

Moorland Parish Link



May 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, Widecombe-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>Reader to the Team</i> Marion Kaye	4 Buckfast Close, Buckfast, TQ11 0EW	01364 643330 marion@marionkaye.com
<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

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For the sake of others

On Friday 8th May we will mark the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day). We will remember the joy of being liberated from the tyranny of the Nazi regime that had cast a dark shadow and caused evil destruction across our continent. We will proudly recall the way people pulled together in this country to support the war effort and to defeat the enemy. We will acclaim the sacrifices made by civilians and armed forces alike. We will commemorate those who died during the conflict.

In these last few months we have seen a small reflection of this as our country has engaged in a determination to defeat the destructive evil of the Coronavirus. In her speech a few weeks ago, the Queen spoke about the need for 'self-discipline and quiet, good-humoured resolve'. I think we have seen this in abundance: the heroic action from keyworkers in our hospitals and care homes – putting themselves in danger to save the lives of others. Also, in an extraordinary response in our communities where (without too much legal threat) we have voluntarily submitted to go without normal activities and habits – denying ourselves the rights to mix freely, go to the pubs and restaurants, to watch live sport, to shake hands, to travel to work; all in order to prevent the wide spread of the virus, to ensure our National Health Service did not become overwhelmed and thereby saving lives.

This has been the most outstanding collective act of self-denial for the sake of the most vulnerable in our society (and for those with limited income and no garden, it has been a huge act of self-restraint). Through the suppression of our personal ambitions and desires, perhaps we are learning how to redirect our personal longings for the common good, to sacrifice what we would normally do for the good of the whole. For the sake of the future of our planet and the people who live on it, these might be vital lessons.

We have seen such sacrifice in the story of a God who, in Jesus Christ, gave up the riches of heaven and for our sakes became poor; who took on evil and conquered it in the events we celebrate at Eastertide; and who now invites us to become part of the solution rather than part of the problem, by gradually being turned outwards from our self-obsession, learning to love not just ourselves, but even our enemies.

I trust in the goodness of God. Not because I have an answer to the problem of suffering – be it Coronavirus or cancer – but because I have grown to see it in the face, the hands, the life, the death and resurrection of Jesus, in a way that gives me hope that he has broken the power of

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.

PARISH OFFICE in Ashburton

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, the office is currently closed.

Cassie is working remotely and can be contacted on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9.30 - 12.30 on 07445240133 or email: admin@moorlandteam.org.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)

evil and will one day wipe it out for good. If Jesus is the Son of God, then the secret at the heart of all things is the love that conquers death, loss and evil. Here, I believe, is hope for us all.

Nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

+ Mark

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

The following links contain advice for churches, church-run groups and individuals about the Coronavirus (COVID19) outbreak and the sensible precautions we can take: <https://exeter.anglican.org/resources/coronavirus-guidance>

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/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

An hour of quiet reflection at Postbridge Church

Services Suspended Until Further Notice

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

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Some things to do in May ...

- Yes, still beware night frosts!
- Keep an eye out for, & deal with, pests & diseases
- Continue mowing, blades lower
- Keep watering & feeding plants
- Prune early flowering shrubs
- Tie in climbers & stake perennials
- Plant leeks, courgettes & brassicas
- Mulch fruit with well rotted manure

Andy

From the Registers

There are no Register entries

Services for May during the Coronavirus pandemic:

There is a choice across the benefice:

Wednesdays: Bible reading, reflection and prayer found on the Moorland Team website or via our Facebook pages.

Sundays:

- 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. Special Services on Sunday 3rd May - Rogation, and Sunday 10th May - Christian Aid.
- Every Sunday Visual All Age service and a traditional services online via website and Facebook pages.

For update on worship and worship resources please visit the website:

www.moorlandteam.org.uk and Facebook pages: **The Ashburton and Moorland Team** and **Ashburton All Age Church**. 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
- Friday Night contemporary worship by the Filling Station Team

New Mental Health Reflections

Published By The Church of England

A series of reflections on how to cope with anxiety and loneliness in the face of the coronavirus pandemic, including simple Christian meditation techniques and five tips, have been published by the Church of England.

Visit <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/mental-health-resources>.



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Messy Church in Ashburton



In March Messy Church was cancelled as we worked out it would not be such a bright idea to mix generations. It was a last-minute cancellation, so my study is still full of the

crafts that we had planned!!

In April Messy Church was due on Maundy Thursday so we postponed it to April 16th the week after Easter. By then we had sent out Messy



Church at Home No 4. Each week the .pdf went out to over 100 families and helpers and was being sent out in other parishes in different counties, as well as the whole of Devon.

I set the children a challenge of building a Temple out of Lego in April. Here is one of the photos that was sent back to me. We were looking at how Jesus cleansed the temple at our face to face Zoom meeting on April 16th. We were making figures out of homemade playdough to tell the story to each other.

All the families were challenged to write down a prayer to bring to the Zoom meeting. This was mine:

‘Dear Lord, Thank you for the amazing world that we live in.

Help us to remember you were fully human.

You loved people,

You were fearful at the cross,

You got angry in the temple,

You laughed with your friends,

You were sad in the garden.

Help us to trust you and follow you

Knowing that you have felt, at some time, how we feel today. Amen’.

Please Stay Safe - Jane.

M. STORRS

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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 30 for details

Date	Time	Sidesperson	Flowers
3rd May		<p>Public worship services are suspended until further notice.</p> <p>The church building is now closed.</p> <p>The weekly service and notice sheet can be downloaded from https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/welcome.htm</p>	
10th May			
17th May			
24th May			
31st May			

Last month I wrote about the plans to make the church more welcoming and to carry out much needed repairs and improvements to the inside of the building. Whilst it is not possible to do much at the moment, we have asked a new architect, John Scott to help with the work.

Although John's practice is based in London, he has been involved with many church projects in the South West and has close connections with Holne. As soon as he can, John will visit St. Mary's and assess what needs to be done to make the long-standing plans a reality.

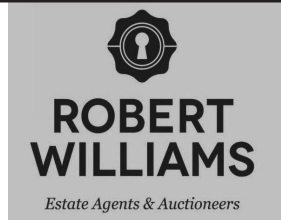
We still need a volunteer who would like to draw a plan of the old churchyard with the named graves marked. The idea is to have publicly available plans of the churchyards to help families find their relatives' graves. Such a plan already exists for the new churchyard. As there is no hurry, this could be done over several weeks as part of the daily exercise allowance! Please contact Gillian Parker, Churchwarden. (Details at front of magazine).

Finally, I hope that many of you have been able to access the online services, meditations and other resources available via the Moorland Team website which can be accessed via this link <https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/welcome.htm>. A lot of effort goes into their preparation and the team involved have done an excellent job.





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Newspapers – we do not have the volunteer resources currently to stock newspapers and magazines. However, there is an arrangement with Huccaby's in Buckfastleigh whereby if you order your papers and pay for them directly to Huccaby's, they will be delivered daily to our shop and can be collected by yourselves thus saving you a journey.

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Holne Garden Group

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For more details, contact:

Gill Gray

gill@priddons.co.uk

01364 631111 or

Judy Le Marchant

judylemarchant@btinternet.com

01364 644099

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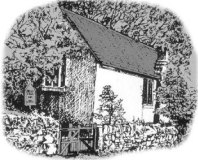
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St Raphael, Huccaby

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

Church Services - see Page 30 for details

Public worship services are suspended until further notice.

The church building is now closed.

The weekly service and notice sheet can be downloaded from

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

Time for Reflection and Change

On the 23rd March, for the first time in many years, St. Raphael's Chapel was locked. It was a stunning spring day with birdsong, daffodils, no traffic noise and blue skies. Turning the huge key in the lock was quite an emotional moment but before we did so, I spent some time alone in prayer in the Chapel. Despite everything, I felt a huge sense of peace and reassurance which has stayed with me.

Thereafter, life became unexpectedly busy. Although none of the normal churchwarden duties were necessary, we were all busy trying to work out how to communicate with our communities and congregations; what we could do to support those unable to leave their homes as well as catching up with all those "I've been meaning to sort this out for years" jobs.

'Zoom' meetings have worked well for communications between Mark and church officers and although some of the broadband services are slightly less reliable in parts of the moor, Tony set up a Tea at 3 initiative on a Tuesday.

This enabled those who wanted to join for a chat, (once the technology was sorted out), to get together and just have some social contact for 40 minutes.

There has been some fun putting videos together and learning how to pass them on to Heidi and Cassie for editing. Donkeys were wanted for the Palm Sunday Service and having got permission from Peter Coaker to film his thoroughbred donkey, Firethorn Moriarty, or Jim as his friends call him, we set off to track him down.

Despite making encouraging noises and shouting "carrots" as we trekked over Peter's land, Jim and his mates, were nowhere to be found. Eventually we found him at the very furthest point of the field where Tony had to film him from the wrong side of some barbed wire. Still, he looked very cute on the finished product.

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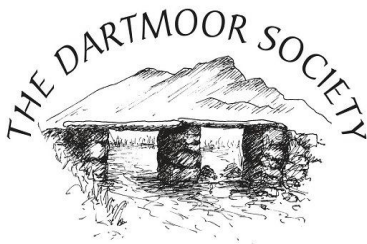


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(Continued from page 17)

Next was the request to create Easter gardens for each of the churches. For St. Raphael's, the cats' litter tray was pressed into service as the container for the garden. The finished creation was included in a short video filmed in the Chapel grounds. The Easter garden for Holne was constructed in the church, filmed and then sadly, dismantled. The results were posted as part of the Easter Sunday Service.

At the time of writing, it is not known if we will still be in 'lockdown' when this article is published. However, for many of us, it has provided the chance to pause, to reflect, to think about our neighbours, to say thank you for the things we have taken for granted before now and perhaps to have thought even more deeply about Easter and the sacrifice on the cross followed by the joy of the resurrection and what it means to us.

Finally, thank you to Mark and the team of people who have worked so hard and creatively to provide spiritual support and encouragement virtually and by telephone calls. Everyday life may never be the same again but there will be much we can learn and turn to positive changes in the years to come.

Gillian

CommuniTea - Tea at Three on Tuesday!

Why we need to talk to each other.

(Even when we are not allowed to physically meet!)

At times, feeling lonely or isolated is normal. For some, it can be very frightening and destructive. At a minimum, it hurts.

In these extraordinary circumstances, where we are attempting to combat the Coronavirus, we needn't lose contact with each other.

So, why don't we 'meet' using our computers, laptops, tablets or phones and chat over tea at 3pm on Tuesday and Thursdays?

There are some simple instructions to follow to allow you to see each other as well as hear each other – if you want to!

If you would like to take part, we can help you set up your technology – there is no cost!

Please let us know if you are interested.

Tony and Gillian Parker

At the moment this initiative is confined to Holne and Huccaby - but discussions are ongoing with Ashburton to launch the Tea at Three project there soon.

Please contact anthonyfp999@gmail.com for any further information or queries you may have.

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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 30 for details

Date	Time	Reader	Teas	Flowers - Altar	Windows
3rd May		Public worship services are suspended until further notice. The church building is now closed.			
10th May					
17th May					
24th May					
31st May					

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!



Whist Drive Dates

At Leusdon Memorial Hall

All Whist Drives are cancelled until further notice.





The Devon branch of the **Campaign to Protect Rural England** hopes its 2020 art and writing competitions, **open for entries from 18 May**, will provide a creative outlet for primary schoolchildren across the county, many of whom are spending more time than usual indoors this spring because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

CPRE Devon's two children's competitions are a fun way to encourage youngsters to engage with the great outdoors, even if they themselves are stuck indoors! Children in Key Stages 1 and 2 are urged to use their imagination to create a piece of artwork or a short piece of writing evoking Devon's coast or countryside, or a favourite spot that's important to them. It could be a local park, a green space nearby, somewhere they have visited for a day out or even their own garden. **The closing date for entries is 30 June 2020.**

Last year the charity received fantastic entries from right across the county from girls and boys in KS1 and KS2, who had captured their favourite outdoor space on paper. Pencils, pens, paints and sticking paste were all put to use to create artworks which showed the beauty and variety of Devon's natural environment.

The competitions are simple to enter. A top prize will be awarded to individual children in each key stage, as well as to their school. All entrants will receive a CPRE Devon 'Barney the Bull' gift. The top entrants from each school will win a Devon Countryside Ambassador Badge and a framed certificate. Winning schools will receive a plaque and £200 to spend on outdoor learning as well as CPRE membership for a year.

A leaflet with full details of both competitions is available for teachers. CPRE Devon has also produced a fun postcard for the writing competition with space for children to say why they think it's important to protect Devon's countryside. It couldn't be simpler!

If your child would like to enter, contact **01392 966737** or **info@cpredevon.org.uk** or check out the website **cpredevon.org.uk**

Please note, this year the charity will be accepting entries by email to avoid people having to make unnecessary trips to a post office to send their artwork or writing.

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'.



The May Coffee Morning has been cancelled

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

Leusdon Memorial Hall Update

The Committee are sending good wishes to you all.

Coffee Mornings will start again one day and it will be worth waiting for. In the meantime stay safe and keep well.

Best wishes
LMH

Life Gets Teejus, Don't It?

Peter Lind Hayes

I found this 1948 recording which I thought might raise a smile for those in isolation; a number I suspect will remember it, but the younger members of the community may only know snatches. Good for keeping spirits up.

Keep safe

David Ashman

To play 'Life Gets Teejus, Don't It?' click on the link below or copy and paste the link into your web browser:

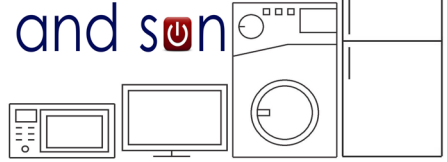
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuvRm7uVvcQ&list=RDJuvRm7uVvcQ&st+art-radio=1>

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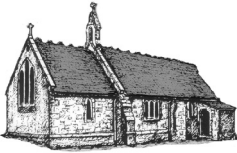
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St Gabriel, Postbridge

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

Church Services - see Page 30 for details

**Public worship services are suspended until further notice.
The church building is now closed.**

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!

Postbridge Coffee Mornings

It is now planned to re-commence Coffee Mornings in September and the first one will be held in Postbridge Village Hall.

We will update when we have any further information.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF YELVERTON

Unfortunately, in common with all other organisations, our programme of activities, the Yelverton Memory Café and many fundraising events have all had to be cancelled since the 'lockdown' started. In order to make planning easier, we took the decision to cancel everything until the end of June. We are hopeful that we will be in a position to run the Car Boot Sales on 28th June and 9th August, and to provide the (by then) much needed relief of the annual Postbridge Dog Show (26th July) and the repeat of our children's school holiday Fun Day on the 5th August. The many Clubs and Organisations who participated in this successful event last year have all agreed to participate again this year and we do hope the event is able to proceed.

Despite the circumstances, the club have continued to meet each week – using an on-line video-conferencing facility – to keep in touch with each other, organise help where we can, and to ensure that we will be back up and running quickly when this crisis is over. So far, the best we've achieved is an attendance is 15 of our 17 members on the same meeting date call. We are hopeful that the members' croquet evening on 22nd July will go ahead. Other talks and events will be re-planned for later in the year when we have a better idea of what's happening.

Many of our members are required to self-isolate but that hasn't stopped the rest of the Club from providing community assistance with shopping, collecting medication etc. We have also made contact with a group called Tavistock Scrub Makers who are manufacturing PPE gowns etc. for use in local Care Homes, and our club in support have recently made a significant financial donation to help cover the costs of fabric, elastic, cord, and patterns, we congratulate them on getting together in producing much needed protection equipment. A few of our members also have the necessary skills to become involved in the manufacturing process.

It has been a strange few weeks and it will continue for a while yet, but we have not given up trying to help others, and continue to enjoy ourselves while doing so.

To find out more about Yelverton Rotary Club:

See our website: www.yelverton.rotary1175.org
or contact us at: president@yelverton.rotary1175.org

Princetown History Club

Regrettably, the 5 May talk by Tim Jenkinson on the Dave Brewer Archive has been cancelled as too many of our members, while young at heart, fall within the vulnerable age and health demographic for coronavirus. The June, July and August walks remain in the programme as do the autumn speaker meetings but we may have to review this if official advice on coronavirus/Covid19 changes.

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

or email jlissenden@talktalk.net

Web Site: princetownhistoryclub.weebly.com



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

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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.

Widcombe 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 Widcombe Church House Fund and sent to Sarah Reeve, Bonehill Cottage, Bonehill Lane, Widcombe-in-the-Moor, TQ13 7TD

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

**The Ruggestone Inn
Widcombe-in-the-Moor
01364 621327**

We are currently doing takeaway food on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday evenings. Our menu is available on our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ruggestoneinn>

If you would like me to add you to our mailing list please contact me and I can email out our menus.

We are taking all precautions to make sure this is as safe as possible including designated time slots to avoid queuing.

We also have a wide range of beers, wines and spirits available.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Kind regards Vicki

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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 30 for details

Date	Time	Sidesperson	Coffee	Flowers
3rd May		Public worship services are suspended until further notice. The church building is now closed.		
10th May				
17th May				
24th May				
31st May				

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.

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/w	A short cut to Widecombe 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!

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

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

Widecombe

Church Services for May 2020

3rd May	Easter 4	White
<i>Readings - Genesis 7; Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10</i>		
10th May	Easter 5	White
<i>Readings - Genesis 8:1-19; Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14</i>		
17th May	Easter 6	White
<i>Readings - Genesis 8:20-9:17; Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21</i>		
24th May	Easter 7	White
<i>Readings - Ezekiel 36:24-28; Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11</i>		
31st May	Pentecost	White
<i>Readings - Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39</i>		

There is a choice of worship across the benefice:

Wednesdays: Bible reading, reflection and prayer found on the Moorland Team website or via our Facebook pages.

Sundays:

- 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. Special Services on Sunday 3rd May - Rogation, and Sunday 10th May - Christian Aid.
- Every Sunday Visual All Age service and a traditional services online via website and Facebook pages

For update on worship and worship resources please visit the website:

<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk> and Facebook pages: **The Ashburton and Moorland Team** and **Ashburton All Age Church**. 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
- Friday Night contemporary worship by the Filling Station Team

The service of
Holy Communion
every Wednesday
 at St. Andrew's Church
 in Ashburton
 is suspended until further
 notice.



Communion at home

Communion at home has been
 suspended until further notice.

Mid-week Communion

Wednesday 6th May		Public worship services are suspended until further notice	
Wednesday 13th May			
Wednesday 21st May			
Wednesday 28th May			

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	MK	Marion Kaye
AK	Anthony Kyriakides	CA	Chloe Axford	JAsh	Jane Ashton

Following the Prime Minister's announcement of 23rd March, the Archbishops have written to clergy in support of the measures, requiring that churches must now close both for private worship and public services.

Our church buildings are therefore now closed.

Dates for the Diary

May 2020	Page
There are no events to report in May 2020	

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For full details and to donate visit:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/save-the-old-inn---this-is-our-time-to-trade>

Alternatively, there is a link on the Old Inn Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/theoldinnhw>

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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.





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WIDECOMBE FAIR



Widcombe Fair Donations and 2020 Dates

Donations

The Fair Committee is pleased to announce that donations to local charities of over £5,000 have just been made from the surplus funds from the 2019 Fair, with the primary beneficiary being Rowcroft Hospice. Additionally donations were made to the local Rotary Clubs, the Parish Link, Dunstone Methodist Chapel (for a new noticeboard), Huccaby Parish (for guidebooks), Leusdon Memorial Hall (for electrical and heating repairs) and the Widcombe Handbells Team (a contribution towards repairs and refurbishment).

Dates for 2020

The important one first....Widcombe Fair is on Tuesday 8th September

Directors' Meetings

It is planned to hold these meetings on 14th April (a 'virtual' meeting) and 10th August, with the AGM on 12th May. These are the 'behind the scenes' meetings, usually held in the Old Inn, looking after the annual accounts, Companies House requirements, risk assessment, budgetary control and the like. Because of the current coronavirus restrictions, we can't fix any more dates -- any additional meetings will be advised to the Directors.

The Traditional 'First Tuesday' Planning Sessions / Get-Togethers

Currently it is planned to hold these more fun, informal sessions on **12th May (possibly including the AGM), 9th June, 14th July, 11th August and 1st September**. These are very informal sessions focusing on making the Fair a success and ensuring that the overall programme works. The 14th April session has been 'canned' but the Chairman is on the case via email. The get-togethers that go ahead will always be at 7:30 in the Church House. Everyone is welcome....the more the merrier.

Continued on page 36

(Continued from page 35)

Coronavirus Impact: As noted above, the 14th April Directors' Meeting will now be a 'virtual' meeting (via email etc), essentially just to approve the previous minutes, review any actions and agree the Wid Fair accounts for y/e 31st March 2020 such that they can be forwarded to the AGM. The 12th May AGM is likely to be a 'virtual' Meeting, too, just to formally agree the re-appointment of Directors and receive the annual accounts. Any other pressing AGM business will be addressed later in the year after the coronavirus restrictions have eased. A suitable Call Notice for the AGM will have been issued by the time you read this.

In the meanwhile, please keep your fingers crossed for fine weather on 8th September and put the dates in your diary now. Apols if some of the dates have passed by the time you read this – the usual communication channels are 'suffering' from coronavirus restrictions.

Best wishes, The Widcombe Fair Committee

Snapshots from the Past from the Widcombe History Group's Archive



The Original Village Sign

The sign was erected on what is now the entrance to the Coach and Car Park. The design was by Joseph M Doran of Earls Court, London and was part of a "Village Signs" competition organised by the Daily Mail. The sign was erected in 1922.

In 1939, when complying with government instructions to remove all village and road signage, the sign was damaged beyond repair. In 1948, funded by local benefactor Frank Hamlyn, a new sign, designed by Lady Sylvia Sayer of Cator Court, was erected on the opposite side of the road on the edge of the village green. The sign was built by local mason Tom Nosworthy.

WIDECOMBE FAIR PRODUCE SCHEDULE 2020

VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS - LOCALLY GROWN - Herman French Silver Salver

Class 1	3 Coloured Potatoes washed
Class 2	3 White Potatoes washed
Class 3	3 Onions, grown from Sets
Class 4	3 Carrots, trimmed and washed
Class 5	3 Beetroot, trimmed and washed
Class 6	Six Runner Beans
Class 7	A Giant Vegetable
Class 8	Any Vegetable not mentioned in the Schedule
Class 9	Any Squash or Courgette
Class 10	A collection of 5 different Vegetables in a standard Veg Box (12"x16")
Class 11	4 Tomatoes
Class 12	4 Varieties of Culinary Herbs in a Jar of Water
Class 13	A Plate of Berry Fruit - one Variety
Class 14	3 Dahlias
Class 15	Single Rose
Class 16	Single Stem any Flower
Class 17	Pot Plant - in Flower or just Foliage
Class 18	A Vase of Mixed Flowers (9 stems - 3 of each Variety)

HOME PRODUCE - LOCAL ENTRANTS - for the Rose Bowl - Made to own Recipe

Class 19	A Decorated Chocolate Sponge
Class 20	A Homity Pie
Class 21	A Plate of 9 Biscuits – 3 each of 3 Varieties
Class 22	A Rich Fruit Cake
Class 23	Traditional Meat Pasty.
Class 24	4 White Rolls
Class 25	A Pot of Homemade Marmalade (Any Citrus Fruit)
Class 26	A Jar of Homemade Chutney
Class 27	A Bottle of Homemade Drink. Wine/Beer/Cider/Cordial
Class 28	6 Newly Laid Eggs

CHILDRENS CLASSES FOR TAME AND HUTCHINS CUPS

ALL CLASSES 16 yrs and under. Please state your age

Class 29	A Painted Pebble
Class 30	A Decorated Hard Boiled Egg
Class 31	A Garden on a Plate
Class 32	A Lego Model
Class 33	A Mini Pizza Face (6"/150mm Base)
Class 34	An Edible Insect

ART AND CRAFT - CLASSES OPEN TO ALL - Gordon Daw Memorial trophy

Class 35	An arrangement of flowers and foliage in an unusual container
Class 36	A flower arrangement in a teacup
Class 37	A flower arrangement not to exceed 30 inches in any dimension
Class 38	Patchwork or Quilting
Class 39	A Pencil Sketch
Class 40	Painting - Any subject, any medium
Class 41	Pebble Craft
Class 42	Jewellery. Any Medium
Class 43	Any craft work item not mentioned in the schedule
Class 44	Made from wood!
Class 45	A Short Poem
Class 46	A Photograph – My Favourite View in Devon

Leading Aircraftman Alec Walter

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. Service Number 11861

Alec was born in Widecombe on 10th July 1915, parents were Fred Walter, a Blacksmith (Heavy Work) and Elizabeth Walter (nee Townsend). The Walter family at that time were living at New Park, Widecombe.

Alec attended Widecombe School from 19th April 1920 until 29th May 1929. After leaving school he obtained work as a gardener and it is probable that he met his future wife Lillian through her father Thomas Dowrick who was also a gardener working in and around Widecombe.

On 16th October 1937 Alec married **Lillian Bessie Dowrick** in Widecombe Church. The marriage register was signed in the presence of her parents Thomas Dowrick, Iris Daffodil Dowrick, and Elizabeth Jane Walter her mother-in-law.

In 1939 Alec enlisted in the Royal Airforce Volunteer Reserve and by 1942 had achieved the rank of Leading Aircraftman. It is not known where Alec spent the early part of his service career, but in the summer of 1942 he was stationed at RAF Holme on Spalding Moor in Yorkshire. This station was the base for Bomber Command Squadron No 101.

In late December 1942 ,101 squadron was engaged in bombing raids over Germany and it is believed Alec Walter was aboard a Lancaster Bomber which was heavily damaged and unable to reach it's base station when returning from such a raid. It crashed at nearby RAF Howden in East Yorkshire. Alec died of his injuries on 26th December 1942. He is commemorated with a Commonwealth War Grave Headstone in St Pancras Church.



Continued on page 39

(Continued from page 38)

On 27th April 1943 Lillian (Alec's widow) gave birth to a daughter Alexandra (Anita).

In 1946 Lillian was remarried to Joseph McCutcheon and the family lived at Margaret Gardens, Buckland, Newton Abbot. On 1st January 1955 the family left the UK to emigrate to New York. They sailed upon the Cunard steamship "Scythia" leaving from Southampton.



Alec's daughter has been traced to Michigan USA where she is believed to have applied for American citizenship in May 1962. To further confuse the issue Alexandra sometimes goes by her second name Anita.

However, a member of the History Group who lives in America is endeavouring to trace her through the American system. We await further news!! Lillian did not remain in America but returned to the UK and lived her final years in Torbay where she died in July 1985.

If you have any information relating to Alec or Alexandra/Anita Walter, and you would be prepared to share it with Widecombe History Group please contact:

david.ashman87@gmail.com



News from the East Shallowford Trust

Cast your memory back only six weeks and it rained. It seemed to rain all winter. Not a cold winter but one you will be reminded of every time you sit in your car and deftly dodge as if you are in 'Whacky Racers' around yet another series of pot holes, which probably appeared over that fateful wet weekend of 15th February. The clouds seemed to gather the entire Atlantic and dump it on Dartmoor from where it rushed downhill, gathering momentum as it tumbled down the roads, sucking up tarmac as it zoomed and skittered carrying all it could in a path of deluge. How many houses 'sprung a leak' or more accurately splurged water through their front doors? From that constant mizzle and seeping cold that made us all lock doors and hunker down around sparking fires, we have suddenly discovered the sun..... what? Yes..... The sun!

Dare I admit a little sneaky bit of joy, amid the tumultuous tensions of a world in lockdown? What choice do we have with animals on the moors to tend? The wriggling, wet lambs, licked into life as they draw their first breath and rise wobbling and staggering to suckle on their mothers teats, filling out their hollow little tummies. Within hours they jump, the joy of life, first on fresh golden straw and then within a day or so, walked and cajoled out into the sun drenched green carpet of a nearby field. Long gangly legs follow mothers. Noses up and down, long bleats for reassurance, shorter bleats for panic. Then, within a day, a pack of little friends belt around the field, leaping, twisting, racing..... life has to be lived and carries on, safety from mother nearby, a belly full of milk and the sun..... oh the sun..... the warm spring sun warms the very soul of life.



If skinny little white lambs can enjoy the sun, then so can our pigs. The barn door opens, Alethe rattles a bucket singing, 'Piggy, piggy, piggyyyyyy' The rest of us pushing from behind. 'What?' snortled Pink Snout 'You want me to go out, away from my pen where food is delivered?' 'Yes!' we said, knees cajoling her forward to the wondrous sunshine 'What?' she said, having lost sight of her dainty little friends as they shot off towards Alethe and some deep buried memory of grass, open space and outside!

Continued on page 43



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

Public worship services are suspended until further notice.

MONTHLY CHARITY LUNCH

The Monthly Charity Lunches are cancelled until further notice.

We look forward to seeing all our supporters again as soon as we can. Stay safe.

News from Dunstone and Poundsgate Methodist Churches

Dear Friends,

It's lovely to have this opportunity to send you our love and greetings as we continue to live through these difficult weeks.

I am always reminded at this time of the year that the Easter season, which carries us through to Pentecost, is longer than the season of Lent. So we can remain upheld by its message of hope, love and promise through this month.

Just like the benefice churches, the doors of the Methodist chapels have been closed over the last weeks, but nevertheless we remain active at Ashburton, Bovey Tracey and Dunstone. Instead of streaming services or posting them on YouTube, we have tended to use Zoom, so that people can at least see each other at worship and in fellowship. We are also distributing 'worship at home' sheets for every Sunday, so that we have a sense of worshipping together on an even footing, including those who cannot access the internet.

Of course, in order to join a Zoom meeting, you need to receive an invitation with an access code, so if you would like to join us, or would like to receive our weekly worship sheets, please let me know on hookekp@hotmail.com and I will ensure you have the necessary information.

The principal times for Zoom services and events organised by your local Methodist Churches are:

Sunday: breakfast informal service, organised by Dunstone Methodist Church

Continued on page 45

- General plumbing & heating
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- Boiler installation & replacements
- Boiler servicing and breakdowns
- 24/7 emergency breakdowns



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Contact: 07521 972332

Email: c.plumbingandheating@outlook.com



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Please contact Emma Locking to discuss items you would like restoring or upholstering.

Tel: 01364 631510

Email: emma_ann@live.co.uk

Chiropractor? Back and Neck Pain?

Please call 01626 353334 or email info@sykesverweycentre.co.uk

- Established in 1963
- Over 55 years of helping people with spine, muscle, and joint problems.
- We are the oldest Chiropractic clinic in the South West
- Successfully treated thousands of patients.
- Our Director and Sports Chiropractor Freddie Powell was the 1st team Chiropractor at premiership football club Crystal Palace FC.

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Rachel Arrowsmith-Brown

S.A.C Dip FHPT/S.A.C Dip FHPP

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Sherilee.Jordan@cottages.com

(Continued from page 40)

'Off you go' we said with another pair of knees on her backside. Out she went and then within seconds shot off, round the corner across the dusty yard and towards the gate. Freedom in the sunshine..... oh, sheer joy!

The fat little Saddlebacks sniffed the air, stuck snouts in the grass and then rolled. Legs up to heaven, wriggling and snortling on their backs, little girls let free at last.

Although, as Will always says – 'where there is life, there is death'. We lost 'Sweetie', one



of our loveliest and largest Gloucester Old Spot sows. Alethe and I were looking over the pen wall, piglets suckling away as she lay stretched out..... 'Her teats look weirdly white.' says Alethe. I moved around to take another look, opened the pen door and like something from that Monty Python skit about the parrot, 'She's dead', 'Are you sure?' pulling on a leg, lifting an ear to look at her eyes and watching her chest, 'Yep, she's certainly



dead'. Piglets did not seem to have noticed..... Heart attack as she stretched out to feed them? Who knows..... but she was as dead as dead can be. Luckily, the piglets at five weeks will survive without her, but I think we were more shocked than they were. My son went in the pen to see if they might like a hug or warm contact. They sniffed him, looked at him and then obviously decided 'Nope – we will settle for creep feed and a warming lamp'. With their Mum we have lost a good friend – there was a good reason she was called Sweetie!

And so the cycle goes on. Life and death. It is just yet another reminder to ensure we remember to live a little in the madness that surrounds us.

So, in truth we are continuing as normal..... well, nearly. We have had to cancel all our groups of course, but..... what to do? This is the same for everyone. Let us hide and enjoy some time indoors? Well..... if our doors are the farm gate and each building within the curtilage is a room, our space is large and luxurious and we have things to do!!

Continued on page 44

(Continued from page 43)

The team arrived to help build the Outdoor Education Barn on Friday 13th March (shhh – none of us are superstitious). The first period of banging, whacking and bleeping Manitou as it reversed and majestically waved the men up towards the sky, tools in hand so they could measure, whiz in the screws or thwack the devices that staple on the layers and layers of membranes and barriers to maintain U values. What are U values? Quick google search! Thermal transmittance, also known as U-value, is the rate of transfer of heat through a structure (which can be a single material or a composite), divided by the difference in temperature across that structure. In other words – the new barn will be as toasty and warm as the main house, if not more so, as it will not have any of those wonderful natural drafts, that all Devonian Longhouses have organically built into their structures.

And the boys have worked hard – really hard!



The space is not yet finished, nor does it have an official name. 'The Elizabeth Braund Room' would be fitting, but perhaps rather a mouthful to a child you are trying to direct at speed in the pouring rain. 'The Bull Pen' one trustee thought would scare off some of the children. Someone said, 'It looks like an Ark!' to which we all looked askance, cocking our heads slightly in the way a quizzical dog contemplates a tasty morsel. It does look rather like it might be an Ark. A warm refuge in the rain, a light space for felting, willow and woodwork, or pilates and yoga if anyone feels the urge. Sadly, we do not yet have enough funds to finish.....!! But..... The future is an adventure we have yet to explore and in the mean time, we wish you all a wonderful sun filled spring..... enjoying our space that we can only share now through the modern advantage of screen based photos and stories!

Continued on page 45

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Just remember, like the pigs we have kept indoors and probably only dreamed of green open spaces are now rolling in grass and wallowing in the small trickle of mud..... Our time for trumping freely over the moors will come again. Patience is all we need!

Julia

(Continued from page 41)

News from Dunstone and Poundsgate Methodist Churches

Sunday: late morning coffee and chat, just as we would usually do after our morning worship, organised by Ashburton Methodists

Monday afternoons: a time to reflect together on the previous day's gospel, organised by the Ashburton Methodists

Wednesday mornings: morning prayer together, following a daily liturgy, organised by me

Thursday evenings: bible study, organised by Dunstone Methodist Church.

Whether you join us or not, please be assured of our love and best wishes. Keep safe and well,

Kevin

Rev. Kevin Hooke

Ashburton, Poundsgate and Dunstone Methodist Churches

ps Although I haven't mention Poundsgate in the body of this message (because all of the congregation attend other places of worship and so link in with their activities), nevertheless the Church also sends its love and greetings to you all.



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.

Rainfall in March 2020

Place	Total Rainfall	Days without rain	Wettest Days
Postbridge	142.6 mm (5.6")	13	7th 21.3 mm (0.8")
	(March 2019 - 211.1 mm (8.3"))		
Holne	155.4 mm (6.12")		7th 33.1 mm



Other Community News & Events

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



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



ASHBURTON FOOD BANK



CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE FOR THOSE IN
FOOD NEED

POSTBRIDGE	HOLNE	WIDECOMBE
HEXWORTHY	ASHBURTON FOOD BANK	POUNDSGATE
LEUSDON		PONSWORTHY

The Ashburton Food Bank is operating a DELIVERY SERVICE ONLY during the Coronavirus epidemic.

If you are in need of food please phone **07767 453844** and leave a verbal message (not text message) stating your name, address, number of adults and children in family, any pets and leaving your telephone number. We will respond as quickly as possible and get food to you.

Snapshots from the Past

from the Widecombe History Group's Archive

The Widecombe Smithy in action. Date unknown, but assumed to be 1930s



Other Community News & Events

Rugglestone Quiz

Over the years there have been a series of two or three winter quizzes at the Rugglestone, with each these being set and run by a different group of local people.

As well as brightening up the odd cold wet evening, several hundred pounds have been raised for charity over the years.

As we are all in 'lock down' we thought it might be fun to share some of the recent Ruggle quiz questions with a wider audience – just for fun (no prizes), these will appear in the next few on-line issues of the Parish Link until we get back to normal.

Thanks to Peter Oldham and team for these questions.

Have fun.

Local Knowledge Category (South Devon and Dartmoor)

It is roughly two general questions on Devon then two questions on Dartmoor and so on...

1. Which Plymouth-born 18th century artist's works include a portrait of Dr Samuel Johnson and Sarah Siddons as 'The Tragic Muse'?
2. Slightly more up to date, Devon has only two Labour MP's. One is Luke Pollard in Plymouth but who is the other?
3. How many spans does the clapper bridge at Postbridge have?
4. Talking of Postbridge, is it on the same longitude as Valencia, Madrid or Seville? (hey, even if you don't know it's a one in three chance)
5. Which Devon town name contains half the letters of the alphabet without any repeats?
6. William of Orange famously landed in Brixham, allegedly disrupting the fish market, but in which Devon town or city was he first proclaimed King?
7. Of the 14 named rivers that rise on Dartmoor, what unique (well, almost unique as there are actually two of them!) geographical feature is shared by the Rivers Taw and Okement?

Continued on page 51

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8. How far apart, in either miles (to the nearest half mile) or kilometres, do the East and West Dart rivers rise? Miles or kilometres – no hedging your bets.
9. What is the name of the capital of the Caribbean Island of Montserrat? (yep, it is a Devon question)
10. I was born in Devon in 1552 and, among other things, I was an author, jail bird and even MP for Devonshire from 1585 - 86. Who am I?
11. If you were ambling round Dartmoor (remember that pre-coronavirus?) and encountered a field of 'clitters', what would you be looking at?
12. According to the 2011 census what was the population of Dartmoor National Park?
Was it 60 thousand, 20 thousand, 2 thousand, 33 thousand or 45 thousand souls?

Answers on Page 57

Snapshots from the Past

from the Widecombe History Group's Archive

Do you know where this is ? Answer in next month's Parish Link



May is the Driest Month of the Year

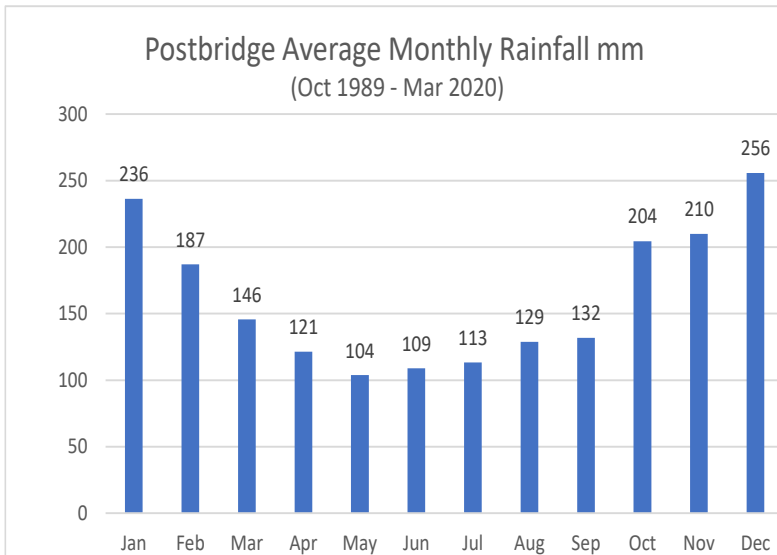
The Parish Link has been showing rainfall data since 1989, over 30 years. Like me, you might be interested to know more about how this information is collected and what we can learn from it. If so, read on!

Postbridge, Holne and Widcombe have all collected rainfall data over the years, with most complete records for Postbridge. The current providers of the Postbridge information, Brian and Michele, shared their process with us:

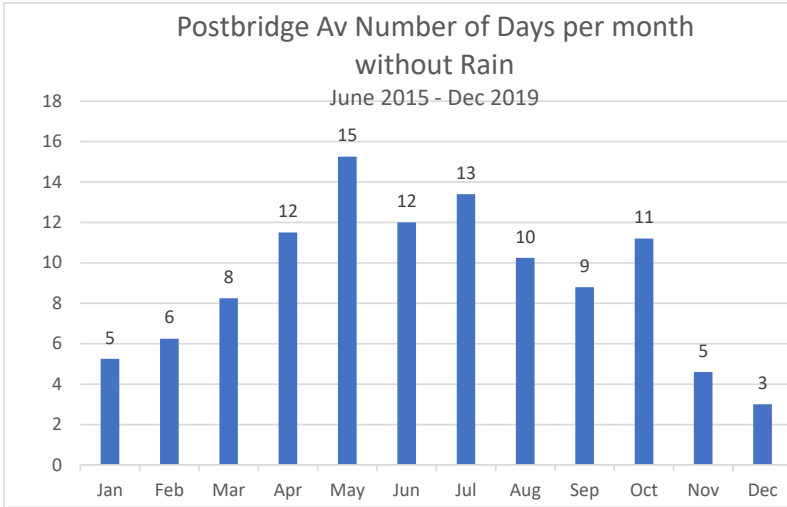
“The Met Office came and checked the suitability of our garden. They carry out three yearly checks to ensure that the trees and vegetation aren't sheltering the gauge too much - sometimes a bit of trimming is necessary. The Met Office and the Hydrometry & Telemetry Dept., Environment Agency, Exeter work closely together. We read the rain gauge each day at 9am and at the end of the month we send the completed card to the H & T Dept. They're working on a computerised system for sending the data. Brian maintains the Postbridge website www.postbridge.net and if you click Postbridge News you can follow the link to the rainfall details.”

Being curious and interested in data and having a bit of time on my hands during the lockdown, I took the opportunity to do some initial amateur analysis.

Which is the driest month at Postbridge? The answer surprised me as I thought it would be a summer month, but it is MAY (as I now understand it is for the UK in general).



The number of days with rain is also recorded. In Postbridge, on average, based on the past 5 years, the month of May has 15 dry days.

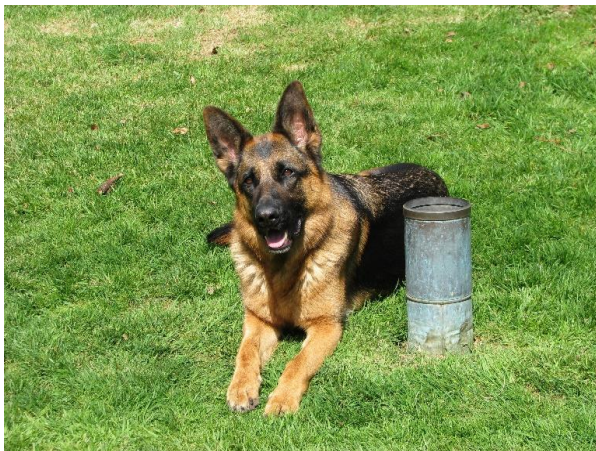


The highest May rainfall at Postbridge over the past 30 years was 248mm in 2002 and the lowest 15mm in 1991, with the median being 89mm.

Interestingly, looking at the last 5 years since 2015, there has been a slight shift towards an even drier May with 80mm on average, 28.5mm less rain than the previous 25 years. That raises a few questions to be answered.

So, if you are hoping for rain to follow what has seemed a dry April on Dartmoor this year, the probability is that it will be around 8-10cm spread over 15-16 days. But don't hold me to that!

Analysis by Susan Malcolm, with thanks to Brian, Michele and guard of the Postbridge rain gauge, Meg.



HISTORY MYSTERY

The following name is on Leusdon WW2 war memorial but no next of kin has been found:

R JENKINS



Any info welcome.

Contact: Peter Rennells on **621302** or
old85buzzard@gmail.co



Keep Safe Online

During the lockdown, many of us are spending more and more time online. Being online offers a range of fantastic tools, including giving you the opportunity to contact friends, family and colleagues; to entertain yourself; to go shopping; and to find out just about anything.

However, it's also extremely important to keep yourself safe from those who may try to take advantage of you online.

There is a wealth of information on measures that can be taken to keep you safe online at:

Get Safe Online: <https://www.getsafeonline.org>

Cyber Aware: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home>

Coronavirus by Anon

The Coronavirus, it's all around us, it's scaring us
Into a world of stay at home, with no chance to roam
I have a place, I have space, but no one face to face
Lots of young people not earning
Friends that have kids home-learning, and looking outside, yearning
To where together they used to play
And be happy all day
There's no sport on TV
There's nothing new to see
I'm lucky, I've great outside spaces
But miss going to all my favourite places
Everything we used to do has been affected
One cough, we worry we're infected
Can go to the gardens and walk
Can phone lots of friends and we'll talk
There are people worse of than me, it's affecting the whole nation
We have to suffer loneliness, and separation, to reduce the contagion
There are no planes flying by
Just a blue empty sky
Everywhere's an empty street
There's nobody you'll meet
Everyone's full of fear
Just in case you'll get near
You argue with friends
Are the means justified by the ends
You can read all the news
So very many different views
Every day the latest "score"
Every day it gets more
For now we can go to the shops
But how long before even that stops
When will it all end
Who knows my friend
I have lots, lots more to say
Another time for another rhyme
But I'll leave that for another day

Community Bird Watch

The Dartmoor Bird Watch started in 2016 and finished in March this year. This was run by the RSPB and DNP. You can find the results on the RSPB website.

As we all have time on our hands at the moment, I thought it is the ideal opportunity to put together a spreadsheet of all the birds that we see in our gardens or out on our walks during our daily exercise up here on Dartmoor. With everything being so quiet our wildlife is certainly going to benefit and it will be interesting to see if we get an increase. Doesn't have to be birds, you can note down other wildlife as well.

Choose one hour each day (can be different hours) and set yourself up at your window with pen and notebook to hand. Record the breed, location (not just 'garden'!) date and time of the birds you see. Make a note of what it is doing and other observations, i.e. feeding young. if, for example, a blackbird flies into a bush and then after a time one flies out of that bush it is probably the same bird but if one flies in from a different direction then count that as a new bird. Out on a walk note down what you are seeing and where.

Also, if you hear a cuckoo then you must let us know. Place, date and time. Ideally it would be nice if you and another person hear it together. You can always try to record it on your phone. They will be starting to travel back here. There may be a prize for the person who hears the first cuckoo!

At the end of each week on a Friday send to the email address attached the details of what you have seen during the week and it will be added to a spreadsheet. Those without access to internet just use the phone number 01364 621287 and your sightings will be noted, and we can have a chat as well. This can also be included in your daily chats around the community.

Just to get you all fired up there has already been sightings of swallows returning, grouse on Dartmoor and a red kite.

Please let anyone not on the internet know about this and let's get everyone involved.

Kirsty

mail@kajpeake.com

Hello Distancers!

These are very strange and difficult times we are living through. To some the dangers will be reminiscent of wartime days in the 1940's, but to many they will be a completely new type of experience.

With this in mind we have decided to ask as many members of our community who are willing and able, to record how the current events and restrictions are affecting their daily lives, and how they have adapted to cope with the new challenges.

The record can take the shape of a daily "diary" since the introduction of the restrictions. Maybe a particular day which illustrates good/bad feelings, a humorous occurrence or frustration or anything else you feel describes your situation.

Photographs are equally most welcome.

It is the intention of the History Group to collate and then archive all submissions received in the hope of producing an accurate record of how we survived the Coronavirus/Covid19 attack in 2020.

Young people are particularly invited to take part

(eg anyone under 60)

Please email your "record" to: david.ashman87@gmail.com

Rugglestone Quiz Answers

1. Sir Joshua Reynolds
2. Ben Bradshaw, the long serving Exeter MP
3. Three spans at Postbridge
4. Madrid (4 degrees West)
5. Buckfastleigh
6. Newton Abbot
7. They are the only two to flow North
8. 2.5 ...*miles /...4..*kilometres...apart
9. Plymouth
10. Sir Walter (Walt to his friends) Raleigh
11. A load of rocks, boulders, lumps of granite etc
12. 33 thousand of us

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

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Thank you to all our contributors who making this edition of the Link a fascinating read - the ups and downs of animal life at Shallowford, Rainfall history, a the Rugglestone Quiz, the Community Bird Watch, a poem, and lots more and do listen in to "Life Gets Teejus, Don't It" on page 23!

Despite the Lockdown, life is bubbling away beneath the surface in our communities. The support networks are working, the phone lines are humming and the Internet has never been busier. And people are finding time for a burst of new creativity. Why don't you write a poem, jot down a family anecdote, take a picture or two (they'll be in colour!), try a pencil sketch, do some tapestry - and then dream of winning a prize at Widecombe Fair - schedule on Page 37

Do keep in touch.

Peter, Geoffrey, Tony, Susan, Daf and David

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