

# Moorland Parish Link



## January 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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Happy New Year!

With Christmas behind us, for me the New Year starts for real as the old 2020 Calendar is taken down from the kitchen wall and replaced with the new 2021 Calendar. Having enjoyed the photos for a year, I am loathe to throw the old calendar out, but generally it ends up in the recycling bin. This annual ritual is like renouncing the Old Year – phew, I'm glad to get rid of 2020, let's replace it with 2021.

This New Year there's perhaps more depth to wanting to get rid of 2020, and to look forward to a brand-new year for things to come right in. To go to that wedding that's been put on hold, to start meeting again in groups and societies, to move from virtual meetings with friends and family to having real meetings. These things will feel new, will be a real new beginning, even if they have just been postponed or they're just what we are familiar with.

They really will feel new. They will feel fresh and exciting. I look forward to the first Coffee Morning where I can simply sit down next to someone with a piece of cake and a cup of tea and have a good natter. It will feel like new because it's been so long since the last Coffee Morning. It will be the same sort of new-ness that pristine white snowdrops and nodding yellow daffodils have when they pop up again in the spring. Spring flowers are welcomed for their new-ness, but like an old calendar, they then pass away.

New-ness or novelty is often like this, an old and worn-out model being replaced with a new one – a new car, a new washing machine, a new dress. The hope and expectation of new things coming give a real boost, a lifting of the spirits – “I'm so looking forward to it.” And, in this sense, it's the hoped for renewal of the familiar “normal” that gives January 2021 a more special feeling than most New Years.

For we know what we're missing! And yet the tough year just passed has also had many new and creative aspects, not least the way in which social media have come to the rescue with streaming and meetings and on-line chats. And it's been great to see the new ways in which our communities have come together to support the vulnerable and isolated. Times of crisis are often very creative, bringing a clearer vision of what's needed and more incentive to get on with it.

# Churchwardens

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

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

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

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

# Moorland Team Officers

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

# Church News & Events

*(Continued from page 3)*

And times of crisis often lead to a deeper, personal desire to find a new and better way of living, with more awareness of the spiritual side of life – the part that can get lost in normal, every-day life. Many people have developed an awareness of the need for deeper roots to sustain them through the Covid crisis, leading them to be more aware of how other people are also suffering, and what can be done to help. A fuller recognition of our love for our neighbour, as Jesus desired.

There's nothing new in Jesus' message – to love God, and to love our neighbour – it's been found to be a life-giving message for two thousand years. And it couldn't be more relevant in these troubled times for people seeking spiritual peace and a better community spirit. Putting self aside and looking upwards and outwards – it's the secret of life.

So, as the wrappings and trappings of Christmas 2020 are wheeled away in our recycling bins, and the New Year begins in earnest, may I wish you a Happy New Year. May all the good things we have to look forward to, and the expected end of the crisis that that is Covid-19, bring some peace and joy into your hearts and your neighbours' hearts.

*With every blessing for 2021 Geoffrey*

## From the Registers

Funeral	Leusdon	7th December	Ena Smerdon
---------	---------	--------------	-------------

### **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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**A few things to do in January**

- A big 'Thank You' to all the Robins who have kept me company this winter!
  - Spread organic matter
  - Prune: wisteria & shape trees
  - Service garden machinery
  - Check tree ties & stakes
  - Plant deciduous hedging plants
- Happy New Year! Andy

## Churches Open

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

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

## Services in January

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** and **Ashburton All Age Church**, for the latest updates.

### Wednesdays:

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

### Sundays:

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

Other online resources from the benefice include:

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

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For more information or to book  
email [scoritonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:scoritonvillagehall@gmail.com)

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





# St Mary the Virgin, Holne

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

**Church Services - see Page 24 for details**

Date	Time	Service
3rd January	-	
10th January	17:00	Evening Prayer
17th January	09:00	At Huccaby
24th January	-	
31st January	10:30	Candlemas United Benefice Service Online

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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## 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].



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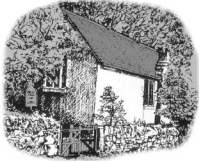
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# St Raphael, Huccaby

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

**Church Services - see Page 24 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**

## St Raphael's as a place of sanctuary

The concept of sanctuary predates Christianity, going back at least as far as Greek and Roman temples that offered protection to fugitives. In medieval Europe, you could escape the death penalty by claiming sanctuary in a church.

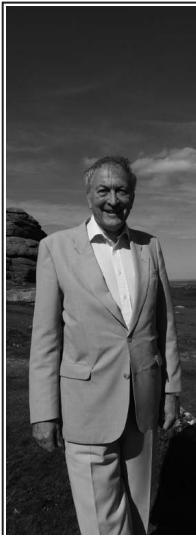
So, passing St. Raphael's just before Christmas, I could see smoke coming from the chimney. Although the Chapel has been open for many months, the stove had not been lit since the first lockdown. Investigation was required!

Outside the Chapel porch various camping paraphernalia were strewn on the bench and a dog was lying down asleep while the owner was attempting to get a mobile phone signal. He immediately apologised and asked if it was OK for two others to be inside St. Raphael's. On the way in he again apologised this time for the mess inside. On entering many bags, sacks, poles etc. were indeed scattered around the stove and pews. Apparently, two wild campers had spent the night inside.

The first words uttered inside by my 'host' were "**I'm proud to be a Christian**". To be honest I was a little taken aback. Not many people open a conversation with those words. He explained that while he didn't know the two campers, he had seen them the previous cold and wet night. He had some kindling with him so lit the Church stove to keep them warm. (His dog had his own rug next to the fire – so must have kept warm too!)

He said he would get them to 'tidy up' before they left, and he really appreciated a Church being open to offer refuge and shelter. As he referred to it as a 'place of safety', I could only speculate a former profession.

*Continued on page 15*



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(Continued from page 13)

Fifteen minutes later I saw two men bathing naked in the West Dart river near Huccaby Bridge – and I guessed who they were.

Next day I returned to find the pilgrim, (as I had now named him), packing up his belongings. He had remained a further night, relit the fire and the other men had left. The stove was clean, ashes gone, and carpets brushed with Annie's broom from the porch.

When I thanked him and told him why I was there – to erect the Christmas tree ready for the virtual Carol service - he volunteered to stay and assist.

A heart-warming, spiritual end to a somewhat difficult year.

## Preparing for 2021



We are looking to improve all our communications this year. Is there anything you would like to see and read from St Raphael's and the Benefice? Please do not hesitate to contact Tony on [anthonyfp999@gmail.com](mailto:anthonyfp999@gmail.com) or [admin@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:admin@moorlandteam.org.uk)

*Gillian*



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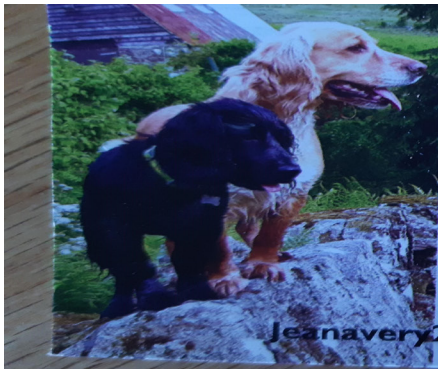
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[Jeanavery2010@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Jeanavery2010@hotmail.co.uk)

★ January ★





# St John the Baptist, Leusdon

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

**Church Services - see Page 24 for details**

Date	Time	Service
3rd January	-	
10th January	-	
17th January	-	
24th January		
31st January	10:30	Candlemas United Benefice Service Online

## 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](mailto:geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk)

Widcombe Isolation Support Network

01364 621287 Between 4 and 7 pm

Widcombe 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://widcombe-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!*

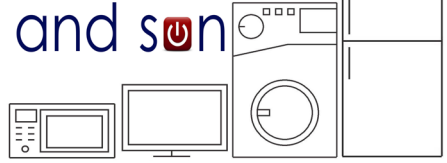


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## Coffee Morning and Stalls

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

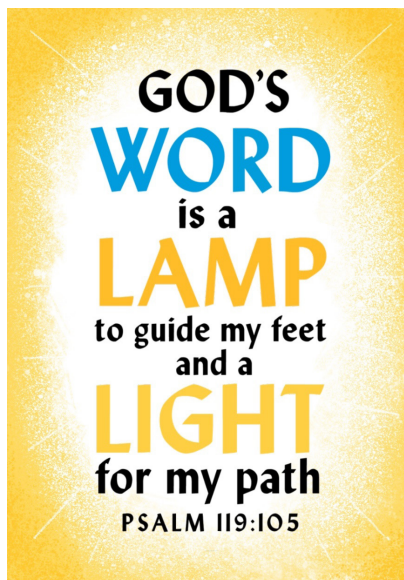
The Hall can take up to 100 people for functions or events. Inside there is a large, well equipped kitchen with plenty of worktop space.

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.

## 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](mailto: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>

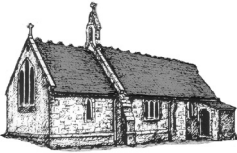
A short cut to Postbridge Church page, including links to the weekly Sunday Service and the latest Link Magazine

<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!*





# St Gabriel, Postbridge

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

**Church Services - see Page 24 for details**

Date	Time	Service
10th January	09:00	Holy Communion
24th January	18:00	Evening Prayer
31st January	10:30	Candlemas United Benefice Service Online

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

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

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

## Food Donations Box

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

**Please pass the word.**

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



## Postbridge Whist Drives - Held in the Village Hall

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



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

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

Tel: 01822 880224

## Princetown History Club

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.

Jan 5th A talk by Zoom: Simon Dell on "The Dartmoor Georgian Improvers"

Feb 2nd AGM by Zoom

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)

## 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.



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 November 2020

Place	Total Rainfall	Days without rain	Wettest Days
Postbridge	148.9 mm (5.9")	5	2nd 20.6 mm (0.8")
	(November 2019 - 260.0 mm (10.2"))		
Holne	200.2 mm (7.8")		1st 31.5 mm (1.24")



# Church Services for January 2021

## 3rd January Epiphany White

Readings - Jeremiah 31:7-14 or Sirach 24:1-12; Psalm 147:13-21 or Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:[1-9] 10-18

Widcombe	10:30	All Age Service	GF	Ashburton	08:00	Holy Communion
				Ashburton	10:30	Christingle
				Bickington	16:00	Christingle

## 10th January Baptism of Christ White

Readings - Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

Postbridge	09:00	Holy Communion	GF	Ashburton	09:00	Sundays@9am
Widcombe	10:30	Parish Communion	GF	Ashburton	10:30	Parish Communion
				Holne	17:00	Evening Prayer

## 17th January Epiphany 2 White

Readings - 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]; Psalm 139:1-5, 12-18; Revelation 5:1-10; John 1:43-51

Widcombe	10:30	Parish Communion	GF	Ashburton	09:00	Sundays@9am
				Huccaby	09:00	Holy Communion
				Ashburton	10:30	Parish Communion

## 24th January Epiphany 3 White

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

Widcombe	10:30	Parish Communion	GF	Online	09:00	Breakfast Church
Postbridge	18:00	Evening Prayer	GF	Ashburton	10:30	Parish Communion
				Buckland	15:00	Holy Communion

## 31st January Epiphany 4 White

Readings - Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; Revelation 12:1-5a; Mark 1:21-28

Widcombe	10:30	Parish Communion	GF	Ashburton	08:00	Holy Communion
				Online	10:30	Candlemas United Benefice Service

## 7th February 2nd before Lent Green

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

Widcombe	10:30	All Age Service	GF	Bickington	09:00	Holy Communion
				Ashburton	10:30	Family Service

**These are the services planned for January, 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 6th January	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 13th January	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 20th January	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 27th January	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 3rd February	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 - January 2021

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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



# St Pancras, Widecombe-in-the-Moor

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

**Church Services - see Page 24 for details**

Date	Time	Service
3rd January	10:30	All-Age Service
10th January	10:30	Parish Communion
17th January	10:30	Parish Communion
24th January	10:30	Parish Communion
31st January	10:30	Parish Communion
31st January	10:30	Candlemas United Benefice Service Online

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

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

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

### Widecombe Church House Management

**Committee** Chairman - Mike Pascoe

To book the Hall please contact Rose Mortimore 01364 631238.

#### Rates of Hire (Local Events)

Daytime            £3.50 per hour

Evenings           £5.00 per hour

All Day            £20.00

These rates are for local non commercial events only. For other rates please ask the bookings secretary.

Payment by cheque is preferred. Cheques to be made payable to Widecombe Church House Fund and sent to Sarah Reeve, Bonehill Cottage, Bonehill Lane, Widecombe-in-the-Moor, TQ13 7TD

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

Widecombe

# Clear Decorators

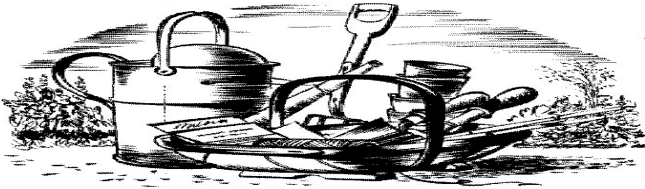
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Tel: 01364 621466 or 07766648989

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

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

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

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

For more information, and without committing yourself, please email [david\\_thomas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:david_thomas@hotmail.co.uk)

## Widecombe Church - Information and Support

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

### 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:

<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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## 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

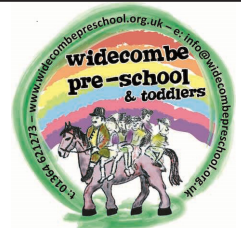
## WIDDYTOTS

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)





## Christingle at Widcombe Primary School

## The Children's Society

The Children's Society introduced Christingle services to the Church of England just over 50 years ago. Christingle celebrations raise over £1.2million each year to help support the work of The Children's Society which helps vulnerable children and young people.

As there could be no Christingle service in Widcombe this year due to Covid restrictions, St Pancras Church put together a Make at Home Christingle Kit, for each child in the school.

This enabled the children of Widcombe Primary to be a part of the celebrations with a national Christingle Service which was streamed on the Church of England website on Sunday 13 December.



The kits contained all the pieces to make a Christingle along with an explanation of how each element has a special meaning, from both a Christian and a non-Christian perspective.



The orange represents the world that God created.

The red ribbon reminds us of God's love for the world and the blood Jesus shed on the cross.

The four cocktail sticks covered in dried fruit and sweets are symbols of God's creations. For many people, they also represent the four seasons.

The lit candle symbolises Jesus, the light of the world, who brings hope to people living in darkness

The national Christingle Service can be viewed at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=owhrpUY3Nfw>



## Commemoration



**Liberator B 24 Bomber**



**Bristol Beaufighter**

The 27th December 2020 marks the 77th anniversary of the crash of a Liberator Bomber (BD-24D – 40474) on Hamel Down Widecombe in the Moor, during World War 2. The all-American crew of 8 were killed.

This crash was the fourth and final accident to occur on Hamel Down during the war in which a total of 14 servicemen lost their lives in the four crashes.

The losses were spread over three years commencing with the loss of a Hampden Bomber, returning from a bombing raid in France, in March 1941 when all four-crew perished. This crash has been extensively researched by history group member John Lowe and the full details can be read in his book “The Boys”.

A second tragedy occurred in September 1941 when a Bristol Beaufighter of 307 (Polish) squadron, flying out of Exeter, crashed whilst on a training flight with the loss of both crews.

Again, in 1942 a Supermarine Spitfire from 53 Operational Training Unit, crashed whilst on a training flight from Wales. Fortunately, the pilot bailed out and was uninjured.

Finally, in December 1943 came the crash involving the B-24 bomber which tragically occurred during a low-level night training flight from RAF Alconbury in Huntingdonshire which crashed into Hamel Down at Two Barrows.

The History Group proposes to record the stories behind these accidents involving the Polish flyers and the American crew, by preparing web pages to add to the existing commemoration of men from Widecombe and District who fought and lost their lives in the second World War.

The current pages relating to the Second World War can be found at:

[www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/ww2/](http://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/ww2/)

*David Ashman, Widecombe History Group*

## **Widcombe Community Hall CIO Update**

Thank you to all those who joined in with our Christmas Windows and Displays fundraiser, which has been a great success. All the displays looked superb and it was wonderful to share a little Christmas happiness and sparkle across the parish, in what has been the strangest of years.

Over 100 maps were sold for our 4-day event and an estimated 275 people took the tour! Together we have raised over £800 for the new Community Hall and for this we are truly grateful.



Widcombe Community Hall CIO  
charity number 1182621

The display winners were:

In 3rd place, Display 19 – Tom & Kate Guest (smiley face)

In 2nd place, Display 16 – Hannah & Simon Plumley (Mary & Joseph silhouette)

In 1st place, Display 31 – Barney, Josie, Anoushka & Hugo (Strictly come Dartmoor)!

The winner of our prize draw was Jackie Bligh (also the creator of one of our displays with the inflatable helicopter on the roof!)

We have been asked by several people if this will be run again next year, so watch this space!

With thanks again and wishing you a very happy new year,

Yvette and the Community Hall Team

[www.widcombecommunityhall.org](http://www.widcombecommunityhall.org)

Email: [info@widcombecommunityhall.org](mailto:info@widcombecommunityhall.org)



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## Dunstone & Poundsgate Methodist Chapels

Ministers: Rev'd Kevin Hooke (01626) 832369

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

### From your local Methodist Churches

During December, we appreciated taking part in the online Moorland Carol service – maybe for some of you, it was the first time you had seen inside Poundsgate Methodist Church!

We send you our greetings for 2021, though I feel that a Hopeful New Year seems more appropriate than a Happy New Year! Certainly we all look forward to a year that becomes brighter as the vaccination programme is rolled out.

At **Poundsgate** we continue to have our monthly Zoom services, a version of which we try and post online afterwards through the Ashburton All Age Church YouTube channel. This month's service will be on Sunday 3rd at 3pm, and will feature an interview with Stella West Harling, CEO of Dartmoor Community Kitchen Hub.

At **Dunstone**, informal services have started on Sunday mornings at 9.30am, and on Sunday 3rd it will take the form of a New Year communion service. Inevitably numbers are limited because of the size of the chapel.

The **Ashburton Methodists** also remain active. This month we will have our regular bible reflection hour on Mondays at 4pm, and our weekly Weds morning prayer time at 10am, all on Zoom. Our Sunday services this month will focus on 10th, when we'll have an informal act of worship (again on Zoom) and 24th, which will be our latest monthly breakfast service (available on the Ashburton All Age Church YouTube Channel from 9am). After Church Zoom coffee gatherings are on Sundays, usually at 11.30am. In addition we have an outdoor reflective time around St Andrew's churchyard on the 2nd Friday of the month at 11am and a communion service on the last Thursday. For more details, or for the log-ins for any the Zoom events, please get in contact with us.

For further details for any of the above: Kevin at [hookekp@hotmail.com](mailto:hookekp@hotmail.com)

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## Dunstone Notice Board

Dunstone Chapel now has a smart new sign and a weatherproof community noticeboard. The work was carried out by Mick ('The Mole') Clare and funded by donations from Widcombe Fair Committee (2019) and Mike and Jenny Pascoe in memory of Phyllis Pascoe who was a regular supporter and worshipper at the chapel.





# 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](mailto:coronavirus.support@teignbridge.gov.uk)



## Other Community News & Events



### Life in war-torn Devon performed

Devon's War Girls, a short, two-hander performance pulls inspiration from true local stories explored through the eyes of two young women and the wartime events that bring them together.

Molly's plans to go to university are shattered, and instead of starting University she finds herself signing up as a Land Girl and boarding a train to Devon. Already there, a farmer's daughter, Enid, is thrust into new experiences when Dartmoor is flooded by evacuees, soldiers, prisoners of war and, of course, the Land Girls. This fast-paced performance by two professional actresses has seen audiences moved to both tears and laughter, and can be booked for events, schools or community groups to bring alive stories from the past in your venue.

Meanwhile, MED Theatre's Wild Nights Young Company have created their own original play based on research into life on Dartmoor during World War Two. The Hardings deals with the changing roles of men and women occasioned by the war-time emergency and shares the story of one family, their altered relationships and the new people brought into their lives by the war. The Hardings will be performed on **January 30th 2021 at 2.30pm and 7pm at Moretonhampstead Parish Hall.**

Both The Hardings and Devon's War Girls are part of MED Theatre's Dartmoor, Devon and World War Two-project supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Visit [www.medtheatre.co.uk](http://www.medtheatre.co.uk) or contact [education@medtheatre.co.uk](mailto:education@medtheatre.co.uk) to find out more and how to get involved.

## News from the East Shallowford Trust

As much as so many would like to say 'good riddance' to 2020, we have to also say a huge thank you. Many volunteers continued to visit, helping to construct the Ark, clear, sort and maintain the grounds and our wonderful builders who have worked tirelessly and thoughtfully to turn the huge lovely old stone barn into something for future generations. The magnificent granite walls would slowly have collapsed, no longer being suitable for modern machinery and our keen understanding that for animals to thrive, they need good ventilation and drainage.

Will has been dashing backwards and forwards in his sturdy wellies from Broadaford, keeping a steady eye to ensure that all building decisions are made thoughtfully and within time. His skills abound as logistician, networker, interpreter of plans to logical forward thinking. We have asked and asked people questions. Locals, visitors, those who know us well, those who know only of the idea, old trustees, new trustees, children of all ages and adults near and far. Where should we go, what should we do and be? The conclusion? Not much has changed over the years. If anything, I fear Miss Braund and Rosemary's inspiration is now MORE urgent than ever before. Is it true, do we genuinely have MORE young people with allergies and mental health issues than ever before, or is it simply that we now recognise and categorise illness and behaviour more accurately? Personally, I have an innate dislike for pollution and plastic which many researchers believe are the main instigators of modern disorders – or rather, the increasing number of disorders per capita of the total population. 2020 has not helped society globally to develop ways to avoid screen time and behave as 'real' humans in outdoor space, interacting with the real natural world and the humans and animals on which we depend. We had no choice this year, are we therefore even more at risk of becoming dangerously damaged couch potatoes with no respect or understanding for our role on the globe?

Was there ever a greater need for what a farm on the moors can offer to people who are almost sucked into the internet and rounding their bottoms on soft chairs? A Dr Who episode could be made about the damage to 'being human'..... but it's not Daleks, Cybermen (well – almost) or Adipose beings we need to be wary of but ourselves. Remembering to be kind, thoughtful and tolerant as we become more frustrated with our constricted and to be honest, very privileged lives. We play a 'game' at the farm..... 'remember to be grateful.' And truly we have so much

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to be grateful for! I look at the walls on the old barn or the main house and wonder at who built them. The strength, the skill, the beauty of their work and here we are, enjoying the benefits of their efforts with no knowledge as to who they were, their daily concerns, efforts, family, food, labours toils..... we just gaze at their walls and benefit! Each generation stands on the shoulders of those before and so we work to make East Shallowford something from which generations to come may benefit, with a huge THANK YOU for those who are helping us now.



Not a good picture – but Mike.....  
Tenacious and determined! Rebuilding our wall after it was destroyed by a laburnum toppling over in the wind.

Our beautiful old barn, repointed, made watertight and soon to have a lift and toilet installed for wheelchair access. What would those farmers 300 years ago think? Certainly we can be thankful for their amazing skills.



Two of our volunteers, who constructed the doors, hung them, made skirting boards and finished off the inside shelving. Just a little bit to finish around the doors and then the Ark will be completed!

*Continued on page 44*

(Continued from page 43)



Absolute joy! Born on 3rd November and kept with their mother for at least eight weeks.

All fowl to be kept indoors from 14th December ..... how to explain to a chicken that we understand their frustration! They, like us – will certainly be glad when lock-down is over!!



Julia

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

*Epiphany*

## Coronavirus (COVID19) Advice

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

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

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

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

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

Coronavirus

no food

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

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hate forms

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feel ashamed

anxious

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never asked for charity

never asked anyone for help

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## ***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:

Link Finances (donations, advertising fees, invoices etc)

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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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Widcombe Ladies Social Group

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Widcombe Sports Group

We're delighted that online production of the Link continued without a break during 2020, continuing to provide information for our communities and lots of readable articles. So a big Thank You to all our advertisers and contributors. In particular we think special mention for their articles and quizzes is due to the Widecombe History Group, the Rugglestone and Shallowford Farm. Without mentioning any names for fear of embarrassing them, thank you David, Richard, Vicki, Peter and Julia!

Sometime in 2021 we hope we will get back into printing copies and getting our distribution system going again, but with the virus still rife, and only a few yet vaccinated, it's not going to be soon – we don't want to add new risks to anyone's life. But we will be starting planning for this, so please could you get in touch with us if you'd like to become a distributor in your location? Our target has always been to get a Link through every letterbox!

*From all of us at the Link, may we wish you a Happy New Year, and may it be more prosperous than 2020.*

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

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

***for the February 2021 edition of the Link will be Sunday 24th January***

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

***Next issue available on Friday 29th January***

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