

# Parish News

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



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 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017**  
**3:30pm – 5:30pm**  
**for all the family**

Our theme will be *"Truthfulness"*

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Contact Rev. Andy on: 01822 870298



**Geoff Willetts**  
**Memorial Service**  
**Friday 27 January**  
**11.00am**  
**Milton Abbot Church**

**February 2017**  
**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:** Liz Padmore 870642  
 Sandra Dunbar 870218

**Dunterton:** Arthur Vigars 870244

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

**Marystowe:** Barbara Dawe (01566)784797  
 Deborah Asbridge 860378

**Coryton:** Sylvia Andrews 820805

### 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  
 Josie Whitfield 860189

**Vicar's Assigned Administrator** Guy Talbot 860314

### MAGAZINE

**Editor:** Julie Hibbert Pentiction, Chollacott Lane, Tavistock 618221  
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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>	John Edgar	618512	Ann Cole	810213
<b>Milton Abbot group parish:</b>	Peter Hough		Emma James	07742557982
<b>Sydenham Damerel:</b>	Tracy Windemer	870568		
	Denise Head	870450		

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### PRIMARY SCHOOLS

<b>Lamerton C of E</b>	Head Teacher: Melody Nicholls	Tel. 613561
<b>Milton Abbot</b>	Head Teacher: Chris Luxford	Tel. 870273

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# Diary Dates

## February 2017

- 3 MESSY CHURCH, St Peter's Church, Lamerton, 3.30 - 5.30pm
- 4 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00
- 4 LAMERTON COFFEE MORNING, Lamerton Community Centre, 10.30 - 12.00
- 7 LAMERTON BINGO, Lamerton Community Centre, 8.00pm
- 10 TALK ON HOLY LAND, Lamerton Community Centre, 7.00pm
- 11 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00
- 13 MILTON ABBOT BINGO, Village Hall, 7.30pm

### 14 MAGAZINE DEADLINE for March edition

- 18 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00
- 18 LAMERTON COFFEE MORNING, Lamerton Community Centre, 10.30 - 12.00
- 19 DUNTERTON CHURCH SERVICE, followed by talk on essential oils
- 21 LAMERTON BINGO, Lamerton Community Centre, 8.00pm
- 25 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00
- 25 TAVISTOCK COMMUNITY INFORMATION FAIR

## March 2017

- 4 MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00
- 4 LAMERTON COFFEE MORNING, Lamerton Community Centre, 10.30 - 12.00
- 7 LAMERTON BINGO, Lamerton Community Centre, 8.00pm
- 8 LENT COURSE BEGINS, Lamerton

### PARISH MAGAZINE SCHEDULING

The next edition will be for the month of March, as usual, but thereafter the magazine will be issued every two months i.e. April+May, June+July, August+September, October+November, December+January. The magazine will have extra pages, as necessary, and contributors will have to remember to submit in time to cover two months.

If you have any thoughts or objections to this plan, please contact Rev. Andy or Julie Hibbert, editor.

***See safeguarding notice - inside back cover!***

***February church services are on the back cover;  
Bible Readings are on page 8  
For services in the Lifton Benefice, see page 20***



## Candlemas - Presentation of Christ in the Temple

One of my favourite festivals of the Church's year occurs on February 2nd - although in the benefice we celebrated it last month on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>. It 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 tells of the occasion of the young baby Jesus being brought to the temple in Jerusalem by Mary and Joseph - to present Him to the Lord. This was a Jewish custom of the time for 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'. When Jesus (aged 12) stayed behind on another visit to the Jerusalem temple, upon his return home similar words were written: '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! In a gospel reading the aged Simeon sees the infant Jesus and proclaims that he is: 'to be the light to lighten the Gentile, 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 even-song 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 Imbloc, to celebrate the signs of spring with the noticeably increasing length of daylight with the flowers commencing to bloom and new born lambs in the fields. The dark, long nights of winter were coming to an end. Candlemas symbolises the light proclaimed by Simeon as Jesus being a light (an awareness) to the Gentiles as to his identity as God's son and His mission - and the light (the joy) of the darkness of winter being dispelled. 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 individuals.

**Happy Candlemas!**

*Ian Silcox*

## The Letters of Peter the Apostle



Peter was foremost among the 12 disciples and became the leader of the first Christians. He is considered to be the author of two letters and names himself 'Simon Peter' at the start of his second letter. Both letters were written during AD 60-65 towards the end of Peter's life in Rome.

The first letter was addressed to Christians living throughout various Roman provinces in Asia Minor (now present Turkey). Peter described Christians as God's chosen people. The main purpose of the letter was to encourage those facing suffering and persecution for their faith and emphasised that, in spite of this suffering, they have a 'living hope'.

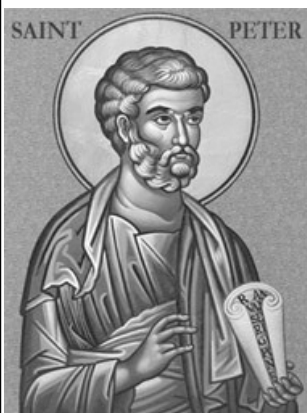
*'Let us give thanks to the Father of Lord Jesus Christ .....in His great mercy He has given us a living hope.....  
Into an inheritance that can never perish ... kept in heaven for you' 1: 3-4*

This is followed in 2.11 to 4.11 by Peter detailing the Christian code of conduct as '*living stones and 'a chosen people'*' and maintaining their Christian witness to the world by using '*whatever gift received for serving others*'. Chapter 4 concludes with although they experience trial and sufferings for their faith they should rejoice that they

*'participate in the sufferings of Christ'.*

The final chapter is an exhortation to elders '*to be shepherds of God's flock that is in your care*' 5.2 and to young men' and to be '*submissive to those who are older*' 5. 3

The 2<sup>nd</sup> letter is addressed to a wider circle of the early Christians with its main concern being to combat the work of false teachers and the resultant immorality from their teaching. In the last chapter the letter describes God's timelessness and concludes with the promise of Christ's return and God's judgement:



*' do not forget dear friends that with the Lord a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like a day.*

*For the Lord is not slow in keeping his promise ....He is patient with you not wanting anyone to perish, but to repent ' 3. 8,9*

Both letters are instructive for believers today, just as much they were for first century Christians. The letters give advice on how to cope with suffering, and instruct believers of their role in mission and outreach to the wider community.

*Ian Silcox*

*The Vicarage, The Parade, Milton Abbot, Tavistock, Devon. PL19 0NZ*  
*Tel: 01822 870298; Email revandymiltonabbot@gmail.com*



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I write this, we have had quite a mild winter, so far. We have only seen a slight flurry of snow and have only had a couple of frosts that are worth mentioning.

But it is dark. There is not much daylight about at this time of year. This January has also felt a little darker than previous years, as we mourn the loss of Geoff Willetts our beloved Reader.

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February in the church calendar it is the feast of Candlemas.

This ancient festival marks the midpoint of winter, half way between the shortest day and the spring equinox. It also means that 40 days have passed since the celebration of Christmas!

Candlemas is a festival based around the Jewish requirement that 40 days after the birth of a baby boy, he should be brought to the Temple to be presented to God. In the Bible, the book of Luke tells the account of Mary and Joseph doing just this with Jesus. It is why Candlemas is also known as 'The Presentation of Christ in the Temple'.

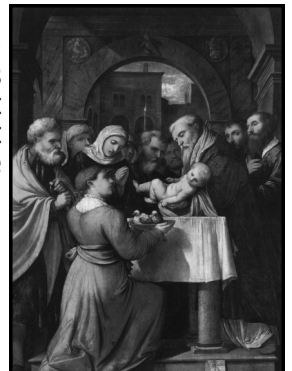
While Jesus, Mary and Joseph were in the Temple, some people named Simeon and Anna saw the infant Jesus and proclaimed to everyone that he was God's promised Messiah – the one who would be a light to the world. And because Jesus was recognised as the light of the world, it became custom at this time of the year for people to bring their lights (candles), to church in order for them to be blessed – hence 'Candlemas'. We still use candles very often in church. They are symbols not only of Jesus being a light that shows us the way, but also help us to remember people and places in prayer.

The darkness of February is a good month to spend some time in candlelight in your own home, remembering that even though we are still in the darkness of winter, the days are getting longer and the light is returning. Jesus is the light of the world, a light which the darkness cannot extinguish. Where would you like to see his light shining this year?

With every Blessing,

**Fr. Andy**

*Presentation of Christ at the Temple*



## St. Peter's Lamerton

### St. Peter's Lamerton



Our Advent Carols at Collacombe Barton was greatly enjoyed by all who came. Many thanks to Ian and Sarah for their hospitality and to Tony our pianist. The collection for the Reredos Fund came to £300. Many thanks.

Andy led a brilliant Christingle Service. I'm sure we will all remember the outfit and the candles - but more important - the message of the orange. It was so good to see so many children with their parents in church. Away in a Manger with the lights off and all the candles burning was something very special.



Midnight Mass was very well attended. Again Andy's ingenuity helped us to keep awake through his sermon - but he does have a great knowledge of chocolate bars!!

Our first Messy Church for 2017 was on the theme of Epiphany. Having listened to the story of the Three Kings going to find Jesus, the children had great fun making and decorating model Kings and camels, also very colourful crowns. They wore their crowns during their talk and proudly paraded around the Church. They also kept them on during their meal - this month everyone enjoyed delicious cottage pie - in fact one child had three helpings. We are very grateful to all our helpers who make it such an enjoyable event each month. Our next one is on February 3rd - please do come and bring your children.



Don't forget the talk by Annie and Mike on their trip to the Holy Land on February 10th at the Village Hall. We're looking forward to it - should be most interesting.

## BIBLE READINGS (Year A)

*Please use the readings published in the Parish Magazine and your own bibles.*

DATE	1 <sup>ST</sup> READING	2 <sup>ND</sup> READING	GOSPEL
Sunday 29th January  <i>Presentation of Christ at Temple (Gold/white)</i>	Malachi 3.1 - 5	Hebrews 2.14 - end	Luke 2.22 - 40
Sunday 4th February  <i>4th before Lent (Green)</i>	Isaiah 58.1 - 9a	1 Corinthians 2.1-12 (13 to end)	Matthew 5.13 - 20
Sunday 12th February  <i>3rd before Lent (Green)</i>	Deuteronomy 30.15 - 20	I Corinthians 3.1-9	Matthew 5.21 - 37
Sunday 19th February  <i>2nd before Lent (Green)</i>	Genesis 1.1 to 2.3	Romans 8.18 - 25	Matthew 6.25 to end
Sunday 26th February  <i>Sunday before Lent (Green)</i>	Exodus 24.12 to end	2 Peter 1.16 - 21	Matthew 17. 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'***.



# United Benefice Lent Course

## FINDING A VOICE

*A Lent course based on*  
**THE KING'S SPEECH**

**HILARY BRAND**



Lent is traditionally a time of renewal; when Christians spend time in prayer, reflection and study, in preparation for Easter.

Easter is the greatest of all Christian celebrations.

We will meet at Greenhill Bungalow in Lamerton, for relaxed and informal discussions, including refreshments. The only cost to you will be £5 for the course booklet.

We will meet on Wednesday evenings between 7:30pm – 9:30pm.

**If you have not seen, or would like to see the film again, I have a copy which can be borrowed prior to the 8<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> March & 5<sup>th</sup> April**

Please do come along, even if you can only make 1 or 2 evenings, we would love to see you!

If you would like to book a place on this year's Lent course or you have any queries please call Rev. Andy Atkins [tel: 01822 870298](tel:01822870298) or e-mail: [revandymiltonabbot@gmail.com](mailto:revandymiltonabbot@gmail.com)



## A CHILD'S FOOTSTEPS TO FAITH

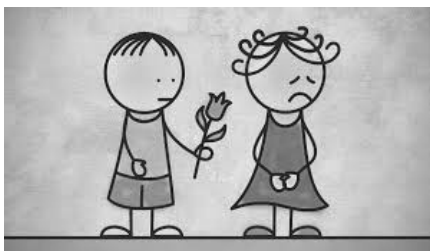
### Forgiving and Forgiven

Every time we go to church we bring an offering as a gift to God -- it is a very important part of our worship. There are many places in the Bible that teach us the importance of presenting an offering to God, but the truth is that God is more interested in what's in our heart than he is in what's in our hand.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said to people long ago, 'You must not murder. If you commit murder, you will be subject to judgment.' But I say, even if you are angry with someone, you are subject to judgment." He went on to say that you will face God's judgment if you call someone a bad name or curse them.

What did Jesus say we should do if we are guilty of any of these things? He said, "If you are presenting your offering to God and you remember that you have said something that hurt another person, leave your gift at the altar and go and ask forgiveness from that person. Then come back and offer your gift to God."

Before we give our offering, perhaps we should ask ourselves a few questions. Have I been angry with someone recently? Have I had any arguments lately? Have I called someone a bad name? Have I said something about someone that wasn't true? If so, we should ask God to forgive us and we should go to the person we have hurt and ask them to forgive us. When we have done that, God will be pleased with our offering.



"Forgive" is a great old hymn written by Corinne Williams. The first verse of this hymn would be a good prayer.

Forgive the things I've said in haste, O Lord, today,  
As evening shadows fold again the light away;  
O take away the sting and hurt from hearts, I pray;  
And heal the wounded spirits, Lord, in Thine own way!

Heavenly Father, we would not think of committing murder, but we sometimes say things in anger that hurt other people. Help us to guard against hateful and hurtful words and forgive us as we ask those we have hurt to forgive us as well. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

Poem: "Forgive", Corinne Williams, 1940. Renewal 1968 Broadman Press (Admin. by LifeWay Christian Resources) Broadman Press, LifeWay Christian Resources

## Forgiving and Forgiven

"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift." Matthew 5:23-24

The activity is based on Matthew 5:21-25



*The letters of the words below are jumbled. Figure out what the word is and write it on the blank line provided. Clues are provided in case you need help and all words can be found in the Bible verse above.*

ITFG \_\_\_\_\_

OFLO \_\_\_\_\_

RUEDRM \_\_\_\_\_

EIFR \_\_\_\_\_

EPLOEP \_\_\_\_\_

RCOTU \_\_\_\_\_

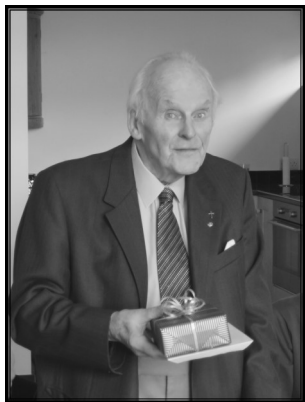
OSRNIP \_\_\_\_\_

RGANY \_\_\_\_\_

JGDUE \_\_\_\_\_

AATRL \_\_\_\_\_

1. A present that is given to another person
2. A person who lacks good sense
3. Killing of a person by another person
4. The light, heat, and flame that comes from burning
5. A group of human beings (men or women or children)
6. The place where a trial is held
7. A place where criminals are locked up
8. To be furious
9. A person who decides questions brought before a court
10. The place where gifts or sacrifices are made to God



*Geoff at his 90th birthday party*

**Geoffrey Willetts**  
**14<sup>th</sup> April 1924 – 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2016**

You will all be aware that our beloved Geoff, also known as Tiglath and Digger, died peacefully at Abbotsfield Nursing Home not long after saying prayers with Rev. Andy.

**Geoff's**  
**Memorial Service**  
**is on**  
**Friday 27 January, 11.00am**  
**Milton Abbot Church**

and afterwards at Village Hall for refreshments

Here are some tributes to Geoff:

I am particularly grateful to Geoff for arranging some 12 years ago with the then Vicar of Milton Abbot benefice, Greg Stanton, for me to join the benefice ministry team. The time with him and ministry in the six congregations of the benefice has been, and still is, an important part of my life. I first met Geoff about 16 years ago just after his wife Beryl had died. He joined a Tavistock U3A history group in which with his history degree he played an invaluable part in our discussions and study. About the same time he also became a member of a bible study and prayer group of the Tavistock Parish church and here his contribution and biblical knowledge especially on the Old Testament-as also evident in his 'Tiglath' articles in Parish News- was greatly appreciated.

Geoff will be greatly missed not only as a friend and Reader colleague, but also for his wit, humour and his recollections of his long and interesting life.

***Eternal rest grant him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen***

*Ian Silcox*

I'm so glad to have met Geoff during my 'Bishops in Mission' visit to Tavistock Deanery and glad too that this old soldier had such a good ending. How very appropriate that you (Annie) and Andy should have been some of the last people to bid him well on his final journey. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

***Bishop Robert***

*If any others would like to send in their memories and tributes to Geoff, I will print more in the March edition.*  
**Ed.**

It is with great sadness that I write these lines, but Geoff would laugh and tell me he was very ready to meet God and see his beloved Julie and Beryl again.

I only really got to know Geoff in the last few years of his life when I collected his Tiglath articles, but I was always struck by how positive and optimistic he was. Although he had plenty of anecdotes of the past, he didn't live in the past. He accepted all that befell him with equanimity, living very much in the present. When he had to give up his bungalow he made his home at Abbotsfield Nursing Home and was not maudlin. Right up until his death he always had plans for the future and an active interest in so many things: gardening, music, reading, history, the internet.

His faith was a cornerstone of his life and I'm sure this helped him deal with the loss of Julie Gale - an event so unexpected and hard to comprehend for him. Geoff wasn't always an angel and enjoyed a good argument, but he accepted God's plans without question. He is an example to us all.

I will miss you and our chats Geoff. You have made a lasting impression on me and I was privileged to know you.

*Julie Hibbert*



### **An Evening for Julie Gale**

Milton Abbot Players are organising a supper show to celebrate the memory of Julie Gale. All proceeds will go towards the Milton Abbot Village Hall door fund. There will be a delicious meal followed by an entertaining show. We are all looking forward to an evening of shared memories, fun and lots of laughter.

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm**  
**Milton Abbot Village Hall**

Tickets £10 to include food and entertainment (bring your own drinks)

80 tickets only are available - so book early to avoid disappointment

To book, call 01822 612451

### **A Big Thank You**

We have just passed on to the Brain Tumour Research Campaign over £2000. We would like to thank all who came and supported us at our Coffee Morning, together with donations it raised over £1000. It was certainly a very successful and enjoyable day. We were also delighted to receive a £1000 cheque from the Tamar Valley Vintage Club after the Lamerton Country Fair and Tractor Day.

We thank you all for your continued support.

*Robert & Rosalind Wiggins.*

## CHRISTMAS AT MARYSTOWE

On Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December, a Christmas coffee morning was held at Deborah's home in Chillaton; a good opportunity for friends and neighbours to get together over coffee and mince pies. Donations were generously given for the refreshments and there was a raffle, tombola, books, cakes and bring and buy stalls. The event raised just over £320, which will go towards buying a new carpet for the church. Our thanks go to all those who helped and supported us.



Our regular flower ladies and friends from the village, made lovely foliage arrangements with red candles. Roy and John Martin kindly provided a new Christmas tree, which they decorated beautifully for us.

Our two Christmas Services were conducted by Rev Andy. The first was on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, when we had an afternoon Christmas Carol Service, just as it was getting dark. The church

looked really lovely in the candlelight. Andy thanked those who had decorated the church, the children who had dressed up and taken part in the service and Deborah for the nativity costumes. The crib was blessed and we all sang, 'Away in a Manger,' during which, we were amused by a tiny tot, who kissed and stroked the animals in the manger! Everyone stayed after the service for refreshments, while the children enjoyed playing in the church. The collection was sent to The Children's Society.

On Christmas Eve, we had a service with Holy Communion, again by candlelight, with readings and well-known carols.

### **'Odours of Edom'**

All Saints Dunterton

Sunday 19 February 2017

Holy Communion by the Book of Common Prayer

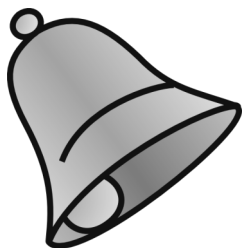
This is the first of Dunterton's seven special services scheduled for 2017.

All are welcome to the service which will be followed by a short talk and demonstration to be given by

Mrs Mirry O'Connor

on the theme of

'Everyday use of essential oils, suitable for all the family'.



## LAMERTON HANDBELL RINGERS CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Practices resumed in earnest in early November, 2016 following a very successful Handbell Festival the previous month. The first function was THE ANNUAL CHURCH BELL-RINGERS CAROL SERVICE on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> December held this year at Buckfast Abbey. The team was once again invited to ring The Queen's Peal during the service. Will Dawe, Geoff and Carolyn Hill, Bill Blowey rang out to the congregation of almost 400 !!!! – a very daunting experience. The whole service was awesome and very much a highlight in the Devon Churchbell Ringers calendar.

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December the team were invited to take part in A Carol Evening at Coombe Trenchard, the home of Mr & Mrs Marsh. This was a fundraiser for restoration work needed at Lewtrenchard Church. The team set up the bells in the minstrel gallery and joined forces with Mary Mazur-Park on the piano playing carols together whilst the audience sang, it was interspersed with several solo items. The event was well supported.

The following Sunday saw The Carol Service in Lamerton Church and we were particularly pleased to have been asked to ring. In addition to ringing solo items we joined forces with the organ and congregation to sing 3 well known carols during the service finishing up with playing "We wish you a Merry Xmas" to the congregation. It was a very relaxed, well attended service.

Two days later, the junior members together with an adult or two entertained the residents at Camplehay Nursing Home and Venn House. At Venn House it was their Annual Xmas Party and we were part of the entertainment. It was a great pleasure to ring carols and to be so well received at both homes.

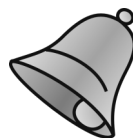
Xmas Eve saw our usual visits to Tavistock Conservative Club and The Tavy Club. We were made to feel so welcome at both places – in fact The Conservative Club had carol sheets again with the singing more energetic this year and was greatly enjoyed by all. It was nice for us to relax together at the end of the evening before returning to Lamerton to ring the church bells for Midnight Mass and to stay and enjoy the service.

The year concluded with ringing the Old Year out and the New Year in on Lamerton Church Bells. Will & Sue Dawe, Geoff Hill and Bill Blowey rang a peal on 8 Handbells before toasting in the New Year and tucking into a few nibbles as well!

The profit from The Handbell Festival together with the collection taken at Tavistock Conservative Club and The Tavy Club totalling £220 has been donated to this year's chosen Charity THE DEVON AIR AMBULANCE TRUST.

The team takes a well earned break now but will be ready again for the

**44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HANDBELL FESTIVAL  
on SATURDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2017**





## Nature Notes by Bluebell - February 2017

"When icicles hang by the wall,  
And Dick the shepherd blows his nail,  
And Tom bears logs into the hall,  
And milk comes frozen



home in pail,  
When blood is nipped and ways be foul,  
Then nightly sings the staring owl,  
Tu-whit,

Tu-who! a merry note, ..." *William Shakespeare; Love's Labour's Lost, V ii*

Three little jack snipe jink up and out of the short wet grass in the Barn Field; the drumming of a Greater Spotted Woodpecker rings out by day through bare trees; tawny owls hoot under the silver moon; robins and blackbirds, even a song thrush are singing, especially when it is just getting light in the morning. Bluebell's jackdaws are hanging around, and in the pure high blue firmament a pair of ravens demonstrate their wonderful flying skills. They mate early, in January, and are becoming more numerous (*Bird Atlas 2007-11*). They do not wait till St Valentine's Day, when by tradition the birds hold their Parliament to choose their mates, and start to sing.



Bluebell was excited to find star jelly again this year, this time near leats and bog on Dartmoor. These milky clumps of jelly are most likely unfertilized spawn from frog or toads, which swells up when exposed to damp and air, unpalatable to predators.

February brings a stop, start, hope of Spring, and snowdrops at Candlemas, when if molehills cast a shadow this is supposed to forecast cold weather:

*If Candlemas be fair and bright,*

*Winter'll have another flight.*

*But if Candlemas Day be clouds and rain,*

*Winter is gone and will not come again.*

Lily is fascinated by moles. She stalks the lines of little red volcanic explosions and stands patiently motionless, one paw lifted, pointing, listening, ready to pounce like a cat or a fox. And she has actually caught a few moles, though not many.



What molehills signal today is the health of the soil. "A mole signals worms as reliably as a canary down a coal mine signals gas.....Darwin estimated that arable land contains up to 53,000 worms per acre ... "it may be doubted whether there are many other animals which have played so important a part in the history of the world as have these lowly organised creatures." Darwin; *The Formation of Vegetable Mould through the Action of Worms, 1881*, quoted by John Lewis Stemple in *The Running Hare 2016*.





## GARDEN NOTES BY DOUG

By the time you read this, I hope you will have seen signs of winter loosening its grip; the daffodils, snowdrops and other budding signs of new life. And, oh joy, the rhododendrons! Longer days, flowers to marvel at, buds aplenty.

Even the ivy and brambles are stirring – bah, humbug to those ever present nuisances! And, in my garden, the bittercress is determinedly on the march; unstoppable stuff! Before moving to Devon I rarely saw this magnificent weed, *or perhaps I just didn't notice it?* Now I see it everywhere. It is just so easy to grow (something for the grandchildren?). Part of the problem is the seed-heads which, if you touch them – and it's usually something else which



does, not you – they explode! **Boom!** And a radius of 3 ft is showered in seed. A very effective strategy if you want to reproduce. There are a few types – you can have *Cardamine hirsute* or *flexuosa* – both can sneak into your garden in container-grown plants – they're a free gift alongside the plant you bought. The upside – yes, there is one – they are very easily pulled out, complete with all the roots. Oh, if only dandelions were so easy!

*Doug*, hopes that *Digger* (who contributed the Garden Notes for years) has found his plot in paradise and is busy planning. I hope it's a good plot, a magnificent vista, that he's got his tools and his seed catalogues sorted and the orders flying. Maybe there are new things to learn, different plants, different climate? I'm sure there are, that's the joy of gardening – even each year is different – and he'll be very happy with that and I wish him well. Good luck with it *Digger!*

### To all Gardeners and plant lovers

Helen Tworowski and her friends will be selling plants at the Lamerton Coffee Morning on the following dates:-



Saturday 29th April

Saturday 13th May

Saturday 27th May



All coffee mornings run from 10.30am - 12 noon.

Everybody is welcome and proceeds will go to Cancer Research.

Thank you for your support



## *Adventures and special moments in The Holy Land:*

### *"Walking in the footsteps of Jesus "*

*An illustrated talk by Annie and Mike Jefferies.*

*Friday 10th February 2017*

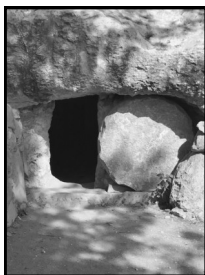
*at 7pm,*

*Lamerton Village Hall*

*A glass of wine and nibbles at the interval! All are welcome .*

*Tickets are available from Annie (614178).*

*No cost but donations please to St Peter's Church, Lamerton.*



*Thanks.....*

*May I, through your magazine, express my grateful thanks for the extraordinary generosity of all who contributed towards the £2,935 collected in the Lamerton area, for the 2016 Royal British Legion Poppy appeal.*

*Bev Austin*



### **Lamerton PCC meeting**

**Priest's Room, Lamerton**

**31st January, 7.30pm**

*All parishioners are welcome to attend*

# At Night at the Races

## *'The Milton Abbot Stakes'*

Horse Racing evening in aid of the Milton Abbot Church

*'Tarmac our path fund'.*



Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 7:30pm

Milton Abbot Village Hall

Cost: £5, includes entry, pasty and tea/coffee.

Please bring your own drinks too if you wish.

A stake in a horse will cost £1 per race.

For tickets or further info contact Andy on 01822 870298 or  
email [revandymiltonabbot@gmail.com](mailto:revandymiltonabbot@gmail.com).

## **WORSHIP IN THE LIFTON BENEFICE**

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St.Mary, Kelly. St.John the Baptist, Stowford. St.George, Thrushelton

*Holy Communion every Wednesday, 10.30am at St.Mary's, Lifton*

### **FEBRUARY 2017**

	9.45am unless stated different	11.15am unless stated different
<b>5th. Feb</b> 4 Before Lent	<b><u>10.00am</u> "Together at Ten" at KELLY CHURCH Communion for the whole Benefice</b>	
<b>12th</b> 3 Before Lent	Lifton - Holy Communion Thrushelton - Holy Communion Broadwood - Morning Prayer	Lewtrenchard - Holy Communion Stowford - Holy Communion
<b>19th</b> 2 Before Lent	Lifton - Morning Prayer Kelly - Holy Communion	Stowford - Holy Communion
<b>26th</b> Next Before Lent	Lifton - Holy Communion Thrushelton - Morning Prayer	Broadwood - Holy Communion Lewtrenchard - Holy Communion

### **MARCH 2017**

	9.45am unless stated different	11.15am unless stated different
<b>Wed 1st.</b> <b>Ash Wed</b>	<b><u>7.30pm</u> Holy Communion for the beginning of Lent At LIFTON (With the imposition of Ashes)</b>	
<b>5th.</b> <b>Lent 1</b>	<b><u>10.00am</u> "Together at Ten" at LIFTON CHURCH Communion for the whole Benefice</b>	
<b>12th</b> <b>Lent 2</b>	Lifton - Holy Communion Thrushelton - Holy Communion Broadwood - Morning Prayer	Lewtrenchard - Holy Communion Stowford - Holy Communion
<b>19th</b> <b>Lent 3</b>	Lifton - Morning Prayer Kelly - Holy Communion	Stowford - Holy Communion
<b>26th</b> <b>Mothering Sunday</b>	Lifton - Holy Communion Thrushelton - Morning Prayer	Broadwood - Holy Communion Lewtrenchard - Holy Communion

### **Lamerton Women's Institute**

Meetings are at Lamerton Sports and Community Centre, 2.00pm

7 Feb            Style in 40,s 50,s and 60,s with Nathalie Andrews  
7 Mar            Citizens Advice Bureau, with Sue Lake

New members are very welcome



**Hotel Endsleigh Gardens Open Day**  
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**Wednesday 10 May**

11am – 4.00pm

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**Parkrun comes to Tamar Trails**

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This weekly event based at the Tamar Trails in Gulworthy is free to enter and available for people of all ages (under 11s must be with an adult). It is so good to see families getting out and running together, and the Beech Café at the Tamar Trails is the perfect place to cool down, have coffee and cake, or tea and a bacon butty and meet lots of people!

*For more information about the parkrun event at Tamar Trails, visit [www.tamartrails.co.uk](http://www.tamartrails.co.uk) or call me, Jane Kiely, on 01822 834964.*

**Chillaton**  
**Women's Institute**

Meet every 3rd Wednesday at the School Room Marystowe Church at 2.00pm  
 Come and join us. Call Iris Griffiths 01822 860483 for information

**NEW MEMBERS WELCOME**

## Lamerton Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Status update

With the approval of our second Grant application from Locality which runs until March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017, we are able to proceed into the next phase that entails seeking professional advice and oversight from a Planning Specialist.

His task will be to review, advise and fine tune our Draft Plan and our first meeting with him will be on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Given that we are already well advanced with our draft, we are hoping that fresh momentum will be gained from his input and we will soon be able to announce a date for another public meeting at the Village Hall, hopefully in March / April. This will come after we have released the Plan publicly for your scrutiny and comment on our website ([www.lamertonparish.co.uk](http://www.lamertonparish.co.uk)).

In parallel with this, we shall be in attendance at most consecutive Coffee mornings at the Village Hall for your questions and comments. As this Plan is the best method open to us to help preserve the local environment and character of our Parish, we strongly urge you to participate in this process.

This is, after all, the Parish in which you live and, if left unchallenged, Planning approvals could easily have a serious impact on areas that you perhaps think of as being safe from development.

The Neighbourhood Plan, once approved and made into a statutory document, gives us a key role in helping to control housing development.

If we do nothing, we will get what we're given; I doubt you'd want that, so please give this your attention?

Please call me at 01822 618512 if you have any questions. Either I, or a member of the Plan Steering Group, will be happy to go through it with you.

John Edgar

Co-ordinator

Lamerton Parish Neighbourhood Plan



### Come and Connect!

## Tavistock Community information Fair

### Saturday 25 February 2017

### Tavistock Town Hall 10 am - 3 pm

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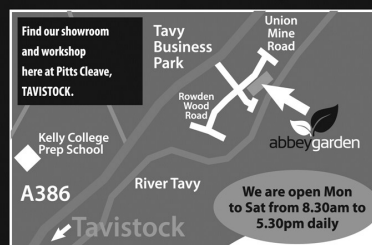
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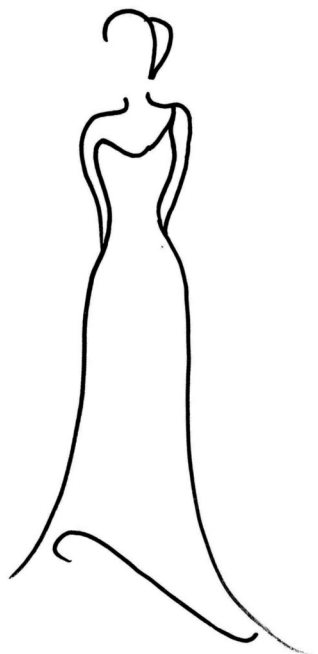
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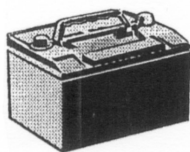
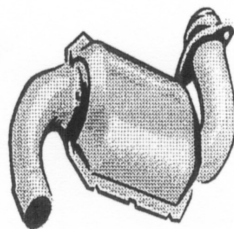
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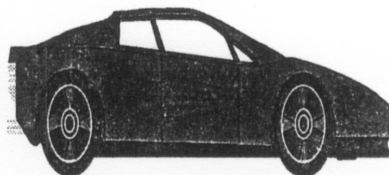
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Milton Abbot Edgcumbe Arms	1125	Launceston Westgate arr. dep.	1409 1411
Lamerton Blacksmith's	1132	Chillaton Square	1439
Tavistock Hospital	1138	Lamerton School	1450
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Chillaton Square	1050	Milton Abbot Edgcumbe Arms	1432
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Tavistock Hospital	1106	Tavistock Hospital	1444
Tavistock Bedford Square	1109	Tavistock Bedford Square	1446

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

Tavistock Bus Station	0935	Tavistock Bus Station	1240
Lamerton, Blacksmith's	0943	Lamerton, Village	1247
Milton Abbot Edgcumbe Arms	0950	Milton Abbot Edgcumbe Arms	1255
Lamerton Village	0957	Lamerton Village	1302
Tavistock Bus Station	1005	Tavistock Bus Station	1310

## SAFEGUARDING TRAINING!

Safeguarding is recognised as an important undertaking for all church communities. Exeter Diocese is therefore introducing training courses to raise awareness of safeguarding and instigate good practice throughout all local Parishes.

The courses are delivered in modules:

C0 is a basic awareness course, to be delivered on-line in due course

C1 is a foundation course in safeguarding

C2 is for leadership roles e.g. church wardens, bell captains, those delivering activities involving children.

*N.B. Clergy and lay readers undertake a different course*

C1 and C2 involve attendance at designated one day courses.

Safeguarders, church wardens, those who help with children's (and/or vulnerable adults') activities, servers and bell captains are required to attend, but other volunteers working for the church are welcome too.

C1 runs from 10am - 12.45pm and C2 from 1.30pm - 4.30pm. Both are delivered on the same day.

Dates for C1/C2 training are:

**Weds 15 February      Okehampton**

Thurs 9 March      Exeter

Weds 15 March      Plymouth

A provisional block booking for 10 places has been made for the Okehampton course. Please add your name to this list by informing me Tel 618221, julie.hibbert3@btinternet.com and we can arrange car share.

*If you wish to go on any of the other courses call 01392 345 908 to book your place.*

***Julie Hibbert, Safeguarding Officer***



South Tamar  
Mission Community

## Our New Church Web Site

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

**<http://www.southtamar.church>**

**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



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

**Deadline for the March 2017 issue is :**

**Tuesday 11th February 2017**

# CHURCH SERVICES

## February 2017

Day	St Mary M. Sydenham Damerel	St Peter's Lamerton	All Saints' Dunterton	St Constantine Milton Abbot	St Mary the Virgin Marystowe	St Andrew's Coryton
<b>Sunday 29th January</b> <i>Presentation of Christ at Temple</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9.30am</b> <b>United Benefice Service at Marystowe</b> <b>Family Service</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA</p>					
<b>Sunday 4th Feb</b>  <i>4th be- fore Lent</i>		<b>6.30pm</b> <b>Even- song</b>  AA/MJ			<b>9.30am</b> <b>HC</b> <b>CW</b>  AA/IS	
<b>Sunday 12th Feb</b>  <i>3rd be- fore Lent</i>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>HC</b> <b>CW</b>  AA			<b>11.00am</b> <b>HC by</b> <b>ext</b> <b>CW</b>  M&AS		<b>11.15am</b> <b>Morning</b> <b>prayer</b> <b>CW</b>  AA
<b>Sunday 19th Feb</b>  <i>2nd be- fore Lent</i>		<b>11.00am</b> <b>HC by</b> <b>ext</b> <b>CW</b>  IS	<b>11.00am</b> <b>HC</b> <b>BCP</b>  AA		<b>9.30am</b> <b>Family</b> <b>Service</b>  AA	
<b>Sunday 26th Feb</b>  <i>Sunday before Lent</i>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>Matins</b> <b>BCP</b>  ID	<b>9.30am</b> <b>Family</b> <b>Service</b>  AA/MG/AJ		<b>11.00am</b> <b>HC</b> <b>CW</b>  AA		<b>11.15am</b> <b>HC by</b> <b>ext</b> <b>CW</b>  PH

BCP – Book of Common Prayer

CW – Common Worship (Modern)