

Parish News

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



South Tamar
Mission Community

**February &
March 2022**

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
	David Denton	870431
Dunterton:	Arthur Vigers	870244
Sydenham Damerel:	Margaret Hurdwell	870545
Marystowe:	Barbara Dawe	(01566)784797
Coryton:	Giles Vacat	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
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Vicar's Assigned Administrator	Guy Talbot	860314
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MAGAZINE

Editor:	Tim Culverhouse	Lower Barton, Lamerton, Tavistock PL19 8RR E-mail: parishnewsmag@gmail.com	616799
Advertisements:	Mike Jefferies	Church Avenue House, Lamerton , PL19 8RN E-mail: mike.jefferies5@btinternet.com	614178

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

PARISH COUNCILS

	Chairman	Tel.	Email
Milton Abbot group parish:	Mark Ambrose	870603	
Lamerton:	Clerk Shane Honey		clerk@magpc.co.uk
	Roger Geake	860224	
	Clerk TBC		clerk@lamertonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Sydenham Damerel:	John Hearn	870505	john.hearn@sydenham-damerel.org.uk
	Clerk Peter van Delft	01566 783023	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

Questions in Faith

What was the point of the Desert Fathers and the Monastic Traditions that they inspired?

What is the point of full-time religious people? Shouldn't they be getting a life? Shouldn't they be doing good works? Surely sitting in a cell in voluntary self-confinement is pointless - just a waste of time. However, when Jesus was asked which was the most important of the Ten Commandments he replied that, 'You shall love the Lord your God with **all** your heart and with **all** your soul and with **all** your mind and with **all** your strength.'



The tricky bit is the word 'all' - not in part - or when you have finished doing other stuff. However, really good monastics or hermits can and do live their lives entirely through prayer. But is it really necessary? Did Our Lord really mean **all** or was he just pretending? Probably not. Every society needs way finders – leaders. Contemplatives show that this commandment is both possible and yields extraordinary fruit. I spent 6 years of my life living in a monastic community. I have never known people who lived in such joy and peace. They had discovered that materialistic goals and possessions just don't deliver. They just produce more appetites which in turn take more time and effort to satisfy – an endless circle of partial fulfilment and further frustration. Successful religious people achieve complete contentment and fulfilment directly by living God focused lives.

Great spiritual leaders contribute to our lives by the example of their lives – through their joy and their peace. St Francis said "Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary."? The Desert Fathers and the contemplative monastic traditions provide us with the living proof to the viability of both the Christian faith, first Commandment and Our Lord's teaching in the Beatitudes. Very few of us can live a life within the 100% category but those who do are a precious resource as they provide living proof of the viability of these millennia old teachings. They are both the pudding and the proof of the pudding – and so an infinitely precious resource for all humanity.

Need some tips on continuous prayer? Brother Lawrence's 'Practice of the presence of God' and 'The Way of the Pilgrim' are extraordinarily useful and accessible books on creating lives filled with continuous prayer. Recent great examples of contemplatives include Fr Thomas Merton, Sister Wendy Beckett and the Fr Richard Rohr who does an amazing podcast!

Richard Seawright

*The Vicarage, The Parade, Milton Abbot, Tavistock, Devon. PL19 0NZ
Tel: 01822 870298; Email vicar@southtamar.church*



My Dear Friends,

Happy New Year to you all! I do hope that as many of you as were able, attended some of our services over Christmas, as we celebrated the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. I am conscious though, that many of you were suffering from Covid or were staying away from large groups of people. Please rest assured that everyone has been held in prayer during this most difficult and trying time. My thanks again to those who visited our Care Homes and those at home during the Christmas season.

The seasons of Christmas and Epiphany end on Wednesday 2nd of February at Candlemas, (*which we celebrate on the preceding Sunday*). It is a time when we remember that 40 days after Jesus' birth, his parents took him to the Temple as part of the Jewish customs of purification and redemption. Here they thanked God for the gift of life and a safe delivery. They also encountered the elderly Simeon and Anna, with their messages that Jesus would bring about salvation for the world. It is at Candlemas that we look away from the nativity and towards the cross of Easter.

Our preparations for Easter will start on Ash Wednesday, this year on the 2nd of March and there will be the usual service of Holy Communion at 10.00am at St Peters, Lamerton. This service will involve the imposition of ashes where, if you choose, you may come forward to receive the sign of the cross in the ashes created from the burning of last year's palm crosses. This is an outward sign of our inward repentance and a symbol of our commitment to Jesus Christ.

Other traditions are of course fasting for Lent (beginning on Ash Wednesday) and, more commonly these days, taking something up rather than giving something up. This year you might want to take part in our 'on-line' Lent course which is being run by Annie and Joy. This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the Bible and to start thinking about the 'Big' questions of life; all from the comfort of your own home! You might also be interested in learning to knit during Lent, more details are on page 17 of this magazine. Some of you might even read a

good Lenten book. If you do, you might want to write a short review for future issues of this magazine.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a productive Lent. Time to re-evaluate our lives, our contributions to the world in which we live and time for self-improvement. Above all, time to be thankful to God for His good gifts, and for His Son Jesus Christ who suffered for our salvation.

With Every Blessing
Fr. Andy

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



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

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 6th Feb. <i>4th Sunday before Lent (Green)</i>	Isaiah 6: 1 - 8 [9 - 13]	1 Corinthians 15: 1 - 11	Luke 5: 1 - 11
Sunday 13th Feb. <i>3rd Sunday before Lent (Green)</i>	Jeremiah 17: 5 - 10	1 Corinthians 15: 12 - 20	Luke 6: 17 - 26
Sunday 20th Feb. <i>2nd Sunday before Lent (Green)</i>	Genesis 2: 4b - 9, 15 - 25	Revelation 4	Luke 8: 22 - 25
Sunday 27th Feb. <i>The Sunday before Lent (Green)</i>	Exodus 34: 29 - 35	2 Corinthians 13: 12 - 4: 2	Luke 9: 28 - 36 [37 - 43a]
Sunday 6th March. <i>1st Sunday of Lent (Purple)</i>	Deuteronomy 26: 1 - 11	Romans 10: 8b - 13	Luke 4: 1 - 13
Sunday 13th March. <i>2nd Sunday of Lent (Purple)</i>	Genesis 2: 18 - 20 & 26	Philippians 3: 17 - 4: 1	Luke 13: 31 - 35

BIBLE READINGS (Year A)			
DATE	1ST READING	2ND READING	GOSPEL
Sunday 20th March. <i>3rd Sunday of Lent (Purple)</i>	Isaiah 55: 1 - 19	1 Corinthians 10: 1 - 13	Luke 13: 1 - 9
Sunday 27th March <i>Mothering Sunday (Purple)</i>	1 Samuel 1: 20 - 28	Colossians 3:12 - 17	John 19: 25 - 27

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'***.



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

Mid-week Holy Communion



**Every Wednesday morning at 10 am
in the Priests room at Lamerton**

The service is a quiet,
reflective said service of Holy
Communion. The perfect
opportunity to re-charge your
spiritual batteries.



**With Tea, coffee and
cake afterwards.**

St. Mary's Church, Sydenham Damerel

2021 was a strange year for St Mary's as we tentatively crept through the year, holding services with trepidation as to whether we were doing the right thing by gathering in God's name. In our tiny village several people contracted the covid virus but thankfully nobody was poorly enough to warrant going into hospital, so we kept going with our services with our fingers crossed and a huge amount of faith!

One of the high spots of the year was our magical outdoor carol evening where our Sydenham Damerel Blowers provided the musical accompaniment to popular Christmas carols. This special event with mulled wine and mince pies thrown in was very well supported and the weather was just perfect.

We are all looking forward to a better year. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee is an exciting prospect, and I am sure Sydenham Damerel will rise to the occasion. The Queen is such an amazing woman and her life as a devout Christian is an example to us all.

Our community coffee mornings at the beginning of every month restart this month on 15th Jan and our hosts are John and Gini Hearn who are using their garage [with heaters] because they felt that it would encourage everyone to feel safe meeting up as a group, if we were nearly outside! These meetups have proved to be invaluable for the parishioners to keep up with planned activities and can be a social life-line for those living alone.

We are (at the time of writing) also looking forward to the first online quiz of 2022 on 22 January. The village on-line quiz evenings brilliantly organized by John Hearn have proved to be very competitive!

Although the covid virus has proved to be deadly in many cases since it all spread, our little community has really pulled together and has felt much more connected with each other, so some good has come out of a bad situation. We are hoping that the church will continue to be a tower of strength to those who attend and hope that over the next few months that more people will join in our twice-monthly services. As last year we shall leave our beautiful Christmas lights adorning the tower of St. Mary's as a comforting beacon of hope until Candlemas on 2 February. Wishing everyone a happy new year.

Margaret Hurdwell

St. Constantine's Church, Milton Abbot

I hope everyone had a peaceful Christmas, with family where possible. Thank you to everyone who came to our Crib & Carol Service on Christmas Eve and also to those of you who surfaced for our service of Holy Communion on Boxing Day. We have now returned to our normal pattern of Songs of Praise on the evening of the second Sunday of the month and Holy Communion on the fourth Sunday – we would love to welcome you at either or both!

As we come into the New Year we are pleased to report that Taylor's have been making good progress in Loughborough with the restoration of our bells and the construction of our new bell frame. There is a progress report on their website with a collection of very interesting photos – do take a look at www.taylorbells.co.uk/project/milton-abbot-devon .

The online shop is still very much open for business – Pat Lovell is still sewing like a madwoman and is currently up to her eyes in Easter bunnies and bunting! Do take a look, and keep an eye on it over the coming weeks as new things will be added. Our cookbook, A PEAL OF RECIPES, is still available either via the shop or direct from Pat or myself at the very competitive price of £5 – a nice gift for Mothering Sunday or Easter!

Our stalls in aid of the Bell Fund in November and December produced profits of £98 and £82 respectively and running alongside those the online shop was very busy in the run up to Christmas – the phone line between Pat and myself was close to meltdown on several occasions! The wooden items made for us from wood from the old bell frame by the Tavy Turners & Carvers Club were extremely popular and virtually sold out – the final total for those items alone was just under £800.

The Christmas Draw, which Sarah once again very kindly ran for us, made £430 – many thanks to all of you who bought tickets and congratulations if you won! We still need to raise funds towards the final payment for the project, as you will see from Pat Lovell's piece in this issue of Parish News.

Liz Padmore

St. Mary's Church, Marystowe

December at Marystowe and in our Church community was busy and also highly emotional.

We must begin this catch up writing about our great sadness at the passing of John Dawe, he has been missed at every turn, the most unexpected things have reminded us of him – putting the light under the altar for the Crib for example – but one of the wonders was his music choice that resounded around the Church for his service, everything including Shirley Bassey, the theme from the BBC World Service, The Beatles and Doris Day.



For the second year we held a Zoom Christmas evening with a reading of Oliver Twist and songs by the Lifton singers, we had a great audience with people calling in from Switzerland and New Zealand! But best of all we raised funds for the Church and made a donation of £500 to The Children's Society. A big thank to the Lifton Singers, Vicky and Carol for the delicious supper bags, and, of course, the cast:

- Guy Talbot – who maintained his dignity in the face of utter nonsense and non-talent
- Joy McSmythurs – loud and brassy – life imitates art
- Mike Jefferies – hen-pecked ...life imitates art again
- Annie Jefferies – watch your pockets next time you are with her
- Margaret Dunn – always wanting more
- Colin Dunn – ever the trooper in search of his BAFTA
- Amy Harrowell – loves the special effects (Ketchup)
- Reverent Andy Atkins – beware the smiling vicar – a baddy lurks within?
- Shona Dickinson – any excuse to dress up and wear a top hat
- Andy McSmythurs – dreaming of an Am Dram free 2022

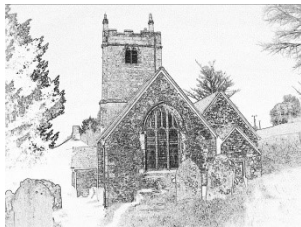
We are making a more sedate start to 2022, with a coffee morning at the Church on Saturday 26th February when we will be launching our knit-along Lent Scarf project, please see the separate article on page 17 in this magazine for more details.

The coffee morning will be a chance to browse the books and jigsaws as well as having a great catch up and look forward to Spring!

Please remember our books and puzzles are still available and can be delivered if you are unable to get out and about. We are finishing the stock take and expect to be able to have the updated lists online shortly.

May we wish everyone a peaceful healthy and happy 2022.

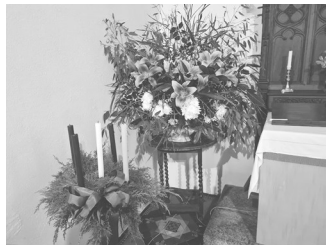
Joy McSmythurs



St. Andrew's, Coryton

As usual, St Andrew's was beautifully decorated for Christmas with a huge tree, greenery on all the window sills, fairy lights in the usually gloomy entrance porch, lovely altar flowers and the traditional Nativity scene.

Both our Carol and Christmas Day services were well attended in spite of being in the midst of the Omicron crisis which so disrupted Christmas. St Andrew's was a very safe environment as virtually every visitor at Coryton had been tested. All the children and grandchildren coming down



for Christmas had been flow tested – in order to stay with their parents or grandparents. Unsurprisingly there were no reports after the services of anyone catching Covid!

During the two services we completed the last two of the Christmas Big Picture Advent talks in which we put the Patriarchs, Prophets, John the Baptist, Mary and the birth of Jesus in a historical context. The conclusion was while 'You could make it up' the facts were the facts and are all a part of the transcendental mystery of the divine birth.

COMING SOON TO CORYTON.....

At St Andrew's we are finally getting on the fundraising bandwagon. Plans are underway for an event on Wednesday 27th April between 12 noon and 2pm. Full details in the April/May issue of the Parish News. Posters and flyers will be distributed nearer the time, but for now, please put the date in your dairies!

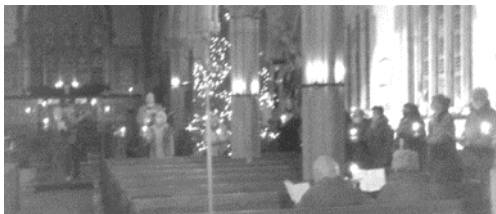
Josie Whitfield
(with thanks to Richard Searight for his contribution)

St. Peter's Church, Lamerton



We had quite a busy time in the run up to Christmas. The tree, which was donated by Katie, was in place and decorated and the cross on the tower ready for the school Carol Service. Many thanks to Richard and Norman for their invaluable help. The whole church looked splendid with all the decorations done by our flower team led by Shona. Thank you ladies. Thanks also to Lamerton School for their very colourful window dressings.

Our Christingle Service was well attended and thanks go to Barbara and Annie for seeing that there were plenty of Christingles to go around. This was followed by the school play and then by our Carol Service - thanks to Tony Dando, our organist and to Val & Geoff Hill for arranging the Lamerton Hand Bell ringers to perform for us.



The residents at Venn were delighted by the carol singers who Annie had organised to sing for them.

Our Christmas celebrations concluded with Midnight Mass. It was very heartening to see such good attendance at all our services. Many thanks to Andy for officiating and pulling it all together, Mike for organising our readers and to Irene who is always there to set everything in place for every service..

Our Bunting Tossler, Robert, kept us well supplied with flags on the church - do these celebration days really exist or does he make it up?!

Many of you will have noticed that the great green monster has been removed from above the inside of the south door. The whole of that wall has had all the blistering paint removed, the cracks filled with lime mortar and has had three coats of lime wash. The dead wall heaters and lights have all been brought back to life. Thanks again Norman & Richard.

Many thanks to David Madams of Commercial Lamp Supplies for donating the flood lights and the bulbs.

Your Church Wardens wish you a happy and Covid free New Year

Lucky Lamerton Lottery

A BIG THANK YOU

to all participants for your generosity and support



The winning numbers for December and January will be reported in the next edition (all being well!)

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 along with some 'fun' flag days

6th February

8th February

1st March

10th March

14th March

17th March

Accession Day (70 years for the Queen)

New Zealand Day

St. David's Day

Birthday of the Earl of Wessex

Commonwealth Day

St. Patrick's 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

LAMERTON PARISH COUNCIL - VACANCY

Lamerton Parish Council has a vacancy for a secretarial / clerk position.

Please send CVs or for further details please email:

clerk@lamertonparishcouncil.co.uk

QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

This June we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Lamerton Parish Council are inviting Parishioners, whether they are members of a local organisation or as individuals, to be part of a small team to plan how the Parish will celebrate this rare occasion. If you are interested please contact Barbara Meikle on 01822 617229 before the 18th February

A Story on the Theme of Forgiveness

The strange teacher who didn't like his pupils

Once upon a time, there was a nasty thief who was on the run from the police. He arrived in a small town, where he hid his stolen goods and pretended to be their new teacher called Mr Moody.

Because he was so nasty, he shouted at the children a lot and was always in a foul mood. He told the children off and you could tell that he did not like them one bit. At the end of the day, his pupils would rush off in a hurry. Then one day, instead of leaving, Paul - one of the smallest pupils - stayed behind and just stared at Mr Moody in silence. The teacher moved nearer to yell at him but, before reaching him, little Paul jumped up and clung to his neck, giving him a big hug. He then ran off, without giving time for the nasty teacher to get over his surprise!



From that day on, little Paul often gave the teacher an unexpected hug and ran off before he could catch him. At first, this really annoyed the nasty teacher but soon it seemed as though he began to like it. One day the teacher managed to catch him, and he asked why he was doing it.

Paul replied: 'I think you are so mean because you have never been loved. I am going to love you, so you get better, even if you don't like it.'



The teacher pretended to be angry, but deep down he liked that the boy loved him so much. Each time, he let himself be hugged more easily and he seemed less grumpy. Until one day when he saw that one of the boys was very sad and quiet for a few days, the teacher decided to make his day by giving him a big hug.

Just then, everyone in the school began to clap and cheer. 'Mr Moody has become nice! He loves the kids!' 'Would you like to stay and teach us forever?'

Mr Moody said he would, although he knew that when he was found out he'd have to go on the run again. But then some police officers turned up with little Paul, who was carrying the things Mr Moody had stolen.

'Don't be afraid, Mr Moody. We already know you regret what you did and are going to return all of this. You can stay here at the school because, now that you love the children, we know you're cured.'

Mr Moody could not believe it. Everyone in the town had known from the beginning that he was a thief and had been trying to help him become good. He decided to stay and live there to help others turn their lives around, just as they had done for him.



Join Marystowe Church on our knitting journey through Lent

The project is a scarf with a pattern for everyday - except Sundays - in Lent that ties in with a daily bible verse. The pattern with the accompanying verses is available for a minimum donation of £4 (it is a 32 page booklet).

Marystowe Church will have a stash of double knitting wool to help you make the scarf as colourful as you wish. If you have any odd balls or half balls of double knitting wool you could donate then we would be very grateful.

This is a project that can be done alone (particularly given Covid concerns for some), or if you prefer to get together to talk about the project, the bible verses or anything else then we are going to have coffee and catch up on a weekly basis.

It would be really great to have some men taking part, if it is good enough for Russell Crowe, Ryan Gosling and Tom Daley then come on chaps.....

I am sure any of us ladies will be happy to provide tuition.....



The patterns and wool will be available at the Marystowe Coffee morning on 26th February – or call Joy (01822 860630) or Barbara (01566 784797)



A CHILD'S FOOTSTEPS TO FAITH

What Did Jesus Do?

If we want to know what we should do when we are tempted to do something wrong, we should read our Bible and do what Jesus did when the devil tempted him. The important thing is not what we think Jesus would do -- the most important thing is -- **WHAT DID JESUS DO?**

Hey! Wait a minute, does that mean that Jesus was tempted by the devil just as we are? Yes he was. The Bible tells us that one time Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert where he was tempted by the devil for forty days. Do you know what Jesus did when the devil tempted him? He answered him with Scripture!

Jesus had not had anything to eat for forty days. Satan knew he was hungry, so he said to him, "If you are really the Son of God, turn these stones into bread."

Jesus could have easily done what Satan suggested, but he didn't. Instead, he answered, "It is written, 'Man does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil took Jesus up to a high place and showed him the worldly kingdoms below. He said, "All of this belongs to me. If you will bow down and worship me, I will give it to you."

Jesus answered, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"

Next, the devil took Jesus to Jerusalem and led him up to the highest point on the temple. He said to Jesus, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here. God will send his angels to rescue you."



Again, Jesus quoted the Scripture, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."

Do you know what the devil did? He gave up! He said, "I'll come back and try another day."

The next time the devil tempts you to do something wrong, look in the Bible and see what the Bible says. Then...Do What Jesus Did...answer Satan with Scripture!

Dear Father, help us to learn what the Bible teaches us to do so that when the devil tempts us, we can do what Jesus did...answer him with Scripture. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Temptation of Christ

When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. Luke 4:13 (NIV)

Based on Luke 4:1-13



U F O R T Y A W O R S H I P N
 I G S L W X D T E M P T E D L
 L O U W E N R B F M T W O S A
 Y Z O V A E D I E I F Y Y N P
 J S I M S A U L R E N A N W E
 P L M E E D A I Y A D A Q Y P
 A O D R E S P T D M T L Y Y F
 C N B I U S I R O S E I K F N
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 S U U R O M W O R L D G O U W
 A X T H S L Q Z O J P R M O P
 W O S G S R Y N P W A Y S K M

DESERT	ANGELS	WORSHIP	HUNGRY	KINGDOMS
TEMPTED	DEVIL	JORDAN	AUTHORITY	BREAD
SPIRIT	JERUSALEM	COMMAND	FORTY	STONE
LIVE	DAYS	WORLD	TEMPLE	HOLY

Coffee @ St. Mary's Sydenham Damerel



**First Saturday of every month
10:30 onwards All welcome**

LAMERTON WI

February 1st 2:00pm - Talk with Simon Dell

March 1st 2:00pm - Graham Skedgell on a project in Romania

All meetings held at Lamerton Village Hall
New members welcome

Parish News Deadlines

Issue covering the months of	Deadline for submissions	To advertise events taking place in
April and May 22	15 March 2022	April 2022 onwards
June and July 22	15 May 2022	June 2022 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.

NATURE NOTES BY BLUEBELL



*“And the white ships of winter lie
In the sea-roads of the moor.”*

Charles Causley, The Seasons in North Cornwall

In the cold months, when the trees are bare and the woods and fields are nearly silent, it is easier to see the wild creatures which are hidden in the summer by leaves and grass.

Bluebell has put up jack snipe, bursting away from beneath her paws, fast and low. One, then another in the long wet grass in the field. She has surprised a roe deer, which leaped a barbed wire fence away into the shelter of the wood.

Winter silence is broken by the sweet song of robins, claiming their territories ready for breeding, and also the “teacher, teacher” call of the great tit. The “teacher, teacher” song is the first love song of spring to come. Great tits have many vocalisations. Bluebell finds that if she cannot see a small bird in the trees or undergrowth but hears a confusing call, if in doubt it will usually turn out to be a great tit. Great tits are identified by a broad black stripe down their yellow breasts, and a black cap. The black stripe is narrower in the female.

Bluebell has seen a red kite floating over head, with its unmistakable notched tail, and watched the raven and the buzzard sweep through the sky.

Pale under their wings, with longish black tails, flocks of field fares launch out of bare trees as she passes.

Acrobatic little long-tailed tits swing through the bare hedge rows.

But most exciting of all, Bluebell has seen a hare! Lolloping, in an unbalanced looking way up the lane, in the dark, about seven in the evening, ahead of her, long black-tipped ears waving. There used to be plenty in this area she has been told, but now they are seldom seen. They are usually solitary, night time animals, but as Spring comes in, in March they come out into the daylight and meet to mate. The iconic image of boxing hares is usually a female fighting off an unwanted male. Hares can touch 48mph, sprinting!

Spring is creeping in. Snowdrops are opening, and soon will come primroses, then daffodils and swallows, we hope.

*“A violet by a mossy stone
Half hidden from the eye!
Fair as a star, when only one
Is shining in the sky.”*
William Wordsworth

GARDEN NOTES BY DOUG



Don't go out in your garden! It will be a mistake. If you do, you'll discover there's an awful lot to take care of. You'll get wet, cold and everywhere you look you'll find something to prune, remove, tidy up, rake, re-pot, dig over, or whatever. Too much! Not to mention sorting out the shed. Better to put on that raincoat and wellies and go for a nice relaxing walk. When you get back, buoyed by the fresh air and the sight of the sun rushing around behind the clouds looking for a gap into your world, you can have a cup of tea and a nice piece of cake, then you can get out there in the wilderness of your garden, or allotment, and get cracking. Yes, you could leave some areas for the wildlife - some leaves, some stems you won't cut back yet, some stones you leave unturned. Maybe you want an area that looks after itself all year; but maybe you want to introduce some wild flowers to give the wildlife something to cherish?

Clean the greenhouse inside and out, prune the apple tree and fruit bushes, get those weeds out, pressure wash that slippery path, empty that smelly water butt, cut the leaves from hellebores to let the flowers look at you. Think about plants and seeds for the coming year and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee! Cosmos? The more you tidy up now the happier Spring and Summer will be. There's a lot to look forward to.

In the greenhouse I've still got some lettuce (Marvel of Four Seasons) and some Swiss Chard (see picture). I picked one lettuce the other day and, although it didn't look slug damaged, when I washed it there were lots of them, maybe 10. We don't expect that when we take a lettuce from the supermarket. It'd be a shock. The best way, of course, is to wash in salty water (a teaspoon to a bowl, say). They soon come off the leaves and you can rinse the leaves again. A better answer than loads of slug pellets. Look forward to Spring and the daffodils.



FARMING LIFE, BY HAYSEED

Out Standing In His Field



As I write this we are in Winter, albeit a mild one at that. Whilst we've not had to tackle frozen pipes with the blow torch just yet, the fields are sodden with rain making simple tasks outdoors very muddy and preventing any early field work starting, especially with today's heavy modern machinery.

January marks an important time in the farming calendar- Plough Sunday, which this year fell on 9th January. It is associated with the first working day on the land after twelfth night - although us farmers know that every day is a working day on the farm! A service is held to mark Plough Sunday, the start of the agricultural year, to pray for a good harvest and bless the plough. A real old horse plough is used at the service and an old friend of Hayseed's has supplied the plough for the service at Bratton Clovelly this year. I can recall my father and grandfather using a horse plough, which we still have at home now, although more of an ornament and tribute to the past than anything in regular use.

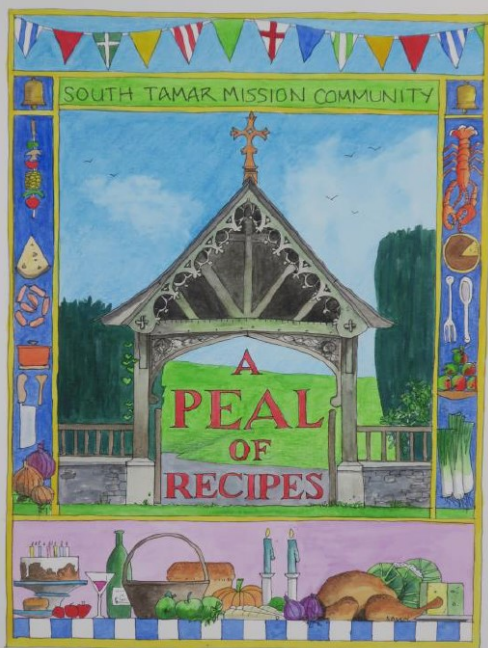
This Christmas I was pleased to support local suppliers of meat, vegetables and fresh produce – and even more pleased to tuck into the fare on Christmas day too. I was also treated to a trip to a local milk vending machine which, for a man who has milked cows most of his life, was a real novelty. For those of you who haven't tried it, I would recommend it! I take my cap off to farmers and producers who are finding new and innovative ways of reaching customers and keeping us supplied. Buying your milk locally harks back to days gone by and is the best way to support our local producers.

'Til next time
Hayseed

Hayseed's favourite cracker joke from last year

I met a scarecrow recently who was fantastic - never ever a bird in sight in his field. So I asked him "How is it you do your job so well?" He replied, "Well my great-grandfather, grandfather, grandmother, father and mother were all award winning scarecrows and taught me everything I know.... "Hay, it's in our jeans!"

MILTON ABBOT BELL RESTORATION PROJECT



The project is now on its way to the finishing post. With two grants promised on satisfactory completion and a likely VAT grant application, we would then only have £11,500 to find. If it could be achieved, we would love to hear the bells ringing again to mark the Queen's Platinum jubilee. With everyone's support we hope we can.

The new Benefice Cookbook is out now! Only £5 with all profits going to the Bell Restoration Project. Available from Carr's Garage, our online shop: <https://milton-abbot-church> or from Pat Lovell (TEL: 01822 618452 or Liz Padmore (TEL: 870642).

More lovely new items are being regularly added to the online shop which would make ideal Mothering Sunday, Easter or Birthday gifts. Please take a look and help us to reach our end goal. Special Orders also taken.

Would you like to learn how to become a church bellringer? The Benefice would love to hear from you. Please contact Michael Blatchford (TEL: 01822 870319 to register your interest.



We have just a handful of these prints left which we would like to clear at a much-reduced price of £10.00.

To donate online via: <https://justgiving.com/campaign/mabells> or via Reverend Andy Atkins or Pat Lovell. We thank you for all your support.

LAMERTON COFFEE MORNINGS

The coffee mornings at Lamerton Parish Hall are back!

Join us on:
February 12th & March 12th
Both 10:30am to noon

Do come along, meet friends and catch up

BTRC FUNDRAISING

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for their support for BTRC during 2021. Despite not being able to have our annual coffee morning we have raised £1216.91, which includes £533.50 from the sale of BTRC Christmas cards. Whilst we continue to support brain tumour research we hope to have a coffee morning sometime this year, in the meantime we wish everyone a safe and happy new year.



Rosalind and Robert Wiggins

MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE HALL

At the next A.G.M. of the Milton Abbot Village Hall we are looking for a new Treasurer and Committee Members. The Treasurer's role is not an onerous task but is important to us. We meet once a month to report to the committee. This position is in need of a 21st century overhaul, the same as we are doing with the Hall, which would make the operation easier to manage. Please contact Chris Harrap or any member of the committee for further details. Our A.G.M. is held in May so there is plenty of time to think about it and to ask any questions you may have. We cannot operate without all offices filled hence we are looking now.

We are also looking for a Caretaker. This is a paid position. It involves an hour or 2 weekly depending on usage, again further details from Chris or any Committee member.

Thank you. Milton Abbot Village Hall Committee

Chris.harrap@hotmail.co.uk



MARYSTOWE COFFEE MORNING

Please do join us on 26th February 10am – midday
for a coffee and a catch up

Browse the books, jigsaws, cards and fridge magnets

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IMPROVING LOCAL BROADBAND

Many properties within our community do not get an adequately fast or reliable broadband connection. There are a number of Government backed and commercial schemes underway to address this. However, understanding what the current options and future plans are for any given location is difficult.

West Devon Borough Council are setting up a network of 'Broadband Champions' whose task is to identify clusters of premises (homes and businesses) who are eligible for funding and then work with the council to progress community led fibre projects – where they are identified as viable.

I am the representative for Lamerton parish, and my next step is to start to build a database of people looking for improved broadband in the area.

If you would like to find out more, please email me at hayesac@aol.com. Further information is available at www.westdevon.gov.uk/community-broadband

Andrew Hayes



As the newly appointed Chair of the trustees for the Lamerton Sports and Community Centre I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I'm Penny Baker and I joined the committee at the Charity AGM last year. I look forward to working closely with everyone in the community to bring you events and to continue to keep the hall at the heart of the village.

We have two events coming up in February and March alongside the usual Bingo (fortnightly on Tuesdays at 8pm starting from 18 January 22) and the coffee mornings on 12th of February and 12th of March.

11 February - **Countryside Quiz with Tony & Jenny Boon**

7pm start £3 per person - teams of up to 6.

Bring your own food and drinks

19 March - **Games Night and grand opening of the MUGA**

6pm start with MUGA opening beforehand.

The much anticipated work started on the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) in January and by the time you read this in early February we may well be in a position where it is virtually completed. I want to thank everyone for their continued support and fabulous fundraising efforts which have allowed us to get this far with the MUGA.

Our Charity AGM is planned for 5 April 2022 at the hall at 7:30pm and we would love to find some more new members for the committee as we have a number of long serving committee members retiring this year. If you are interested in joining or just wish to find out more please contact either me or our Treasurer, Tim Culverhouse, using the contact details below. We would love to welcome villagers both old and new to help run the hall no matter how much time you have available to help.

Penny Baker

Chair Penny Baker

penny.baker.lamerton@gmail.com

Treasurer Tim Culverhouse

lamertonhalltreasurer@gmail.com

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - LAMERTON BRANCH



Over the last few years the membership of our local branch of the RBL has dropped considerably, we need more members, preferably younger ones. I know that there are several former service men and women in the Lamerton and surrounding parishes. If you would like to get involved in this very worthwhile cause please contact me or any other local RBL member to find out more about what we do. Incidentally you do not need to have served in the armed forces to become a member of the RBL.

Gerald Cramp (Chairman, Lamerton Branch of the RBL)

Email: geraldandshiela@btinternet.com

Phone: 01822 615464

LAMERTON'S REGENERATED CHURCH BELLRINGERS

The bellringers rang for all the Christmas services and also rang the New Year in as is the tradition at Lamerton, complete with mince pies and cream, and a tot of whisky for the non- drivers, thanks to Monica and Mike.

We now have about 12 ringers of all abilities, with Carol, David and Jess rapidly getting towards the change ringing stage. We are fortunate to have them because it makes our Monday practice nights busy, purposeful and enjoyable.

With our numbers somewhat fortified we look forward to ringing for all the services and a number of special occasions this year especially, of course, the historic platinum jubilee celebrations in June.

LAMERTON HANDBELL RINGERS



We were unable to hold our Annual Handbell Festival on 2nd October for the 2nd year running because of the Covid risk - in fact we kept it open right up to the last minute but ultimately had to concede and cancel.

So after nearly a 2 year break we started practising again in November, not with a full team but enough to ring some Christmas carols. Our aim was to play at the Lamerton Church carol service. We held socially distanced practices in the Church - without the heaters on!

It was good to be able to finally play in public again for the carol service on 19th December - a little nerve racking but the whole team enjoyed the experience, we were so delighted to be back together again in public.

On 11th December, The Devon Church Bellringers held their Annual Carol Service on 'Zoom' and included a video taken in 2010 of "The Queen's Peal" on 8 handbells. This recording was taken at Cullompton Parish Church during the 2010 Carol Service. We had never seen it before so it was lovely to see The Lamerton Peal ringing Team in action all those years ago - William Dawe, Geoff Hill, Bill & Nicola Blowey.

And what of the future?! We intend to get together again in the Spring Covid permitting. One thing is certain we will be trying to hold our Festival in 2022 - a date for your diary is Saturday 8th of October. Fingers crossed for better times all round.

Valerie Hill



QUIZZY RASCAL



Quizzy Rascal (a new contributor) has asked to have some quiz questions published in some forthcoming magazines - they're just for fun though, answers to be published next time.

What word can be added before or after all the words in the group?

1. ground, paper, date, hand
2. suit, fish, walk, copy
3. scotch, bean, fingers, cup
4. struck, full, beam, shine
5. burn, after, bathe, light
6. saddle, board, along, sea
7. eye, boy, foot, bearing
8. fight, eared, lap, under
9. pit, ball, wild, arm
10. mill, wood, surf, down

Quizzy Rascal

PARISH MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION

This parish magazine is partially funded by advertising and partially by the subscription fee of £1 per issue that you pay. Any marginal profits made are put back into the benefice churches.

Your annual subscription of £6 per annum is now due and it would be much appreciated if you could pass this to your magazine distributor when they deliver either this edition or the next one in early April.

Tim Culverhouse

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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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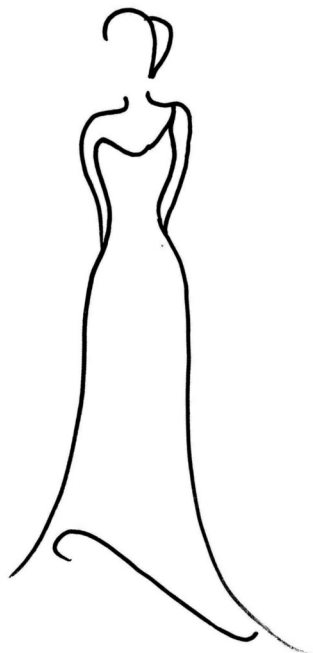
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CHURCH SERVICES

March 2022

Day	St Mary M. Sydenham Damarel	St Peter's Lamerton	All Saints' Dunterton	St Constan- tine Milton Abbot	St Mary the Virgin Marystowe	St Andrew's Coryton
Weds. 2nd March	ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 10:00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 6th March <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>		6:30pm BCP Even- song			9:30am HC / CW	
Weds. 9th March	10:00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 13th March <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i>	10:30am HC / CW			6:30pm Songs of Praise		6:30pm BCP Even- song
Weds. 16th March	10:00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 20th March <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>		11:00am HC / CW			9:30am Family Service Morning Praise	
Weds. 23rd March	10:00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 27th March <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	6:30pm Songs of Praise			11:00am HC / CW		11:15am HC / CW

CHURCH SERVICES

February 2022

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
Weds. 2nd Feb.	10:00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 6th Feb <i>4th Sunday before Lent</i>		6:30pm BCP Evensong			9:30am HC / CW	
Weds. 9th Feb.	10:00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 13th Feb <i>3rd Sunday before Lent</i>	10:30am HC / CW			6:30pm Songs of Praise		6:30pm BCP Evensong
Weds. 16th Feb.	10:00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 20th Feb <i>2nd Sunday before Lent</i>		11:00am HC / CW			9:30am Family Service & Morning Praise	
Weds. 23rd Feb.	10:00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 27th Feb <i>Sunday before Lent</i>	6:30pm Songs of Praise			11:00am HC / CW		11:15am HC / CW