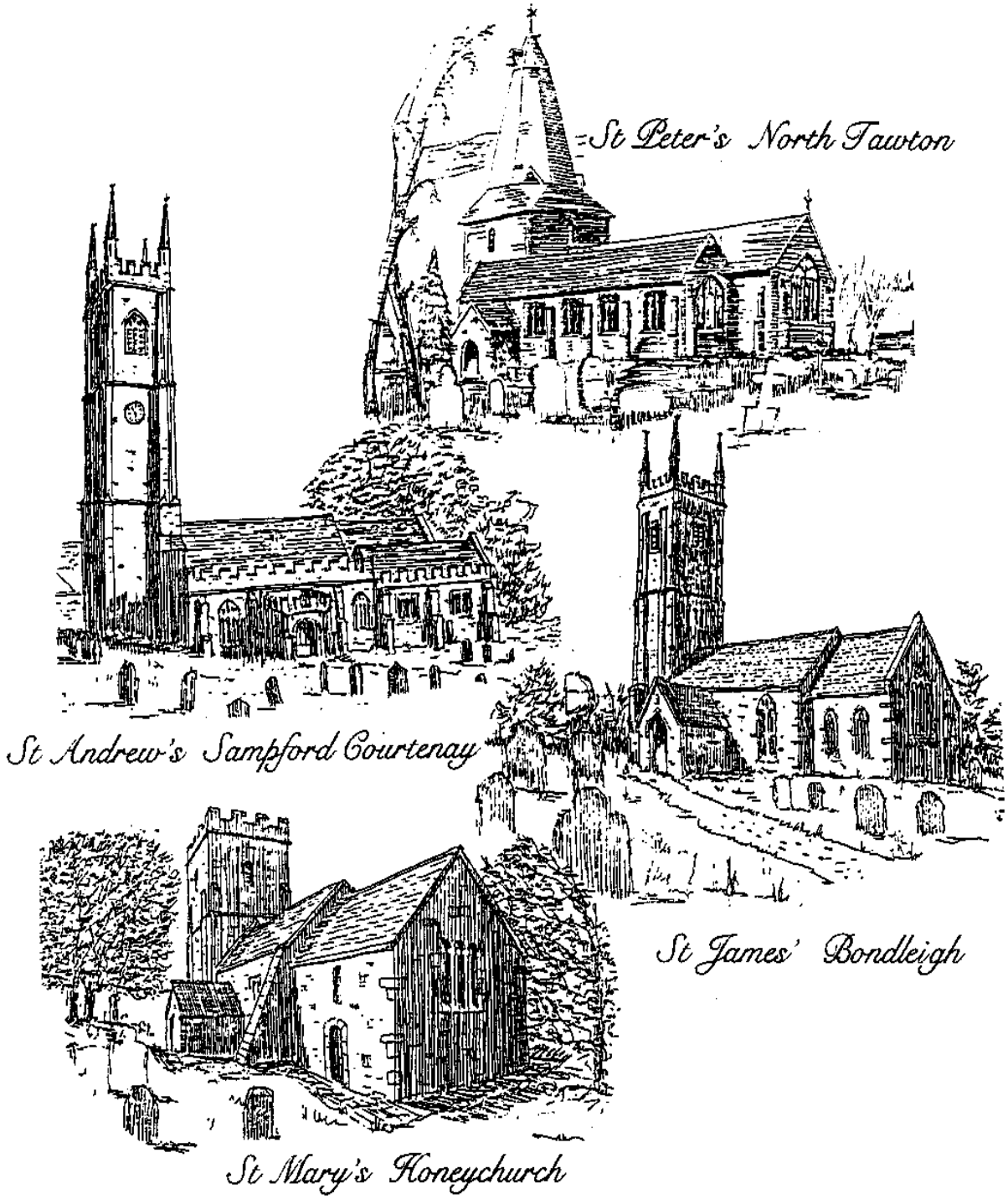
Roundabout

North Tawton, Bondleigh, Sampford Courtenay, Honeychurch



November 2026

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

The website is managed by **Julie Carpenter** who can be contacted on

juliec2911@hotmail.co.uk
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From The Rectory

The day before sitting down to write this article I began my sermon at St Peter's with recalling my childhood memories of visiting the German Underground Hospital (now known as the Jersey War Tunnels) in my home island of Jersey. These are a complex of tunnels, up to 150 feet deep, dug into a granite hillside, originally to allow the occupying German forces to find protection the event of an allied invasion. Later they became a field hospital, hence the name.

But this is no ordinary museum and no ordinary engineering project. Without question the exhibitions in the tunnels highlight the cruelty of the Nazi occupiers and the suffering of the Jersey people during the Second World War. Their construction was managed by the Organisation Todt using over 5,000 slave labourers mostly POWs. Many died in the horrendous conditions of malnutrition, exhaustion and disease. But what I remember of this place when I visited as a school child was the deep feeling and even taste of evil that pervaded the place. The very rock crying out with the blood of those who'd given their lives digging those tunnels.

It made a massive impression on me as a child. Even then I felt a deep sadness, anger and a strong revulsion to the place where these people had been treated like cheap tools. When we see great evil, we want to see justice done. The War Tunnels is my earliest memory of that, but it's certainly not the last.

War, even when engaged in for the best of reason, often produces situations of injustice, exploitation and evil. This was just one small part in a much larger tapestry of evil which spans both wartime and peace.

The good news is that as well as promising us that he will bring eternal and lasting peace, God also promises justice too. He too is sad, revulsed and angry at the evil done in this world and he will one day see justice is done. And all will recognise that his justice has been totally fair and just.

Then we are promised the great multitude will praise God with these words as they see justice finally and completely done:

"Hallelujah!
Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,
for true and just are his judgments…" (Revelation 19:1-2a)

Not only that, to those who have sought refuge in God and his Son, Jesus, he promises a future new life in a world without war, evil, or any form of suffering:

"[God] will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." (Revelation 21:4)

Remembrance Sunday in North Tawton

This year there is a change to the Remembrance Sunday services in North Tawton to combine the various Acts of Remembrance taking place into one. The Remembrance parade will meet at 10:30am in the Square and will proceed up to the War Memorial in the cemetery for the Act of Remembrance which will take place around 10:50am, with the two minutes silence taking place at 11am. The procession will then proceed to St Peter's church for the rest of the Remembrance Sunday service.

- David Spence





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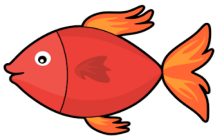
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St Peter's Church

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Next ones: 10th & 24th November

(2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month)

For more information contact Jo Fear (01837 82553)



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Pastoral Care Team

God's Love in Action

If you would like to speak to one of our team please contact:

North Tawton

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

Midweek Communion

St Peter's North Tawton

12pm — 24th November 2026

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

Be Still

A short informal monthly service of themed prayers, 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 **editor@northtawtonroundabout.com** or at The Pottery, 5 The Square, North Tawton, EX20 2ER by the 15th of the month before publication is required.

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Bible Study

Wednesday Evenings 6:30 pm

If you would like a drink prior to study time, please arrive earlier and make one for yourself and chat with others.

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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.

Sampford Courtenay Flower Club



2.30pm second Monday each month
Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

12th October
AGM
Fiona Hammond—Demo
Hotch Potch (Imposed)

For more information contact the Chair,
Anne Gordon on 07824 549086.

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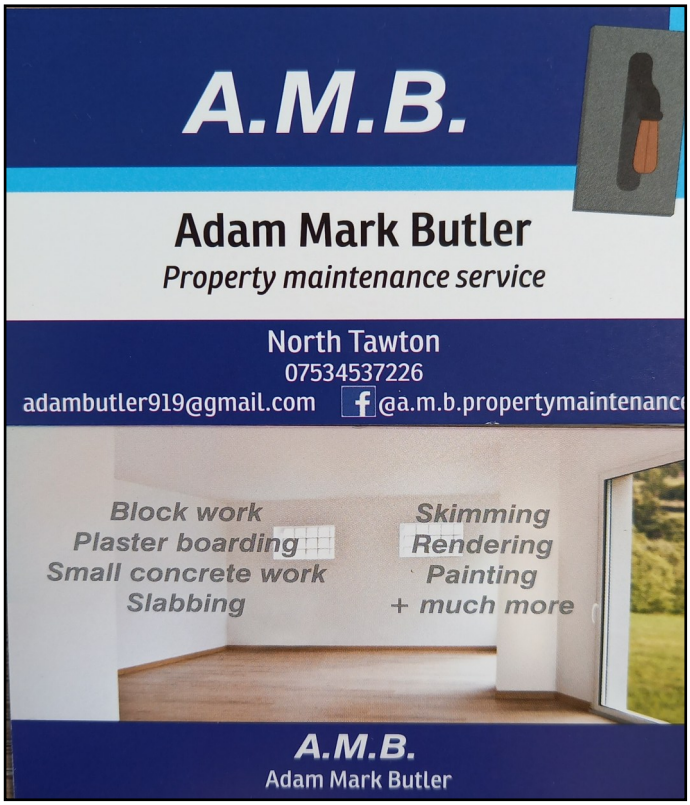
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Ramblings of a North Tawton W.I. Member

October already? Not possible. Who nicked September when we weren't looking? Every year, it feels like the gap between the August Bank holiday and Christmas is shrinking. And another thing. Garden Centres. Or rather the Garden Centres that have got the Halloween stuff right next to the Christmas stuff. Just stop it. You're confusing me. And life is confusing enough without that.
Wonder if our October speaker has written her Christmas cards yet. Or made her Christmas cake. Or her mince pies. That's the sort of organised person you imagine the Chief Executive Officer of the National Federation of W.I.'s to be. Let me introduce you to Melissa Green. And there she was - in the Rugby Club - giving us a fascinating whistle-stop guide to her role within the W.I. whilst also pointing out how the W.I. will always need to change and evolve thus reflecting how women's roles have changed and evolved through the years.

Melissa has been working for the W.I. for seven years and has a professional background in the third sector i.e. working with groups that are non-governmental, not for profit and are 'values driven' such as registered charities and voluntary and community organisations. In her own words, she looks after the 'non sexy' parts - legal support, governance and policy. In 2019 the N.F.W.I. was at a crossroads - numbers were declining - with concerns that the organisation was failing to adapt to a changing world. Enter Melissa Green who was tasked with 'doing something different'. A distinct 'lack of time' seemed to be the reason for falling membership - women's lives were being squeezed ever smaller as work and family commitments left little spare time to join a group or club. As a result of this, together with adapting to a post Covid world, the Virtual W.I. was invented and the concept was embraced enthusiastically around the country, with ladies 'meeting' over Zoom.
Melissa also touched on the monthly magazine, W.I. Life, that every member receives. Within the pages of the magazine were numerous leaflets advertising stair lifts, walk in baths and elasticated waist clothing. The strong feeling from the membership was 'please don't send these leaflets - even if we are using these items!'
Another aspect of membership that is being closely scrutinised is subscriptions. Each members subs is divided three ways with amounts going to the local group, the County group and National - it is hoped that, in time [and rightly so in our opinion] a larger proportion of the fee will go to the local group.
Melissa most certainly earned her cup of tea at the break and it was good to see her chatting to members and, hopefully, enjoying the buzz of our fabulous meeting.

We must be doing something right - as, apparently, there are a number of husbands that want to join our W.I. Must be something to do with the great speakers we book for our meetings, the number and variety of trips, activities and workshops that we put on, and possibly something to do with the amount of food/cake we consume. 'Husband' is one of them. The forlorn look on his face when he asks where I'm going/what are you doing/who's this months speaker, can almost bring me to tears. So I look at him with a tiny twinge of sympathy and say 'bad luck'. I know. I need to toughen up.
He would have really enjoyed our trip to Treguddick distillery. He would have laughed till he cried at The Little Shop of Horrors at the Northcott theatre. He would have found our trip to Exeter Law Courts absolutely fascinating. Fact remains – he didn't. Cos he wasn't there.
Charles Hanson – one of the UK's leading auctioneers - is paying us another visit and I'm sure he will be just as enthusiastic, knowledgeable and entertaining as he was when he first came to North Tawton. I've dug out a couple of items to take. One of them being my old nurses buckle. Back in the 'olden' days my uniform consisted of a frock, a cape and a starched cotton cap. I'd love to know how many cans of Robin's Spray Starch I got through - attempting to get my cap to look like it was made of cardboard. Oh, we looked so smart. [can you hear my deep nostalgic sigh?] Alas, those days are long gone and my oh so smart uniform has been replaced with something far more practical. And nurses buckles are now redundant.
Just remembered – husband is coming with us to Clarks Shopping Village again in November. I'm sure there's a really good reason why we actively encourage our husbands to join us on this particular outing. Just can't think what it is……...

- Sue Knott

BONDLEIGH RAINFALL

September's weather was very similar to August with small amounts of rain spread through the month. The only significant rainfall was on the 7th with 13.9 mm. Total for the month was 43.7mm compared to 143.7mm last year. It has remained warm leaving the ground still very dry and many streams still dry. October has seen a change to more autumnal weather with cooler nights. Rain has finally arrived by the 9th. Is winter nearly here?

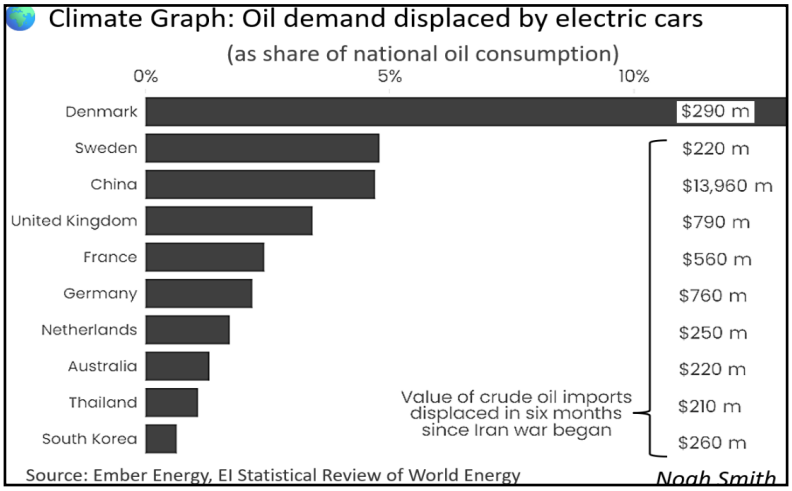
- Danny Semorad

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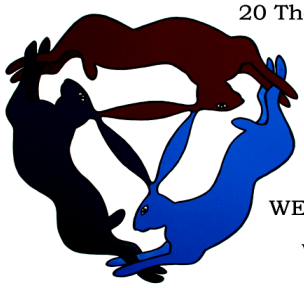
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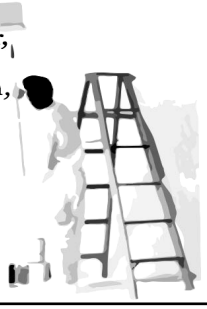
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OKEHAMPTON AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY TALK

'Admiral Fitzroy and his barometers'

by Philip Collins

Wednesday 14th October

Ockment Centre, Okehampton 7.30 pm

All Welcome. Visitors £4.00.

RAMBLERS WELLBEING WALKS Okehampton

Walk and Talk in Okehampton

Walking could make all the difference to help you take the first step towards better health, wellbeing and happiness.
Infact, walking could help you feel great again. Meet people and discover nature on your doorstep.

Level 1 and **2 Tuesday** @ 10am. Meet at the bandstand in Simmons Park (by the sports centre) for a level accessible local walk.

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.
After our walks we enjoy a nice cuppa and a chat...

wellbeingwalksoke@gmail.com
Chris Baines on 07917 795072
Caroline Cornford 07921 068892
Facebook & Instagram: Wellbeing Walks Okehampton

Join us on one of our walks with a trained Volunteer Walk Leader.
Make new friends and feel part of the group *and* we plan the routes for you.
It could help you feel more confident and give you a boost, no matter what your age.... **It's free to walk and talk!**

active devon

Okehampton United Charities
Funding for the Community

NICHOLS NYMET HOUSE

ANNUAL CHARITY
CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Friday 11th December 2026
at 7.30pm

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER CHAPEL CHOIR
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CHRISTMAS READINGS BY
CAROL HUGHES

An evening full of Christmas music, home made sausage rollls, mince pies and mulled wine with a Christmas raffle.

Tickets £25 in advance from:
Paul and Muriel Goodman Tel: 07836 634071
Email: mandpgoodman@outlook.com
www.devonbedandbreakfast.co.uk
Nichols Nymet House, North Tawton, Devon EX20 2BP

Devon Sensory Outreach Service

NORTH TAWTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Free, confidential and impartial service for people with hearing and or/visual impairment provided by the Sensory Team, Devon County Council.

Available on the third Thursday of each month in North Tawton Community Centre, Barton Street.

10.30 a.m. and 12 noon.

For further information contact:
Care Direct 0345 155 1007 or 07966 596881

DIABETES UK KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES. OCRA West Devon CVS

Okehampton Diabetes support group

We are a friendly support group for people living with, or otherwise connected to, diabetes.
We hold a monthly meet up on the first Thursday of the month- all welcome!

For more information please contact volunteer Caroline- diabetesukoke@gmail.com or scan the QR code below..

Meeting location:
The OCRA Pavilion
Simmons Park
Okehampton
EX20 1GE
10.30- 12 midday

www.diabetes.org.uk

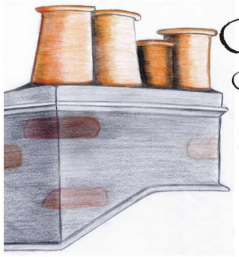
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Exbourne, Sampford Courtenay, and Jacobstowe WI

Members welcomed Dr Ben Morris of BASICS, an emergency volunteer doctor who provides specialist medical care at the scene of an accident or illness
He was accompanied by Keith Lambeth and Meg Hanson from the North Dartmoor search and rescue team, whom Ben works alongside. Keith explained what happens in a call out and as many as 12 volunteers will work as a team to deliver a lifesaving service, in many difficult to reach situations, calling on the many different skills held by the volunteers.

Members were shown the amount of equipment that is used to treat casualties, and how it needs to be light weight, when it is needed to reach inaccessible parts of Dartmoor.
Ben then went on to demonstrate basic lifesaving technics, from assessing that area was safe, to calling for help, how to perform CPR, and the use a defibrillator. Although a very serious subject, it was a very enjoyable and informative talk, highlighting that together we can save lives when every second counts. And how these amazing groups rely on the generosity of the public, donors, fundraisers, and volunteers.
You are welcome to come along to Exbourne Village Hall on the second Tuesday of the month and see if the WI is for you.

Members and their partners on a visit to the Tiverton Canel taking a boat trip on the Horse Drawn Barge.



Sampford Courtenay Parish Council

Volunteering ? Do you have any time to spare ? Are you , your neighbours, your friends, concerned about the local roads and the traffic in the village ? You could all help manage the issues we face, in a small way. Devon County Council's Road Warden Scheme is entirely voluntary and supports communities to manage the roads in their locality .
The type of work in the parish would range from clearing weeds , grass cutting and managing the verges for wildlife . There are road signs that need cleaning and drainage areas such as gullys that need maintaining. The County Council provides the insurance , the free training and volunteers work with the local Neighbourhood Highway Officer to decide on the works necessary and how to carry out the projects. 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 – an idea for outdoor exercise opportunities was broached and subsequently a report was presented to the Councillors at the September meeting and all voted in favour of developing the scheme over a two year period . Phase 1 this year will see the start of an exercise area suitable for adults and older teenagers alike. Eventually a trim trail will evolve and help people of all ages build strength and stamina , improve their balance and most of all enjoy exercising out doors . In the Spring next year , 3 outdoor stations will be installed. Watch out for further news !

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday November 18th at 7pm in the Sampford Courtenay Village Hall. Please do come along and support the council work.

Malcolm Harris Parish Clerk

A Civility & Respect Pledge Council

Den Brook Community Fund Surpasses £500,000 in Local Grants

The Den Brook Community Fund has awarded more than **£500,000 in grants** to grassroots projects across its five representative parishes, supporting community groups, heritage restoration, village facilities and environmental initiatives.

This milestone reflects years of community-led investment, helping turn local ideas into lasting improvements and essential amenities. The Committee extends its thanks to the volunteers, parish council representatives and residents whose dedication has helped identify local needs and guide funding decisions.

The Committee would also like to express its particular thanks to the owners of Den Brook Wind Farm for their continued financial support, which has made it possible for the Denbrook Community Fund to provide this sustained investment in local communities. The Committee also wishes to acknowledge the Community Team at Renewable Energy Systems Ltd (RES) for their continued help, advice and support, which has assisted the Committee in its work and contributed to achieving this significant milestone.

From the outset, the Fund has prioritised improving health and well-being, supporting lasting community assets, enhancing voluntary activities, improving access for disadvantaged people, promoting equal opportunities, reducing energy costs through greener solutions and creating local employment.

The Fund looks forward to supporting further projects that strengthen local communities and deliver lasting benefits for residents. The next round for applications begins in November 2026 and closes on the 31st January 2027.

The Den Brook Community Fund is administered by representatives of Bow, North Tawton, South Tawton, Spreyton, & Zeal Monachorum Town and Parish Councils.

THE ART BOX – November 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

Ruth Smith Gallery

RED MUD ARTS

‘If music be the food of love, play on’, so wrote The Bard
And when pipes and strings found folk frolics from the north
With courtly-mannered melodies from more southerly shores
They rang out across the aisle – the church was joyous

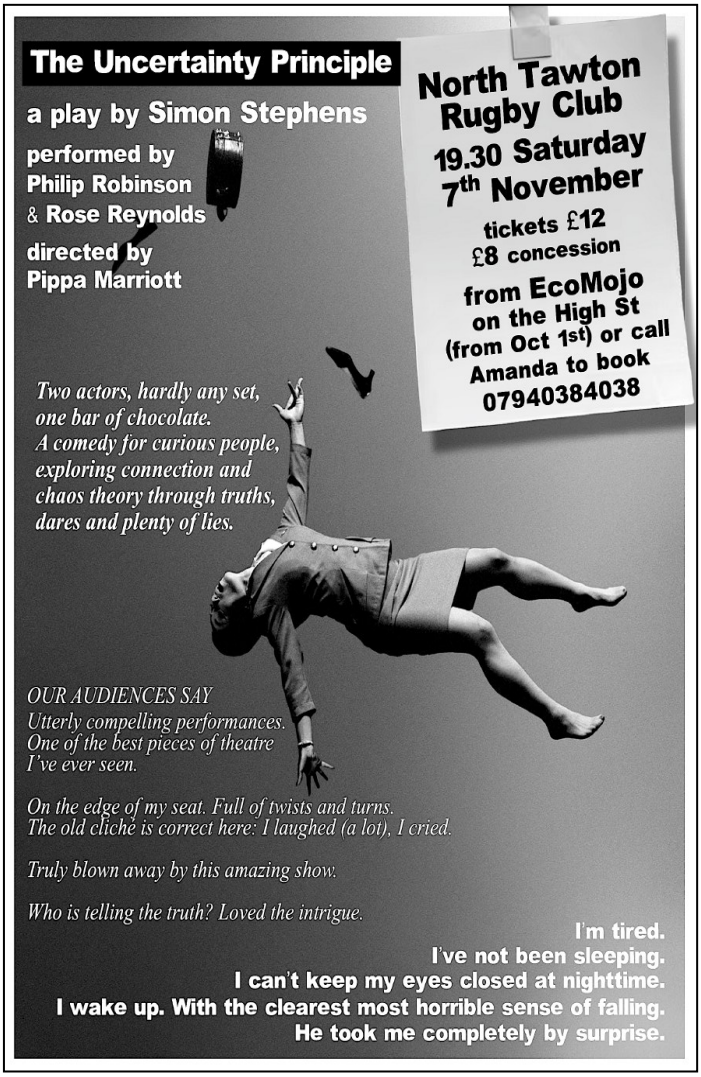
Faces were lit with smiles and praise
Frowns were silenced with fruitful chords
And hearts were lightened

Our sacred space was christened with a cacophony of vibrancy
The medley of sound bringing both hope and humility
A brief respite from the fractured world outside the lych gate
And a resounding reminder of the sheer spectrum of creativity
to speed us on our way

A lyrical piece on the musical afternoon in the newly-reopened St Peter’s Church, which featured Scandinavian folk tunes and Renaissance dances from the Swedish duo of Marie Stockmarr Becker on viola, and Fabio Monni on the church organ. Written by Annie Wilby.

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 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.
Exhibition for Ashridge Open Gardens: 6&7 November
Join our mailing list to hear about upcoming gatherings, talks and workshops at redmudarts@gmail.com



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.

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 Hannah Bruni in remembrance of her father.

The boy in the photograph.
A poem for my dad

The young , 17 year old keen and eager face,
Uniformed for service,
a photographed boy,
no troubles, no horrors of war,
just the present, but how

The war changed that innocent life,
a beautiful soul,
The battle scars became many,
in the life that would unfold,
For the boy in the photograph.

What would you have said to him?
Would you tell him of the dangers,
of the risks that he would face,
to serve his country,
and would he have grace.

Injured and broken,
along with many of your friends,
the war raged on around you,
Was it ever going to end?

When you returned home,
the boy in the photograph was still there,
... just about,
would humans ever truly change?
you would ponder
and you doubt.

Your years of service noted,
your medals polished and proud,
I grew up listening to your tales of the war, and of the sea,
A strange twist of fate
making you
the father of me.

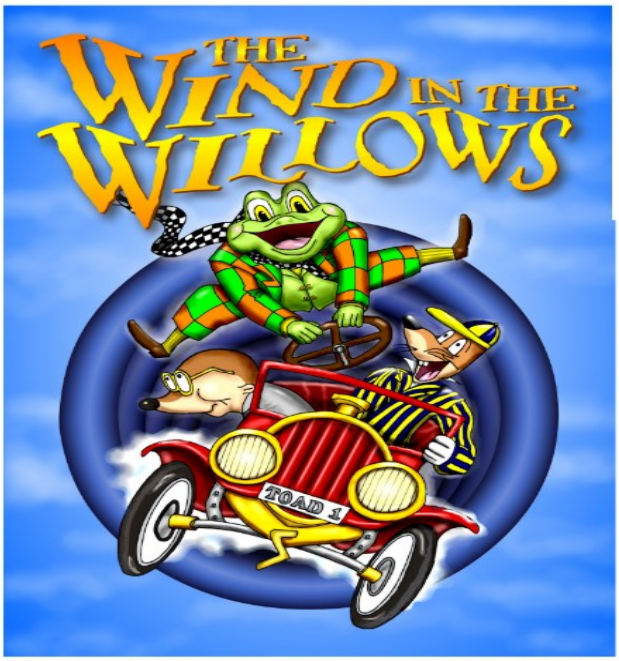
But I watched that smile fade,
as I grew,
the years of life took their toll,
The Royal Navy and your life at sea,
forever in your soul,

You asked, when I was still so young,
holding my hand as you left this world,
dying from the wounds of war after 47 years of pain,
"Will you remember?"
Could it ever be the same?

And as the hands of time move the calendar on,
towards another November,
A black and white photographed self,
all that I have left, Lest I forget.

And yes,
I will remember.

By Hannah Bruni



A musical production by YANTS
(the youth section of ANTS)
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an adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's
delightful tale
by Mike Smith & Keith Dawson

Tickets: www.ticketsource.com/ants/
Also available in November from
North Tawton Post Office

Adults £8 12 & under £5

to be performed at North Tawton Town Hall on
Thursday 26th, Friday 27th & Saturday 28th
November 2026
@ 7pm (Doors open @ 6:30pm)

Refreshments available to purchase. No other food/drinks to be consumed.



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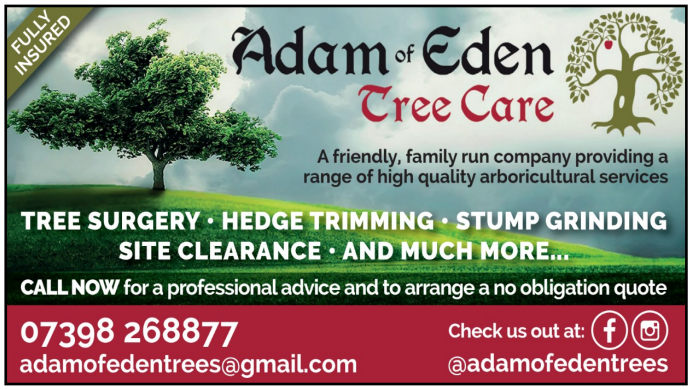
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NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL
Town Clerk: Caroline Ellis
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townclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk - deputyclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk
The office is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10.30 a.m.– 1.30 p.m.

What we have been up to:

As always, there has been a lot going on here at the Town Council Office. As we have moved into Autumn, we thought we would share with you some of the work the Councillors, Clerk and Deputy Clerk have achieved over the summer months.

In August, repairs were made to the flagpole in the Memorial Park and the Town Clock was serviced. Defibrillator training took place and was well attended, along with the monthly Council Meeting, a post-installation inspection for new swings was carried out, and our PAT Testing was arranged. The burial records have been updated, and quotes for work on the Lych Gate were obtained, amongst many other things.

September saw meetings regarding light pollution, the delivery of the Town Council Emergency Plan to all households in the town, and our planning database has been updated. Grants have been explored to support ongoing projects within the Council, the volunteer weeding group was set up and had their first two meetings, and Speedwatch was promoted. All alongside the day to day running of the Council and the regular Finance and Full Council Meetings, and we have had a lot of interest in the Council-run Book Swap.

As October started, both the Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk attended the Devon Association of Local Councils AGM and attended further training workshops. The results from the parking consultation were collated and analysed and made available via the website. Policies have been reviewed and updated, with a few new policies being introduced, the governance checklist confirmed the Council meets specific standards and is compliant in terms of policies, memberships and data protection, and our interim audit was carried out.

Plans for the Christmas Lights Switch On Event have also been finalised. The day will include the School Santa Run on the morning at 10.30am, along with both Christmas Markets, one at the Town Hall 10am-1pm, and one at St Peter's Church 3pm-5pm. Then the Bondleigh Barn Band join us at 5pm, along with Father Christmas, before he switches on the lights at 5.30pm. There is also a raffle draw at 6.15pm, with mulled wine and refreshments available to buy throughout the evening event. Look out for the posters around the town, and in this edition of The Roundabout.

Work continues to be varied, and we are looking forward to growing and developing further ideas, in conjunction with the everyday life of the Town Council.

The Full Council Meetings are 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 Clerk contactable outside of these hours.



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SAMPFORD COURTENAY

REMEMBRANCE DAY POPPIES

2026





We would like to add to the parish's

ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE CELEBRATIONS

by creating a net of FABRIC POPPIES

(knitted, crochet or felt)

If you would like to have a go at making some poppies to be added to the net, please get in touch with

Marion (marion174@btinternet.com) or 01837 82285 for a knitting & crochet pattern (or feel free to use your own pattern)

See the website for more details.

https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk

Completed Poppies can be dropped in at Higher Town ready to be sewn to the net in time for November 11th 2026.

Thank you.

MAKE YOUR

Wet Felted Poppy

Join us for a hands-on craft event to contribute to our village poppy display!

Sunday 4th October 2-5pm

Create a simple but beautiful Wet Felted Poppy at Sampford Courtenay Village Hall
No experinec necessary just come and have a go!
Experienced felters will be on hand to demonstrate and help us create!
Please contact Julieann to book
07767338899
or
juliedayz@hotmail.com

If possible, please bring a donation to help cover materials and support the British Legion Poppy Appeal

Sampford Courtenay Four Seasons Challenge

A fun village competition for everyone



Autumn Halloween — October/November — Pumpkin Challenge

Winter Advent — December — Decorated Window

Spring — March/April — Planted or Decorated Container

Summer — June/July — Scarecrow

How it works

1. Open to all households in Sampford Courtenay Parish
2. There will be one challenge for each season, so you can enter one, two, three or all four – it's up to you!
3. Each seasonal display will form part of a village trail
4. Villagers can follow the trail and vote for their favourites
5. Votes from each season will be carried forward through the year

The overall winner will be announced at the Annual Produce Show

Join in and help make our village beautiful in every season!

For further information and to enter, contact Julie: JulieC2911@hotmail.co.uk

TO EVERYONE WHO IS STILL YOUNG AT HEART AND STILL BELIEVES IN THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR ADULTS ONLY PREVIEW OF THIS YEARS MAGICAL MAZE AT SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL ON FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2026 AT 6.30PM

£5 PP TO INCLUDE MULLED WINE & MINCE PIE.

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SAMPFORD COURTENAY PRESENTS

Christmas Cheer

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2026 1-5PM,

Childrens Magical Cristmas Maze and visit to Santa

£5 per child with 1 adult free additional adults £2 each

Meet the donkeys!

Festive Ride around The Village

Use the QR code to see our last magical Christmas Maze!

New This Year

Adult Preview on Friday 27th Nov at 6.30pm £5 pp to include mulled wine and a mince pie!

All profits to be split between Sampford Courtenay Village Hall and Action For Children!

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FRIDAY 20th November 2026

DOORS OPEN 7.00 PM STARTS 7.30 PM



Registered charity number 283279

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Book via email: rory.robinson1@btinternet.com

Or call Rory on 07811 324154



PIE NIGHT !

AT

SAMPFORD COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL

FRIDAY 6th NOVEMBER 7pm

Join friends and family for lovely homemade pies (steak & ale, chicken & chorizo or vegetarian), served with mashed potatoes and peas followed by homemade Chocolate Brownie or Apple cake with cream

Welcome drink on arrival

Licensed Bar available

Tickets £13.00

Book your choice of pie by calling Nicky 01837 880300 or email nickyvhmc@gmail.com

registered charity number 283279

Community lunch

Wednesday 18th November

12.30 pm

Sampford Courtenay Village Hall

Join us for:



Lasagne, garlic bread + leaves

Lemon cheesecake

Tea/coffee and mints

Best of all meet friends and chat.

Tickets £8 - limited places so book early to avoid disappointment.

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rory.robinson1@btinternet.com

Or phone Rory 07811 324154

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COMMUNITY & VP LUNCH OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW KITCHEN

North Tawton Rugby Club 28th November
2 Courses - £8 FREE FOR VPs

Join us as we celebrate the opening of our fantastic new kitchen!

Please book in advance and advise any dietary requirements:
sarahquick104@btinternet.com 07739 543732

EVERYONE WELCOME!



North Tawton Rangers Table Top Sale

North Tawton Town Hall
November 7th 10-11.30am
Sellers from 9am
£5 a table (no cakes)
Refreshments available
If you would like a table please contact Jennifer-
07378464996

North Tawton AFVBC.com AFVBC.com BY VETERANS FOR VETERANS

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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What matters to you, matters to us.

Everything you need to know about
THE DEVON AI DATA CENTRE & BESS



In a nutshell
In June 2026 Xlinks, a UK energy company, revealed plans to build a mega BESS (battery energy storage system) and AI data centre on 850 acres of farmland between Great Torrington, Huntshaw and Weare Giffard in North Devon. The site would comprise the largest data centre in Europe and the 10th largest BESS in the world: Five buildings, each up to 40 metres tall, and 96 acres of 1,700 lithium-ion batteries.

What is an AI data centre?
A specialised tech facility designed to train and run artificial intelligence models. The UK government designates this Critical National Infrastructure (CNI), with top-tier priority status aiming to fast-track planning approvals.

What is a BESS?
A large station of rechargeable batteries which stores electricity for later use in homes, businesses, or industrial facilities.

WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT IT?
- Join the CPRE's Army of Objectors
- Sign the government petition for a moratorium on data centres outside designated growth zones
- Donate funds to support our campaign

ACT NOW
This problem will not simply go away, but we have the power to stop it. Please do what you can.

Proposing the UK's biggest AI data centre in the heart of rural Devon is a watershed moment. If this project is allowed to go ahead, nowhere is safe. Turn over for 10 reasons to say NO!

www.nodevondatacentre.co.uk

theBurrow
COMMUNITY SHOP & CAFE

Wed 4 Nov
Community Lunch
1pm
Stew & Syrup Pudding
£12

Thurs 12 Nov
Knit & Natter
2pm
Free

Thurs 19 Nov
Christmas Wreath Making
1.30 - 3.30
£15 person

Wed 2 Dec
Christmas Lunch
Sittings at 12 & 2
£20

Thurs 10 Dec
Knit & Natter
2pm
Free

Fri 11 Dec
Christmas Wreath Making
7.30 - 9.30
£15

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www.dartmooorauctions.co.uk



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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 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

✨ You're Invited! ✨
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.

ASHRIDGE GREAT BARN

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 NOVEMBER

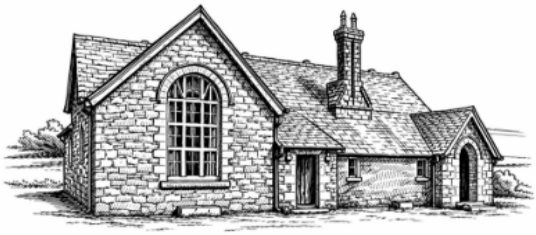


Wednesday 4th @7pm Skittles £2 - bar available or BYO
Monday 9th - Sampford Courtenay Flower Club@2.30pm
Wednesday 18th @12.30 - Community Lunch - Lasagne & Garlic Bread /Jam & Coconut sponge £8pp
Friday 20th @ 7pm Film Night - Mr Burton £6 pp
Friday 27th - Adult Preview of Christmas Cheer - Mulled Wine/Mince Pie £5pp
Saturday 28th - Christmas Cheer Childrens Maze / meet Santa £5 per child with 1 free adult
DECEMBER Preview....
Wednesday 4th @7pm Skittles £2 bar available of BYO
Saturday 5th - Christmas Film Event

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

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Joy Tucker on 07749 522996

For events and further info please visit

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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)	ritabullworthy@yahoo.co.uk
	Rev'd Joe Moesel (07470 297287)	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

1st November	**11.00**	**Morning Worship Shoe Box Sunday**
8th November	**10.30**	**Parade from The Square**
	10.50	**Act of Remembrance (Cemetery)**
	11.15	**Remembrance Service**
	18.30	**Praise Event**
15th November	**11.00**	**Family Service**
22nd November	**9.30**	**Toast Church**
	11.00	**Traditional Communion**
29th November	**11.00**	**Advent Informal Communion**

Services at St. Andrew's Church Sampford Courtenay

1st November	**9.30am**	**Morning Worship**
8th November	**9.30am**	**Remembrance Service**
15th November	**6pm**	**Choral Evensong**
22nd November	**9.30am**	**Communion**
29th November	**11am**	**St Andrew's Patronal Service**

North Street Chapel Sundays

1st November 11am Special Service Lloyd Kimber
8th November 11am Breaking of Bread
15th November 3pm Tea and Praise—Iddesleigh Singers
22nd November 11am Breaking of Bread
29th November Worship Service

Please contact Richard for further details 07835033062

Services at St. James's Church Bondleigh

1st November	**9.30am**	**Communion**
8th November	**10.45am**	**Remembrance Service**
15th November	**9.30am**	**Communion**

Services at St. Mary's Church Honeychurch

1st Nov 3pm Evensong/Communion

Church Flowers & Brass

Honeychurch	
November	Sue Svedang
Bondleigh	
1st/8th November	Lin Warre
15th/22nd November	Sue Walters
29th Nov/6th Dec	Carol Jones
North Tawton Brass	
November	Jo Fear
North Tawton Flowers	
1st November	Sue Knott
8th/15th November	Remembrance Flowers
22nd/29th November	Mandy Gillespie

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From the Registers

Funerals	8th October	Chris Shaw	St Peter's, North Tawton

ROUNDABOUT 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

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