

# Parish News

For the Benefice of  
Chillaton, Coryton,  
Dunterton, Lamerton,  
Marystowe,  
Milton Abbot and  
Sydenham Damerel



'The Snowdrop in purest  
white array,  
First rears her head on  
Candlemas Day'

*drawings by Anita Townsend*



Lent begins on  
Ash Wednesday,  
10th February

**February**  
**2016**  
**Price: 60p**

**RECTOR:** **Rev Andrew Atkins** **01822 870298**  
The Vicarage, The Parade, Milton Abbot PL19 0NZ;  
Email: revandymiltonabbot@gmail.com

**CHURCHWARDENS**

**Lamerton:** Mike Jefferies 614178  
Ian Minshull 810027

**Milton Abbot:** Rosie Culverhouse 870567  
Sandra Dunbar 870218

**Dunterton:** Gerald Napier 870285  
Arthur Vigars 870244

**Sydenham Damerel:** Ian Dingle, Portington Farm, Sydenham Damerel 870364

**Marystowe:** Barbara Dawe 860226  
Deborah Asbridge 860378

**Coryton:** Sylvia Andrews 820402  
Richard Searight 860148

**PCC SECRETARIES**

**Lamerton:** Barbara Meikle 617229

**Sydenham Damerel:** (Barbara Meikle) 617229

**Milton Abbot + Dunterton:** Liz Padmore 870642

**Marystowe:** Guy Talbot 860314

**Coryton:** Josie Whitfield 860189

**CHURCH TREASURERS**

**Lamerton:** Mike Jefferies Church Avenue House, Lamerton 614178

**Sydenham Damerel:** Ian Dingle Portington Farm, Sydenham Damerel 870364

**Milton Abbot:** Gerald Napier 870285

**Dunterton:** Gerald Napier Glebe House, Dunterton 870285

**Marystowe:** Guy Talbot 860314

**Coryton:** Peter Newman (01566)783202

**UNITED BENEFICE APPOINTMENTS**

**Safeguarding Officer** Julie Hibbert 618221

**Safeguarding Representatives** Deborah Asbridge 860378  
Rosie Culverhouse 870567  
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**Vicar's Assigned Administrator:** Guy Talbot 860314

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**CHURCH WEB SITE** www.southtamar.church Email vicar@southtamar.church

**PARISH COUNCILS**

	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Tel.</b>	<b>Clerk</b>	<b>Tel.</b>
<b>Lamerton:</b>	Mike Jefferies	614178	Ann Cole	810213
<b>Milton Abbot group parish:</b>	Peter Hough		Emma James	07742557982
<b>Sydenham Damerel:</b>	Tracy Windemer	870568		
	Denise Head	870450		

**PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

**Lamerton C of E** Head Teacher: Melody Nicholls Tel. 613561

**Milton Abbot** Head Teacher: Chris Luxford Tel. 870273

## Diary Dates

### February 2016

- 5 MESSY CHURCH, St Peter's Church, Lamerton, from 3.30pm
- 6 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00
- 6 LAMERTON COFFEE MORNING, Lamerton Community Centre, 10.30 - 12.00
- 9 LAMERTON BINGO, Lamerton Community Centre, 8.00pm
- 12 MILTON ABBOT SKITTLES EVENING, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12 COUNTRYSIDE QUIZ, Lamerton Community Centre, 7.00pm
- 13 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00
- 16 MAGAZINE DEADLINE for March edition
- 17 LENT COURSE, Priest's Room, Lamerton Church, 7.30 - 9.30pm
- 20 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00
- 20 LAMERTON COFFEE MORNING, Lamerton Community Centre, 10.30 - 12.00
- 23 LAMERTON BINGO, Lamerton Community Centre, 8.00pm
- 24 LENT COURSE, Priest's Room, Lamerton Church, 7.30 - 9.30pm
- 26 QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY PARTY, Open meeting, Lamerton Community Centre, 7.30pm
- 27 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00

### March 2016

- 5 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00
- 5 LAMERTON COFFEE MORNING, Lamerton Community Centre, 10.30 - 12.00
- 8 LAMERTON BINGO, Lamerton Community Centre, 8.00pm

***Apologies for getting the Lamerton coffee morning dates wrong in the last edition. I hope it did not cause too much inconvenience.*** ***Editor***

<p style="font-style: italic;">The Season of Lent</p>		<p><b>ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE</b> - beginning of Lent</p> <p>A United Benefice service will be held on Wednesday 10th February, 7.30pm in the Priest's Room, Lamerton church.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>All are most welcome to attend.</i></p>
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***February church services are on the back cover;  
Bible Readings are on page 8  
For services in the Lifton Benefice, see page 20***

## A Journey through the Bible with Tiglath.

### 79. The Book of Job, Chapter 2 to the end of the Book

In chapter 2 we meet Job's wife who advises him to curse God and die. Job was having nothing to do with this foolish advice. At this point also, I had to make a decision. Since I announced that we had reached the Book of Job in our journey through the bible it has aroused quite a lot of interest in certain areas of the Benefice. I have been asked several times how I am going to tackle it. I am certainly not going to attempt a full-blown commentary on the Book. Instead, I have been asking what I have learned from a prolonged study of Job. The answer, as far as I am concerned, is not very much. Job is steadfast in his trust in God whatever happens to him, in spite of conflicting advice from his friends. At the beginning he loses all his possessions and in the end God gives him back double of what he lost. Like many of my readers I have tried to live a Christian life. This means having absolute trust in God and his merciful goodness. Such a faith gives meaning to the whole of one's life. I knew this long before I read the Book of Job. Many times I have turned to God for help in difficult times and have never been disappointed in His response. I would draw your attention to chapter 28 where Job praises wisdom as an excellent gift of God.

Next month we begin to travel through the Book of Psalms

#### *Editor's note*

The Book of Job is an allegorical poem, author unknown, which may have pre-dated Genesis. It raises many knotty questions, not least: 'why, if I lead a 'good', God-fearing life does God seemingly still allow huge misfortunes to happen to me?' The best explanation I have come across is in a book, kindly lent to me by Rev. Andy:

*'When bad things happen to good people' by Rabbi Harold S Kushner.*

But perhaps the most telling verse of Job is found in chapter 33 when Elihu (an inexperienced adviser to Job) seems to predict the coming of Christ, and penitents being forgiven by God. Repentance and forgiveness of sin, of course, underpin the Christian faith.



#### **The Rural Pulpit**

*'For the scripture saith: whosoever believeth in him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved'*

*Epistle of Paul to the Romans, 10: 11 - 13*

**God bless you all**

*Geoff Willetts*

## **Candlemas**

### **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple**



One of my favourite festivals of the Church year occurs this month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February, which we celebrated in the benefice the Sunday before. The festival is the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, also known as Candlemas. The set gospel reading for this festival is from Luke 2: 22 - 32. It is about the occasion of the young baby Jesus being brought to the temple in Jerusalem by Mary and Joseph to present Him to the Lord; a Jewish custom of the time with every first born male.

Our gospel account is one of the very few we have about the childhood of Jesus. All scripture tells us about the early life of Jesus is in Luke 2:40: 'that He grew and became strong, filled with wisdom and the favour of God was with Him'. Also, there is an account of Jesus aged 12 staying behind on another visit to the Jerusalem temple. On His return home similar words were recorded: 'He increased in wisdom, stature and favour with God and men'.

But why may you ask is this Festival also called Candlemas? It all has to do with light! The aged Simeon proclaims, on seeing the infant Jesus, that he will 'be the light to lighten the Gentiles, which his eyes had at last seen as God's promise of salvation.' This is expressed in the beautiful prayer, the Nunc Dimittis, sung or said at evensong and other times.

In the Old and New Testaments the number 40 is used to signify a period of time as a preparation before a major event or change. For example Noah had to wait 40 days for the flood waters to subside, the Israelites waited 40 years in the wilderness of Sinai before they entered the promised land and Jesus fasted for 40 days in the desert- a time we recall during the period of Lent. Although not recorded as such as a period of time in the New Testament there are 40 days from Christmas day to February 2<sup>nd</sup> - symbolically a time of change from the 12 days of Christmas and the 28 days of Epiphany.

Like Christmas, the Church christianised a pagan/celtic festival held early in February, namely the festival of Imbolc. This festival celebrated the signs of spring, with the noticeably increasing length of daylight, the flowers commencing to bloom and new lambs being born in the fields. The dark, long nights of winter were coming to an end. So symbolising the light proclaimed by Simeon, Jesus was a light (an awareness) to the Gentiles. The light invoked who he was, his mission and the light (the joy) of the darkness of winter being dispelled. We call this festival Candlemas. For Jesus is the supreme measure of candlepower- the old measure of the intensity of light - for He, through the power of the Holy Spirit, illuminates our lives through the Church, the sacraments, scripture and people we know.

Happy Candlemas!



*Ian Silcox*

The Rectory, Lifton 01566 784228  
[revtimdeacon@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:revtimdeacon@hotmail.co.uk)

Dear Friends,

***“Do It Anyway”***

We live in confusing and challenging times! There are serious issues and concerns which threaten to undermine or destroy the worth and decency of the human family. Internationally, hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing war and destruction are inevitably influencing the structures of their receiving nations. Atrocious acts of violent, evil terror cause pain and are bound to increase division between cultural, religious and political outlooks. Recent national floods have reminded us of the fragility of our planet and of our need to be mindful of the effect of pollution. Investigations into historic cases of child abuse are finally bringing justice to the abused and rightly kindling a need for vigilance in the care of the more vulnerable and weaker members of society. In addition, the need for Food Banks, affordable housing, the decent care of the elderly and many more significant concerns affect us all – and we might wonder what we can do to make things better!

As a Christian I believe in the power of prayer and encourage you to bring today's concerns to the Lord in prayer, asking for healing and forgiveness, tolerance and understanding, asking also for a blessing on all who are striving and working for peace and reconciliation across the world, as well as for those who have left the comfort of their own homes to offer practical help and support to those who are experiencing loss and pain.

Prayer may be one way of remembering and supporting those facing crisis in our world – but there is another way, a way that can be achieved by people of faith or of no faith, simply by all of us who believe in the sanctity of human life. All of us need to stand firm for what we believe to be right. If we simply condemn those who would do us harm, if we surrender our standards to those who live by violence, if we ignore those in poverty or despair, if we “pull-up-the-ladder” and hope the problems will go away we will achieve nothing and society as we know it may be irreparably harmed.

A few months ago I was given a copy of the “Rule of Life” that was carefully followed by Mother Teresa of Calcutta. She arranged for it to be displayed in her home for children in Calcutta. It is both powerful and inspirational and speaks firmly of how best to maintain what is right and good for the human family as well as for every individual's best approach to life.

I print it here, in the hope that you will appreciate and follow its guidance:-

*People are often unreasonable, irrational and self-centred.  
 Forgive them anyway*

*If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish motives.  
 Be kind anyway.*

*If you are successful,  
 you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.  
 Succeed anyway.*

*If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you.  
Be honest and sincere anyway.*

*What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.  
Create anyway.*

*If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.  
Be happy anyway.*

*The good you do today will often be forgotten.  
Do good anyway.*

*Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.  
Give you best anyway.*

*In the final analysis, it is between you and God.  
It was never between you and them anyway.*

Mother Teresa based her approach to others in her faith in the suffering and servanthood of Jesus Christ. His example has stood the test of time and all challenges to the human family and is ours to follow today for our good and the good of all – let us “Do It Anyway” while we have the time!

Wishing you the peace and strength  
of the Lord's Blessing,



## THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND TABLE OF PAROCHIAL FEES

FROM 1 JANUARY 2016  
Prepared by the Archbishops' Council

The main fees that are currently payable by law (excluding 'Extras' (See Note 1)) are set out below  
The full table including notes, and guidance (the *Guide to Church of England Parochial Fees*, and FAQs) are available from links on the Fees page of the Church of England website [www.churchofengland.org/weddings-baptisms-funerals/fees.aspx](http://www.churchofengland.org/weddings-baptisms-funerals/fees.aspx)

Marriages	£	Funerals	£
Publication of banns	27.00	Service (in church, cemetery, or crematorium) (See Note 3)	178.00
Certificate of banns, if required	13.00	Burial in churchyard, preceding or following on from service in church	286.00
Marriage service	415.00	Burial in churchyard, on separate occasion, or without service in church	312.00
Marriage certificate, at registration, if required (See Note 2)	4.00	Burial in cemetery or cremation immediately preceding or following on from service in church	25.00
		Burial certificate, if required	13.00
Baptisms	£	Monuments (see Note 4)	£
There is no fee for a service of baptism		These normally range from £41.00 to £128.00 depending on the type and size of the monument required	
Certificate of baptism, if required	13.00		

### SEARCHES IN REGISTERS, ETC.

	£
For the first hour (inclusive of one copy of an entry in certain registers)	27.00
For each subsequent hour or part of an hour	27.00
Additional copies of entries	13.00

#### Notes:

- (1) The fees listed above are the statutory fees payable. It is stressed that the figures do not include charges for extras such as heating, the services of a vergier, music (e.g. organist, choir), bells, and flowers, which are fixed by the Parochial Church Council
- (2) The fee for a marriage certificate is fixed by the Secretary of State.
- (3) If a cemetery or cremation authority has itself fixed different charges for the minister's services in a cemetery or crematorium such charges will take precedence over those specified here.
- (4) 'Monument' is a technical term and includes, for example, a gravestone or headstone.

#### Published by

The Archbishops' Council  
Church House, Great Smith Street  
London SW1P 3AZ

<b>BIBLE READINGS (Year C)</b>			
<i>Please use the readings published in the Parish Magazine and your own bibles.</i>			
<b>DATE</b>	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> READING</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> READING</b>	<b>GOSPEL</b>
<b>31st January</b> Candlemas (White)	Malachi 3: 1 - 5	Hebrews 2: 14 - 18	Luke 2: 22 - 40
<b>7th February</b> Sunday before Lent (Green)	Exodus 34: 29 - 35	2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4: 2	Luke 9: 28 - 36 (37 - 43a)
<b>10th February</b> Ash Wednesday (Purple)	Joel 2: 1,2, 12 - 17	2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10	Matthew 6: 1 - 6, 16 - 21
<b>14th February</b> 1st Sunday of Lent (Purple)	Deuteronomy 26: 1 - 11	Romans 10: 8b - 13	Luke 4: 1 - 13
<b>21st February</b> 2nd Sunday of Lent (Purple)	Genesis 15: 1 - 12, 17, 18	Philippians 3: 17 - 4:1	Luke 13: 31 - 35
<b>28th February</b> 3rd Sunday of Lent (Purple)	Isaiah 55: 1 - 9	1 Corinthians 10: 1 - 13	Luke 13: 1 - 9

The readings are ended with *'This is the Word of the Lord'* (used during services of HC) or, during other services *'Here ends the lesson (or 1st reading or 2nd reading)'*.  
The response is *'Thanks be to God'*.

### Paul's letter to the Galatians

Galatia is a territory in central Asia Minor - the modern day Turkey - comprising the Roman colony of Antioch, the Greek city of Iconium and the area known as Lycaonia comprising the Roman colony at Lystra and city of Derbe visited by Paul on three occasions in his missionary journeys.

The letter he wrote (considered the first about AD 48) was to establish his authority as a genuine apostle, and to contradict that a non Jew needed to convert first to Judaism before they could become a Christian- chapter 1:11 to 2:14-: by going back to the roots of the Hebrew faith arguing that since these laws were not as old as Abraham they had only a limited application and now were irrelevant with the coming of Christ and the new covenant

Paul wanted to impress that all were one in Jesus Christ:

*' you are all sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ.....there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you all are one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise ' 3 :26-29*

He also emphasised the 9 fold fruit of the spirit:

*'the fruit of the Spirit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self- control' 5 : 22*

to complement the variety of gifts of the Spirit detailed in his 1<sup>st</sup> letter to the Corinthians chapter 12.

The letter to the Galatians was important in clarifying to converts that only by faith in Jesus that they had freedom expressing itself in love. It also is especially relevant as we celebrated the nativity of Christ in December with Paul stating that *'God sent his Son , born of a woman, born under the law .....so that we might receive the full rights as sons,' 4: 4-5* . Thus **all** believers are adopted children of God through the outcome of redemption by the sacrifice of Jesus.

Ian Silcox

#### LENT COURSE in the Benefice

Lent is a time of renewal for Christians, to meet for prayer, reflection and study in preparation for Easter. The Rev. Andy Atkins will be holding a 5 session Lent course at

**The Priest's Room, Lamerton Church**

**on**

**Wednesdays: 17, 24 February and 2, 9, 16 March**

**7.30 - 9.30pm**

Contact Andy for further information and to book a place  
01822 870298; Email revandymiltonabbot@gmail.com

***See enclosed flyer for more information  
Why not pin it up in the kitchen as a reminder?***





## A CHILD'S FOOTSTEPS TO FAITH

### Mountaintop Experiences

Have you ever had a day that was so wonderful that you wanted it to last forever? You probably have. Did you know that Jesus' disciples had days like that too? Our Bible lesson today is about one of those days.

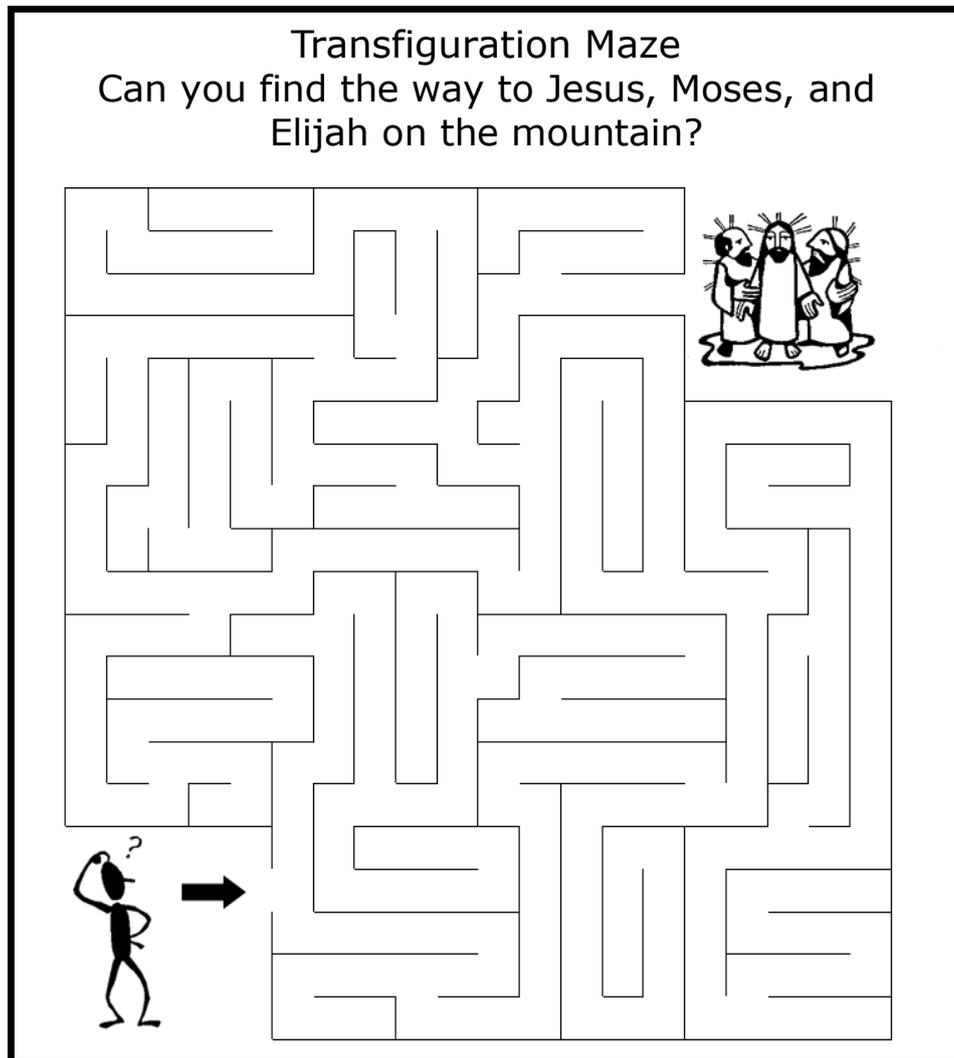
One day, Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him up onto a mountain to pray. As Jesus was praying, something very strange happened. The Bible says that the appearance of his face began to change and that his clothing became as bright as a flash of lightning. Then, Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus. When Peter saw this, he was so excited that he told Jesus that he thought that they should just stay up there on the mountain and build three tabernacles -- one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.

Peter didn't understand that this wonderful experience on the mountain was not a stopping place -- it was a starting place. It was a starting place for God's greatest gift -- the gift of salvation. Following this moment on the mountain, Jesus died on a cross, was buried, and rose from the grave so that you and I could have eternal life in heaven.



God sends a lot of happy days into our life. The day that we meet Jesus is, without a doubt, the happiest day of our life, but it isn't a stopping place -- it is a starting point for a journey that leads to eternal life in heaven with Him.

Dear Father, we thank you for all of the happy days that you send our way, but most of all, we thank you for the happiest day -- the day we met Jesus and invited him into our heart. Amen.



Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the first day of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). This year, Ash Wednesday is on 10th February.





at St Peter's Church, Lamerton

Crafts·Games·Stories·Drink  
A Meal·Fun·Family Time

This is a free event but donations are welcome

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February**  
3:30pm - 5:30pm  
**for all the family**

Children must be accompanied by an adult

next date: 4<sup>th</sup> March

Contact Rev. Andy on: 01822 870298



## The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations

Lamerton is planning to celebrate the birthday of Queen Elizabeth II in style on Saturday June 11th.

This will be a joint venture organised by the village hall committee, Parish Council, St Peter's church and Lamerton school. Anyone who wishes to help is welcome to attend an

**Open Meeting**  
**on Friday 26th February**  
**7.30pm**

at the village hall, Lamerton  
 All are most welcome - bring your ideas!



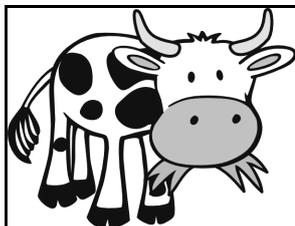
## MILTON ABBOT SKITTLES EVENING

on  
**Friday 12th February**  
**7.30pm, in the village hall**



Enter a team of 4 . Entry fee £5 per person, to include refreshments  
 Proceeds in aid of Milton Abbot village hall and Milton Abbot church

Entries to David Denton, by 1st February  
 Tel: 01822 870432; Email [dandpdenton@btinternet.com](mailto:dandpdenton@btinternet.com)



## Countryside Quiz

Quiz night at Lamerton Village Hall  
 Friday 12th February  
 7.00pm

***Come and enjoy an entertaining evening out.***

## Lamerton Women's Institute

Meetings are at Lamerton Sports and Community Centre, 2.00pm

2 Feb 'Storybook Dads', with Graham Osborne  
 1 Mar 'Tavistock Shops', with Linda Elliot

New members are very welcome



South Tamar  
Mission Community

## Our New Church Web Site

The churches of Milton Abbot, Dunterton, Lamerton, Sydenham Damerel, Marystowe and Coryton now have a brand new website.

Details of services and events can be found on the website:

<http://www.southtamar.church>

## Keep up to date with Diocesan News

The Exeter Diocese produces a monthly magazine which can be downloaded from the website:

<http://www.exeter.anglican.org/documents/>

Scroll down until you see 'magazine' and click on that to find all copies of the magazine from 2015 and into 2016. There are many other documents posted there too, which may be of interest - so worth having a look. Shown below is the latest front page for the January edition.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
**DEVON**

Modern day  
mural brings  
new life

GOOD NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE OF EXETER  
JAN 2016



Bishop Nick, pictured with mural painter Jon Minshull, rededicated the church following completion of the project.

**COMMON WORSHIP  
CARTOONS**

A series of cartoons by the Rev Peter Murphy, based in Winchester Diocese, light-heartedly explore the themes and meanings within the Sunday Gospel readings. The set, covering Year C, costing £36, and other free cartoons can be found at: [www.verycommonlectionary.com](http://www.verycommonlectionary.com)



CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
**DEVON**

Diocesan Communications Unit  
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DIOCESE  
OF EXETER  
THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
IN DEVON

## CHRISTMAS AT MARYSTOWE

The Church looked really beautiful, decorated for Christmas by the two gentlemen who trimmed the tree, our regular flower ladies and a number of our friends from the village. Sincere thanks go to the 17 people involved! Our Church is rather tucked away and is outside the village. However, we have a fair number of visitors, whom I know appreciate that the church is well kept and there are always fresh flowers.

We had two lovely Christmas services, led by Rev Andy, both of which were well attended.



It was good to have so many children and families, for our Christingle service; Rev Andy in his festive jumper, children with their Santa hats and little girls dressed as angels. We were delighted to meet Samuel Townsend (just 3 months old) and his proud parents. Samuel and May Atkins slept peacefully throughout the service. Andy involved the children by asking

a number of questions, which were mostly answered by one very keen child, Brodie Bickle! Once the Christingles were handed out and the candles lit, we all sang 'Away in a Manger,' while the children processed around the church. The service was enjoyed by all ages and everyone stayed to enjoy refreshments. The money given in the collections was sent to the Children's Society.

On Christmas Eve, we were joined by a number of visiting families and some holidaymakers for a service with readings, well-known carols and Holy Communion. A great start to Christmas!

*Deborah Asbridge*





## Nature Notes by Bluebell - February 2016

"Make thou my spirit pure and clear  
As are the frosty skies,  
Or the first snowdrop of the year..." *St Agnes' Eve; Tennyson 1837*

The little tender white snowdrop which is now bravely flowering in Bluebell's garden, has been a symbol of purity, the "Fair Maid of February" for centuries, and will be well represented by Candlemas, the 2nd February. There are a lot of unseasonably early daffodils about too, but it takes an effort of imagination, watching the flocks of redwings and starlings in the cold wet skies, to trust that Spring will come: that the mud and rain and cold frosty stars will be replaced, after Lent, by Easter, when the lanes will blossom with primroses, violets and celandine, the swallows will return, the fields will dance with lambs, and the dawn be filled with birdsong.

But for now, January 20th, (the Eve of St Agnes), the rain and mud have been replaced by white frost - this is the moment in the year when the earth is quiet, but for the sound of rushing water, before birdsong, before budburst and flowers:

"St Agnes' Eve - Ah bitter chill it was!

The owl, for all his feathers was a-cold;

The hare limp'd trembling through the frozen grass, ... " *John Keats 1820*

Lily and Ziggy wonder whether the three baby tawny owlets they watched and listened to through the summer will survive this winter. There has been no sound of them.



When the trees are leafless and the undergrowth is sparse in midwinter, now is the time to see birds and deer. It is a time of storms and rainbows, dark sky, brilliant green rounded hills, and a wet deer shaking a perfect sphere of shining golden raindrops off

his coat after the storm! A beautiful sight in the sudden ray of light!

There are jays shrieking, all brightly coloured, in the woods. There are deer shaped shadows in between the trees. Bluebell was thrilled to see a red deer stag watching her, from behind a tree trunk on the ridge above.

She loves also to surprise the pair of roe deer, and watch them bounding away with huge, graceful leaps across the ploughed field behind her home, startling and putting up snipe and larks and fieldfares.





### GARDEN NOTES BY 'DIGGER'

Since I wrote my last article my life has changed. I have had an accident which means I can no longer live on my own. I am now residing in a nursing home and my bungalow is for sale. This brings me to a dilemma for which, dear readers, I must ask your advice. The question is: 'do you still want me to write my monthly article, knowing that I cannot garden any more – or should I hand the task over to a practical gardener?'. Of course, I enjoy writing my articles and am loathe to give them up. I will abide by your decision. If you think I should give up please inform the editor. If not, I still have a lifetime of gardening memories to provide copy for the future. Meanwhile let us see what we can do in February. It is a month in which the weather can be very varied. There can be heavy snow and severe frost – sometimes mild spells. Not a month for doing much in the open garden. Indoors is a different matter if you have warm window ledges (not hot), or a propagator or even clay pots covered with polythene. Many types of seed can be sown to provide early plants for later in the year. Any magazine or gardening book will tell you what to sow. I am moving to another nursing home in a few day's time. If it has the facilities I have mentioned I shall concentrate on growing geraniums.



#### ADVANCE NOTICE - GARDENERS!

A plant sale is being held at Lamerton Village Hall, on 21 May 2016, in support of Cancer Research. Please take some cutting or make some divisions of plants that we could sell at the sale. Every plant sold is contributing to the battle against cancer. We will arrange a pick up nearer the time. For more information please contact  
Kate Crozier 01822 870297

#### TAVISTOCK FLOWER CLUB

Would you like to join a warm and friendly group? We meet on the last Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm in the Church Hall, United Reform Church, Russell Street, Tavistock, PL19 8BD

##### What do we do?

- Enjoy watching talented demonstrators
- Arrange flowers and attend workshops
- Visit the Area Show and gardens
- Win flower arrangements in the raffle
- Meet new friends



Why not come along to one of our meetings as a visitor and see what you think? For more information, please contact Lowenna Edwards  
Tel: 01822 616435 Email: colchartonfarm@agriplus.net

### LAMERTON HANDBELL RINGERS - Christmas Activities



Practising started in early September ready for the Annual Handbell Festival and the team had a little time off around half term to rest up. We met again in November concentrating then on Xmas pieces ready for our first trip out to Sampford Spiney Church on 16<sup>th</sup> December for their "Carol Extravaganza" The church was packed and it was a pleasure to play to such an appreciative audience. We took the whole group with junior members as well and managed to set up in the front of the church – just about. Apart from Geoff getting the Freelander stuck on very wet grass outside the church and having to be pulled out!!!it was a lovely evening. On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December we were invited once again to ring "The Queens's Peal" at The Devon Church Bell Ringers Carol Service in Exeter Cathedral. Nicola Blowey had returned just the night before from Harper Adams Agricultural College and was able to make up the team of 4. It is always a wonderful service and again this one was no exception. Will Dawe drove and for the first time we used The Park & Ride and this year he, Geoff, Bill & Nicola managed to get a ring on St Petrock's Church Bells in the City before moving onto the Cathedral. The following evening saw The Carol Service in Lamerton Church and we were particularly pleased to have been asked to ring. In addition to solo items we joined forces with the organ and congregation to sing 3 well known carols during the service. The following afternoon the junior members together with one or two older members entertained the residents at Camplehaye Nursing Home and Venn House to some traditional Xmas carols.

No Xmas would be complete without the usual visits to Tavistock Conservative Club and The Tavy Club in Tavistock on Xmas Eve. We were made to feel so very welcome at both places – in fact The Conservative Club had carol sheets this year and joined in with the ringing. It was nice for us all to relax together at the end of the evening before returning to Lamerton to ring the church bells for Midnight Mass and to stay and enjoy the service.

Geoff forgot to take a set of 8 handbells up to Lamerton Church for the traditional ringing of the Old year out and the New Year in but he did redeem himself the following night. He had organised an afternoon's churchbell ringing for members and friends of The Lamerton Tower going to Ashwater, Germansweek, Broadwoodwidger and Lifton Towers – he called it "Nicola's Trip". The day concluded with a meal together at The Coach House at Ottery and it was during the evening the bells came out and it was nice to see so many enjoying ringing them – some old hands but one of two who we might get to join us in the future.

Each year the Group supports a specific local Charity and this year it was agreed to help N.I.C.U.(Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) at Derriford Hospital. In total £210 has been donated and we are so grateful to everyone who so kindly contributed to this very worthy cause. The team now takes a well earned break but will be ready for the

**43<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL HANDBELL FESTIVAL on SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2016**

<b>LAMERTON CHURCHBELL COMPETITION</b>			
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> November, 2015			
			
<p>In 1877 Lamerton Church was destroyed by fire and the former ring of 6 bells cast by William Pannell of Cullompton in 1844 melted. A new ring of 6 by John Warmer &amp; Sons of Cripplegate, London was installed in 1878. Later in 1978, Mrs Ethel Rundlewood, a prominent member of Lamerton Parochial Church Council and a keen supporter of Bellringing, presented a Shield. The Trophy, known as THE CENTENARY SHIELD was successfully held in contest on Lamerton Church Bells for a number of years when lack of entries caused its demise.</p> <p>On the 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 the Competition was revived both for The Centenary Shield Section A and the newly purchased LAMERTON RINGERS TROPHY Section B . The latter trophy replaced The Lamerton Ringers Rose Bowl, which had originally been presented back in 1979 for the winner of Section B – Sadly its whereabouts today is unknown!!!</p> <p>Results of the competition as follows:</p>			
<b>Section A</b>	<b>Faults</b>	<b>Section B</b>	<b>Faults</b>
1. Down St Mary	41	1. Bow	63
2. Stoke Gabriel	46.5	2. Ede	70
3. Broadhempston	48.5	3. Sampford Courtney + Exeter St. Davids	83.5
4. Lamerton	61.5	5. St Mary's Launceston	84.5
5. Widecombe	65	6. Dunsford	125.5
6. Holbeton	73		
7. Bridgerule	93		
<p>The Judges were: = Miss Kate Avery from Kingsteignton and Mr. John Deitz from Stoke Fleming Lamerton Ringers would like to thank Barbara Meikle for accommodating the Judges at "Court Barton Mews" and to The Rev'd Andy Atkins for taking the Service.</p>			
			

## **WORSHIP IN THE LIFTON BENEFICE**

St.Mary, **Lifton**. St.Nicholas, **Broadwoodwidge**. St.Peter, **Lewtrenchard**  
 St.Mary, **Kelly**. St.John the Baptist, **Stowford**. St.George, **Thrushelton**  
*Holy Communion every Wednesday, 10.30am at St.Mary's, Lifton*

### **FEBRUARY 2016**

	9.45am unless stated different	11.15am unless stated different
<b>7th. Feb</b> Sun b' Lent	<b>10.00am "Together at Ten" at KELLY CHURCH Communion for the whole Benefice</b>	
<b>10th</b> Ash Wed	7.30pm Holy Communion for the beginning of Lent At LIFTON <i>(With the imposition of Ashes)</i>	
<b>14th</b> Lent 1	Lifton - Holy Communion Thrushelton - Holy Communion	Lewtrenchard - Holy Communion Broadwood - Holy Communion
<b>21st</b> Lent 2	Lifton - Morning Prayer Kelly - Holy Communion	Stowford - Holy Communion
<b>28th</b> Lent 3	Lifton - Holy Communion Thrushelton - Morning Prayer	Broadwood - Holy Communion Lewtrenchard - Holy Communion

### **MARCH 2016**

	9.45am unless stated different	11.15am unless stated different
<b>6th</b> Mothering	Lifton - Holy Communion <i>With posies of flowers</i>	Lewtrenchard - Holy Communion <i>With posies of flowers</i>
<b>13th</b> Lent 5	<b>10.00am "Together at Ten" at STOWFORD CHURCH <i>The Dramatised Passion Gospel &amp; Communion</i></b>	
<b>20th</b> Palm Sunday	Lifton - Morning Prayer Thrushelton - Holy Communion	Lewtrenchard - Holy Communion Broadwood - Holy Communion Kelly - Morning Prayer
<b>24th</b> Maundy Thurs	7.30pm Eucharist of the Last Supper and Watch of Prayer at Stowford Church	
<b>25th</b> Good Friday	10.30am Good Friday Ecumenical Service at Lifton Church after <b>Walk of Witness</b> from Strawberry Fields (Gather at Strawberry Fields at 10.00am) 2.00pm Devotional Hour at Kelly Church	
<b>26th</b> Easter Eve	8.00pm Service of "New Fire" and 1st Communion of Easter at Lewtrenchard Church	
<b>27th</b> Easter Day	8.00am Stowford HC	9.45 Lifton HC 9.45 Thrushelton HC
		11.15 Kelly HC 11.15 Broadwood HC

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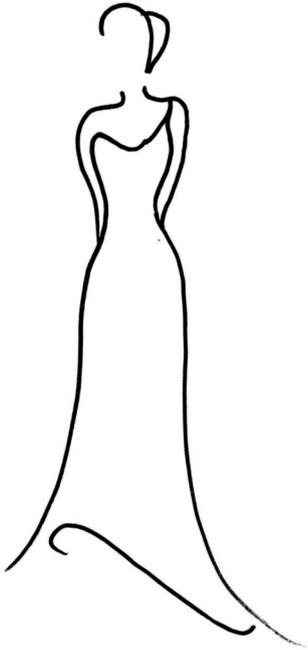
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 Italian Night: 25<sup>th</sup> February: set menu Italiano  
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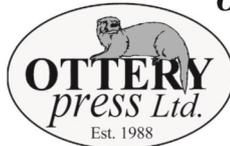
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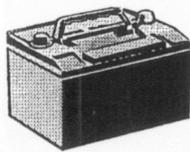
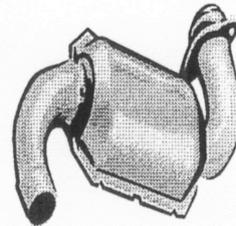
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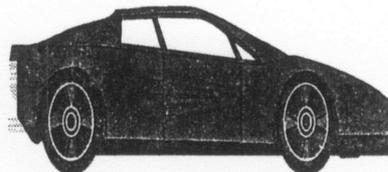
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**Funeral Directors established in 1870**

Your local independent Funeral Director is owned & run by the fifth generation of the Morris Family, Simon & Lucie Luke. We provide a qualified, professional & sensitive service to the people of Tavistock & surrounding areas. Simon & Lucie live on site at The Old Bedford Foundry providing you with a very personal service at all times.

**Tel 01822 612023** 24 hours

**The Old Bedford Foundry, Lakeside, Tavistock PL19 0AZ**

*Golden Charter Pre Paid Funeral Plans available*

**[www.morrisbros.co.uk](http://www.morrisbros.co.uk)**

## Tavistock Country Bus Service

### 117 TAVISTOCK - CHILLATON - LAUNCESTON - MILTON ABBOT- LAMERTON-TAVISTOCK TUESDAYS

Tavistock Bedford Square	10.15	Tavistock Bedford Square	1.30
Lamerton School	10.18	Tavistock Hospital	1.32
Chillaton Square	10.33	Lamerton Blacksmith's	1.39
Launceston Westgate	11.05	Milton Abbot former P.O.	1.49
Milton Abbot former P.O.	11.31	Launceston Westgate	2.10
Lamerton Blacksmith's	11.35	Chillaton Square	2.41
Tavistock Hospital	11.41	Lamerton School	2.50
Tavistock Bedford Square	11.44	Tavistock Hospital	2.56
		Tavistock, Bedford Square	2.59

### 114 TAVISTOCK-MILTON ABBOT-LAUNCESTON-CHILLATON-TAVISTOCK THURSDAYS

Tavistock Bedford Square	10.15	Tavistock Bedford Square	1.30
Tavistock Hospital	10.18	Tavistock Hospital	1.32
Lamerton Blacksmith's	10.24	Lamerton School	1.39
Milton Abbot former P.O.	10.28	Chillaton Square	1.48
Launceston Westgate	10.50	Launceston Westgate	2.20
Chillaton Square	11.20	Milton Abbot former P.O.	2.38
Lamerton School	11.29	Lamerton Blacksmith's	2.49
Tavistock Hospital	11.37	Tavistock Hospital	2.53
Tavistock Bedford Square	11.40	Tavistock Bedford Square	2.55

### 94 TAVISTOCK - MILTON ABBOT - TAVISTOCK FRIDAYS (except public holidays)

Tavistock Bus Station	9.30	Tavistock Bus Station	12.35
Lamerton, Blacksmith's	9.38	Lamerton, Blacksmith's	12.42
Milton Abbot former P.O.	9.50	Milton Abbot former P.O.	12.55
Lamerton Village	9.57	Lamerton Village	13.02
Tavistock Bus Station	10.10	Tavistock Bus Station	13.15



## Safeguarding in South Tamar Mission Community

***Be safe, not sorry - Report it!***

Are you concerned about the well-being or happiness of yourself or someone you know in the community? Whether it is a **child or adult** suffering from any kind of abuse or neglect, do not be shy. Come forward and speak in confidence to people who can help. We offer you a safe place to tell your story and take the matter further.

**Contact:**

- ◊ **Julie Hibbert**, Safeguarding Representative  
01822 618221, [safeguarding@southtamar.church](mailto:safeguarding@southtamar.church)
- ◊ The **Rev. Andy Atkins**, Vicar, Milton Abbot Benefice  
01822 870298, [vicar@southtamar.church](mailto:vicar@southtamar.church)

***If someone is in immediate danger, call 999***

Childline 0800 1111; NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

**LEWDOWN  
VICTORY HALL  
Registered Charity No 230270  
SUNDAY LUNCH  
February 28<sup>th</sup> at 12.30 for 1.00pm  
TICKETS £12.00  
Roy 01566 783267 or Nicola 783320**



**From the editor's desk ...**

**Deadline for the March issue is Tuesday 16th February 2016**

**Advertising rates:** Advertising for 'one-off' local charities and events is free.  
 1/8 page: £1.80 per issue - £18 per year    1/4 page: £3.60 per issue - £36 per year  
 3/8 page: £5.40 per issue - £54 per year    1/2 page: £7.20 per issue - £72 per year  
 Full page: £14.40 per issue - £144 per year

## CHURCH SERVICES February/March 2016

Day	St Mary M. Sydenham Damereel	St Peter's Lamerton	All Saints' Dunterton	St Constan- tine Milton Abbot	St Mary the Virgin Marystowe	St Andrew's Coryton
<b>Sunday 31st Jan</b>  <b>Candlemas</b>	<b>United Benefice Service</b> 11.15am Coryton <b>Holy Communion, CW</b> <i>All are most welcome</i>					
<b>Sunday 7th Feb</b>  (Sunday before Lent)		11.00am HC CW			9.30am HC CW	
<b>Sunday 14th Feb</b>	9.00am HC CW			11.00am HC CW		11.15am Morning prayer CW
<b>Ash Wednes- day 10th Feb</b>	<b>United Benefice Ash Wednesday Service</b> 7.30pm <b>Priest's Room, Lamerton</b> <i>All are most welcome</i>					
<b>Sunday 21st Feb</b>		6.30pm Even- song	10.00 HC BCP		9.30am Family Service	
<b>Sunday 28th Feb</b>	9.00am Matins BCP	9.30am Family Service		11.00am HC CW		11.15am HC CW
<b>Sunday 6th March</b>		6.30pm Even- song			9.30am HC CW	
<b>Sunday 13th March</b>	9.00am HC CW			11.00am HC CW		11.15am Matins BCP

BCP – Book of Common Prayer      CW – Common Worship (Modern)