

# Moorland Parish Link

- Widecombe -

Huccaby - Ilsington - Lensdon - Postbridge

Ashton - Bickington - Buckland - Holne



## December 2022

Church and Community Magazine of The Moorland Team

# The Ministry Team

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**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:** <https://ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/safeguarding-2>

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Well, it really has been quite a year, hasn't it! Back in January the mood was quite buoyant as we finally seemed to be coming out of the Covid pandemic, but soon we were to be faced with another crisis as Russian forces invaded Ukraine when Putin announced his so called "Special Military Operation". Ukrainian flags were seen across the country and an overwhelming operation for support of Ukrainians was mobilised. Little did we realise at that stage the devastation this would cause: the indiscriminate killing and torture, the destruction of communities and homes and infrastructure, the mass movement of people to other nations. And in addition to that there has been the huge impact of the war on fuel and food supply with the consequent increase in prices. Later in the year we witnessed the worsening impact of climate change with flooding in Pakistan, drought in Somalia and Ethiopia, and wild fires in Europe, Australia and the USA. Back in our nation, as we were sweltering in the heat, the political temperature rose sharply with the resignation of one Prime Minister... and then another; I think we are on our third but I might have lost count! In the midst of this came the sudden death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and as a nation we mourned and paid our respects to this remarkable lady. And now as we face the winter we know it will be very a difficult one for many people who will be struggling to keep their homes warm and put food on the table. One may describe it as an 'annus horribilis'.

In the face of all this we may well ask 'Why doesn't God do something?'. Why doesn't God stop the war? Why doesn't God stop the flooding and droughts and fires? Why doesn't God give us leaders (like Her Late Majesty) whose ways are ways of truth and justice? The answer is that God has done something! God is not a distant or remote god who doesn't care about the world, rather God is loving and good to all he has made. We know this because in Jesus Christ, God became human full of grace and truth. The creator steps into creation; the creator becomes a creature – that is the wonder of Christmas. But in stepping into creation God, in his sovereignty, has chosen to limit his power. He doesn't force us to change, he doesn't stop people fighting or polluting or lying, rather he invites us to receive him and to allow him to transform our hearts and minds and actions. As we read in the beginning of John's gospel: 'To all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision... but born of God.' That is the real wonder of Christmas: God became a child so that we can become his children. All he asks of us is that we receive this priceless gift.

A very Joyful and Peaceful Christmas to you all.

*John Bennett*

# Churchwardens

St Mary the Virgin, Holne with St Raphael, Huccaby			
Gillian Parker	Thimble Hall, Hexworthy, PL20 6SD	01364 631507	<a href="mailto:gillianp1992@gmail.com">gillianp1992@gmail.com</a>
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***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 - 3.00pm

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**PARISH OFFICE** - Email: [parishoffice1@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:parishoffice1@tiscali.co.uk)

# Moorland Team Officers

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Team Administrator		Cassie Long - 01364 654280		<a href="mailto:admin@moorlandteam.org.uk">admin@moorlandteam.org.uk</a>

## Church News & Events

Welcome to our new Curate, **Jenny Weigel**, who has just received confirmation from Bishop Robert of her appointment to a curacy here in the Ashburton and Moorland Team in 2023. Here is a brief introduction to Jenny, a fuller introduction will follow in the Spring.



**Cosy café catchup:** I love a good cup of coffee or indeed any type of tea, but the company is key. Catching up in a cosy café is one of my favourite pastimes.

**Us:** Community and collaboration are two essential ways of being and working for me. I prefer working in and with a team, and am excited to get to know you and your local communities.

**Reformation:** I grew up in a Christian family in the Lutheran Church in Germany, only 1.5 hours from Wittenberg, and my Lutheran heritage has shaped my faith and theology. My journey has taken me to Scotland, Canada, Berlin and now the SW of England and I've experienced many different traditions along the way.

**Admin:** I love admin. If spreadsheets were a love language, it would be mine. Though a theologian by heart, I've been working for St Mellitus College as their operations officer for the past six years, setting up the SW centre from scratch.

**Theology:** Theology has been part of my calling for a long time. I have studied theology academically for nine years in three different countries and in lots of different traditions. What I love about it is the way a theological topic takes you deeper and deeper into the mystery of God, revealing just a fraction more of the heart and being of God.

**Explore:** I enjoy being out and about, exploring new places abroad or locally, by the sea or on the moors. You may see me running, swimming in the Dart or on my road bike – exercise is a must on my weekly schedule.

## From the Registers

There are no entries in the Register this month.

### **An hour of quiet reflection**

### ***Postbridge Church***

**Tuesday 6th December at 7.30pm**

**Tuesday 3rd January**

with

*Wide spacing    Candlelight    Warm church    Silence*  
*Taize music                      A few readings*

Why not come along to relax, to unwind and to pray?

Meet at Widecombe Vicarage at 6.45 if transport required.

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

## Living with memory problems or mild to moderate dementia?

We'd love to welcome you to our new group in Buckfastleigh. Conversation Works deliver a programme of weekly sessions providing social activity and stimulation.

This helps boost confidence, increases communication skills and slows the progression of dementia - they are also packed full of conversation and laughter!

**To find out more contact Kathrine**

07899 993134

[kathrine@conversationworks.co.uk](mailto:kathrine@conversationworks.co.uk)

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



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#### ASHBURTON Town Hall

Tuesday mornings

#### BUCKFASTLEIGH St Luke's

Wednesday mornings

#### ONLINE CLASSES

Monday evenings

Thursday mornings (includes Over 60's class)

**To book a place in class contact:** Faith Burch

07952 157585 [faithburch1964@gmail.com](mailto:faithburch1964@gmail.com)

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Please ring Nicky Bellamy on 01364 631323

Or email

[holnevillagehallbooking@gmail.com](mailto:holnevillagehallbooking@gmail.com)

**Holne  
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\*all children must be accompanied by an adult  
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[hannah@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hannah@hotmail.co.uk) / 07739511070  
Kindly supported by Holne Books



# St Mary the Virgin, Holne

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

**Church Services—see Page 22 for details**

Date	Time	Service
6th Dec	18.00	Carol Service
23rd Dec	18.30	Carols by Candlelight, Huccaby
24th Dec	15.30	Crib and Christingle
25th Dec	11.00	Christmas Communion

As we approach the end of a busy year for St. Mary's, it is a time for reflection. After 11 years of discussion and planning, the work in the church has been almost completed. It has been nearly a century since such major work has been carried out, which says a great deal for the ability of the building to endure. But then the building has existed for over 800 years, changing its shape, decoration, and contents to meet the needs of the age. After the current work, we hope that the church will once again be a place for community activities as well as a place for worship, solace, peace, celebration, and love.

Another major change will be the loss of our wonderful pianist Maureen Smeaton. We will miss Maureen but wish her well in her new life in Sussex. Maureen and her husband Peter contributed so much to the church over the years, and we are delighted that Maureen's parting gift will be a bench in memory of Peter. His sister has also donated a cherry tree in his memory.

At Christmas time we celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Isn't it remarkable that the birth of a child over 2000 years ago is something we mark every year, even if this wondrous event gets lost in a haze of mince pies and presents? Isn't it amazing that because of that birth, millions of people still follow his teachings? Isn't it astonishing that this child grew up to live a short but influential life which ended in a barbaric death but was followed by his resurrection? But most wonderful of all, Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection was all part of God's action to bring this broken, human world back to himself.

Advent is the time of preparation before Jesus' birth. Please take the opportunity to think about what God can offer you – unconditional love, forgiveness of all wrongdoing, internal peace and hope for the future. Then come and celebrate with us at the Carol Service at 6pm 11th December with mince pies and mulled wine or any of the other services being held throughout December.

Happy Christmas!

*Gillian*

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**email address: [phil-kendall@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:phil-kendall@hotmail.co.uk)**

## **Moorland Parish Link Online**

This edition of the Moorland Parish Link (and previous editions) can be downloaded from:

[https://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/parish\\_link/index.php](https://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/parish_link/index.php)

<https://ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/magazine-%26-notice-sheets>



### **Holne Second-Hand Books**



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07814 365531 or email

[ashburtonleagueoffriends@outlook.com](mailto:ashburtonleagueoffriends@outlook.com)



# Holne Whist

Tuesday 6th December

from 2pm



Raffle, tea or coffee and biscuits for £3.

If there are any suggestions or queries please ring

Judy Henderson on

01364 631461.

I look forward to seeing you.

# HOLNE VILLAGE HALL

## SOUP & CHEESE

## LUNCH

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**The next lunch is on  
2nd December**

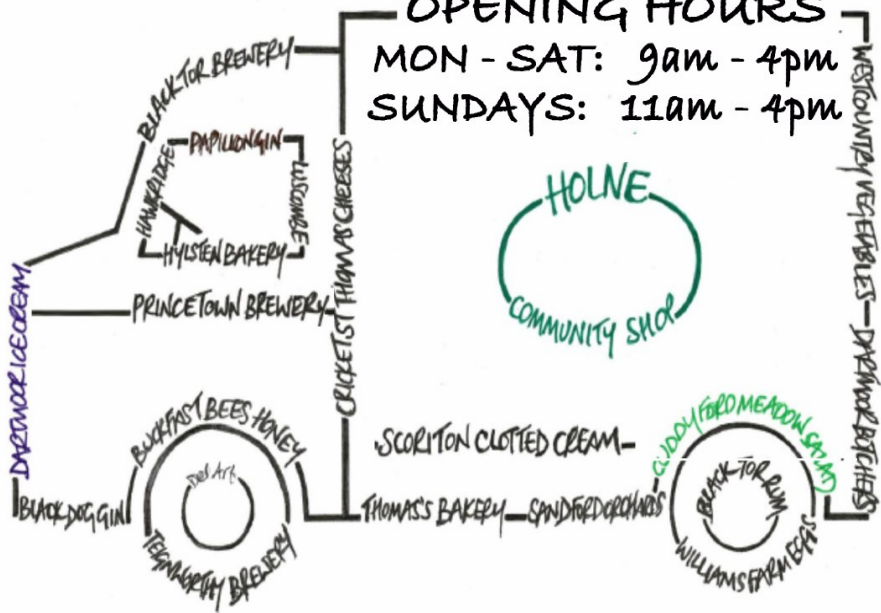
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SUNDAYS: 11am - 4pm



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**Email: [rickjenkinsoak@gmail.com](mailto:rickjenkinsoak@gmail.com)**

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# St Raphael, Huccaby

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

**Church Services—see Page 22 for details**

## Carols by candlelight

Don't forget – it's only 3 weeks away from our candlelight Carol Service celebration at St Raphael's. Friendships and family's - reflections and singing Carols. Perhaps just simply enjoying being together to think about the real meaning of Christmas? (Of course with Annie's famous mince pies – and Tesco's famous mulled wine!)

**Friday 23rd December at 6.30pm.** What better way to start the Christmas weekend?

## Sadness and hope

Most, if not all of us, have had the sad personal experience of dementia – our parents, husbands, wives, partners, brothers, sisters and friends may have had or may now have this debilitating disease. What then is the Christmas message of hope for those with a dementia?

There is an inspiring a message of hope at Christmas. God's gift of life, to help us persevere through adversity. While there is no 'cure' for a dementia the sooner the diagnosis, the more support is available and the more positive hope for the future.

There is a significant difference between 'normal' ageing and the memory loss you get with a dementia. The following are simple examples of symptoms that may illustrate the difference:

<i>Age, (mild cognitive impairment)?</i>	<i>A dementia?</i>
Misplacing things or forgetting why you went upstairs!	Putting objects in 'strange' places. (house keys in the fridge?)
Needing to concentrate harder to keep up with conversations.	Regularly struggling to take part in conversations or find the right words, calling objects 'that thing'.
Forgetting people's names.	Failing to recognise close family.
Mildly irritated when routines are disrupted.	Becoming upset, anxious, or frightened because things aren't familiar.
Sometimes confused about what day of the week it is.	Losing track of the season or passage of time.

So this Christmas, let us remind ourselves that we can all be a little annoyed when our normal routines are disrupted. Christmas is such a time. Those with a dementia may be upset, anxious or frightened – even in their own homes. Whoever the person with a dementia, a loved one or close friend, remember they are the same person you have always loved. Hope is found in what God has given us in the birth of Jesus.

*Tony Parker*

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# Moorland Merrymakers 2022 Pantomime



*'Hansel and Gretel'*

Produced by Ali Whale

Performances will be:

**Saturday 10th December 3pm and 7.30pm**

**Monday 12th to Friday 16th December 7.30pm**

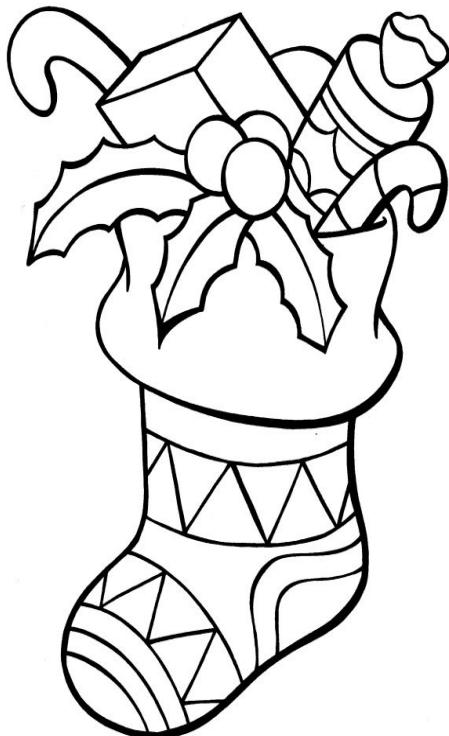
At Leusdon Memorial Hall

To book tickets please email Nicky [booking4merrymakers@gmail.com](mailto:booking4merrymakers@gmail.com) (preferable)  
or phone **07549 697176**

Ticket prices £7 adult, £3.50 child

We are also looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen at our performances.  
Please contact Ali Whale **01364 621260** or Belinda Owen (our House Manager) on email  
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# St John the Baptist, Leusdon

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

Church Services—see Page 22 for details

Date	Time	Service
11th Dec	16:00	Carols by Candlelight
18th Dec	12:00	Parish Communion
24th Dec	23.30	Midnight Communion

Leusdon Church is open all day, every day. You are welcome to visit at any time – an opportunity to sit quietly, say a prayer and enjoy our beautiful building.

All our services can be downloaded from <https://ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/services-to-download>

Any queries, please contact Revd Geoffrey Fenton (Team Vicar) 01364 621334

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



## Leusdon Memorial Hall



The November coffee morning made a total of £164.00 for hall funds, over the past twelve months they have been very successful both socially and financially, The next one will follow the same pattern as last Christmas and will be held on **Wednesday 7th December** 10.00-12.00noon. It will take the form of Coffee, Cakes and Carols . We are extremely grateful to Geoffrey Fenton for providing Carol sheets and playing the keyboard for us and also to Lloyd Mortimore who will lead the singing after their success at the Jubilee coffee morning. We would love you all to join us to start your Christmas festivities.

Advance notice, weather permitting there will be a coffee morning on **Wednesday 4th January 2023**.

The Moorland Merrymakers will be presenting their Panto from **10th -16th December**, it has now returned to its traditional format and I am sure it will still provide an enjoyable night out for all the family.

On Monday 12th December the monthly Whist drives for Leusdon and Buckland-in-the-Moor will be combining with the long established Betty Hicks Whist Drive to hold a Grand Christmas Whist Drive. This will be held in Widecombe Church House starting at 12.30pm. There will be an optional Christmas themed soup lunch and cake all prepared by Claire and Marie who cater the Buckland whist drives. You could combine this with a trip to Widecombe Christmas Tree Festival in the morning and a visit to Moorland Merrymakers Panto in the evening, a perfect way to continue your Christmas Festivities. The whist drive is in aid of Young Devon charity (number 1057949). The Cost will be £5.00 for Whist and lunch or £3.00 for Whist only. There will also be a Christmas draw with tickets on sale at £1.00 per strip.

(Continued on page 17)



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(Continued from page 15)

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and hope 2023 is good for everyone .

Should you wish to book the Hall, it is available for hire at £10.00 per hour, there are special rates for regular users. Tables at the Coffee Morning can be booked for £5 per table per session, further details can be obtained by contacting our booking secretary:

**Amanda Routley on 01364 631432**

[leusdonmemorialhall@yahoo.com](mailto:leusdonmemorialhall@yahoo.com)

In the meantime, if anyone would like to discuss any aspect of the Hall please contact myself or any committee member.

My contact details are John Southcombe

e mail: [johnsouthcombe@hotmail.com](mailto:johnsouthcombe@hotmail.com)

Leusdon Memorial Hall charity no.300887



Dartmoor Llamas would like to thank everyone who came along to our Fundraising Event at Leusdon Memorial Hall on Sunday 30th October.

We raised £428 for Children in Need. I would like to thank all those who came and helped on the Day especially John & Judy Southcombe for the Hire of the Hall and Norma Tempest for the amazing Cakes. Also a big Thank you to Ginsters who donated the Pasties.



## **Widcombe-in-the-Moor** **Christmas Whist 2022**



**Christmassy Soup Lunch**

**Monday 12th December 2022**

**12.30pm Lunch**

**2.00pm Whist Drive**

**£5.00 for both or £3.00 for Whist or Lunch**

**The Church House, Widcombe**

**All Welcome.....**

**Christmas Raffle**

**All enquiries**

**John Southcombe**

**tel 01364 621520**





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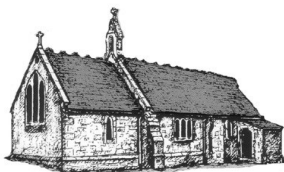
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**Email:** enquiries@afbrown-sons.co.uk

**Web:** www.afbrown-sons.co.uk





## St Gabriel, Postbridge

For contact information, ministers and church officers see front of the Link-  
**Church Services—see Page 22 for details**

Date	Time	Service
6th Dec	19:30	An Hour of Quiet Reflection
11th Dec	18:00	Carol Service
25th Dec	09:00	Christmas Communion

*Postbridge Church is open all day, every day. You are welcome to visit at any time – an opportunity to sit quietly, say a prayer and enjoy our beautiful building.*

All our services can be downloaded from <https://ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/services-to-download>  
Any queries, please contact Revd Geoffrey Fenton (Team Vicar) 01364 621334  
[geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk)

### POSTBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

#### CHRISTMAS SOCIAL & MARKET

& last minute shopping

**Monday 19th December 11am - 12.30pm**

Guest Stall this month- **Dartmoor Livestock Protection Group**

They will also benefit from the proceeds of the Raffle.

Meet up with your friends, enjoy a coffee & cake and support this good cause

### Postbridge Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be held at 11am in Postbridge Village Hall

**Monday 5th December**

This will be our Christmas Coffee Morning Special when you can bring a raffle prize  
(wrapped in Christmas paper) plus a plate of food

*Maureen*

### Postbridge Whist Drives - Held in the Village Hall

The next Whist Drive will be the **Grand Christmas Whist on  
December 13th at 7.30pm**

**Entry £3, plus raffle. All profits to the Village Hall**

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

Tel: 01822 880224



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# POSTBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

Phyl's Follies celebrates 50 years with the performance of the pantomime

## *Robin Hood & Babes in the Wood*

Thurs 26th & Fri 27th January 7.30pm 2023

Sat 28th January matinee 2pm 2023

Thurs 2nd, Fri 3rd, Sat 4th February 7.30pm 2023

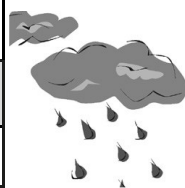
\***Adults** £8.00 **Children** £4.00 ~**ice creams** to be pre-booked £2.00

To book Tel: 01822 880223, email: postbridgepanto@gmail.com

or see Sue on the Meat Stall at Walkhampton Market

## Rainfall in October 2022

Place	Total Rainfall	Days without rain	Wettest Days
Postbridge	236.7 mm (9.3")	4	31st 33.8 mm (1.3")
	(October 2021 - 307.4 mm (12.1"))		
Holne	282.1 mm (11.11")		31st 47.1mm (1.85")



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# Church Services for December 2022

## 3rd December

Ashburton - 10.00 - 12.00 Christmas Decoration Workshop

## 4th December 2nd of Advent Purple

*Readings - Isaiah 11.1-10 Psalm 72.1-7,18,19\* Romans 15.4-13 Matthew 3.1-12*

Widcombe	08.00	Holy Communion BCP	Ashburton	10.30	Christingle Service
Widcombe	16.00	Christingle	Buckland	16.00	Christingle Service

## 6th December Quiet Reflection

Postbridge 19.30 Quiet Reflection

## 11th December 3rd of Advent Purple

*Readings - Isaiah 35.1-10 Psalm 146.4-10 or Cantic: Magnificat James 5.7-10 Matthew 11.2-11*

Widcombe	10.30	Parish Communion	Illesington,	10.30	Christingle Service
Leusdon	16.00	Carols by Candlelight	Meet at Illesington	15.00	Moor Church Carols
Postbridge	18.00	Carol Service	Holne	18.00	Carol Service

## 16th December

Bickington 17.00 Carol Service

## 18th December 4th of Advent Purple

*Readings - Isaiah 7.10-16 Psalm 80.1-8,18-20\* Romans 1.1-7 Matthew 1.18-25*

Leusdon	12.00	Parish Communion	Buckland	16.00	Carols by Glowstick
Widcombe	18.00	Carol Service	Ashburton	18.30	Carols by Candlelight
			Illesington	18:30	Carol Service

## 19th December

Ashburton Arts Centre 19.00 Christmas Community Sing

## 22nd/23rd December

Widcombe 6pm Carols under the Stars (22nd) Huccaby 18.30 Carols by Candlelight (23rd)

## 24th December Christmas Eve Purple

*Readings - to be chosen by preacher*

Holne	15.30	Crib and Christingle	Illesington	15.00	Crib Service
Widcombe	16.00	Crib Service	Ashburton	17.00	Crib Service
Leusdon	23.30	Midnight Communion	Illesington	23.30	Midnight Mass
			Ashburton	23.30	Midnight Communion

25th December		Christmas Day		Gold or White	
<i>Readings - to be chosen by preacher</i>					
Postbridge	09.00	Christmas Communion	Bickington	10.00	Christmas Communion
Widcombe	10.30	Christmas Communion	Ilington	10.00	Christmas Family Communion
Holne	11.00	Christmas Communion	Ashburton	10:30	Christmas Family Communion
			Buckland	11.00	Christmas Communion
1st January - New Year's Day					
Holne - Newcombe Farm, Coombe	15.00	Wassail & Epiphany Carol Service	Ashburton	10.30	United New Year Service

## Holy Communion

## Midweek & At Home

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)*

## Dates for the Diary

December 2022		Page
1st	Advent Course	<a href="#">28</a>
1st	Quiet Reflection	<a href="#">5</a>
2nd	Holne Lunch	<a href="#">9</a>
5th	Postbridge Coffee Morning	<a href="#">19</a>
6th	Holne Whist	<a href="#">9</a>
6th	Princetown History Club	<a href="#">38</a>
7th	Leusdon Coffee Morning	<a href="#">15</a>
7th	WHG - Fungi Fact or Fiction	<a href="#">29</a>
7th	High Moorland WI meeting	<a href="#">35</a>
7th	Ashburton Soup Lunch	<a href="#">37</a>
7th	Buckfastleigh Christmas Fair	<a href="#">38</a>

December 2022		Page
8th	<b>Parish Link Copy Deadline</b>	
10th	Moorland Merry Makers	<a href="#">13</a>
10th	St Mary's Christmas Fayre	<a href="#">37</a>
10th	Bickington Soup Lunch	<a href="#">34</a>
12th	Widcombe Christmas Whist	<a href="#">17</a>
13th	Postbridge Whist	<a href="#">19</a>
14th	High Moorland Christmas Lunch	<a href="#">35</a>
14th	Dunstone Charity Lunch	<a href="#">33</a>
14th	High Moorland Christmas Lunch	<a href="#">35</a>
17th	Widcombe Handbells	<a href="#">31</a>
22nd	Dunstone Christmas Carols - Widcombe Green	<a href="#">33</a>

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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 22 for details**

Date	Time	Sidesperson	Coffee	Flowers
4th Dec	08.00	Dawn	Jenny and Beth	No flowers - Advent
	16.00			No flowers - Advent
11th Dec	10:30	Wendy	Brenda Boston	No flowers - Advent
18th Dec	18.00	Michael & Philly	Debbie & Penny	No flowers - Advent
24th Dec	16.00		Lots of help with flowers 9.30am <b>23rd Dec</b>	
25th Dec	10.30	Penny	No coffee	

Thank you to all who have helped throughout the year and a Happy Christmas from the Vicar and Churchwarden.

*Widecombe Church is open all day, every day, 9-5. You are welcome to visit at any time – an opportunity to sit quietly, say a prayer and enjoy our beautiful building.*

All our services can be downloaded from <https://ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/services-to-download>

Any queries, please contact Revd Geoffrey Fenton (Team Vicar) 01364 621334

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

## WIDECOMBE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

This year's festival will be from **Saturday 10th December to Sunday 18th December**

This means that the trees will be up for the Christmas Market, Christmas Whist Drive, the Carol Service and the End of Term Celebrations for the School, Preschool and Widdytots!

The trees will go up on Friday 9th December and come down on Monday 19th December

This year's theme is **“WEATHER”** which, as usual, can be interpreted any way you like!



Entries are free and welcomed from groups, organisations, families and individuals.



This year's charity will be

**“Young Devon”** Charity Number 1057949

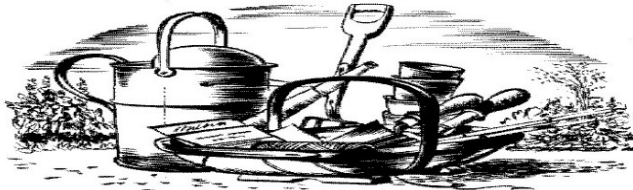
The Christmas Tree Festival is always very popular, with regular visitors coming back year after year!

Entry forms will be available in the Church or from me, Judy Southcombe 01364 621520

[judysouthcombe@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:judysouthcombe@yahoo.co.uk), or Mary in the Kiosk tel. 07980 312307

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## Widecombe & District Ladies Social Group

We do not meet in December, January or February.

The Luncheon will take place at the **Old Inn on the 4th Wednesday of each month** .

Please phone Rose on **01364 631238** if you want to put your name down.

***Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.***

## 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.



## WIDDYTOTS

Widdytots is our local group for Mums and children under 5 years.

It runs on Monday Mornings 9.30 - 11.45 in the Church House, Widecombe-in-the-Moor.

Widdytots is a relaxed, informal 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 is free and then it is £3 per child and £1 for each sibling.

For more information please call the preschool on 01364 621 273 during session times Tuesday or Friday, or email [info@widecombepreschool.org.uk](mailto:info@widecombepreschool.org.uk)



## 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**



## **LOOKING AND LONGING**

Following the pattern of our Lent Course, why not join us for a relaxing, friendly discussion of what Advent is about? We'll start with cup of tea and a slice of cake, and then, as Christmas grows nearer, we'll explore our expectations of Jesus' birth.

### **An Advent Course by David Adam.**

David Adam is renowned for drawing strength from the wonderful traditions of Celtic Christianity, and the way it connects with our everyday life. In this course he leads us towards the joy of Christmas through bible passages, teaching, discussion, music and quiet times of prayer.

Nov 24<sup>th</sup> – Hiding and Seeking  
Dec 1<sup>st</sup> – Seeking and Finding  
Dec 8<sup>th</sup> – Finding and Seeing  
Dec 15<sup>th</sup> – Seeing and Worshipping

We will meet on Thursdays in Widcombe Vicarage from 4.00 to 5.30

**We will meet on Thursdays in Widcombe Vicarage from 4.00 to 5.30**

**Contact** Rev Geoffrey Fenton (01364 621334 / [geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk))

for more details on these Widcombe afternoons.

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# **FUNGI**

## **Fact or Fiction ?**

Dartmoor Naturalist and Tour Guide Phil Page  
explores ideas about local fungi...

7.30pm, Wednesday 7th December

### **Everyone welcome**

in the historic Church House, Widecombe in the Moor  
Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. £3 donation

WIDECOMBE HISTORY GROUP  
FOR EVERYONE INTERESTED IN DARTMOOR AND DEVON  
CHARITY NO. 1144684

FOR YOUR DIARY: 4TH JANUARY 2023 - "THE CRY FROM THE WORKHOUSE STEPS"



## Widecombe Jubilee Orchard: Latest News

Our Open Day turned out to be an extremely wet afternoon which severely tested the resilience of Widecombe Parishioners! Some brave souls turned up and sheltered under the Gazebo, drinking Cider or excellent Mulled Apple Juice. They enjoyed the bonfire which, despite the rain, consumed all the available tree and hedge trimmings; they walked round the field to see where the trees are to be planted; and many signed up as sponsors. We are very grateful.

In fact there are only 7 out of 40 Sponsorship opportunities left (at the time of going to press), so please contact Michael Brown now to secure your name on a tree.

Now we are getting ready to plant the Orchard – more details next month, but put this date in your diary: **Saturday 28th January - 10.00 onwards**

On this historic day the Jubilee Orchard will finally come into being – do come and join in! We will need help digging holes, planting trees and fixing guards.

See you then.

Contact: Michael Brown [mikebrown007@hotmail.com](mailto:mikebrown007@hotmail.com)



## Widecombe Community Hall CIO - see page 34

**WIDECOMBE CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
**SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 10 am - 4pm**  
**IN THE CHURCH HOUSE**  
**CAROL SINGERS 11am & 2 pm**

Dartmoor Beef & Lamb, West country Cheeses  
 Home Made Jam and Chutney, Honey & Honey products,  
 Handmade Chocolates, Christmas Wreaths, Delicious Natural Dog  
 Treats, Dartmoor Photographs

Home-made refreshments in aid of Widecombe pre school  
 Knitted toys, Mulled Wine, Cakes & Biscuits  
 In aid of Bovey Tracey Scouts

**CHOCOLATE LOLLY DECORATING**  
**CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR CHILDREN AGE 0 - 11**

## Dartmoor Hill Farm Project - Farm for the Future

**Farm for the Future** is funded by Defra's Future Farming Resilience Fund, and any tenant or owner-occupied farm currently in receipt of Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) in England is eligible to join – even if you have already participated in a programme run by The Prince's Countryside Fund. We welcome any new farmers to join us and those who took part last year are encouraged to continue participation with the specialised events or one to one consultations based on individual interests or need. We aim to be flexible with our approach, reaching out especially for anyone who might prefer to discuss this on a one-to-one basis.



Workshops will be held from November into the new year; we have developed a series of events designed for our local farmers that aim to focus on key issues, with input from expert and industry speakers.

Farmers are encouraged to get in touch or share amongst friends and neighbours who may be interested. For more information and to express an interest in taking part, please contact Dartmoor Hill Farm Project at [hfp@dartmoor.gov.uk](mailto:hfp@dartmoor.gov.uk).



## Widcombe Handbells

*For anyone wishing to take up handbell ringing please come along to the Church House on*

**Saturday 17th December 10.00-11.00 am**

*and join us playing a selection of Christmas Carols*

**Everyone welcome, all ages and abilities, no need to read music**

*£2 donation to cover costs*

*We plan to continue the handbells as a regular monthly ringing as it would be wonderful if a team could be ringing in 2025 to celebrate 100 years of handbell ringing 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*



# CHRISTOPHERS' FAMILY FUNERALS

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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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

## Sunday Service

**Dunstone** - Informal service at 3pm in Dunstone Chapel every week and all are welcome.

**Widcombe Green, 18.00 Thursday 22nd December** - Outdoor Carols Service.

**Poundsgate** - First Sunday of the month only, 3pm. Next Service is **Sunday 4th December**. Carol Service - **Thursday 15th December**.

## Dunstone Charity Lunches



These are held monthly on the second Wednesday in the month.



The next lunch is on **Wednesday 14th December 12 - 3pm**.

There will be soup, bread, sushi, savory dishes, salads and cakes. There is no set price but you are asked to make as generous donation as possible for whichever charity we are collecting for that month.

After November's lunch we were able to send £100 to the Open Doors charity.



Come and join Dunstone Chapel's

# “Carols under the Stars”

## On Widcombe Green

### Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

### 6pm

*ALL WELCOME*

*Dress up warm and bring a torch*



## Bible Study Group

We meet every Wednesday at 6pm at Higher Foxworthy.

Everyone is welcome to join but please ring Serena on 07789 762061 so we know the numbers.

We are a small friendly group seeking to enrich our knowledge of God through his word in the Bible.



# DASH

District of Ashburton  
Surgery Help Line

## NEIGHBOURS HELPING NEIGHBOURS

REG. CHARITY NO. 1116549

DASH is an independent Ashburton Charity, existing solely to provide transport for patients of Ashburton Surgery.

The journeys we undertake are either to medical appointments or to deliver prescriptions to patients' homes.

*If you would like to help DASH as a volunteer, please call 01364 653335 10am-noon, Mon-Fri; leave message at other times.*

## Ashburton Food Bank

### A CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE FOR ALL IN FOOD NEED

Covering Ashburton and surrounding villages and hamlets

### WE WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER A DELIVERY SERVICE

If you require food please phone: 07767 453844 and leave a message with your name, number in household, any pets, telephone number and address. We will deliver to you as quickly as possible.

Should you prefer to collect food, please phone and we will find a suitable time and let you know.



Widecombe Community Hall CIO  
(Incorporated 2010)

### Widecombe Community Hall CIO Update

We've been delighted to work closely with Porteous Groundworks as they

commence the first phase of the new Brook Lane houses. We hope to minimise disruption to local residents by working together on some elements of our build and together are making savings for both schemes. Come and take a peek over the fence into the Hayes Field to see how our groundworks are progressing!

Save the Date: **Games Night and Supper**

Friday 27th January 2023

at Leusdon Memorial Hall

Full details in January Parish Link

Wishing everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!

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

BICKINGTON VILLAGE HALL | OLD HILL | TQ12 6JX



## Community Soup & Pud Lunch Club

ONCE A MONTH AT BICKINGTON VILLAGE HALL.  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

**HOMEMADE SOUPS, BREAD ROLLS,  
PUDDING, TEA & COFFEE.**

**SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER**

COMBINED EVENT WITH XMAS FAYRE

**10:30-2PM**

**SATURDAY 14TH JANUARY**

**MIDDAY-2PM**

**PAY WHAT YOU CAN (CASH OR CARD)**

100% OF PROCEEDS RAISED SPLIT BETWEEN  
ST MARY'S REPAIR FUND AND A DIFFERENT  
CHARITY EACH MONTH.

INFO/BOOKING: MICHAEL 01626 821870

# Other Community News and Events



**STATE PENSIONERS (and spouses)  
OF THE FOREST OF DARTMOOR PARISH**  
(Two Bridges, Believer, Postbrige, Hexworthy, Princetown)

**High Moorland WI invites you to**

**Free Traditional  
Christmas Lunch**

**Wednesday 14th December  
at 12.30pm**  
at Princetown Community Centre

Please book your place by contacting either:  
HEATHER 01822 890310 mobile/text 07718939217 or  
CATHERINE 01822 890293 mobile/text 07703274691  
Or return the slip below to the Princetown Post Office High Moorland WI box.

---

**HIGH MOORLAND WI CHRISTMAS LUNCH**  
Please book me/us \_\_\_\_\_ places at your Christmas meal.

My / Our names are \_\_\_\_\_

My contact number/address is \_\_\_\_\_



ASHBURTON & MOORLAND MISSION COMMUNITY

## MOOR CHURCH

Moor Church takes place at a different locations on Dartmoor throughout the year (and we usually have a wet weather plan).

It is an accessible all-age event, aimed at those who like to be outside in the fresh air, learning through nature.

Each session takes place on a Sunday afternoon and includes refreshments.

Lifts available!



**DATES:**

- SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER
- SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER
- SUNDAY 12TH FEBRUARY
- SUNDAY 9TH APRIL
- SUNDAY 11TH JUNE

FOLLOW US FOR THE LATEST INFO...

**f MOOR CHURCH**

**ADMIN@MOORLANDTEAM.ORG.UK**

## High Moorland Women's Institute Princetown



We are a small friendly group of 16 ladies based in Princetown, but many of our members live outside. We try to support the community whenever we can and are always open to ideas and suggestions in this area.

We meet the **FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH** in **PRINCETOWN COMMUNITY HALL** at 7.30pm. Our meetings usually finish around 9 to 9.30pm.

On the **SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH** we hold a free tea, coffee and cakes slot. Donations gratefully received. This is held at Princetown Community Hall 11am to 12.30.

We will be hosting our State pensioners' free Christmas Lunch on  
**Wednesday 14th December.**

To book or find out more please feel free to contact either  
Catherine 01822 890293 mobile/text 07703274691 or  
Heather 01822 890310 mobile/text 07718939217

**Bookings should be made BEFORE 1st December 2022**



We have suffered our first serious accident in the last three years. A freak accident, that could happen to any of us, but happened to the sweetest and loveliest of young girls.

The group was playing hide and seek down at Spitchwick, running along beside the river, out onto the open flat field, running between the trees. Through the woods, one child ahead of another held onto the branch and then ... thwack it sprang back into the face of her friend chasing her. It could have hit her forehead, her nose. But no, it whacked straight into her eye. At speed we took her off to Torbay Hospital expecting a quick check-up and return home in a couple of hours. Surely nothing more than a superficial scratch that would heal itself.

Once in A&E we held hands and tried to giggle at things we were watching, but mostly we just waited. The emergency nurse called us having prioritised her as a young girl with an eye problem. We were given some eye drops which I could use as needed whilst we sat patiently. We waited maybe an hour and a half before we were called into the examination area. He peered into her eye with a torch, gave us some eye ointment and was about to discharge us when he performed one last test, asking her to cover the good eye and read the eye chart on the wall. She could not read a letter. With her good eye she read at speed. With the bad eye she could see his hand wave in front of her face, but no figures, no definition, certainly no letters on a chart. A specialist was called. We waited.

Another specialist was called and their top eye surgeon who happened to be at the hospital consulted with Bristol and then with Moorfields eye hospital in London. Tiredness seeped into her as we waited for answers and, eventually, she fell asleep on the bed. Then the verdict came- we would need to stay the night. I called back to the farm. The nurse and I woke her to be placed in the 'Big Doughnut' (MRI machine) for a thorough scan. To do this an operation was needed in the morning. She was quiet, we'd had the tears. She was missing the fun, her friends, missing the farm.

We were moved to a room and the nurses made a bed for her weary head and a pull-out one for me. We slept, drugged by fatigue. She was stoical, understanding that a patch would have to be worn for a while, that there might be a second surgery, that an instant solution would not be found.

Morning came quickly, a canula was inserted, a gentle hug and she was gone. I went in search of tea and a series of phone calls to explain as best I could what was happening. I spoke with her Mum, who could not get to the hospital. Relatives had been marshalled, but distance and time was an issue. We asked everyone to be patient.

The MRI completed, nurses kindly pushed her back to the MRI ward and I received a great big hug. No smiles, but a quick recovery from the anaesthetic and a wish to talk to Mum and friends. More of the waiting, waiting and waiting... 'Britain's Got Talent' became the go to mop for all the time we suddenly had. Following terrible dancers, wannabe singers who made our ear drums vibrate with terror, 'Britain's Not got Talent' was finally put to sleep and we mumbled through the night, to be woken early for an appointment with the doctor, the surgeon and various nurses. A very gentle nurse came and wheeled us through the myriad of corridors. I doubt I could find my way again. Like many hospitals, it's a rabbit warren of tunnels that are best negotiated by smell. More peering into the eye. All contacts made, plans written down and discharge was confirmed. The surgeon very kindly pushed the wheelchair himself all the way back to the ward where the canula was deftly removed. She had a 'medical contact lens' a large patch and reference to Great Ormand Street and Moorfields hospitals. The joy of joys on returning to the farm, all her friends ran around her, gentle hugs and clear instructions that she had to sit in the FRONT of the van to be sure that she would not be knocked.

(continued on page37)

(continued from page 36)

Follow-up has been thorough. The surgeon called Moorfields and Great Ormond Street and her mother. The surgeon thinks she should be able to see again with the use of a contact lens. We had that discussion on the ward, with me drawing lots of pictures of an eyeball to try and explain. The good news is that her brother and Mother both wear contacts.

Don't ask the question 'Why'; just be grateful we are in the 21st century, with a functioning health service accessible to all, where skilled physicians and nurses are kind and work hard. Our little girl should be able to see again thanks to everyone's help and support. She will be back, she will possibly be more careful, maybe not. Who can ever foresee a freak accident? The consequences we have yet to learn.

*Julia*

★ BICKINGTON VILLAGE HALL ★  
OLD HILL ★ TQ12 6JX



SATURDAY  
**10TH**  
DECEMBER



**10:30**  
TO  
**14:00**



ENJOY A HOMEMADE LUNCH & BROWSE THE STALLS.  
100% OF PROCEEDS TO ST MARY'S REPAIR FUND.  
EVERYONE WELCOME!

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR SERVICES

**SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER**  
10am-12pm Christmas Decoration Workshop | St Andrew's, Ashburton

**SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER**  
10:30am Christingle Service | St Andrew's, Ashburton  
4pm Christingle Service | St Peter's, Buckland  
4pm Christingle Service | St Pancras, Widecombe

**SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER**  
10:30am Christingle Service | St Michael's, Ilington  
3pm Moor Church Carols | Meet at St Michael's, Ilington  
4pm Carols by Candlelight | St John the Baptist, Leudon  
6pm Carol Service | St Gabriel's, Postbridge  
6pm Carol Service | St Mary's, Holne

**TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER**  
6pm | Community Carols | Blackpool School, Liverton

**THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER**  
7:30pm Carol Service | Poundsgate Methodist Chapel

**FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER**  
7pm Carol Service | St Mary's, Bickington

**SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER**  
4pm Carols by Glowstick | St Peter's, Buckland  
6pm Carol Service | St Pancras, Widecombe  
6:30pm Carols by Candlelight | St Andrew's, Ashburton  
6:30pm Carol Service | St Michael's, Ilington

**MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER**  
7pm Christmas Community Sing | Ashburton Arts Centre

**THURSDAY 22ND DECEMBER**  
6pm Dunstone Outdoor Carol Service | Widecombe Green

**FRIDAY 23RD DECEMBER**  
6:30pm Carols by Candlelight | St Raphael's, Huccaby

**SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER ★ CHRISTMAS EVE**  
3pm Crib Service | St Michael's, Ilington  
3:30pm Crib & Christingle | St Mary's, Holne  
4pm Crib Service | St Pancras, Widecombe  
5pm Crib Service | St Andrew's, Ashburton  
11:30pm Midnight Mass | St Michael's, Ilington  
11:30pm Midnight Communion | St Andrew's, Ashburton  
11:30pm Midnight Communion | St John the Baptist, Leudon

**SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER ★ CHRISTMAS DAY**  
9am Christmas Communion | St Mary's, Bickington  
9am Christmas Communion | St Gabriel's, Postbridge  
10am Christmas Family Communion | St Michael's, Ilington  
10:30am Christmas Family Communion | St Andrew's, Ashburton  
10:30am Christmas Communion | St Pancras, Widecombe  
11am Christmas Communion | St Mary's, Holne  
11am Christmas Communion | St Peter's, Buckland

**SUNDAY 1ST JANUARY ★ NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
10:30am United New Year Service | St Andrew's, Ashburton  
3pm Wassail & Epiphany Carol Service | Newcombe Farm, Coombe



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL  
WEST STREET | ASHBURTON

contact: [enutley17@outlook.com](mailto:enutley17@outlook.com)



for those who would appreciate  
a warm space and a friendly face.

1st Wednesday of the month

**2ND NOVEMBER**  
**7TH DECEMBER**  
**4TH JANUARY**

drop in between 11.45 – 13.15

we will be supplying a bowl of soup  
with a roll and a hot drink.





## BUCKFASTLEIGH CHRISTMAS FAIR

Wednesday 7th December 4.00 – 7.30pm



The famous Buckfastleigh Christmas Fair is back with a Big Bang, an evening of fun and laughter for the whole family!

This year's entertainment will include; children's entertainer Billy Wiz Magic, Higher Beings Circus stilt walking, singer Marc Gale, Lumin Dancing, carol singing, street music, and of course a special visit from Santa in his Grotto.

With more than 40 street stalls and local shops selling a wide range of seasonal goods, food, drink and gifts why not come and do your Christmas shopping and enjoy a warm mince pie and a glass of mulled cider or wine.

Dig deep to support the running of this marvellous evening by bidding on one of the fabulous lots on offer in our Live Street Auction.

For an application form to run your own stall, or any other information about the evening, please see Cathy Veasey in the Brainwave Charity Shop, Buckfastleigh or, contact her on 07943284965

Would you like to help organise next year's Christmas Fair and be involved in one of the regions most exciting and loved events? If the answer is "yes" then please let Cathy know.

**Come and join us. We look forward to seeing you there**



## Moor Mobile Foot Clinic

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**Rachel Arrowsmith-Brown**

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

**01822 880005 or 07786930718**

## Moor Logs

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



## logs for sale



**loads start from £90 for 1.5m**

Call Tom or Rachel Arrowsmith-Brown

Home 01822 880005

mob 07784 146037

## Princetown History Club

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

**December 6** AGM and Christmas meeting, Prince of Wales Inn, with Buffet and Quiz.

**January 3** Pip Barker will talk about the Borstal Boys at Dartmoor Prison

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)

# Don't suffer in silence this Winter

Last week, whilst out on our routine school-run, I noticed an elderly man, sat in the car outside his house, eating breakfast. It took me a moment to realise why. It was a chilly morning, but his car was parked in a sunny spot and probably felt quite cosy compared to an unheated house. This quiet act, in a mild November, spoke volumes about the crisis that is about to unfold this Winter.

These are exceptional times, and there is no shame in struggling to stay warm. A staggering 7 million UK households are estimated to now meet fuel poverty criteria (loosely defined as spending more than 10% of your income on energy). Warmth is so central to our sense of comfort and wellbeing in the Winter months. When that comfort is rationed or taken away completely, then it is only natural to feel vulnerable and exposed.

What can you do if you can't afford to heat your home?

- Create pockets of cosiness and warmth. A heated electric blanket or throw can be a great source of warmth and comfort in an otherwise chilly home. They typically cost between 1p and 3p per hour to run. If you can't afford the upfront cost (about £60 at the moment), please get in touch with SDCE on **0800 112 3044** and we will do our best to help.
- If you are struggling to pay your energy bills, our team of Home Energy Advisors offer free and impartial advice to help lower your energy usage, and can give grants of up to £200 to help you through a crisis (see [www.sdce.org.uk](http://www.sdce.org.uk)). If you are in significant arrears we can help you to access other support.
- If your household income is under £31k and/or you receive a benefit, you can also book a free home visit through [www.leap.org.uk](http://www.leap.org.uk) which could include boiler repairs, draft-proofing, and replacement LED bulbs free of charge.
- Check that you have accessed all of the available government support on <https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>
- If you need a change of scene and are really feeling the chill, look for local 'warm banks' – many churches, cafes, community buildings etc are opening their spaces for people to come and warm up and see some other human faces.
- Heat the human, not the home. Google this phrase and you'll find an excellent guide from the MoneySavingExpert on how to stay warm cheaply.

It is going to be an uncomfortable Winter for us all, and a painful one for many.

Let us get through it with resourcefulness, kindness and community.

**Nicky Puttick, South Dartmoor Community Energy**



# Dartmoor Forest Parish Council



## Extracts from the meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022

### **New Councillor for Princetown Co-opted – Cllr Andy Steele**

Andy has lived and worked in the Princetown community for over 35 years, working as a Crew Commander for the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service and now as Head of Estates for the Ministry of Justice, at HMP Dartmoor. He has a good knowledge of the local community and a keen interest in its heritage and conservation.

### **Do you have what it takes to be a Parish Councillor?**

There is still one vacancy to be filled in the Princetown ward. If you are interested in representing the views of local people and having your say about issues people care about, please see the website for more information and details of the recruitment process.

<https://www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk/news.php>

### **Dartmoor Speedwatch and VZSW Road Safety Initiative**

Over the previous year the Speedwatch volunteers have been at the roadside for over 75 hours, monitoring the speeds of nearly 5000 vehicles in both 30mph and 40mph zones at various locations within the Parish. Just over 600 vehicles registered speeds in excess of the speed limit with the maximum speed recorded in a 30mph zone being 45mph, and the maximum speed in the 40mph zone being recorded at 87mph.

With the shorter days/longer nights fast approaching, drivers are reminded to reduce their speed and be aware of cattle, ponies and sheep on and near the roads across the moor. Earlier in the year funding from Vision Zero South West paid for hi-viz collars for cattle and ponies grazing along the B3121 between Dousland and Princetown, along with an additional Vehicle Activated Speed (VAS) sign. It is hoped that these measures, will help to reduce the number of road traffic accidents involving livestock over the winter months.

### **Do you have an hour to spare once a month? Would you like to help keep Princetown looking at its best?**

Councillors along with their families and friends will be litter picking, weeding and generally have a tidy up in and around Princetown on the first Sunday of the month at 10am for an hour. The next event will take place on – Sunday 4th December (and again on the 8th January) with people initially meeting outside the Post Office. All residents are invited to join in and help keep Princetown looking clean and tidy. Children are welcome, but must be supervised by an adult.

### **Connecting with Residents**

The Council appreciates that not everyone is on Facebook, looks at the website or is able to look at the parish noticeboards. If you would like to keep up to date with the issues being dealt with by the Parish Council please email [clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk) with 'Add me to the Email List' as the subject. You will then receive periodic e-mails, such as the agenda and minutes of meetings etc.

**Dates of next meeting:** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 1930, Princetown Community Centre

**Follow us on Facebook :** <https://www.facebook.com/dartmoorforestpc.net>

**Agenda and Minutes:** <https://www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings.php>

**Parish Clerk: Miss Jackie Bennetts**

**Telephone: 01822 859104**

**Email: [clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk)**  
**Website: [www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk)**





## Year End Review 2022

As 2022 winds down, we at the Rotary Club of Yelverton look back on a year filled with fun, fellowship and service and would like to thank you all for your support and encouragement during the year.

By the time you read this, we will have held our fundraising Barn Dance scheduled for 12 November at the Yelverton War Memorial Hall. We hope that many of you found the time to attend and enjoyed the evening.

The Friendship Café continues to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month in the hall at Briar Tor where music and other fun quizzes relating to yesteryear are a regular feature.

This December, we will again be assisting Santa to visit the villages in his sleigh. Please make a note of the dates below to make sure you and especially your children don't miss this festive fundraiser.

**All Santa's village visits will take place in the evening between 18.00 and 20.00**

**Horrabridge:** Monday 12 December

**Crapstone & Buckland Monachorum:** Tuesday 13 December

**Princetown:** Thursday 15 December.

In addition, there will be 3 other collections:

**Yelverton Shopping Centre:** Saturday 17 December

**Tesco Roborough:** Tuesday 20 December

**Tesco Tavistock:** Wednesday 21 December.

We hope you will support these by giving what you are able. All funds raised will go towards Rotary charities and community projects.



Should you wish to find out more about Rotary Yelverton and our activities or are perhaps considering joining us please contact us via: [president@yelverton.rotary1175.org](mailto:president@yelverton.rotary1175.org) or see our website [www.yelverton.rotary1175.org](http://www.yelverton.rotary1175.org) or Facebook page [Rotary Club of Yelverton District 1175](#). We will be delighted to arrange for you to attend one of our dinners in order for you to meet our members.

All at Rotary Yelverton wish you a wonderful festive season and a Happy New Year.



## ***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)

All Other Correspondence

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

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

Cheques payable to:  
**P C C Widcombe - Link Account**

**Thank you to all those who make donations to the Parish Link.**

**Commercial advertising and donations ensure that the Link continues to be provided free of charge throughout the Moorland Team.**

**If you would like to make a donation, please contact the editorial team.**

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

**Dartmoor Forest Parish Council**

**Postbridge Village Hall**

**Friends of Widcombe School**

**Princetown History Society**

**High Moorland WI**

**Various anonymous donations**

**Holne Parish Council**

**Widcombe Church House Committee**

**Holne Second-Hand Books**

**Widcombe Fair Committee**

**Holne Village Hall Committee**

**Widcombe History Group**

**Leusdon Memorial Hall**

**Widcombe Ladies Social Group**

**Moorland Merrymakers**

**Widcombe Parish Council**

**Phyl's Follies (Postbridge)**

**Widcombe Sports Group**

As we head towards the end of 2022 many of us will be looking backward with mixed feelings at a year that seemed not to know how to stop producing “unprecedented”

events. After such a year of upheaval and change the idea of Christmas and spending time with our family and in our community seems especially precious.

As you will see there are plenty of ways to join in the moorland community’s celebration of Christmas this year, from a Christmas Decoration Workshop in St Andrew’s in Ashburton to a classic Dartmoor pantomime in Leusdon or Postbridge. This edition of our magazine showcases the many ways our communities come together to learn, socialise and worship throughout the month. We hope that you will find something that inspires you to try something new or enjoy some more of your regular events.

We would like to thank all our advertisers, whose support helps to keep this community resource going, and all the secretaries and other members of clubs, societies and church communities who tirelessly supply us with details of all the huge array of events that are taking place.

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year...and fewer unprecedented events in 2023. We look forward to hearing from you!!

With best wishes from  
“The Link Team”



### **Parish Link Advertising Costs**

<b>Size</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Year</b>
<b>Sixth Page</b>	<b>61x60mm</b>	<b>£7.50</b>	<b>£80</b>
<b>Quarter Page</b>	<b>61x92mm</b>	<b>£12</b>	<b>£125</b>
<b>Half Page</b>	<b>128x92mm</b>	<b>£20</b>	<b>£215</b>
<b>Full Page</b>	<b>128x192mm</b>	<b>£35</b>	<b>£380</b>

**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**

**the December 2022 edition of the Link will be Thursday 8th December, a little earlier this month as it is Christmas, early copy always welcomed, by email please**

**Next issue available on Thursday 22nd December**



## **THE RUGGLESTONE INN**

WIDECOMBE IN THE MOOR

Home from home with Cask ales, fine wines, local cider & country food.  
Traditional Dartmoor Inn with an inviting atmosphere, all set in  
a fabulous beer garden, with moorland brook.

### ACCOMMODATION

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

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