

Parish News

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



South Tamar
Mission Community

**April and
May 2020
Price: £1**

RECTOR:	Rev Andrew Atkins	01822 870298
	The Vicarage, The Parade, Milton Abbot PL19 0NZ; Email: vicar@southtamar.church	
CHURCHWARDENS		
Lamerton:	Mike Jefferies	614178
	Ian Minshull	810027
Milton Abbot:	Liz Padmore	870642
	Vacant	
Dunterton:	Arthur Vigers	870244
Sydenham Damerel:	Margaret Hurdwell	870545
Marystowe:	Barbara Dawe	(01566)784797
	Deborah Asbridge	860378
Coryton:	Richard Searight	860148
	Giles Vicat	860254
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:	c/o Margaret Hurdwell	870545
Milton Abbot:	Pat Lovell	2 Fern Meadow, Tavistock 618452
Dunterton:	Gerald Napier	Glebe House, Dunterton 870285
Marystowe:	Guy Talbot	860314
Coryton:	Niel O'Neill	860263
UNITED BENEFICE APPOINTMENTS		
Benefice Safeguarding Representative	Julie Hibbert	618221
Vicar's Assigned Administrator	Guy Talbot	860314
MAGAZINE		
Editor:	Tim Culverhouse	Lower Barton, Lamerton, Tavistock 616799 PL19 8RR E-mail: parishnewsmag@gmail.com
Advertisements:	Mike Jefferies	Church Avenue House, 614178 Lamerton, PL19 8RN E-mail: mike.jefferies5@btinternet.com
CHURCH WEB SITE	www.southtamar.church	Email: vicar@southtamar.church
PARISH COUNCILS		
Milton Abbot group parish:	Chairman	Tel.
Lamerton:	Peter Hough	Emma James 07742 557982
	Roger Geake	860224
	Clerk Steve Cox	258549
Sydenham Damerel:	Barry Isaacs	870269
	Clerk Mike Forster	870752
		clerk@lamertonparishcouncil.gov.uk
		clerk@sydenham-damerel.org.uk
PRIMARY SCHOOLS		
Lamerton C of E	Head Teacher: Melody Sterry	Tel. 613561
Milton Abbot	Head Teacher: Chris Luxford	Tel. 870273

The Old Testament Prophecy of Ezekiel



Ezekiel one of the Old Testament major prophets was active in Babylon some time after 597BC. He was a younger contemporary of Jeremiah, though living in Babylon and not Jerusalem; he was taken captive with King Jehoiachin and first group of exiles – mainly from the leading families in Judah. He was given to visions and trances and communicated these through parables, allegories and reports of his visions. His writings are divided into basically 3 parts:

- 1) Denunciation of and judgements against Israel and Judah chapters 4-24 and other nations chapters 25-32
- 2) Oracles/visions of comfort and reassurance for the future chapters 33 - 38; the most well-known being the visions of the dry bones and its consequence of the resurrection of the people 37:1-14 and national reunification 37:15-28
- 3) The visions of the new temple and a new land chapters 40 - 48 particularly the observance of the Passover as described in chapter 45 verses 21-25

The book's message for today, I would say, is that of new life symbolised by the theme of resurrection, which to Christians the resurrection of Jesus and restoration of mankind to everlasting life with God together the continuing presence of our Lord through His bequeathed gift of the Holy Spirit are paramount.

Ian Silcox



South Tamar Mission Community

There are several ways to keep up to date with events, or to get in touch with the Vicar and Churchwardens

Our website: <http://www.southtamar.church>

Our Facebook page: @southtamarmission

e-mail: vicar@southtamar.church

tel: 01822 870298

The Vicarage, The Parade, Milton Abbot, Tavistock, Devon. PL19 0N

Tel: 01822 870298; Email vicar@southtamar.church

Dear Friends in Christ,



An Easter Message

As I sit to write this letter, I am conscious that we are now fast approaching Easter. Easter is about new starts, new life, new birth. This is often symbolised with images of eggs and chicks. We give and receive Easter eggs and maybe cards with pictures of spring sunshine or newborn chicks. But Easter isn't really about eggs or chicks. It's about Jesus!

The real reason that we think about new life at Easter is because Jesus, who was crucified on that first Good Friday, rose to new life on the first Easter Sunday. This is not just a wonderful story, it's an historical fact. Jesus' body was never found, and his resurrection never disproved. This was despite the best efforts of the mighty Roman Empire and the committed and powerful Jewish leaders to destroy the early church and discredit their belief. The early disciples were changed from a frightened and disillusioned group to men who stood up against the authorities and eventually gave their lives for what they believed – for what they knew to be true – that Jesus came back to life on Easter Sunday. New life for Jesus leading to new life in his disciples. New starts that make my recent changes seem trivial!

The impacts of what happened that first Easter are still relevant today. When Jesus died and rose, he did it for us. He offers us new life, eternal life, with him; life that starts now, but continues beyond this life. Now that is worth celebrating! I hope you have a wonderful Easter. I hope you spend some time thinking about the real meaning of Easter, Jesus' resurrection.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Andy

My Dear friends in Christ,

It is with a rather heavy heart, that I have to write to you all to inform you that as of today (18th March), we will no longer be holding any form of public worship within our six churches. I am still awaiting guidance on Weddings, Baptism and Funerals; I will post any new information on our website.

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

This also means that all Sunday services, Wednesday Communions, Taizé services, the Lent course, Bright Lights, school assemblies, nursing home visits, Bible studies and Open the Book, will all need to cease immediately, so as to protect those who are most at risk.

I hope that our Churches can, and will, stay open for private prayer. It is so important that as a church we offer prayer and support to those in need. Remember that God, Prayer and Faith are not constrained by physical boundaries – and neither are we.

I will distribute a prayer book to everyone's home over the next week, which will allow you to worship at home and to join in with "Live Streamed Services". Our first "Live Streamed Services" will be on Sunday 22nd March and can be found here. The site for the streaming is here:

<http://www.southtamar.church/live-services/>

For Sunday services I would like you all to email me with a picture of yourselves, so that I can print them off and pin to the pews so that I can see and pray for you all – pictures of you all smiling and enjoying life!

Can I please urge everyone, who has not completed a GDPR form, to visit our website and to enter their contact details so that we can then all keep in touch with each other.

<http://www.southtamar.church/privacy-notice/online-consent-form/>

These are unprecedented times, where we can, and will, support one another through prayer and action.

If you have any questions, please do call me on 01822 870298

Can I ask you all to pray for those who are suffering and in need:

*God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Andy

BIBLE READINGS (Year A)

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

DATE	1 ST READING	2 ND READING	GOSPEL
Sunday 5th April <i>Palm Sunday (Red)</i>	Isaiah 50.4 - 9a	Philippians 2.5 - 11	Matthew 27.11 - 54
Thursday 9th April <i>Maundy Thursday (White)</i>	Exodus 12.1 - 4 [5-10] 11 - 14	1 Corinthians 11.23 - 26	John 13.1 - 17, 31b - 35
Friday 10th April <i>Good Friday (Red)</i>	Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12	Hebrews 10.16 - 25	John 18.1 - 19.42
Sunday 12th April <i>Easter Day (White)</i>	Acts 10.34 - 43	Colossians 3.1 - 4	Matthew 28.1 - 10
Sunday 19th April <i>2nd Sunday of Easter (White)</i>	Acts 2.14a, 22 - 32	1 Peter 1.3 - 9	John 20.19 - 31
Sunday 26th April <i>3rd Sunday of Easter (White)</i>	Acts 2.14a, 36 - 41	1 Peter 1.17 - 23	Luke 24.13 - 35

BIBLE READINGS (Year A) continued			
DATE	1ST READING	2ND READING	GOSPEL
Sunday 3rd May <i>4th Sunday of Easter (White)</i>	Acts 2.42 - 47	1 Peter 2.19 - 25	John 10.1 - 10
Sunday 10th May <i>5th Sunday of Easter (White)</i>	Acts 7.55 - 60	1 Peter 2.2 - 10	John 14.1 - 14
Sunday 17th May <i>6th Sunday of Easter (White)</i>	Acts 17.22 - 31	1 Peter 3.13 - 22	John 14.15 - 21
Sunday 24th May <i>7th Sunday of Easter (White)</i>	Acts 1.6 - 14	1 Peter 4.12 - 14, 5.6 - 11	John 17.1 - 11
Sunday 31st May <i>Day of Pentecost (Red)</i>	Acts 2.1 - 21	1 Corinthians 12.3b - 13	John 20.19 - 23

BCP – Book of Common Prayer

CW – Common Worship (Modern)

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'***.

St. Mary's Church, Sydenham Damerel

Oh my goodness, what weather we have had. 'Rain, rain go away, come again another day'!

It is always a rather bleak time just after the Christmas / New Year festivities when we are thinking about what we have spent and desperately waiting for a few dryer and warmer days to start tidying up the debris from one of the many storms we have experienced. I just hope there is some truth in the old adage that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.

Despite all the gloom in the news at the moment our little St. Mary's continues to shine a beacon of light into our community and all our lives. We have been heartened at the attendances at services with new people joining and volunteers coming forward to help with the cleaning and maintenance. We are blessed with Reverend Andy who adds his own charm and charisma to welcome us to the Holy Communion Service every second Sunday and the celebrated Songs of Praise every fourth Sunday where we can indulge ourselves in singing all our favourite hymns.

Our bell team is gaining stature and confidence and starting to progress tentatively towards the first steps of 'method ringing' known as 'plain hunt' and 'dodging'.



The early spring flowers, which fill us all with hope for the future, are already here and we look forward with optimism to Easter and more carefree times ahead. The only way is forwards and upwards.

Margaret Hurdwell

St. Constantine's Church, Milton Abbot

Our Night at the Races on 29th February was fully booked and raised a magnificent total of nearly £700 for our Bell Fund; many thanks to everyone who came and supported us but particularly to Andy and his family for once again organising such a fun and profitable evening.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at our United Benefice service of Holy Communion on **Sunday 26th April**, when we will be joined by the **Ridgeway Chorale** from Hertfordshire. This choir is giving a concert at St Eustachius' in Tavistock the previous evening and have offered to sing at our service. The collection taken at this service will go towards the Bell Frame Fund. We do hope that as many of you as possible will join us for this service.

Future dates for your diary include:

Wednesday 20th May: Hotel Endsleigh Gardens Open Day. We will again be joined by the St Austell Strummers ukulele band who proved to be so popular last year. Admission £5. Once again we will be running a Grand Draw with many lovely prizes to be won, and there will be craft stalls for you to browse. Do come and enjoy a stroll around these lovely gardens.

Thursday 25th June: A Summer Musical Evening at Coombe Trenchard by kind permission of the owners, with music from harpist Katie McClaughry. Tickets £20 from Pat Lovell in aid of the Bell Fund. A chance to look around another lovely garden and enjoy some summer music.

Sunday 19th July: A Cream Tea at Bowled Over, Milton Abbot, kindly organised by Sue Champion in aid of the Bell Fund.

More events are being organised for your delectation in the autumn including a flower arranging day at Lifton Farm Shop and, of course, our annual **Christmas Crafts Day** which this year will be on **Saturday 21st November**.

Liz Padmore

St. Mary's Church, Marystowe



We hope that you are keeping safe during these difficult times. At least, with the church being on top of a hill, we're not at risk of flooding. However, we do have a very large puddle in the road outside, which in recent months has made parking rather difficult. This has been caused, not only by the heavy rainfall, but by a blocked drain under the

church steps. Devon Highways have been out to look at it and we're hoping that they'll soon sort it out, so that we don't have to come to church in our wellies!

Fortunately, the wet weather doesn't seem to have affected the spring flowers; the Lent lilies (wild daffodils) on the bank by the lychgate have been beautiful and the primroses in the churchyard are coming on well now. Please remember we offer **greetings cards** and a wide range of **second-hand books** for sale in the Church. If you have any books you have finished with, please call Barbara Dawe on 01566 784797. Collection can be arranged.

Dates for your diary (At this time, we don't know what will happen or if we will be able to go ahead with these plans so please bear with us)

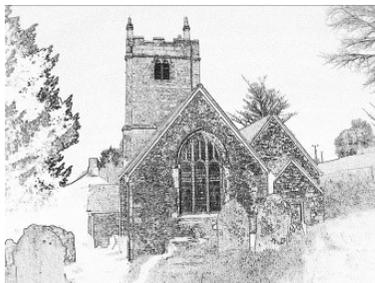
Sunday, 24th May – We're pleased to have the **Tavistock Wheelers Cycling Club**, coming again for their coffee stop at the Schoolroom – If you would like to help by making a cake for this, please let me know.

Saturday, 20th June – We'd like to invite you to an **Afternoon Tea**, hopefully, on the green outside or in the Schoolroom from 3pm. Raising money for Church Funds.

Saturday, 14th November – We will once again, be holding a **Christmas Coffee Morning** in the church with gifts and craft stalls - If you know of anyone who might be interested in having a stall, please let me know (they would pay £10). Raising money for Church Funds.

Deborah Asbridge

St. Andrew's, Coryton



The time since Christmas has been quiet at Coryton. Services of Evensong continue to be held at 6.30pm on the second Sunday of the month as well as Holy Communion at 11.15am on the fourth Sunday although as we all now appreciate these are currently postponed under the new guidance from the Church.

In the meantime,.....a little more Coryton history

Inside St Andrew's, on the south wall of the tower, can be seen the village stocks; the brass plate on them states that they were last used in 1662. They used to stand at 'Coryton Town' which was located towards Brentor from the church, near Coryton Mill. The making of the road to Coryton Mill and beyond was under the supervision of John Loudon McAdam, the originator of tarmacadam. Between Coryton Station and Lewtrenchard can be seen the ruins of a Toll House - this was a turnpike road of the Tavistock Turnpike Trust opened in 1762.

Josie Whitfield

MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE HALL

NEW TREASURER WANTED

Our Treasurer will be retiring at the Annual General Meeting in May and we urgently need to find a replacement. The task involves attending a Management Committee meeting each month and looking after our finances in conjunction with the rest of the Committee.

If you would like to help keep this valuable village asset going why not ring David on 01822 870431

St. Peter's Church, Lamerton



At our Evensong Service on March 1st Andy presented Barry with a voucher for Hotel Endsleigh in recognition of the many years service he has given to St. Peter's. Barry has been a bell ringer at St. Peter's for 61 years 51 of which he has been tower Captain. During his captainship Lamerton has won numerous ringing competitions many of which have been hosted at Lamerton. We are very pleased to welcome Sue

to follow on as captain. Sue has been a regular ringer here for many years and is also heavily involved with the team of hand bell ringers.

We have replaced Messy Church with Bright Lights as an after school activity which is being organised by Margaret. She has also taken over the Family Services from Annie who has done a grand job over the years. Many thanks to both Margaret and to Annie for their hard work.



We have a number of events lined up during the rest of the year for you to come to and enjoy. Pimms on the Green is the first on Friday 29th May at the Village Hall. Then Sunday 7th June is Lamerton Duck Race where we provide delicious Cream Teas. June 27th sees an extra Coffee Morning at the Hall when Bishop Nick will join us.

Later in July we are looking at the possibility of a concert in the Church then Saturday 31st October Julie and Ashley will be organising a Halloween Murder Mystery Evening. Fuller details of all these events will be in the Parish News nearer the time.

Lucky Lamerton Lottery

Winning number for February 2020 draw - 42

Winning number for March 2020 draw - 48



Lamerton Women's Institute

Meetings are at Lamerton Sports and Community Centre, 2.00pm

7 April	Dementia DFWI with Heather Penwarden
20 April	Group Meeting
22 April	Spring Council Meeting
5 May	AGM

New members are always very welcome

Please make contact with your usual WI representatives to find out if the April and May sessions are taking place before making the journey

All Saints, Dunterton

We in Dunterton welcome you to the following services that are now confirmed for the rest of this year:

- Sunday 7th June—**10:00am** BCP Matins
- Sunday 2nd August—**11:00am** BCP Holy Communion. **United Benefice Service** 'Plant Swap' day with Bring & Share lunch. Tower visits will be available.
- Sunday 1st November—**10.00am** BCP Matins with Remembrance and All Saints celebration.
- Friday 25th December—**9.30am** BCP Christmas Communion
This is the authentic version despite some misleading notices that have crept into other publications

Tamar River walk: We were very sorry to have had to cancel the River Walk last year because of the impossible conditions in the car park. The planned date for your diaries for this year is **Sunday 18th October**.

Gerald Napier

DO UNTO OTHERS

You will no doubt notice that there are no church services listed in this magazine. Instead on the back two pages are some slips you could consider putting through your neighbours and friends doors to offer any help they may need from phone calls, shopping, taking post to walking pets



A CHILD'S FOOTSTEPS TO FAITH

THE DONKEY'S DIARY

Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem in that amazing procession on Palm Sunday. This is the donkey's diary from that world-changing week, just for you....

Sunday

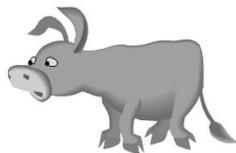
Quiet morning in Bethany. Straw for breakfast. Then along came a crowd of people. One rides me into Jerusalem. Nice guy. Called Jesus. Good with animals. It was a big parade and I got to lead! And they loved me!

Monday

Straw for breakfast at the Temple. Centre of the city! Along came Jesus. (He gets around!) He was all steamed up! Turned over tables in the Temple... Didn't want the dodgy dealers there. You wouldn't want to argue with him!

Tuesday

Back at the Temple for breakfast. Straw again. Guess what. Jesus arrived. He gets up in there and tells them some stories. They loved him. Though the priests and Pharisees looked daggers. Think there's going to be trouble.



Wednesday

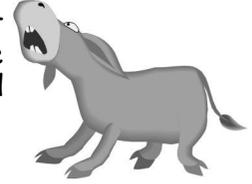
Back in Bethany again. Quiet here. But the straw's good ... Jesus is back here too. I heard a woman poured a jar of oil on him. What a waste of money. You'd think he'd be steaming. But no - says she's anointing him before he dies. Wow!

Thursday

Another trot into Jerusalem with Jesus and pals. They're eating out. It's a festival - the 'Passover'. But their supper was very special. Anyone could see that - even a donkey! They shared bread and wine. And then they sang at the end. Afterwards they went to the Garden. And then it happened - Jesus was arrested ...

Friday

A bad day in Jerusalem. Everyone sad. I felt forgotten. No straw all day. And this Jesus got killed at that stinky hill outside the city where there are crosses. Shame really. Nice guy. Good with animals. Not a Good Friday.



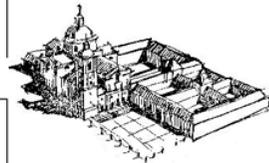
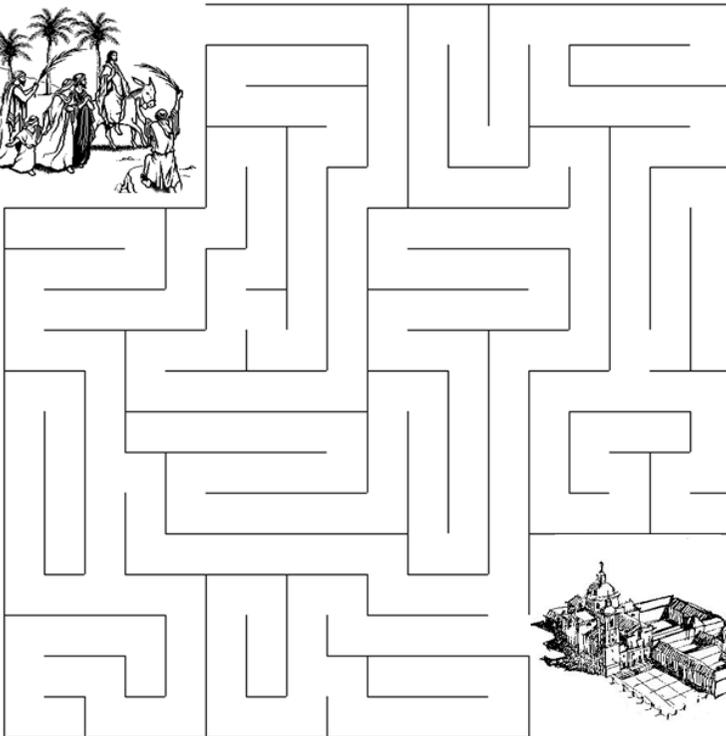
Saturday

Quiet day. Being the day of rest, Saturdays are always quiet... Went out to eat. Straw again. Saw where they'd buried Jesus. Big cave. Big stone door. Soldiers on guard. Why bother? He's dead, isn't he?

Sunday

What a day! Everyone excited. Running about. Turns out this Jesus wasn't so dead. People have seen him. Wow! I may be a donkey, but I don't think things will ever be the same again...

Follow Jesus through the streets of Jerusalem



EVENT LISTING

At the time of producing this magazine the advice and guidance from the Government is still changing and shifting based on new models and data they interpret around Coronavirus

There are a number of events that haven't been listed because the organisers have already cancelled these. For those that are listed in this magazine please check in advance before you attend that the event is going ahead by speaking to someone organising it, your neighbours, check on lamertonparish.co.uk (Lamerton events) or by emailing parishnewsmag@gmail.com

If you are showing symptoms, live with someone showing symptoms or have other illness please follow the advice to self isolate and do not attend the event



C2 Safeguarding Training



If you are a church warden, safeguarding rep, bell tower captain and/or leader of any children's activities it is mandatory to undertake safeguarding training every 3 years.

Next C2 face to face sessions are:

- Thursday 14 May 2020 at Holy Trinity, Barnstaple
- Thursday 11 June at Old Deanery, Exeter
- Tuesday 23 June at St Mark's, Plymouth

For more details and to book a place go to Exeter diocese website:

<https://exeter.anglican.org/resources/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-online-booking-form/> or phone 01392 294975.

Julie Hibbert 01822 618221; julie.hibbert3@btinternet.com

RINGING THE CHANGES

Lamerton Bellringers recently held their A.G.M which resulted in three new officeholders being elected. Barry Osborne stood down after serving 51 years as tower captain. He was thanked most sincerely by all present for his years of commitment and dedication (see Lamerton church report on page 14)

Sue Dawe is the newly elected captain, Geoff Hill remains vice-captain, Will Dawe remains as honorary secretary and our new honorary treasurer is Cathy Hayes. The position of steeple-keeper was created and Bill Blowey was elected to fill this roll.

Dartmouth will be the main stop for this year's outing on September 5th. We are lucky to have one new learner at the moment but really need a couple more, or are there any inactive ringers out there who might be persuaded to boost our numbers and ring for one or two services a month? Hopefully there are, so if anyone is interested please contact the secretary on 01822 612202.



Hotel Endsleigh Gardens Open Day

Milton Abbot, PL19 0PQ

Wednesday 20th May

with St Austell Strummers Ukulele Band
11am - 4.00pm





£5.00 Admission inc. tea/coffee & biscuits. Cakes also available.

Crafts and plants for sale. Grand Draw at end of afternoon.

All proceeds to Milton Abbot Church

Lunches pre-bookable direct with Hotel.

Event enquiries to: matreasurer@southtamar.church

GARDEN NOTES BY DOUG



*It's Spring again, I'll sing again,
Turnips from Amsterdam.....*

Well, if that doesn't grab a handle in your mind, you may want to invoke Max Bygraves and tulips? Spring has arrived! The rain has gone, the skies have cleared, the bees are buzzing. Doug's got two hives of honeybees and both have been out and about foraging on anything they can find, including skimmia and dandelions in my garden and, no doubt, much more in neighbouring gardens and fields. You can see the sacs of bright yellow pollen on their legs. It will soon be time for a detailed look inside the hives to see just what is happening and to make sure the Queen and her workers are all well and they have plenty of nice clean space to get on with their work. There have also been some very large bumblebees staggering around like drunken explorers.

All this is good to see along with the gorgeous daffodils. Now, I'd rather have lots of daffodils than tulips. They look after themselves much better. Tulips need lifting and replacing to be at their best year after year. Daffodils benefit from lifting and dividing if they get congested, but that's not every two years or so. And, there are so many different cultivars - colours and shapes - not just the yellow supermarket ones.

*And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.*

Yes, that's William Wordsworth! The last two lines of the famous poem. There is still time to sow some seeds - tomatoes, courgettes, beetroot, peas, salad leaves, perhaps even turnips from Amsterdam? Last year I had a lot of success with a tomato called 'Montello' (modesty prevents me from saying what prize it achieved in the local show). It is an F1 bush variety which does very well in pots either in the greenhouse or outside. It needs a bit of staking to hold the trusses up but doesn't require side shoots to be removed. So, it more or less looks after itself. There are now three little seedlings on my windowsill. Remember, if they are 'leggy' pot on with the stem buried right up to the first set of leaves. If necessary, the stem can even go in at an angle instead of vertical.

A greenhouse opens so many possibilities - early sowings and harvests, things you would otherwise not grow. But, if you choose carefully, a lot can be grown outside too. And this years produce shows are coming! Go on, have a go!

Doug

FARMING LIFE BY HAYSEED



“March dust is worth a King’s ransom”.... What’s all that about? We have just taken delivery of another lorry load of straw. This comes down from Andover and to my horror, the driver tells me that the corn farm that it comes from has only drilled one third of it’s winter corn seed.

The seed will be useless now, far too late to sow and they are hoping to drill the rest into Spring corn. The wet weather has meant that they haven’t even ploughed the land yet so time is at a premium. If anyone was praying for March dust they certainly are!

Seasons are changing. Back in our bigger arable days there didn’t seem to be a problem. We could always plough down the good old dark brown stuff (mentioned previously!) in early March and work a suitable tilth for Spring Drilling. The ideal window for me was the fortnight from the 10th of March until what we called Lady Day in the farming calendar and dust blowing at that time is worth a King’s ransom. You just knew that sowing conditions were perfect. Our old Denning corn drill, sadly no longer with us, was a classic. Disc cutters that would bury corn at about 1” set into what was called a Suffolk Shoe.

You can’t tell them East Anglian boys anything about growing corn. It took two of us to drill corn in those days. I would drive the tractor, which I still have albeit vintage now, and Mrs Hayseed would ride the drill and yes, we have drilled hundreds of acres like that. We would get ourselves dirty but if that March dust was flying off the drill wheels and the disc cutters it was a pleasure to behold. Harrowing and rolling after that gave us some outstanding crops and a few first prize cards and blue rosettes along the way.

Modern technology in farming today is important but principles remain the same and I pray that my friend from Andover can experience that March dust that is so important for a successful 2020 corn season.

‘Til next time, Hayseed.

ADVERTISING

Contact: Mike Jefferies on 01822 614178

E-mail: mike.jefferies5@btinternet.com to discuss your advertising needs

Advertising for ‘one-off’ local charities and events is free.

1/8 page: £18 per year, 1/4 page: £36 per year, 1/2 page: £72 per year
Full page: £144 per year



Summer Musical Evening

in aid of Milton Abbot Church Bell Project

Coombe Trenchard

Lewtrenchard, nr Okehampton

Thursday 25th June 7pm

Drinks reception, visit the gardens followed by canapes and music by Katie McClaughry performing a selection of music for harp.

Tickets £20.00: To be booked in advance

From Pat Lovell (01822) 618452

or email: matreasurer@southtamar.church

Do you want the Church of England to be a forward looking, welcoming, open and inclusive church?

Do you want a church that welcomes and celebrates everyone in the name of Jesus Christ, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, economic power, mental health or sexuality?

If you do you need to do three things:

1) Be on the Electoral Roll for your church

You can do this if you are aged 16 or over, are baptised, and either live in the parish or have worshipped for at least six months at the church.

2) Become a representative of your church on the local Deanery Synod

These positions are being elected at your Annual Parochial Church Meeting, held in March, April or May. You can stand if you are on the Electoral Roll, you don't have to be already on the PCC.

Deanery Synods meet around three times a year and let Anglican churches from your area discuss how to work together, support each other and debate issues in the church locally and nationally. Having an inclusive voice at Deanery level is very important. It is a good way to meet Christians from other churches, worship together and learn more about local Anglican churches. To find out more, talk to your priest, PCC Secretary or a Deanery Synod member.

3) Vote in the 2020 General Synod Elections

Progress on inclusion needs the General Synod, the Church of England's national assembly, to be supportive. Big changes in how the church works, such as accepting women as priests and bishops, only happen when General Synod approves legislation. Voting for inclusive General Synod reps in 2020 will change the future of the church. The General Synod is up for election in 2020, with voting in September. We need you to be able to vote for inclusive candidates.

You can only vote in the General Synod elections if you are a member of your local Deanery Synod. General Synod elections will take place in every diocese, and every single vote will count. These elections are always close, with many members being elected by just one or two votes, so your vote is crucial.

Remember – you can only vote in the General Synod elections if you are a member of Deanery Synod. Join your local Deanery Synod at your Annual Parochial Church Meeting this Spring.

Be on your church's Electoral Roll – Join your Deanery Synod – Vote in the General Synod election.



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OPEN TABLE
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POLE POSITION

It may not have escaped your attention that the flag at the top of St. Peter's Church in Lamerton changes rather regularly. Some flags are flown for specific events, Saints days or occasions but in particular the Union Flag is flown on the following days in the coming months

April 21st - Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen
April 23rd - St. George's Day
8th May - VE Day

If you do spot a flag and want more information about it and why it was flying then feel free to email parishnewsmag@gmail.com and it will be passed on to the Chief Bunting Tosser



Lamerton Sports and Community Centre

THE HALL AGM

THURSDAY 23RD APRIL 7:30PM

Please come along and support *your* hall, hear about what is going on or even better, consider joining the committee

BAND NIGHT

SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 8:00PM

Dance the night away to Silvermint! A fully licensed bar and nibbles. Have a great evening. Bring a party!

GOLF DAY - LAUNCESTON GOLF CLUB

SUNDAY 17TH MAY

Come and play or just come to the meal in the evening. Please contact Gerald Cramp to book your places with Handicaps and preferred playing partners.

01822 615464 or geraldandshiela@btinternet.com

Lamerton 2020 Produce & Craft Show

A call to all you gardeners - do remember the **8th of August** when you will be able to proudly exhibit your flowers and vegetables. It may be too wet to get onto your gardens at the moment so make sure your greenhouses are full of seedlings for when the rain stops.

The schedules will be out shortly so you crafty people will be able to be busy on these rainy days.

The Pastoral Care Team within our Benefice

At this particularly challenging time, the pastoral care team is there for you - to offer time, company and a listening ear in times of loneliness, bereavement or health problems. We can also offer prayer.

If you would like to see a pastoral care visitor or discuss this in more detail please contact

Rev Andy Atkins: 01822 870298
email: vicar@southtamar.church

MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 57th Annual General Meeting will take place on
Thursday 14th May 2020 starting at 7:30 pm
in the Village Hall

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE HALL
ALL ARE WELCOME



WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD OR VULNERABLE ADULT?



Please speak to your Benefice Safeguarding Representative if you have any concerns for the well-being of a child or adult, or about the behaviour of someone towards a child or adult.

Your Benefice Safeguarding Representative is:

Julie Hibbert

Contact: **01822 618221;**

Email: safeguarding@southtamar.church

Or contact: **Rev Andy Atkins: 01822 870298;**

Email: vicar@southtamar.church

If you cannot reach your Benefice Safeguarding Representative, please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team: Charlie Pitman, Safeguarding Adviser 01392 345909, Email: charles.pitman@exeter.anglican.org



pray



grow



serve with joy

SEEDS OF HOPE

After all the wind & rain of winter, Dee, like most people, is looking forward to some Spring sunshine. Someone kindly gave her an old greenhouse several months ago, helpers put it together and lay a concrete floor.

Last spring Dee raised hundreds of tiny plants from seed, the process was very therapeutic as she enjoys peaceful hobbies close to home. However, the results for invested labour were altered by a family of rabbits who moved in from neighbouring fields. Dee will soon be sowing many different flower seeds along with some vegetables & offering many in return for donations. All money raised will be divided between the sister churches of Marystowe and Coryton together with the registered charity Christian Aid.

Please contact Dee by email to request a list of plants available. Donations may be placed in an envelope and exchanged when plants are ready to leave home. Dee hopes your garden are not troubled by rabbits.

Contact Dee by email: deray2003@gmail.com

Benefice Safeguarding - Focus on Domestic Abuse



South Tamar
Mission Community

Not here in my village - surely?

The Office of National Statistics presents some frightening data for the UK. In Nov 2019 a report revealed 10% of men and 25% of women have experienced some form of domestic abuse since the age of 16. Put simply, one in four women and one in ten men in our community will have experience of this. It is in our backyard.

What is domestic abuse?

The UK Government defines it as: 'Any incident or pattern of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 + who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality.' Domestic abuse is not confined to physical violence. It also includes psychological, sexual, financial, emotional and spiritual abuse and can occur in many guises.

Anyone can suffer at the hands of an abuser, who exercises power and control over their supposed 'loved one'. Also, children witnessing abuse are likely to be badly affected by such behaviour, but are not included in the above statistics. Domestic abusers are good at lying to hide their behaviour and the abused often hide their plight out of fear, shame or desire to protect children. Some victims don't even recognise that what they are putting-up with is abuse.

What can I do?

It is hard to leave an abusive partner - for many reasons. Many victims take years to pluck up the courage to act. There are many organisations which offer confidential support to make this enormous life-change. Only some are listed in the table. The first step is to confide in someone. You can contact your vicar, Rev Andy, or Julie Hibbert (safeguarding representative) who will listen and support you in strict confidence - and offer a referral to an appropriate body if you wish. You do not have to be a church-goer. (The only caveat to maintaining confidence is if you report that a child is at risk. We have a duty to report this.)

If you suspect your friend, family member, child or neighbour is being abused do tell someone.

Any investigation by the Police or Devon Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub is done very sensitively and the source of information is never disclosed. Your fears may be unfounded, but you could avert a tragedy.

A Story on the Theme of Forgiveness

The Chair

There was once a boy called Mario who showed off a lot, always talking about how many friends he had at school. One day his grandfather said to him, "Mario, I bet you a big bag of popcorn you don't have as many friends as you think. I'm sure many of them are nothing more than companions, acquaintances, or partners in crime."

Mario accepted the bet at once. However, he wasn't sure how to test whether or not his schoolmates were real friends, so he asked his grandpa. The old man answered, "I have just exactly what you need, it's in the attic. Wait here a minute."

Grandpa left, soon returning as though carrying something in his hand, but Mario could see nothing there. "Take it. It's a very special chair. Because it's invisible it's rather tricky to sit on, but if you take it to school and you manage to sit on it, you'll activate its magic and you'll be able to tell who your real friends are."

Mario took the strange invisible chair with him to school. At break time he asked everyone to form a circle, and he put himself in the middle, with his chair. "Nobody move. You're about to see something amazing."



And Mario attempted to sit on the chair. Having difficulty seeing it, he missed and fell straight onto his backside. Everyone had a pretty good laugh. "Wait, wait, just a slight technical problem," he said, making another attempt. But again he missed the seat, causing more surprised looks. Mario wouldn't be beaten. He kept trying to sit on the magic chair, and kept falling to the ground... until, suddenly, he tried again and didn't fall. This time he sat, hovering in mid-air...

Then it was that he finally experienced the magic that his grandfather had been talking about. Looking around, Mario saw George, Lucas, and Diana - three of his best friends - holding him up, so he wouldn't fall. Meanwhile, many others he had thought of as friends had done nothing but make fun of him, enjoying each and every fall.

Mario's grandfather had cleverly thought of a way to show him that true friends are those who care for us, and not just any acquaintance who happens to be passing by. Even less would a friend be someone who takes joy in our misfortunes.

OPEN THE BOOK

Every other Thursday morning a group of us join Lewtrenchard School telling, along with help from the children, a Bible story; the same happens on Wednesday lunchtime at Lamerton School.

Between our group we take in it turns to read the story and also to dress up as characters from the story with props. As often as possible we ask for children to take part, dressing up and joining in. I have been writing these articles over the past few months with absolute pleasure, relaying and reliving the joy in sharing the Bible stories with the children and also with the friends I have made through Open the Book.

Open the Book is a national Charity with **over 11,000 volunteer storytellers sharing Bible Stories with over 2,000 Primary Schools**. It provides a programme to follow which begins with a chronological series of stories from Creation through to Ascension. Thereafter the stories are grouped together around themes giving the opportunity for more insight and discussion whilst still providing the simpler story telling pleasure to the younger children.

At Lewtrenchard we are still working through the chronology and have reached the baptism of Jesus and the early miracles.

The original version of this article I drafted had a more lighthearted anecdotal tone, as we never fail to have something amusing happen each time we get together.

However yesterday (mid March) we received an email from Open the Book with the recommendation to suspend the story telling for at least the rest of the school term.

This is a sensible precaution to take, but being truly selfish I will really miss my Open the Book time and send prayers and love to all my colleagues, the children and teachers to keep safe and well.

If you would like to help us then please contact me on the number below.

Joy McSmythurs (01822 860 630)

LAMERTON PCC AGM

Will be held in the Priest's room on Tuesday 28th April at 7.30pm.
All parishioners are most welcome.

NATURE NOTES BY BLUEBELL

“Loveliest of trees, the cherry now
Is hung with bloom along the bough,
And stands about the woodland ride”
Wearing white for Eastertide.



Now, of my threescore years and ten,
Twenty will not come again,
And take from seventy springs a score
It only leaves me fifty more.

And since to look at things in bloom,
Fifty springs are little room,
About the woodlands I will go
To see the cherry hung with snow.” *“A Shropshire Lad”, canto 2, A. E. Housman, 1896*

In Japan the pink cherry trees, which bloom in April for eight days only and die quickly, are also revered as a symbol of the beauty and fleeting transience of life. The planes of Kamikaze pilots were adorned with images of cherry blossoms.

An Englishman, “Cherry” Ingram, helped to save the variety of Japan’s cherry species, after they were decimated by The Great Kanto Earthquake, pollution and war. It became treasonable during the last War to grow any but the single pink *somei-yoshino* species. After the bitterness of the War, the efforts of Cherry Ingram and Toemon Sano, a *sakuumori* (Japanese cherry guardian), made the cherry blossom into a symbol of diversity and peace through desperate times...”Your blossoms are a chain of friendship between England and Japan.”

Now we have many Japanese cherry trees in England, thanks to Cherry Ingram, and to a generous gift from the Japanese Government to the Queen. *“Cherry Ingram: The Englishman Who Saved Japan’s Blossoms”*; Naoko Abe; Chatto 2019

The birds are beginning to sing, blackbird and song thrush, but before the wonderful dawn chorus gets into full swing, Bluebell is most conscious of the tapping noises of nest building and tchak tchaka chaka chak chatter of the sociable, eponymous jackdaws which surround her. They mate for life, and can be tamed as pets, and are ready mimics. They are intelligent birds, the smallest of the crow family, with distinctive pearly grey eyes, and a greyish hood and black back. The head is dome shaped, more like a dove than a crow.

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Parish News Deadlines

Issue covering the months of	Deadline for submissions	To advertise events taking place in
June & July 2020	15 May 2020	June 2020 onwards
August & September 2020	15 July 2020	August 2020 onwards

Due to the lead time on printing the magazine the deadline will be set at the 15th for forthcoming editions to enable it to reach you in good time.



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EDITOR'S CONTACT DETAILS

Email: parishnewsmag@gmail.com

Tim Culverhouse, Lower Barton, Lamerton, Tavistock, PL19 8RR
01822 616799

To enable me to include as much content as possible I would appreciate it if you could, when submitting adverts, content and event listings, send them through ideally in a word or editable format so that I can ensure the best fit within the magazine. If in doubt send them through in word and PDF.

In the main, events advertised in A6 landscape will be able to be placed on a half page. Adverts which are A5 portrait invariably either require a whole page or a quarter of a page which can be (for some) too small to read)...your assistance and contributions are, as always, much appreciated.

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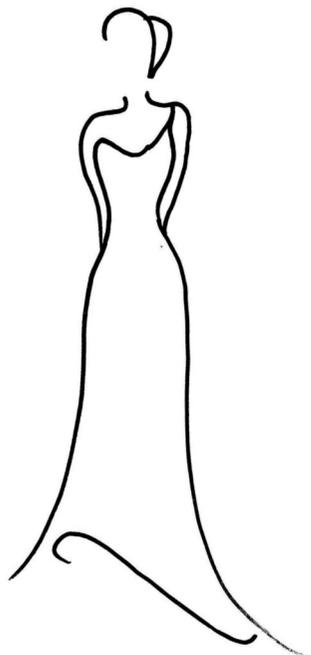
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Milton Abbot Edgcumbe Arms	1125	Launceston Westgate arr. dep.	1409 1411
Lamerton Blacksmith's	1132	Chillaton Square	1439
Tavistock Hospital	1138	Lamerton School	1450
Tavistock Bedford Square	1140	Tavistock Hospital	1455
		Tavistock, Bedford Square	1457

114 TAVISTOCK-MILTON ABBOT-LAUNCESTON-CHILLATON-TAVISTOCK EVERY THURSDAY

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Lamerton Blacksmith's	0954	Lamerton School	1339
Milton Abbot Edgcumbe Arms	1000	Chillaton Square	1348
Launceston Westgate arr. dep.	1020 1023	Launceston Westgate arr. dep.	1413 1415
Chillaton Square	1050	Milton Abbot Edgcumbe Arms	1432
Lamerton School	1101	Lamerton Blacksmith's	1438
Tavistock Hospital	1106	Tavistock Hospital	1444
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Lamerton Village	0957	Lamerton, Blacksmith's	1302
Tavistock Bus Station	1005	Tavistock Bus Station	1310

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