#### Moorland Parish Link

Widecombe Huccaby - Ilsíngton - Leusdon - Postbri Showton - Bickington - Buckland - Holne

March 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 - <u>SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org</u>

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

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#### The Parish Letter

#### SPECIAL DAYS TO CELEBRATE

March is a wonderful month - by now the signs of spring are apparent, bringing with them the promise of longer, warmer days and of summer itself.

During March there are several special days within the life of the Church. We are currently travelling through the days of Lent, and as part of that we have Mothering Sunday and Palm Sunday. Additionally, we might also celebrate two significant Saints' days - St David and St Patrick - as well the World Day of Prayer.

And March also brings with it a number of secular 'special events' or 'celebration' days. Those of you with school-age children will be familiar with World Book Day and Red Nose Day. There are several other less well known days to choose from as well - from (Super) Mario Day to World Frog Day. Personally, I am delighted to note that World Sleep Day coincides with Mother's Day.

These days, there can be so many 'special days' to celebrate that it can be a little overwhelming! Having worked in schools for over two decades, I know only too well the joy and excitement that the children feel at having a special day to celebrate. The shared experience of dressing-up as a favourite character, or of being allowed to have 'crazy hair' for a day is one that endures. And these special celebration days allow schools time to focus on specific issues or causes, discussing them in-depth with the children.

It is also Tolkien Day in March - chance to celebrate the author who brought us The Hobbit, and Lord of the Rings. I'm sure most people are familiar with the character of Bilbo Baggins, the Hobbit who sets out on a quest, journeying to meet his destiny. He doesn't travel alone - he has a close and trusted friend with him, and meets many more along the way.

Our personal faith journey can be similar. Our relationship with God is ours alone, it is a personal, spiritual path that we explore but that doesn't mean we should always travel it alone. Home Groups are a great way to explore faith together - perhaps to ask the questions you'd like to ask the Preacher on a Sunday morning but never get chance to! Across the Benefice there are several such groups running throughout Lent - it's not too late to join one.

At its heart, Lent is simply 40 special days, chance to focus on one issue: our relationship with God. And, just like Bilbo, that journey will be better with friends

#### Churchwardens

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, Leusdon							
Geoff Bamsey	26 Old Manor Close, Holne Cross, TQ13 7JF	01364 652820	geoff.bamsey486@gmail.com				
Patrick Simpson	Spitchwick Manor, Poundsgate, TQ13 7PB	01364 631209	admin@bennah.co.uk				
St Gabriel, Postbridge							
Annie Smerdon	4A Oaktree Park, Sticklepath, EX20 2NB	01837 840201	gerald.postbridge@btconnect.com				
Wendy Watson	Middle Merripit Farm, Postbridge, PL20 6TJ	01822 880215	wendy@merribridge.plus.com				
St Pancras, Widecombe							
Michael Pascoe	Wooder Bungalow, Widecombe, TQ13 7TR	01364 621333	pascoewooder@yahoo.co.uk				
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	01364 654067	francis.parffrey@gmail.com
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

#### An hour of quiet reflection Postbridge Church

Tuesday 7th March at 7.30pm
Tuesday 4th April

with

Candlelight

Wide spacing

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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

#### From the Registers

Funeral	Widecombe	1st February	Pearl Chaffe
Funeral	Leusdon	3rd February	George Radford
Funeral	Princetown	7th February	Arthur Smith

#### Rainfall in January 2023

Place	Total Rainfall	Days without rain	Wettest Days
Postbridge	307.3mm (12.1")	10	6th 46.3mm (1.8")
	(January 2022 - 91		
Holne	377.2mm (14.85")	6th 70.5mm (2.7")	





### 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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#### **BUCKFASTLEIGH St Luke's**

Wednesday mornings

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Or email <a href="mailto:holnevillagehallbooking@gmail.com">holnevillagehallbooking@gmail.com</a>





#### 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 March	18.00	Holy Communion
19th March	09.00	Holy Communion at Huccaby
26th March	17:00	Evening Worship

Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar, beginning on Ash Wednesday. It is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. It was at this time that Jesus faced and resisted the temptations of Satan.

The Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and giving to the poor and needy have translated in many lives today as giving up something we enjoy, such as chocolate or alcohol, and perhaps giving any money we save to a good cause. Another suggestion for marking Lent in the modern world, is not to give up something, but to make an effort to do something extra, hopefully for someone else's benefit.

But what if we focused on the reflective purpose of Lent rather than the giving up of something? Christians always have plenty of things they can reflect on especially the life and example of Jesus, and the enormity of God's love in giving part of himself to become human with all the messiness, joy and heartbreak that entails.

But for many of us the real challenge is making time to reflect before we even get to any content for our reflection. How to make space, find quietness and still our ever-busy minds, is a challenge but not impossible. If those of us who use technology or social media on a regular basis were absolutely honest with ourselves, we know we waste time looking at our phones and tablets for no benefit at all. It is almost as though we are scared to be alone with our thoughts and use technology to block them out.

We are losing the knack of taking in our surroundings and what is going on with the people around us, and are damaging our physical health at the same time. Our minds need a break, our bodies need to straighten up, and our souls need refreshment.

So, this Lent, please think about what takes your time that achieves nothing. Free up that time. If you still can't give time to yourself to reflect on life, then spend it with someone who has too much time on their own, or who needs someone to listen to them, including your own family. Give your time to something that feels right and worth your while.

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(continued from page 7)

St. Mary's is open every day, please come and spend a few minutes in the church or on one of the benches in the churchyards, sitting quietly. Who knows, you might even come to appreciate the words from Psalm 46 verse 10 – "Be still and know that I am God."

Gillian

Clare Bellamy and her family wish to thank everyone for their cards, flowers, love, kindness and support during John's illness and since his passing. They are very pleased to announce that they have raised £1000 in honour of John, to be split between Rowcroft Hospice and The Brain Tumour Charity and are grateful to all who donated.

#### ACCOMMODATION FOR OUR NEW CURATE

The Diocese of Exeter is looking for accommodation for Jenny, our new Curate: a 3 bedroom house or flat to rent for 3 years, in or around Ashburton. They would be looking to startrenting from March or April this year. If you have or know someone who may Be looking to let such a property, please will you kindly be in touch with Mark or Cassie.

mark.rylands@mmuk.net / admin@moorlandteam.org.uk 01364 654280



#### Holne Whist Tuesday 7th March 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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if further information is required



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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

I promised last month something around communication and how we may work more valuably and together in our Mission community.

We need to look again at our communication. Top down and bottom up — with a structure to support it. Do you know where you are going? If not, how will you know when you get there? Do you know what other churches on the Benefice are doing? If not, are you duplicating effort or reinventing the wheel? Are you sharing success? And so on. If you are interested in being part of a small, 'bottom-up' communication group please do not hesitate to contact me.

#### Communication – is your Church a Success?

There's no easy answer to "What makes your church successful?" The truth is, measuring church success is not as simple as checking numbers of your congregation, church success involves many dimensions. Church 'success' perhaps raises the question: how do you measure success?

Many churches would respond by saying they can measure success based on the congregation's size or the attendance at a Sunday service. To a certain extent, those answers are valid. After all, many still perceive church success as something outward. So while there is no easy answer to "What makes your church successful?", there is perhaps one common denominator that we could follow.

Success may be subjective to each individual. Fortunately, the church has the Bible as a primary source to understand how churches can be successful based on God's standards. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus makes it clear what is expected of the church, paraphrasing and abbreviating, it's to 'make disciples'.

Simply put, to make things more practical, here are five reflection points that we can potentially use to answer: is your church a success?

#### 1 Have you articulated a clear vision of success for your church?

Most importantly because it invites unity and provides direction. When any church members or visitors know your church's vision, they can become more inspired and involved. It may encourage your church to strive for success- if you know where you are heading.

#### 2. Is your church doing its mission?

Aside from being inspired by Jesus' commands, successful churches are those that take action. They are on a mission!

All mission activities must stem from our Mission Community and your church's vision of its part within it. It's easy to be preoccupied with your church's traditions and even its many pursuits - but lose sight of our Mission Community vision.

(Continued on Page 13)

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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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#### 3. Is your church growing?

Just suggestions, but here are factors which may closely examine whether you can say that your church is growing and succeeding:

- Number of volunteers helping your church activities
- Number of first-time churchgoers and visitors from other churches
- Number of donations

#### 4. Do you communicate progress and success to the members?

Communicating progress and success allows you to guide key persons at your church if they are going off-track or feel discouraged. This is a crucial step that ensures your church success

#### 5. Do you celebrate success at church?

While your church should rejoice and celebrate every success you have accomplished, celebrating success doesn't have to mean that you go out and have a party – or cream tea! Acknowledge and mention the efforts of specific people/ministries during any sermon in a worship service.

Post your church's achievements on your church's website, social media platforms, notice boards or the local newspaper.

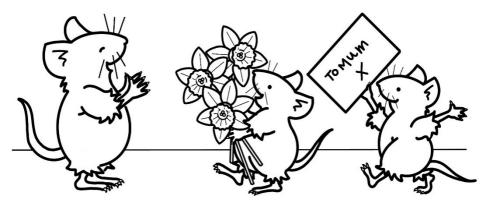
Successful churches acknowledge that all their members are important, and that God is indeed the source of all these successes. Perhaps make celebrating your church's success a regular part of your church's announcements?

#### The Ultimate Measure of the Church's Success

Getting to the desired level of success for your church requires you to know how to assess whether your church is already a success or may need more help. In the end, the church's success all boils down to faithfulness and obedience to God's commandments. That will always serve as the ultimate plumbline of success.

Tony Parker

**Colour me in!!** It was a tight squeeze this month, but of all the months, March was the one where all our mum's deserve a short break and time to put their feet up.......



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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 March	16.00	Evensong
12th March	12.00	Parish Communion
19th March	12:00	Mothering Sunday Service
26th March	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

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

#### **Leusdon Memorial Hall**

1923-2023

Our February coffee morning was well attended and made a total of £114.00 for hall funds. The next Coffee Morning will be held on **Wednesday 1st March 10.00am-12.00noon** 

There will be the usual **Whist at Leusdon on Monday 13th March** 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 continues.

The committee met on Monday 30th January at 7.30pm. It was postponed from 16th January because of icy roads. The treasurer reported that the bank accounts were in a satisfactory state and bookings are coming in for this year with many regular users. All committee members are kept up to date with our booking calendar.

We will be celebrating the King's coronation at our May coffee morning and our centenary celebrations will culminate with an event on **23rd October**, 100 years after the opening. We have acquired the help of Terry French who will arrange an exhibition of the various events that have taken place in Leusdon since the Hall opened. Kelly Aiers has offered her help to promote the Hall on social media alongside Emma Routley. We are extremely grateful to Terry and Kelly for supporting us in this way.

Should you wish to book the Hall, it is available for hire at £10.00 per hour, with special rates for regular users. For further details please contact our booking secretary:

Amanda Routley on 01364 631432 email: <a href="mailto:leusdonmemorialhall@yahoo.com">leusdonmemorialhall@yahoo.com</a>

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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 email: johnsouthcombe@hotmail.com

Leusdon Memorial Hall charity no.300887

#### Introducing Letitia: Your new Community Lead Musician!

My name is Letitia Jones and I've been living in Devon for just the last year. I'm half Caribbean and half British but spent most of my life living in the South-East. For around 10 years I was an opera singer and singing teacher starting off originally as a choral scholar, latterly studying at opera school in Cardiff. I received a call to Christian ministry in 2016 and since then have done a variety of different things from being a school chaplain to a music director, a youth worker in a deprived area to being pastoral worker with the Royal Marines.

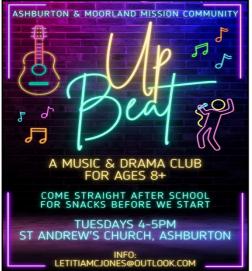


I love all things creative; other than music I've been known to dabble in photography and embroidery. My current new hobby is swimming in the sea throughout the winter. My husband, Mark, also works in Christian work and we've loved getting to know some of the beautiful countryside since we moved to Plymouth.

I'm really excited to see what we can achieve in the Ashburton & Moorland Community through music in the coming months. My goals are to introduce some new people to churches, even if that just means stepping into a church for the first time, and seeing how we can develop our music-making to enhance the worship, discipleship and outreach in our churches.

Letitia has started two new music groups so far, please see the notices below:

For further information please contact: <a href="mailto:letitiamcjones@outlook.com">letitiamcjones@outlook.com</a>





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

No Whist Drive in March but we will be back for Easter! The next Whist Drive will be on Thursday April 6th at 7.30pm



Contact: Jackie Gee, 2 Dartfordleigh, Postbridge, Yelverton, PL20 6TJ Tel: 01822 880224











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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 March	19:30	An Hour of Quiet Reflection
12th March	09.00	Holy Communion BCP
19th March	18:00	Mothering Sunday Service

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 March and Monday 3rd April at 11am in Postbridge Village Hall

Maureen

#### POSTBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

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

Raffle, Stalls - local meat, produce, cards, books, puzzles, craft etc
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## Phyl's Follies 50<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration

All those who have been involved over our many years are invited to an

#### Afternoon Tea on 14th May 2023

At 3pm in Postbridge Village Hall

To include savoury goodies, sweet treats, many cups of tea and a good natter

Cost £5 – Booking essential
Call or email Alison

alison@anton-coaker.co.uk or 01364 631276

**LOST**: Has anyone any knowledge about the whereabouts of a box measuring roughly 10x8x2"? Inside was a collection of arrowhead, scrapers, clay pipes etc. belonging to Anthony, who started this hobby at the age of 6. All the artefacts were found on the farm and surrounding moorland. I haven't been able to locate it and recall I last saw it pre Covid. I would love to pass it on to my grandson who has an interest. Any information would be so very welcome.

Wendy Beard 01364 621246

wag.widecombe@btconnect.com

#### News from the East Shallowford Trust



We had a long team meeting this week, which meant Will had to start work in the very depths of the freezing dark morning, Serena had to borrow her grand-daughter's bike as hers was once again poorly, David and Arthur fed and mucked out an hour before normal (happy pigs), Ellie furtively continued on her report until the last second and then we all realised we had totally failed on the most important item for a long day's debate ...... cake! Some scurrying around in a freezer produced scones and cream, cheerfully warmed up by our lovely aga. Phew.... the day was conceptually saved!

The debate? Our 'Theory of Change'. It won't be seen for a while, as we have to present it to our trustees who are sure to tweak sections and reword. However, as a concept initiated 47 years ago by Miss Braund and Rosemary, the roots they nurtured are still being fed and encouraged to grow and flourish. So much has changed in the world and yet scarily, perhaps some things are even worse! We undertook a strategy review for which I interviewed so many of you in 2019, What should we be doing and why? The question is, have 'things' become even worse since 1976 when so many similar organisations were unbeknown to each other, set up in various locations throughout the country?

Post World War II the issue in urban areas was poverty and access to green space, fresh air and nature in it's raw entirety. Now, nearly 80 years on, with the UKs comparatively effective social services, access to nature is still limited with many reports citing mental health and well being seriously increasing, especially in youth.

In our arrogance, we would argue very simply, that modernity is pulling us increasingly from the real, natural world for which humans were designed. We are not meant to live in sealed units, circulating stale air devoid of pollen, virus's, bacteria and fungi. Our bodies are designed to walk up hills, over moors and mountains, across deserts, through forests to nurture life, to hunt, gather and grow our food, to problem tricky relationships, to debate and find solutions. So we strive to solve the major obstacles of cancer, heart disease and old age, but we are still dictated to and controlled by hormones programmed to seek a suitable mate, to nurture our offspring, to protect our families from danger and care for those we love. The basic human and tribal instincts still trump logic. When you are *really* hungry, try talking yourself out of the jealously of loosing the largest scone and cream! Instinct vs logic and reason.

(Continued on page 36)

#### Church Services for March 2023

Sharen Services for Maren Edes							
5th March		2nd Sun	day of Lent		Purple or Lent Array		
Readings - Genesis 12.1-4a, Psalm 121, Romans 4.1-5,13-17, John 3.1-17							
Widecombe	10.30	All Age Service	Ashburton	08.00	Holy Communion		
Leusdon	16.00	Evensong	Bickington	09.00	Holy Communion		
			Ashburton	10.30	Family Service		
			Ilsington	10.30	Holy Communion		
			Ashburton	10.30	Morning Worship, Church Hall *		
			Buckland	15.00	Holy Communion		
7th March		Quiet Re	flection				
Postbridge	19.30	An Hour of Quiet Reflection					
12th Marc	h	2nd Sun	day of Lent		Purple or Lent Array		
Readings - Exc	odus 17.	1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5.1-11, J	ohn 4.5-42				
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	Morning Praise		
			Holne	18.00	Holy Communion		
19th March	1	Motherin	g Sunday		Purple or Lent Array		
Readings - Exc	odus 2.1	-10, Psalm 34.11-20, 2 Corinthian	ns 1.3-7, Luke 2.3	33-35 (ple	ease confirm with preacher)		
Widecombe	10.30	Mothering Sunday Service	Huccaby	09.00	Holy Communion (snowdrops available)		
Leusdon	12.00	Mothering Sunday Service	Ashburton	10.30	Mothering Sunday Service		
Postbridge	18.00	Mothering Sunday Service	Bickington	10.30	Mothering Sunday Service		
			Ilsington	10.30	Mothering Sunday Service		
			Buckland	15.00	Mothering Sunday Service		
			Ashburton	18.30	Celtic Reflective Service Quaker Meeting House, Foals Court, Ashburton*		

23rd February		Mid-week C	Communion		
			Ashburton	10.30	Informal Communion, Church Hall*
26th March		5th Sunday	of Lent		Purple or Lent array
Readings - 1 Samuel	16.1-13, F	Psalm 23, Ephesians 5.8-14	John 9.1-41		
Widecombe	10.30	Parish Communion	Ashburton	09.15	Breakfast Church, Church Hall*
Leusdon	12.00	Parish Communion	Ashburton	10.30	Parish Communion
			Ilsington	10.30	Holy Communion
			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

Marc	March 2023			
1st	Leusdon Coffee Morning	<u>15</u>		
1st	Widecombe History Group	<u>29</u>		
1st	High Moorland WI	<u>38</u>		
3rd	Holne Soup Lunch	<u>9</u>		
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 Club	<u>37</u>		
8th	Dunstone Charity Lunch	<u>35</u>		

March	Page	
9th	Widecombe Ladies Group	<u>31</u>
12th	Parish Link copy deadline	<u>43</u>
13th	Leusdon Whist	<u>15</u>
18th	Widecombe Handbells	<u>30</u>
20th	Postbridge Mini-Market	<u>19</u>
23rd	Buckland in the Moor Whist	<u>35</u>
28th	Dartmoor Parish Council Mtg	<u>40</u>
April		
2nd	Widecombe Community Hall	<u>31</u>
6th	Postbridge Whist Drive	<u>18</u>





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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
5th March	10.30	Wendy Beard	Dawn	No flowers - Lent
12th March	10.30	Clare	Alison & Audrey	No flowers - Lent
19th March	10.30	Beth	Judy	No flowers - Lent
26th March	10.30	Michael Brown	Philly & Michael	No flowers - Lent

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



#### A NEW ORGAN FOR WIDECOMBE CHURCH

We are investigating replacing the organ in the church with a modern instrument which will transform the musical component of activities in the church. We are currently looking into a digital option, which will allow us to experience the sounds of a much bigger instrument. This in

turn will free up much needed space which may allow for other improvements within the church.

We will be raising the funds ourselves and plan to start with a concert in July (see below). If you would like to get involved in this project or can offer support of any sort, please contact either Geoffrey or Michael Brown <a href="mailto:mikebrown007@hotmail.com">mikebrown007@hotmail.com</a>

#### Widecombe Church Concert SAVE THE DATE! Friday 21stJuly

A concert organised by Music in Country Churches (Patron HRH the Prince of Wales).

The performers will be winners of Young Musician awards from the Royal Welsh Academy, and they will perform a range of music for flute, saxophone and piano.

More details to follow, so watch this space!
All money raised will support our organ replacement project (see above).

#### Widecombe Fair

has some limited funds available to give to local organizations.

Please apply as soon as possible to:-

The Chairman Wooder Bungalow Widecombe-in-the-Moor TQ13 7TR

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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 <a href="mailto:cl.partridge@hotmail.co.uk">cl.partridge@hotmail.co.uk</a> 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 <a href="https://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/sports\_group/">www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/sports\_group/</a>

Thank you and enjoy your sports area.

#### Widecombe Singers

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

The Church House, Widecombe

Tuesday evenings at 8pm

Admission £3

Telephone Rose 01364 631238 for anymore details.....





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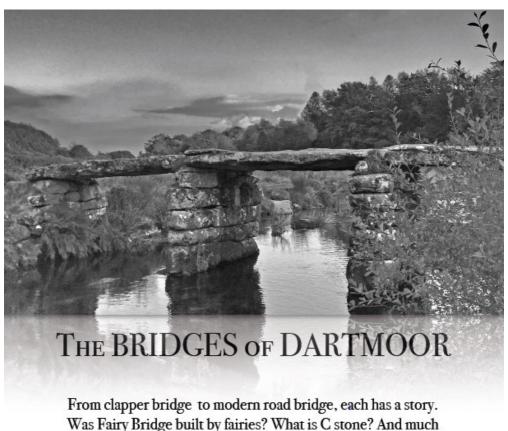
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7.30PM, WEDNESDAY IST MARCH

#### EVERYONE WELCOME

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WIDECOMBE HISTORY GROUP FOR EVERYONE INTERESTED IN DARTMOOR AND DEVON



# Widecombe Handbells

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

Saturday 18th March Saturday 15th April 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

#### 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

#### WIDECOMBE FAIR COMPANY LIMITED FAIR FIELDS GRASS KEEP AND MAINTENANCE TENDER

Tenders are invited for a) Grass keep and b) Field maintenance works on circa 4.6 hectares of the Fair fields.

Anyone interested should apply for further information which will contain the tender forms and Terms and Conditions from the Chairman. <a href="mailto:pascoewooder@yahoo.co.uk">pascoewooder@yahoo.co.uk</a>

Tenders should be submitted by midday on

**10th April 2023** with the successful applicant being advised by 15th April 2023 and the Contract starting on the 17th April 2023

The Contract will run, with the caveats contained in the tender documentation until 25th December 2023

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The Moor area of 1.38 hectares has been removed from the Grass Keep Maintenance contract. Its use can be discussed by local agreement. This is because maintenance work is needed on the land, particularly the fencing.

#### **Widecombe & District Ladies Social Group**

After the Winter's rest we are back in action

Thursday 9th March, Church House at Widecombe, 7.30 pm

#### ALI WHALE and NICKY NENDICK

talking about the TWO MOORS WAY, which they completed last year

Draw and Tea Rose Mortimore for further details 631238

#### Widecombe Community Hall CIO



Create a lasting and tangible show of support for this new community building and join our Supporting Wall!

You are invited to have your name engraved on a granite stone, which will be built into our 'Supporting Wall' in the new hall.

Keep your family in Widecombe history for the long term!

There is a suggested minimum donation of £40 per name, but we encourage you to be as generous as you are able in your offer. Stones will be the same size no matter the donation and placed at random.

To place your order, visit: www.widecombecommunityhall.org/fundraising-events



#### Easter Duck Race & Teas – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 2.30pm Waterleat Lodge, Ponsworthy, TQ13 7FA

Duck races down the leat, garden games, tombola, tea and home-made cakes



Ducks cost £2 each or you can buy 3 for £5.

On sale through our website or with cash on the day

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 info@widecombecommunityhall.org 01364 631543



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#### **LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - 4 MAY 2023**

Local elections are to be held on Thursday 4 May 2023. Here is some information to encourage you to become involved!

**Parish Councils** are the tier of local government closest to the people, representing the concerns and aspirations of their community. They often do not have a permanent office or full-time staff and will meet in the local hall or school. Many Parish Councils work very hard for their electors and can run a range of services very effectively

Parish Council responsibilities are varied, including the purchase of land and buildings, providing and maintaining village greens, the provision of recreational facilities, crime prevention measures and traffic calming, amongst other things. The basic responsibility of Parish Council is to make the lives of their local communities more comfortable by representing the whole electorate within the parish, delivering or co-ordinating services to meet local needs and striving to improve quality of life in the parish. They can also comment on planning applications and be represented at public enquiries. They do not receive Council Tax directly from the public but are funded from a small percentage of the Council Tax charge.

A Parish Council is the collective voice of its community.

A Parish Councillor undertakes to observe an ethical Code of Conduct when dealing with matter on behalf of the community. One of their most important tasks is listening to and understanding the views of people in their community. A councillor agrees to attend all meetings (reasonably possible) that they are summoned to. Most meetings are held in the evening but some committees and group representation may be during the day. Some of these committees may include planning or finance.

Councillors may be asked to serve on certain groups or attend functions on behalf of the parish council. Councillors act as ambassadors for their community keeping everyone aware of local needs and concerns and reporting back on District, County and regional changes

If you wish to stand as a councillor you must satisfy these requirements:

You need to be over 18 years of age:

- A British citizen, a qualifying Commonwealth citizen, or a citizen of any other member state of the European Union
- On the Electoral Register for the council area for which you wish to stand
- A local government elector of the parish; or a person who during the whole of the twelve
  months before nomination as a candidate occupied land or other premises as owner or
  tenant in the parish; or has, during the same period, resided in that area or within three
  miles thereof, or has during the same period, had a principle or only place of work in that
  area

Nomination forms are available from the District Council Elections Office. You will need to fill in all your personal details and those of the people nominating you. You and those nominating will be asked to fill in your Electoral Register number. The deadline for receipt of nominations is **4pm on Tuesday 4 April 2023**.

#### **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.

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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 March at 3.00pm

#### **Dunstone Charity Lunches**

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

Charity Lunch at Dunstone Chapel 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 March.

Whist every fourth Thursday in the month.



(Continued from page 21)

So, in our arrogance, what can we do to improve the lives of others? Do we have the moral authority to think we can teach, question, provoke, and encourage behaviour change? It's such a tricky debate. Or is it?

Children and adults might wrinkle their noses at the smell of the pigs, but all will 'coo' and 'ahh' at pink little piglets nestling into their mother for warmth and milk. That is basic human instinct developed to ensure we nurture our offspring, but honed and developed on every farm, within every tribe globally until the industrial revolution.

Last week, we took some children next to the stream, covered their eyes and led each to a tree and asked them to learn forward, touch their cheeks closely against the bark and wrap their arms silently and gently around the huge girths of these majestic, wonderful oaks. 'Feel the life through your cheek. Hear the sap rising as you role from your cheek to your ear.' A few giggle, but most, gently relax. Their shoulders drop, they breath into the tree, slowly and gently leaning, calming and finally they inhale and hear for the first time the tinkling of the stream, the noisy chatter of bullfinches, chaffinches, sparrows and the soft caress of air as it curls and plays between the trees.

I hope we provide a key. Opening a door to a world unknown to most., today 56% or 4.4 billion people live in cities for which the human body is not designed and this is predicted to increase to 7 out of 10 people by 2050. Life without seeing the stars, hearing the breeze, smelling the damp soil in the morning and knowing, if you do not get up to feed your animals or till



Learning to spin, feeling wool now knowing where it comes from and discussing who has the warmest clothing!

the soil, you yourself will have no food. Is that a privilege or a curse? If you have ever watched 1993 Demolition Man, there is a scene which 'remains nameless' identifying how future relationships will be undertaken virtually. How far are we from this... in reality, much closer than many people are aware. Many of our young people barely leave their bedrooms. Life almost entirely virtual. Their experiences are online. The real world becomes intensely scary.

Life inside a room with curtains closed is sterile and lifeless and for many young people, this is now their 'safe' space. In our infinitely superior modern world we have aspired to 'control' every discomfort, to fashion and live within environments which do not need us to shiver, sweat or barely move. Our instincts, human drivers and responses are made for a physical, practical outdoor world, not one caged in a room, muscles atrophying through lack of application. Living vicariously through a screen with fake challenges makes the real world truly scary. Young people are not prepared for the raw onslaught on their senses when feeling a live chicken in their grasp, when their lungs heave climbing a hill. Are we all so innately lazy that we will default as a species to a sedentary blob?

Surely we cannot be wrong. We were born of the earth and shall return to it. The screen world is new, not even a generation old yet. Don't panic – it's not all doom and gloom! It does not take too much to coax even teenagers up a hill on a warm day. I do worry more that all the fields around Newton Abbot and Bovey Tracey are being sealed up under more badly built houses as our population forever seems to grow and grow. But we will get there eventually – the youth give us hope. I watched one ten year old smile and sink onto her tree, as her arms embraced it's knobbly trunk. The earth has not forgotten us. It returns our love when we remember to thank her for the life we have been given!

Julía

#### Other Community News and Events

#### **Princetown History Club**

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

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

**April 4th** A talk by Paul Rendell on the tors of Dartmoor

For further information, please contact

Mr John 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 on the **FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH in PRINCETOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE** at 7.30pm. Our meetings usually finish around 9 to 9.30pm.

Our **April** meeting on **Wednesday April 5th 7.30pm** will be a talk by the police on "**Cyber Security**". It is a very important topic so the meeting is open to everybody.

.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 Centre 11am to 12.30.



#### **Moor Mobile Foot Clinic**

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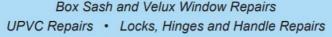
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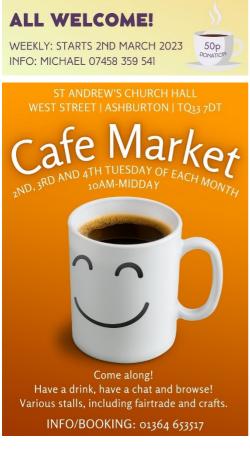


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#### **Dartmoor Forest Parish Council**

#### Extracts from the meeting on 24th January 2023

Proposed Closure of Princetown Visitor Centre - The Council were pleased and relieved to hear that Members of DNPA have approved the use of reserves to fund the continued operation of the Visitor Centre for six months, with effect from April 2023. This was outlined in a letter received from Kevin Bishop CEO DNPA and explained at the meeting by Cllr Sanders (DCC/DNPA Member). This decision buys time whilst DNPA continues discussions with DEFRA, Duchy of Cornwall and West Devon BC to secure additional funding, reduce operating costs/ increase income to enable the centre to remain open after Oct 2023.

Cllr Manning (Chair DFPC) welcomed this 'stay of execution' and thanked all present for their efforts in writing to DNPA, local Councillors and MP's, which will hopefully help to secure the funding that is required to keep the centre open in the longer term. Council will continue to monitor the situation and is prepared to take further action as necessary to retain the Visitor Centre.

**The King's Coronation May 2023** - Following the success of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations last year, Council agreed to plan another event for the 7th May from 1200 – 1500 at Princetown Community Centre to coincide with the 'Big Lunch'. Cllr Byrom agreed to lead, with the support of a small team, to deliver the event. Cllr Henson will look into souvenir options for children and young people living in the Parish.

Postbridge Cemetery - Council agreed to get quotes for work needed to remove trees from the boundary hedge, and remove limbs to reduce shading in the cemetery.

Parish Defibrillators – A new cabinet door, has been obtained and fitted to the Defib located at Postbridge Visitors Centre. Work continues with National Grid to reinstate the electrical supply to the Defib located at Hexworthy, as part of ongoing refurbishment work which is being kindly undertaken by a local volunteer to the old telephone box. Other Defibrillators located within the Parish that are accessible to the public are located at:

- Front Porch of Venville House, Princetown.
- Prince of Wales Pub, Princetown

#### 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 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 <a href="mailto:clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk">clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> 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 March 2023, all are welcome, meet outside the Post Office, Princetown

Dates of next meetings: Tuesday 28th March 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: clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk Website: www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk

#### **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	20	Ashburton Glass & Locks	<u>38</u>
Architect Services		Clear Decorating	32
HMAD Architects	<u>32</u>	K Decorating	32 20 18
Mike Gilbert Architectural Design	12	Rochelle's Curtains & Blinds	<u>20</u> 18
Cleaning & Domestic Services	_	Hotels and Inns	10
A Clean Pair	<u>16</u>	The Rugglestone	<u>24</u>
Ashburton Chimney Sweep	28	Legal Services	<u>27</u>
Carroll Cleaning Services	34	Francis Paffrey	14
Community	_	Machinery for Hire	
Holne Second Hand Books	8	Digger and Dumper Hire	32
Computing	_	Plumbing and Heating Services	<u>52</u>
Computer Services	<u>20</u>	MH Perry	<u>16</u>
Crafts / Produce		MTP Services Ltd	14
Scott Elson Chainsaw Carvings	<u>10</u>	Private Water Services	
Electrical Goods		County Cleansing	12
J Searle & Son	<u>28</u>	Property for sale / rent	
Funeral Directors		Rendells	<u>44</u>
Christophers Family Funerals	<u>32</u>	Robert Williams Estate Agents	16
Morris Bros. Funeral Directors	<u>12</u>	Stores	
Garden Services		Holne Community Shop	<u>44</u>
AF Brown	<u>8</u>	Widecombe General Store	26
Mole Problems	<u>20</u>	Tree Surgeons / Timber services	
Nick Mahoney	<u>26</u>	Anton Coaker	<u>26</u>
Health & Wellbeing		Dartforest Tree Works	28
Conversation Works	<u>6</u>	Down to Earth Logs	28 24 24
Clinical Reflexology	<u>18</u>	Geoff Partridge	24
Moor Mobile Foot Clinic	<u>38</u>	Moor Logs	<u>38</u>
Pilates Online	<u>6</u>	Sam Hall Professional Tree Care	10
Sophie Edmonds Massage Therapy	<u>20</u>	Spike Milton Timber Services	12
Yoga with lone	<u>18</u>		

#### Contacting the Editorial Team

Email items for inclusion or any other queries to: <a href="mailto:link@moorlandteam.org.uk">link@moorlandteam.org.uk</a>

For items sent by post please use the following addresses:

Link Finances (donations, advertising

fees, invoices etc)

Parish Link Treasurer

c/o Wav 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 . . .



March is one of my favourite months, the beginning of spring as we witness nature bursting through, snowdrops, daffodils, primrose and eventually bluebells and new life, lambs and calves in the fields, wild birds and their chicks in the trees, gorse and hedgerows. I do wonder if this is happening a little earlier each year, but I guess that is change and we, like nature, will have to adapt. One change will be the clocks, although the same date year on year, it provides longer days and more time spent outdoors. Hooray for those who will enjoy it socially and those who work outdoors whatever the time of year!

With March comes Mothering Sunday (the 19th to remind any who don't have it noted in the



calendar), a day to celebrate mothers, someone who has made an impact in your life, be it your mother, a neighbour, the woman down the road, a godmother or aunt, the mothers around you. Put smiles on their faces with a phone call, meet for lunch or a coffee, give a small gift, simply showing that you care about them.

It has been great fun finding space for all the notices this month, lots going on, meet with other like minded people and enjoy a common interest or simply a warm drink and a chat, catch up with friends and make some new ones too.

We love to share what is going on with our regular readers and those visiting the area. If you have an event or want to share a topical or historical article, please send it in, we consider everything received <a href="mailto:link@moorlandteam.org.uk">link@moorlandteam.org.uk</a>, and of course we love hearing from our community.

With best wishes from "The Link Team"

Parish Link Advertising Costs							
Size	Size	Month	Year				
Sixth Page	61x60mm	£7.50	£80				
<b>Quarter Page</b>	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 <a href="mailto:link@moorlandteam.org.uk">link@moorlandteam.org.uk</a>

#### Final Copy Deadline

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

Next issue available on Thursday 23rd March

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