

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders;

and he is named
Wonderful
Counsellor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,

Prince of Peace.

Isaíah 9: 2,6,7

December 2015

Church and Community Magazine of The Moorland Team

## The Ministry Team

Team Rector Revd David Sherwood	The Rectory, Cooperwood Close Ashburton TQ13 7JQ	01364 652968 revdcs@yahoo.co.uk
Team Vicar Vacancy		
Team Vicar Revd Geoffrey Fenton	The Vicarage Widecombe-in-the-Moor, TQ13 7TF	01364 621334 geoffrey.fenton@wildyeast.co.uk
Readers to the Team  Peter Kennett  Keith Miller  Marion Kaye	01364 644204 07742 960982 01364 643330	peter@kennett.org kandjmiller@hotmail.com marion@marionkaye.com
Methodist Ministers  Revd Kevin Hooke  Revd Jon Doble	01626 832369 07973 443080	



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### The Parish Letter

It's a great story – a tiny baby, born on Christmas Day, growing up to change the entire course of history through his healing words and loving actions and setting an example to the whole world. It's the story that began in a scruffy stable, moved to tragedy when Jesus was killed, and ended in triumph as he ascended to heaven. It's the story of the underdog, the weakling, standing up against the rich and powerful, against the violent and the strong, and winning. It's the story of a man who when faced with suffering all around him, set about doing what he could to teach people to care for each other and journey together, rather than descend into violence and conflict. It's a story that has been told every Christmas for 2000 years, and is as relevant today as it ever was.

Relevant, because seeking to bring about change through violence and terror is having such a devastating effect on so many communities. Relevant because the weak must be heard, and the strong and powerful challenged. Relevant because there isn't enough love and caring in the world.

And the story is celebrated in churches across our benefice at Christmas, with services for children and adults, quiet reflective services, packed Carol Services, joyful Communion services and noisy children's services such as Christingle. All helping people to celebrate Jesus' birth.

And of course Christmas is a winner for children – the expectation of what presents they might receive, the magic of holding a lighted candle in a Christingle, the time at home when it's all about holiday rather than school work, Christmas trees and Christmas lights, and the holly and the ivy and all.

Coming together at Christmas is how we connect with the past and the present, and re-centre ourselves. It's about family and friends. It's about giving, and receiving, and generosity. And joining with others to come to church at Christmas is about re-affirming the role of goodness in the world, and a commitment to Peace and Goodwill. It's about gathering in community.

For it's as we gather that we grow. Jesus the teacher was always in the midst of a crowd of enthusiastic followers, listening to stories, telling stories, hearing about pain and needs, being a comforter and a healer. There was a buzz about him that came alive in community. That came alive because he brought out the best in people, putting aside differences of race, gender or status. He treated everyone as special and unique, and yet he enabled them to be one with all their friends and neighbours.

We come alive in community. Let's make this Christmas a time for celebrating and growing in our communities, as we honour and celebrate God's wonderful Son in all his poverty and richness.

With every blessing for a peaceful and joyful Christmas. *Geoffrey* 

OH HOLY NIGHT!

## Churchwardens

St Mary the Virgir	St Mary the Virgin, Holne				
Any queries eithe	Any queries either to Gillian Parker (see below) or Marion Kaye (see Page 2 for details)				
St Raphael, Hucca	aby				
Gillian Parker	Thimble Hall, Hexworthy, PL20 6SD	01364631507	gillian.parker@btinternet.com		
St John the Bapti	st, Leusdon				
Geoff Bamsey	26 Old Manor Close, Holne Cross, TQ13 7JF	01364652820	geoff.bamsey486@gmail.com		
Shan Palmes	3 Dunstone Cottages, Widecombe, TQ13 7TH	01364 621573	shanpalmes@btinternet.com		
St Gabriel, Postbr	idge				
Annie Smerdon	The Stores, Postbridge, PL20 6TH	01822 880201	gerald.postbridge@btconnect.com		
Wendy Watson	Middle Merripit Farm, Postbridge, PL20 6TJ	01822 880215	wendy@merribridge.plus.com		
St Pancras, Wideo	ombe				
Michael Pascoe	Wooder Bungalow, Widecombe, TQ13 7TR	01364621333	pascoewooder@yahoo.co.uk		
Penny Whale	Wayside, Widecombe in the Moor, TQ13 7TA	01364 621411	pjwayside@hotmail.com		
St Andrews, Ashb	ourton				
Judith Lewis	5 St Lawrence Lane, Ashburton	01364652768	brianmartinlewis@yahoo.co.uk		
Bill Shapley	18 Beverley Gardens, Ashburton, TQ13 7BL	01364652263	wandjshapley@gmail.com		
St Mary the Virgir	n, Bickington				
Peter Warren	Rentor, Bickington	01626 821213	rentor10@o2.co.uk		
Betty Andrews	Wingstone, Bickington	01626 821341			
St Peter, Buckland in the Moor					
Stephanie Palk	Halsanger Manor	01364 652430	stmp7@tiscali.co.uk		
Vida Pascoe	14 Balland Park, Ashburton	01364653312			

For all editorial information - copy date, my contact details etc. please see inside back cover.

## Moorland Team Officers

Treasurer	Francis Parffrey	Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton TQ13 7EA	01364 654067	francis.parffrey@mail.com
Secretary	Keith Miller	17 The Stables, Marsh Lane, TQ13 0AF	07742 960982	kandjmiller'hotmail.com
Protection Officer		Peter Kennett	01364 644204	peter@kennett.co.uk

### From the Editor

The word 'Christingle' actually means 'Christ Light', and celebrates the light of Jesus coming into the world. Stories of how the Christingle began look back to the Moravian Church, which is found in the Czech Republic. The Moravians have held Christingle services for more than 200 years, and according to them, this is how the first Christingle might have been made:

Many years ago the children in a village were asked to bring a Christmas gift to put beside the crib in the church. One family was very poor, and had no money for gifts, but the three children were still determined to take something. The only nice thing they had was an orange, so they decided to give the Christ-child that.

But then they discovered the top was going green, so the eldest cut it out, and put a candle in the hole. To add some colour, one of the girls took a red ribbon from her hair and tied it around the middle of the orange. It was hard to make the ribbon stay still, so they fastened it in place with toothpicks. The toothpicks looked a bit bare, so the youngest child added some raisons to them.

The children took their decorated orange lantern to the church for the Christmas Mass. The other children sneered at their meagre gift, but the priest seized upon it with joy. He held it up as an example of the true understanding of the meaning of Christmas, for the following reasons: the orange is round, like the world; the candle gives us light in the dark, like the love of God; the red ribbon goes round the 'world', as a symbol of Christ's blood, given for everyone; the four sticks point in all directions, and symbolise that God is over all: North, South, East and West; and the fruit and nuts remind us of God's blessings.

The Children's Society first introduced the Christingle Service to The Church of England in 1968, and it has since become a popular event in the church calendar. This candlelit celebration is an ideal way to share the key messages of the Christian faith.

Do come and join one of our Benefice Christingle services.

Marion

**PARISH OFFICE** in Ashburton is open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 - 11 am 01364 654280 email: parishoffice1@tiscali.co.uk

#### Holy Communion

#### Midweek & At Home

There is a service of Holy Communion every Wednesday at 1030

at St. Andrew's Church in Ashburton You will be most welcome!



#### Communion at home

If you are unable to get to church because of ill health or loss of mobility and would like to receive communion at home please contact a member of the Ministry Team.

(see p.2 for contact details)

## Church Services for December 2015

December	r 6th	Second Sunday in	Advent		Purple
Malachi 3: 1-4; F	Philippians	1:3-11; Luke 3: 1-6; Psalm 80			-
Holne	10.30	Holy Communion	Ashburton	08.00	Holy Communion
Widecombe	16.00	Christingle Service	Bickington	09.00	Holy Communion
			Ashburton	10.30	Christingle Service
			Buckland	15.00	Christingle Service
Decembe	r 13th	Third Sunday in I	Advent		Purple
Zephaniah 3: 14-	end; Phili <sub>l</sub>	ppians 4: 4-7; Luke 3: 7- 18; Psalm 146: 4 - 6	end		
Widecombe	10.30	Holy Communion	Bickington	09.00	Village Family Communion
Leusdon	11.00	Holy Communiion	Ashburton	10.30	Parish Communion
Holne	16.00	Christingle Service (including Tea)	Buckland	15.00	Evening Prayer
Postbridge	18.00	Carol Service (Refreshments afterwards	5)		
Friday De	cembe	r 18th			
Bickington	19.00	Lessons and Carols			
Decembe	20th	Fourth Sunday i	n Adven	t	Purple
Micah 5: 2-5a;	Hebrews	10: 5-10; Luke 1: 39-45; Psalm 144			
Leusdon	11.00	Holy Communion	Ashburton	10.30	Parish Communion
Huccaby	15.00	Carol Service	Buckland	15.00	Holy Communion
Widecombe	16.00	Carol Service	Bickington	16.30	Christingle Service
Holne	17.45	Mulled Wine & Mince Pies	Ashburton	18.30	Lessons and Carols
followed by	18.30	Carol Service			
Monday D	eceml	per 21st			
Buckland	19.00	Lessons and Carols			
Thursday	Decen	nber 24th Christmas Eve	e		Gold or White
Midnight = I	saiah 52: I	7-10; Hebrews 1: 1-4; John 1: 1-14; Ps	salm 98 - ple	ase chec	k with presiding Priest
Holne	16.00	Crib Service	Buckland	11.00	Carols round the Village
Widecombe	16.00	Crib Service	Ashburton	16.30	Crib Service
Postbridge	19.00	Carols @ The East Dart	Ashburton	23.30	Midnight Holy Communion
Leusdon	23.30	Midnight Holy Communion			
Friday De	cembe	r 25th Christmas Da	y		Gold or White
lsaiah 62: 6 - en	d; Titus 3	8: 4-7; Luke 2: [1-7] 8-20 - please check	k with presidii	ng Priest	
Postbridge	09.00	Christmas Communion	Bickington	09.00	Christmas Communion

Christmas Day continued:

Holne 10.30 Family Worship followed by Ashburton 10.30 Christmas Communion

short service of Holy Communion Buckland 11.00 Family Worship - ending

Widecombe 10.30 Christmas Communion with Holy Communion

Sunday 27th December Holy Innocents White

1 Samuel 2: 18-20 & 26; Colossians 3: 12-17; Luke 2: 41-end

Ashburton 10.30 Benefice Communion Leusdon 16.00 Carols by Candlelight

**Wednesday 30th December** 

Ashburton 10.30 NO SERVICE THIS WEEK

## Church Events



## Advent

"The Nativity"

BBC production shown a few years ago in the lead up to Christmas.



Each week - Watch an episode (30 mins) then open discussion about how the story of Jesus' birth is portrayed. What can we learn that's new, what provokes us and what helps us to deepen and strengthen our faith.?

#### **Ashburton**

Monday afternoons at 2pm at the Church Hall

#### Holne

Monday evenings at 7 for 7.30pm at the Church House Inn

#### Widecombe

Thursday evenings at 7.30pm at the Vicarage

For more information contact:

**Keith** (07742 960982 or kandjmiller@hotmail.com) **Marion** (01364 643330 or marion@marionkaye.com) **Geoffrey** (01364 621334 or geoffrey.fenton@wildyeast.co.uk)

4 weeks starting 23rd or 26th November



### General Team News

#### From the Registers

#### Dates for the Diary

Dece	December 2015		
2nd	Leusdon Coffee Morning and Stalls	25	
4th	-5th Postbridge Christmas Tree Festival	29	
6th	Shallowford Nativity	13	
7th	-12th Moorland Merrymaker's Panto	11	
12th	-14th Widecombe Christmaas Tree Fest	11	
12th	Christmas in Widecombe	13	
18th	Holly Ball at Widecombe	12	
20th	Carols - Holne, Huccaby & Widecombe		
21st	Children's Craft Morning. Holne	20	

21st	Village Carols in Holne	
24th	Crib Services	6
25th	CHRISTMAS DAY services	6
Janu	ary 2016	
28th	Start of Postbridge Pantomime	12

#### **Christmas Prayer 2015**

Loving, giving Father,



Thank you for Jesus, Emmanuel. Thank you that he came at Christmas and is alive and just as relevant today as he was all those years ago, and will be forever.

As many of us celebrate your coming to us, with our families, in warm, safe homes, in a democratic country, we pray for everyone who has left their homeland because of persecution, for everyone who is without shelter, or food, or family.

Give us compassionate hearts, like yours, Lord. Help us, as Christ's body here on earth, to love and serve and make room for each other this Christmas.

In Jesus' name. Amen

By Daphne Kitching

## Community Events and Notices



#### NEIGHBOURS HELPING NEIGHBOURS

**DASH** is an independent charity serving patients of the Ashburton Surgery: We

- Take you to any kind of medical appointment, and on occasion, other trips.
- Do your shopping if you are unwell and stuck
- Collect and deliver prescriptions
- Help with forms and letters

Also, if you would like to help DASH as a volunteer, please call 01364 653335

## ASHBURTON AND BUCKFASTLEIGH HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

**REG. CHARITY NO. 900416** 

Are you interested in helping your local community? If so why not come and join your local League of Friends.

Our object is to relieve patients, former patients and those in our community who are convalescent, disabled, handicapped or infirm and generally to support the work of our local hospital.

For further information please contact our Secretary on: Tel. 01364 654079 or email essay.trawets@virgin.net

#### **Scoriton Village Hall**

Situated on the edge of the village and available to hire at reasonable rates.

The hall is flexible in its use, with a main hall for parties, meetings and sports e.g. badminton / pilates.

The large, well-fitted kitchen can be hired separately for committee meetings.

Full disabled facilities, including access, toilets and a hearing loop.

Rates (per hour) Kitchen Main Hall Local £5 £8
Non-local £7 £11

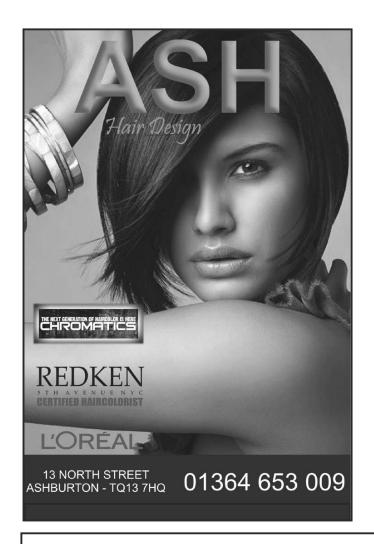
For more details, including other prices and how to book the hall, please see our website: http://scoritonvillagehall.org/ email or phone: Maggie Mayes scoritonvillagehall@gmail.com or 01364 631658

#### **Royal British Legion**

Another very successful year for the Poppy Appeal, the local collection including church services totalled £2,564.70 an increase of about 10% over 2014. This year the local Poppy Appeal will benefit by a further £329.30 being part of the retiring collection at the funeral of the late Michael Nosworthy who was a long-standing member of RBL and who had been the local treasurer for many years and President since 2006. The total will therefore be £2,894.

Many thanks to Eileen Nosworthy the Poppy Organiser, to the House-to-House collectors and to those who had boxes at their business premises. Thanks also to Leusdon Memorial Hall and to the churches for buying wreaths.

**LEGION** 





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## Moorland Merrymakers 2015 Pantomime

#### "Wild in the Westcountry"

Produced by Anne Rainey, Bernie Lye and Jayne Boswell

Show nights will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December inclusive with shows starting at 7.30pm.

A special matinee performance with priority booking for families will take place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm.

The main Ticket Office opens on **Sunday 1st November** on **01364 631223** but matinee tickets will be available in advance (families only) from Sunday 25th October.

### **Babysitter required**

for evenings and occasional days in the school holidays.

Own transport essential.

Near Holne.

Contact Siobhan for more information:

07899 790440

#### **Childminder in Postbridge**

(on the B3212)

#### **Elizabeth Harris**

#### Ofsted Registered

I have a nice big house and a lovely big garden with lots of country walks nearby.
I have all of my child minding qualifications.
I also have a level 3 Diploma and advanced apprenticeship in Health and Social Care.
I have experience of looking after children and I have a young son of my own.

Please contact me for details:

Tel: 01822 880420 Mob: 07810 124168 Email: pink\_n\_sparkly06@yahoo.co.uk



## WIDECOMBE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 12th - 14th DECEMBER



The Christmas Tree Festival returns to Widecombe Church this year between 12th-14th December. Entries are free and welcomed from groups, organisations, families or clubs. Prizes will be awarded. Trees can be real or artificial and must be decorated to the theme of "Nature at Christmas".



Entry Forms can be collected from the Church, Widecombe School, Widecombe Gifts, or the National Trust Shop. This details all the "Important Bits", deadline for entries is Sunday 6th December. We will be collecting donations throughout the Festival in aid of the Neonatal/Special Care Baby Unit at the RD&E Hospital, Exeter. Help us to make this a real spectacle in the Church and a wonderful start to the Christmas celebrations in Widecombe.

More information from; Debbie 621375, Jenny 621333 or Marian 621429



## HOLLY BALL AT THE OLD INN



JOIN US IN WIDECOMBE-IN-THE-MOOR THIS FESTIVE SEASON

Friday 18th December - Two course meal Lyn's Disco playing festive music until late £15.00 per person

Please ask at the bar to book. Limited tickets available.

#### PHYL'S FOLLIES

### **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**

A fun pantomime for all the family
Evening performances begin 7.30pm
on 28th, 29th January, 4th, 5th and 6th February 2016
Matinee on Saturday 30th January at 2pm
At Postbridge Village Hall
Tickets available from 1st December (£6 adults, £3 children)
From Gerald @ Postbridge Village Shop 01822 880201
Please note tickets must be paid for in advance



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# CHRISTMAS IN WIDECOMBE SATURDAY 12th DECEMBER

#### THE CHURCH

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

#### THE CHURCH HOUSE

PRODUCE MARKET REFRESHMENTS MULLED CIDER ETC

#### THE OLD INN

CRAFT MARKET MULLED WINE ROAST CHESTNUTS



## THE NATIONAL TRUST SHOP CHRISTMAS TREES, GIFTS & GALLERY

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The Shallowford Nativity on Sunday 6th December at 6.30pm

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### Widecombe & District Sports Group - update



#### \*\*\*\*NEWS FLASH\*\*\*\*

WDSG are pleased to announce that they have recently undertaken some repairs to the court surface. This brings it back up to standard after the appearance of a small hole and sunken area caused by a collapse in the ground underneath. Courtstall the firm who originally laid the court surface have repaired the hole and have advised us the court is in good condition and should last another 3 years. We would like to thank the Parish council for helping to finance the repairs.

#### \*\*\*\*\*DID YOU KNOW\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The tennis court at Widecombe is floodlit which enables playing on the court all year round up until 10pm. There is no extra charge for this facility which is available to all members. We also have plenty of parking, changing rooms and toilets. The court has lines for various sport including tennis, netball, hockey & football. There are goal posts which can be used for Hockey & Football and netball posts. There is also a Boules area available any time for people to use.

#### \*\*\*\*\*MEMBERSHIP\*\*\*\*\*

There are two types of membership

- Full membership with voting rights open to anyone living in the parish of Widecombe and
- · Associate membership without voting rights for anyone living outside the Widecombe area.

Membership fees are incredibly good value at just £20.00 for a family membership, £10.00 for individual senior membership and £6.00 for juniors. Court fees payable while using the court are also amazing value at £1.50/hr. If you would like to become a member please telephone Claire Partridge on 01364 621468 or email cl.partridge@hotmail.co.uk

#### Keep it a surprise

Three-year-old Lily was helping her mother wrap a present for her father. While wrapping, her mother told Lily about keeping the present a secret so it would be a surprise. After the present was wrapped, Lily proudly put it under the tree.

When her father asked her if he could shake it and guess what's inside, she said, very seriously, "No, T-shirts don't rattle."



**POSTBRIDGE** 

HOLNE

**WIDECOMBE** 

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and all surrounding villages and hamlets

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**Domestic Deb** 

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07912 181414

Email: debaleigh2@googlemail.com



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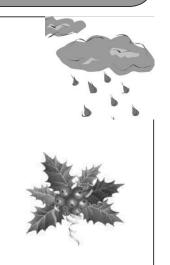


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## Rainfall in October 2015

Place	Total Rainfall	Days with- out rain	Wette	est days
Widecombe	138.5 mm	17 days	29th	30.7 mm
			26th	25.0 mm
			5th	20.2 mm
Postbridge	129.7mm (5.1")	14 days	5th	1.0 ins
	Oct 2014 - 228.0mm (8.9")		26th	<b>0.9</b> ins
Holne	152.7 mm (6.01")		29th	20.2 mm



#### **Christmas Whist Drives**



#### **Princetown Coffee Morning**

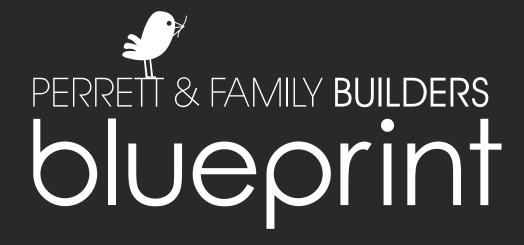
December 9th 9.30 - 11 am

Princetown

Princetown
Community Centre



Contact: Jackie Gee (01822 880204)



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INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR

#### **PAINTER & DECORATOR**

FREE QUOTES REFERENCES AVAILABLE

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## St Mary the Virgin, Holne

For contact information, ministers and church officers see front of the Link

Church Services - see Page 6 for details www.holnechurch.org

Date	Time	Sidesperson	Flowers
6th December	10.30	Sue	NO Flowers - ADVENT
13th December	16.00	Georgina	NO Flowers - ADVENT
20th December	18.30	Jackie	On Saturday 19th December
24th December	16.00	Judy	Everyone to help please!!
25th December	10.30	Judy & Sue	

### **CHRISTMAS 2015**



If you live in Holne and surrounding areas,

you should have received a leaflet with this Parish Link, detailing all the services and activities that are taking place during December.

(If by any chance you have not received one and would like one please contact Marion, the Editor and we shall be delighted to get one to you.)

Although there may be slight differences, everything is taking place as usual so please come and join us. We'll be happy to see you.

An additional service to be held at Holne will be the Christingle on Sunday 13th December. Come for tea and cakes before a short service when we shall light our Christingles, before taking them home.

#### RETIRING COLLECTIONS OVER CHRISTMAS

All of our collections in Church over the Christmas period and from our Village Carol Singing will be given to help the people of Nepal.

There was great need for the communities of Nepal even before the terrible earthquake earlier this year. We are so fortunate in our community of Holne and the PCC felt that we should support the work being done.



**Holne Prayer Group** We meet every Thursday morning 0930-1000. New Venue to be arranged. Please contact Marion (643330) or Judy (631461). New members welcome. All information will be treated with strict confidentiality within the group.



## Children's Christmas Craft Morning









Come and join in!

## 10am-12.30pm Monday 21st December in Holne Village Hall

£3 per child, £1 per extra sibling Adults to accompany under 5s please For further info or to book contact: Suzi Heilbrunn on 01364 631534

#### **Holne Parish Council**

#### **CASUAL VACANCY**

There is currently a vacancy for the position of Parish Councillor in the parish of Holne.

This is your opportunity to join a team which combines energies and skills

to deliver real benefits to the community.

If you are interested in being involved in the community and would like to contribute to the way the Parish Council functions, or would like an informal chat about the position, please contact the clerk:-

Suzanna Hughes, 16 Westwood Cleave, Ogwell, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6YE.

Tel. 01626 330311 or email suzanna.hughes21@gmail.com

The Parish Council meets on the first Tuesday of the month (except August) at 7.30pm.

## Holne Garden Group Wednesday December 16th Christmas Lunch at the Dartmoor Lodge 12 for 12.30

The Lodge Christmas menu offers choices for two courses for £17.50.

Choose any two of the courses on offer. They would like us to confirm final numbers by end November, with menu choices and payment by December 10th, so if you haven't already booked, please contact Judy H to do so as soon as possible.



We will meet at the Lodge. Come early and have a drink beforehand.

For more details, to join the group and to book outings, contact Judy Henderson 01364 631461 or Judy Le Marchant 01364 644099





#### Holne Second-Hand Book Collection

Hill Top, Butts Cross, Holne

If you have any books, CDs, DVDs to donate please leave at Hilltop or ring Gill if you would like them collected

Don't forget you can buy books from Hilltop at any time.

Open most days and weekends.

Mike and Gill Cunniam (01364 631152)

#### **Coffee Mornings**

Thursdays from 11am

#### **Holne Tea Room**

Will Young our local policeman and Dai Antill our South Hams community officer will be in the Tearoom to speak with locals on **Thursday Dec 3rd** from 11 until 12 am.

Do come and join us.

#### **Holne Village Hall**

Situated in the middle of the village, near Church, shop and Inn, available to hire at reasonable rates. Medium sized hall with separate well equipped kitchen. Sufficient chairs and tables for any events. Car parking adjacent to the Hall.

Rates (per hour) £8 (£4 for locals)

#### For more information or to book:

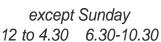
please ring Coral Brown on 01364 631191 (please leave a message) or email holnevillagehall@gmail.com



#### Church House Inn Holne



Opening Hours
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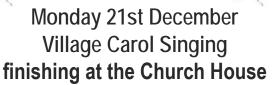




Quiz Night Monday 7th Dec. 8pm



Friday 4th December - JAR playing live



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#### **Whist Drives**

are held in the Village Hall every Thursday evening from 7.15 - 9.30pm All welcome.



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## St Raphael, Huccaby

For contact information, ministers and church officers see front of the Link **Church Services** - see Page 6 for details



Our Carol Service is planned for 3pm on Sunday 20th December. This is a lovely occasion with the Chapel lit with candles and the wood-burning stove a-blaze. Everyone is welcome so please make a note in your diary and encourage friends and family to come. There will be mulled wine and mince pies as usual.

If you would like to do a reading or make a musical contribution, please let me know.

#### **Sustaining Rural Churches**

As you may be aware, there has been a great deal of publicity in recent months about the problems of dwindling congregations and the increasing cost of maintaining rural churches.

This is particularly true in Devon where sparsely populated communities, inclement weather and the habit of church attendance being lost within families, can combine to make our beautiful churches empty buildings rather than places of joy, fellowship and thanksgiving for local people.

St Raphael's is blest by having many visitors who appreciate its peace and tranquillity. However, we would like to make it a place that local people use too.

To enable us to use the building more flexibly, we are trying to raise money to install fully accessible composting toilet facilities. We will then be able to invite local schools to experience life in a Victorian schoolroom as well as offer the Chapel for concerts, meetings, social events etc.

The cost for such a facility is £8,730 and we have made several applications for grant funding to support the project. If you would like to know more or contribute in any way please contact me.

Gillian Parker





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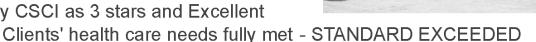
or send an email to fp@francisparffreylegalservices.co.uk or visit our website www.francisparffreylegalservices.co.uk or request an information leaflet about our services Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton TQ13 7EA

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## St John the Baptist, Leusdon

For contact information, ministers and church officers see front of the Link

Church Services - see Page 6 for details

Time	Reader	Teas	Flowers
			Altar
4pm	Widecombe Christing	le Service	Advent
11am	Norma	Norma	NO
11am	Peter	Liz	FLOWERS
11.30pm	Shan	Midnight Communion	Christmas
4pm	9 Readers needed	Carols by Candlelight	Christmas
	4pm 11am 11am 11.30pm	4pm Widecombe Christing 11am Norma 11am Peter 11.30pm Shan	4pm Widecombe Christingle Service 11am Norma Norma 11am Peter Liz 11.30pm Shan Midnight Communion



#### **Badminton Dates**

Mondays - Play starts at 7.30pm Mondays 7th and 21st December. New players always welcome!



#### **Coffee Morning and Stalls**

We hold our Coffee & Stalls on the first Wednesday of every month.

It is a great opportunity for a community to get together for a couple of hours, and buy our homemade preserves including Marmalade, Jam and Chutney.

Also great selection of paperbacks for just 40p, puzzles, bric a brac and nearly new clothes.

Raffle. Local meat stall from 'Meat Dartmoor'.

#### **Weds 2nd December**

10 - 12 Admission £1 (includes tea/coffee, biscuits or piece of cake)

Memorial Hall update - see over page

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#### **Leusdon Memorial Hall Update**

The November Coffee morning was enjoyed by all and £138-60 goes into the Memorial Hall funds.



Dont forget that the December get together is on the 2nd, we will have a selection of Christmas Fayre, ie Puddings and mince pies. See you there.



#### **CHURCH FLOWERS**

If you would like to come and help arrange flowers contact Penny on 01364 631451 - all very welcome!!

#### **INFORMAL HYMN SINGING**

at Leusdon Hall, 7.30pm on WEDNESDAY evenings. Anyone, of any standard, is very welcome and the more that come the better the harmonies! Men are especially welcome!

If more information is needed, please ring Shan on 01364 621573

#### **Hiring Leusdon Memorial Hall**

The Hall can take up to 100 people for functions or events. Inside there is a large, well equipped kitchen with plenty of worktop space. Outside parking is available for many vehicles. Level access for wheelchairs and the less able-bodied.

Hire Rates: £4 per hour for local residents £7.50 per hour for other bookings

For more information or to book please contact Amanda on 01364 631432

#### **Whist Drive Dates**

At Leusdon Memorial Hall Mondays 14th and 28th December. At 7.30pm



All very welcome!

#### **Christmas Trees**

Norway sent a Christmas tree It marks the Saviour's birth, The incarnation manifest As God came down to earth



A babe born to a virgin Would grow up as a man, Yet still divine, such mystery, To implement God's plan.

Another tree was put in place A sacrifice was made, As on that cross He gave His life That all men could be saved.



So celebrate that wondrous day When Jesus left His home, To bring salvation down to man. And claim us as His own.

By Megan Carter

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GRAND CHRISTMAS
WHIST DRIVE
will be held on the
15th December
Postbridge Village Hall

A very big thank you to everyone who supported the Coffee Morning for Children in Need in Postbridge Village Hall.

From the ladies who made the cakes to all who came on the day.

We raised

£254.00!





## St Gabriel, Postbridge

For contact information, ministers and church officers see front of the Link

Church Services - see Page 6 for details

#### **Church Cleaning Rota**

December Annie & Wendy



#### **Postbridge Whist Drives**

Whist Drives are held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on



#### Tuesdays 8th & 22nd December

Learners are especially welcome. Entrance fee of £2.50 to include refreshments and prizes.

## Postbridge Village Hall Hot News!

Postbridge Village Hall Committee have gained Hallmark Awards at Levels 1 and 2.

The Hallmark Award scheme aims to recognize the good work undertaken by volunteer management committees in achieving good practice in the operation and management of their Village Hall.

#### Hallmark Aims are:

- To encourage, establish and reward good practice
- To encourage improvement in establishing management, policies and procedures
- To obtain recognition from other bodies for the high standard of management achieved.

Well done the Postbridge Village Hall committee!

#### **Coffee Mornings**

Held between 11am - 12 noon at different venues around the area

#### Monday 7th December

Christmas Lunch at Two Bridges Hotel

#### Monday 16th November

at Rundlestone Lodge, Princetown with Shirley Agness



## Postbridge Christmas Tree Festival

**Postbridge Village Hall** 

#### Sat 5th – Sun 6th December, 1-5pm

'Our first Christmas Tree Festival'

Come and see the trees, browse the stalls at the Christmas Market on the Saturday or the Book stall on the Sunday

Enjoy a glass of mulled wine, or tea & mince pie Guess the weight of the Christmas cake And not forgetting..... The Raffle

Entry is free so come and see.



#### 'Post Christmas Tree Festival'

On the evening of Sunday 6th December at 7pm the Village Hall in Postbridge will be hosting a free 'bring and share supper'.
There is no need to book at all, just turn up and have a good pre-Christmas get together.

Look forward to seeing you all.

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#### Saint Gabriel's Parish Church Postbridge - Remembrance Sunday

Saint Gabriel's had a truly memorable Remembrance Service this year. I will tell you why. During the past twelve months myself, Mr John Vale of Postbridge and a very talented lady from Princetown called Christine Faulkner set about the task of researching the history of the men from Postbridge who lost their lives during the two wars. When this was completed a suitable design was planned for a brass plaque to be erected in their memory in Postbridge church, as, up until November 8th their names were only recorded on the memorial in Princetown and called out each Remembrance Sunday.

The relatives of these men were contacted and invited to come along to the service where the plaque would be unveiled in their honour. Relatives came from as far away as Bristol, Bideford, Looe, Torrington and of course Postbridge itself.

The service, in which over 62 people attended was wonderful. Revd. Fenton did us proud. When the plaque was unveiled the faces on the relatives told a million stories. After a lovely service, lots of photographs and tears, a cream tea was organised in the village hall where John Vale had displayed all the details of each man for the relatives to see. This was a chance for all these relatives to share in one cause, and that was to honour their loved ones together. Fascinating information.

The names of the men who lost their lives:

1914-18 R J Coaker - Royal Devon Yeomanry R C A French — Devonshire Regiment G James — Army Service Corps J Webb — Devonshire Regiment W G Webb — Oxf & Bucks

1939-45 L A Webb — Royal Navy

#### We will remember them.



#### PRINCETOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Is available for hire, it provides two halls depending upon the size of your event. A large kitchen, disabled toilets and changing rooms with showers are also available. Only £10 per hour (£7.50 per hr for residents of Princetown).

Call Wendy Stones on 01822-890345 or lan Morgan on 07812-023642.

#### **Princetown & District History Club**

meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at Princetown Community Centre at 7 for 7.30pm.

**Dec 1st** AGM and Christmas Meeting at the Prince of Wales Pub

**Jan 5th** Dartmoor Prison, from May to December with George Blake

**Feb 2nd** The Riding For the Disabled Association with Lynn Pidgeon

For further information, please phone Mr John Lissenden on 01752 847573 or email jlissenden@talktalk.net

#### **Dartmoor Forest Parish Council – Extracts November 2015**

Parish Clerk: Nigel Tigwell. Telephone: 01822 890274

Email: <a href="mailto:clerk@dartmoorforestpc.net">clerk@dartmoorforestpc.net</a>. Website: <a href="mailto:www.dartmoorforestpc.net">www.dartmoorforestpc.net</a>.

**Planning Applications.** 

0580 Extension for single garage 5 Woodville Ave, Princetown

<u>Princetown Village Centre</u>. The Parish Council is closely engaged with the Duchy, County Council, Borough Council and the National Park to develop a plan to regenerate Princetown village centre. It is clear there is no quick fix. The action we need will require the co-ordinated activity of multiple agencies, each with separate approvals processes and priorities. A new page is being established on the Dartmoor Forest Parish Council website to keep people informed of what is happening, although commercially sensitive information will not be included.

Moorland Community Speed Watch. A successful inaugural meeting was held on11 November in Princetown. We have 18 volunteers so far. The Police side of setting up the scheme is quite bureaucratic and time consuming, but it is a legal process. We anticipate operating on the moor in February. Additional volunteers are welcome, please contact the Speed Watch Coordinator, Gregg Manning on 01822 890072

<u>Broadband on Dartmoor</u>. For those who missed the recent presentations on the wireless 'Airband' at Parke and Postbridge there are further presentations in Bittaford Village Hall on 17/11/15: Whiddon Down Village Hall on 01/12/15; and Lee Moor Village Hall on 09/12/15. All sessions are 1900-2100.

<u>Princetown Snow Wardens</u>. Winter is approaching and the annual recruitment of Snow Warden volunteers is underway. If you are interested in helping keep Princetown's pavements and side roads open and are fit for moderately hard work, please contact Cllr David Worth on 01822 890487.

<u>Tough Choices</u>. Cllr John Hart, Leader of Devon County Council will host a presentation on future spending and services at Tavistock Town Hall at 1900 on 9 December 2015.

Moorland Roads. The speed limit is 40mph. Kill Your Speed: Not A Lamb, Calf Or Foal.

<u>Recycling and Refuse Collections</u>. Please put out your recycling and refuse by 0730 on the day of collection and <u>NOT</u> the night before to prevent animals scattering litter.

<u>Vandalism</u>. Princetown residents are urged to be on the lookout for young vandals. Please report any suspicious activity to the police or the Neighbourhood Watch Team.

<u>Potholes and Other Road Defects</u>. Please report potholes and other road defects directly to DCC using their website <u>www.devon.gov.uk</u> on the <u>Transport & Roads</u> page.

<u>Minutes of Parish Council Meetings</u>. These are available to view at <a href="http://www.dartmoorforestpc.net/2015.html">http://www.dartmoorforestpc.net/2015.html</a>

<u>The Next Parish Council Meeting</u> will be at **1930 14 December at Princetown** Community Centre. Members of the public are welcome and may speak during the public sessions.



If you would like to be a part of a hugely respected organisation during centenary year, come

along to one of our monthly meetings for a taster to see if WI is for you, you would be more than welcome. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Church Hall on Tor Royal Lane, Princetown. It will cost you £1. We are a fun group of mixed age range ladies and we do have a good laugh.

Our last meeting was really good fun. Such a lot of lively banter from members whilst decorating tea lights under the expert guidance of Pam.

On a very wet and windy day last Sunday 8th November, members of HMWI paraded through Princetown with many members of other organisations within the village to pay their respects to those who gave their lives for us in the two world wars. A wreath was laid in their honour by Sue.

**Next meeting:** Our meeting planned for 2nd December is in two parts. Firstly we will be serving mulled wine and mince pies at the carol service at St Michael's, 6pm. then when all is finished we will be going to have our own Christmas party at the Prince of Wales in Princetown at 8pm.

**Looking ahead:** Seniors Christmas Lunch,

members please arrive by 12.00 noon if you are planning to help at this event. Prince of Wales is the venue.

As the party is our final gathering for 2015, all that remains for me to say is 'High Moorland Women's Institute wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmastide'.

Our first meeting is not until February 2016. Details in next issue.

Look forward to seeing you, but if you need any further information please do give me a call on 01822 880395. Sue Hammett

#### **PRINCETOWN ACTIVITIES**

Princetown United Church. Sunday worship 11am. For other activities see noticeboard or Princetown page of www.westdartmoorbenefice.co.uk

#### **Credit Union**

The Plough & Share Service point is located in the new Princetown



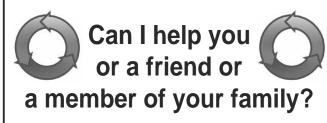
Village Centre and is open every Wednesday between 11.00am and 1.00pm. The Credit Union is non-profit making and is run by volunteers. It is an ideal way to save regularly. Once you are a regular saver you will be eligible for a low cost loan at only 1% interest. We can help with those unexpected bills, or just save for Christmas or holidays. Children can save too! For more information, ring Mike on 01822-890799



#### **Civil Service Retirement Fellowship**

The Princetown Group is open to all retired people living on Dartmoor. The aim of the Fellowship is to relieve loneliness and isolation by caring & sharing friendship. We encourage an active social programme and organise day trips every month April to October. We meet on the first Thursday of each month in the restaurant of the Prince of Wales public house, Princetown at 12.30pm. For more information ring Mike on 01822-890799.





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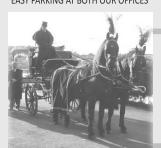
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## St Pancras, Widecombe-in-the-Moor

For contact information, ministers and church officers see front of the Link

Church Services - see Page 6 for details

Date	Time	Sidesperson	Coffee	Flowers				
6th December	4pm	Christingle - Penny Whale		Christingle - Penny Whale		Christingle - Penny Whale		No flowers
13th December	10.30	Dawn Nosworthy	John Powell	Advent				
20th December	4pm	Carol Service - Debbie Dracup		23rd December				
25th December	10.30	Christmas Day - Judy Southcombe		Flowers for Christmas				

#### **NEW BEGINNINGS CLUB**

For children of Primary School age, we meet each

Wednesday during term-time from 5.45 to 7.00 pm at "The Vicarage", Widecombe.

We aim to have a fun time with a mixture of art and craft, games, songs and stories with a Christian theme.

New members will be very welcome. For more information, phone Beth (01364 621334) or Penny (01364 621411)



#### **Church House Management**

**Committee** Chairman - Rodney Cruze To book the Hall please contact Rose Mortimore 01364 631238.

Rates of Hire (Local Events)

Daytime £3.50 per hour Evenings £5.00 per hour

All Day £20.00

These rates are for local non commercial events only. For other rates please ask the bookings secretary. Payment by cheque is preferred. Cheques to be made payable to Widecombe Church House Fund and sent to Sarah Reeve, Bonehill Cottage, Bonehill Lane, Widecombe-in-the-Moor, TQ13 7TD

For all other matters relating to the Church House please contact Diana Cameron on 01364 621218

#### **Widecombe & District History Group**

Meetings are held at the Church house in Widecombe on the 1st Weds of each month at 7.30pm.

**Dec 2nd** RNLI Arctic Cycle Challenge 1999 with John Lowe

**Jan 6th** New Year's Party

**Feb 3rd** Armageddon: with Robert Hesketh

How some Devon newspapers reported the outbreak of the 1st World War

For more information, please contact Mr Anthony Beard on 01364 621246

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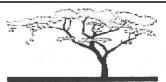
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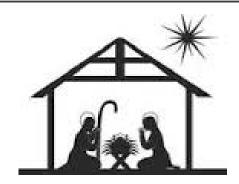
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## Widecombe & District Sports Group Regular Bookings:

**Tuesday:** Tennis Adults (16+) 6.30 onwards. **Widecombe Tug of War Club** 

Training 7.15 – 9.15

**Thursday:** Tennis Adults + competent teenagers 6.30 onwards.

#### Widecombe Tug of War Club

Training 7.15 – 9.15

Queries re tennis phone Di Cameron on 621218.

Please remember to wear soft soled shoes and to leave the court tidy with the net replaced. Report any damage immediately to Claire Partridge (Secretary) on 621468. Close all gates and replace the keys.

The court is available for members to use outside of these times, there is no longer a booking system so just turn up and play. Don't forget our Boules area is available any time. *Thank you and enjoy your sports area*.

#### Widecombe Pre-School

At Widecombe Church House, established since the 1970's, our OFSTED inspected and highly rated sessions are designed to prepare your child for an easy and happy introduction to school.

Through qualified and trained staff, we provide a safe and stimulating environment.

Tues 9.15am - 3pm Weds 9.15 - 12.45pm Fri 9.15am - 3pm

Tel: 01364 621273 (session times only)

## Widecombe Ladies Social Club No meetings in January or February



Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a



**Happy New Year** 

Phone Rose on 631238 for more details.

## WIDECOMBE-IN-THE-MOOR PARISH COUNCIL PARISH FIELD GRASS LET 2016

Applications/Tenders are invited for the grass let of a one acre field owned by Widecombe-in-the-Moor Parish Council for 8 months from 1 April – 30 November 2016.

Anyone interested should apply to the Clerk of the Council:

Mrs Suzanna Hughes

16 Westwood Cleave, East Ogwell, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6YE

Email: suzanna.hughes21@gmail.com Tel. 01626 330311

Please state in your application your bid and the purpose for which you intend using the field and that you will be able to show evidence of insurance to indemnify the Parish Council against all third party liability and keep the field in good order including a lock to the gate.

The Council will consider all applications at its meeting on 5 February 2016.



### Dunstone & Poundsgate Methodist Chapels

Ministers: Rev'd Kevin Hooke (01626) 832369 & Rev'd Jon Doble 07973 443080 Church contactS: Nigel Davis (01364) 631476 or Serena Walcot (01364) 631279

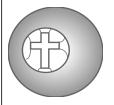
You are welcome to come to services and any special event taking place at the chapel. The Sunday services are at 3pm and for **DECEMBER** are as follows:

There will be no services at Dunstone during December due to repairs & redecoration.

Sunday 6th December 3pm service at Poundsgate led by Revd. Kevin Hooke

Sunday 6th December 6.30pm Outdoor Nativity held at East Shallowford Farm

Come and join us for these services as every one is most welcome.



Even if you have never been to a service before, you will find a very warm welcome awaits you and there will be tea and cakes afterwards.

## M. STORRS

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#### Last ... but not least ...





#### **PARISH LINK ADVERTISING COSTS**

	Size	Month	Year
Sixth Page	61x60mm	£7.50	£80
Quarter Page	61x92mm	£12	£125
Half Page	128x92mm	£20	£215

Please contact the Editor for information and availability of advertising space.

Thank you to all those who make donations to the Parish Link. Commercial advertising and donations ensure that the Link continues to be provided free of charge throughout the Moorland Team. If you would like to make a donation, please contact the editor.

The Parish Link is non profitmaking. Any balance over at the year end is held in reserve to cover repair, maintenance and replacement costs of printing machinery for the Parish Link.

#### Groups and Individuals who support the Parish Link

Civil Service Retirement Group

**Princetown History Society** 

Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

**Moorland Merrymakers** 

Buckland-in-the-Moor Soup Club

Widecombe History Group

**Holne Parish Council** 

Widecombe Fair Committee

Friends of Widecombe School

Holne Village Hall Committee

Holne Second-Hand Books



Widecombe Church House Committee

Leusdon Memorial Hall

Various anonymous donations

High Moorland WI

Leusdon Short Mat Bowls

Holne Fete Committee

Widecombe Ladies Social Group

Widecombe Sports Group

Holne Garden Group

Widecombe Parish Council



Editor: Mrs Marion Kaye

4 Buckfast Close

Buckfast TO11 0EW

Phone 01364 643330

email link@marionkaye.com

#### Final Copy date

for the January 2016 edition of the Link will be

#### Sunday 6th December

but please send as early as you can by post or email.

Next issue will be available on Sunday 20th December

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