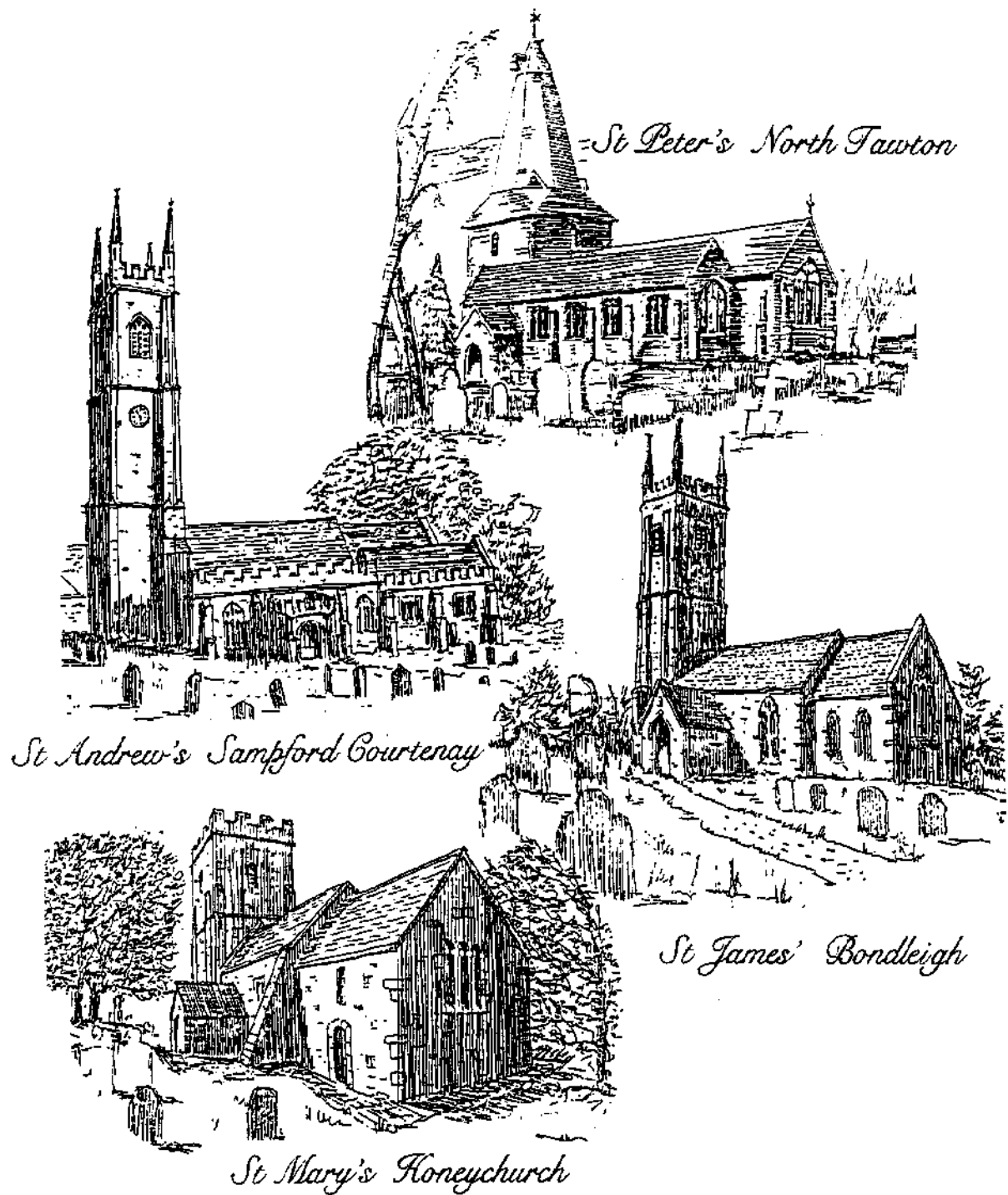


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From The Rectory

As I started writing this, we were waiting for Donald Trump's new tariffs to be revealed. The hype in the run up felt a bit like a backwards awards ceremony – the governments of the world waiting with bated breath to hear just how bad it was going to be. After the event, headlines spoke of “trillions of dollars” wiped off the global stock markets. What with ongoing uncertainty caused by wars around the world, talk of increased defence spending, climate change and even the advent of AI, I know quite a few of us feel the uncertainty.

But I doubt this “upending of the world order” would have surprised Jesus. In the days before he was crucified, Jesus spoke of such world changing events in one of his longest bits of teaching. He warned:

You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.
(Matthew 24:6-8)

What did Jesus suggest we do in the face of such unsettling world events? Firstly, he encourages us not to be alarmed, but to trust in him. To him none of this is unexpected, it is the reality of a world which contains human greed, evil and sin. But he also says I have it in hand. I will return and put

this world to rights – bring perfect justice and peace and bring justice to those who have done evil. Secondly, Jesus said, be always ready for that day when I will return, and the end will come, and I will put the world to rights. These things will continue and then I will bring justice – but no one will know the moment I will return. It will be as unexpected as the coming of a thief in the night – so be ready. What might it mean to be ready? Jesus preached that we should “repent” that is turn away from evil and live by God's ways and “believe the good news”, believe that he brought us forgiveness. Lastly, Jesus encouraged us to continue to do the good work that God has gifted us to do. Even if it feels like the world is falling apart, we can still make a small difference to the people around us by keeping on loving and doing good. He says that on that day when he brings justice, he will say to those who, because they loved Jesus, kept on loving those around them:

‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

David Spence

LITTLE FISHES



Every Thursday (inc. school holidays)

9am-11am @ St Peter's Church

Little Fishes is our weekly toddler group for parents and children aged 0-4 and is held in St Peter's Church, North Tawton.

We are a growing group from in and around the town and aim to provide a FREE space which is fun and safe for children and supportive for parents.



For more info, please contact Wez Cutler on: 07540127827 or wesleycutler@hotmail.co.uk



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May 13th & 27th

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If you would like to talk to one of the team, please contact:

North Tawton

Rhona & Ken Bragg 01363 530673
Jackie Tye 01837 880479

Sampford Courtenay/Honeychurch

Rory Robinson 07811 324154
Lynn Robinson 07966 477465

Bondleigh

Danny Semorad 07814 877151
Lin Warre 01837 82089

Roundabout

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

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

Contributions should be sent to Hilary and Richard Edwards, Shellsley, Exeter Street, North Tawton, EX20 2BZ (tel. 01837 82376)

E mail: nt.roundabout@gmail.com
no later than noon on the 13th of the month before publication is required (and earlier, if possible)

New advertisers are always welcome. Advertisements can be arranged for shorter periods than one year or for single editions.

Visit Roundabout on its own website: www.northtawtonroundabout.com
(There are also links online via the websites of the North Tawton Town Council and the Sampford Courtenay Village Council).

A Charity Cushion* Concert

Saturday 14th June at 7.30 p.m.

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Come along and enjoy coffee and cake whilst sharing gardening tips with friends and neighbours. There will also be a draw with many delightful prizes to be won!

Thank you to everyone and we will look forward to seeing you.

Caroline (82240)
on behalf of
St. James's PCC

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NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk: Melanie Bickell

14A The Square
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EX20 2EP

Tel: 01837 880121

e-mail: townclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

"The Duke's in council and your noble self, I am sure, is sent for"

This is a line from Shakespeare's Othello, and demonstrates the importance of council participation. Here at North Tawton Town Council we value the participation of all our councillors who regularly give up their time to attend meetings, speak with members of the public and to bring to attention the needs of the town. But we feel that this also extends to the Council being an active participant in community life.

As not everyone can visit the Town Council Office, or attend the Town Council Meetings, we saw the need to bridge this gap, and hence the commencement of our new, long awaited, Councillor Surgeries. The idea behind these is to allow face to face meetings between our Councillors and residents of the town, to provide a space for longer discussions than Town Council Meetings allows for, along with providing a way for our Councillors to meet both within, and with, the community in which they serve.

In North Tawton we are so pleased to have a very successful Repair Café, run by volunteers who, fix, mend, sew, repair, and provide a place to chat on the Second Saturday of each month. With such a great community setting, this is where our new Surgeries will take place. If you have something to say, or have questions about the Council, or an issue within the town, or where to direct your emails or questions on all kinds of topics, then the Councillor Surgeries will be there to help. There will be two Councillors present at each one, and their knowledge and experience, community mindedness and dedication will be on hand. If the Council is unable to deal with a matter, we can point you in the right direction as to who can.

We have always appreciated the voice of our residents here in the Town, and as we want to be accessible to our community, we view this as an active outreach opportunity, to be user-friendly and in a comfortable, informal setting. We look forward to seeing you! And if you like books and literature, including the odd bit of Shakespeare, then look out for our Book Swap in the Town Council Office starting soon.

You can also contact us on:

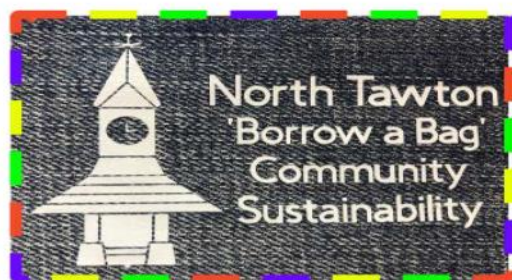
townclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

deputyclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

01837 880121

Or visit the Town Council Office Monday, Tuesday Wednesday 10.30am - 2.30pm

See our website at: <http://northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk>



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North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

Let's get this out of the way. I've been told (by a weather station worshipper that gazes at his weather station a lot more than he gazes at me) that you all want to know how much rainfall we had in March this year compared to last year. So pay attention please – the total rainfall for March 2024 was 162 mm. – and the total rainfall for March 2025 was.....(I think a drumroll feels appropriate)a meagre 3.6 mm.. Shocking, isn't it? You've had to put down your mug of coffee/piece of toast/copy of Roundabout and look for a pen so you can write it in your diary. If you've got a diary that is. Husband has. It's full of weathery stuff and statistics of course. No notes of a certain persons birthday or any other significant dates like a wedding anniversary. Just saying....

Our speaker for March was Grahame Flynn from 'Devon in Sight'. A charity that, I'm fairly sure, not many of us were familiar with. Devon in Sight is a sight loss charity providing incredible support for those with no sight, partial sight, their families, friends and carers with it's main aim being to make Devon a sight loss friendly county. Grahame's talk was packed with interesting facts and information so here are just a few of the points that he shared with us.

There are over two million people in the UK living with sight loss severe enough to have an impact on their daily living – with an estimated 51,000 people with sight loss living in Devon. The most common reason for a hospital outpatient appointment is because of eye health and the most common cause of sight loss in the over 50's is age related macular degeneration. We could potentially prevent 50% of sight loss cases in the UK just by getting our eyes tested. Our eyes require four times the light needed as a teenager, once we are 70, in order to read.

Following an explanation of how our eyes work, Grahame talked about common eye conditions including uncorrected refractive error – which could be corrected by simply wearing appropriately prescribed glasses. Devon in Sight is committed to providing accurate information, advice and guidance and has a variety of easily accessible resources including a sight loss helpline, a very informative website, their 'In Vision' magazine, a Health and Wellbeing Service and an Independent Living Service that aims to ensure that people have access to equipment and training to maintain a safe level of independence. They have recently created a new service called 'Works for Me' which is an employment hub dedicated to supporting visually impaired people with looking for work or a change in career.

The charity can arrange for you to have weekly supportive 'ChitChat' telephone calls, free fire safety home visits, formal counselling sessions and can refer people in to cutting edge clinical trials and research.

Grahame's enthusiasm and passion for this charity left us in no doubt that, under his leadership – and with his dedicated team of staff and volunteers, Devon in Sight will continue to go from strength to strength.

Our AGM is approaching so just in case you're wondering 'what DO those W.I. ladies get up to?' and you're asking yourself 'do I really want to be in their gang?' let me enlighten you. All in one breath.

Cinema trips, wine tasting, litter picking (in fancy dress), a variety of shopping trips, visits to factories and the BBC studios, cocktail making, skittles, fabulous craft workshops, garden visits, cold water swimming (whose daft idea is that??), gin tasting (preferably after the cold water swimming), quizzes and our own Produce Show, plus interesting and inspiring speakers at our monthly meetings. Oh, and eating. Quite a bit of eating actually. Lunch Club, Supper Club and an endless supply of cake. 'Cos we're pretty good at cake. And by that I mean baking it and eating it.

And there might be a belly dancing workshop in the pipeline. Bet that has raised a few Roundabout reader's eyebrows.

It's definitely torn husband's gaze away from his weather station.

Sue Knott

BONDLEIGH RAINFALL

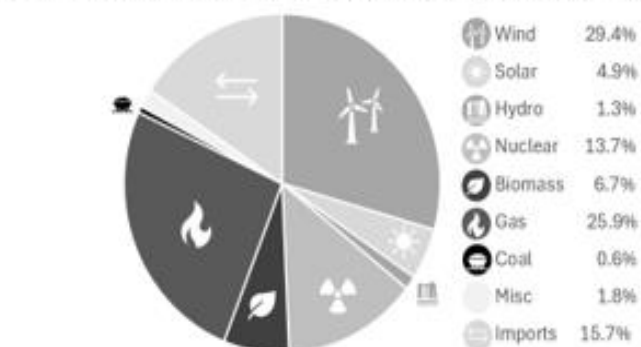
The total rainfall for March was only 4.5 mm. Not only was this the driest March, it was the driest month since I started recording the rainfall in Bondleigh nearly 30 years ago. I think this is exceptional for a winter month. There was only measurable rain on the 21st with 0.9 mm. and on the 28th with 3.6 mm..

The previous 'dry' months have been September 2014 and June 2018, both with 4.8 mm., and May 2020 with 5.3 mm..

Is this the start of a very dry year or just an extreme month. Watch this space!!

Danny Semorad

Climate graph: UK electricity sources 2024 average



Data source: NESO (National Energy System Operator)



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Our Reading Well titles are a range of books covering physical and mental health, and include titles aimed at children and teens. And don't forget if you're housebound or struggling to get to the library, our Home Library Service can deliver not just books but a friendly chat too!

Keep an eye out for more events and activities at Okehampton Library.

Visit our website: discover.librariesunlimited.org.uk

Follow us on Facebook (Okehampton Library) and Instagram ([@okehampton.library](https://www.instagram.com/okehampton.library)).

EVENTS in MAY

Police Community drop in

Date to be confirmed

Police Community Support Officer, Sean Jones will be here if you would like to come in and chat. He said: "It will be a good chance for us to engage with the community and answer any questions or concerns people have, as well as passing on advice if they would like it. I will also bring along some finger printing kits for any children to take part in."

Coffee & Create: Fridays, 10:00-12:00

Bring along your own creative projects and enjoy some optional socialising!

During May, Learn to Crochet with Eva. All materials will be provided or bring along your own Crochet project to receive guidance from Eva, our young volunteer.

Hot drinks available. Free (donations welcome), drop-in, open to adults.

RNID Pop-up Session: Thursday 8 May, 10:00-12:00

As part of 'Deaf Awareness Week', The Royal National Institute for Deaf people (RNID), will be at Okehampton Library with a pop-up session. Speak to them about all things related to 'hearing loss' and get answers to your questions! Get help with your NHS hearing aids (including cleaning, re-tubing, batteries etc). Or take a quick 3-minute hearing check to see if you're showing signs of a hearing loss! (for over 18s who don't already have a diagnosed hearing loss). Free, drop-in session, no booking necessary.

Mental Health Awareness Week: 12-18 May

During Mental Health Awareness Week we will have several local organisations in the library to offer support and advice. These include 'The Veteran Armed Forces Breakfast Club' and 'Andys Man Club' on Friday 16 May 10:00-12:00 and 'The Wellbeing Cafe' on Saturday 17 May 10:00-12:00. Contact the library for details of other organisations.

There will also be a display in the library containing books on the topic of Mental Health and come in to chat to staff about our Reading Well collections to find out more about what they offer.

Dementia Action Week: 19-25 May

There will be a display in the library containing books on the topic of Dementia and come in to chat to staff about our Reading Well collections to find out more about what they offer.

Citizens Advice Bureau & Healthwatch Information Stand

Tuesday 20 May 10:00-12:00

Healthwatch is a specialist service, run by specially trained volunteers and advisers in collaboration with Citizen's Advice Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon and their core services. A Healthwatch Champion will be available at the library together with a Citizens Advice Assessor. They would be delighted to meet anyone who is interested in their work, be it core or specialist. In particular, they are happy to discuss Healthwatch and the volunteering opportunities that are available.

'Ancient Tracks on Dartmoor' a talk by Dartmoor's Daughter, Emma Cunis: Tuesday 27 May, doors open 19:00 for 19:15 start

This illustrated talk traces some of the key routes that offered safe passage across Dartmoor for farmers, wool jobbers and other merchants using pack ponies, tinnerns, peat-cutters, monks, sailors, the dead...and more. Based on a book of the same name by Eric Hemery (Emma's grandfather). Tickets in advance £5 each, to include refreshments; purchase through Eventbrite or Okehampton Library.

(continued on page 17)

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**Tuesday 20 May at 2.30pm
in Fairplace Church**

Title: "Tales of a Traffic Inspector in Exeter"

Marilyn is a retired Police Officer having served in Devon & Cornwall Constabulary for over 30 years, completing her service as a Traffic Inspector in Exeter.

After her retirement she trained as a psychotherapist and for 12 years worked as the Force Trauma Manager for Devon & Cornwall police and helped to pioneer the use of Trauma Risk Management (TRM) in several UK police forces and other emergency services.

She now volunteers for Devon Air Ambulance and is a cricket umpire.

This will be an interesting talk by Marilyn who is an engaging speaker.

This meeting will be held at Fairplace Church, 3 Fairplace Terrace, Okehampton, EX20 1DT starting at 2.30pm.

Admission - £1.00 to help towards the cost of hiring the venue and refreshments.
For further information please contact Doc McVey 01837 658590



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News from North Tawton School

Adolescence



There has been much talk about the Netflix drama 'Adolescence,' a four-part drama about the radicalisation of a 13-year-old boy. If you haven't watched it, I highly recommend it. The acting is superb, and the filming is innovative as it is all one take, including the use of a drone. While it is a fictional piece, it has caused a media storm due to schools, agencies and individuals recognising the themes raised in the story as ones they are experiencing in real life.

It will not spoil the story to say that the child commits a heinous crime for which he shows little remorse due to the brainwashing he has experienced online. As the story unfolds, we, the viewer, are shocked as he does not deny the crime, simply states he has done 'nothing wrong.'

The protagonist is a boy from a white working family. His upbringing is not at all extraordinary. He lives in a house in a typical town, with his mum, dad and sister, with contact to his extended family. He is bright and doing well in school. In other words, he is a 'normal kid' from a 'normal family.' This is uncomfortable for those who may have thought this story could only apply to a child with learning, family or social barriers.

In the drama, there are some irritating tropes about secondary school. I can assure you our local secondaries are not like this, but it does portray the gulf between younger and older people. We adults are not always aware of the culture our children are living. While this may have always been the case in terms of music and fashion, arguably as it should be, this drama highlights the language our youngsters are using, specifically emojis, can have a deep and dark meaning we adults are unaware of, and this therefore impedes our ability to safeguard them.

Schools have long been warning parents of the dangers online, but our focus has very much been warning of predators who are seeking out children to meet and harm in real life. The threat of radicalisation is more subtle and harder to detect. Internet users do not have to seek it out, it will find them through Tik Tok, memes and gaming.

While the internet remains a fantastic resource, it can be powerful and dangerous if not understood and managed with skill. Next term, the staff at North Tawton will be looking closely at how we can continue to improve our work in safeguarding children from radicalisation. We will look at how we can further enhance our work in raising a pupil's self-esteem, teaching critical reading and thinking skills as well as healthy use of internet and safe online behaviour. As always, I ask that our families monitor their children's use of the internet and do not give unlimited unsupervised access. It is also important for all of us as adults to remain open to learning about new things, reaching out to our young people by talking to them and asking about their lives and always modelling healthy and respectful behaviours.

Tara Penny

Principal North Tawton Primary School

Ian runs again

By the time this edition of the Roundabout is printed, local runner, Ian Webber (husband of Jayne at NT Post Office) should have completed his 24th consecutive London Marathon on Sunday 21st April.

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

The Hospice UK mission is to promote and protect hospice care for all who need it, for now and forever. As the national champion for hospices, Hospice UK fight to make sure hospice care is there for everyone, from every background, fight to make sure hospices are able to deliver the best, most personalised care, and fight to make sure hospices can thrive – today and into the future.

Hospice UK represents the community of more than 200 hospices across the UK. They do everything they can for children and adults living with long-term illness, or approaching the end of their lives through providing bereavement, counselling and practical support. Hospice UK does everything it can to support hospices' incredible, invaluable work.

Ian and Jayne are well known for their Coffee Mornings, which they held in North Tawton Town Hall for many years prior to the covid pandemic.

You can donate via the fundraising page: www.justgiving.com/page/ianwebberlm2025 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) Ian and Jayne can be contacted via email: jayne.webber@tiscali.co.uk or phone: 01837 82540.

£3030 was raised last year for Hospice UK. Over the years, Ian and Jayne have raised an incredible **£81,464** for various charities, along with the help of our local community.



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HISTORY OF NORTH TAWTON PROJECT

I'm requesting information and assistance related to a history project, "North Tawton People & Places - Past, Present and Future". In this book I will aim to provide an outline of the town's past as well as describe the lives and experiences of some of its most fascinating people. I also intend featuring the back-stories /impressions of the town's modern day residents. Recollections of time spent working on a farm or in one of the town's businesses are especially welcome. The local school will also be involved in the project, giving an insight into the town of the future.

Whatever your background I would love to have your memories and thoughts and would try to feature these in the book. If you would like to help in any way with this project please contact

(Dr) Alan Parkinson on 01837880497

or at alanfrancisparkinson@gmail.com

Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay, and Jacobstowe WI

Our President welcomed everyone, and introduced Angela Dodd-Compton, who gave a talk about The Italian Garden at Great Ambrook, a hidden garden that was discovered by accident near Ipplepen in 1988, and since then it has been uncovered to reveal an incredible garden.

Over the last 20 years Angela has been instrumental in finding out that the house of Great Ambrook and the 4 acre garden was owned by Arthur Smith-Graham who inherited a great wealth from his wealthy tea merchant family and bought the house and adjacent farm in 1899 at the age of 28, and commissioned T.H. Lyon to design the garden with Lewis Bearne building it, who also built Castle Drogo and Bovey Castle. Arthur Smith-Graham died in 1928 aged 56, who as a homosexual commissioned the garden as a secret retreat from society for his Oxbridge friends, leaving behind the beautiful Italian Garden, consisting of a tennis court, plunge pool, swimming pool, summer house and a hot house. In the 1960's after the estate had been sold numerous times, the walled garden became forgotten, and overgrown. It was down to Angela and through her work of discovery that the garden secured Grade II listed status with English Heritage. Members were left feeling totally immersed in the story of discovery that Angela told and thoroughly enjoyed her amazing voyage into the life of Arthur Smith-Graham.

Ten members enjoyed a visit to The Red Earth Group meeting hosted by Morchard Bishop WI, with a talk from wildlife photographer Stephen Powles, followed by a lovely supper.

Our Coffee and Cake morning, including a plant stall is organised for Saturday 10th May at Exbourne Hall 10-12. Hopefully this will be supported and enjoyed by everyone in the area.

Our next meeting is May 13th at Exbourne Hall at 7 p.m., when we have a talk by the RNLI.

If you are interested and would like to come along and see what the WI has to offer, please phone 07971 413997 for more information, or contact DFWI.

Liz Moir

The Sampford Courtenay Grand Summer Fete

Village Hall & grounds

Sunday 29th June
2.30—4.30 pm

Featuring live music from

Hatherleigh Silver Band

Devon Cream Teas Bar Raffle ice-creams
Cake Stall Family games Craft stall
Teddy hunt Tombola Wellie throwing

And much more!



Proceeds to be shared between St Andrew's, St Mary's & Village Hall

INDONESIAN POP UP DINNER EVENT

hosted by Warung Enak

FRIDAY 16TH MAY

6PM - 9PM

SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

Join us for an evening of Indonesian food

Bring your own drink

Advance booking essential

For further information, the menu details
and to book, please email
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An evening not to be missed!

We look forward to seeing you there

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North Tawton



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meets on the third Saturday of the month
at Jen's Café
in The Square at North Tawton
from 0930 – 1130 hours.

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For more information contact Ian on
07879881159.

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Oral Health Accessible to All

Regular Events at Okehampton Library

Okehampton Library has a meeting room available for you to book, so you can spread your roots and break the work-from-home cycle or deliver training and meetings in a productive and comfortable environment. Book through our website roomhire.librariesunlimited.org.uk.

Friends of Okehampton Library: Date TBC

Are you interested in becoming a friend of your library?

Anyone is welcome to get involved and support the library, organising or helping with events, encouraging use of the library, and supporting fundraising activities.

Read Easy: First Tuesday of every month, 10:00-12:00

Come and chat with Richard from Read Easy, the charity that helps adults learn to read. Richard would love to talk to you, particularly if you are interested to know more about what Read Easy do and/or if you would like to introduce someone to their free 1:1 and confidential service.

Coffee & Create: Fridays, 10:00-12:00

Bring along your own creative projects and enjoy some optional socialising!

Hot drinks available. Free (donations welcome), drop-in, open to adults.

Okehampton Library Book Bingo

Join our FREE year-round reading challenge for adults!

Read 12 library books across the year for 12 different prompts. Once you have completed a square, come in to have your bingo card stamped and move onto the next. They can be completed in any order; when all 12 have been completed, bring your card into the library to be entered into a prize draw to win a book bundle and mug – funded by The Friends of Okehampton Library. Completed bingo cards must be handed in to the library by 10 a.m. Saturday 20th December 2025. Collect your bingo card from Okehampton Library at any point in the year.

Recycling for Good Causes: Okehampton Library have taken some inspiration from other Devon Libraries who are doing their bit assisting in tackling the climate crisis and we are proud to say that we have also teamed up with Recycling For Good Causes to offer a recycling point in our library! You can now drop off certain electronics, stamps, currency or jewellery at the recycling point in front of the customer service desk and these items will get sorted and recycled, whilst also raising money for our charity Libraries Unlimited.

SAMPFORD COURTENAY & HONEYCHURCH FLOWER, VEGETABLE & PRODUCE SHOW 2025

Sat 6th September.



Hopefully the sun is still shining and you are all able to get out in your garden.

Now is the time when it starts to get busy – check out some of the things you could be doing in your garden on the RHS website - <https://www.gardenersworld.com/what-to-do-now-may/>

It will soon be Strawberry time – and if you have a glut – why not make some jam to enter into the Flower Show?

Check out the full list of Classes you could be preparing for on our [Website](https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/flower-show-2025) - <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/flower-show-2025>

Bow & District Historical Society

Monday 19th May for 7.30 p.m.

Speaker Catherine Ross from the Met Office
“From Sorcery to Super Computers”

Bow Village Hall EX17 6HU.

Membership £15

Visitors very welcome £4.00

Tea/coffee biscuits included.

Note change from usual 4th Monday because of Bank Holiday.

Enquiries 01363 82468

Okehampton & District Local History Society

Wednesday 14th May

At The Ockment Centre, Okehampton

Speaker T.B.A.

All welcome. Visitors £3.00



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Sampford Courtenay
VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations

Thursday 8th May

- 11a.m. in the Square by the War Memorial

Come and join us for a brief Service of Remembrance to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day.

- New Inn – Special “Fish & Chips” Meal all day – 2 for £25



Friday 9th May

- 7p.m. – Wartime Bingo & Sing-a-long at the Village Hall - £10 pp to include “Ration” refreshments. Bar available. To Reserve your place contact marion174@btinternet.com or 01837 82285



Sampford Courtenay Church
VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations

Thursday 8th May

11a.m. in the Square by the War Memorial

Come and join us for a brief Service of Remembrance to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day.

Followed by

- Light Refreshments in the Church Rooms With donations for Help the Heroes
- Display of Wartime posters & Memorabilia

HELP for HEROES



WI VE Day 2025 – [Orange & Ginger Cake](#) Competition

– Scan QR Code for Recipe



Sampford Courtenay Village Hall
VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations

Friday 9th May

Doors open- 7pm – Eyes down – 7.30p.m.

Come and join in with an old-time sing-a-long and a few games of Bingo to share memories with friends and neighbours.

- £10 pp to include 5 games of Bingo
- Sing-a-long to those wartime favourites
- “Ration” refreshments & Bar
- Period dress (optional)
- Display of Wartime posters & Memorabilia



Reserve your place now at 01837 82285 or marion174@btinternet.com

There will also be a collection for Help for Heroes.

HELP for HEROES



ANTS (Actors of North Tawton Society) will proudly present Red Riding Hood from Wednesday 28th May to Saturday 31st May inclusive, in North Tawton Town Hall. This production is in celebration of our 40th Anniversary and is based on the script that was performed by the society, as our first production, 40 years ago! It has all the traditional Panto characters involved, with the added bonus of 2 wolves, and there are many of our Young ANTS involved as well, which is great. Director, Nigel Davies, who is also one of the wolves said, “It’s going to be a great show, with plenty of laughs and opportunity for the audience to shout at us! Rehearsals have been going really well and I’m being greatly help by two of the cast members, Anna and Chris, who were in the original production.” So come along and see us, Red Riding Hood will need all your support with 2 wolves to fend off! Tickets will go on sale mid April, both online and in the Post Office.

Look out for posters with all the information on them.

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Spring Coffee Morning



Saturday 10th May 2025
10.00am – 12.00pm

Exbourne Village Hall

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Den Brook Community Fund - Investing in our Local Communities

Background:

The Den Brook Community Fund was established in 2017 by the wind farm owners and is administered by Renewal Energy Systems Ltd. It provides grant funding for charities, not-for-profit organisations and social clubs based in the parishes of Bow, North Tawton, South Tawton, Spreyton and Zeal Monachorum. The Fund Committee is made up of two Parish Councillors from each of the Parish Council's who meet twice a year to vote on grant applications for Capital-funded project proposals received over a six month period.

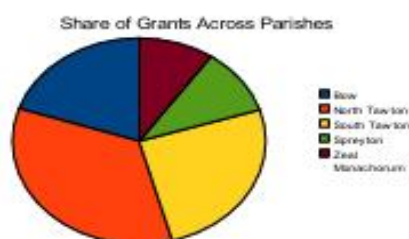
Local Investment of over £400,000:

Over the last eight years, the Committee have approved **78 grants** totalling **£418,385.33**. The grant amounts ranged from £250.00 to £20,000 and have included provision of toys for a toddler group and camping equipment for the Scouts and Guides, up to contributions toward large building restoration projects. The Cost/Benefit scoring system together with other key assessment criteria enable the Committee to assess project proposals on a consistent basis.

Spread of Investment by Parish:

The Service Level Agreement signed by the Parishes in 2015 defined the formula (based partly on parish populations) by which the total fund is shared by each parish. The chart below illustrates how that has worked in practice over the last eight years.

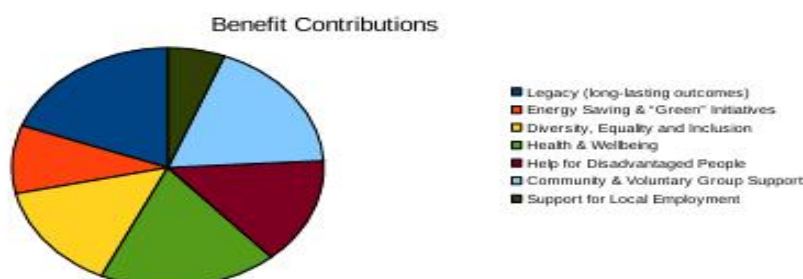
| Grants to Date | Amount | % |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Bow | £83,147.87 | 19.87 |
| North Tawton | £143,743.36 | 34.38 |
| South Tawton | £107,495.54 | 25.69 |
| Spreyton | £43,766.30 | 10.46 |
| Zeal Monachorum | £40,232.26 | 9.62 |
| | £418,385.33 | 100 |



Benefits to the Local Community:

The Cost/Benefit scoring system enables the Committee to roughly quantify the ways in which this investment has benefitted the local community, as shown in the chart below.

| Benefit | £ | % |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Health & Wellbeing | £77,599.08 | 18.55 |
| Legacy (long-lasting outcomes) | £80,757.56 | 19.3 |
| Community & Voluntary Group Support | £76,027.79 | 18.17 |
| Help for Disadvantaged People | £60,095.86 | 14.36 |
| Diversity, Equality and Inclusion | £60,710.50 | 14.51 |
| Energy Saving & "Green" Initiatives | £38,487.46 | 9.2 |
| Support for Local Employment | £24,707.08 | 5.91 |
| Total Investment | £418,385.33 | 100 |



Next Steps:

The next deadline for receipt of applications is the **31st July 2025** (Organisations must be based within one of the five Parish Council boundaries). The latest Terms and Conditions, Easy-Guide and Application Form are available on-line from denbrookcommunityfund@gmail.com.

Councillor D. Hawking – Chair of the Den Brook Community Fund.
31st March 2025

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North Tawton Repair Café would like to thank everyone who comes along to our events – it makes us all happy when we can fix something that would otherwise be thrown away. Did you know that you don't have to have anything to fix in order to come along? We will be open on the dates below, and always have hot drinks available, and often soup, so please just pop along for a cuppa and a chat – we love meeting new people!

We are also now able to offer repairs to computers and to bikes. Bikes must be booked in – please drop us a message on facebook, or call Ruth 07950 637976

10th May 2025 - 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Please bring all items in prior to 12 noon, the earlier you bring them,
the more likely we are to be able to look at them that day!
At the Community Centre, Barton Street, North Tawton, EX20 2HN.

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

If you'd like to find out about volunteering your skills, then please drop in or call Ruth.



North Tawton Library of Things

Join for £5 a year and borrow any of the items we have in the library for free. Open 5.30-6.30 every Thursday in the Chapel of Rest. You can join online or with a paper form (available in the Post Office).

Our library includes household tools, gardening equipment, beer and wine glasses, hoover and carpet cleaners, prams, travel cots, pet carriers, food dehydrator, dehumidifier and craft equipment! Why not pop along and have a look?

<https://northtawtonlibraryofthings.myturn.com/library/>

SAMPFORD COURTENAY FAMILY DOG SHOW May 2025



at
Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

31st May 2025

Open 1.30pm Judging starts 2pm

Enter on the day £1.00/class

Every dog is welcome big, small, pedigree or pooch

Come along for a fun few hours with your pet

Refreshments/Cake available

Raffle

Classes include: Most Handsome Dog/Bitch: Best Working Dog: Best Rescue: Best Veteran: Scruffiest /Fluffiest: Best Junior Handler: Waggiest Tail: Best Sausage Catcher: Best Trick: Dog Judge Would Most Like To Take Home: Overall Champion.

All proceeds to Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

For further information contact Mike or Julie

07973271923 or 07866605184



Volunteers needed!

We're looking for Puppy Raisers and
Fundraisers to join the local group of
volunteers.

Visit: guidedogs.org.uk/volunteering



The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association is a registered charity in England and Wales (209617), Scotland (SC038979) and Isle of Man (1334).

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THE ART BOX – May 2025

In association with Ruth Smith Gallery and Red Mud Arts. If you would like to contribute, please send to Ruth at ruth@ruthsmithgallery.co.uk



I couldn't decide which to write about for this month's Art Box, there's so much that's on or has happened this month, so hold on to your seats as I'm going to try and mention everything!

We've recently said goodbye to our Australian artist in residence, Damon Kowarsky, who has been drawing in and around North Tawton in order to turn them into his exquisite etchings and aquatints. He's hoping to have a show of the finished works next year, so do keep an eye out for that!

My uncle, Neil Musson, is working on an art installation at Exeter Cathedral, based on their collection of medieval wax votive offerings (the only remaining in the UK!). His art duo, Musson + Retallick, have been running workshops inviting people to mould something they're grateful for out of wax blanks they've cast from 100kg of Devon beeswax! (I found it a surprisingly meditative process, and by the sounds of it it's been pretty profound for a lot of people). The finished installation 'From The Vow Made', will include suspending these 1000 objects moulded by 1000 people in the cathedral nave, opening on the 31st May for a few days. Do check it out!

A day trip to St. Ives meant a compulsory visit to the Tate gallery, where there's an exhibition of Ithell Colquhoun's work. She was interested in mysticism, the subconscious and surrealism, and the works were a really interesting balance of allowing the painting materials to lead the picture-making process, whilst also demonstrating a huge amount of care and attention to detail. A trip to Anima Mundi (a wonderful contemporary gallery with beautiful exhibitions in the middle of St. Ives) was almost a sad moment as the sign on the door read 'closed for installing new exhibition', but at the perfect moment Jamie, who works there, walked past and said we could have a sneaky peek mid-install. The show, called Murmurations, is based on how in a murmuration each starling only considers the placement of around seven of its nearest neighbours, not the entire flock. Quite a timely idea to consider I think - both as a warning but also a hopeful and important message of our own individual empowerment.

The Red Mud Arts Critique Group has been developing an exhibition, 'Dreams of Togetherness', for 25th April – 7th May at Manor Street Galleries in Plymouth. The title conjures positive feelings of closeness and love, but also painful feelings of distance and a deep longing for something that has broken down or never was. What is clear from the artists' interpretation though, is that we are wired to desire connection and harmony. This has been expressed through the lens of mental health, sustainability, politics, and more personal connections. We hope you can make it! The opening event is 25th April, and there'll be a themed open mic event on 2nd May.

On the 10th May, 10-5 at Crediton Arts Centre Shivdev has organised a clowning workshop with international clown and yogi, Annie Lockerbie Newton. Annie writes: 'In this unsettled and confusing world, there has never been a better time to embrace the absurd art of clowning! In this workshop, we explore how to embrace failure and chaos, re-learn how to play, and experience a different way of looking at the world - through the eyes of a ridiculous, innocent clown! We so often take things far too seriously, but clowning reminds us of the lightness and absurdity in life.' It sounds like it's going to be a great laugh! Finally, it's a good time to say I'm having an exhibition in the gallery at the beginning of June so do come up to North Tawton's Square at some point to see it! More details to follow.

Have a wonderful May!

Ruth Smith

Red Mud Arts dates for your diary:

Dreams of Togetherness, Exhibition organised by the Critique Group in Manor Street Galleries, Plymouth:

25 April – 7 May. Opening event 6-8 Friday 25th April, Open Mic event 7.30 Friday 2nd May.

Clowning Workshop with international clown and yogi Annie Lockerbie Newton, organised by Shivdev:

10-5 Saturday 10th May, Crediton Arts Centre, £40, contact Shivdev on 07415930894 or sarahjc329@hotmail.com

Open Mic Night: second Wednesday of the month, from 7.30 at the White Hart, North Tawton. Find out more on the Facebook group.

Life Drawing: last Tuesday of the month, 7-9pm at the Community Centre, North Tawton. Email ruth.helen.smith@outlook.com.

Artists' Critique Group: first Tuesday of the month, 7-9pm at Ruth Smith Gallery, North Tawton. Email ruth.helen.smith@outlook.com.

Join our mailing list to hear about upcoming gatherings, talks and workshops at redmudarts@gmail.com



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Pause for thought

The Lord ascendeth up on high,
Loud anthems round Him swelling;
The Lord hath triumphed gloriously,
In power and might excelling:
Hell and the grave are captive led;
Lo, He returns, our glorious Head,
To His eternal dwelling.

Arthur Russell (1806-1874)

NORTH STREET CHAPEL

**May 18th
3 p.m.**

Tea and Praise

Ken Harris



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Monday 12th May, 2nd and 16th June

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Charlotte Sampson 07706 942901 or
charlotte.sampson22@gmail.com



Sampford Courtenay Flower Club

12th May

India Martin - Demonstration

**17th May Coffee
Morning and Plant Sale**

For more information contact the Chairman,
Nancy Passmore on 01837 54894

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

SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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Friday, 9th May 7 p.m.

Indonesian Pop-Up Evening Dinner Event Hosted
by Warung Enak Friday 16th May 7-9 p.m.

Dog Show Saturday 31st May

Grand Village Fête 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Sunday 29th June

Please see separate adverts or visit the parish
website/facebook for more details on all of these
events www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk

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Bishop Nick McKinnel (01647 937563) nick.mckinnel@gmail.com

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St. Andrew's Sampford Courtenay

St. Mary's Honeychurch

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Mr. Danny Semorad (07814 877151)

Mr. Rory Robinson (07811 324154)

Mr. Ray Squire (851627)

Mrs. Rhona Bragg (01363 530673)

Mr. Graham Stokes (82240)

Mrs. Sarah Hanks (851287)

Mr. Richard Weeks (851269)

MAY SERVICES at St. Andrew's Church Sampford Courtenay

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 4th May | 9.30 a.m. | Morning Worship |
| 11th May | 9.30 a.m. | Communion |
| 18th May | 7.30 p.m. | Choral Evensong |
| 25th May | 9.30 a.m. | Communion |
| 29th May | 10 a.m. | Ascension Day Service |

MAY SERVICES at St. Peter's Church North Tawton

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 4th May | 11 a.m. | Morning Worship |
| 11th May | 11 a.m. | Informal Communion |
| 18th May | 11 a.m. | Family Service |
| 25th May | 9.30 a.m. | Toast Church |
| | 11 a.m. | Traditional Communion |
| 27th June | 12 noon | Midweek Communion |

MAY SERVICES at St. James's Church Bondleigh

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 4th May | 9.30 a.m. | Communion Service |
| 18th May | 9.30 a.m. | Communion Service |

MAY SERVICES at St. Mary's Church Honeychurch

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 4th May | 3 p.m. | Evensong / Communion |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|

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North Street Chapel Sundays

MAY 2025

| | |
|-----------------|--|
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| May 11th | 11am Breaking of Bread |
| May 18th | 3pm Tea and Praise Ken Harris |
| May 25th | 11am Breaking of Bread |

Contact: Mr. R. Sampson 07835 033062

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

16th March Otilie Dennis

St. Peter's, North Tawton

Funerals

4th April Malcolm Craig (84 years)

St. Andrew's, Sampford Courtenay

9th April Thomas Dennis (83 Years)

St. James', Bondleigh

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Honeychurch

| | |
|------|--------------|
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| June | Vera Collins |

Bondleigh

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| May 4th / 11th | Jacqui Bourne |
| May 18th / 25th | Lin Warre |
| June 1st / 8th | Sonia Rix |
| June 15th / 22nd | Caroline Stokes |
| June 29th | Margaret Bridgman |

North Tawton

Flowers

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| May 4th / 11th | Frances Brookes |
| May 18th / 25th / 1st | Hilary Edwards |
| June 8th / 15th | Nicky Buckett & Jill Whiteley |
| June 22nd / 29th | Sandra Delve |

Brass

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| May | Frances Brookes |
| June | Nicky Buckett & Jill Whiteley |

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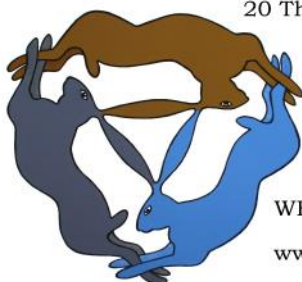
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Further information can be found at www.energysavinggrants.org