Moorland Parish Link

Widecombe Huccaby - Ilsíngton - Leusdon - Postbrá showton - Bickington - Buckland - Holne

February 2023

Church and Community Magazine of The Moorland Team

The Ministry Team

Team Rector Rt Revd Mark Rylands	The Rectory, Copperwood Close Ashburton, TQ13 7JQ	01364 716309 mark.rylands@mmuk.net	
Team Vicar Revd Geoffrey Fenton	The Vicarage, Widecombe-in-the- Moor, TQ13 7TF	01364 621334 geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk	
Associate Priest John Bennett	The Vicarage, Ilsington, TQ13 9RW	01364 661116 jsbkbennett@btinternet.com	
Mission & Family Development Worker Heidi Lewis	Holne Vicarage, Holne, TQ13 7RT	07759578941 heidi@moorlandteam.org.uk	
Methodist Minister Revd Kevin Hooke		01626 832369 hookekp@hotmail.com	

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

Moorland Team Safeguarding Adviser - Judy Southcombe 01364 621520 Diocesan Safeguarding Team - Safeguarding Enquiry@exeter.anglican.org

Moorland Team Website: https://ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/safeguarding-2

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The Parish Letter

Dust and Glory

Ten years old, I remember receiving back my maths exam paper, recently marked. At the top, in bold red ink, the teacher had written: '9% - Abysmal!'

I was never going to be a maths' scholar, however, I did become much better at it because of one special teacher – Mr Barker. He spent time with the six of us who found maths challenging. He even named us after the firemen in the children's TV programme, Trumpton (Pugh, Pugh, Barney McGrew, Cuthbert, Dibble and Grub. I was 'Cuthbert'). We did not feel Mr Barker was laughing at us but with us. We certainly knew he was for us. Because of his warm nature and the sense that he liked us, we wanted to work hard for him. We started to enjoy maths and to improve. Mr Barker saw the potential in us- not just the problems- and that made all the difference. Because of him, I passed my math's exam in the summer.

Jesus was similar. When Google, Apple or Facebook make appointments, they choose only the brightest and best. In the 1st Century, to become a disciple or a rabbi was the equivalent of being employed by Facebook, Google or Apple today. Only the brightest and best pupils in school went on to be disciples of rabbis. Most young people finished school at an earlier stage and went on to learn the family business instead – farming, viticulture, fishing or whatever. So, at the age of 30, when it was customary for a rabbi to begin his ministry, we see Jesus walking along the shore of Lake Galilee and calling some fishermen, Peter, Andrew, James and John, to follow him.

They were fishermen presumably because they were not clever enough to be disciples of a rabbi. So Jesus was radically different in calling people who did not make the cut - who were 'not good enough' – to be his disciples. Yet these disciples went on to change the course of human history. Despite their lack of education, Jesus saw what they would become. The gospel writer, Luke, gives us a frank and honest insight into the disciples' failures and Jesus' extreme patience and persistence. Jesus was prepared to work with the mess of human lives. He saw beyond the problems to the potential of his disciples. Luke shows us how God does not give up on his followers. He loves to take ordinary folk and do extraordinary things through them.

Jesus gives us an example of what it is to be a good teacher and I can see now that Mr Barker had many of his gifts. Unlike the gospel of Homer Simpson- 'You tried your best, you failed miserably. The lesson is, never try!'- Jesus encourages us not to give up on following him, despite our failures and weaknesses.

(Continued on page 5)

Churchwardens

St Mary the Virgin, Holne	St Mary the Virgin, Holne with St Raphael, Huccaby				
Gillian Parker	Thimble Hall, Hexworthy, PL20 6SD	01364 631507	stmaryvirgin2022@gmail.com		
Anthony Parker	as above	as above	straphael1868@gmail.com		
St John the Baptist, Leuse	don				
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		
St Andrews, Ashburton					
Francis Parffrey	Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton TQ13 7EA	01364 654067	francis.parffrey@gmail.com		
Mike Lowrey		07900 893695	mikeatchurch@btinternet.com		
St Mary the Virgin, Bicking	gton				
Michael Hext		07458 359541	grannypats.pat50@gmail.com		
Peter Warren	Rentor, Bickington	01626 821213	pw.rentor@gmail.com		
St Peter, Buckland in the	Moor				
Clare Caunter		01364 653234			
Marie Jessop		01364 653234			
St Michael's, Ilsington					
Linda Hall		01626 821603	lindamhall@outlook.com		
Peter Dickinson		07801 042767	peter@pmgd.com		

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

Telephone 01364654280/07445240133 or email: admin@moorlandteam.org.uk

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

Moorland Team Officers

Treasurer	Francis Parffrey	Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton TQ13 7EA	TQ13 7EA 01364 654067 francis.parffrey@gmail.co	
Secretary	Secretary Gillian Parker Thimble Hall, Hexworthy, PL20 6SD		01364 631507 stmaryvirgin2022@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)

The Church of England's Lent campaign this year is called *'Dust and Glory.'* Offering 40 daily reflections on faith, failure and forgiveness, we are invited to find God in the mess of everyday life. There will be groups meeting across the Ashburton and Moorland Team. Look out on the church website and weekly news sheet for details.

This is an opportunity to understand how God is both for us and with us in our daily lives.

+Mark

From the Registers

Funeral	Widecombe	9th January	Ada (Rene) Vallance
Funeral	Widecombe	12th January	June Oliver

An hour of quiet reflection Postbridge Church

Tuesday 7th February at 7.30pm
Tuesday 7th March

with

Wide spacing Candlelight

Warm church Silence

warm church Sherice

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?

Newton Abbot CST Group

Mondays 10.30 - 12.30pm

Buckfastleigh & Ashburton CST Group

Wednesdays 2.30 - 4.30pm

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Wednesday mornings

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Or email holnevillagehallbooking@gmail.com





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
12th Feb	18.00	Holy Communion
19th Feb	09.00	Holy Communion at Huccaby (snowdrops available)
27th Feb	17:00	Evening Worship

The weather in January was enough to test the patience of a saint, (which I am not), with the persistent wind and rain and the resulting damage and flooding. Whether or not you believe our climate is changing as a result of human activity, there is reason enough to make an effort to change how we treat the natural world and its resources.

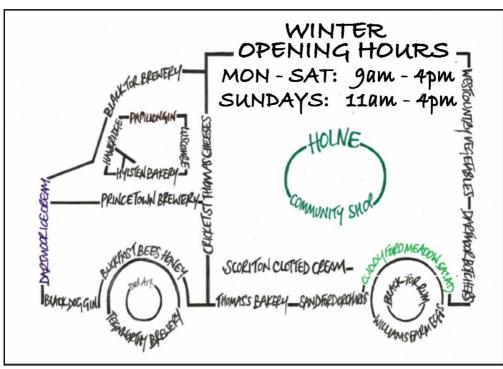
The Book of Genesis in the Bible tells us that God created the world and everything in it. He gave the care of his creation to humankind with the intention that through good stewardship, the earth and creatures would flourish and provide everything that was needed for its survival. Not just the survival of humankind but every living thing. Sadly, the human desire to act like gods and treat everything as being there for our benefit alone, has consequences which are all too obvious.

If the extinction of species, or the impact of severe weather conditions are not enough to convince us to change our ways and use our resources differently, political upheaval, pandemics and unfair distribution of wealth must surely make us think. How sustainable are the goods and services we use? Are they produced through slavery or exploitation of people? How can we share in a better way?

The version of the Lord's Prayer from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer is written as "Your will be done *in earth* as it is in Heaven". Modern versions use the phrase "*on earth*". For me, the older version is more meaningful. It challenges us to see our world as holistic and inclusive of that we cannot see as well that which is easily visible to us.

We can all make a difference. Every small change adds up, and the more small changes the better. Christians have a duty to God for creation care. We all have a duty to future generations.

Gillian





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For further information please contact us on:

07814 365531 or email

ashburtonleagueoffriends@outlook.com

Holne Whist Tuesday 7th February

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

Held in the hall on the first Friday of the month, from 12.30pm

The next lunch is on 3rd February

Please ring Maggie Arden on 01364 631438

if further information is required

Something for our younger readers, join the dots carefully and then colour it in to complete your picture!!





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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

Saints and sinners.

Saint Máedóc of Ferns, 31 January 632 AD: 1,400 years of scams

Have you ever been disturbed from your normal calm and happy nature by a scam text message or email you have received. They seemed to particularly multiply over the Christmas and New Year period. The sender probably claimed to be in urgent need of some money because their phone was broken or whatever. Fortunately, many of us become suspicious because the phrasing of such messages do not sound like our relatives. Or perhaps you had an undelivered parcel; or you had just won some money or vouchers? Nevertheless, the whole experience can be clearly upsetting. Is it a genuine message or a scam? Who do you turn to ask for reassurance or advice?

As Christians this type of experience is always going to present us with a dilemma. Do we follow the teaching of Jesus who, according to the Gospel of Matthew, said: 'Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you', or do we walk away telling ourselves that we support other charities, and that they may potentially use our money wisely?

There is a story about C S Lewis who was walking past a street beggar with a friend. He stopped and gave the beggar his loose change while his friend walked on. When they got together again his friend said, 'the beggar will only spend it on ale'. To which C S Lewis replied, 'that's what I would have spent it on as well!'

Ascertaining the true status of scammers or street beggars has never been easy, The Irish saint, Máedóc of Ferns – also called Saint Aidan or Saint Mogue – is celebrated on the last of day of January - he died on 31 January 632 AD. While he was known for his self-denial, holiness, and charity, he was also wise to fraudsters who even then, nearly 1,400 years ago, would try to scam other people. One day some fraudsters turned up at his monastery having hidden their fine clothes and replaced them with dirty rags. They asked Máedóc to help them to buy some new clothes - but first Máedóc checked them out. He found their hidden clothes and he gave them to some genuine beggars outside the monastery and sent the fraudsters away in their rags!

The lesson we can all learn from Saint Máedóc, is to always check out what the real situation is - before being 'generous'. Block messages, report them as scams, and don't respond. In the case of street beggars please don't be too generous if you suspect them. If you are unsure about someone's honesty, direct them to an appropriate charity that you support.

(Continued on page 13)

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Moorland Parish Link Online

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https://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/parish_link/index.php

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

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Communication.

The first edition of *The Parish Magazine*, produced by the Revd John Erskine Clarke at St Michael's, Derby, in January 1859, is widely considered to be the first such publication. By 2009, parish magazines had an estimated combined readership of more than 1.3 million, greater than many national newspapers.

Today, however, their future looks less clear. Web-based communications, social media and email bulletins have caused magazines to close and editors to give up. Many believe that the parish magazine's days are numbered. Others though, like me, believe that they will have a part to play for many years to come. Various factors — such as the sharp decline in local journalism, which leaves the field clear for community-based communications, and the switch to hybrid production, print and online — may be giving grassroots magazines a new lease of life. Print itself could be increasing in popularity as people seek a break from screens.

Those who see the importance of both digital communications and paper publication include Nick Edmonds, deputy head of news at Church House, Westminster. Mr Edmonds, who wrote the book *How Village Churches Thrive*, explained: 'While most parishes now use digital platforms, a good magazine can still be a valuable part of mission and outreach in both rural and urban settings. Magazines tend to have a longer shelf life in homes than electronic content and are vital for those who are either not online or who simply enjoy reading.

Next month I will outline how overall good communications are pivotal to the development of our Mission Community and will be asking for volunteers to establish a new, strong communication structure and culture.

Tony Parker

Rainfall in December 2022

Place	Total Rainfall	Total Rainfall Days without rain	
Postbridge	292.4mm (11.5")	92.4mm (11.5") 13	
	(December 2021 -		
Holne	403.3mm (15.87")		*18th 109.2mm (4.3")



*A station record for Holne

Total Rainfall in 2022

Place Total Rainfall 2021		Total Rainfall 2022	
Postbridge 1896.4mm (74.7")		1742.3mm (68.7")	
Holne	2124.2mm (83.6")	2040.4mm (80.33")	



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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
5th Feb	16.00	Evensong
12th Feb	12.00	Parish Communion
19th Feb	12:00	Parish Communion
27th Feb	12.00	Parish 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

Leusdon Memorial Hall

We started our year with the coffee morning which, in spite of the inclement weather, made a total of £98.00 for hall funds. (Apologies for the lack of heating and thank you all for your patience, it has now been fixed).

The next Coffee Morning will be held on **Wednesday 1st February 10.00am-12.00noon** There will be the usual Whist at Leusdon on **Monday 13th February** with the lunch at 1.00pm followed by Whist at 2.00pm.

There is now a regular Yoga Class in the Hall on Tuesday evenings and Keep Fit on Wednesdays, we hope all attendees enjoy these and they are a success for the organisers, further details can be found in the Parish Link and I am sure on social media.

The committee met on Monday 16th January at 7.30pm. We will publish details from this meeting in March's Parish Link.

Should you wish to book the Hall, it is available for hire at £10.00 per hour, there are special rates for regular users. Further details can be obtained by contacting our booking secretary:

Amanda Routley on 01364 631432

e mail: leusdonmemorialhall@yahoo.com

(Continued on page 17)



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(Continued from page 15)

Tables at the Coffee Morning can be booked for £5 per table per session, please either book these by using the details above or coming to see us at the coffee morning. In the meantime, if anyone would like to discuss any aspect of the Hall please contact myself or any committee member. Ideas for the centenary commemoration are especially welcome.

My contact details are John Southcombe e mail: <u>johnsouthcombe@hotmail.com</u> or via messenger

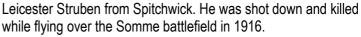
Leusdon Memorial Hall charity no.300887

Almost a hundred years later.....

Perhaps you have heard the story on BBC tv news recently about a group of retired engineers in Scotland who have built a replica of a First World War Airplane called a Sopwith 11/2 strutter which they hope to fly on completion during 2023



On hearing the name 'Sopwith Strutter' I was reminded of the plane of that name being flown by



The full story of Lieutenant L F Struben and other men from Widecombe parish killed in the Great War is told at: https://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/ww1/index.php

The 'Sopwith' although a British Warplane which was originally manufactured by the Sopwith Aviation Company, the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air service had only 1,439 'Strutters' compared to 4,500 flown by 'Areonautique Militaire' the French Airforce. Smaller numbers of 'Sopwiths' saw service with the Japanese, Russian and United States forces during the Great War

In 1920 Sopwith Aviation Company went into liquidation. Its patents and other assets were acquired by a new company Hawker Aviation the forerunner of Hawker Siddeley which merged into British Aircraft Corporation in 1997.

David Ashman

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Method: Sift the flour and salt into a large bowl, make a well in the centre and stir the eggs into it. Stir or whisk to combine and gradually add the milk and then the melted butter or oil. Leave to rest for up to 30 minutes. Heat a frying pan, with a tiny bit of oil and cover the base with a thin layer of batter. Cook for 2 minutes and then turn over, or flip if you are feeling brave. Serve with sugar and fresh lemon.













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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	
7th Feb	19:30	An Hour of Quiet Reflection	
12th Feb	09.00	Holy Communion BCP	
27th Feb	18:00	Evening Prayer	

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 geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk

Postbridge Coffee Morning

The next coffee mornings will be held on

Monday 6th February and Monday 6th March at 11am in Postbridge Village Hall

Maureen

POSTBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

Welcome you all to our monthly Coffee Shop and Mini Market Monday 20th February 11.00am - 12.30pm

Raffle, Stalls - local meat, produce, cards, books, puzzles, craft etc

Guest stall- Dartmoor Livestock Protection Society

Details—call Sue on 01822 880223
We welcome paperback books, puzzles and bric a brac

Dust and Glory - Lent Courses starting in February

This Lent a number of groups are meeting across the Benefice to explore how we can live well with the mess of everyday life. Dust and Glory (the Archbishops' Lent Course) encourages us to take a fresh look at the frustrations and failings that every day brings and, rather than pretending we can always avoid them, seek to learn from them and grow closer to God through them. Why not join us?

Thursdays at Widecombe Vicarage from 4.00 – 5.30, starting with a cup of tea! First meeting 23rd February. More info from Geoffrey Fenton on 01364 621334 geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk
Fridays in Holne from 10.00 – 11.00. First meeting 24th February.
Contact Gillian Parker on 01364 631507 gillianp1992@gmail.com for venue and more details.



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News from the East Shallowford Trust



Arthur, our resident volunteer peered into the Ark this morning muttering as he shook off droplets like a shaggy dog, 'Can you actually walk to the other side of the bridge? You can't see the bridge!' The simple answer would be, 'At your peril!' Arthur was gallantly aiming to sweep some of the growan from the road to allow cars to pass more easily below the farm, but was thwarted by the water. Surely by now the reservoirs must be full? Surely! A quick search on South West Water's website reveals results only until December. As we all know, since December and including the whole of January there has been a veritable Biblical deluge, with rain moving in every direction except 'up' (have I mentioned before that I have seen rain falling upwards – really weird, in Mali....... very strange)!

The brilliant group from a Bristol school that ventured to stay for a whole week last January have a new Headmaster who was not too keen to allow an intrepid group visit this year. We are sad, as they were truly fun. However, we have to remind ourselves, that our targeted youth in Bristol will always be hard to persuade as they are struggling financially, often struggle to integrate and fear of the unknown within their parents is quite profound. Having said that, a full 105 from Bristol and another one hundred primary school children from Torbay and Plymouth with several young carers and Dartmoor Youth Rangers should visit before the summer. 'Why bother?' Someone asked, 'If their parents are not interested to save up and educate their children, why should you bother?' I drew a deep breath, thinking, 'I have to answer wisely'........ not easy for my poor old head. It reminded me of a quote: 'Fairy tales don't tell children that dragons exist. Children already know that dragons exist. Fairy tales tell children that dragons can be killed.' Neil Gaiman.

(Continued on page 36)

Church Services for February 2023

5th Februa	ry	3rd bef	ore Lent		Green
Readings - Isaid	ah 58.1-9	9a[b-12], Psalm 112.1-9[10], 1	1 Corinthians 2.1	-12[13-16	i], Matthew 5.13-20
Widecombe	08.00	Holy Communion BCP	Ashburton	08.00	Holy Communion
Widecombe	10.30	All Age Service	Bickington	09.00	Holy Communion
Leusdon	16.00	Evensong	Ashburton	10.30	Family Service
			Ilsington	10.30	Holy Communion
			Ashburton	10.30	Morning Worship, Church Hall *
			Buckland	15.00	Holy Communion
7th Februa	ry	Quie	t Reflection	า	
Postbridge	19.30	An Hour of Quiet Reflection			
12th Febru	ary	2nd b	efore Lent		Green
Readings - Gen	esis 1.1 -	- 2.3, Psalm 136 or Psalm 13	6.1-9,23-26, Roi	mans 8.18	3-25, Matthew 6.25-34
Postbridge	09.00	Holy communion BCP	Ilsington	08.00	Holy Communion
Widecombe	10.30	Parish Communion	Ashburton	10.30	Parish Communion
Leusdon	12.00	Parish Communion	Ilsington	10.30	Family Service
			Tbc	15.00	Moor Church
			Holne	18.00	Holy Communion
19th Februa	ary	Sund	ay before Lo	ent	Green
Readings - Exoc	dus 24.12	2-18, Psalm 2 or Psalm 99, 2	Peter 1.16-21, N	latthew 1	7.1-9
Widecombe	10:30	Parish Communion	Huccaby	09.00	Holy Communion (snowdrops available)
Leusdon	12.00	Parish Communion	Ashburton	10.30	All-Age Communion
			Bickington	10.30	Morning Worship
			Ilsington	10:30	Holy Communion
			Buckland	15.00	Evening Prayer
			Ashburton	18:30	Celtic Reflective Service - St Petroc's*
22nd Febru	ary	Ash	Wednesday	1	
			Ashburton	10.30	Holy Communion, with imposition of ashes

23rd February		Mid-week Com	munion			
			Ashburton	10.30	Informal Communion, Church Hall*	
26th Februry		1st of Lent			Purple or Lent array	
Readings - Genesis 2	2.15-17; 3.	1-7, Psalm 32, Romans 5.1	2-19, Matthew 4.	1-11		
Widecombe	10.30	Parish Communion	Ashburton	09.30	Breakfast Church, Church Hall*	
Leusdon	12.00	Parish Communion	Ashburton	10.30	Parish Communion	
Postbridge	18.00	Evening Prayer	Ilsington	10.30	Morning Praise	
			Holne	17.00	Evening Worship	
			* Service led by Ashburton Methodists. All are welcome.			

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

Febr	Page	
1st	Leusdon Coffee Morning	<u>15</u>
1st	Widecombe History Group	<u>33</u>
1st	High Moorland WI	<u>37</u>
3rd	Holne Soup Lunch	9
5th	Tidy Princetown Session	<u>40</u>
6th	Postbridge Coffee Morning	<u>19</u>
7th	Quiet Reflection	<u>5</u>
7th	Holne Whist	9
7th	Princetown History Group	<u>37</u>

Febru	Page	
11th	Widecombe Handbells	<u>30</u>
12th	Parish Link copy deadline	
13th	Leusdon Whist	<u>15</u>
20th	Postbridge Mini-Market	<u>19</u>
23rd	Lent Course - Widecombe	<u>19</u>
23rd	Buckland in the Moor Whist	<u>35</u>
24th	Lent Course - Holne	<u>19</u>
28th	Dartmoor Parish Council Mtg	<u>40</u>





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

Church Services—see Page 22 for details

Date	Time	Sidesperson	Coffee	Flowers
5th Feb	08.00 & 10.30	Dawn (10.30)	Beth (10.30)	Judy
12th Feb	10.30	Ronnie	Judy	Judy
19th Feb	10.30	Clare Born	Debbie	Jenny Pascoe
26th Feb	10.30	Penny	Penny	Lent (no flowers)

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

WIDECOMBE PARISH COUNCIL Grant applications invited

Widecombe Parish Council has allocated funds in its budget under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. This section allows local councils to incur expenditure which, in their opinion, is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it or all or some of its inhabitants and for which no other legislation can be applied.

If you are a community group wishing to be considered for a small grant, please contact the clerk for an application form: suzanna.hughes21@gmail.com or

Suzanna Hughes, 16 Westwood Cleave, Ogwell, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6YE.

Applications should be submitted by **20th February 2023** for consideration in the March Parish Council meeting.

The Parish Council reserves the right to verify the details supplied in any application. The grant of an award is entirely at the discretion of the Parish Council whose decision is final. The Parish Council will not enter into any correspondence regarding any decision made.

My Customers....well where do I start?
It's enough to break the posties heart,
 Trying to save the Royal Mail,
My Job, your service...looks like we'll fail,
The powers that be, seem hell bent,
 To disregard the advice we vent!
My thanks to you...It's you I serve,
 For gifts I feel I don't deserve,
I hope they all can soon sense see,
And have a more pleasant 2023!

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<u>PreSchool (2-5years)</u> Tue 9:15am - 3pm Wed 9:15am - 12:45pm Fri 9:15am - 3pm

See website for fees and funding info.

Widdytots (Newborn-5years)
Parent & Child sessions
Mon 9-11:45am Relaxed informal
group with drinks and snacks.
£3 per child, £1 sibling.

"You can tell how much the staff love the preschool by how much they put in to it and in return how much the children love them!"

Our PreSchool is set in the heart of Widecombe with our base at Church House. Here we have weekly music, yoga, cooking and lots of exploring and play!

We also have a fantastic sensory garden, space to dig, grow vegetables and pick fruit.

Our outdoor classroom is run every
Wednesday in our new field nearby where
we cook over an open fire, hunt for bugs and
swing in the trees!

www.widecombepreschool.org.uk

Info@widecombepreschool.org.uk (01364) 621273

'Our children have both thrived at Widecombe exploring the various outside spaces and taking adventure walks around the local fields'

Widecombe & District Sports Group



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

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

Regular Bookings: Tuesday & Thursday: Tennis Adults (16+) 6.30 Under 16's with ability are welcome to these sessions with a parent who is also playing. For queries re tennis phone Di Cameron on 621218.

Please remember to wear soft soled shoes and to leave the court tidy with the net replaced. Report any damage immediately to Claire Partridge (Secretary) on 621468. Close all gates and replace the keys. For more information about WDSG visit www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/sports_group/

Thank you and enjoy your sports area.

Widecombe Singers

.....if you want to join the Singers they rehearse at

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SMALL TREES

Widecombe Ladies Social Group &

The Christmas Tree Festival was held in the Church from the 10th to the 18th December 2022, it proved a great success despite the awful weather, with visitors from all over the country as well as a few from overseas. The lovely couple from Kent who come every year to see the Festival came back again to tell us about their wedding in the summer in Devon if you remember, the gentleman particularly wanted to propose amongst the trees, which he did last year!

They went away saying "See you next year". We had a record number of trees this year 27!

CHILDREN'S TREES

The theme this year was "Weather" which turned out to be very appropriate!

The results were:

ADULT'S TREES

Dartmoor Hill Ponies

1st Widecombe Kiosk (Mary)		1st Widecombe Preschool		1st Cafe on the Green
2 nd St. Michael's Church	١,	2 nd Widecombe Primar	у	2 nd Mike "The Post"
3rd Janet Anderson		3 rd Widdytots		3 rd Aileen Carrett
Other participants:				
Golden Snowflake Crew	Wideco	ombe History Group	St. Gab	riel's Church, Postbridge
Jacqueline Welby	The Sh (Elaine	nop on the Green	Ann Mu	rphy
Dunstone Chapel	Heatre	e Activity Centre	Debbie Link" Te	& Fiona and "The Parish am
Leusdon Church Choir	Shallov	wford Farm	Wideco	mbe Village Stores

Widecombe Singers

Widecombe Sewing Group

Wendy Beard Davey Family Judy Southcombe

There was also the "Tree of Prayer Flags" provided by Penny, where visitors were invited to take a flag from the tree to take home. Also very popular were the soft toys supplied by the McAfee family, who all found new loving homes! Mary's hats and gloves also proved very popular, all proceeds going to our nominated Charity for this year "Young Devon" Charity Number 1057949

Over the course of the Festival we had a collection for Young Devon, the collections from the Carol Service, Crib Service and the Christmas Day Service were also for Young Devon and we were able to send them the magnificent sum of £1,176.06. The Widecombe Christmas Whist Drive also sent Young Devon their profit of £91, so altogether, Widecombe has sent them this Christmas £1,267.06, for which they are really grateful.

Thank you to **EVERYONE** concerned with the Festival, the Participants, the many Stewards and especially David, who unlocks and locks up the Church everyday, and puts all the lights on the trees on and off every time!

Judy



Widecombe Handbells

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

Saturday 11th February 10.00-11.00 am

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 Widecombe.

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

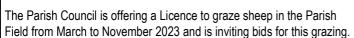
These rates are for local non commercial events only. For other rates please ask the bookings secretary.

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 Parish Council

Invitation to bid for the Sheep Grazing in the Parish Field for 2023



Please note:

- The field will be planted with Apple Trees in wire guards which is why only sheep are to be grazed.
- There will be a minimum of three 2-week periods in the year when the field must be clear of sheep for events being held by the Jubilee Orchard Committee. There will be at least 6 weeks notice given of the date for each event.
- There may not be a water-supply in the field, in which case the Licensee will be responsible for providing a trough and keeping it replenished.
- The Licensee will be required to prove valid current Public Liability Insurance
- A copy of the Licence is available after the Parish Council

Bids must be submitted by **15th February**. Please submit your bid to the Parish Clerk, Suzanna Huges: suzanna.hughes21@gmail.com

Mrs S Hughes, Widecombe PC, 16 Westwood Cleave, Ogwell, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6YE



Widecombe Fair Help needed

Widecombe Fair is looking for two new members to join the team putting our world famous fair together. Sadly the people who have been doing both roles are moving away from the area.

Sponsorship Secretary - approaching local and regional businesses to obtain sponsorship is a vital role in making the Fair a success.

Programme Editor - putting together the artwork for the Fair programme and overseeing its printing and delivery.

If you would like to know more about these roles or feel you can help please contact the Chairman **Mike Pascoe** on **01364 621333**



Widecombe Community Hall CIO Update

We're really looking forward to our **Games Night and Supper** on Friday 27th January at Leusdon Memorial Hall – places must be booked so let Yvette know if you're planning to join us! 01364 631543 or yvette.elliott@ymail.com

We are launching our new fundraiser at this event – you are invited to have your names engraved on granite stones that will be built into our *Supporting Wall*. We are asking for a minimum donation of £40 per name but hope you will be as generous as possible in your offer. The online order form will be available on our website from 28th January. If you think you could help us with future fundraising, including bid writing and grant applications, we'd love to hear from you! Please get in touch to find out more. www.widecombecommunityhall.org

Cook Wanted / Job Share



Working with groups of disadvantaged young people, mostly from cities, who are not used to sitting around a table and sharing a home cooked meal, we are looking for a cook who can bake and prepare home meals for between 20-30 people at a time. Being our cook means becoming one of the team and also working with young people to encourage good nutrition and improved healthy eating habits.

Hours are variable and can be topped up with cleaning or gardening if needed, or simply job share to gain hours that suit you. Flexibility will be essential along with own transport to Widecombe (we are about 2 miles out of Widecombe in the Moor).

Desperately Seeking Cleaners

We are once again looking for cleaners who must provide attention to detail and be happy to drive to Widecombe in the Moor. Rate for an adult is £12/hour, with preferred hours normally being Monday morning, and Fridays, but other hours possible. We always say; 'cleaning is a good work out – and you get paid to do it!'

Please contact Julia directly on: Tel: 01364 621 392 or Julia@shallowfordfarm.co.uk



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Interested in the history of Dartmoor and Devon?

On the first Wednesday of every month we host a visiting speaker with talks open to all.

You'd be very welcome to join us ... come along just for something that interests you ... or come along every month to discover something new.

People come from far and wide to hear some knowledgeable, entertaining speakers on a wide range of subjects...

Every month is different!

Join us in 2023 ... and discover something new about Dartmoor and Devon

On the first Wednesday of every month in the Church House, Widecombe from 7pm

Everyone is welcome at

WIDECOMBE HISTORY GROUP

Coming Up:

Wednesday 1st February: "Moorland villages such as Widecombe are the oases in this desert..." Dartmoor Tourism in the 1920s

Wednesday 1st March: "Every Bridge has a Story" From Clapper Bridges to Modern Times on Dartmoor

DASH

District of Ashburton Surgery Help Line

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

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

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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.

Poundsgate - The next service will be Sunday 5th February at 3.00pm

Dunstone Charity Lunches

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

NO Charity Lunch at Dunstone Chapel in February but the next one will be held on Wednesday 8th March from 12 noon until 3pm.

Please do come and bring your friends as they have been rather poorly attended recently.

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.



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.

Buckland-in-the-Moor Whist 2023



12.30pm Optional soup and a roll lunch £2 at 2.00pm Whist £3 including half-time refreshments draw

Thursday 23rd February.

Whist every fourth Thursday in the month.



(Continued from page 21)

It's all that stuff you hear in the news about 'building resilience'. All of us can see the difference since lock-down. Sneezes and snuffles that have endured far longer than normal

as our herd immunity diminishes. Young children resorting to a screen as parents gasp for breath and take the new found 'ease of entertainment' rather than sitting down, playing games at Christmas or reading a story at night. Society has been changing since the very first society ever existed. Growing, changing, adapting to technology, whether it was the development of reeves, chimneys, stone walls, the first aga, electricity. The best one is critics of early steam-spewing locomotives, who thought "that women's bodies were not designed to go at 50 miles an hour," and worried that "[female passengers'] uteruses would fly out of



All togged up in a moment without rain to enjoy the delights of pond or rather, river dipping!

[their] bodies as they were accelerated to that speed"—which, for the record, they did and will not.* Others suspected that any human body might simply melt at high speeds.

Sheep and cows that have only been seen in books or safely from a car cause wrinkled noses at the smell of poo and silage. Brave fingers poke out of the green jackets to feel the dripping wool that in no way resembles a jumper that they might possibly wear. They giggle, they laugh and then jump when the door on the sheep race bangs to eject another ewe. It's a beginning, to normalise, to entice, to develop curiosity and interest. The teachers looked furtively from dripping hats and soggy coats, understandably straining as they had to throw out hands to grab a sliding child in the mud. But not one child complained about the driving rain which induced red, cold little cheeks. After all, what is 'normal' changes with every generation. Rain fortunately remains 'normal' on Dartmoor....... we just need to be sure children are outside to enjoy it!

Julía

Other Community News and Events

Princetown History Club

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

February 7th A talk by Andy Crabb, DNPA archaeologist, about the archaeology of Mardon Down.

March 7th A talk by David Lemon on the Zimbabwe ruins

For further information, please contact MrJohn Lissenden phone 01752 47573 email jlissenden@talktalk.net
Mr Bill Radcliffe

email <u>bill.radcliffe2@btopenworld.com</u>
Web Site: princetownhistoryclub.weebly.com

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're back for another yearwith a new team of leaders and helpers, and we're very excited to share some new ideas with you!

Messy Church is an informal, creative type of church service where attendees learn about the Christian faith through 'doing'.

We finish each session with a home-cooked, 2-course meal.

- · investigate
- · share & show · crafts
- · explore
- · games
- · music

- discuss
- · science
- · drama

Next Sessions: Saturday 11th March Saturday 13th May ¹ Saturday 8th July St Andrew's Church Ashburton

4-6pm (meal at 5:15pm)

Contact:

heidi@moorlandteam.org.uk

www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/children-and-youth



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.









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Rachel Arrowsmith-Brown

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

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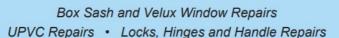
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Winter 2023 Update

As we look back on a successful albeit challenging 2022, we at Rotary Club Yelverton would like to thank you all for the contributions we received during our fundraising events over the 2022 festive season. Through your generosity, we will be able to continue supporting many charities and worthy causes in 2023.

Our main fundraising events of the year included our very successful collections at Tesco in Roborough and Tavistock, the shops at Yelverton and the very popular Santa's sleigh events around the villages. Sadly, the inclement weather and icy roads prohibited Santa from visiting all the streets usually included on his route but we hope we can be forgiven for our desire to keep him, his reindeer, his Rotary 'elves' and his sleigh safe and on the road. Again, many thanks to those who gave so generously.

We are also delighted to report that funds raised during our very successful Barn Dance last November (see photo) enabled us to donate £500 to local

Ukrainian refugee families just before Christmas.

And now on to our first major event of 2023 ...

After the Barn Dance, we were inundated by requests to hold a similar event early in the new year. As a result, we have decided to hold a 60's & 70's Nite on Saturday 18th March 2023. Please diarise this event. Costs and booking details will be available on our Facebook page or at the website below. We are looking forward to another fun evening with plenty of music, dancing and merriment.

Should you wish to find out more about Rotary Yelverton and our activities or are perhaps considering joining us please contact us via:

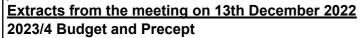


president@yelverton.rotary1175.org or see our website www.yelverton.rotary1175.org or Facebook page Rotary Club of Yelverton District 1175. We will be delighted to arrange for you to attend one of our dinners in order for you to meet our members.





Dartmoor Forest Parish Council





- The precept is the amount of money used to fund all the activities that the Parish Council carries out for the benefit of the community.
- The billing authority (West Devon Borough Council) collects these funds on behalf of the Parish Council as a separate charge on each householder's Council Tax bill.
- West Devon Borough Council has no say over how a town/parish council sets its precept. This decision is made by the individual town or parish.

Council resolved to accept the budget and approve the Precept amount of £17,995 for 2023 -24. This is a 0% increase in the Precept amount from 2022-23. As an example, this means that a band D property is paying £48.62 towards the Parish Council.

Council felt strongly that the precept should not increase, in recognition that households were already experiencing significant increases in the cost of living, and Council did not want to add to that. The Council recognises that by not increasing the Precept, it will be endeavouring to provide the same level of service to the community, with effectively less finance.

Dates for your Dairy – Parish Council Meetings have been set for 2023. Meetings are open for the public to attend, with two 'Public Sessions' where you are able to address the meeting and comment on, or raise issues/matters of concern.

Meetings normally take place on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the small hall of Princetown Community Centre.

28th February	23rd May – Annual Parish Meeting starts at 7pm	22nd August (Postbridge Village Hall)	28th November	
28th March	27th June	26th September	December meeting date to be confirmed	
25th April	25th July	24th October	date to be confirmed	

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

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

Connecting with residents

If you would like to keep up to date with issues being dealt with by the Parish Council please email 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.

Date of next 'Tidy Princetown' session: 10am til 11am Sunday 5th February 2023, all are welcome, meet outside the Post Office, Princetown

Dates of next meetings: Tuesday 28th February 2023 at 19.30, Princetown Community Centre Agenda and Minutes: https://www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings.php Follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/dartmoorforestpc.net

Parish Clerk: Miss Jackie Bennetts Telephone: 01822 859104

Email: <u>clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk</u> Website: <u>www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk</u>

Business Directory

In each issue of the Parish Link we promote businesses across the Parish and surrounding area, these businesses support us and enable us to publish this magazine for the local community. If you are looking for a great local business then look below. Next to each business is the page where they appear in this issue. If you call them, please let them know you found them in the Parish Link.

Agricultural Services		Home Improvements	
Dartmoor Rural Services	<u>20</u>	Ashburton Glass	<u>38</u>
Architect Services		Clear Decorating	<u>32</u>
HMAD Architects	<u>32</u>	K Decorating	20
Mike Gilbert Architectural Design	<u>12</u>	Rochelle's Curtains & Blinds	18
Cleaning & Domestic Services		Hotels and Inns	_
A Clean Pair	<u>16</u>	The Rugglestone	24
Ashburton Chimney Sweep	<u>28</u>	Legal Services	
Carroll Cleaning Services	<u>34</u>	Francis Paffrey	<u>14</u>
Community		Machinery for Hire	
Holne Second Hand Books	<u>8</u>	Digger and Dumper Hire	<u>32</u>
Computing		Plumbing and Heating Services	
Computer Services	<u>20</u>	MH Perry	<u>16</u>
Crafts / Produce		MTP Services Ltd	14
Oak Cottage Honey	<u>20</u>	Private Water Services	
Scott Elson Chainsaw Carvings	<u>10</u>	County Cleansing	<u>12</u>
Electrical Goods		Property for sale / rent	
J Searle & Son	<u>44</u>	Rendells	<u>28</u>
Funeral Directors		Robert Williams Estate Agents	<u>16</u>
Christophers Family Funerals	<u>32</u>	Stores	
Morris Bros. Funeral Directors	<u>12</u>	Holne Community Shop	<u>8</u>
Garden Services		Widecombe General Store	<u>26</u>
AF Brown	<u>44</u>	Tree Surgeons / Timber services	
Mole Problems	<u>20</u>	Anton Coaker	<u>26</u>
Nick Mahoney	<u>26</u>	Dartforest Tree Works	<u>28</u>
Health & Wellbeing		Down to Earth Logs	28 24 24
Conversation Works	<u>6</u>	Geoff Partridge	<u>24</u>
Clinical Reflexology	<u>18</u>	Moor Logs	<u>38</u>
Moor Mobile Foot Clinic	<u>38</u>	Sam Hall Professional Tree Care	<u>10</u>
Pilates Online	<u>6</u>	Spike Milton Timber Services	12
Sophie Edmonds Massage Therapy	<u>20</u>		_
Yoga with Ione	<u>18</u>	201 4 00 15	

Contacting the Editorial Team

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

For items sent by post please use the following addresses:

Link Finances (donations, advertising

fees, invoices etc)

Parish Link Treasurer

c/o Way Park

Widecombe-in-the-Moor

Newton Abbot

Devon

TQ13 7TU

Cheques payable to:

P C C Widecombe - Link Account

All Other Correspondence

Parish Link

c/o The Vicarage

Widecombe-in-the-Moor

Newton Abbot

Devon TQ13 7TF

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

Friends of Widecombe School

High Moorland WI

Holne Parish Council

Holne Second-Hand Books

Holne Village Hall Committee

Leusdon Memorial Hall

Moorland Merrymakers

Phyl's Follies (Postbridge)

Postbridge Village Hall

Princetown History Society

Various anonymous donations

Widecombe Church House Committee

Widecombe Fair Committee

Widecombe History Group

Widecombe Ladies Social Group

Widecombe Parish Council

Widecombe Sports Group

Last . . . but not least . . .



2023 has started with challenges for many of us. Endless rain and leaden skies followed by sudden icy spells lower the spirits and have led to some huge potholes to catch us out as we travel around. It's been particularly hard work for our farming community on top of the effects of last year's extreme heat.

That's one of the reasons that the arrival of the first snowdrops brings a sense of renewal and hope for easier times ahead. If you haven't been to see the fantastic snowdrop display at St Raphael's, Huccaby do get there if you can. It will lift your spirits and gladden your heart.

As you start thinking about plans for the year ahead don't forget that many of our advertisers can help you to make them a reality, from someone to sort out a plumbing problem, another load of logs to keep you warm and cosy or a yoga class to help you keep that New Year's resolution to take better care of yourself, our local community has a wide range of skills and expertise. There are also numerous local groups and events, do check out Dates for the Diary, we're sure you will find something there that interests you.

Here at the Parish Link we are always pleased to receive feedback on the magazine and suggestions for new items, areas you would like it to cover or simply what you like about it. There is a suggestion box in Widecombe church or you can always email us at link@moorlandteam.org.uk, we love to hear from our community.

With best wishes from "The Link Team"

PS The copy deadline for the March edition is Sunday 12th February 2023

Parish Link Advertising Costs					
Size	Size	Month	Year		
Sixth Page	61x60mm	£7.50	£80		
Quarter Page	61x92mm	£12	£125		
Half Page	128x92mm	£20	£215		
Full Page	128x192mm	£35	£380		

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

Final Copy Deadline

For the **March 2023** edition of the Link will be **Sunday 12th February** but please send as early as you can by email.

Next issue available on Thursday 23rd February



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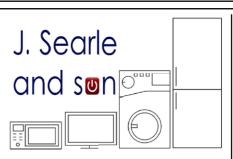
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