

# Moorland Parish Link



**February 2021**

Church and Community Magazine of The Moorland Team

# The Ministry Team

<i>Team Rector</i> <b>Rt Revd Mark Rylands</b>	The Rectory, Copperwood Close Ashburton, TQ13 7JQ	01364 716309 mark.rylands@mmuk.net
<i>Team Vicar</i> <b>Revd Geoffrey Fenton</b>	The Vicarage, Widcombe-in-the-Moor, TQ13 7TF	01364 621334 geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk
<i>Mission and Family Development Worker</i> <b>Heidi Lewis</b>	Holne Vicarage, Holne, TQ13 7RT	07759578941 heidi@moorlandteam.org.uk
<i>Methodist Minister</i> <b>Revd Kevin Hooke</b>		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](mailto:SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org)*

**Moorland Team Website:** [www.moorlandteam.org.uk](http://www.moorlandteam.org.uk)

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## Fast Forward to Easter!

As I write this, I can't believe it is still January! It seems to have been going on for months.

My confession to you is that, in the depths of winter, I want to fast forward to springtime – and the time when all the vulnerable and elderly will be vaccinated; when we can come out of this Lockdown; when children and young people can be in schools and colleges receiving in-person learning; businesses up and running fully, when there will be better weather...and there might even be the prospect of playing some cricket. Let's cut out 'fill-dyke' February altogether! Cancel Lent and go straight on to Easter, resurrection and brighter prospects.

Slightly childish, I know. But that is how I sometimes feel and I suspect I am not alone in these thoughts. But there is another voice telling me not to rush ahead. If I only have my mind full of the future, I will miss out on what is happening now and what God is trying to show me in the present.

I am reminded of those first disciples who recognise the risen Jesus as they share a meal in Emmaus at the end of the day of resurrection. Earlier in the day they are walking on the road away from Jerusalem (Luke 24). After the crucifixion, it is a bewildering time for the disciples as Jesus, the supposed Messiah, has been killed and the Roman soldiers are arresting his followers. They are frightened, confused, hopes crushed but have just heard strange news that Jesus has been seen again. Unsure what to do, they are walking to the village of Emmaus. They are joined on the road by a stranger (It is Jesus but they do not recognise him) who, after listening to them and hearing their bewilderment at recent events and news, unfolds in scripture all that is said about the Messiah – and that there will be suffering prior to his resurrection and Kingdom being established.

Without the journey to Emmaus, the disciples would not have heard Jesus' teaching and understood God's plan for his creation. Without experiencing this period of deep winter, maybe I will not fully appreciate the spring. Without this Lockdown, maybe I will not have understood more fully the joy and value of simple acts of kindness and notes of encouragement sent to one another (something I will hopefully remember after Easter) and the deep joy that friendship, community and family relationships can

*Continued on page 5*

# 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
Shan Palmes	3 Dunstone Cottages Widecombe TQ13 7TH	01364 621573	-
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
St Andrews, Ashburton			
William West	Tawstock, Knowle Close, Ashburton TQ13 7RA	01364 652666	william1208west@me.com
Francis Parffrey	Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton TQ13 7EA	01364 654067	francis.parffrey@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

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

**BENEFACTICE 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 Parffrey	Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton TQ13 7EA	01364 654067	francis.parffrey@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)

bring. Talking on the telephone or by FaceTime and Zoom are not the same as meeting together in person but they have spurred me to be better engaged and more present with family, friends and neighbours when we do meet again.

These are small steps, I know. But recognising that God walks beside us on the journey - however bleak that journey seems at present - will be enough to carry us through. May his presence with you and the opportunities to learn from him this Lent prepare you for the joy and blessing of spring and Easter.

+Mark

## From the Registers

There are no register entries

# February



## 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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### Things to do in February...

- Check garden equipment
- Have a clear-out
- Weeding & digging
- Apply organic fertiliser
- Prune ...
- overgrown evergreens & hedges
- late flowering shrubs
- Mulch fruit trees
- Think about what help you might need soon!

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, Widcombe St John the Baptist, Leusdon St Gabriel, Postbridge	Sadly we have decided that there will be no services in Widcombe, Leusdon or Postbridge for the time being, due to our perception of greatly increased risk of the virus spreading at present.  Services for each week can be downloaded from our website <a href="http://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/servicetimes">www.moorlandteam.org.uk/servicetimes</a> by clicking on your church on the menu at the top of the screen.  Please contact Geoffrey Fenton - 01364 621334) or the Churchwardens to hear the latest information.

## Services in February

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](http://www.moorlandteam.org.uk) and Facebook pages, **The Ashburton and Moorland Team** <https://www.facebook.com/moorlandteam> and **Ashburton All Age Church** <https://www.facebook.com/Ashburtonallage>, for the latest updates.

## 'THE THINGS HE CARRIED'

### A Lent Course on Wednesdays 7.30-9pm via Zoom

17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	The Cross
24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	A crown of thorns and a seamless robe
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	His followers' disappointments
10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	The hopes of God
17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	The sins of the world
24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Our sorrows and a broken heart

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Based on the book written by Stephen Cottrell, the Archbishop of York.

More details to come.

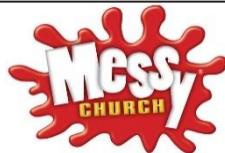
Please register your interest with Cassie, our Team Administrator

Email: [admin@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:admin@moorlandteam.org.uk) / 07445 240 133





# Messy Church News February 2021



We sent out by post an Envelope in January.

We also had a Zoom on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> at 5pm when we shared stories, sang along to some songs, and laughed as we tried the "The How Easy Test" which involved blindfolds gloves and sweets. Confusion and muddle!!

The story in January was Samson our very own Messy Hero who made loads of mistakes, but God still used him to free his people from a bullying and oppressive government that was ruling over his tribe.

## Samson a Messy Hero.

He was a miracle child and much loved by his parents. He was sent by God and his parents promised his life would be dedicated to God and he became a Nazarite (in our language a Monk who lives out in the world). He was to follow a special diet, not touch dead flesh and never cut his hair. His story is full of mistakes... breaking his promises, not doing what his parents told him to do, choosing bad friends, acting on impulse, revenge, and being proud of his God-given talent of being strong. All these actions led to him being in prison, blind and alone. He then called on God and said he was sorry. That was when God used him.

Here are some comments from parents and photos of children and the crafts that have been sent into me.



*"Tom absolutely loved getting his Messy Church parcel..... such excitement."*

*"I just thought you would like to see the enjoyment of the finished product and say the children enjoyed them."*

*"We are looking forward to seeing you on zoom."*



All best wishes to everyone during this long 3<sup>rd</sup> Lockdown. Jane

*Our vision is to protect and enhance the future of the Playpark in Holne, as a recreational facility for all members of the local community and visitors.*



Notice of Meeting (**all welcome including anyone wishing to help with anything in relation to the Playpark and/or to come on the committee – you do not need to be on the committee to help with events or maintenance days**)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the [10th] Annual General Meeting of Holne Playpark charity will be held via zoom on the 8 March 2021 to transact the following business. **(if you would like to attend please email [fleurpowell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fleurpowell@yahoo.co.uk) for more information)**

- (1) Present/apologies
- (2) Approve minutes from last meeting, and any carried forward issues
- (3) Finance Report
- (4) Chairman's report
- (5) Election of Trustees
  - To appoint Fleur Powell for the tenth year as Chair.
  - To re-appoint Mrs Hannah Best for a tenth year as Secretary.
  - To re-appoint – Treasurer – Lisa Gray
  - To re-appoint the following Officers:-
  - Mrs B Owen, Mrs S Hayles, Mrs Fran Wadia, Mr John Bellamy, Mrs Yvonne Fairman.
  - To appoint the following Officers:- Heidi Lewis
  - To remove the following Officer (due to retirement) – Mrs Lis Ross
- (6) Constitution – no change
- (7) Approve Privacy notice
- (8) Updates from Parish Council
- (9) Ongoing maintenance issues –
  - (a) Moles
  - (b) Wildflower area laid out yet
  - (c) Adult gym equipment project – have we had the installation date/installed yet.
  - (d) Were bird boxes ordered/installed yet?
  - (e) Earthwrights guarantee work – was the potential frayed rope on the basket swing fixed by them in December.
- (10) Any other business



# 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
7th February	-	
14th February	-	
21st February	-	
28th February	17:00	Holy Communion

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](mailto:gill@priddons.co.uk) 01364 631111 and Judy Le Marchant [judylemarchant@btinternet.com](mailto:judylemarchant@btinternet.com) 01364 644099.

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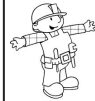


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on 01364 631323

or email [holnevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:holnevillagehall@gmail.com)

## HOLNE VILLAGE HALL SOUP & CHEESE LUNCH

**Lunches are cancelled  
until further notice**

## Whist Drives

are held in Holne Village Hall

**All Whist Drives are cancelled until  
further notice.**

## HOLNE VILLAGE HALL

At a recent review of the current status of the hall, the Committee have taken the decision that the hall will remain closed for the time being. This is because of the current and worsening corona virus pandemic.

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].



## Holne Second-Hand Books



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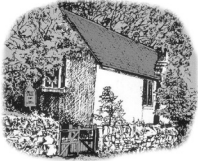
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# St Raphael, Huccaby

*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**

## Snowdrops of hope

Many know of the reputation of St. Raphael's for snowdrops. Snowdrops have long been the messengers of hope and the seasons; the darkest moments of winter passing and with life in the roots beneath the earth signalling that spring is imminent.

One of the most popularly documented stories surrounding the origins of snowdrops is a Christian creation tale. It tells of the moments following Adam and Eves exile from the Garden of Eden where, hopeless and dejected, they shiver as the snows swirl around them. An angel descends to relate to them that that Eden is no longer their privilege. Frightened and apprehensive Adam and Eve take each others hand and wander towards unfamiliar and cruel lands.

The angel feels deep sorrow so reaches out a hand where the soft snowflakes land in perfect twinkling crystals. He brings the snowflakes to his face and breathes upon them, transforming them into soft, pearly flowers. The first snowdrops! "Take these flowers", he said; "take them as sign of hope."

Whether you believe the many superstitions that surround the snowdrop or not, you cannot deny that they are messengers of hope - for the seasons and our future.

## St Raphael's Snowdrops 2021

Although the opportunities to leave home are now strictly limited, (only very local

*Continued on page 17*



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6 – 7.15pm & 7.30 – 8.45pm

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### **Thursday Mornings**

9.15 – 10.30am

10.45 – 11.45am (over 60's group)

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(Continued from page 15)

walks, cycles or runs avoiding crossing village boundaries to access green space allowed), God's creation thrives in other ways. The snowdrops at St. Raphael's are starting to bloom.

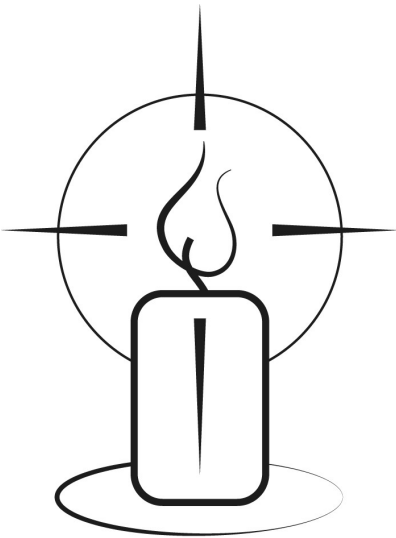
While this year, we cannot offer snowdrops in pots from the Chapel, we can make them available in other ways.

If you would like to add some beauty to your garden or give someone a gift, just email [straphael1868@gmail.com](mailto:straphael1868@gmail.com) with the approximate number of pots required. (We have 1,000 available in separate pots.)

For a donation, usually suggested at £1 per pot, we will put the snowdrops aside for you. When it is safe to travel, you can collect your pots and make your donation.

You will be planting hope for this year and importantly supporting the maintenance and upkeep of St Raphael's.

*Gillian*



**LENT**



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## Pottery Classes with Kate Lyons-Miller

I have recently been able to re-start my pottery classes at Holwell Studio, Widecombe in the Moor. Very small groups of 2/3, masks are worn and we do all we can to be Covid aware.

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.

The sessions run on **Thursday, Friday and Saturdays, 10-12.30, or 2.00-5.00, and cost £20.00**, which includes first firing and basic materials, and of course, tea/coffee and biscuits, potters essentials. There is more information on my website, [www.katelyonsmiller.com](http://www.katelyonsmiller.com)

I'm very happy to say that I have just been selected as a member of The Devon Guild of Craftsmen at Bovey Tracey.



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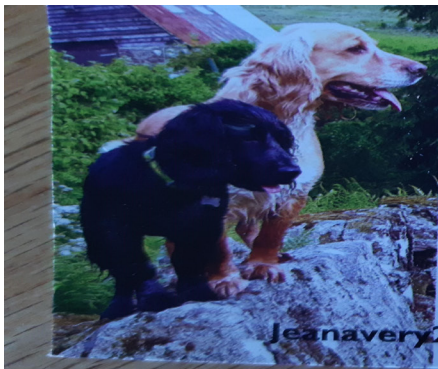
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### Jean Avery

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Halshanger, Ashburton,  
Newton Abbot. TQ13 7JA.

**07561259307**

[Jeanavery2010@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Jeanavery2010@hotmail.co.uk)



# 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
7th February	-	-
14th February	-	-
21st February	-	-
28th February	-	-

**The church 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.**

## 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 <a href="mailto:geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk">geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk</a>
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

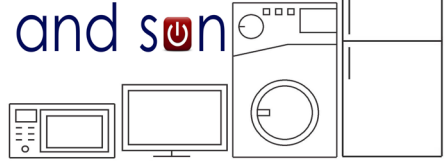
*Do keep safe! And do keep in touch – phone someone every day!*

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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.**

## Leusdon Memorial Hall

Happy new Year, let's hope normality returns this year sometime.

I would just like to update you on what has been happening during lock down at Leusdon Memorial Hall.

We were fortunate to be awarded a grant from DNPA for the purpose of making the Hall Covid secure. We are very grateful to DNPA for awarding this and for their help and advice in processing the application. A comprehensive risk assessment was carried out and we shall be ready to open as soon it becomes safe enough to do so, at the beginning this might be for very limited events.

*Continued on page 23*



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**Mobile: 07968 320131**

[bryan@roguesroost.co.uk](mailto:bryan@roguesroost.co.uk)

[www.roguesroost.co.uk](http://www.roguesroost.co.uk)



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*Carol is a fully qualified Human Givens practitioner, and a member of the British Complementary Medical Association*

*(Continued from page 21)*

We have had an asbestos survey completed and legionella risk assessment undertaken, as a result of these surveys there is some plumbing work to be completed, this was (hopefully) completed week commencing 18th January.

We were able to arrange a Remembrance Day commemoration at the Hall on the 8th November. Members of the committee and a few others were able to attend abiding by the guidelines we had drawn up, thanks to Rev Geoffrey Fenton and Patrick Simpson who officiated at this event.

The PAT testing of all portable electrical equipment was completed in November.

We have been liaising with Rob Steemson regarding rehearsals of the Moorland Merrymakers Panto, hopefully these will commence as soon as it is safe to do so.

We took part in the Christmas decoration drive through in aid of the new hall at Widecombe and received many positive comments.

We have been doing regular checks on the Defibrillator and checking the Hall at least twice a week. The bureaucracy attached to running a hall is quite time consuming and I would like to thank all members of the committee who have helped to complete these tasks.

As we look forward to the future I would like to assure you that the committee are intending to bring back all our regular activities eg Coffee mornings, Whist, Afternoon teas as soon as it is safe to do so. We would also welcome suggestions for other activities.

Thank you all for your continuing support and I hope to see you all soon.

Kind regards

*John Southcombe*

for Leusdon Memorial Hall  
Charity no.300887



## 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 <a href="mailto:geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk">geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk</a>
DFPC Covid 19 Support Volunteers	01822 258549 (Steve Cox)
Postbridge Stores	01822 880201 Food, veg, etc

### Useful web sites:

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

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

## Princetown History Club

A new programme has been created for 2021, starting with talks and an AGM held by “Zoom” and returning to the Community Centre as soon as possible.

Feb 2nd - AGM by Zoom

Mar 2nd - A talk by Claude Williams on “Abovetown Fields” via Zoom

Apr 6th - A talk by Terry Faulk on “Holy Wells of Cornwall” via Zoom

May 4th - A talk by Barbie Thompson on “George McGrath, Princetown’s forgotten surgeon” via Zoom

Jun 1st - A walk around Moretonhampstead, with Gary Cox

Jul 6th - Exploration of Yennadon Down, with Liz Miall (or Simon Dell)

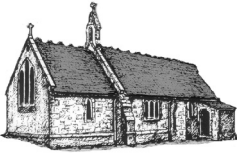
Aug 3rd - A visit to Whiteworks, with Andy Crabb, DNPA archeologist.

Sep 7th - A talk on “Stone Men” (hopefully back in the Community Centre) by Paul Rendell

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

*or email [jlissenden@talktalk.net](mailto:jlissenden@talktalk.net) Web Site: [princetownhistoryclub.weebly.com](http://princetownhistoryclub.weebly.com)*





# St Gabriel, Postbridge

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

**Church Services - see Page 26 for details**

**The church 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.**

## Postbridge Coffee Mornings

Hopefully we will be able to resume our Coffee Mornings later this year.

I think by now most of us will have received our first vaccination [showing our age] so lets hope it will not to long before we will be out of lockdown.

*Maureen*

## 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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# Church Services for February 2021

## 7th February 2nd before Lent Green

Readings - Proverbs 8:1, 22-31; Psalm 104:26-27; Colossians 1:15-20; John 1:1-14

Bickington	09:00	Holy Communion
Ashburton	10:30	Family Service & Facebook live stream

## 14th February Next Before Lent Green

Readings - 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Ashburton	08:00	Holy Communion
Online	10:30	United Service for Valentine's Day

## 21st February Lent 1 Purple

Readings - Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-9; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

Online	09:00	Sundays@9am
Ashburton	10:30	Parish Communion
Buckland	15:00	Holy Communion

## 28th February Lent 2 Purple

Readings - Genesis 14:17-20; Psalm 128; Revelation 19:6-10; John 2:1-11

Online	09:00	Breakfast Church
Ashburton	10:30	Parish Communion
Holne	17:00	Holy Communion

## 7th March Lent 3 Purple

Readings - Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

Bickington	09:00	Holy Communion
Ashburton	10:30	Family Service & Online

**These are the services planned for February, 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 3rd February	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 10th February	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 17th February	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 24th February	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 3rd March	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 - February 2021

		Page
17th	Start of Lent Course	8

		Page
24th	Lent Course	8



# Clear Decorators

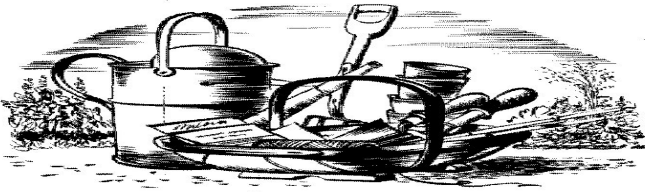
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**Valentine's Day**

**Sunday**

**14th February**



## 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

## High Moorland Women's Institute Princetown



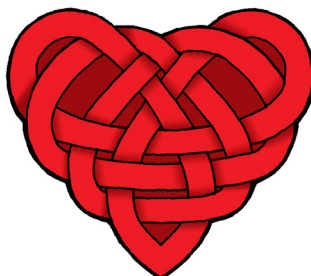
If you would like to be a part of a hugely respected organisation, come along to one of our monthly meetings for a taster to see if WI is for you. We meet on the **first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Community Centre small hall Princetown.** It will cost you £3. You are welcome to attend two 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](mailto:hellyhtsn@hotmail.com) or follow us on Facebook: High Moorland Women's Institute.

## Rainfall in December 2020

Place	Total Rainfall	Days without rain	Wettest Days
Postbridge	324.3 mm (12.8")	2	18th 56.0 mm (2.2")
	(December 2019 - 276.5 mm (10.9"))		
	Total Rainfall for 2020: 2083.1 mm (82.2")		
	Total Rainfall for 2019: 2043.8 mm (80.5")		





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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**

Date	Time	Service
7th February	-	-
14th February	-	-
21st February	-	-
28th February	-	-

**The church 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.**

## 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<br><a href="mailto:geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk">geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk</a> |
| Widecombe Isolation Support Network | 01364 621287 Between 4 and 7 pm  |
| Widecombe Post Office               | 01364 621347 Basic food and veg  |

### Useful web sites:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <a href="https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/w">https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/w</a>                 | A short cut to Widecombe Church page, including links to the weekly Sunday Service and the latest Link Magazine |
| <a href="https://widecombe-in-the-moor.com/support">https://widecombe-in-the-moor.com/support</a> | 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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**All Widecombe & District History Group meetings are cancelled until further notice.**

Contact: Helen Barrow - [helenagsec@gmail.com](mailto:helenagsec@gmail.com) or  
Rosemary Mortimore - 01364 631238



## Three-bedroom house for affordable rent in Widcombe

Widcombe-in-the-Moor Church House and Lands Charity has a three-bedroom house for affordable rent at 4 Church Cottages, Dunstone.

The property is being worked on at present, but the charity hopes it will be available early March.

At this stage, the charity is seeking expressions of interest from anyone who might be interested in applying for a tenancy at that time.

If you are interested, please email the charity's clerk ([david.thomas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:david.thomas@hotmail.co.uk)) with your full name, address and contact details - indicating briefly why you need a house (1) with three bedrooms (2) at an affordable rent (3) in Widcombe.

### 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 time has come....or so we think,  
To thank you all...via virtual link!  
Our usual mag, has been suspended,  
But not even covid...means its ended!  
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Thanks once again, for gifts we received,  
Good-bye 2020!....we're all much relieved***

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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](mailto: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/](http://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](http://www.widecombepreschool.org.uk)



## The History of the Air crashes on Hamel Down during the Second World War

During our research into the tragic loss of a number of our Airplanes which crashed on Hamel Down during the 2nd World War, we have uncovered some fascinating data which are of interest to us.

This story is about the B24 Liberator bombers and the heroic 36th Squadron of the USAAF. The planes were used for the dangerous mission of getting supplies to our agents in occupied France and as a result the planes were painted completely black. It took 500lbs of black paint to cover each plane.

- The operation was called “Carpetbagger” and the USAAF encouraged the crew to name their planes. Some of the names used by the 36th Squadron were as follows: *Heavens Above, Vagabond King, Old Blister Butt, Fightin Sam, The flying Box Car, Chattanooga Choochoo, Memphis Belle, Blonds Away, Strawberry Bitch, Uninvited, Ruthless Ruthie, Shady Lady.*
- The B24 which crashed on Hamel down on 26th December 1943, on a final training flight, prior to participating in operations from January 1944 onwards was named “Slightly Dangerous”
- The crew of our B24 were training for an operation which was deemed to begin in January 1944 but, on a final training flight on 26th December 1943 in bad weather, she crashed on Hamel Down with the loss of all 8 crew members.



***Black B24 Bomber named “Misfits”***

David Ashman. Widecombe History Group.

## “The man who never was?”

In conversation over Christmas lunch with my family, my son-in-law shared three photographs with me of submarines. He had found the “photos” in a charity shop and thought that they might be of interest.



*HMS Seraph*



*HMS Seraph crew with “Jolly Roger” 1943*

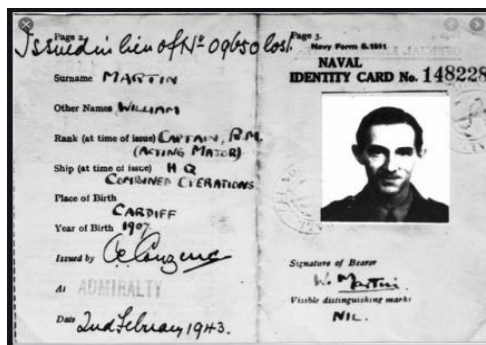
The first photograph was of HMS Seraph which was taken on 25th December 1943 when she had just returned to Portsmouth after 10 months patrolling the Mediterranean. The “Jolly Roger” flag was flown by the crew to commemorate a successful deployment.

My research showed that in April 1943 HMS Seraph had been in the UK for a refit but was now making her way back to the Mediterranean to recommence her war patrol. She was ordered to participate in the top secret “Operation Mincemeat”. The operation was a plan to mislead German intelligence regarding the date and location of the proposed allied invasion of southern Europe from North Africa. The plan was masterminded in London by Naval Intelligence officers, including Ian Fleming (Author of James Bond books). The origins of the plan are believed to have been based on a novel written in 1909 by the Governor of Dartmoor Prison.

The plan involved slipping a dead body over the side of the submarine off the Spanish coast close enough for the body to be found and brought to the attention of the German authorities. The body had been provided with false information about the forthcoming invasion plans in an elaborate subterfuge.

*Continued on page 38*

(Continued from page 37)

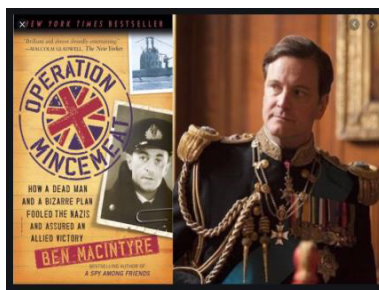


**Identity card provided for “fake”  
Major William Martin.RM**



The plan was a complete success and when in July 1943 our forces landed on Sicily they were opposed by comparatively light defences.

In 1954 a book giving a full account of the whole operation was written by Ewen Montague one of the two men who had planned the whole operation. The book was entitled “The man who never was” two years later it was made into a film starring Clifford Webb and Gloria Grahame.



In 2021 a new version of the story has been filmed entitled “Operation Mincemeat” and stars Colin Firth and Matthew Macfadyen. Several scenes from the new film were filmed in Devon.

### Footnote:

The “Jolly Roger” flag which was shown in the 1943 picture (detailed above) was retained by a crew member as a souvenir and was eventually sold in November 2013 at auction for £14,000.



Next month we will the story of the enemy “beaver” class submarines.

David Ashman, Widecombe History Group

## Moorland Community Care Group

Moorland Community Care Group (<http://mccg.org.uk/>) have a wonderful choice of ten different activities happening every week that are open to everyone. Like other social groups it has sadly not been possible to meet in person, so we're getting people together over the phone.

People often ask us how it works. It may well sound strange, but it definitely does! Callers say, "*Things are taking a turn for the better!*" "*Absolutely brilliant, I'm really getting a lot from it.*" Here's a flavour of what happens on our calls if you, or someone you know might like to join us.

Every Tuesday we take a trip down Memory Lane. Sometimes we are a handful, sometimes we are a gang. We laugh a lot, the odd tear has been shed. Just the other day we were told of a wedding cake that had been specially made for a friend's daughter, only to be eaten by the dog just before the wedding.

Quizzers Quiz is on a Thursday morning. Even though you can't see our Quiz Master he's always turned out in a full dress suit. Questions range from local knowledge, to global (we now know that China produces the world's largest apple crop for example), from the straight forward (who killed Cock Robin?) to the 'take a guess' (what is the biggest selling flavour of Walkers crisps?).

There's something for everyone including crosswords, seated exercise, classical music appreciation, poetry, wellbeing and relaxation and no programme would be complete without a game of Bingo - with prizes!

Dial in for a sociable atmosphere any day of the week at 11am and 2.30pm for 45 minutes. With a day time call plan the calls are free. To find out more, or request a programme in the post, call Sara or Suzy on **01364 712013** (note - the calls are on another number).

*Sara Hurley, Wellbeing Coordinator*

I know that the Moorland Helpline is supporting quite a few members of our communities, and I would encourage you to join them if you are feeling at all lonely at this time. It's a great service. Do contact Suzie or Sara to join up!

If this is not for you, do think whether any of your neighbours might benefit from it? Maybe you could suggest it to them?

It so happens that if you have joined them before the 15th February, you will have  
*Continued on page 44*

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For more details please see our website :  
<http://scoritonvillagehall.org/>





## Dunstone & Poundsgate Methodist Chapels

Ministers: Rev'd Kevin Hooke (01626) 832369

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

### Sunday Service

We continue to hold an informal and friendly service via Zoom at  
9am every Sunday.

For login and phone in details please contact Serena Walcot by phone  
on **01364 631279**.

You will be most welcome.

### Bible Study Group

We hold a bible study group via Zoom every Thursday evening at 6pm.  
We are just about to commence the study of Acts and welcome your involvement.  
Please contact Serena Walcot on **01364 631279** for Zoom login and phone in  
details.



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## News from Ashburton, Dunstone and Poundsgate Methodist Churches

All three of the local Methodist Churches send their greetings and love. Currently, our position is not to meet face-to-face for worship, in order to minimise the risk of transmission and to honour and protect the work of the NHS. We will of course continue to review the situation. However, the life of the Churches continues and you are welcome to join us. Please email me at the email address below for the logins for any of our Zoom events.

At Poundsgate, our monthly Zoom service continues on the first Sunday at 3pm. This means that on February 7th we will have an interview with Bill Allen from Dartmoor National Park, whilst on March 7th we will be joined by Chloe Axford, who will talk about her role as the Diocesan Communications Officer. We post a version of the service on the Ashburton All Age YouTube channel for those unable to access Zoom.

At Dunstone, there is a weekly informal service at 9am on a Sunday, and a bible fellowship on a Thursday at 6pm, both via Zoom.

At Ashburton, our Sunday pattern is more varied, but this month we will be sharing in the United online service for Valentine's Day on 14th, and will then have pre-recorded Moor Church and Breakfast Church services at 9am on 21st and 28th respectively, again posted on Youtube and Facebook. On Sunday mornings we always meet for after-worship coffee via Zoom, as well as having a bible conversation on Mondays at 4pm, and morning prayer on Wednesdays at 10am. We do other things as well - including acting as a lead partner in a community growing project - so if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please let us know.

With best wishes as ever,

Kevin

[hookekp@hotmail.com](mailto:hookekp@hotmail.com)

## Listening Ear

Have you had to close because of lockdown? Maybe you're having to adapt your business model for what seems like the hundredth time since March? Maybe you're struggling with reduced staff, or trying to run a business while homeschooling?

Running a business is stressful at the best of times. Running a business during a pandemic is even harder. Listening Ear is a new service for Devon businesses that offers people a safe space to chat about those challenges.

We're not here to offer business advice; we're here to provide a friendly, impartial listening ear so you can talk about whatever you feel you need to. Our experienced volunteers will provide a supportive ear and will also be able to signpost you to other services if you need them.

Your wellbeing is important to both your health and your work life. Talking to one of our Listening Ear volunteers is a way for you to prioritise your mental wellbeing, especially when you may not feel comfortable talking to your friends and family about things.

If you would like to find out more about talking to our Listening Ear volunteers please visit [www.devoncommunities.org.uk/projects/listening-ear](http://www.devoncommunities.org.uk/projects/listening-ear),

contact [info@devoncommunities.org.uk](mailto:info@devoncommunities.org.uk)

or call **01392 248919**.

*(Continued from page 39)*

the opportunity to hear me (by phone) give a talk about Widecombe Church on that afternoon (with questions afterwards), and another about Leusdon and Postbridge the following week – but to listen you will need to be given the Moorland Helpline phone number and PIN number by them.

I'm very much looking forward to taking part with this great group.

*Geoffrey*

## Other Community News & Events



### Resident Voluntary Assistant

The Shallowford Trust is recruiting **Resident Voluntary Assistants**, to join our team from mid-April 2021 for 6 months to work alongside existing staff at an exciting time in the development of this charity.

The Shallowford Trust works with disadvantaged young people and families as residential and day visitors, delivering programmes of educational farm and outdoor learning.

We are looking for candidates who are adaptable and resilient, ready for a challenge and supportive of the ethos and values of the Shallowford Trust.

The successful candidates will live and work on location at East Shallowford Farm, Widecombe in the Moor, Devon TQ13 7PW.

For a full post description and application form please email: [julia@shallowfordfarm.co.uk](mailto:julia@shallowfordfarm.co.uk)

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## News from the East Shallowford Trust

As I type the weather is truly foul. Proper glyb, as they might say in Cornwall! You have to be a person of faith to live on the moors. Faith that the mizzle will not actually enter your bones, faith that the heaving soaked walls will stay up, faith that the chickens hunkering down to avoid the draughts will survive their own lockdown and faith that the sun will eventually poke it's way through the clouds to smile benevolently once again on us sodden landed creatures.

We have relied heavily on faith at Shallowford. Having agreed to convert the wonderful old barn that could be anything from two to four hundred years old, it was only slightly disappointing when the builders dug out the inside to underpin and level the floor. We eagerly sifted through the soil that was carefully extracted by Hicky chugging with his digger. Would there be some curious bones, treasure that someone had lost or hidden? Carefully Hicky dug. Carefully and diligently we poked, toed and prodded the soil. Nothing..... not a dropped penny or an old chicken bone! Those ancient moorlanders were clearly keen to keep their assets!

She is a beauty though. I feel very sad that there is no record of the fantastic stone mason(s) who built that barn. Yes, one section has fallen down and was replaced by some very ugly cement blocks probably when cement blocks were a new invention.



But the walls remain upright, now green with that clinging, fighting life of Dartmoor lichen and strange algae and fungus that pervades every crack. The stone walls of the old barn are solid, beautiful and tell of a craft and skill, of muscles that must have ached with effort. Of hands that must have been tougher than pig leather with lime

*Continued on page 47*

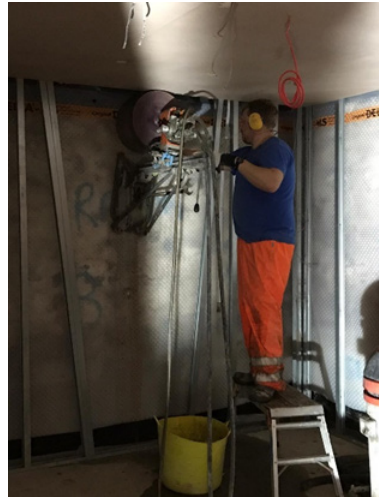
*(Continued from page 46)*

mortar that nestles and safely binds those thoughtfully placed rocks. Big rocks all the way up. As the current builders say, 'Don't know how the hell they got those big stones all the way up there?' Truly, the skill that was needed to create the height and breadth of the barn is something to be admired.

What would those men (for the surely could not have been women?) have said if they knew that their animal and hay barn was now to be used for children from cities, who don't know the difference between hay and straw or that milk genuinely comes from a cow? The lift for people with mobility difficulties might have amused them, or the diamond cutter that has made in one hour a perfect circular hole for an extractor fan for the kitchen. That was a bit sad – making a hole in the wall, but it can be filled again should the barn ever take on another reincarnation.

It's warm inside – so warm, that it's rather tempting to just hunker down and watch the wind rattling through the stark dank grass outside. Lovely new windows providing that barrier between the harsh outside and the man-made warmth of a controlled temperature.

The builders think they may be finished in six weeks. We have given them a few extra jobs. The two cobbled rooms at the south end of the barn will now be converted carefully into a downstairs disabled toilet, a washroom and the room next door will become the dining room.



The cobbled floor has been carefully retained, the walls in some places will be white washed and the heating – well..... We have had to compromise at the end of the barn. Some ugly wall heaters, but at least the rooms can be warmed!



*Continued on page 48*

(Continued from page 47)

We need to be ready for opening in May! My main job now is to fund raise. We need £41,000 to buy bunk beds, a sofa, the remaining kitchen fittings, sheets, towels, plates, pay for the toilet and new sinks that were not in the original tender and of course some washing machines, dryers..... and so the list goes on. Can we do it all in time? The builders are securing the last of the items to ensure the one bathroom will pass all the certifications for the 'Doc M Pack' – meaning the grab rails and wall seats needed to enable wheelchair user access. We will have to buy some special mats for the wheelchairs to pass over the cobbles, but it's possible. Modern ingenuity meets ancient moorland. We will find a way!.

In the meantime, three saddlebacks have farrowed in one week, all snuggly and warm and we have to keep planning. We need to recruit some new team members. Please if you know anyone who might be interested, send them our way as we need to have people trained and ready for the groups to return. We just hope that the primary school children from Plymouth can come in June. They are such fun and seeing their faces light up with all the animals, becoming connoisseurs of the different smells and learning to deal diligently with the muck by day two – leaving it outside our wonderful newly refurbished barn of course!! Nearly there!! Can we win the race to be ready in time? Just funding now..... faith and prayers needed!!



Julia

[www.shallowfordfarm.co.uk](http://www.shallowfordfarm.co.uk)





## Yelverton Rotary Club – February News Update

Our thanks go to the shoppers at Yelverton who generously donated almost £600 to our Christmas charitable collection using our new, Covid-safe, collecting stand- alone bin. Some of this generosity must have been a 'sympathy vote' as the weather was awful on both days. Several donors also expressed their thanks for the music provided by our sleigh which had eased the drudgery of the hour-long queue for the butcher's shop.

We have noticed that the quality of the tapes being played in the machine in the sleigh has somewhat deteriorated over the years and we will be considering the replacement of the ageing tape player. If anyone has an old, but working, car CD player that they'd like to donate please get in touch.

Since the last report we've had an on-line Bingo evening and a very wide-ranging General Knowledge quiz. Our Christmas dinner was replaced by a Zoom cocktail party where we all learned how to make a White Lady and then tried to complete a 'missing words' story with car name answers. Most turned up dressed for a cocktail party – at least from the waist up – with many bow ties and dinner jackets on view, and the ladies similarly attired.

At present we're not sure what our events programme is going to look like for the coming year but we are currently planning on holding our August school holiday Fun Day on the Harrowbeer airfield. The speed and effectiveness of the vaccination programme will determine whether we are able to hold our annual Easter Tea Party for the older residents of our community but we will put in place provisional arrangements for this.

Our meetings plan is filling up for the year ahead, this month we have a talk on Mercy Ships (fully staffed and equipped moveable floating hospitals) and a 'look-back' quiz for 2020.

As the Covid vaccination programme begins to take hold later in the year, and the restrictions begin to ease, we hope to be out and about much more with our usual activities and events.

To find out more about Yelverton Rotary Club:

See our website: [www.yelverton.rotary1175.org](http://www.yelverton.rotary1175.org)

Or contact us at: [president@yelverton.rotary1175.org](mailto:president@yelverton.rotary1175.org)

## ***Contacting the Editorial Team***

Email items for inclusion or any other queries to: [link@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:link@moorlandteam.org.uk)

For items sent by post please use the following addresses:

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**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***

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Holne Garden Group

Holne Parish Council

Holne Second-Hand Books

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Postbridge Village Hall

Princetown History Society

Various anonymous donations

Widcombe Church House Committee

Widcombe Fair Committee

Widcombe History Group

Widcombe Ladies Social Group

Widcombe Parish Council

Widcombe Sports Group

The rainfall record reminds us that December was wet, and we know that January has been, if anything, even wetter. And it's quite likely February will continue this trend. So there's not much incentive for being outside with weather like this. Not to mention the requirement to stay at home during the Lockdown. So we strongly recommend sitting dry and warm in front of the fire and reading the Link!

It's a delight this month to have so much to read and ponder on in this edition. Stories of the wartime, life at Shallowford, snowdrops at Huccaby. And then there's lots of information about community resources, including two new ones that you may not be aware of. Moorland Community Care on page 39 is a great organisation that is helping isolated people keep in touch with each other. And then there's a new Devon County service called Listening Ear (page 44) which anyone running a business which is struggling at the moment can use to talk through their problems.

And if you're looking to move into Widecombe (or you know someone who is), there's an ad about the Church House and Lands Charity looking for a new tenant for one its Dunstone Cottages (page 32) – a rare occasion to apply for a home at affordable rent.

Finally, if you've enjoyed reading the Link, do tell other people about it, and if they can't access it online, please let us know and we will post a printed copy to them.

*From all of us at the Link*

### ***Parish Link Advertising Costs***

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***Please contact the Editorial Team for information and availability of advertising space at [link@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:link@moorlandteam.org.uk)***

### ***Final Copy Deadline***

*for the **March 2021** edition of the Link will be **Sunday 21st February***

*but please send as early as you can by email.*

*Next issue available on **Friday 26th February***

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