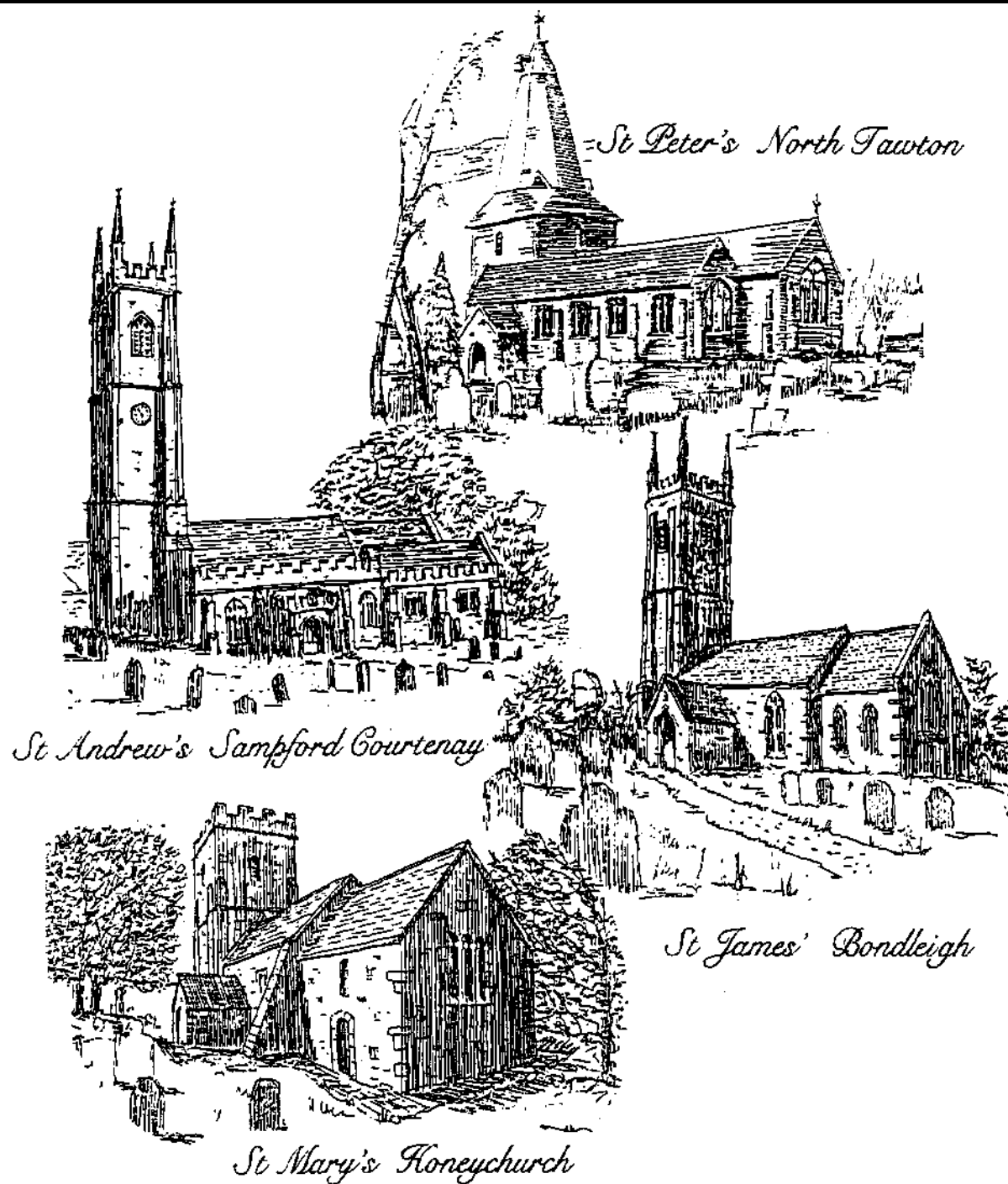


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(Contributors — please see page 32)

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From The Rectory

The onset of winter and the thought of cloudy, rainy, chilly days do not warm the heart. But the wonderful news that our family in Singapore is able to come and spend Christmas and New Year with us, together with the rest of our family, certainly gives me more than a glow! It has been two and a half years since we have all been able to get together and at long last Singapore has relaxed the restrictions on leaving and entering the country.

Just like everyone else, the Covid-19 pandemic was a bit of a rollercoaster for the Bullworthy family. We had big plans for 2020 – visiting our family in Singapore and going on to Western Australia for a holiday with them. But it was not to be. There were lots of very serious things about Covid, but in terms of our mental health, not being able to be close and be together was one of the worst.

On one particular gloomy day, when I was feeling down and doing some essential shopping, I was greeted at the entrance of the supermarket by a display of sunflowers. They immediately made me smile, my spirits lifted, and since then I've been thinking a lot about sunflowers. Now don't mock pondering plants! In 1 Kings 4:33 we read that King Solomon 'spoke about plant life, from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of walls'. (Incidentally, he couldn't have spoken about sunflowers because they originated in South America and were only brought to Europe in the sixteenth century.) Jesus himself took the garden mustard plant and created a parable (Matthew 13:31–32) and in Luke 12:27 Jesus said, 'Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these'. But sunflowers are especially appealing, and it didn't take me long to think of four aspects of them that spoke to me.

First, sunflowers are *cheerful*. There's something about that disc of brilliant primary colour yellow that lifts the spirits. Possibly it's because sunflowers look like the sun – or at least every child's drawing of the sun – and I suspect quite a few of us need sunlight to lift our spirits. Indeed, we can quite understand why the depressive artist Vincent van Gogh was drawn to painting them. Of course, it's not always easy being cheerful but we can choose to be cheerful, happy and optimistic instead of grumpy, gloomy, miserable and pessimistic. Let us try and be sunflowers, not weeping willows!

Second, sunflowers are *conspicuous*. It's not just the colour of sunflowers that makes them so striking; it's the fact that they can easily be tall enough to tower over you. Most flowers you look down on;

sunflowers you look up to. In fact if you grow sunflowers you may end up not simply blessing your own garden but your neighbours' too! I think there's another lesson here: it's all too easy to stay concealed. We may not reach the height that some sunflowers do but, short or tall, it's important that we let our light shine. Remember: even short people can stand tall (and I have first-hand experience of that!). Let's learn from the sunflower to stand up and let what we stand for be seen.

Third, sunflowers are *considerate*. You may think of sunflowers as an ornament for a garden but of course they are a major crop plant. Sunflowers provide seeds for food and vitamins, oil for cooking and I'm told you can even make insulation out of those enormous stalks. In thinking about the use of sunflowers, let's remember it's not only humans who benefit from them but birds and insects too. Sunflowers are not just bold and big; they are also a blessing. Let us be a blessing to others as well.

Finally, sunflowers *centre on the sun*. They have the remarkable ability – absent from most other plants – of being able to move. Their flowers and upper leaves track the sun, and when the sun sets in the evening they rotate their heads back to face the east to await the warmth of the morning sun's rays. It's clever stuff! Sunflowers soak up all of the sun's rays for warmth and light. They depend on the sun to make their food so they can keep growing. But what about those cloudy days? Get this: sunflowers will turn and face another sunflower! Looking to each other for support until they can once again see the sun.

There's a lesson here for us. We should be those who, at the start of the day, are found facing towards God the Son – Jesus – and who during the course of the day continue to keep our eyes fixed on him (Hebrews 12:2). And on those cloudy days look to each other for support and encouragement but remember, as St Francis of Assisi prayed, 'In giving we receive.'

Rain or shine, may you, like me, be inspired by sunflowers and may we all continue to look at the Son.

Reverend Rita Bullworthy
Assistant Minister

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November 25th

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FRIDAY *monthly*

November 12th

NORTH TAWTON The Square
09:45 to 10.45

BONDLEIGH Old School
13:30 to 14:15

SATURDAY *monthly*

November 27th

NORTH TAWTON The Square
10:00 to 12:00

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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.

Contributions should be sent to
Hilary and Richard Edwards,
Shellsley,
Exeter Street,
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A short informal monthly service of themed prayers, reflections & readings and creating space to dwell in the presence of God

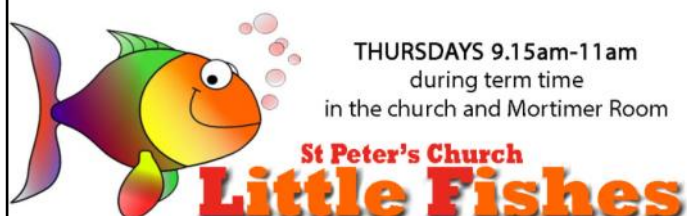
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E mail: townclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Free Business Directory for all businesses and organisations in North Tawton

The Council has secured grant funding to set up a Business Directory on our website. This will eventually be published as an A5 booklet, which will also include the local Emergency Plan, and will be distributed to all households within the Parish. Entries are completely free of charge, please note that we can only accept applications for entry from organisations within the Parish of North Tawton.

What you need to do:

- Compose your entry for the Directory – this can be up to 250 words. Think about what you want people to know – e.g. if you are a club, are there criteria for joining and what is the cost, if you are a shop what are your opening times, what do you sell, is there something really special about your business that you want to tell people about? Include your contact details; there is space for two alternative phone numbers, plus a mobile number, email address, and website or social media address.
- There is also a space for your organisation's logo if you have one, or for a photo.
- Once you have everything ready, go to the Council's website, northtawtontowncouncil@gov.uk, where there is a link from the front page to the business directory page. Choose which category your organisation fits into, and you can then enter all your information and details. When your application has been submitted, it is automatically emailed to the Town Clerks for approval and publication on the website. You can notify us of changes at any time and we can edit your entry.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to advertise free of charge on our website and eventually to reach every household in North Tawton when the Directory is published as a booklet and distributed. If you have any queries or problems with submitting your entry, please contact the Town Clerks.

Durant Trust

There will be a meeting of the Durant Trust at the end of November, at which time the Trustees will consider applications from organisations for projects which will benefit the residents of North Tawton. Application forms are available on our website, there is a link from the homepage, or by contacting the Town Clerks. The deadline for applications is Friday 19th November 2021. The forms must be completed in full and submitted with all the required supporting information.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for year ending 31 March 2021

Each year the Council's finances and procedures are examined by an internal auditor. A report and relevant information is then sent to an external auditor appointed by the government. All relevant information is examined and a report is then issued. The Conclusion of Audit report for the year in question was satisfactory and the auditors did not identify any items requiring further action. The accounts and associated documents are all published on our website. Local Government electors in the parish of North Tawton can obtain or view copies of the AGAR, please contact the Assistant Clerk/ RFO, Mrs M Bickell.

Council Vacancies

At the time of writing (13 October) we have 3 vacancies on the Council. Applications for co-option to the first of these will be on the agenda for our November meeting. We will be advertising for applications for co-option to the other two vacancies – check our noticeboard and website for more information. Are you interested in local issues, do you want to get involved in your community, can you spare a few hours a month? If so, please consider applying – you don't need any special qualifications, all relevant training is provided free of charge (which at the moment is all done online via Zoom) and you will get all the support you need from existing members of the Council, and from the Clerks.

Sarah Say

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North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

Right then – let's get this over with.

Q. Where would you weigh a whale?

A. In a 'whale-weigh' station

That had nothing to do with me. I'll give you just one guess as to who is responsible for that. And as a matter of fact, he's still laughing. I've had to put up with this since our W.I. meeting, which was three days ago. Can you feel my pain?

Calling Iceland. Come in Iceland. And aided by the miracle of technology he was there. On the wall of the rugby club. Looking straight back at us. Karl O'Neill is the son of Maria (one of our members) and he works for Laki tours as a tour guide and for the next hour he held us spellbound as he talked us through the different species of whale you might encounter when you experience a Laki tour. Accompanied by beautiful photographs, Karl gave us stunningly detailed descriptions of minke whales, humpback whales, sperm whales and killer whales not just in terms of how they look but also how they behave. Karl explained that the Snaefellsnes peninsula, on the western side of Iceland, is one of the best areas for whale watching and they regularly see several species of whale on a single tour.

Back to the detail – did you know that individual killer whales can be identified by the pattern of notches on their dorsal fin? And by sharing the identifying photographs globally it has been possible to track a whale and see where it goes. It was as a result of dorsal fin identification that they were able to tell that one particular killer whale was spending its summer holiday off the coast of Scotland. Moving on to sperm whales (average length 16 metres) – they are incredible divers. A sperm whale can hold its breath for up to 90 minutes and can dive to depths of up to 3km. A similar method of identification can be used by recording photographs of the ridges and ragged edges of their tail line. One particular sperm whale was recorded as being last seen in Iceland in 2017 only to turn up off the Caribbean Island of Martinique – probably there to breed.

And another little-known fact? The arctic fox is the only indigenous mammal in Iceland – (it must like it there as it's hung around since the last Ice Age). Sadly, it was time to wave goodbye to Karl, but it was very clear that his audience had enjoyed every minute – we'd had a whale of a time. (feel free to groan – I did)

Our November speaker will be talking about a subject that is pretty important to everyone – recycling. I'm also hoping for inspiration on how to deal with 'decluttering'. And, more importantly, how to deal with a husband whose favourite catchphrase is “ ‘ang on to that, it might come in ‘andy’”.

And finally. We're having a snack in an Exeter hostelry. Just a quick snack whilst I brace myself for a visit to Machine Mart (new racking for one of his sheds) and Screwfix (an impact driver) and he leans towards me, points at the food and whispers in my ear – 'this would've been much cheaper at 'ome'. I know, I think it was meant to be a compliment about my cooking – wasn't it?

Sue Knott

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Sunday 26th September was a lovely sunny afternoon to bid farewell to the Weldon family after ten years of Revd Nick's ministry in our benefice. Around 130 people from the four churches and communities of North Tawton, Sampford Courtenay, Bondleigh and Honeychurch gathered at North Tawton Rugby Club, and our thanks go to Sarah Quick and the team for their kind donation of the venue. So, while it was an emotional farewell to the Weldon family, a bouncy castle, mountains of sandwiches, scones and cakes and a beautiful celebration cake made by Marion Poole all contributed to a very happy afternoon of fellowship and fun. We wish Nick, Jane, Samuel, Emily and Olivia every blessing in their new parish of Marcham, Oxfordshire where we are sure they will settle in quickly and be a real blessing to the church and community there. Marcham's gain is indeed our loss!



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY PARADE SERVICE



SUNDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2021

The North Tawton Branch of the Royal British Legion and the various uniformed organisations will lead the Remembrance Parade with standards.

The Parade will leave from The Square into St Peter's Church for a memorial service led by Rev'd Philip Sourbut.

The commemorations conclude with the laying of wreaths in the town cemetery.

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The Parade will leave for church at 10:35am

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Children's
Southwest

OKEHAMPTON BEE KEEPERS

Okehampton Beekeepers are running a Beekeeping Training Course of eight evening sessions. These will be at Whiddon Down Village Hall, from 7 to 9 p.m. on Alternate Wednesday evenings from January 19th through to April 27th next year (2022). The course costs £100, payable in advance at the initial session on January 19th. This includes a free copy of the excellent BBKA textbook, The BBKA Guide to Beekeeping (normally costs £18.99) plus one year's (2022) Registered (Full) membership of DBKA (which would cost £39), including Bee Disease Insurance for up to 3 colonies and monthly copies of the Devon Beekeepers' magazine, 'Beekeeping' and also monthly delivery of BBKA News. The course will follow the syllabus required for the BBKA Basic Assessment and course students are encouraged to take the Basic Assessment once they have completed the course and have kept bees for their first year.

Course session dates are fortnightly, on alternate Wednesdays, as follows: January 19th, February 2nd, February 16th, March 2nd, March 16th, March 30th, April 13th and April 27th. A number of informal follow-up practical sessions in May and June will give the opportunity to handle and inspect colonies of bees, putting into practice knowledge learnt during the course. To book a place on the course or for further information please contact Liz Ledsham by phone on 01363 881486 or by E-mail at lizdevon@gmail.com

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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SATURDAY	9.00 AM - 1.00 PM
SUNDAY	CLOSED

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**t: 01837
82824**

Ref: 2019-031673

Church: North Tawton: St Peter

Diocese: Exeter

Archdeaconry: Totnes

Form 4A

(Rule 6.2)

Public Notice
(general form)

In the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Exeter

Church of North Tawton: St Peter

In the parish of North Tawton

NOTICE IS GIVEN that we are applying to the Consistory Court of the diocese for permission to carry out the following:

1. Enlarge the ground floor meeting space (Mortimer Room) extending it further east into the main body of the church, beyond the current reach of the gallery above, to the next set of pillars. The enlarged space would incorporate the north and south entrances providing direct access from outside into the new enlarged Mortimer Room. The enlarged room would have sliding glass doors giving access into the centre aisle and both side aisles.
2. Extend the first floor gallery above the new enlarged room creating more space for the choir and an adaptable meeting/exhibition space overlooking the nave.
3. reinstate the meeting room in the south aisle and introduce toilet and a lift to the south aisle. We envisage the southern room being used as the church office.
4. Remove the current spiral staircase from the centre of the Mortimer Room, and creating a new staircase in the north corner around a platform lift.
5. Renew and enlarge the kitchen in the tower.
6. Introduce an access toilet in what is currently the vestry. This is accessed by the platform lift.
7. Lower the porch floor and introduce ramp to provide an accessible entrance. Additionally introduce a glass door to allow the existing door to stay open to give a more welcoming entrance into the church.

Copies of the relevant plans and documents may be examined at

<https://www.stpetersnorthtawton.org.uk/>

(If changes to a church are proposed, a copy of the petition and of any designs, plans, photographs and other documents that were submitted with it must be displayed in the church or at another place where they may be conveniently inspected by the public.)

Petitioners:

1. JEREMY CHADBURN, CHURCH ARCHITECT
2. REV NICK WELDON, VICAR
- 3.

Date 13/09/2021

If you wish to object to any of the works or proposals you should send a letter stating the grounds of your objection to The Diocesan Registrar at

Curzon House,
Southernhay West,
Exeter,
EX1 1RS

so that your letter reaches the registrar not later than ³⁰13/10/2021. A letter of objection must include your name and address and state whether you live in the parish and/or your name is entered on the church electoral roll of the parish or any other basis on which you have an interest in the matter.

The plans are available to view in the church
The date for making representation has been extended to November 15th



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SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL FORTHCOMING EVENTS

A few dates for your diary:

Yoga classes – weekly on a Wednesday, 6–7 p.m.

Tap dance – weekly on a Thursday, 2–3 p.m.

Table tennis – weekly, ring 01837 851659 for details

Flower Club – 2nd Monday of month, 2.30 p.m.

30 October – Pumpkin Trail, 5–6 p.m.

20 November – Come, buy and chat, 10.30–11.30 a.m.

5 December – Games afternoon, 3–5 p.m.

11 December – Christmas Cheer, 2–5 p.m.

24 June 2022 – Summer Ball

Please visit the parish website

www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk

for full details of the events nearer the time.

Games afternoon Sampford Courtenay Village Hall Sunday, 5 December 3–5 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon of various games – cards, board games etc.

Games will be available, but you are most welcome to bring your own

Refreshments

Entry £2

Please see sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk for more details

Free Energy Saving Advice Event And Come, buy and chat !

Come along to
Sampford Courtenay Village Hall
to meet Devon Communities Together's
Home Energy Advisor
(organised with the Citizens' Advice Bureau)
Saturday 20th November

10.30 - 11.30

Also 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

Actors of North Tawton Society (ANTS)

AUDITIONS

Cinderella

November 11th 2021

7.30pm

North Tawton Town Hall

Production Dates April 13th – 16th 2022

(Once-a-week rehearsals to begin after Christmas, increasing to potentially two nights a week, nearer the date, including some weekends in March/April)

Singers please bring with you a backing track of your choice.

Contact Twiggy Lake on 07802186705 with any queries

A date for your diary!
Sampford Courtenay
Summer Ball 2022
Friday, 24th June
Fine dining with music provided
by Karina and the Slaves
Further details to come



Free Energy Saving Advice Event
in conjunction with COME, BUY AND CHAT
SATURDAY, 20 NOVEMBER, 10.30-11.30AM
SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

Do you have a home that is difficult to keep warm?
Do you want to reduce your energy costs?
Do you want to use your energy more efficiently?
Thinking 'green'?

Big Energy Saving Network is a campaign to help domestic consumers get good value from their expenditure on energy, to use energy effectively and have warm, comfortable homes. It is developed by BESN and promoted by the Citizens Advice network with Devon Communities Together as a delivery partner.

Come along to Sampford Courtenay Village Hall on Saturday, 20 November, 10.30-11.30am to meet Devon Community Together's Home Energy Advisor, coming to our community to talk to us about:

- The impact of increased gas costs on all energy supplies
- getting the best price from your current provider
- the pros and cons of looking for a cheaper supplier
- Devon Oil Collective
- how to use energy effectively in the home
- measures that can be taken to make homes more energy efficient
- the supplier services available to vulnerable customers

Bring along your energy bills for confidential advice on how you might reduce your costs.

Telephone advice is also available to any individuals who may prefer this method of contact.

Entry and advice is free

Devon Communities Together, 73 & 74 Basepoint
Kendall Way, Exeter EX2 8LB



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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>

SCPC – on Tues 5th Oct held their meeting in the Village Hall with seven Councillors attending and three members of the public.

External Auditor's Certificate and Report – has been received and is published on the Parish Website. No further actions required. The 6 Month Budget Review was also considered and details are also published on the website.

SCPC Dartmoor Line Working Party – over 500 surveys have been completed. A summary of the survey is available on the website, or by request to the Clerk. The findings were shared with the public at SCPC Open Meeting on 19th Oct and at the OkeRail meeting on 21st Oct. The data will inform a future feasibility study by NWR on the neighbourhood railway network.

Broadband/Mobile Coverage Survey – SCPC presented their current understanding of the situation regarding Fibre to the Premises roll out within the parish. Further details will soon be available on the Website or via the Clerk

Public Toilets – due to Health & Safety reasons, the Ladies Toilets have been closed until the roof can be refurbished and made safe. Until then, the Gents Toilets will become a Unisex facility.

SCEnSus – another successful event took place on Sat 16th Oct when a group of parishioners, family and friends of local gardener, Tim Edwards, met to plant bulbs on the Village Green in his memory.

The next SCEnSus meeting will be held at the Village Hall, or via Zoom, on Tues 2nd Nov where future sustainable and ecological initiatives will be considered.

Domestic Energy Efficiency Workshop – will take place as part of Village Hall – Come, Buy and Chat morning on 20th Nov 10.30 – 11.30 a.m.. More details on the website.

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 2nd November 2021.

NORTH TAWTON BOWLING CLUB

**COFFEE MORNING
SATURDAY 20th NOVEMBER
10 – 11.30 a.m.
TOWN HALL**

**Raffle, Hamper, Kids hoopla, Tea/Coffee,
Breakfast baps**

North Tawton Royal British Legion

The North Tawton Royal British legion will be holding their AGM on Wednesday November 3rd at 7.30 p.m. in the White Hart, North Tawton. All welcome.

We will assemble on Sunday 14th November in the Square for the Remembrance Parade.

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Christmas in Bondleigh - Dates for Your Diary

Saturday, 11th December at 10 a.m. -
- St. James' Christmas Coffee Morning.

Sunday, 19th December at 4.30 p.m., -
- St. James' Christmas Carol Service.

Christmas Eve - Late Night Communion
Service at 10 p.m.

More details in the December issue.

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



Little Seedlings Playgroup

**North Tawton Primary
School Hall**

**Every Tuesday during
term-time**

9am - 11am

**For babies & toddlers 0 - 4 yrs
Admission £2 per family
payable at the door**

Bondleigh Rainfall

September was a fairly uneventful month with a total
rainfall of 80.3mm.. Half of this fell in the last five
days and continued into October.
Last year September's rainfall was only 39.7mm
Danny Semorad

NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL



Town Clerk: Mrs Sarah Say
RFO/Assistant Town Clerk: Mrs Melanie Bickell
14A The Square
North Tawton
EX20 2EP
Tel: 01837 880121

NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL LENGTHSMAN

The Council is inviting tenders for a self-employed
Lengthsman contractor for 2022-2024 (3 years).

The specification for the lengthsman contract is
available upon request by writing/emailing the

Clerk to North Tawton Town Council,
14a The Square, North Tawton,
EX20 2EP
townclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

or can be downloaded via the council website on [https://
northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk/](https://northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk/)

The Closing Date for Expressions of Interest is Friday
29th October 2021

Tenders will be considered by the council at their
meeting on Tuesday 2nd November 2021
Please clearly mark

"Tender documents – CONFIDENTIAL"

The role played by North Tawton Town council in
relation to maintaining the public realm (highways and
open spaces) and Public Rights of Way (PROW) network
is valuable and we are committed to continuing to
support this public service to improve local
responsiveness, provide added value to the core services
and improve the environment within the local
community. The condition of local roads, footpaths and
open spaces affects the whole community and
contributes to the quality of the local environment.

**North Tawton Lengthsman scheme allows
delegation for minor works on local roads and
public footpaths. The Council is able to use our
precept to employ a local contractor familiar with
the area.**

THE DARTMOOR LINE WORKING GROUP SURVEY REPORT



Thank you to the 500 + people who completed the Dartmoor
Line Survey.
The results have been analysed and a report is available on
the Sampford Courtenay Parish Website or available from
the Clerk.



Spectacular Santa run returns to RHS Rosemoor

Children's Hospice South West's spectacular Santas on the Run Goes

Freestyle will be returning to RHS Garden Rosemoor, near Great Torrington, on Sunday, December 5th. The festive, fun 2k course is suitable for all ages and abilities and there will be plenty of festive treats and surprises to enjoy along the way.

"It's the perfect way to get everyone in the mood for Christmas and raise a few pounds for your local children's hospice," said CHSW fundraiser Emma Perry.

Tickets are £10 per adult, £5 per child (under twos are free). Visit www.chsw.org.uk/santas

Join the Santas on the Run Goes Freestyle Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/santasontherun

Photograph: Tim Lamerton



Sampford Courtenay Countryfile Children in Need Ramble 2021 **Saturday November 13th 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.

KEEP AN EYE ON THE NOTICEBOARDS, WEBSITE & FACE BOOK PAGE FOR START TIME AND VENUE.



Sampford Courtenay Advent Window Trail!

Following the success of several Scarecrow Trails, Pumpkin Trail, and last year's ADVENT WINDOW TRAIL throughout December – we're doing it again!

So,

If you have a window or garden visible from the road and would like to put up an Advent Window Display please let Marion know.

Contact Marion on 01837 82285 or SCPCClerk@aol.com to be allocated a number from 1 – 24 corresponding with the days of December.

Reveal your window/display from the date you have been allocated.

We'll endeavour to create a Trail Map so that you can walk around the village and check them all out with your family.

FRIDAY 24th DECEMBER – window will be on the Plant Stall in the Square – where we will again be serving Mince Pies and hot drinks and wishing parishioners a MERRY CHRISTMAS.

KEEP AN EYE ON THE NOTICEBOARDS, FACE BOOK & WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.

Shoebox Appeal

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest Children's project, run by the Christian relief and development organisation Samaritan's Child.

This is your opportunity to make a special connection with a child overseas by giving a shoebox gift from your hands into theirs. So wrap a **medium** sized shoebox and fill it with great little gifts. It is then sent overseas and distributed to children based on need, regardless of their background or religious belief. It is an unconditional gift, asking for nothing in return.

Boxes need to be filled and left at St. Andrew's Church for the **9.30 a.m. Family Service on 7th November** or at St. Peter's, North Tawton. If you haven't got a shoebox flat pack ones are available from Nicky Craig 01837 880118

Samaritan's Purse OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Shoebox Appeal

Blessing the boxes will take place at St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay on **Sunday, 7th November** at the 9.30 a.m. Family Service

For more information contact Nicky Craig 01837 88011



Sampford Courtenay SCEnSus Seasonal Suggestions – November

None of us can have escaped the **need for urgent action by us all** – at global, country, community, household and individual level - to do something to help the environmental and climate change situation. We hear about global warming, the loss of habitats and named species, the disposal of waste (particularly plastic and its effect on landfill sites and our oceans)... the list goes on. Can we, hand on heart, say that we're doing as much as we can to protect things for future generations? This isn't the place for a lengthy list of things to do and it could very quickly become political but, at the very least, we all need to do some soul searching to make sure that we are comfortable about the carbon footprint that we are creating.... and leaving for others. Take some time this month to find out more about the situation and identify practical steps that you and those around you can take. The United **Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26)** will take place in Glasgow between the 1st and 12th of this month. What is decided there is critical to keep the goal of global warming at 1.5C within reach. Watch and listen to what comes from the Conference and decide what you can do to play your part. It's all too easy to leave it to others. The time to effect the necessary change really is running out.

Single-use plastics. Many of you will be aware that this has been a focus of one of our SCEnSus displays recently. Can you avoid buying any 'unnecessary' plastic items for the remainder of this year (Christmas decorations included!) and can you buy things in re-usable or compostable packaging wherever possible?

Thinking ahead to Christmas, if you are the 'Crafty' sort, could you make some **Christmas decorations** using recycled or left-over materials to sell on the Stall in the Square or on the SCEnSus stall at the 'Come, buy and chat' event on Saturday 20th November in the Village Hall.

Many people have a **bonfire** at this time of year, either for Bonfire night or just to tidy up the garden. Burning releases carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Can you avoid having one 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. Can you go to a larger, organised fireworks display rather than lots of us having our own smaller ones which releases more particles? Apparently, the particles from fireworks never fully decompose and just collect in the atmosphere Do we really need to keep doing this?

SAMPFORD COURTENAY		CALENDER
NOVEMBER		DECEMBER
11 th – Armistice Day Service 10.45 a.m.		1 st – 24 th – Advent Window Trail.
13 th - Countryfile Children in Need Footpath Ramble		4 th – St. Andrew's Christmas Bazaar 2 – 4 p.m.
14 th – Remembrance Service		5 th – Christingle Service 9.30 a.m.
20 th – Come, Buy and Chat 10.30 – 11.30 a.m.		5 th – Games Afternoon 3 – 6 p.m.
With Energy Efficiency workshop		6/11 th - Christmas Cheer & Santa's Grotto
		8 th – Carols at the New Inn – 6.30 p.m.
		19 th – Candlelit Service – 6.30 p.m.
		NEXT YEAR 24th June 22 – Summer Ball.

Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay & Jacobstowe W.I.

The latest meeting was held in Exbourne village hall on Thursday October 7th. The speaker was Ann Stuart on the subject of Glass Fusing. She had members doing their own glass fusing, which proved very popular. She was thanked by Sally Kenealy.

The business part of proceedings followed refreshments. The next walk is from Northlew on Friday October 29th. A gift of £500 had been received from Kingswood (the developers of the Hatherleigh Market site), which members had visited. They were shown around the show houses and given a delicious tea. Arrangements were made about the Christmas celebrations. The tied winners of the competition for a glass ornament were Margaret Hawkins and Gillian Townsend Green and the Flower of the Month winner was Gillian Townsend Green.

The next meeting is in Exbourne village hall on Thursday November 4th at 2.30 p.m. when the speaker will be Alison Erkman from Nat West talking about Scams.

Margaret Weeks

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Sampford Courtenay**

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Christingle Service

Sunday, 5th December
at 9.30am

*Refreshments after the service and a time for
fellowship
In aid of The Children's Society*

St Andrew's Sampford Courtenay

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Sunday 14th November

St Andrew's 9.30am



ARMISTICE DAY

Thursday 11th November

10.50am The Square

St Andrew's Sampford Courtenay

**Patronal Festival
Sunday 28th November
11a.m.**

*This will be the only service in the Benefice
Cheese and Wine*

St Andrew's Sampford Courtenay
**Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 4th December Church
Rooms
at 2.00p.m.**

News from Sampford Courtenay

Harvest Festival was celebrated on Friday, 24th September at St. Andrew's with the church beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables. The congregation was accompanied by the choir and the lessons were read by Jenny Denison Smith and Veronica Matthews. The traditional meal was abandoned in the face of the coronavirus and simple but essential rules were followed.

Participants enjoyed a bring and share supper, with the traditional cider and wine, held in the church, thus avoiding the crush of bodies in the church rooms associated with previous occasions. The new format was greatly enjoyed.

Parishioners from all four churches in the Benefice attended an afternoon tea in North Tawton rugby club on Sunday, 26th September to bid farewell to Nick Weldon and his family as they made final preparations for their move to Marcham with Garford, Oxfordshire. A presentation and speech of appreciation was given by Paul Andrews, North Tawton church warden, and this was reciprocated by Nick. He and the family are wished every blessing. Now that we are in the Vacancy, which will last several months, the Church Wardens will be working to ensure that the established pattern of services continues.

Sampford Courtenay Flower Club met on Monday 11th October in the Village Hall for their AGM. The Treasurer is Mary Dennis, Secretary Nancy Passmore and Programme Secretary Celia Broughton. The formal part of the meeting was followed by a talk and demonstration of his wonderful plants by Alan French. The next meeting will be on Monday 8th November with Christine Harrington.

Nicky Craig

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Black History Month at North Tawton School

October is the month in which schools all over the country focus specifically on sharing the lives, experiences and achievements of people from black and ethnic minority cultures and traditions. This is something we have done and shall continue to make more prolific in our curriculum at North Tawton Primary School throughout the year.

It is particularly important in an area such as North Tawton, where there is less diversity in our community, to make sure that the children are intentionally taught about the lives of people similar to and different from themselves.

At the beginning of October, I told the children we would be learning about important people who have changed the world for the better. I asked the children to draw what an important person who has made history might look like.

The children had some time to think about this and draw what they might look like. I then asked what kind of person they had drawn: male or female: older than me or younger than me; a person from a very long time ago, or someone living now, and if their person had light skin like mine or darker? The vast majority of children drew very old, white men from long ago. While there are many white men from long ago who have been important people in history, I told them that this month we would be learning about lots of different kinds of people who have contributed to world history. This was an interesting activity as it showed us that even with a diverse curriculum, certain stereotypes and assumptions exist, even in our youngest children. We have more work to do!

Across the school, the staff have been making sure we select books and resources which feature a wide range of people both from long ago and from recent times too. Specifically, we have made sure we feature successful women and people from black and minority groups.

In our school assemblies and class lessons this term, we have shared the stories of civil rights leaders Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King, learnt about Barack Obama and Michelle Obama, and admired the sporting prowess of Simone Biles, Usain Bolt and Mo Farah. I read a book by one of my childhood favourites Floella Benjamin which tells the story of her immigration from Trinidad to England to meeting the Queen!

Throughout their time at North Tawton Primary School, the children will be learning about women and men from different cultures, countries and traditions and the contributions they have made to the world.

Two of my heroes are Yvonne Conolly who became Britain's first female black head teacher in 1969 and Betty Campbell the first Welsh black head teacher who began the Black History Month tradition. I look to these two leaders for strength and inspiration as I champion equality, diversity and inclusion at North Tawton and across all of my work as a Dartmoor Trust leader.


Tara Penny

Principal of North Tawton Community Primary School and Nursery



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Lost Librarian ~ Saturday 13th - Saturday 27th November

There is a key, but what does it open? Come and find out at our upcoming escape room. Tickets on sale now: librariesevolve.org.uk/the-lost-librarian (12+ guidance, younger audiences must be accompanied by an adult).

The Secret Book Quest ~ Coming November 2021

A completely FREE year-round reading challenge for 5-12 year olds across Devon. To take part, children need to sign up, read 50 books, collect stickers and solve the code.

Christmas Craft & Story ~ Thursday 9th December, 10:30-11:30

Suitable for under 5s - free event, donations welcome.

Regular events

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

Bring along your knitting, stitching, crochet or other portable craft 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 5s. 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

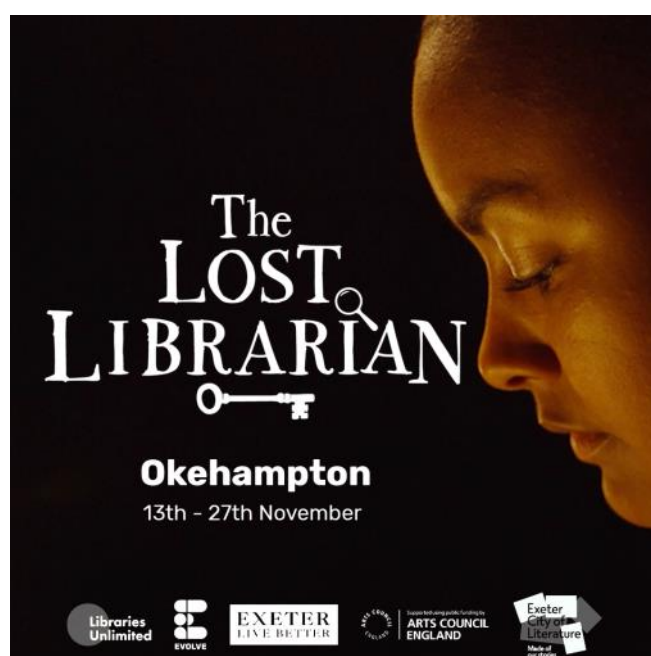
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North Tawton Repair Café is planning to hold an event on the second Saturday of each month, so please start hunting out your broken items for us to fix! We have repairers available to undertake sewing repairs, as well as electrical and mechanical repairs.

13th November – 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

At the Community Centre, Barton Street, North Tawton, EX20 2HN
For more information go to <https://fb.me/NTRRepairCafe>

News from the Moor



Hi everyone

It always amazes me how quickly the school holidays whizz past. It has been such a privilege to be able to provide some much needed access to beauty for people after so much uncertainty. The majority have responded by continuing to wear masks indoors and be thoughtful of others when visiting.

On a personal note, it has been a huge relief to start looking forward instead of just reacting to the latest news and restrictions. Our partnerships with fabulous local organisations such as Med Theatre, Learn Devon and OCRA are once again active with all sorts of activities being planned. Watch out for return of the school cross country run in November – keep everything crossed it can go ahead!

As I start the virtual tour of Dartmoor, it's fair to say that the summer has not been without its challenges. At Finch Foundry, the guided tours have been going really well but we then, like so many places, hit some staff shortages and had to close for a few days. Thankfully, as Finch is staying on the booking system, we were able to let people know in advance and those who turned up were still able to enjoy the outside spaces and take advantage of the very excellent local walks, shop, café and pub.

The unexpected highlight and star of the show at Lydford Gorge is the second hand bookshop which opened in April. It is proving to be a big hit with locals and visitors alike and we are very grateful to the lovely people who have turned up with donations of books. The team there is also loving sharing tales of the huge variety of wildlife that call Lydford home and I joined them at the Meldon Wildlife Festival recently which was such a joy to be part of.

Finally, to Castle Drogo. It was a bit of a shock to be so busy again! It took us a bit of time to get used to seeing so many people. I would like to say a big thank you to all our neighbours for their patience on the lanes and directing people who have trusted their Sat Nav instead of the evidence before their eyes. Thanks to some very patient people giving directions, visitors have found their way to us and it has brought a lot of joy to be able to share this wonderful place again.

You will soon notice the return of an old friend to Drogo when a section of scaffolding goes up on the south west side of the castle this Autumn. As part of the monitoring checks of the work completed during the 8 year project, we discovered a section of pointing that hadn't cured as required and subsequently couldn't stand up to the Dartmoor weather. Beginning this autumn, a team of Stonemasons will undertake the repairs of this section. The remedial work comprises the raking out of the joints in the defective areas to a depth of 75mm and then repointing in two coats of hydraulic lime mortar. It is projected to take 8 – 12 weeks to complete and extra care will be taken over the cure of the mortar after it is placed to ensure the issue isn't repeated. Access to the inside of the Castle will not be affected and we will remain open throughout October.

Take care everyone, stay warm as Autumn arrives and I hope to see you soon,

Paula

Volunteering & Community Manager, Dartmoor

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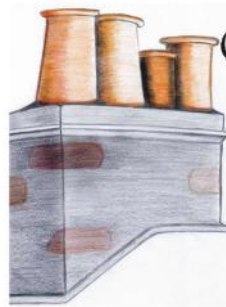
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Sampford Courtenay

November

Sheila Cartwright /
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December

Advent (no flowers)

Honeychurch

November

Marilyn Weeks

December

Mary Pyle

Bondleigh

November 7th

Pam Evison

November 14th / 21st

Sonia Rix

Nov 28th / Dec 5th

Nicola Raffin

North Tawton

Flowers

November 7th

Jo Fear

November 14th

Remembrance Sunday

November 21st

Royal British Legion

Nov 28th / Dec 5th

Lorna Dawe

December 12th

Carol Service

December 19th / 26th

Christmas flowers

Brass

November

Jo Fear

December

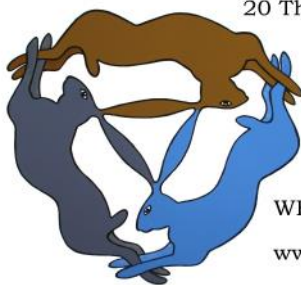
Amanda Salter

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

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