

Moorland Parish Link



December 2020

Church and Community Magazine of The Moorland Team

The Ministry Team

<i>Team Rector</i> Rt Revd Mark Rylands	The Rectory, Copperwood Close Ashburton, TQ13 7JQ	01364 716309 mark.rylands@mmuk.net
<i>Team Vicar</i> Revd Geoffrey Fenton	The Vicarage, Widcombe-in-the-Moor, TQ13 7TF	01364 621334 geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk
<i>Mission and Family Development Worker</i> Heidi Lewis	Holne Vicarage, Holne, TQ13 7RT	07759578941 heidi@moorlandteam.org.uk
<i>Methodist Minister</i> Revd Kevin Hooke		01626 832369 hookekp@hotmail.com

Safeguarding:

If you have a concern about the safety of someone or the actions of someone working with children or vulnerable adults, please speak to someone:

Moorland Team Safeguarding Adviser - Judy Southcombe 01364 621520

Diocesan Safeguarding Team - SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org

Moorland Team Website: www.moorlandteam.org.uk

Table of Contents

The Ministry Team	2	St Gabriel, Postbridge	23
Safeguarding	2	Rainfall	25
The Parish Letter	3	Church Services for December 2020	26
Churchwardens	4	Holy Communion Midweek & Home	27
Moorland Team Officers	4	Dates for the Diary	27
Church News & Events	5	St Pancras, Widcombe-in-the-Moor	29
St Mary the Virgin, Holne	11	Dunstone & Poundsgate Chapels	39
St Raphael, Huccaby	15	Other Community News & Events	41
St John the Baptist, Leusdon	19	Final Word	51

Emmanuel, You're one of us...

At the time of writing this, we have little idea what our Christmas celebrations will look like this year. Here in England, we are in the middle of a second COVID-19 lockdown and the Government has yet to release guidelines that cover the festive period. However, we can be fairly sure that we won't be able to travel as freely, or 'party as large' as we usually would.

For those with family living away, it is currently almost impossible to make plans to be together. For many families, even in the best of times, Christmas is a time of hugely complex, logistical plans of how to get Great-Granny A to Uncle B's while also fitting in a visit to Great Aunt C and not missing out The Cousins. This year, with the COVID situation, that planning could well become insurmountably difficult and some visits may be missed.

For some, it may come as a relief to have a simpler time over the Christmas period. For others, it will be heart-breaking.

Throughout the whole of the COVID crisis our community has proved itself capable of pulling together and supporting each other. I'm absolutely sure that the Christmas season will be no different and that everyone will be especially mindful of those who may be struggling with loneliness and separation at this time.

If you find yourself having a pared down Christmas, why not reach out to others by extending what you would usually do for your family by blessing your neighbours instead? If you enjoy baking but have few visitors to bake for this year, why not gift homemade gingerbread biscuits or mini-Christmas cakes to others instead? Or organise a virtual Christmas Carol sing-a-long or perhaps go all out on decorating the front facing windows of your home to spread a little seasonal cheer to passersby? There are so many ways we can still reach out and bless each other this year.

Rend Collective have got a new Christmas album out – full of folk, festive tunes. One particularly poignant song is called "Emmanuel, You're one of us". The word 'Emmanuel' literally means 'God with us' and refers to the Messiah being born on earth. The words of this song are a reflection on what 'Emmanuel' means in the context of all that has happened this year.

Churchwardens

St Mary the Virgin, Holne with St Raphael, Huccaby			
Gillian Parker	Thimble Hall, Hexworthy, PL20 6SD	01364 631507	gillianp1992@gmail.com
Anthony Parker	as above	as above	anthonyfp999@gmail.com
St John the Baptist, Leusdon			
Geoff Bamsey	26 Old Manor Close, Holne Cross, TQ13 7JF	01364 652820	geoff.bamsey486@gmail.com
Patrick Simpson	Spitchwick Manor, Poundsgate, TQ13 7PB	01364 631209	admin@bennah.co.uk
St Gabriel, Postbridge			
Annie Smerdon	4A Oaktree Park, Sticklepath, EX20 2NB	01837 840201	gerald.postbridge@btconnect.com
Wendy Watson	Middle Merripit Farm, Postbridge, PL20 6TJ	01822 880215	wendy@merribrIDGE.plus.com
St Pancras, Widecombe			
Michael Pascoe	Wooder Bungalow, Widecombe, TQ13 7TR	01364 621333	pascoewooder@yahoo.co.uk
Penny Whale	Wayside, Widecombe in the Moor, TQ13 7TA	01364 621411	pjwayside@hotmail.com
St Andrews, Ashburton			
William West	Tawstock, Knowle Close, Ashburton TQ13 7RA	01364 652666	william1208west@me.com
Bill Shapley	18 Beverley Gardens, Ashburton, TQ13 7BL	01364 652263	wandjshapley@gmail.com
St Mary the Virgin, Bickington			
Peter Warren	Rentor, Bickington	01626 821213	pw.rentor@gmail.com
St Peter, Buckland in the Moor			
Stephanie Palk	Halshanger Manor, Ashburton	01364 652430	stmp7@tiscali.co.uk
Vida Pascoe	14 Balland Park, Ashburton	01364 653312	

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

BENEFICE OFFICE - Cassie will be in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. She will be working remotely on Thursdays. Office hours are 9.00am - 1.00pm. Telephone **01364 654280 / 07445 240 133** or email: **admin@moorlandteam.org.uk**

PARISH OFFICE - Email: **parishoffice1@tiscali.co.uk**

Moorland Team Officers

Treasurer	Francis Paffrey	Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton TQ13 7EA	01364 654067	francis.paffrey@gmail.com
Secretary	Gillian Parker	Thimble Hall, Hexworthy, PL20 6SD	01364 631507	gillianp1992@gmail.com
Safeguarding Adviser	Judy Southcombe - 01364 621520		judysouthcombe@yahoo.co.uk	
Team Administrator	Cassie Long - 01364 654280		admin@moorlandteam.org.uk	

Church News & Events

(Continued from page 3)

It's a beautiful and uplifting song – give it a listen. In the meantime, here's the chorus:

I know Emmanuel, you're one of us
You left your throne to wear our scars
Though Christmas lights may lose their spark
And winter's cold may break our hearts
Oh Christmas means, Emmanuel you're one of us

Whatever we end up doing for Christmas this year, we can be certain that God understands what we are feeling. His son experienced the worst of being human, and God's compassion for us is immense. We can rest in the knowledge that he truly understands what we go through, and we may find solace in prayer and quiet reflection at this time of (possibly) being apart.

Here's a link to the song: <https://youtu.be/uOwOpM1VmXA> or search for Rend Collective 'Emmanuel You're One of Us'.

Heidi

From the Registers

There are no register entries

An hour of quiet reflection at Postbridge Church

The monthly services that will return to the church one day can be found on:

<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/p.htm>

They can be used at any time, in particular if you are feeling you need a time of quiet in these challenging days.

Geoffrey

More information from Revd Geoffrey Fenton, Widecombe Vicarage, 01364 621334

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Some things to do in December

- Leave odd heaps of leaves in corners for hedgehogs
- Feed the birds
- Insulate garden taps
- Clean moss & lichen from paths
- Prune deciduous trees, shrubs & tall bush roses
- Don't forget to have a very merry Christmas!

Andy

Churches Open

Our churches are open for services & private prayer. Opening times vary:

St Andrew's, Ashburton	Daily, 10.00am-4.00pm
St Mary the Virgin, Holne	Daily, 10.00am-4:30pm
St Raphael's, Huccaby	Daily, 9:30am-5:30pm
St Peter's, Buckland-in-the-Moor	Daily
St Mary the Virgin, Bickington	By appointment – 01626 821213
St Pancras, Widecombe St John the Baptist, Leusdon St Gabriel, Postbridge	These churches may be open and may be holding some services. Please contact the Team Vicar (Geoffrey Fenton - 01364 621334) or the Churchwardens to hear the latest information.

Services in December

There is a choice of worship across the benefice with services taking place in some of our churches together with online worship. Please check the website www.moorlandteam.org.uk and Facebook pages, **The Ashburton and Moorland Team** and **Ashburton All Age Church**, for the latest updates.

Wednesdays:

- Bible reading, reflection and prayer found on the Moorland Team website or via our Facebook pages.
- Service at Ashburton.

Sundays:

- Services in some of our churches.
- Services to use at home, with readings, sermon by Geoffrey, and hymns to sing along to. Available on the Widecombe, Leusdon and Postbridge Services pages on the Moorland Team website.
- Visual All Age and traditional services online via website and Facebook pages.

Other online resources from the benefice include:

- Regular Video messages by Mark Rylands
- Messy Church at Home via Zoom
- Daily Prayer, bible verses and inspirational thoughts



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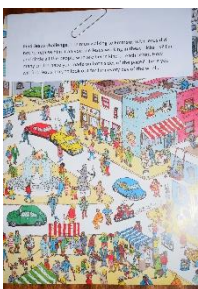
Messy Church in a Bag Ashburton December 2020

This month we sent out “Messy Church Bags” again. This time the title was “Hide and Seek Jesus” We told two of Jesus’ stories. “The Road to Emmaus” *Luke 24 verses 13-35* when his friends did

not recognise him and the “lady who touched his garment” *Luke 8 verses 43-48*. The lady recognised Jesus while his

friends did not see him until he broke bread with them in the evening. Do we recognise Jesus when he is working among us?

After the families had read the stories, they were asked to look for Jesus in the scenes from a



book called “Find Wally”. (I did buy several of the books then cut them up!!). They needed to find people doing kind things for each other in the pictures and circle them. As we go about our lives, do we notice when people do kind things for each other? I believe we need to concentrate and be observant, just like Lawrence, who is concentrating as he turns the craft Kaleidoscope that he has made. When we concentrate, and we will see Jesus working among us all the time.



Next month in December we will be making more Bags, but the idea is that some families will book in and collect their bags from the church on December 17th. We hope that we will be allowed to provide some food for them to enjoy and have a little Service. We are not sure that any of this will be allowed, but we will be making some more Messy Church Bags for Christmas. Our journey out of lockdown is just like the game we sent out in the November bags: when you follow the path you sometimes go forward and sometimes backwards. Let us pray that we will move forward smoothly out of lockdown, all God’s blessings for this Christmas. Jane



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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 26 for details

Date	Time	Service
6th December	-	
13th December	-	
20th December	09:00	At Huccaby
22nd December	15:30	All-Age Nativity Journey
25th December	10:30	Family Communion
27th December	10:30	Benefice Communion at Ashburton

The weekly service and notice sheet can be downloaded from
<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/welcome.htm>

St. Mary the Virgin, Holne - Open for private prayer

St. Mary the Virgin, Holne is now open daily for private prayer between **10.00am** and **4.30pm**.

Measures to be able to 'pray safe - stay safe' have been put in place and we hope that visitors will find peace and inspiration within the church.

Thank you to the ladies who have decorated the church with flowers and to those who have taken the responsibility for keeping the building clean and safe.

Holne Garden Group

We have been thinking hard about the Garden Club and our much missed outings. It may be a long time before we can go out by coach again, but how about half day outings, by car, to nearby places where we can walk in beautiful surroundings and chat with our friends from a safe distance? We are getting together a short list, something to cheer the long dark days of winter. Please email Judy to add your suggestions.



If you are interested, get in touch, or we will contact you all you after Christmas. In the meantime, very best wishes to all. Gill Gray gill@priddons.co.uk 01364 631111 and Judy Le Marchant judylemarchant@btinternet.com 01364 644099.

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HOLNE VILLAGE HALL

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We will review the situation in February 2021.

We regret any disappointment or inconvenience caused to any potential hirers or groups.

Peter Bellamy [Joint Chairman HVHMC].



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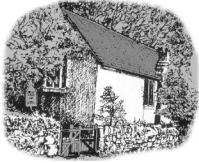
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St Raphael, Huccaby

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

Church Services - see Page 26 for details

The weekly service and notice sheet can be downloaded from

<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/welcome.htm>

St.Raphael, Huccaby is open **daily between 9.30am and 5.30pm**

Hope for the future

As November moves into December, there is uncertainty about what next month will bring in terms of the ability to meet and worship together. In September, after undertaking a further risk assessment, we took the decision to open St. Raphael's every day for private prayer.

This decision has been widely welcomed judging by the comments made by people we have met at the Chapel and with a further lockdown, we are pleased that we can still afford people the facility to encounter God in the peace and tranquillity of St. Raphael's.

We have also been thinking about what we can do for our regular congregation who are longing to meet again. Sadly, whatever freedoms or restrictions are in place, the Carol Service cannot be held this year. However, we hope that some form of virtual Carol Service including contributions from each of the Methodist Chapels and churches in Ashburton and Holne Parishes can be enjoyed by a wide audience.

Additionally, because we feel it is important to give people the opportunity to mark the Christmas season together, we hope to hold a service of Holy Communion at 9am on Sunday 20th December. Based on the practices used elsewhere in the Benefice, we are confident we can do this safely. Hopefully, this will mark a new beginning despite the likelihood of continuing restrictions over the winter months.

Continued on page 17



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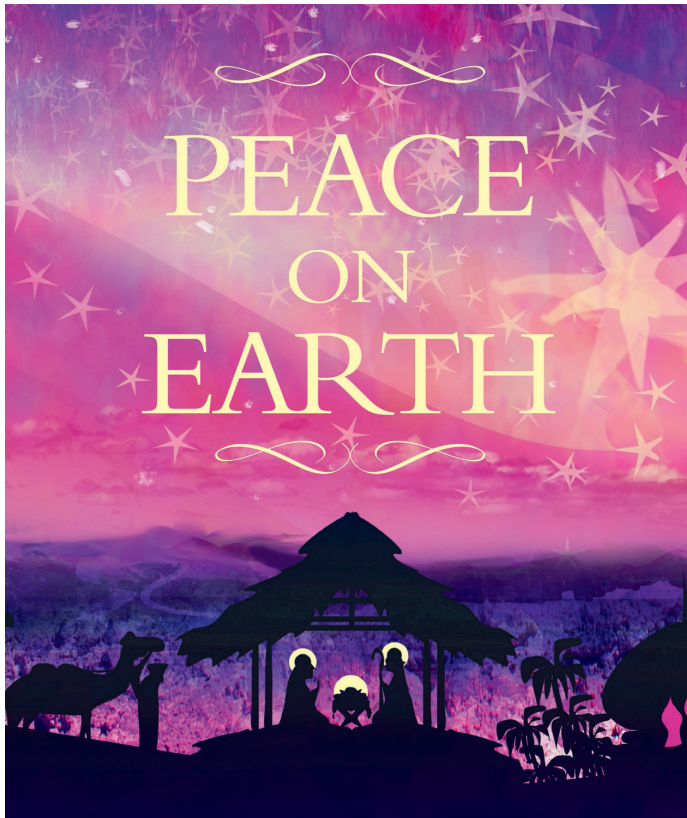
(Continued from page 15)

In the meantime, we look forward to new beginnings of another kind as the Ashburton and Moorland Team becomes part of the Newton Abbot Deanery on the 1st December. In recent years, our churches and clergy have been supported by ministers and lay readers from Newton Abbot, so it will be good to be officially part of the same group.

Parish Giving Scheme

A big thank you to everyone who has signed up to the scheme or who has pledged their continued support in other ways. Every contribution of whatever kind is appreciated.

Gillian



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Pottery Classes with Kate Lyons-Miller

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The classes are informal and friendly, handbuilding, but a kick wheel is available. Suitable for all ages and abilities, wheelchair friendly, except perhaps for access to the compost loo. I encourage experimentation, the only limits are the kiln sizes.

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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 26 for details

Date	Time	Service
6th December	-	
13th December	-	
20th December	-	
27th December	10:30	Benefice Communion at Ashburton



Leusdon Church - Information and Support

Please let someone know if for any reason you are feeling low or you need some help. There are lots of people in our community who are offering support for shopping or collecting something, or a listening ear – someone to talk to.

Useful phone numbers:

Revd Geoffrey Fenton

01364 621334

geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk

Widecombe Isolation Support Network

01364 621287 Between 4 and 7 pm

Widecombe Post Office

01364 621347 Basic food and veg

Useful web sites:

<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/l.htm>

A short cut to Leusdon Church page, including links to the weekly Sunday Service and the latest Link Magazine

<https://widecombe-in-the-moor.com/support>

Lots of isolation support and ideas – including online activities and learning

Do keep safe! And do keep in touch – phone someone every day!

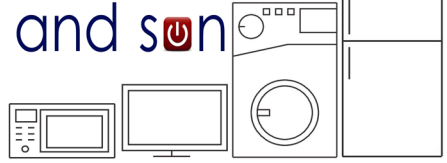
Leusdon

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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 books at assorted prices, puzzles, bric a brac and nearly new clothes. Raffle. Local meat stall from 'Meat Dartmoor'.

Coffee Mornings cancelled until further notice

10-12 Admission £1.50 (includes tea/coffee etc)



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: £8 per hour

For more information or booking contact
Amanda on 01364 631432



Whist Drive Dates

At Leusdon Memorial Hall

All Whist Drives are cancelled until further notice.



Postbridge Coffee Mornings

As we reach the end of another year we have had only a few Coffee Mornings. Now we are about to go into Tier 2 we will be unable to meet again. We hope we will meet up again in 2021.

On behalf of all the Ladies who attend Postbridge Coffee Mornings we send Seasonal Greetings to everyone and pray we will meet again very shortly in 2021.

December News from the Rotary Club of Yelverton

With the recent increased level of Covid and the re-introduction of more stringent regulations we have had to consider very carefully what activities we can undertake. It is with great regret that we have decided that, for the safety of the public and Club members, we will not be carrying out our usual Christmas village tours with Santa's Sleigh this year.

We also decided against holding our annual public collection in aid of the End Polio Now fund, instead we are donating Club members' money to the same value as we collected last year. It's absolutely essential that this work continues in order to control and eventually eradicate this disease. There's more information in a post on our Facebook page.

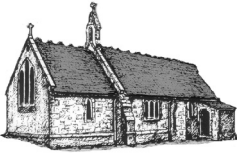
Just before the implementation of the 'rule of six' we held our annual Club croquet evening at Plymouth Croquet Club. In order to keep the numbers down we didn't invite our colleagues from Tavistock and Roborough Clubs but we had a great deal of fun on a beautiful autumn evening. It did, however, get a bit chilly towards the end so we chickened out of our planned 'Bring Your Own Picnic'!

In line with our normal practice, Rotarians laid wreaths on behalf of the Club at the War Memorials in Crapstone and Princetown on Remembrance Sunday. Both events were much curtailed but still fulfilled the required function.

Last time I mentioned that Moorland Gardens Hotel had asked us to manage the disposition of their Defibrillator Fund. We remain open until the end of December to applications from live installation projects in the area which will benefit the general public. We will then make a decision as to where the money will go.

Our Zoom meeting programme has continued with a variety of quizzes and talks. The most recent of these was given by one of our members on how to grow orchids and included a virtual tour of his orchid conservatory.

Continued on page 24



St Gabriel, Postbridge

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

Church Services - see Page 26 for details

Date	Time	Service
13th December	18:00	Carol Service
25th December	09:00	Christmas Communion
27th December	10:30	Benefice Communion at Ashburton

These are the services planned for December, subject to any changes in Covid rules.

For those coming to one of our services, please note:

- 1. Masks must be worn.**
- 2. There can be no singing, but carols and hymns with singing are played over the sound system for us to hum along with**
- 3. Sadly there can be no socialising or refreshments before or after any service. And the rule of six applies outside.**

Food Donations Box

Unfortunately, the Postbridge mice population has begun to take an unhealthy interest in the contents of the food donations box situated in the church porch. With the kind permission of Rebecca and Paul the collection box has now been moved to the Post Office store.

Please pass the word.

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Meetings
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Special rate for Postbridge Residents

Please call Jackie Gee 01822 880224

Postbridge Church - Information and Support

Please let someone know if for any reason you are feeling low or you need some help. There are lots of people in our community who are offering support for shopping or collecting something, or a listening ear – someone to talk to.

Useful phone numbers:

Revd Geoffrey Fenton	01364 621334 geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk
DFPC Covid 19 Support Volunteers	01822 258549 (Steve Cox)
Postbridge Stores	01822 880201 Food, veg, etc

Useful web sites:

https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/p.htm	A short cut to Postbridge Church page, including links to the weekly Sunday Service and the latest Link Magazine
http://www.dartmoorforestpc.net/	Lots of isolation support and ideas – shops, deliveries, contacts, etc

Do keep safe! And do keep in touch – phone someone every day!

(Continued from page 22)

We have continued to make donations – to Marie Curie, and to the Firefighters' Charity – but our funds are now becoming seriously depleted. To help rectify this we are going to try, if permitted, to carry out (socially distanced) static collections at Yelverton shops on Friday 18th and Wednesday 23rd December. We have applied for a Local Authority licence and we will ensure we are not causing any sort of hazard or obstruction and that we comply with whatever Covid regulations are in place at the time. If you see us, please give generously so that we can continue to help others.

Our members wish you all as Merry a Christmas as possible, and a Happy and Covid-free New Year in the hope that we can all get back to normal in early 2021.

To find out more about Yelverton Rotary Club:

See our website: www.yelverton.rotary1175.org

Or contact us at: president@yelverton.rotary1175.org



Postbridge Whist Drives - Held in the Village Hall

All Whist Drives are cancelled until further notice.



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

Contact: Jackie Gee, Bungalow 2, Dartfordleigh, Postbridge, Yelverton, PL20 6TJ.

Tel: 01822 880224

Princetown History Club

The uncertainty continues, and we have decided to cancel all meetings for the rest of this year.

Plans are being considered for 2021, and might include Simon Dell's talk in January, David Lemon's Talk in February and an AGM in March.

For further information, please phone Mr John Lissenden on 01752 847573

or email jlissenden@talktalk.net Web Site: princetownhistoryclub.weebly.com

High Moorland Women's Institute Princetown

If you would like to be a part of a hugely respected organisation, come along to one of our monthly meetings for a taster to see if WI is for you. We meet on the **first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Community Centre small hall Princetown.** It will cost you £3. You are welcome to attend two meetings as a taster. We are a fun group of mixed age range ladies and we do have a good laugh. Do come and see what we get up to.



All meetings are cancelled until further notice

If you would like to know more about High Moorland Women's Institute or details of the events listed above, please drop Helly an email on hellyhtsn@hotmail.com or follow us on Facebook: High Moorland Women's Institute.

Rainfall in October 2020

Place	Total Rainfall	Days without rain	Wettest Days
Postbridge	256.3 mm (10.1")	5	30th 32.8 mm (1.3")
	(October 2019 - 314.9 mm (12.4"))		
Holne	291.2 mm (11.46")		30th 42.2 mm (1.66")



Church Services for December 2020

6th December		Advent 2				Purple
<i>Readings - Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8</i>						
Widcombe	10:30	All Age Service	GF	Bickington	09:00	Holy Communion
				Ashburton	10:30	Toy Service
13th December		Advent 3				Purple
<i>Readings - Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Cantic: Magnificat [CCP Canticle 37]; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28</i>						
Widcombe	10:30	Parish Communion	GF	Ashburton	09:00	Sundays@9am
Postbridge	18:00	Carol Service	GF	Ashburton	10:30	Parish Communion
				Buckland	15:00	Holy Communion
				Online	16:00	Carol Service
17th December						Purple
				Ashburton	17:00	Carol Singing
20th December		Advent 4				Purple
<i>Readings - 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Cantic: Magnificat [CCP Canticle 37] or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38</i>						
Widcombe	18:00	Carol Service	GF	Ashburton	08:00	Holy Communion
				Huccaby	09:00	Holy Communion
				Ashburton	16:00	Carols by Candlelight
				Ashburton	18:30	Carols by Candlelight
22nd December						Purple
				Holne	15:30	All-Age Nativity
24th December		Christmas Eve				Purple
<i>Readings - 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8:11-16; Psalm 89:19-27; Acts 13:16-26; Luke 1:67-79</i>						
				Ashburton	16:30	All-Age Nativity
				Ashburton	23:30	Midnight Communion
25th December		Christmas Day				White
<i>Readings - Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97 Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20</i>						
Postbridge	09:00	Christmas Communion	GF	Bickington	09:00	Family Communion
Widcombe	10:30	Christmas Communion	GF	Holne	10:30	Family Communion
				Ashburton	10:30	Family Communion
				Buckland	11:00	Holy Communion
27th December		Christmas 1				White
<i>Readings - Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:15-21</i>						
				Ashburton	10:30	Benefice Communion MR
These are the services planned for December, subject to any changes in Covid rules.						

There is a service of
Holy Communion
every Wednesday
at 10.30
 at St. Andrew's Church
 in Ashburton
 You will be most welcome!.



Communion at home

If you would like to receive Home
 Communion please contact Mark or
 Geoffrey.

(see page 2 for contact details)

Mid-week Communion

Wednesday 2nd December	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 9th December	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 16th December	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 23rd December	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 30th December	Ashburton	10:30	

Key to Service Leaders

MR	Revd Mark Rylands	SS	Steve Sheldon	JA	Revd John Andrews
AR	Revd Mandy Rylands	DW	Revd David Witchell	HL	Heidi Lewis
GF	Revd Geoffrey Fenton	SLW	Simon Le-Pine Williams	KH	Revd Kevin Hooke
JG	Revd John Good	WW	William West	JAsh	Jane Ashton
AK	Anthony Kyriakides	CA	Chloe Axford		

Should I wear a face covering in a church building?

Face coverings are currently mandatory in places of worship. While there are exemptions **this is a legal requirement.**

For further guidance review the **Who Needs to Wear a Face Covering During Services** section at <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

Dates for the Diary - December 2020

		Page
10-13	Magical Tour of Christmas	36

		Page



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St Pancras, Widecombe-in-the-Moor

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

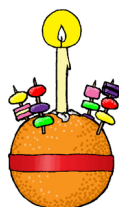
Church Services - see Page 26 for details

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- 3. Sadly there can be no socialising or refreshments before or after any service. And the rule of six applies outside.**



Christingle in 2020



We are very sorry that there is no Christingle Service in Widecombe Church this year. We have taken this decision reluctantly because of the constraints that the Covid restrictions would impose on the service, and the fact that we could not fit everyone inside the church at the legal spacing.

Instead, as recommended by the Children's Society, we are giving away "Christingle Kits" with all the ingredients to make a Christingle at home. We will give them to every pupil in Widecombe School and we'll also aim to provide a kit to any other Primary age children living in the parish.

You may wish to join the national Christingle Service at 9.00 on Sunday 13th December – you can find this on the Church of England website <https://www.churchofengland.org/>

Donations to the Children's Society can be made here:

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

Clear Decorators

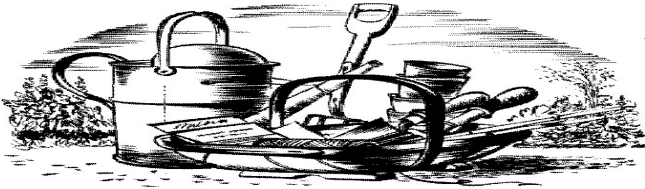
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Do you think local organisations are all run by the usual suspects?

Well, this is your chance to volunteer, and do something useful for the local community.

A Widecombe charity that lets houses to local people needs an extra managing trustee to join our team.

All we need from you is common-sense and a time commitment that averages about one hour per month.

For more information, and without committing yourself, please email david_thomas@hotmail.co.uk

Widecombe Church - Information and Support

Please let someone know if for any reason you are feeling low or you need some help. There are lots of people in our community who are offering support for shopping or collecting something, or a listening ear – someone to talk to.

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Widecombe Isolation Support Network	01364 621287 Between 4 and 7 pm
Widecombe Post Office	01364 621347 Basic food and veg

Useful web sites:

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https://widecombe-in-the-moor.com/support	Lots of isolation support and ideas – including online activities and learning

Do keep safe! And do keep in touch – phone someone every day!

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Widecombe & District Sports Group

Membership renewals are now due if you have not received yours please email cl.partridge@hotmail.co.uk or tel: 621468.

Alternatively membership forms can be found in the noticeboard by the court.



Regular Bookings: Tuesday & Thursday: Tennis Adults (16+) 6.30 Under 16's with ability are welcome to these sessions with a parent who is also playing.

For 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.

For more information about WDSG visit www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/sports_group/

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

All Widecombe & District Ladies Social Group meetings are cancelled until further notice.

For more details phone Rose 631238

WIDDYTOTS

Widdytots is our local toddler group for children from 0-3 years. It runs on a Wednesday from 9.30-11am in the Church House, Widecombe-in-the-Moor.

Widdytots is a relaxed, informal parent and toddler group where you can turn up and chat with other parents whilst your children play. We provide hot drinks for parents and snacks for the little ones. Everyone is welcome.

Your first session, and any when your child is under 6 months, are free and then from 6 months to 3 years it is £1.50 per child and 50p for siblings.

For more information please call the preschool on 01364 621 273, or find out more on our website, www.widecombepreschool.org.uk



John Thomas Pickering

The latest in this series of articles features Reverend John Thomas Pickering.

He was born in Leicester in about 1841. It has not been possible to find the date of John's ordination into the priesthood, but it is known he was the curate at St James Church in Exeter in 1881. He was at that time a single man living in the city with his widowed mother and elder sister.

In 1888 John (at the age of 46) married Ellen Jane Ellis in Ladbrooke Grove in London. Two years later daughter Dorothy was born at Culmstock in Devon.

In 1891 the Pickering family are listed in the census as living in Moretonhampstead where J.T. Pickering is noted as the vicar.

Church records indicate the Pickering's moved to Widecombe in 1894 when John Thomas succeeded The Reverend John Williams. At the time of taking up residence in Widecombe he was aged 52.

John Thomas Pickering and family lived in Widecombe until 1914 (20years) when he retired, he was succeeded by Reverend Eliot Colpoys Wood.

In his retirement Reverend Pickering and his wife Ellen moved to Taunton and lived with their daughter Dorothy. Ellen died in 1929 and John Thomas in 1933 (Aged 92)

After his retirement from Widecombe Reverend Pickering wrote a booklet entitled "*An account of St Pancras Church at Widecombe in the Moor*". (A copy of this booklet was recently offered for sale "on line" priced at £80.

David Ashman, Widecombe History Group

Interesting aside:

Of the 53 "Vicars of Widecombe" listed by name in the records by far the most popular Christian name is; John 17, followed by William 6, Richard 5, Thomas 4, Philip 3, Walter 2, Peter 2, Robert 2, Hugh 2, Clement, George, James, Jeremy, Eliot, Eric, Merrick Henry, Roger & Edward.

John Webb 1877 – 1916

Whilst researching the list of those men from Postbridge who fell in the 1st World War I came across the name of John Webb. Previously I had noted a Leslie Webb who fell in the 2nd World War and wondered if there was a connection. Although unable to establish a connection between John and Leslie I did further research and was able to pinpoint exactly how John Webb met his end.

He worked as a tin miner in the various tin mines in the area. In around 1900 John married Elizabeth Jane Westaway and they had 5 children, 3 of whom were born in Bristol in the first few years of the 20th Century.

By 1911 John and family had returned to Postbridge and in the census of that year John is recorded as a "Tin Miner (underground)".

He enlisted for service with 2nd Battalion Devonshire Regiment in 1914 (Private. 19236). In 1916 as part of the infamous 'Battle of the Somme' the 2nd Devon's were fighting at Hulluch, Unknown to them the Germans had planted mines underneath the trenches in which the "Devonshires" were fighting and the Regimental records show that a mine was exploded under John Webb's trench on the 21st August 1916.

It is probable John Webb was one the men killed at this time. The irony of manner of his death must have added extra grief to his family.

David Ashman, Widecombe History Group



A magical tour of Christmas windows and displays

10th - 13th December

Widecombe-in-the-Moor

Enjoy the fun of Christmas from the comfort of your car on our tour

For just £5, you will receive a map of display locations, get to vote for your favourite display and can enter into our prize draw

*Drive-thru at Widecombe Church House
5pm - 6.30pm on each day of the tour*

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MAPS ON SALE FROM TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER

*To buy your map of over 30 displays, visit
www.widcombecommunityhall.org*

You can also purchase from the drive-thru on the day or call Yvette on 01364 631543



In aid of Widecombe Community Hall CIO

Registered Charity No. 1182621



Widecombe Church House Management

Committee Chairman - Mike Pascoe

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 FAIR



WIDECOMBE FAIR

Although there was no fair this year the planning must go on to enable the event to bounce back next year.

The Widecombe Fair Committee Company is looking for a new secretary and other volunteers willing to help with organising the event.

We are specifically looking for anyone with business skills ie. managing, advertising, marketing, health and safety etc. It is all in the planning, you don't have to be totally involved on the day and your inclusion in the team will be very welcome.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mike Pascoe, Chairman

01364 621333 pascoewooder@yahoo.co.uk

All Widecombe & District History Group meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Contact: Helen Barrow - helenagsec@gmail.com or
Rosemary Mortimore - 01364 631238

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- Electric Safety Inspection Reports
- Portable Appliance Testing





Dunstone & Poundsgate Methodist Chapels

Ministers: Rev'd Kevin Hooke (01626) 832369

Church contacts: Nigel Davis (01364) 631476 or Serena Walcot (01364) 631279

Poundsgate and Dunstone Chapels

Every Sunday

9.00am

Service via Zoom.

The Bible Study Group will also continue via Zoom.

Please contact Serena on 01364 631279 for details

Dunstone Christmas Carol Service

The Dunstone Christmas Carol Service is unfortunately cancelled for this year. We have fond memories of a wonderful turnout last year and regret we cannot meet again in 2020.

With blessings to you all.

New Dunstone Noticeboard

A new and weatherproof noticeboard is currently being made for the outside of the chapel which will allow community and service notices to be displayed once again.



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

DASH

District of Ashburton
Surgery Help Line

NEIGHBOURS HELPING NEIGHBOURS

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

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

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

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Other Community News & Events



MOORLAND MERRYMAKERS NEWS FLASH!!

With all the uncertainty of what is happening in the World, the MM have decided that they would like to do a virtual panto. And we have found a way. We are very excited to be able to do this for our many avid followers.

Watch this space for more details to follow.....

We are still looking for a home for our costumes and some small props. If you are able to help, please contact **Ali Whale 01364 621260**.

DEVON CPRE

The Voice for Devon's Countryside

Devon CPRE Calendar

Vibrant paintings of the countryside created by Devon's primary school children during this year's first Lockdown have provided the artwork for a new calendar produced by local countryside charity Devon CPRE.

Proceeds from the calendar will be used to fund the charity's vital campaign work to safeguard Devon's precious landscapes and green spaces for future generations.

The A4-size calendar costs just £7 including post & packaging. Copies are available to buy from <https://www.cpredevon.org.uk/> or by calling **01392 966737**.

News from the East Shallowford Trust



We just wanted to say a huge massive THANK You to all our helpers and supporters over the last year and more.

We truly have survived on the generosity and kindness of those who have given of their time, their skills and often their invaluable resources so that others, less fortunate than themselves can participate and experience not only farm life but the wonder of Dartmoor.

Alethe and Mr Polish send their fondest regards across the moors for a wonderful festive Christmas.

Serena zoomed into Providence House Youth Club in Battersea to prove that sticky toffee pudding can be made in London – although it may not quite have that subtle delicacy and fragrance that wafts into the mixture from the fresh delightful air of Dartmoor. However – the various girls in various locations truly appreciated the timely winter instructions as they worked in synchrony at both ends of the country.



Wonderful helpers arrived to become 'daffodil planters', who completed the marathon task of bedding over 1,000 bulbs into the earth so they may burst forth merrily in spring. We also have a mysterious Devonian pixie who stealthily sneaks on and off the farm magically repairing a wall that toppled over when a laburnum could no longer withstand its battle with the wind. Thank you Mike for your persistence!

Continued on page 43

(Continued from page 42)

And piglets – we have had three sows pig in the last few weeks, meaning sausages will abound by next year. Our Mum's are very patient, delighting in the apple donations that a few lower down in the valley have been kind enough to gather and send our way.



Thank you so much to everyone for all your help and support in this very strangest of years. We are now taking booking for groups in 2021, but also aim to run a regular volunteer day to ensure the new barn is open, possibly by April – if we can get enough painting, polishing and funds in to purchase the final items.

Volunteers needed on Thursdays AFTER lock-down (hopefully 10th December): mucking out, wood chopping, grass strimming, mending, cleaning, polishing, outdoor jobs as needed. We will provide tea, coffee, bread, soup and cake. Covid Rules! Come just when you can, occasionally or even just once – it all helps.

Please contact Serena: serena@shallowfordfarm.co.uk
or Tel: **01364 621 392** (usually Julia).

Merry Christmas everyone!

THANK YOU and wishing you a truly wonderful 2021.

Wordsearch - Silent Night

This much-loved carol comes from Austria, where it was first sung as Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht on Christmas Eve, 1818. It was written by Father Joseph Mohr, a young priest at St Nicholas parish church, in the village of Oberndorf bei Salzburg. As Christmas 1818 approached, he asked the local schoolmaster, Franz Xaver Gruber, to compose a melody for his carol. Gruber was organist in the nearby village of Arnsdorf, and so was happy to oblige. On Christmas Eve they presented the carol to the church during the midnight mass. The carol went on to become loved world-wide; and the version sung by Bing Crosby is the third best-selling single of all time.

Silent
Night
Loved
Carol
Austria
First
Sung
Stille
Nacht
Heilige
Christmas
Eve
Father
Joseph
Mohr
Young
Priest
Organist
Midnight
Mass
Melody
Single
Bing
Version
Third

S	I	I	O	E	V	E	T	E	T	A	L
T	H	I	R	D	G	H	N	L	F	Y	E
T	V	O	G	G	G	I	E	G	A	O	L
I	E	I	A	I	N	E	L	N	T	U	O
P	R	S	N	I	J	U	I	I	H	N	R
B	S	D	I	H	R	O	S	S	E	G	A
S	I	E	S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C
M	O	V	T	F	I	T	S	E	I	R	P
C	N	O	S	L	I	R	H	U	P	E	T
I	E	L	L	A	H	R	V	G	A	H	U
V	M	E	L	O	D	Y	S	B	I	N	G
S	S	A	M	N	A	C	H	T	H	N	H

Wordsearch solution on page 49

Coronavirus (COVID19) Advice

If you have health concerns and for the latest health advice, please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For the latest Government advice and action plan, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

As things develop we will keep you updated with the most recent guidelines from the Church of England at <https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/welcome.htm>

You can also keep in touch via our Facebook pages: **Ashburton All Age Church** or **The Ashburton & Moorland Team**

As a diocese, we are following the official guidance of the Church of England on Coronavirus. You can read the latest guidance, plus helpful FAQs, by following the link below. It contains information about digital worship resources and churches which live-stream services for anyone who is self-isolating: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

Coronavirus

no food

don't know where your next meal is coming from?

low on funds

hate forms

are you waiting for your Universal Credit?

lost job

feel ashamed

anxious

always looked after myself

never asked for charity

never asked anyone for help

ASHBURTON-LOCKDOWN-LARDER-FREE-NO FORMS-CONFIDENTIAL-DELIVERED

07902-390-558



CORONAVIRUS Support Hotline

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

Do you or someone you know need help or support during the Coronavirus lockdown?

Feeling isolated?

Unable to access food or other services?

Don't know where to go for help or advice?

Teignbridge District Council has launched a telephone service to help people who are feeling isolated, or who need help, support or other advice to get them through the COVID-19 lockdown period:

Hotline

01626 215 512

Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm

(excluding bank holidays)

You can speak to someone who will offer advice or put you, or a person you know, in touch with help.

You can also e-mail us at: coronavirus.support@teignbridge.gov.uk

Support for Local Businesses - Widcombe Parish Council -2nd Edition 11th June

Widcombe Parish Council aims to help local businesses (including B&Bs) cope with the financial pressures created by the economic impact of Coronavirus.

Here is a list of online resources – and names of experienced local people who can offer support and encouragement, especially if you cannot find what you need online.

Help through Teignbridge Council (*NEW* Discretionary Business Grants from 8 June)

You can find details of help available at www.teignbridge.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/business-help-and-support-during-coronavirus/apply-for-business-support-grant

This includes Business Support Grant and (for businesses that are not eligible for other support schemes) Discretionary Business Grants. B&Bs are mentioned specifically.

Help through the Government:

Support is available to employers and the self-employed, including sole traders and limited company directors.

You may be eligible for loans, tax relief and cash grants, whether your business is open or closed.

To see what support is available for you and your business, use the business support finder at www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder

Other online resources include:

Benefits, debt and money, work, consumer, housing:

www.citizensadvice.org.uk - Devon Adviceline, 9am–4pm Mon–Fri: 03444 111444

For B&Bs:

<https://eviiivo.com/coronavirus/>

For the self-employed:

www.bishopfleming.co.uk/insights/coronavirus-help-self-employed

For farms:

<https://ahdb.org.uk/coronavirus>

<https://fcn.org.uk/>

<https://rabi.org.uk/about/>

Someone to talk to:

David Thomas – *retired lawyer and financial ombudsman, who works part time for Citizens Advice* – david_thomas@hotmail.co.uk – 01364 621255

Geoffrey Fenton – *owner of a small services business normally turning over £250,000 but now affected by the pandemic* – geoffrey.fenton@wildyeast.co.uk – 01364 621334

Tim Hassell – *Director of Thurlstone Hotel and Regional Chairman of UK Hospitality* – tim@hassells.net

John Dracup – *farmer with extensive industry experience* - john@broadaford.com – 01364 621375

Kate Martin - *runs the financial side of a number of small to medium sized businesses locally, most of which have been significantly affected by the pandemic* - kate@shallowfordfarm.co.uk

Please pass this on to others in our community that you think may benefit

SOCIAL ISOLATION SUPPORT IN AND AROUND WIDECOMBE

Widcombe Parish Council and local volunteers have created a centralised list of support which can be accessed by anyone.

We invite local businesses and individuals to add their names to the list of services and support that they can offer – maybe takeaway meals, collection & delivery services, book swaps, availability for a friendly chat on the phone, grocery boxes etc.

Visit www.widcombe-in-the-moor.com/support to view and access the list of services offered or to add your own offering

Alternatively, call 01364 621287 between 4pm – 7pm daily if you cannot access this online support list

Let's make sure we retain our great community spirit and support one another during this challenging time. Please keep checking that friends, family and neighbours are OK and know about this new support – why not print & post relevant info through a letterbox? And keep washing your hands!

Councillors can be contacted by phone or email if you need to get in touch:

Tim Hassell, Chair – 01364 621415 or tim@lauderdale.onmicrosoft.com

Yvette Elliott – 01364 631543 or yvette.elliott@ymail.com

Simon Booty – 01364 631369 or simonbooty@sherril.co.uk

Geoffrey Fenton – 01364 621334 Geoffrey.fenton1@btopenworld.com

Daf Edwards – 01364 621242 or dafedwards53@gmail.com

Mark Whiteside – 01364 621214 or mark-whiteside@hotmail.co.uk

Claire Partridge – 01364 621468 or claire.partridgewpc@outlook.com

Amanda Routley – 01364 631432 or ajroutley69@yahoo.co.uk

Solution for Wordsearch - Silent Night on page 44



Contacting the Editorial Team

Email items for inclusion or any other queries to: link@moorlandteam.org.uk

For items sent by post please use the following addresses:

Link Finances (donations, advertising fees, invoices etc)

All Other Correspondence

Parish Link Treasurer
c/o Way Park
Widcombe-in-the-Moor
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ13 7TU

Parish Link
c/o The Vicarage
Widcombe-in-the-Moor
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ13 7TF

Cheques payable to:

P C C Widcombe - Link Account

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 editorial team.

Groups and Individuals who support the Parish Link

Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

Phyl's Follies (Postbridge)

Friends of Widcombe School

Postbridge Village Hall

High Moorland WI

Princetown History Society

Holne Fete Committee

Various anonymous donations

Holne Garden Group

Widcombe Church House Committee

Holne Parish Council

Widcombe Fair Committee

Holne Second-Hand Books

Widcombe History Group

Holne Village Hall Committee

Widcombe Ladies Social Group

Leusdon Memorial Hall

Widcombe Parish Council

Moorland Merry-makers

Widcombe Sports Group

Winter has always been a time for the countryside to “hunker-down”, with the leaves being stripped from the trees by the gales, the grass (eventually) stopping growing and the mower put away, the animals on the moor finding less and less to eat, and our farmers spending long hours getting food to them. It’s like an annual Lockdown. Nature is used to doing this every year, but, by contrast, people on the Moor have always been extra busy during winter, and the pages of the Link normally bulge with dozens of competing attractions over the Christmas Season.

But this year..... Even the Merry-makers “Virtual Panto” (p41) has been interrupted by the Lockdown. Hopefully it will launch in January and will brighten a dark evening. So thank goodness for the Widcombe Community Hall “Magical Tour of Christmas” (p36). Forget for an hour any guilt about global warming and burning petrol, buy your map and get out to see the lights!

And in these difficult times, can we give an extra “Thank-you” to our loyal advertisers who support our publication? And encourage our readers to ring them first when they need a plumber, glazier, architect, gardener, care home, builder, mole catcher, solicitor, car service, fence, estate agent, dishwasher, chiropractor, sweep, pottery lesson, tree surgeon, plank, sirloin steak, tree surgeon, digger, therapist, water supply, septic tank emptying, load of firewood, funeral director, farm contractor, tree surgeon, pet sitter, Christmas Turkey, accommodation, decorator, curtain, joiner, cleaner, electrician. And if your business has been struggling this year we are doubly thankful for your support.

From all of us at the Link, in these trying times, may we wish you a very Happy Christmas

Parish Link Advertising Costs

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

Please contact the Editorial Team for information and availability of advertising space at link@moorlandteam.org.uk

Final Copy Deadline

for the January 2021 edition of the Link will be Friday 18th December

but please send as early as you can by email.

Next issue available on Monday 28th December

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