

Roundabout

North Tawton, Bondleigh, Sampford Courtenay, Honeychurch



October 2026

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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:

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From The Rectory

*You care for the land and water it;
you enrich it abundantly.
The streams of God are filled with water
to provide the people with grain,
for so you have ordained it.
You drench its furrows and level its ridges;
you soften it with showers and bless its crops.
You crown the year with your bounty,
and your carts overflow with abundance.
The grasslands of the wilderness overflow;
the hills are clothed with gladness.
The meadows are covered with flocks
and the valleys are mantled with grain;
they shout for joy and sing. (Psalm 65:9-13)*

It's the season of our annual harvest festivals. This year it's been an early harvest; even as I write in early September, combining is finished in England and Wales. Yields are down too. All due to such a hot and dry summer. When combined with the onslaught of blue tongue in the Southwest, TB and high fertilizer and fuel prices, it's certainly a difficult year for our farmers. Quite the opposite to the picture of abundance in Psalm 65.

But Psalm 65 is also a prayer for the next harvest. Technically, the last few lines could be translated from the Hebrew as either a description or a request – they mean both at the same time. Thankfulness for what we have and a prayer that God provides an abundant harvest next year. That's my harvest prayer this year. Thank you, God, for what the land has yielded this year and please, please may you bless us with plenty next year. To be honest, it's a great attitude to have in every walk of life, particularly in our personal situations. To recognise the good we have with thankfulness and then ask God to supply our needs, recognising that every good gift comes from him.

Join us for...

Alpha: The Alpha course seeks to create a space there people can have a conversation about faith, life and God – whoever they are and whatever they believe (see alpha.org). We are running our next course over eight Thursdays in October and November (with a break for half term), starting at 7-9pm on Thursday 1st October in St Peter's Church. We will share a meal, watch a video, and have times for

discussion. There is no cost or pressure. For more information or to register please to contact David at david@stpetersnorthtawton.org.uk. Everyone is welcome!

Reopening weekend: We are planning to have a 'reopening weekend' for St Peter's Church building on the 10th and 11th October when Bishop James will be joining us to re-dedicate the church building (see advert elsewhere in the Roundabout). This will include times when anyone can come and have a good look around. Either on the Saturday afternoon or between the service and concert on the Sunday. We hope you will join us.

- David Spence



10th/11th October St Peter's Church Reopening celebration

Please do join us for our weekend celebrating the reopening of St Peter's Church after our reordering works.

Saturday 10th October

2-4pm Open church: come and explore (& tea and cake)

Sunday 11th October

11am Rededication service with Bishop James

12:30pm Bring and Share lunch

3:30pm Concert with Fabio and Marie

Starts Thurs 1st October 7:30pm – 9:00pm St Peter's Church

Our next Alpha Course is starting in a few weeks for anyone who's curious or has questions about Christianity. It explores the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly and open environment. No question is out of bounds. Our evenings involve a cooked meal, a short video covering a particular theme and a relaxed discussion with dessert.

If you are interested, please get in touch:

david@stpetersnorthtawton.org.uk

wez@stpetersnorthtawton.org.uk

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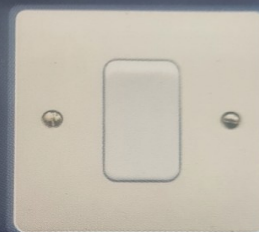


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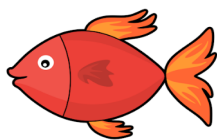
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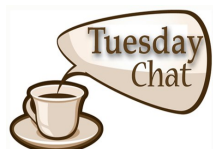
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St Peter's Church

**Drop in for a friendly chat and coffee anytime
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2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month:

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Rory Robinson

07811 324154

Lynn Robinson

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Bondleigh

Danny Semorad

07814 877151

Lin Warre

01837 82089

Midweek Communion

St Peter's North Tawton

12pm — 27th October 2026

Please do join us for a traditional said communion
service from the Prayer Book.

Be Still

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reflections & readings and creating space to dwell in
the presence of God*

**St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay,
Fourth Thursdays at 10 a.m.**

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
Editor.

Contributions should be sent by email to Ruth Smith at
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The Pottery, 5 The Square, North Tawton, EX20 2ER
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And for advert pricing & invoicing, contact Simon at:

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*And the deadline is the 15th of the month prior to
publishing.*

Help needed for Roundabout Deliveries in Sampford Courtenay

Could anyone be a backup person for sorting the
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and delivering them to the three distribution points.
If you could help please contact David on 01837 89243
or david@stpetersnorthtawton.org.uk

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Sampford Courtenay Flower Club



2.30pm second Monday each month
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12th October
AGM

*Fiona Hammond—Demo
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For more information contact the Chair,
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devonandcornwallfloralart@gmail.com

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Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

Having Rear Admiral Chris Snow CBE, DL [the Vice Lord - Lieutenant of Devon] in the room for our September meeting - smartly dressed in naval uniform - got me thinking. Apart from my school uniform, I've worn a few different uniforms along the way. But there is one that brings back some 'interesting' memories. In the late 1980's I decided to join the Territorial Army [no sniggering please] - and that meant collecting a kit bag of uniform from the Quartermaster's store. Standing in front of the mirror dressed in 'combat high' boots, green trousers, shirt, jumper and topped off with a beret was a bit of a moment. Especially as the beret had been 'moulded' into the perfect fit for my head. A process involving water and careful shaping and drying - mustn't over shrink the wool, don't want to look daft on the parade ground. And that's another thing - why is it that when you're nervous you genuinely cannot remember your left from your right. There you are, having just performed a brisk, crisp, left turn - only to find that you didn't. And you are eyeballing your friend who is trying to discretely mutter from the corner of their mouth 'other way'. I could go on - but I'd rather tell you a bit about our wonderful speaker.

Chris lives in West Devon and had a 35 year career in the Royal Navy - he has held the position of Vice Lord - Lieutenant since May 2024. The Lieutenancy is the link between the Monarch and the Counties and the Lord - Lieutenant is His Majesties personal representative in the County. The position in Devon was created in 1549 and at that time the role included collecting loans, helping to run the militia, watching out for activities that could be deemed as treasonous and supervising military personnel. Today, the appointments are selected and made by the Crown on the advice of the Prime Minister. The positions are voluntary and unpaid and continue until the age of 75.

The work of the Lieutenancy involves promoting Devon communities, culture, services, heritage, business and charitable success whilst also drawing attention to those addressing challenges and problems in the County. It also has a role in supporting the three Services and, in particular, the Reserve forces and cadets.

Another priority for the Lieutenancy is to put bids in to the Royal Household for County visits - once booked the Office will arrange a programme, check security and perform a 'run

through' a couple of weeks before the visit. The Lieutenancy Office also presents medals and awards on behalf of The King and this includes Honours and Awards, The King's Award for Enterprise and The King's Award for Voluntary Service. At this point Chris reminded his audience that it is up to us - the public, to nominate local folk for honours and to nominate local people for an invitation to Royal Garden Parties - and this can all be done via the Lord - Lieutenancy website.

To complete the picture Chris told us a little about David Fursdon, the Lord - Lieutenant of Devon, and, interestingly, there are currently 50 Deputies across Devon - who have all been carefully selected based on their wide variety of skills and differing backgrounds including healthcare, tourism, and the legal profession. Plenty of questions at the end - a sure sign that we have been truly entertained by a fascinating speaker.

Our recent Bat walk proved to be everything we hoped for. And a bit more. Ruth, our local bat expert, packed the evening with masses of information and when she handed out the bat detectors you could have heard a bat squeak. In fact we did. There was a lot of bat squeaking, chirping and chittering. Here's a little batty fact for you. Did you know that a bat can live for up to 30 years?

And finally. There's no two ways about it. He has been worried. The furrow in his brow has got deeper with every heatwave that hit us. At times it looked so deep you could have planted seed spuds in it. And it was those seed spuds causing all that worry. I can tell that you are almost as worried as husband. But worry no more. Not sure how they managed to grow with barely a drop of rain but they are there. Lurking quietly. Waiting to be baked, roasted and chipped. And dauphinoised if you want to go all fancy. Can't say the same for the runner beans. Or the French version. Disaster. No room left to talk about them.

I'm off to Hasselback some spuds for tea. - Sue Knott

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2026



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Thank you.

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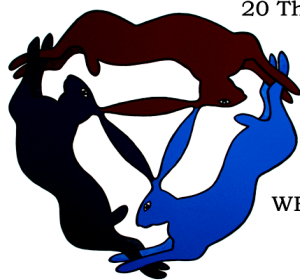
BONDLEIGH RAINFALL

Well, as I predicted last month we have seen a significant change in August. The brown fields have turned green again. The rainfall for August was 42.1mm compared to 35.8mm last year. This is probably more rain than we thought we had had, but most of it fell during the night leaving fine weather during the day. An ideal situation I think. However not enough rain to make the streams run again, so we are still very dry.

Danny Semorad

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BOW & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Alan Endacott

Speaker Alan Endacott who will cover how he found Sittaford Stone Circle in 2007 and more recently, unearthed two more stone circles near Taw Marsh, Belstone, and carried out excavations on them in 2024; his theory of a "sacred ring" of stone circles around the central uplands of northern Dartmoor which challenges previous understandings of the Dartmoor circles as isolated monuments.
7.15 for 7.30pm Monday 26 October

Bow Village Hall, EX17 6HU
Everyone welcome: Visitors £5
Annual Membership £15.
Enquiries 01363 82468

OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY TALK

'The History of Okehampton Golf Club' by Adam Cook

Wednesday 14th October

Ockment Centre, Okehampton 7.30 pm

All Welcome. Visitors £4.00.

HONEYCHURCH CHURCH

An illustrated talk about this ancient jewel.

Saturday 24th October at 7pm, at Sampford Courtenay Village Hall, includes Ploughman's Supper.
Speakers: Sue Andrew and Mike Kelly.

Sue Andrew has long been interested in our parish churches. She completed a thesis on 'Late Medieval Roof Bosses in the Churches of Devon' at Plymouth University in 2011 - a project which involved visiting hundreds of church buildings in Devon and elsewhere. Sue is especially interested in trying to understand the changes that have been wrought on these buildings over hundreds of years and what that meant to the people of the community who worshipped in and cared for them. Sue's talk will focus on the changes at Honeychurch - from those which had such a devastating local effect in the sixteenth century to more recent changes in the early twentieth century. Mike Kelly is a Chartered Surveyor with a particular interest in ancient buildings. He is a Director of the Devon Historic Buildings Trust and a Trustee of the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon and a Trustee of the North Devon Athenaeum. Mike will look at the characteristics of Devon churches with a particular focus on the features that make Honeychurch so special.

Please book in advance. Tickets £12 (in aid of window fund) contact maaze60@gmail.com or phone Vera on 07526 922893

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Our October speaker is Mike Griffiths

Tuesday 20 October

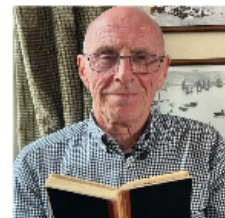
2.30pm at Fairplace Church

"Listening to the Enemy"

St Erth Radio Listening Station

the "Ears" of Bletchley Park

during WWII



'Listening to the Enemy' explores the history of the St Erth Radio Listening Station during WWII, detailing its crucial role in intelligence gathering and code breaking efforts.

Its story is told by Mike Griffiths whose Dad, Harry, was a radio operator at the station from 1939 to 1946. Harry recorded much of his work in his 'Code Book'.

The presentation provides the background about the part the station played in hunting for the Bismarck, Agent Zig Zag and how it was linked to Bletchley Park and its famous code breaking activities.

Admission - £1.00 to help towards the cost of the speaker, hiring the venue and refreshments.

Non members welcome

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Level 1 has a 20 minutes walk.

Level 2 has a 40 minutes walk.

Level 3 Wednesday @ 10am.

Meet at the bandstand for a walk lasting up to **1.5 hours**

This walk is more strenuous with hills and woodland footpaths through some gorgeous Dartmoor scenery. Decent walking footwear is advised.

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wellbeingwalksoke@gmail.com

Chris Baines on 07917 795072

Caroline Cornford 07921 068892

Facebook & Instagram: Wellbeing Walks Okehampton

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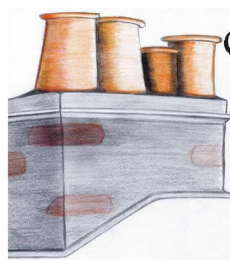
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The Two Moors Festival announces programme for October 2026

The internationally- renowned chamber music festival – the Two Moors Festival will take place in October across **Dartmoor from Thursday 1st October until Sunday 4th October** and on **Exmoor from Thursday 8th October until Sunday 11th October**. This year's Festival includes the best of chamber music and song, spanning six centuries of musical tradition, as well as talks and workshops. Eighteen events will be held in twelve venues ranging from Great Fulford to Exeter Cathedral, from East Quay, Watchet to All Saint's Church, Dulverton.

Since 2001, the Two Moors Festival has evolved into one of the most distinctive classical music festivals in the UK. It usually welcomes over 4,000 people to its rural venues. The Festival also nurtures young artists through its Young Musicians' Competition and its residency programme for Duos at the beginning of their careers.

The Festival has become a cornerstone of the South West's cultural calendar. Every October for the past twenty-five years, venues across Devon and Somerset - from village halls to churches from castles to museums, from country houses to railway stations - have come to life with inspiring recitals, concerts, operas, newly commissioned works, talks, poetry readings, exhibitions, school workshops, masterclasses, and more.

Highlights of this year's Festival on Dartmoor include:

- Haydn Salon at Great Fulford
- Armonico Consort – surround sound choral concert with local schools in Exeter Cathedral
- Noriko Ogawa, plays the piano for an 'All Ages' concert including Chopin, Elgar, Mozart and Brahms
- Calidore Quartet play Dvořák and Mark Anthony Turnage's 'Arietta' the UK premiere
- Michael Collins and Noriko Ogawa play works for clarinet and piano by Poulenc, Debussy and Saint-Saëns

And on Exmoor:

- Songs and chamber music by Grieg, Grainger and world premiere of Gavin Higgins' new song cycle with soprano Claire Booth, Artistic Director, Tamsin Waley-Cohen (violin) and Christopher Glynn (piano)
- Rachel Podger and Lucie Horsch, baroque violin and recorder artists join forces to play duos by Bach and Telemann
- Tamsin Waley-Cohen (violin) and Claire Booth (soprano) perform Kurtág's seminal song cycle by candlelight
- She'Koyokh – an exciting seven piece ensembles play klezmer and traditional music from the Balkans, Turkey and beyond.
- Festival Finale – Steven Osborne plays Beethoven's Diabelli variations as well as works by Schumann, Satie and Ravel

Tickets will be available to the general public on Monday 13th July at www.twomoorsfestival.co.uk or tickets may be booked directly by telephone on +44 (0)1772 439 062 Monday to Friday, 9am – 1pm.

South West Lindy Hoppers presents:



1940's VINTAGE CHARITY TEA DANCE

FINE WHINES VINTAGE DUO

SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER

North Tawton Town Hall
The Square North Tawton

2pm - 5pm

An afternoon of entertainment including
Vintage duo Fine Whines
Singing and playing Songs from the 30' to 50's



Lindy Hop Performance

Lindy Hop Lesson

Advance Price: £8, £10 on the door
to include Tea and cakes, Lindy Hop Lesson and Live entertainment

Tickets will be available from: North Tawton POST OFFICE.

Dress theme: 1940's or 50's

Raffle prizes

In aid of the North Tawton branch of the British Legion and in memory of Alf Bolt

Limited numbers booking in advance advised

*Contact Jane/Derek 07821 721043



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Sampford Courtenay Reading Group

Do you love reading and enjoy a good discussion? If so, the Sampford Courtenay Reading Group might be for you, and we would love to hear from you. (You don't need to live in Sampford Courtenay).

We meet on the last Tuesday of each month, and members take it in turns to choose each month's book. We cover all genres, fiction and non-fiction.

If you would like more information, or to join a meeting, please contact:

alisonthornton25@gmail.com.

THE ART BOX – October 2026

With Ruth Smith Gallery and Red Mud Arts. If you would like to contribute a review or reflection, please send to Ruth at ruth@ruthsmithgallery.co.uk



It's a busy month on the art front! The Red Mud Artists' Critique Group are preparing for their exhibition 'There Is Only Ever Now' at Manor Street Galleries, Plymouth, (15-26 Oct) with an opening event (15 Oct) a closing event (26 Oct) and a collaborative drawing day (11-6 Saturday 17 Oct) which will coincide with the Plymouth Art Weekender (17&18 Oct).

As for at Ruth Smith Gallery, North Tawton, we have Fabio Monni and Marie Stockmarr Becker returning from Sweden for an Art Residency (5-19 Oct). They are extremely generously offering a free concert (3.30pm 11 Oct) as part of the church reopening celebrations! Expect festive and meditative music, Renaissance dances, Scandinavian folk tunes and more, played on viola and organ. Some of which will be their own compositions.

Later in October, we have artist Denis Mauplot coming from France to display an exhibition of his photographs (21 Oct - 4 Nov).

Looking ahead to early November Red Mud Artists are putting together an exhibition for Ashridge's Open Gardens (6&7 Nov).

Regular groups continue as usual, with the Creative Kin drawing group meeting this month at the Cafe Culture Homeleigh Garden Centre Café (10-12 on 12th Oct). Email hello@emmelinewebb.com if you'd like to join. The Portrait Sessions will soon be meeting again in Okehampton so stay tuned for that! Life Drawing, Open Mic and Artists' Critique Group all continue as normal.

Hopefully see you soon at one (or more!) of our groups/events!
- Ruth Smith

Red Mud Arts dates for your diary:

Creative Kin: Morning drawing group 10-12 on the second Monday of the month. Email hello@emmelinewebb.com

Artists' Critique Group: Second Tuesday of the month, 7-9pm in North Tawton. Email ruth.helen.smith@outlook.com.

Open Mic Night: Second Wednesdays from 7.30, Copper Key. Contact Wez via the Facebook group.

Portrait Sessions: Paused for Summer, normally third Saturdays, 10-1, - shelley@shelleysaxonunmasked.co.uk.

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

'There is Only Ever Now': Exhibition organised by the Critique Group, 15-26 October. Opening 6-8pm 15th October. Collaborative Drawing 11am-6pm 17th October, coinciding with the Plymouth Art Weekender. Closing event 6-8pm 26th October

Exhibition for Ashridge Open Gardens: 6&7 November

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

In conjunction with Plymouth Art Weekender 2026

THERE IS ONLY EVER NOW.

An Exhibition of Contemporary Art 15-26 Oct

Opening Event | 15 Oct, 6-8PM
Collaborative Drawing | 17 Oct, 11-6PM
Closing Event | 26 Oct, 6-8PM

Baraka Ali
Emma Allan
Hagar Basis
Warren Clayburn
Jordan Eastwood
Alan Gershtein
Tom Orr
PUBJ
Gemma Quickenden
Shelley Saxon
Ruth Helen Smith
Jules Smith

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Lend Me Your Ears

This poetry column is co-ordinated by writer and actor, Arran Hawkins of *The Bizarre Poetry Emporium* in Okehampton, to bring you poems from local contemporary poets!

If you would like to submit a poem, email Arran at lend.me.your.ears.2023@gmail.com.

This month's poem is by Debbie Sanger who made a pop-up appearance at the Bizarre Poetry Emporium's grand launch on Saturday 29th September.

Only rich men

Once overcrowded damp-filled dwellings
That passed for homes for working men
One room to serve as lounge and kitchen
With beds for four but sleeping ten

Are now a weekend toy that's mortgaged
to another and his wife
Gone for second home to let
With thoughts they'll live some better life

And only rich men can afford
the poor man's home of cob and lime
They've fitted now with imitation
tokens of a simpler time

The fire and the logs beside it
Once the only heat at hand
Cut and stacked and lit for warmth
By the man who worked the land

Are now lit only very seldom
When paying guests wish to aspire
With glass of wine and fancy clothing
To the role of country squire

The poor man lives in sheltered housing
Rented, shared or partly owned
Soulless boxes with no history
While the rich man steals his home

And only rich men can afford
The poor man's home that housed his wife
And their many hungry children
Dreaming of a better life

The garden gone for parking cars
Instead of growing flowers and food
Outdoor seating, outdoor heating
Plastic all where wood once stood
Expensive paving shipped from somewhere
Who cares, if it's well deserved
By those who drive from distant cities
To modernise what they've preserved

And only rich men can afford
To buy the homes that are too small
to be a real home they say
Though once they used to house them all

Then ones hands could make a living
Now that doesn't make enough
To compete with city workers
And their appetite for stuff

What a pressure modern life is
Must they always want for more
Making into some investment
Homes that still could house the poor

Village life with half the people
Not enough to keep the shop
Or the pub, the school, the transport
Family histories come to stop

And only rich men can afford
To own the homes of working men
The places where their roots belonged
Will never be their homes again

D Sanger November 2022

The Uncertainty Principle

a play by Simon Stephens

performed by
Philip Robinson
& Rose Reynolds

directed by
Pippa Marriott

Two actors, hardly any set,
one bar of chocolate.
A comedy for curious people,
exploring connection and
chaos theory through truths,
dares and plenty of lies.

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I've ever seen.

On the edge of my seat. Full of twists and turns.
The old cliché is correct here: I laughed (a lot). I cried.

Truly blown away by this amazing show.

Who is telling the truth? Loved the intrigue.

North Tawton Rugby Club

19.30 Saturday
7th November

tickets £12
£8 concession
from EcoMojo
on the High St
(from Oct 1st) or call
Amanda to book
07940384038



I'm tired.

I've not been sleeping.

I can't keep my eyes closed at nighttime.

I wake up. With the clearest most horrible sense of falling.

He took me completely by surprise.

Theatre in North Tawton

After the success of last year's performance, Living Room Theatre is returning to North Tawton on 7th November 2026 to perform *The Uncertainty Principle*, written by award winning playwright Simon Stephens (best known for the play adaptation of Mark Haddon's *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*). Simon says:

"We're living in uncertain times, anxious times... 'it might be the start of the most remarkable adventure'. If you don't know what's going to happen in your life, that's not necessarily a bad thing. To be alive, to be human, is empowered by our alertness to the unpredictable."

This year Philip Robinson (*The End is in the Beginning*, *Every Brilliant Thing*, *All is Mended*) is performing with Rose Reynolds (RSC, *Netflix*, *BBC*). As with last year, you can expect fantastic performances and we encourage people to stay after for drinks and chat, which Rose and Philip will join us for.

The play is 80 minutes long with no interval; it has frequent swearing and some sexual references and is suitable for over 15's. There is strobe lighting for the first two minutes, please alert the organisers before or on the night if you need assistance to manage this. This year the performance is at North Tawton Rugby Club which is fully accessible and has plenty of parking; please leave spaces near the entrance for those with limited mobility.

Please call Amanda Barlow (Weavetheground.co.uk) 079 4038 4038 with any questions and to book (it's helpful for us to know numbers in advance, so do book if you can). Tickets are also available from EcoMojo on the High Street in North Tawton.



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townclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk - deputyclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

The office is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.

Emergency Plan in Practice

As we approach the Autumn, and our Emergency Plan Advice Leaflets are being delivered, it is a good opportunity for us as the Council to highlight what residents can do should we need to activate the Emergency Plan.

The Civil Contingencies Act 2005 suggested that Parish and Town Councils prepare a contingency plan for self-help in case of an emergency situation. Normally, nearly all emergencies affecting our community will be dealt with by the emergency blue light services, local authorities and major utility companies. There may, however, be rare occasions when the community will have to help itself. Once a warning of an emergency is declared the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will activate the plan. In order to do this, a telephone contact system has been set up between members of the CERT, who will then meet at the Town Council Office and depending on the type of emergency, will put procedures in to place. For any infectious disease or pandemic, the instruction will be to follow the official health advice. Where snow and ice, high winds, loss of power and communications occur, the CERT will be there to support in extreme situations. If a traffic or aircraft crash occurs, emergency services will direct the CERT, as would appropriate agencies if a major pollution or contamination incident happens.

As a resident, you can use the leaflet to follow advice, look up telephone numbers, take advice on where in the town there will be emergency accommodation if ever the need arose to use it. Locations include the Rugby Club, the Town Hall and the Community Centre, and details of what to do and what to take are contained in the leaflet. There is information regarding planning ahead, making a list of emergency contact numbers for yourselves, and storing a 'Grab Bag' containing relevant items that might be necessary at a moments notice. You will also notice in the leaflet there is a red 'H' sign for displaying in a window should you need help and assistance. The first point of contact for residents in a significant emergency will remain the Town Council Office – 01837 880121.

Please do come and ask questions, use the Book Swap and find out more about the Town Council. We look forward to seeing you. The Full Council Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month, usually at 7.30 pm. Office Opening Hours: Monday to Wednesday 10.30-1.30, with both the Clerk and Deputy working in the office outside of these hours for telephone and email enquiries.

Caroline Ellis, Town Clerk
Hannah Bruni, Deputy Clerk
Colin Lee, Chairman:

colin.lee@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Quiz Night

North Tawton WI
invites you to join us
on
Friday 13th November
at
7 for 7.30pm
North Tawton Town Hall

Tickets £4.00

B.Y.O.B. and refreshments

Teams max of 6 to a table

Tickets available from North Tawton P.O.
or from Jan Gray 880418

Football club quiz

Saturday 24th October
in the Town Hall,
doors open 7pm quiz starts 7.30pm
Maximum of 6 in a team
Cost £3 per person.
Licensed bar and raffle.
All proceeds to go towards the new clubhouse.



The Armed Forces Veterans Breakfast Club

meets on the third Saturday of the month at The Copper Key, Fore Street, North Tawton, For 10 a.m.

We are open to all Armed Forces and Reservist Veterans of all three Services.

For more information contact Ian on 07879 881159

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Sampford Courtenay Parish Council



A Civility & Respect
Pledge Council

The September agenda for the Parish Council meeting had an interesting range of topics to discuss. The public session highlighted local issues around parked cars in the Sampford Courtenay village square ; discussed the purchasing of outdoor fitness equipment , replacing the children's play equipment on the Village Green , organising an Autumn Parish Clean Up Day and the continuing search for volunteers as local Road Wardens. The County Councillor , Cllr Sue Davies was in attendance and talked about the recent Local Government Review. Her report is available to read on the Sampford Courtenay website.

www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk . The full minutes of the Parish meeting are also on the site. If you were unable to attend and have any comments on any of the issues discussed , affecting the parish or its residents , please do contact the Chair, Cllr Michelle Wilson Cllr.Wilson@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk or Malcolm Harris on Clerk@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk

Volunteering ? Do you have any time to spare ? Could you help the village with their clean up on Saturday October 17th. There will be information on the village notice boards , on the website or email the Chair, Cllr Wilson. Thank you ! Are you , your neighbours, your friends, concerned about the traffic in the village ? You could all help manage the issues we face, in a small way. Devon County Council has a road warden scheme that parish council's can tap into , through training , finance and grants . Would you be interested ? Chat to the Clerk , email clerk@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk

Our Village Green is used for play and community events throughout the year . Listening to our parishioners at the Open meeting in May for exercise opportunities for adults , a report was presented to the Councillors at the September meeting. Phase 1 this year will see the removal of old play equipment and the purchase of a new Toddlers Play Tower. The start of the Adult Exercise area / Trim trail will begin with the installation of three exercise stations. This will happen in the new year. In the second phase , the community space will be enhanced with picnic benches and tables and additional adult exercise kit if the popularity of the area demands!

A busy time ahead for the Council. Our next meeting is on Wednesday November 18th at 7 pm. Do come along.

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SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL
FILM NIGHT
FRIDAY 16th OCT 2026
DOORS OPEN 7.00 PM STARTS 7.30 PM

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A celebration of family.
A vision of love.
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JANUARY 6TH FEBRUARY 3RD MARCH 3RD 2027

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rory.robinson2@btinternet.com
Or phone Rory on 07811324154

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SEPTEMBER 2026	JANUARY 2027
12/09/26 vs Cullompton II ✈️ AWAY	09/01/27 vs Newton Abbot II 🏠 HOME
19/09/26 vs Tiverton II 🏠 HOME	16/01/27 vs Exeter Athletic ✈️ AWAY
26/09/26 vs Newton Abbot ✈️ AWAY	30/01/27 vs Sidmouth II 🏠 HOME
OCTOBER 2026	FEBRUARY 2027
03/10/26 vs Exeter Athletic 🏠 HOME	06/02/27 vs Okehampton II ✈️ AWAY
17/10/26 vs Sidmouth II ✈️ AWAY	13/02/27 vs Torrington 🏠 HOME
24/10/26 vs Okehampton II 🏠 HOME	27/02/27 vs Exeter Engineers 🏠 HOME
31/10/26 vs Torrington ✈️ AWAY	
NOVEMBER 2026	MARCH 2027
07/11/26 vs Exeter Engineers ✈️ AWAY	06/03/27 vs Ilfracombe ✈️ AWAY
21/11/26 vs Ilfracombe 🏠 HOME	20/03/27 vs New Cross 🏠 HOME
DECEMBER 2026	APRIL 2027
05/12/26 vs New Cross ✈️ AWAY	03/04/27 vs Bideford II ✈️ AWAY
12/12/26 vs Bideford II 🏠 HOME	10/04/27 vs Cullompton II 🏠 HOME
19/12/26 vs Tiverton II ✈️ AWAY	



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Okehampton Branch Basic Beekeeping Course 2027

runs January to April with 8 evening classes at Whiddon Down followed by 1 practical session with an experienced beekeeper. Starts 13th January. Tickets on sale via Eventbrite from Oct 26th.

If you are thinking about keeping bees, Okehampton Beekeepers Association recommends our winter course starting Jan 13th 2027 costing £110. It runs for 8 sessions fortnightly until April covering all the basics of beekeeping from bee health, hive choices, setting up an apiary, extraction of honey etc. A summer practical session with a local experienced beekeeper is included as is membership of our association and the BBKA Guide to Beekeeping book.

Beekeeping can be extremely rewarding but can be challenging. We recommend doing a course before you purchase your first colony.

For further information contact education officer Ruth on educationokebees@gmail.com

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WE'VE BEEN AWARDED NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDING!

We are delighted to have received funding from
The National Lottery Community Fund to
restore The Burrow's Community Green Roof.



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IMPROVING
PLACES AND
SPACES



SUPPORTING
A GREENER,
SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE

The grant will help us install approximately 50 square metres of sedum pods on the roof of The Burrow, supporting biodiversity, improving rainwater retention and enhancing the sustainability of our much-loved community building.



This project is made possible thanks to funding from The National Lottery Community Fund.

Thank you for supporting
our community!

Thank you
to National
Lottery players
Your support makes
projects like this
possible.

A greener roof for a stronger
community and a better
environment.

Thursday 8th October

1:30pm –
3:30pm

Candle Painting & Decoupage –

decorate candles either by
painting or adding
decoupage, create
something to decorate
your home or for a gift.

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supplied

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Email shop@theundergroundshop.co.uk

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diabetesukoke@gmail.com or
scan the QR code below..



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Okehampton
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10.30- 12 midday

www.diabetes.org.uk

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Join for £5 a year and borrow any of the items we have in the library for free.

Open 5.30-6.30 Thursdays in the Chapel of Rest.

You can join online or with a paper form (available in the Post Office).

www.northtawtonlibraryofthings.myturn.com/library/



North Tawton Repair Café
Community Centre, Barton Street
12th September 10am–12.30pm
(Last check-in for repairs at 12pm)

Come along for a cheerful morning at the **North Tawton Repair Café**! Every fix saves something from the bin — and that always puts a smile on our faces.

No repairs to bring? No problem! Pop in for the vibe, say hello, and enjoy our growing mix of community fun:

- 🌞 **Book Swap** – Bring a favourite book and pick up something new.
- 🌱 **Seed Share is back** – Big garden, tiny windowsill... everyone can grow something!
- 🍷 **Scrap Store** – Crafting supplies for the craftiest crafter
- ☕ **Tea, coffee & cake** – Always on hand for a cosy cuppa and a chat.

You can find the latest info at <https://fb.me/NTRepairCafe>

Please note there is no Repair Café in August

Quick note: We can accept up to two sewing repairs per visit, and you may need to stay while we work on them.



2026 EVENT SCHEDULE

6th and 7th November	NGS open gardens
27th November	Christmas Late Night Shopping
28th November	Christmas Fayre

Ashridge Court, North Tawton, EX20 2DH
Tel: 01837 352025
email: info@ashridge-court.co.uk

sampford courtenay village hall WHATS ON IN OCTOBER



Wednesday 2nd @7pm Skittles £2 - bar available or BYO
Saturday 3rd - Live Music with Jim Causley 7.30pm £10
Sunday 4th @ 2pm - Come and felt a poppy for the Village poppy display!
Monday 12th - Sampford Courtenay Flower Club @2.30pm
Wednesday 21st @12.30 - Community Lunch - Chicken Cassarole / Apple Crumble £8pp
Friday 18th @ 7pm Film Night - Hope and Glory £6 pp
NOVEMBER preview....
Wednesday 4th @7pm Skittles £2 bar available of BYO
Friday 6th - Pie Night 2 courses £13 pp



Scan the QR code to access the full list of events and booking details or visit www.sampfordcourtenayvillagehall.co.uk

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For more information please contact

Joy Tucker on 07749 522996

For events and further info please visit

www.sampfordcourtenayvillagehall.co.uk

North Tawton Community Centre

Barton Street
Call Mark: 01837 82608

NORTH TAWTON TOWN HALL

Chairperson: Tony Jelley 07969577719
Secretary/Booking Sec.: Lin Ford 07821472495

Orthodox Church

Devon Parish of Holy Prophet Elias
For details of services contact
Celia or Martin Olsson (01837 82796)

Quakers

Ockment Centre, North St., Okehampton, EX20 1AR
10.30 - 11.30 on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month
01837 55805 - okehampton.quakermeeting.org

North Tawton Benefice

North Tawton, Sampford Courtenay, Bondleigh and Honeychurch

RECTOR:	Rev'd Dr David Spence (01837 89243)	revdspence@gmail.com
ASSISTANT MINISTERS:	Rev'd Rita Bullworthy (01837 89168) Rev'd Joe Moesel (07470 297287)	ritabullworthy@yahoo.co.uk jsmoesel@outlook.com
PARISH WORKER:	Mr. Wez Cutler (07540 127827)	wez@stpetersnorthtawton.org.uk
CHURCHWARDENS:		
St Peter's North Tawton	Mr. Paul Andrews (01837 82648)	
St James' Bondleigh	Mr. Danny Semorad (07814 877151)	Mr. Graham Stokes (01837 82240)
St Andrew's Sampford Courtenay	Mr. Rory Robinson (07811 324154)	
St Mary's Honeychurch	Mr. Ray Squire (07883 626724)	Mr. Richard Weeks (07790 636920)
Church webpage:	www.stpetersnorthtawton.org.uk	
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/stpetersnorthtawton	

Services for St. Peter's Church

4th October	11am	Morning Worship
11th October	11am	Rededication Service
18th October	9.30am	Harvest Breakfast
	11am	Family Harvest Festival
25th October	9.30am	Toast Church
	11am	Traditional Communion

Services at St. James's Church Bondleigh

4th October	9.30am	Communion
18th October	9.30am	Communion

Services at St. Mary's Church Honeychurch

4th October	3pm	Harvest Service
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Services at St. Andrew's Church Sampford Courtenay

4th October	9.30am	Morning Worship
11th October	9.30am	Communion
18th October	6pm	Choral Evensong
25th October	9.30am	Communion

Church Flowers & Brass

Honeychurch

September	Mary Pyle
-----------	-----------

Bondleigh

6th & 13th September	Jacqui Bourne
20th & 27th September	Sonia Rix

North Tawton Brass

September	Margaret Arscott
-----------	------------------

North Tawton Flowers

September	Margaret Arscott
-----------	------------------

North Street Chapel Sundays

4 th October	11am	Special Service Martyn Friend
11 th October	11am	Breaking of Bread
18 th October	3pm	Harvest Tea & Praise - Jonathan Kimber
25 th October	11am	Breaking of Bread

Please contact Richard for further details 07835033062

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From the Registers

Baptism	23rd August	Jack Dunn	St Andrew's, Sampford Courtenay
Funeral	27th August	Enid Westlake	St Andrew's, Sampford Courtenay

ROUNDAABOUT DEADLINE:

Community News, Articles, and Events are published free of charge, and must be received by Ruth Smith by the 15th of the month before publication at:
editor@northtawtonroundabout.com

For prices and invoicing of Commercial Advertisements, please contact Simon Williams at:
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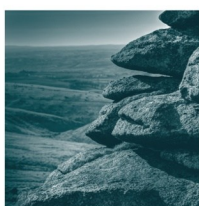
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