, can he wear his boiler suit or is lycra obligatory?

Sue Knott



Do you like the sound of what we do?

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<p>11th – Roof-Aid Fun Day with Music 4- 10pm 11th – Coffee Morning – Devon Historic Churches Day 18th – Come, Buy & Chat 10.30 – 11.30am 18th – Bug Hotel Workshop 2.30 – 5.30pm 24th – Harvest Festival & Supper</p>	<p>30th - Pumpkin Trail</p>	<p>11th – Armistice Day Service 13th - Countryfile Children in Need Footpath Ramble 14th – Remembrance Service 20th – Come, Buy and Chat 10.30 – 11.30 am</p>	<p>6/11th - Christmas Cheer & Santa's Grotto</p>

If any other groups in Sampford Courtenay have things organised that they would like added to the Calendar, please get details to SCPC Clerk@aol by the 10th of the month. Thank you.



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*Contact Jane/Derek 07821 721043

email: janeswlindehoppers@yahoo.com

www.swlindehoppers.org.uk



Come, buy and chat!

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

Saturday 18th September

10.30 - 11.30

Cake and produce stall, local producers' stalls,
bring and buy, book exchange, raffle, tea/coffee and
cake

Please bring donations of cakes and produce to the hall
from 9.30

Thank you



All proceeds in aid
of the village hall roof appeal



Exploring new views for new paintings

Celia has been welcoming visitors to her studio in Bondleigh for Devon Open Studios for many years. This year she is part of a mini-trail of artists incorporating North Tawton, Bondleigh and Bow. During lockdown Celia took advantage of being confined to her locality by exploring footpaths near her home and this has inspired a series of paintings of previously unseen views which will be on show during Devon Open Studios. Some feature near views of woodlands and country lanes, others look over fields towards distant horizons at that time out of bounds.

Unfortunately, due to a family memorial service she will not be open on 11th September as advertised, but will be looking forward to welcoming visitors from 12th September.

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if you are interested
Thank you

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.

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The Guides are having a
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on Saturday 11th September at 2.30 p.m.
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Cost; Adult £1, children under 14 50p.

Please bring a pen.

This will be followed by a takeaway cream tea
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Please bring a container to take this home in.

You don't have to take part in both !

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Devon Open Studios

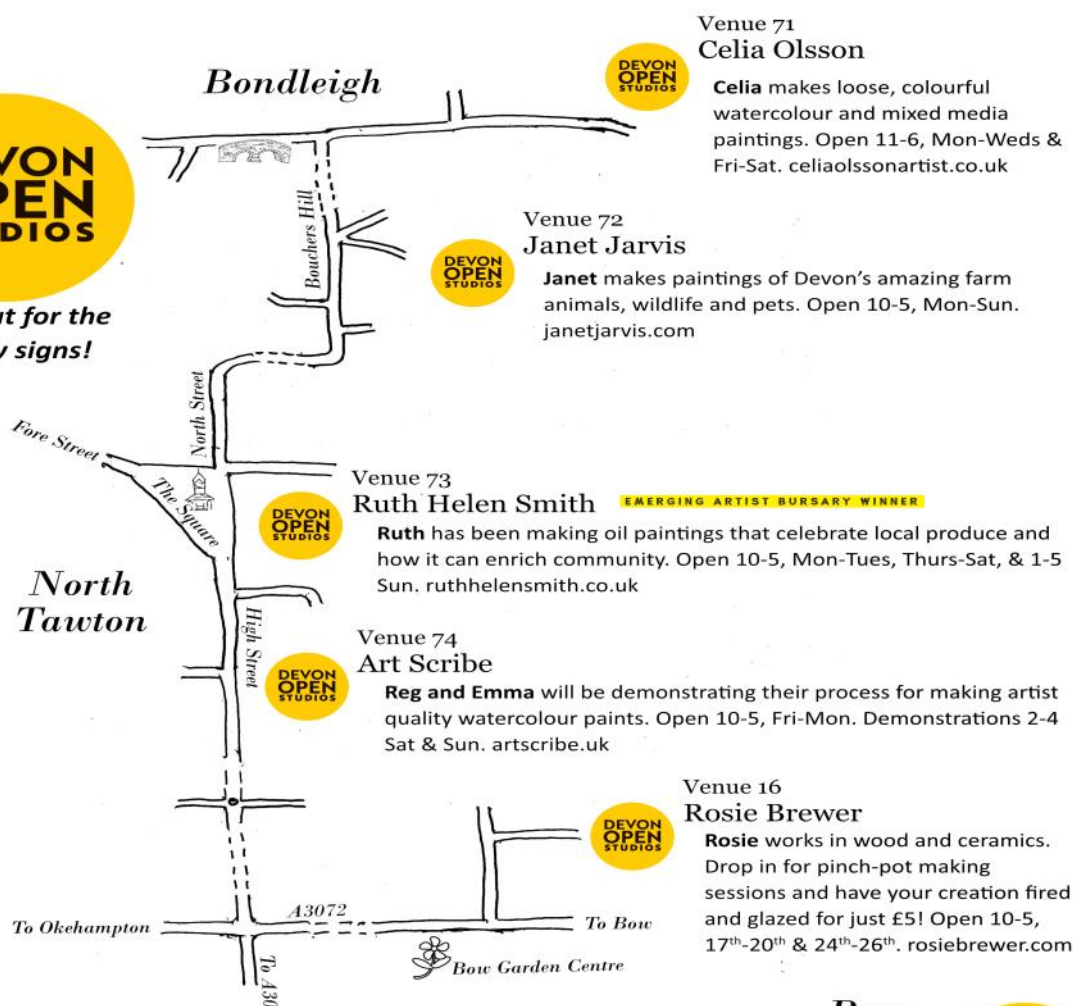
North Tawton, Boodleigh and Bow

Art Trail

11th - 26th September 2021

**DEVON
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STUDIOS**

**Look out for the
yellow signs!**



Venue 71
Celia Olsson

Celia makes loose, colourful watercolour and mixed media paintings. Open 11-6, Mon-Weds & Fri-Sat. celiaolssonartist.co.uk

Venue 72
Janet Jarvis

Janet makes paintings of Devon's amazing farm animals, wildlife and pets. Open 10-5, Mon-Sun. janetjarvis.com

Venue 73
Ruth Helen Smith

EMERGING ARTIST BURSARY WINNER

Ruth has been making oil paintings that celebrate local produce and how it can enrich community. Open 10-5, Mon-Tues, Thurs-Sat, & 1-5 Sun. ruthhelensmith.co.uk

Venue 74
Art Scribe

Reg and Emma will be demonstrating their process for making artist quality watercolour paints. Open 10-5, Fri-Mon. Demonstrations 2-4 Sat & Sun. artscribe.uk

Venue 16
Rosie Brewer

Rosie works in wood and ceramics. Drop in for pinch-pot making sessions and have your creation fired and glazed for just £5! Open 10-5, 17th-20th & 24th-26th. rosiebrewer.com

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See our full colour event guide online www.devonopenstudios.co.uk





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News from Sampford Courtenay

Jill Wilson, former regular member of St Andrew's congregation, died on 2nd August, having suffered cancer for the past 20 years. She was an active member of Sampford Courtenay Flower Club and was responsible for some magnificent flower arrangements at festivals, particularly on the lectern. Her funeral will be at St James', Bondleigh on Friday, 20th August at 2pm.

New bell ropes will be dedicated at a special Evensong at St Andrews' on 15th August. Lockdown restrictions in the church have been eased recently and it is now optional to wear a mask and to recognise social distancing. Congregational singing has been resumed and Holy Communion is now conducted at the altar rail. Taking wine directly from the chalice is optional but dipping the wafer in the chalice is forbidden. Refreshments are now served at the west end.

Note the coffee morning at Mike and Avril's, Weirford House in aid of the Historic Churches Fund on Saturday 11th September at 10.30am and the Bring and Share Supper in place of the Harvest Supper in St Andrew's on Friday 24th September after Evensong at 6.00pm.

Owing to Covid restrictions still being observed at St Andrew's, the Harvest Supper will not be held this year. Instead you are invited to a **Bring and Share Supper** in the Church after the 6.00pm Harvest Festival service.

WANTED

Flower arrangers, both male and female, to help decorate St Andrew's church for Festivals, such as Harvest, Christmas, Easter etc. Our numbers are depleting so please help out and offer to stick a few blooms in a vase. See Shirley Reddaway if you can help.

Nicky Craig

Sunday, 29 August, 3–5 p.m.

**Sampford Courtenay Village
Hall and field adjacent**

Come and enjoy afternoon tea or a
cream tea in the field
(weather permitting!)
seating on bales after the harvest

(in hall if wet)

Afternoon tea £10; cream tea £5

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EX20 2DX



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.

SEAMOR 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>

SCPC – held their 3rd August meeting in the Village Hall with 7 Councillors attending and 2 members of the public + on Zoom and 1 parishioner also joining in.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – items brought to the Clerk's attention for this meeting. The Chair has notified the Environmental Health Officer of parishioners' concerns regarding vehicles seemingly dumped in various fields around the parish.

SCEnSus – held a successful Wildflower Seed Bomb Workshop on Sat 7th August ready to throw at their next event on 18th September when they will also be building a Bug Hotel for the Village Green as part of the Great Big Green Week. Check out the details on their [website..](#)

SCPC Dartmoor Line Working Party – you should all have received a copy of the survey to evaluate local support for the re-opening of Sampford Courtenay Railway Station and improved local transport provision. If you would like to complete the survey online you can do so [here](#)

Broadband/Mobile Coverage Survey – engineers were working from New Inn to Weirford Lane at the beginning of August to install Fibre for improved internet coverage. You should now be able to check with your Internet Service Provider if you wish to connect to this improved service.

The Clerk has also received positive feedback from Airband who are conducting similar surveys in other parts of the parish, including The Beeches, to enable Fibre connection to them. SCPC hopes to arrange a Q & A Session in October for parishioners to put their questions and queries to both Airband and BT.

GET SCPC & PARISH NEWS DIRECT TO YOUR INBOX - the best way to keep up to date is to sign up for emails via Julie and the Website

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 MEETING 7th Sept SCEnSus 6.30 p.m. SCPC 7.30 p.m.

Bedroom to Business Programme September - November 2021

The Business & IP Centre Devon (BIPC) is excited to announce the Bedroom to Business programme.

Do you want to make your business idea a reality? Not sure where to start? Our Bedroom to Business programme includes a Growth Accelerator course with sales trainer James White. In addition, our team of 30 experts will provide supplementary workshops covering topics including: mindset, visioning, profit/loss forecasting and writing a business plan. All the webinars are delivered online and all are FREE to access!

The 13-week programme includes all the steps and tools you need to make your dream a reality.

For more details including the full programme see the BIPC Devon website: Business & IP Centre Devon (librariesunlimited.org.uk)

In other exciting news, we have partnered with NatWest to provide Start-Up grants and support for female founders. For more details on how to apply for a 'She Started It' grant check out: Startup Grant for Female Founders - Business & IP Centre Devon (librariesunlimited.org.uk)



[Startup Grant for Female Founders - Business & IP Centre Devon](#) BIPC Devon will deliver flexible small-scale consultancy and business support packages to over 200 new start businesses across Devon, using a grant donated by NatWest. bipc.librariesunlimited.org.uk

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Bondleigh Rainfall

July has produced another 'interesting' set of figures. After a wet end to June, July continued wet with 91.5mm of rain in the first 12 days. This led to floods in North Tawton. The next ten days brought our first (and probably only) heatwave of the summer. This was soon over and rain returned for the end of the month. Total rainfall for the month was 119.7mm. This compares to only 49.0mm last year.

Danny Semorad

Sampford Courtenay Parish Website:

<http://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/>

The website is managed by **Julie Carpenter** who can be contacted on juliec2911@hotmail.co.uk

or

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

07866 605184

READING GROUP

Normally meets on the last Tuesday
of the MONTHLY

7.30 p.m. AT THE NEW INN
for further information or to join
CONTACT ISHBEL ASKEW

0183782280

ishgordon@live.co.uk

ANTS

Past, Present and Future

Actors of North Tawton Society will be holding a coffee morning in North Tawton Town Hall on Saturday 11th September from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

We invite past and present members to come along and anyone who is interested in becoming involved in the society in whatever capacity.

We will be serving refreshments and have a display of previous productions.

We will also have members available to answer questions regarding our Young Group, Pantomime and Play productions.

We are excited to be back performing next year and look forward to meeting you all.

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Sampford Courtenay SCEnSus SEASONAL Challenge
Sampford Courtenay SCEnSus Seasonal Suggestion – Autumn
Sampford Courtenay SCEnSus Seasonal Suggestion – September

1. *Come to the Village Green and Church Rooms on **Saturday 18th September at 2.30pm** for the **Bug Hotel Workshop and Seed Bomb event together with Childrens' games, Storytelling and Cream teas.** If you've donated plastic bottle tops and milk containers you can see what's happened to them. It won't solve the climate crisis but it might make us*

think differently about plastics and finding new uses rather than buying new.

2. See if you can **create your own Wildflower and Wildlife area** somewhere - garden or verge, it doesn't matter. This is the right time of year to start - cut the grass as short as you can and rake off the cuttings. You're aiming to take as many nutrients off the ground as possible - scarify or 'rough up' the turf as much as you can and spread a light covering of sand if you've got some. Then, before the end of September, scatter the wildflower seeds and water them in to settle the soil. Roll or tread them in if you can. You'll need to do something to protect the seeds from birds until they germinate - take care if you use netting that it doesn't trap them underneath. You can also string, old cassette or video tape between bamboo canes or use recycled foil containers tied so that they flap in the wind to discourage birds.

3. During the Autumn, why not **think about food miles** again like we did last year? How far does the food on your plate travel before it gets there? Can you have at least one main meal a week where all of the ingredients have been bought (and preferably grown) locally – at least within 15 miles of your home? During the rest of the month, read the labels on packaging and find out where your regular food items come from. We should all do as much as we can to reduce our food air miles.

4. If you want extra food based activities - Do you know **which of the foods you eat are organic**? Could you eat more organic foods? Could you grow more of your own next year? Use the longer evenings to look through those seed catalogues. Work out your vegetable rotations for next year to help your garden soil structure and to avoid certain pests - reducing the need for both fertiliser and chemicals.

5. and finally, **How's your Carburettor?** Did you know that there will be **more ethanol in UK unleaded fuel** from this month and that this might affect our cars as well as, for example, garden machinery? The ethanol content in unleaded petrol will increase from 5% to 10% (labelled as E5 or E10 at the pumps) as part of a move to cut greenhouse gas emissions. The Government estimates that the change will reduce CO2 emissions by 750,000 tonnes a year, the equivalent of taking 350,000 cars off the road. For cars built after 2011 this might mean a slight (1%) reduction in miles to the gallon due to ethanol's lower energy content. For petrol-powered garden equipment it could lead to an increase in carburettor issues as storing petrol with a higher ethanol content over extended periods can cause increased corrosion because ethanol absorbs moisture and the fuel becomes thicker and 'gunks up' (technical term!) the fuel lines. It's always been recommended that we drain the fuel from garden equipment if it won't be used for two weeks or longer to prevent 'stale fuel' issues. Equipment that won't be used over the Winter months can be 'flushed through' with special products to prevent starting problems next year. Premium quality 'Super' unleaded fuel will continue to contain 5% or less ethanol.

Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay & Jacobstowe W.I.

Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay & Jacobstowe recently held the first meeting since the lockdown, outdoors in Sampford Courtenay village hall car park. It was a belated Annual Meeting, the first meeting since March 2020. The treasurer, president and secretary's reports were read and adopted. As there were no other contenders, Margaret Cleveland agreed to continue as President for another year. Anne Leaman will continue as secretary, Sally Kenealy as treasurer and Rosemary Lowe as vice-president. The other committee members are Shirley Reddaway, Gwyneth Leonard, Karen Hunter and Gillian Townsend Green.

The programme for 2021-22 was complete with the first meeting to be in Sampford Courtenay village hall on Thursday September 2nd, when the speaker will be Anne Stuart talking about glass fusing. It was decided to enter an exhibit in the Okehampton Show on August 12th and the monthly walks have started with walks on the Granite Way at Bridestowe and Abbeyford Woods so far. The next walk will be on August 27th at Heywoods Wood, Wembworthy.

Margaret Weeks



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Between 2021 and 2027, the government will gradually reduce and then stop Direct Payments. Instead, farmers will be supported to improve the environment, improve animal health and welfare, and reduce carbon emissions.

The move away from Direct Payments will be a big change for some farmers, so they will happen over a 7-year transition period to give time to plan and adjust. The Future Farming Resilience Fund has been funded by Defra to allow us to support farmers and land managers with this transition.

The support is free and available from September 2021 to February 2022 to any farmer or land manager currently in receipt of BPS payments and we can support farmers throughout Devon and Somerset.

Free, Local Workshops

Initially we will be running several free, local workshops to discuss the changes coming through the transition and look at new funding options, as well as planning strategies for the future, such as diversification and productivity improvements.

The workshop we are running locally is on Thursday, 30th September, 7 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. at the Okehampton Business Centre and includes a free buffet and refreshments.

Business Information Point has been supporting farmers since we began over 25 years ago and has built up a wealth of experience and expertise across all farm business types. Through this free support, we can tailor the advice to your specific needs and prepare you for the changes ahead.

For full details of the support and to register on any of the workshops please visit our website - <https://businessinfopoint.co.uk/ffr/> or call 01837 659 059.

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What Do Children Learn at School These Days?



This month, while the staff and children are enjoying the summer holiday, I thought I'd answer the question – 'What do children learn at school these days?'

Our youngest children are introduced to learning through lots of play activities, carefully set up and presented to give them opportunities to discover and explore the world around them. For example a tray of water and different containers soon gives rise to children exploring the concepts 'empty', 'full', 'more than', 'less than,' and by presenting children with measuring jugs with scales and numbers in this real context, they begin to notice and talk about how much water they have and need and *voila*, the children are learning about capacity! In Nursery, most of the learning is self-directed, meaning the children choose their activities. While it can look like children are just 'playing' the Early Years Framework is carefully constructed to give children experiences to develop skills and knowledge. As the children progress through to Reception Class, there are more times throughout the day when the children are directed to take part in a staff-led activity and come together for more frequent whole class sessions, sitting on the carpet together with the teacher reading a story, modelling a skill or explaining a concept.

In Year One and upwards the children follow the National Curriculum, a set of learning objectives which build on subject-specific skills and knowledge year on year. More often, the children sit at allocated tables working in groups, and at times independently on set pieces of work.

While of course we teach the traditional 'Three Rs' (*reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic*) the children enjoy a balanced curriculum which also includes music, history, geography, art and design, technology, science, PSHE (personal, social, health and economics), religious education, physical education and computing. The older children also learn French. We have a timetable for each class so that we make sure the children have received a balance of the subjects over the week, term and year.

Sometimes a subject area will be blocked, for example when undertaking a design project, it is sometimes more practical to do this over consecutive days rather than an hour a week over several weeks.

Most of the time, classrooms are lively places with discussions, collaborative work, discoveries and debates.

However, there are also times where the children are quiet and reflective, spending time studying or completing independent work.

Our staff has very good knowledge of the subjects they teach and work hard to present knowledge and skills in exciting ways. They make use of outdoor opportunities, multimedia (e.g. photography, videos, YouTube clips, computer programmes) and a wide range of quality literature. Staff set up investigations, problems to solve and projects which motivate the children and foster a love of learning. Where it is possible and relevant, they combine subject areas. For example, it makes a lot of sense when we learn about rivers in geography that we link this to learning about the water cycle in science. We also make use of the local environment, for example visiting our local river as well as learning about rivers in the classroom.

Children use their writing skills to present what they have learnt in exciting and creative ways. for example writing a diary entry in role of a person experiencing The Great Fire of London, writing poetry about the changing environment because of climate change or producing a Power Point of researched facts about a country they have been studying.

The children really enjoy their work and always speak enthusiastically about what they are learning. Please see the class blogs on our school website to see what the children are learning each week.

I do hope that after two school years disrupted by Covid restrictions, we can once again enjoy having visits and visitors, concerts, sports matches, 'live' celebration assemblies, music and dance festivals. Using 'on line' platforms has served its purpose well, but I do look forward to being in spaces with the school community. Next month I will share more news from the children, and photos too!

Tara Penny
Principal of North Tawton Community Primary School and Nursery





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HALLELUJAH!!! OKEHAMPTON SINGS AGAIN !

DON'T FORGET .. OPEN EVENING OKEHAMPTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Monday, September 13th 2021, 7.15pm., Fairplace United Church, Okehampton

[Pandemic regulations permitting]

Do come and join us and celebrate the new freedom to sing! This taster session is open to all at no charge and we will do some popular pieces and extracts from Handel's 'Messiah'. Just come and make some music with us – it's been a long year! – and if possible please bring a copy of Messiah with you.

On the 20th September normal practice sessions will resume so if you enjoy a good sing and like making music with friendly enthusiastic people, give us a try. We sing and rehearse on Monday evenings at Fairplace Church Okehampton from 7:15 to 9 p.m..

We perform a wide variety of choral works in our local community and would welcome any voice, young or old. There are no auditions so why not come along and decide if you would like to join us.

For more information please contact Jenny on 01837 840282 or enquiries@okechoralsociety.org.uk

North Tawton's Market

Saturday 4th September 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

at the Rugby Club

Locally produced beef, beer, cheese, wine, hogget, bread, crafts and much more.

Thanks to the great support you've given it, the market will now take place every quarter, indoors in the winter months and outdoors in the summer and autumn, providing an outlet for local producers and a source of fresh produce, crafts and gifts for the people of North Tawton.

Come along and support your market.

Organised by North Tawton Events Group

Do you have ideas for local events?

Having chalked up success in reviving the town's market, the North Tawton Events group has some further ideas for the months ahead. The group grew out of the Nanny Knight's committee which organised activities during the last week-long Nanny Knight's Revel in 2019. Events they organised then included story-telling, a history walk, an open gardens day, a tour of the local micro-brewery and a bring-and-share feast.

Now it's turning attention to a range of other events with the aim of providing something to interest everyone in the course of the next twelve months. Plans are already in hand for an art trail, a pop-up museum, a bat walk, a clothes swap and a music event.

The group is open to new ideas and is happy to work with others who have ideas for making things happen in the town.

If you have ideas for events you'd like to make happen, contact nateventscommittee@gmail.com

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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
4th Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion BCP
5th Sunday	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion Common Worship

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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SERVICES at St. James' Church Bondleigh

1st Sunday	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
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3 rd Sunday	Ministry	No service unless advertised otherwise
4 th Sunday	Prayer & Communion	DVD
5 th Sunday	Prayer & Communion	No service unless advertised otherwise

FROM THE REGISTERS

WEDDDING

Saturday 31st July Aaron FITTON and Megan PENN

St Peter's Church

FUNERALS

Friday 16th July Edna FRY (92)

St Peter's Church

BAPTISMS

Saturday 7th August Jack William McWHIRTER (6 months)

St Mary's Church



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.
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All the world is God's own field,
Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown;
First the blade and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear:
Grant, O harvest Lord, that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

Henry Alford 1810 - 1871

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18th September – 10 a.m. to 12.30 (the start of the Great Big Green Week!)

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

St James' Bondleigh - Famous Landmarks Trail & Cream Tea - Sunday, 12th September from 11.00am

In aid of Devon Historic Churches Trust (50% of funds raised are returned to St James' Church).

Starting from St James' Church, come along and enjoy a stroll whilst spotting some famous landmarks along the way!

The route will pass through fields so we would advise appropriate footwear and dogs (on leads please) are most welcome to join in the fun. Cream teas will be available on your return to St James' Church.

Cream teas available from 12.00 noon until 4.00pm even if you are not walking, we welcome you to meet with friends and enjoy a cream tea.

Adults £5.00, children (primary school age or younger) free.

For more information, please phone Caroline & Graham 82240 or Danny & Jane 82319



News from the Moor

Hi everyone

I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. As usual, the summer holidays have been welcomed with blustery winds and rain – slightly confusing after the temperature of 30 degrees a couple of weeks ago. It makes life interesting and, of course, the rain is what makes Devon so green and glorious.

It's time for our virtual tour of Dartmoor so let's start with Finch Foundry. The guided tours there have been going down a storm with lovely feedback from visitors. I was treated to a tour a few weeks ago and it is truly magical when the machinery starts to run. My favourite part is the view from the balcony over the garden where you get a real feel for the importance of the location. I really recommend booking your slot to avoid being disappointed as numbers are restricted.

The team at Lydford Gorge were delighted to be able to open the whole of the circular route once again but are keeping it as a one way route to help everyone be safe. You don't need to book to visit but mornings tend to be very busy so mid afternoon is a good time to arrive. The newest addition to Lydford is the opening of a second hand bookshop which is being run by an excellent team of volunteers. The shop is just beautiful and full of treasures so worth a visit next time you're that way.

Finally, to Castle Drogo. I am still surprised when I walk down the drive and see the castle without scaffolding. It is such a joy to walk around and see the rooms full of the wonderful collection items and it has been lovely to see visitors enjoying seeing the Kitchen and Scullery again after such a long time. Drogo has also come off of the booking system so no need to pre-book. If you would prefer a quieter time, mid afternoon tends to be a good option.

Across the board, from the 19 July, we are keeping some of our previous measures in place, including screens at our tills, to help keep everyone safe. It is not mandatory to wear a face covering, however, we would recommend wearing one in indoor spaces.

Take care everyone,

Paula

Volunteering & Community Manager, Dartmoor

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Barbara Dennis
Caroline Stokes
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Pam Evison

North Tawton

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September 19th / 26th

Margaret Arscott
Celia Boughton / Jo
Fear / Vicky Bond

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