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## From The Rectory

Last month's "From the Rectory" ended with a question to which your editors felt there should be an answer. So they asked for it and here it is under the heading of

### The "stranger within thy gates"

*(Historically, churches have been places where sanctuary could be found by those who needed it. Here are two modern tales where shelter was sought at a church). Tale one:*

Once upon a time there was a homeless man who came to a small West Devon town with all his worldly possessions. After sleeping on the town hall steps for a few days, and gratefully receiving the kindness of the town's inhabitants, he found better digs in the porch of the church. There he stayed for about two weeks, with his two suitcases and a sleeping bag. His favourite meal was fish and chips.

As time went by the Vicar and church warden grew concerned about an upcoming wedding. Although they had welcomed the man with open arms (often full of fish and chips) they really felt the bride would not wish to clamber over the man and his two suitcases in her wedding dress.

So the day came for the man to be encouraged onward, except on that very day the years of travelling seemed to have caught up with him, and he was taken unwell. In the end an ambulance was called and he was taken in to hospital, minus his two suitcases.

Sadly the man died, and after some considerable efforts to trace his next of kin, none was found before the Vicar took his pauper's funeral about six weeks later. A notice was put in the post office window and a few residents of the town came to say goodbye to the kindly, slightly smelly gentleman. A good end to the story? Well...!

The man's worldly possessions including the two suitcases had been stored in the church vestry during his time in hospital. After another two weeks or so, the Vicar decided to move the suitcases into his garage while final attempts to trace his sister were made. Eventually contact was made and she phoned the Vicar. After a long conversation about the man's life, it was decided that the Vicar should open the suitcases and dispose of the contents. The sister had not seen her brother for over twenty years.

So the first suitcase was opened, and dealt with easily. There's only one place a load of smelly clothes should go. Black bag, ready for the tip.

The Vicar proceeded to open the second much heavier suitcases only to find something that immediately sent him into a crisis of shock and moral dilemma. He was very glad his wife was at work and children were at school. The suitcase was full of pornographic DVDs. Some looked rather, let's say, homemade. There was even a DVD player in there too.

The Vicar did not know what to do. "So this has been in my vestry for six weeks and in my house for another two!" he thought. "Children have been learning about Jesus just yards from this stash of filth, and my children have played in the garage next to it too. What on earth should I do with it? Will people think it belongs to me? What will the bishop think?" Was his promising ministry about to come crashing down?

He hatched a plan fast. The tip! "But what if the men in high viz ask to see inside the suitcase? I'll have to take my chances."

Some he drove gingerly to the tip with the two suitcases, hoping not to be challenged about their contents. He even took some of his own rubbish from the Rectory to dispose of too, to throw the high viz chaps off the scent. Well, let's just say, it was the quickest tip trip in history. In and out in 30 seconds, and the Vicar surprised himself at how far into the skip a full suitcase could be thrown. And he ignored those speed bumps on the way out.

He went home feeling very relieved that his ministry, his marriage and his parenting were intact, for now. That night, he waited until the children went to bed, and then he confessed to his wife, not that he had really done anything wrong. She was a little shocked that the items had been in possession at the church and rectory for so long, but after hearing the story she said, "you should hear what came into my surgery today."

#### *Tale two:*

A modern church in London had along its outer western edge a covered way where, partly sheltered by bushes, a tramp made his sleeping quarters. Let us call him Jimmy (not his real name). He was a friendly soul and he received kindnesses from parishioners as was right and proper in a Christian community. He enjoyed choir practices on Friday evenings. Perhaps some members of the community would have preferred his bedding and his personal hygiene to have matched their own and some would have found it hard to understand why he preferred to live outdoors, especially in winter, when he might have found shelter indoors in a warm bed. But that was his choice.

During one winter night (actually it was after midnight) Jimmy arrived at the home of a church warden to inform him that a burglary was being attempted at his church. By raising the alarm, a burglary was prevented.

Here was a case of a "stranger" repaying the kindness shown to him, perhaps a contrast to the problems caused by the "stranger" in tale one.

("thy stranger within thy gates" appears in the King James Bible In Exodus 20, verse 10 and Deuteronomy 5, verse 14. Modern editions have translated "stranger" as "alien". That is a pity. A stranger does not have to be an alien. Our country is about to receive thousands of strangers from Afghanistan, not, we hope, to be received as aliens.)



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

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

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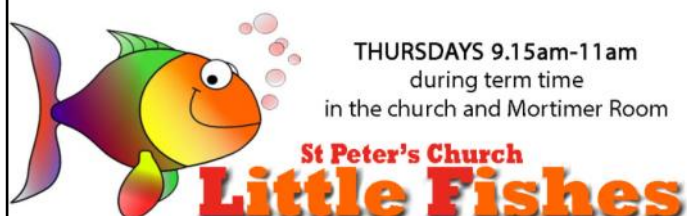
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## **Cllr. Christopher Jordan**

It was with great sadness that the Council heard of the recent death of Cllr. Jordan, who was only co-opted to the Council in June of this year. The Chair of the Council, Cllr. J Trehitt, said "It was clear that Cllr Jordan had a great desire to work for our community here in North Tawton, and it is extremely sad that he was unable to fulfil his ambitions in this regard. We send our sincere and heartfelt condolences to Chris's family."

## **North Tawton Cemetery – former proposal to flatten grave mounds**

Some time ago the Council publicised a proposal to flatten grave mounds in the cemetery to aid the grass cutting. A number of residents contacted us as they were not happy to have their relatives graves flattened out in this way. The Council was informed about residents' concerns, and Members immediately voted unanimously to leave all existing mounds as they are. I hope this reassures affected residents. If anyone has any concerns about the management of the cemetery at any time, please contact the Town Clerks.

## **Forthcoming inspection of memorials/headstones in St. Peter's Churchyard and North Tawton Cemetery**

Residents are advised that in accordance with its legal responsibilities NTTC will undertake a formal inspection of the churchyard and cemetery. This will take place between 4<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and will be done in accordance with the Institute of Cemetery and Crematoria Management (ICCM) training and standards.

Legislation requires Burial Authorities to carry out a range of works to memorials; however, **H&S legislation regarding dangerous memorials requires immediate action. Any memorial that is deemed a risk category 1 and therefore in danger of toppling will be immediately laid flat. This is a temporary measure.**

The Council will contact the next-of-kin regarding the memorials affected or will resolve an appropriate permanent action where no next-of-kin can be traced. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Town Clerks.

## **Vacancies on NTTC**

Please look out for notices on our noticeboard and website regarding current vacancies on the Council. If you have any queries, please contact the Town Clerks.

## **Criminal Damage to North Tawton Memorial Park**

All residents will agree as to how fortunate we are to have the Memorial Park. We were equally fortunate to have a considerable sum of money granted via local housing developments, which paid for many improvements to the park in recent years. Our skate park is well known and envied across Devon, our MUGA is a wonderful asset for a town of our size. Sadly, over a recent weekend, criminal damage was caused by a small group of teenagers who were out at 3 a.m. on a Sunday morning. They deliberately damaged a new litter bin, more seriously they broke beer bottles and spread the broken glass over the surface of the MUGA as well as other areas of the park. At the time of writing, I have not been able to find a way of clearing up all the glass, the MUGA has had to be closed and is not available for our children and young people to play on due to the very selfish actions of those responsible. The costs of sorting all this out will be in the hundreds of pounds, money which is not granted from central government, neither does it grow on trees – it comes directly out of the pockets of our hard-working residents in the form of the local council tax precept. I leave it to your imaginations as to the many other things this money could have been spent on. I have no doubt that there are those who know who was responsible. It must be of concern that four young people aged about 14, including a young girl, were out and about at 3 a.m.. If you have any information, please contact the Town Clerks.

Meanwhile, I can only apologise to those affected by the closure of the MUGA. We will re-open again as soon as we can.

*Sarah Say*

*Town Clerk*



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

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

I can't make up my mind. Do I go for Massey Ferguson red, New Holland blue or John Deere green? What about different shades of green like Claas green or Fendt green? I suppose I ought to take his eye and hair colour into consideration too. Should buying husband a new boiler suit be this difficult? I know. Best call in a colour and style expert. And as luck would have it, Rachel Moss ( wardrobe de-toxer, colour and style analyser and personal shopper) was our September speaker. Could she have the answer to my dilemma?

Rachel, a Devon girl from Noss Mayo, has had a range of modelling jobs during her career so far. From working as a fashion showroom model to working for the shopping channel 'QVC', plus stints as a photographic and commercial model. She then retrained as an image consultant specialising in colour analysis, wardrobe organising and personal shopping. Before she got started, she had a question for us. 'Who likes clothes shopping?' Not very many hands were raised. Just a few. So why is this? Could it be because the majority of us don't really know which colours/styles actually suit us? So, to try and make the 'shopping for clothes chore' a bit easier, Rachel advised us to concentrate on colour first. And this is when she asked for a volunteer. Most of us are now avoiding eye contact and staring at the floor. But there's always one who saves the day. And this time it was dear Mel who pretty much leapt out of her chair to be 'analysed'. This involved having a variety of different coloured capes placed around her neck to demonstrate how colour can really make your face glow with vitality and youthfulness – or – how wearing the wrong colour can indeed age you or make you look ill. (Who'd have thought the right coloured boiler suit would potentially make such a difference?) Once Mel was 'done' she was quickly followed by Ro and then Jane – and again you could really see how the right colour clothing could light up your face and subtract a few years too. What's not to like?

Rachel went on to explain that when you've found the right colours and style it can really boost your confidence, sending out a positive non-verbal message and make you look like you know what you're talking about (even if you're talking tractors). Rachel can also be found working in Casa Magnolia, Chagford – where she loves guiding clients towards clothing that can help them look their best, regardless of age, shape or size. Not sure if a 'personal shopper' has ever personally shopped in Mole Avon.

Our W.I. is slowly but surely making its way back to where we were pre-covid. Places to go and things to do are being pencilled in to diaries. But I refuse to use a pencil for our Christmas party – oh no – that's going to be written in in ink. Indelible ink. I'm imagining mountains of mince pies (on a plate marked FAO Sue Knott), wonderful entertainment and the much-anticipated appearance of Santa. Oh, hang on a minute. Santa won't be appearing as he'll be away on a cruise. How do I explain that to those members who still believe?

And finally. I've been staring at the ripe tomatoes for days and now it's time. Chutney time. Time to fill the house with the delicate aroma of ..... vinegar. Why can't vinegar smell like Coco Mademoiselle perfume? Is that a subtle enough hint for husband regarding Christmas? (please don't let him buy me a catering sized bottle of malt vinegar).

*Sue Knott*

**Do you like the sound of what we do?**

**North Tawton W.I. meets on the first Wednesday of the month at North Tawton Rugby Club at 2 p.m.**

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 <i>October</i>	 <i>November</i>	 <i>December</i>
16 <sup>th</sup> – Conker Challenge 18 <sup>th</sup> – Thai Rescue Talk 19 <sup>th</sup> – SCPC Open Meeting. 30 <sup>th</sup> - Pumpkin Trail	11 <sup>th</sup> – Armistice Day Service 13 <sup>th</sup> - Countryfile Children in Need Footpath Ramble 14 <sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Service 20 <sup>th</sup> – Come, Buy and Chat 10.30 – 11.30 am	6/11 <sup>th</sup> - Christmas Cheer & Santa's Grotto  <b>NEXT YEAR</b>  <b>24<sup>th</sup> June 22 – Summer Ball.</b>

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 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Thank you.



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<https://www.seamoorlotto.co.uk/support/sampford-courtenay-parish-council>

Thank you!

A date for your diary!

## Sampford Courtenay

## Summer Ball 2022

Friday, 24 June

Fine dining with music  
provided by Karina and the  
Slaves

Further details to come



### Troupers Reunion at St. Peter's Church

Rev'd. Nick Weldon attended a gathering of St. Peter's Troupers at the church on Sunday 12th September.

It was an opportunity to review past productions and the meeting watched video extracts in which a certain character seemed to feature quite regularly.

To recognise the parts he has played in their productions over the past ten years and to wish him well in his new post at Marcham in Oxfordshire, the group made him a surprise presentation which he received with evident delight.

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# Thirteen Lives

A talk by John Volanthen

One of the lead divers in the Thai cave rescue.

**18th October 7pm**

**Sampford Courtenay Village Hall**

Tickets £7.50 from:

**secretaryvhsc@gmail.com**

or phone 07811 324154

Raffle for signed copy of his book

Refreshments available at extra cost.

A talk about John's cave diving career including  
the dramatic rescue of 12 boys and their football  
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2BpaaSzq3-1>

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01837 82743  
[deborah.taylormorris@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.taylormorris@gmail.com)

# PUMPKIN TRAIL

**Sampford Courtenay**

**Saturday, 30 October**

**Soup and cake at the Village  
Hall from 5-6pm**

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fancy dress)**

**How many pumpkins can you spot on the spooky trail  
around the village?**

Please visit

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for trail map and more details

Thank you for supporting the Roof-Us Appeal



### 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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SUNDAY	CLOSED

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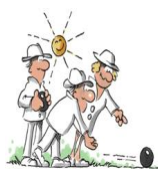
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82824**

# NORTH TAWTON BOWLING CLUB



## SHORT MAT BOWLING

The new winter season is from Sept-March

**Tuesday 2.30 p.m. & Thursday 7.30 p.m.**

**in the club house**

League games and places are also available.

**Old and new members most welcome**

**Gordon Denham 01363 881414**

### NORTH TAWTON BOWLING CLUB



The PUB DAY CHALLENGE at the club has once again taken place after the one year lockdown.

What a success it was and well worth the wait!

A lovely day saw the twelve pub teams play each other under the supervision of club chairman, John Kinsey, aided and abetted by Dave Nicks, Lloyd Reynolds and club members on a day filled with Bowls, Beer and Burgers enjoyed by all the families.

It was great to see so many children enjoy the setting, space and fresh air so often missed in recent times.

After a long day's session on the green, it finally came to a show down between the Copper Key and The Fountain Inn.

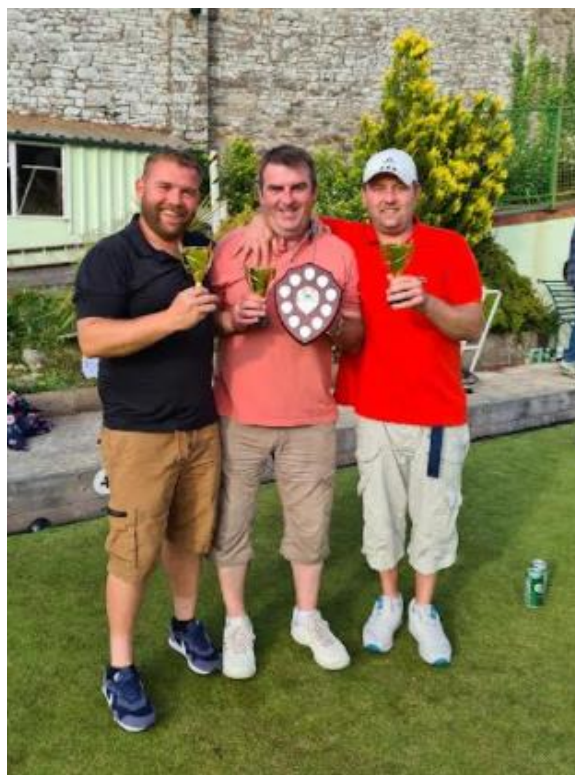
The Fountain Inn were the overall winners (see photo: left to right Matt Weeks, Tony Fisher and Steve Lonergan).

A great day for North Tawton and the Bowling Club.

£2,384.00 was made!

Thank you North Tawton.

Mike Thwaites (President)



### End of Summer Sale !!

The Guides are having a final table top sale in the garden with most items at 50p or £1.

This will be on **Saturday 25th September**  
**from 10.00 a.m. - 12 noon**  
**at Church Cottage, 5 Exeter Street.**

We also have some good condition and new clothes, some still with their labels including Henri Lloyd and DFND, and a couple of ladies coats.

The Guides and Brownies are finally putting on their pantomime

### Jack and the Beanstalk

during October half term week ( third time lucky we hope !)

**on Thursday 28th, Friday 29th at 7.30 p.m.**  
**and Saturday 30th at 2.30 p.m.**  
in North Tawton Town Hall.

Tickets will be on sale in the Post Office from Monday 4th October, adults £6 and child U12 £4.





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**Open Meeting Oct 19<sup>th</sup>** – The SCPC Annual Autumn Parish Meeting will be held in person at the Village Hall or via Zoom and suggested topics for discussion are as follows:

SCPC – up-date for 2021- Cllr. M Wilson.

Village Hall up-date of Fund Raising so far, consultation on What Residents want for the future.

What is currently planned for 2021/22. – Cllr. B Tucker.

St. Andrew's Church – up-date for 2021 – Church Warden.

Queen's Jubilee 2022 – June 22<sup>nd</sup> – June 25<sup>th</sup> – joint Parish Event. Volunteers to form a Working Party.

SCPC Parish Commemorative Bench for the Queens Jubilee from V.E. Day EMR.

Parish Enhancement of the Village Green through Purchase of Picnic Benches from EMR.

Update on Sampford Courtenay Station re-opening.

Open Reach / BT fibre, Community Broadband Project updates.

Rights of Way in the Parish – David Boting Page.

Children in Need Footpath Ramble – Nov 13<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any other suggestions of topics you would like discussed please contact Marion Pratt on 01837 82285 or  
SCPCClerk@aol.com

### **Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay & Jacobstowe W.I.**

Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay & Jacobstowe W.I. held its first indoors meeting in Sampford Courtenay village hall on Thursday September 2nd.

There was a good attendance and Jerusalem was sung. Michael and Karen Watkins gave a very interesting demonstration of Hand Painting Silk Scarves. Karen also showed members the many ways of tying scarves.

There were several dates of events organised by the County, which could be signed up for. The Okehampton Show exhibit had tied first with Lewtrenchard W.I., being the only two entered. So the cup is shared, 6 months for each. We are visiting Kingswood Homes in Hatherleigh for the presentation of a grant, tour of a show home and cream teas. The W.I. will be meeting on the second Tuesday of the month, instead of the first Thursday from January 2122. Data protection was discussed as to whether members agreed to photos etc. being printed in the press.

The next event for members is the Walking Group walk to Fatherford Viaduct on Friday September 24th and a Coffee Morning in Old Schools, Hatherleigh on Tuesday October 6.

Winner of the competition for a scarf was Irene Harrison and Flower of the Month was Margaret Hawkins.

The next meeting will be in Exbourne village hall on Thursday October 7th at 7 p.m., when the speaker will be Anne Stuart who will be demonstrating how to make your own glass decoration.

*Margaret Weeks*

### **Ian runs again!**



Local runner, Ian Webber (husband of Jayne at NT Post Office) is due to run his 20th consecutive London Marathon on Sunday 3rd October.

Once again, Ian and Jayne are raising funds for the vital work of Hospice UK. Hospice UK is the national charity for hospice care and support many of our local hospices.

Charities have struggled during the pandemic and sadly, more and more people's lives have been touched with cancer, so their fundraising is even more important.

Due to the covid pandemic, Ian and Jayne have not been able to hold their Coffee Morning and Silent Auction, which is usually their main fundraiser.

They would really appreciate our community's support.

You can donate via the just giving page [www.justgiving.com/ianwebberlm2020](http://www.justgiving.com/ianwebberlm2020)

Or alternatively, drop in a donation to Jayne at the Post Office.

(Please complete a slip in the PO if you are eligible for Gift Aid)

Let's help make Ian's 20th London Marathon a memorable one!

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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>

**SCPC** – held their 7<sup>th</sup> Sept meeting in the Village Hall with 8 Councillors attending and 2 members of the public.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –**

- a) Cllr. Tucker is liaising with Highways regarding making a safer path from Pathfields Footpath to New Inn Bridge.
- b) Clerk liaising with NT Fire Service regarding sensible parking in the parish to enable access by emergency vehicles.
- c) Clerk contacting local haulage firms to ask them to remind their drivers the need to abide by the speed limits in the parish, especially when approaching the New Inn roundabout.
- d) SCPC able to reassure parishioner that “Belstone Corner” is already signposted.

**SCEnSus** – will be holding their Autumn Parish Clean-Up on Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Sept – meeting at Sampford Station at 10.30 am to work with NWR to clear the carpark and litter pick roads to Tongue End and back to New Inn.

**16<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Village Green 11am – SCPC and friends of the late Tim Edwards (local gardener) will be planting bulbs in commemoration of Tim. Please feel free to come along.

**SCPC Dartmoor Line Working Party** – over 400 surveys have been completed to date. Thank you. However, if you have not done yours yet, you still have until 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. The online version can be found at <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/node/674>

**Broadband/Mobile Coverage Survey** –SCPC hopes to arrange a Q & A Session in November for parishioners to put their questions and queries to both Airband and BT

**AGAR 2021** – after further discussion of the issues raised by Cllr. Coleman it was agreed that the original end of year Audit Submission by the Clerk, should stand.

**Open Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> October – 7.30pm** – come along and hear an up-date of the year so far from SCPC, Village Hall and St Andrew's Church and have an input on ideas for future events.

**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](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 MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> Oct.**



**Sampford Courtenay Countryfile Children in Need Ramble 2021**

**Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup> 2021**

Put the date in your diary and come and enjoy a guided **RAMBLE** around one of our lovely Parish footpaths – try our Autumn Scavenger Hunt while you walk.



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### **Bondleigh Rainfall**

August was a fairly uneventful month. After the first few days rainfall was low, with the last ten days being dry.

This continued into September.

Total rainfall was just 55.7mm compared to 180.9mm 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](mailto:juliec2911@hotmail.co.uk)

or  
[admin@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk)  
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### **READING GROUP**

Normally meets on the last Tuesday  
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### Sampford Courtenay SCEnSus Seasonal Suggestion – Autumn

### Sampford Courtenay SCEnSus Seasonal Suggestions – October

1. 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 if you haven't done so already. 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 scatter the wildflower seeds and water them in to settle the soil – this is your last chance to do it this year (after now and it will be too cold for the seeds to germinate). 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.
2. 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. Some family members could get a map of the World and mark on it where important food items come from.
3. 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.
4. When tidying your garden at the end of the season, try to compost as much as you can. Can you avoid having a bonfire this year? Maybe make a '**dead hedge**' within your garden rather than burn any woody material? More details and photographs are on the SCEnSus website.
5. Pumpkins are in season now – carve your own for Halloween and display them for the Sampford Courtenay Pumpkin Trail at the end of the month. Dry and save the seeds to grow on next year or use them in the kitchen in salads, bread or as a healthy snack. Use the Pumpkin flesh to make soup and compost what you don't use.
6. Talking of Halloween (and thinking ahead for Christmas), the shops have decorations and masks etc. for sale. Do we really need to buy them? Many are cheap, plastic items that might be fun but just add to the unnecessary plastic waste we create. Can we have as much fun making our own with bits and pieces that we have already? We can save money and do our bit to save the planet at the same time!
7. This is the ideal time of year to take hardwood cuttings of hedging plants and shrubs. They'll be slow to develop roots and shoots but it's a no-cost way to get more plants for yourself or to swap with your friends and neighbours.



### **MID-DAY MELODIES at Hatherleigh Church Saturday 16th October 1.30 p.m**

Christine Cleverdon (Piano) and John Courtie (Trumpet)

Music to enjoy!

Scott Joplin ("Maple Leaf Rag" and more).  
Opera melodies (from "Carmen"). Dance music  
by Orlando Gibbons (yes—seriously!)  
Benjamin Britten in light-hearted mood.  
Memories of Duke Ellington. And more.

Admission £5. Refreshments to follow  
(donations welcome)

### **Thank you**

Frances Brookes and Gillian would like to thank everyone who sent cards, flowers and phone calls after the passing of her husband Arthur and also to all who helped me when I needed it. Donations to the Fire Fighter's Charity was £800.  
Thank you all.

Grateful thanks to the very kind person who found and posted our letter which we dropped en route to the Post Office during the first week of August. It reached its destination.

John and Claire Weller



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### Sampford Courtenay Plant Stall In the Square

Is now raising funds for Sampford Courtenay Environmental and Sustainability Projects!  
SCEnSus.

- During this Harvest Season – if you have spare Produce – don't let it go to waste – pop it on the stall for someone else to pick up for a small donation.
- If you have spare seeds that you have collected, pop them in a labelled envelope and put on the stall.
- If you have been inspired by Veronica's Re-Use your plastic items – put your creations on the stall so others can "buy" or be inspired.

We are happy for you to donate any good "Pre-loved" items, excess produce etc. **No set donations for goods** – just whatever you can afford.

#### **Only rules –**

- it is open to the elements, so pack your items so they do not get wet;
- please try and keep the stall looking tidy;
- and after a reasonable time come and check if your items are still there and if so, please take them home or to the Recycling Centre in Okehampton.

Thank You.

### Sampford Courtenay Autumn Clean-Up in conjunction with National Rail

**Sun 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**Meet 10.30am at Sampford Courtenay  
Station**



SCPC would like to invite parishioners to VOLUNTEER to help give the parish a bit of a spring clean :- litter picking, cleaning bus shelters and clearing foliage from around Sampford Courtenay Station etc and washing the road signs.

Please bring any suitable tools:- buckets, brushes, secateurs, loppers gloves, and hi-vis clothing you have yourself, and SCPC will try and provide some too!

**RISK ASSESSMENT** – Please read the Risk Assessment sheets on the website prior to meeting at the Sampford Station Car Park – you will be asked to sign to say you have read and understood them.

If you prefer to "Litter Pick" in your own area, without meeting at the Village Hall – please email [SCPCclerk@aol.com](mailto:SCPCclerk@aol.com) to state that you have read the Risk Assessments. THANK YOU

THE DARTMOOR LINE WORKING GROUP

## **NEEDS YOUR HELP**



As the new line from Okehampton to Exeter prepares to open we need your support to get Sampford Courtenay station re-opened

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THE NEW INN OR HIGHTOWN FARM AT SAMPFORD COURTENAY  
THE NORTH TAWTON COUNCIL OFFICERS OR  
THE OLD POST OFFICE AT BOND LIEGH**

**Thank you for your support**

## Shoebox Appeal

Yes, it's that time of year again so start collecting together all the bits and pieces needed to fill your shoebox. Leaflets will be in all four churches very soon, so look out for them. Shoebox Sunday will be on 7<sup>th</sup> November.



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## North Tawton Community Primary School News



I am writing this at the end of the first week back to school after the summer break. It has been lovely to see the children and parents again and to welcome new children and families to our school.

Each September there is the excitement, and of course a little hesitation, when coming back after the holiday. But very quickly the children, and adults too, relax in to the routines and find comfort in seeing friends and establishing new friendships. Of course, there are always a few tears (from parents too!) but I can honestly say the children settled brilliantly and have had a great start to the new school year.

September is the month  
When autumn says hello,  
Summertime is over  
And it's back to school we go.

Even though it's sad  
When sunny summer ends,  
I smile because I get to  
Reunite with all my friends.  
Anon.

A particular joy has been to join class groups together after so long being in our bubbles. We have been outside together at the same time to have playtimes together and we have been able to meet in the well ventilated hall for assemblies and worship.

Starting a new school year, with a new teacher and for most in a new classroom, is a very important part of the course of academic life. New books, new pens and pencils and an opportunity to make new goals.

In assembly I shared with the children some of my favourite moments from the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. There is so much we can learn from these athletes about self-determination, team work, overcoming obstacles and perseverance. We use these super heroes to inspire us and help us think about our own goals for the days, weeks and months ahead.

Not all of us will be the best in our field, but we can all aim to beat our own Personal Best.

I look forward to the exciting year ahead, the challenges, the joys and sharing our successes.

Tara Penny  
Principal of North Tawton Community Primary School and Nursery





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## October Events at Okehampton Library



### Saturday 2nd October ~ Okehampton Fun Palace 09:30-12:00

Fun Palaces is a national campaign to put culture in the heart of local communities. It is an annual weekend of action - arts, science, craft, tech, digital, heritage and sports. We are offering a creative community morning of free taster activities. If you would like to take part, sharing a skill or learning a new one, please contact Okehampton Library. For more info about Fun Palaces visit their website. <https://funpalaces.co.uk/>

### Tuesday 5th October ~ Celebrating 'Libraries Week' 08:00-20:00

We'll be extending our opening hours on this day. Come and learn more about what your local library can offer you.

All our usual library services will be available.

A member of staff will be on hand to help with basic computer skills and digital library services. **Digital** - eBooks, eAudio, eMagazine, eNewspapers, and Online Reference.

Feel free to bring along your own device.

**Business & IP Centre** - learn more about assistance available to help you develop or grow a new or existing business.

Ask about our other services

*Home Library Service* or Good Neighbour library cards

Reading Groups

Regular events

Special Reading Well collections

DVDs and audiobooks

Plus more

**08:00-10:00 ~ A cuppa and a croissant**

**18:00-20:00 ~ Late Night Library Opening**, with light refreshments.

**View a special collection of local historical materials**, including the Wardhayes picture collection, which is located throughout the library building.

All our usual library services will be available.

**Half Term Event, 25th - 30th October** - TBC, please check our Facebook page or website for details.

### Regular events

#### Knit & Natter - Tuesdays 13:30-14:30

Bring along your knitting, stitching, crochet or other portable project, for a chat with like-minded crafters. Tea and coffee available at 60p a cup.

#### Bounce & Rhyme - Tuesdays 10:00-10:20 & 11:00-11:20

Suitable for under 5's. Free. Booking Essential

#### Duplo Builders & Storytime - Wednesdays 09:30-10:15

Suitable for ages 0-5 years. Free. No booking necessary

#### Lego Builders - Saturdays 10:30-11:30

Suitable for ages 5+. Free. No booking necessary

[Children under 8 must be accompanied](#) to all events by a responsible adult

Please see our library website or Facebook page for any additional events and library services [www.devonlibraries.org.uk](http://www.devonlibraries.org.uk)

**Devon Libraries is part of Libraries Unlimited**

**Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity. Every penny raised goes directly towards library services which help make a difference to people's lives and communities. To donate, please visit [librariesunlimited.org.uk](http://librariesunlimited.org.uk)**

### Opening Hours

Monday	09:00-17:00
Tuesday	09:00-18:00
Wednesday	09:00-13:00
Thursday	09:00-17:00
Friday	09:00-18:00
Saturday	09:00-13:00

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*(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**

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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

### BAPTISM

Sunday, 12th September      Noah David Bourne (3 months)

St. Peter's Church

### FUNERALS

Friday, 20th August      Jill Wilson (74)  
Thursday, 9th September.      Donald Coles (85)

St. James's Church  
St. Peter'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.  
Thank you.

### NORTH TAWTON TOWN HALL

Bookings: Annette 01837 880054  
Secretary: Lin 01837 880031

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### Pause for Thought

Fields of corn, give up your ears,  
Now your ears are heavy,  
Wheat and oats and barley-spears,  
All your harvest levy.  
Where your sheaves of plenty lean,  
Men once more the grain shall glean  
Of the Ever-Living;  
God the Lord will bless the field,  
Bringing in its autumn yield  
Gladly to Thanksgiving.

*Eleanor Farjeon*

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Available on the third Thursday of each month in North Tawton Youth and Community Centre, Barton Street.  
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### HARVEST FESTIVAL

**ST PETER'S CHURCH  
NORTH TAWTON  
Sunday 3rd October  
11 a.m.**

**Harvest Family Service  
Followed by a bring & share lunch in  
the church**





North Tawton Repair Café is planning to hold an event on the second Saturday of each month, so please start hunting out your broken items for us to fix! We have repairers available to undertake sewing repairs, as well as electrical and mechanical repairs.

9<sup>th</sup> October – 10am to 12.30

13<sup>th</sup> November – 10am to 12.30

At the Community Centre, Barton Street, North Tawton, EX20 2HN

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

## SAVE THE DATE! JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> 2022 – start thinking about your outfit!

Next year sees Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and she will become the first British monarch to serve for seventy years. The nation will be celebrating throughout the year, with the central events taking place during the first weekend in June.

Cities, towns and villages will be lighting beacons on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June – and North Tawton hopes to be among them. There is still a lot of detail to be finalised, and many organisations in the town will no doubt want to hold celebratory events. The Events Group would like to organise a parade through the town which will leave the square and make its way to the rugby club in time for the official lighting of the beacon.

The theme of the parade – 70 years of British history of course! What will *YOU* come as?

Can you get together with others in your street, your club, your sports group, your shop or your pub? Or just come in costume by yourself! Prizes for the best individual and the best group. Maybe even a prize for the best float?

Short of inspiration? In the past 70 years, we've seen colour TV, the moonwalk, the Beatles, flower power, the Common Market and the EU, the Internet, the London Olympics, Coronation Street, CND, Strictly, Teletubbies, miniskirts, maxi skirts, Chanel and Vivienne Westwood, Twiggy and Mary Quant.....and a lot more.

Lots more planning to be done, too, but get in touch if you've ideas for the parade or want to tell us you'll take part. You can reach the North Tawton Events group at [nteventscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:nteventscommittee@gmail.com)

## News from Sampford Courtenay

The Flower Show was held in The Square on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August and it included the highest weight of a single potato grown in a bucket. The variety of potato was Cara and competitors could use their own compost or a peat-free compost. The greatest weight went to Barbara Smith with bucket No. 43 and her own compost and a total weight of 3.240 kg. 2<sup>nd</sup> was Richard Knapman with bucket 51 weighing 2.998 kg and 3<sup>rd</sup> with bucket No 11 was Richard Knapman and a weight of 2.882 kg. There were 60 entries in total.

One time stalwart of St. Andrew's church choir, Emily Owen, made her 'Prom' debut on 1<sup>st</sup> September with the Monteverdi choir. She sang the step out duet with the principal soprano. The concert – Handel and Bach – was televised on BBC4 on 5<sup>th</sup> September.

A Coffee Morning was held at Weirford House, hosted by Mike and Avril Flanagan, on the morning of Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September, in aid of the Historic Churches Trust.

The village hall committee staged a Fun Day to raise money for the hall roof on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September, with games during the afternoon and a BBQ in the evening with the Hummingbirds, and bands TNT, Blues Collective and Diving for Pearls.

Founder member of St. Andrew's church choir and lead soprano and soloist, Carolyn Knapman, said 'goodbye' to the choir on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September, following a presentation, as she and her husband, Richard, make ready to depart from Devon and set up home in Hampshire. They will both be sadly missed and are wished good luck and happiness in their new home.

John Horn, who died on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020, during the lockdown, will be remembered at a memorial service to be held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 3 p.m. at St. Andrew's church. All are welcome to attend and the wake will be held afterwards in North Tawton Rugby Club.

*Nicky Craig*



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Church Flowers & Brass

### Sampford Courtenay

October  
November

Sarah Hanks  
Sheila Cartwright /  
Jackie Mardon

### Honeychurch

October  
November

Karen Squire  
Marilyn Weeks

### Bondleigh

October 3rd / 10th	Caroline Stokes
October 17th / 24th	Julie Wilson
October 31st / Nov 7th	Pam Evison
November 14th / 21st	Sonia Rix
November 28th	Nicola Raffin

### Flowers

October 3rd / 10th	Harvest Flowers
October 17th	Harvest Flowers
October 24th / 31st	Mary Fry / Kay Webber
November 7th	Jo Fear
Nov 14th/21st	Royal British Legion
November 28th	Lorna Dawe

### Brass

October	Joan Nicholls
November	Jo Fear

\*\*\*\*\*

We have a weekly Flower Rota and would welcome new faces to fill one week a year. You need a few flowers to put in the vases on the Altar.

For more info

Please phone Jo 82553/Kay 07890 902433.

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