

# Moorland Parish Link

- Widecombe -

Huccaby - Ilington - Leusdon - Postbridge



Ashburton - Bickington - Buckland - Holne

## March 2026

Church and Community Magazine of The Moorland Team

# The Ministry Team

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**Safeguarding:** If you have a concern about the safety of someone or the actions of someone working with children or vulnerable adults, please speak to someone:

Moorland Team Safeguarding Adviser - Judy Southcombe 01364 621520

Diocesan Safeguarding Team - [SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org)

**Moorland Team Website:** <https://ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/safeguarding>

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## **Lent the lead up to Easter. We turn and face God**

Lent for the year 2026 starts on Ash Wednesday, February 18th and ends on Maundy Thursday, April 2nd.

These 40 days are set aside to praise and worship the Lord; to read the Bible more, and to pray more often. Christians who observe Lent correctly anticipate deeper intimacy with the Lord.

Lent is meant to be a time of 'repentance'. Strictly, this word means to do a U turn and face God instead of turning our backs on Him.

One word widely used by those who observe Lent is 'preparation'.

One of my favourite Christian authors and speakers is Canon J. John of Coventry Cathedral. He has commented that three aspects to these preparations.

First: Lent is a preparation for Easter. Easter, with its message of Christ destroying sin and death through his death and resurrection, is the most exciting and triumphant moment in the church's year. Lent provides us with forty days of build-up to Good Friday and Easter Sunday in which we can (and should) prayerfully ponder our need to be saved by God.

Secondly: Lent is a preparation for Existence. We live in an age of overindulgence.

The Bible says real freedom begins with self-restraint; love your neighbour as yourself. Lack of restraint leads to all sorts of problems, and psychologists point out that the ability to wait for something we want rather than seize it immediately – what they call 'deferred gratification' – is an extraordinarily positive attitude linked to academic success as well as physical and psychological health. Restraint is very biblical. Lent gives us the opportunity to practise resisting harmful and hurtful desires. Strange as it may seem, to fight and win a forty-day-long Lenten battle over chocolate or coffee may help us win a war over more important matters of our thoughts and actions.

Finally, Lent is a preparation for Eternity. For many of us, life seems to run in what we might call 'Lent/limp mode': hopes are unfulfilled, desires are frustrated and joys fall short of expectations. Yet as Lent is not the end of the story, neither is life for those who follow Jesus. As the celebration of Easter overtakes the solemnity of Lent so, one day, the joys of eternity will overtake the troubles of this life. For the Christian, there is a wonderful and certain hope that however deep a shadow or sadness has fallen over our lives, it will ultimately be lifted and replaced by an indestructible and unending joy. For those who love Christ, life's long Lent will end, one day, in an eternal Easter in which death and sin are destroyed for ever. One day our fasting will give way to eternal feasting.

Whether or not you keep Lent this year and in what way you keep it is your choice. But to keep Lent, thoughtfully and prayerfully, is to come into a rich and lasting inheritance. Be blessed this Lent and bless others!

Ross Hathway

## Churchwardens

St Mary the Virgin, Holne with St Raphael, Huccaby		
Rebecca Scott	01364 631640	<a href="mailto:stmaryvirgin2022@gmail.com">stmaryvirgin2022@gmail.com</a>
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*For all editorial information - copy date, contact details etc. please see inside back cover.*

**BENEFICE OFFICE and PARISH OFFICE** - email: [admin@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:admin@moorlandteam.org.uk)  
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## Moorland Team Officers

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- **Holne**
- **Buckland in the moor**
- **Bickington**
- **Widecombe (Library only)**

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- Or requesting information about the services offered by letter addressed to:- **Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton, TQ13 7EA**

**Save the date**

**Saturday 4th July**

**St Peter's Church, Buckland in the Moor  
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**Come and see beautiful flowers  
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### MOTHERING SUNDAY

When did Mothering Sunday, the returning home to visit Mother on this one Sunday of the year actually start?

Wikipedia tell us that: Mothering Sunday has been celebrated since the Middle Ages, and in the UK on the 4th Sunday in Lent. The 4th this year falls on 15th March.

In later times, Mothering Sunday became the day when domestic and other servants together with farm workers were given a day off to visit their Mother Church, usually with their own mothers and other family members.

During the 16th century a phrase used was 'gone mothering'. During 1913 the Mothering Sunday Movement was established.

What of today?

Countries celebrate Mothering Sunday at different times of the year, but UK still keeps to the fourth (mid) Sunday in Lent,

(continued on page 7)



# St Peter's, Buckland-in-the-Moor

For contact information, ministers and church officers please see front of the Link  
**Church Services—see Page 22 for details or**  
[www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/buckland](http://www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/buckland)

Date	Table Flowers	Time	Service
1st March	Lent - no flowers	10.30	United MC Covenant Service, Ashburton
8th March	Lent - no flowers		
15th March	Lent - no flowers	15.00	Holy Communion
22nd March	Lent - no flowers		
29th March	Lent - no flowers		

*St. Peter's Church is open all day, every day. You are welcome to visit at any time – an opportunity to sit quietly, say a prayer and enjoy our beautiful building.*

(continued from page 6)

but it has become increasingly commercialised as, typically, mums are lavished with gifts and cards. However, you will still find a peaceful short celebration of Mothering Sunday. A time to remember your own mother or childhood carer at **3.00pm on 15 MARCH in BUCKLAND IN THE MOOR CHURCH** (refreshments after service and posies to take home).

All most welcome – bring auntie, grandchild or just yourself

## Buckland-in-the-Moor Whist

**Thursday 26th March 12.30**

Whist £3 incl half-time refreshments & draw



Optional soup & roll lunch  
£2 at 2.00pm



Whist every fourth Thursday  
in the month.

## Buckland Community Hall

The Community Hall at Buckland-in-the-Moor is available to hire. It is a modern building set in a quiet and beautiful location and has parking. The charge for hiring the hall is

**Parishioners £8 per hour**

**Others £10 per hour**

For further details or to book, please call

**01364 653845**

please join us for our

# MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE

**15 MARCH**  
**3PM**

St Peter's Church  
Buckland in the Moor

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[www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/buckland](http://www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/buckland)



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# St Mary the Virgin, Holne

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**Church Services—see Page 22 for details or**  
[www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/holne](http://www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/holne)

Date	Time	Service
1st March	10.30	United MC Covenant Service - Ashburton
8th March	18.00	Holy Communion
15th March	09.00	Holy Communion at Huccaby
22nd March	17.00	Evening Worship

## Soup & Pudding Lunch

### Holne Village Hall

## Friday 6th March

## from 12.30

Please contact Maggie Arden on  
01364 631438 for further details

## Holne Whist

### Tuesday 3rd March

### from 2pm

Raffle, tea or coffee and biscuits for £3.  
If there are any suggestions or queries  
please ring

**Judy Henderson on 01364 631461**  
*I look forward to seeing you*

## Been to the shop lately?

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PROCEEDS TOWARDS HOLNE VILLAGE HALL

## HOLNE HERITAGE CORNER

Holne Church now has a small area, dedicated to the heritage of the parish and surrounding area. It contains a collection of local peoples' photo albums, and recollections of times gone by – and also some interesting maps provided by the Dartmoor National Park.

Other information is currently being gathered and it is hoped to provide additional local material on for example: tin mining, the leat system which carries water to many of the properties in the village, the village hall once used as a school etc., etc.

Please pay it a visit and enjoy looking around the church, going into our wonderful community shop and partaking of refreshments in the tearoom.



## Holne Village Hall

Situated in the middle of the village, near Church, shop and Inn, available to hire at reasonable rates. Medium sized hall with separate well equipped kitchen. Sufficient chairs and tables for any event. Car parking adjacent to the Hall. Rates (per hour) £10 (£7 for Parishioners)

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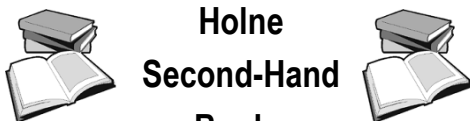
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# St Raphael, Huccaby

For contact information, ministers and church officers please see front of the Link  
**Church Services—see Page 22 for details or**  
[www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/huccaby](http://www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/huccaby)



Please join us between 2.00 and 4.30pm on  
Sunday 8th March 2026 for a

## Cream Tea

St Raphael's Chapel  
Huccaby PL20 6SB



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# St John the Baptist, Leusdon

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**Church Services—see Page 22 for details or**  
[www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/leusdon](http://www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/leusdon)

Date	Time	Service
1st March	10.30	United MC Covenant Service - Ashburton
8th March	12.15	Parish Communion
22nd March	12.15	Parish Communion

*Leusdon Church is open all day, every day. You are welcome to visit at any time – an opportunity to sit quietly, say a prayer and enjoy our beautiful building.*

## Leusdon Memorial Hall

It was great to see everyone back on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February for our monthly coffee morning, we were able to raise £192.00 for hall funds. **The next coffee morning is on 4<sup>th</sup> March 10.00-12.00 midday.** The whist drives continue on **9<sup>th</sup> March starting at 2.00pm**

The committee met on the 19<sup>th</sup> January. We had a very productive meeting, discussing more improvements to the hall and events for 2026, including an Italian evening and an afternoon tea. Bookings at the hall continue to increase with a mix of regular and occasional users. Special thanks to our booking secretary for continuing to promote the hall as a venue. Her support and efficiency are often praised by people who use the hall. Also, thanks to the treasurer and secretary for their pursuit of various grants to enhance our facilities.

It was announced that the secretary and chairman will be stepping down at the AGM in June. If you would like to join the committee or help in any way please contact any committee member either directly or email the secretary at [leusdonmemorialhallsec@gmail.com](mailto:leusdonmemorialhallsec@gmail.com).

Our social media presence continues to grow and followers have now passed 438. It is a resource open to all community and local charities, it is invaluable in publicising local activities. Our old chairs continue to be used by local groups and families for various events. They are available to borrow for other Community events. All we ask is that this would be acknowledged.

Should you wish to book the hall, it is available for hire at £11.00 per hour, which includes electricity and heating, there are special rates for regular users. Further details can be obtained by contacting our booking secretary: [leusdonmemorialhallbooking@gmail.com](mailto:leusdonmemorialhallbooking@gmail.com) Tables at the Coffee Morning can be booked for £5 per table per session, please either book these by using the details above or coming to see us at the coffee morning.

In the meantime, if anyone would like to discuss any aspect of the hall please contact me or any committee member.

John Southcombe: [johnsouthcombe@hotmail.com](mailto:johnsouthcombe@hotmail.com)

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*Widcombe & District Social Group see page 27*

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# PRAIRIE RASCALS

**A TALE OF THE OLD WEST**

Starring

**ROSANNA LAMBERT LAURA FRANCES MARTIN  
MYLO SERMON AMANDA LINDSETH**

&

**NICHOLAS DE JASAY LOUIS JOHN BRZOZKA ARRAN HAWKINS**

With

**NICK RIDDLE XANTHE BAYLIS**

**MUSIC & ARRANGEMENTS BY NICK RIDDLE**

**DIRECTED BY PHILIP & SARAH REEVE**

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FIONA FROY  
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

07971416352

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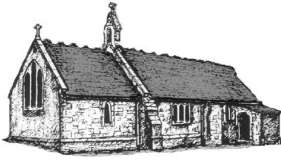


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SOUTH DEVON MOORLAND  
PONY CLUB



# St Gabriel, Postbridge

For contact information, ministers and church officers please see front of the Link  
**Church Services**—see **Page 22** for details or  
[www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/postbridge](http://www.ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/postbridge)

Date	Time	Service
1st March	10.30	United MC Covenant Service - Ashburton
15th March	18.00	Mothering Sunday Service

Postbridge Church is open all day, every day. You are welcome to visit at any time, an opportunity to sit quietly, say a prayer and enjoy our beautiful building.



## Postbridge Coffee Morning Monday 9th March 11am - Noon

These coffee mornings are held in Postbridge Village Hall to raise funds for St Gabriel Church and we'd like to thank all who have contributed.

**Next month - 23rd April**

Maureen



## POSTBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

Our next Monthly Coffee Shop & Mini Market will be held on  
**Monday 16th March 11.00am - 12.00pm.**

Stalls: local meat, produce, cards, books, puzzles, craft etc.

If you are interested in bringing your stall, Charity or Trade  
please call Sue on 01822 880223



## Mobile Post Office Every Monday incl Bank Holidays



**Widcombe 09.00 - 10.30** Car Park, next to Café On the Green  
**Ilington 11.00 - 13.00** Next to Ilington Village Shop  
**Postbridge 14.00 - 15.00** Top of Dartmoor National Park visitors Car Park

**Cash Withdrawals   Balance Enquiries   Cash & Cheque Deposits   Travel Products**  
**Gas cards and electricity keys top ups**

**iPad to access services:** pay bills, pay rent, car tax to name a few  
**Sign up to the library** and download digital books to your own device  
**Find us on Facebook, "The Crew of the Outreach"**

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for Hire



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Parties

*Special rate for Postbridge Residents*

**For more information on booking please contact:**

**Elaine Smerdon 01822 880065**

**[elainesmerdon@yahoo.com](mailto:elainesmerdon@yahoo.com)**

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**PAINTER & DECORATOR**

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accompanied by **EIMEAR QUINN** as heard on **CLASSIC FM**

with guest  
appearance by  
**JIM CAUSLEY**

14 March  
BRISTOL  
CATHEDRAL

16 March  
CHAGFORD  
ST MICHAEL  
THE ARCHANGEL

17 March  
TRURO  
CATHEDRAL

TICKETS  
[DUBLINBRASS.COM](http://DUBLINBRASS.COM)



# Church Services for March 2026

## 1st March

## 2nd of Lent

## Purple

*Readings - Genesis 12.1–4a, Psalm 121, Romans 4.1–5, 13–17, John 3.1–17*

Ashburton 10.30 United MC Covenant Service

## 8th March

## 3rd of Lent

## Purple

*Readings - Exodus 17.1–7, Psalm 95, Romans 5.1–11, John 4.5–42*

Widcombe 10.30 Parish Communion Ilsington 08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

Leusdon 12.15 Parish Communion Ashburton 10.30 Parish Communion

Holne 18.00 Holy Communion Ilsington 10.30 Family Service

Ashburton 15.00 Moor & Messy Church

## 15th March

## Mothering Sunday

## Purple

*Readings - 1 Samuel 16.1–13, Psalm 23, Ephesians 5.8–14, John 9.1–41*

Huccaby 09.00 Holy Communion Ashburton 10.30 All-Age Communion

Widcombe 10.30 Parish Communion Ilsington 10.30 Morning Praise

Postbridge 18.00 Mothering Sunday Service Bickington 10.30 Morning Worship

Buckland 15.00 Holy Communion

Ashburton 18.30 St Petroc's Reflective Service

## 22nd March

## 5th of Lent

## Purple

*Readings:- Ezekiel 37.1–14, Psalm 130, Romans 8.6–11, John 11.1–45*

Widcombe 10.30 Parish Communion Ashburton 09.15 Breakfast Church

Leusdon 12.15 Parish Communion Ashburton 10.30 Parish Communion

Holne 17.00 Evening Worship Ilsington 10.30 Holy Communion

## 29th March

## Palm Sunday

## Red

*Readings - Liturgy of the Palms: Matthew 21.1–11, Psalm 118.1–2, 19–end\*, Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50.4–9a, Psalm 31.9–16\*, Philippians 2.5–11, Matthew 26.14 – end of 27 or Matthew 27.11–54*

Widcombe 10.30 Morning Worship Bickington 09.00 Holy Communion

Ashburton 10.30 Family Service (with Baptism)

Ilsington 10.30 Family Service

# Holy Communion

# Midweek & At Home

There is a service of **Holy Communion every Wednesday at 10.30** at St. Andrew's Church in Ashburton. You will be most welcome!.



## Communion at home

If you would like to receive Home Communion please see [page 2](#) for contact details

# Rainfall in January 2026

Place	Total Rainfall	Days without rain	Wettest Days
Postbridge	341.5 mm (13.4")	1	8th 42.5mm (1.7")
	January 2025 290.0 mm (11.4")		
Holne	385.00mm (15.16")		26th 85.1mm (3.4")



# From the Registers

Funeral	17th February	Buckland	Alex Kessler Ford
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# Dates for the Diary

March 2026		Page	March 2026		Page
3rd	Princetown History Club	<a href="#">35</a>	12th	Widecombe Social Group	<a href="#">27</a>
3rd	Holne Whist	<a href="#">9</a>	<b>15th</b>	<b>Parish Link copy deadline</b>	
4th	Leusdon Coffee Morning	<a href="#">15</a>	16th	Postbridge Mini-Market	<a href="#">19</a>
4th	Widecombe History Group	<a href="#">29</a>	24th	Dartmoor Forest PC	<a href="#">40</a>
5th	Widecombe PC	<a href="#">25</a>	24th	Ashburton U3A	<a href="#">40</a>
6th	Holne Soup and Pud	<a href="#">9</a>	26th	Buckland Whist	<a href="#">7</a>
9th	Leusdon Whist	<a href="#">15</a>	<b>Coming up in April</b>		
9th	Postbridge Coffee Morning	<a href="#">19</a>	5/6th	Easter Craft Fair	<a href="#">24</a>
11th	Dunstone Charity Lunch	<a href="#">33</a>	12th	Concert	<a href="#">24</a>



## Widecombe Community Hall

The current stage of works to the hall will largely be wrapping up at the end of March, and the building will be watertight but essentially a shell for now.

There is inevitably a pause at this stage, as the package of funding we had in hand had a tight deadline so we started sooner than we otherwise might have. Grant applications are in hand but the fixed determination times mean decisions will take some time, and it remains a patchwork so will need many different funders. However whilst the hall is not finished, it is in a position where it is safe from the weather.

There will be various jobs being done over the summer as funds allow, external areas of the site will benefit from completion after the end of the heavy building phase. Some of this will be carried out by volunteers – coordinated on our WhatsApp group. Let us know if you want to be added.

We are still taking orders for stones in the supporter's wall. This is the internal wall in the entrance area of the hall which will be stone faced, and where supporter's names will be visible, arranged randomly and in the same size local granite stones. We've tried to be inclusive by not setting a high minimum amount for a stone, and we thank everyone who has been helping the project in this way. It'll make a lovely lasting mark, and every little helps. Look on the website for more information, call 01364 631543 or email [info@widecombecommunityhall.org](mailto:info@widecombecommunityhall.org)



### Concert - Sunday 12th April, 3pm, Ashburton Arts Centre

Calling music lovers! We are putting on another fund raising concert for St Pancras, this time in partnership with Ashburton Arts Centre. The main soloist is Garfield Jackson FRAM, who is a founder member of the renowned Endellion String Quartet, and he will be accompanied on the lovely 1908 Bluthner piano by Winnie Wu.

They are playing a gorgeous programme including Bach's cello suite No. 1 in G major, excerpts from Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet, a Brahms sonata and Elgar Chanson de Nuit .

Please note that the concert is being held in Ashburton Arts Centre (which saves us having to hire a piano). Tickets are £18, £12 or £9: pay what you are comfortable with. Buy them at the door or online at

<https://wegottickets.com/f/16122>

Widecombe  
in the Moor Church House TQ13 7TA  
**EASTER**  
Craft Fair  
Sun & Mon  
5th & 6th April  
10am-4pm  
including a  
Wildlife Photographic  
Exhibition  
Free Entry



# St Pancras, Widecombe-in-the-Moor

For contact information, ministers and church officers please see front of the Link

**Church Services—see Page 22 for details or**

<https://ashburtonandmoor.org.uk/widecombe>

Date	Time	Sidesperson	Coffee	Flowers
1st March	10.30	United MC Covenant Service - Ashburton		
8th March	10.30	Philly	Philly	None in Lent
15th March	10.30	Ronnie	Rose M	None in Lent
22nd March	10.30	Clare	Daniel & Annabel	None in Lent
29th March	10.30	Val C	Val C with help	None in Lent
Sat 4th April	All help please decorating for Easter			

**Widecombe Church** is open all day, every day, 9-4. You are welcome to visit at any time – an opportunity to sit quietly, say a prayer and enjoy our beautiful building.

## St Pancras Church Widecombe Accessibility system

Dear Friends and Parishioners,


Those of you who have already been in the Church recently will know that we have a temporary accessibility access system in place. The P.C.C. wants to make it permanent. The finished article will be clad in engineered oak boarding and will have banisters/handrails. It will be treated and wood stained in a colour to match the pews. The Church planning permission procedure for historic buildings is necessarily rigorous so we have been working closely with our architect and on-site with diocesan advisors.

The P.C.C. would like as many of you as possible to go and have a look at the prototype and let us know whether you approve or not. Your comments will be very helpful for our faculty application and any funding grant applications.

During March there will a book in Church for your comments or you can report directly to a church warden. Please go along and have a look as soon as possible.

Thank you on behalf of St Pancras P.C.C.





**Widecombe Parish  
Council**

Next Meeting:

**Thursday 5th March 2026**

**Church House, Widecombe**  
at 7.30pm



## WIDECOMBE & DISTRICT SOCIAL GROUP

March brings with it the opening of the Widecombe and District Social Club season. This year we have a diverse range lined up, beginning with a film.

On **March 12<sup>th</sup>** we present “**Prairie Rascals**”, an eccentric ‘cream tea’ western filmed entirely on Dartmoor by Philip & Sarah Reeve. This is their second film, 50 minutes of very low budget comedy and melodrama! Humour, action, actual horses and some beautiful scenery... Please see the poster on [p17](#).

In **April** we have a talk by **Katherine Walcot**. Katherine spent time in Jordan and will tell us about her experiences, the land and culture of that country. (Not to be confused with the hamlet near Ponsworthy.)

For **May** we are very lucky to have signed well-known Brixham folksinger-songwriter **Maggie Duffy**. Maggie has the voice of an angel and knows how to tell a good yarn. If you haven't seen her, you really should! And if you have, you know what I'm talking about.

In **June** we visit **Di Weymouth's garden**. Last year the Weymouths planted a new orchard but the principle purpose for going is to see their wildflower meadow.

Later in the summer we'll be learning about church organs, wood and hedgehogs, among other things. But more of those later on.

The Social Club meets on the second Thursday of the month in the Church House, Widecombe (except for outdoor visits) and the entry fee is a mere £3, which includes a raffle ticket, tea, coffee, biscuits. No booking required, just turn up significantly before 7.30 to get a good seat. And keep an eye out in the Parish Link for a reminder of the meeting for that month.

This edition of the Moorland Parish Link (and previous editions) can be downloaded from: <https://widecombe-in-the-moor.com/widecombe-parish-link/>



## CLEAR DECORATORS & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

TEL - 07527 306 012

EMAIL: [CLEARDECORATORS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CLEARDECORATORS@GMAIL.COM)

WEBSITE: [WWW.CLEARDECORATORS.CO.UK](http://WWW.CLEARDECORATORS.CO.UK)

# **Widcombe & District Social Group Prairie Rascals**

**A film by Philip & Sarah Reeve**



**Church House, Widcombe.**

**Thursday 12th March 7.30pm**

**£3 on the door to include raffle entry**

**More info from Rose 01364 621444**

## **Can you help?**

I am researching the lives of **Alexander Nelson Radcliffe** and his wife **Isobel Grace Radcliffe** (nee Henderson) both of whom were supporters of St Pancras Church in the 1920s through to the late 1940s? Alexander was a successful London solicitor who had a second home at Bag Park in Widcombe. The names of the Radcliffe's two sons appear on the church war memorial.

I would like to find photographs of Alexander and Isobel to help illustrate the piece if anyone has such a picture, and would like to share it I can be contacted at

[david.ashman87@gmail.com](mailto:david.ashman87@gmail.com).



## **Widcombe & District Sports Group**

For membership renewals please email [cl.partridge@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cl.partridge@hotmail.co.uk) or tel: 621468.

Alternatively membership forms can be found in the noticeboard by the court.

**Regular Bookings: Tuesday & Thursday:** Tennis Adults (16+) 6.30 Under 16's with ability are welcome to these sessions with a parent who is also playing.

For queries re tennis phone **Di Cameron on 01364 621218.**

Please remember to wear soft soled shoes and to leave the court tidy with the net replaced. Report any damage immediately to Claire Partridge (Secretary) on 621468. Close all gates and replace the keys.

For more information about WDSG visit [www.widcombe-in-the-moor.com/sports\\_group/](http://www.widcombe-in-the-moor.com/sports_group/)

*Thank you and enjoy your sports area.*

## **Widcombe Singers**

If you want to join the Singers we rehearse at

**The Church House, Widcombe**

**Tuesday evenings at  
7.30pm**

**Admission £5**

**Telephone Rose 01364 621444  
for more details**





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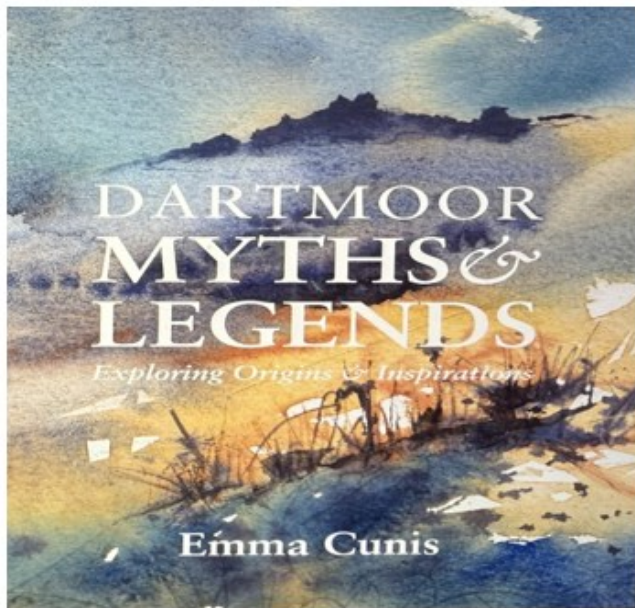
Please get in touch to discuss your individual requirements or come and have a chat, no job too big or too small.

Contact Spike on **07773428701** or view Spike Milton Timber Services on Facebook.

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## WIDCOMBE HISTORY GROUP



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**WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**  
**7.30PM**

COME AND JOIN US IN THE HISTORIC CHURCH HOUSE, WIDCOMBE IN THE MOOR

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

DOORS OPEN 7PM FOR 7.30 START

£5 DONATION

COMING UP NEXT MONTH – APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> – AN EVENING WITH TITCH SCOTT  
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WIDCOMBE HISTORY GROUP CHARITY NO. 1144684



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We also have a fantastic sensory garden, space to dig, grow vegetables  
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Our outdoor classroom is run every Wednesday in our field nearby where  
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### Volunteers needed!

We are run by our committee of trustees made up of  
current parents and the wider community.

We are in need of some fresh faces to keep the  
preschool going! No necessary skills or experience  
required, just the enthusiasm to help with fundraising  
and support to keep this fantastic setting available to  
the young families of our community.

PreSchool (2-5years)

Tue 9:15am - 3pm

Wed 9:15am - 12:45pm

Fri 9:15am - 3pm

See website for fees and funding info.



"You can tell how much the staff love the preschool by how much  
they put in to it and in return how much the children love them!"

'Our children have both thrived at Widecombe exploring the various  
outside spaces and taking adventure walks around the local fields'

**Widcombe Church House Management  
Committee Chairman - Mike Pascoe**

To book the Hall please contact Rose Mortimore  
01364 621444.

**Rates of Hire**

Local Events: £6.00 per hour

Non-local Events: £10.00 per hour

Non-local commercial events: £100.00 per day

***For any other rates please contact  
the Bookings Secretary***

Payment by cheque is preferred.

Cheques to be made payable to  
Widcombe Church House Fund  
and send to Sarah Reeve,

Bonehill Cottage,  
Bonehill Lane,  
Widcombe-in-the-Moor,  
TQ13 7TD

*For all other matters relating to the Church  
House please contact Diana Cameron on  
**01364 621218***



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

Anyone interested should apply for further information which will contain the tender forms and Terms and Conditions from the Chairman. [pascoewooder@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pascoewooder@yahoo.co.uk)

Tenders should be submitted by midday on **10th April 2026** with the successful applicant being advised by 15th April and the Contract starting on the **20th April 2026**

The Contract will run, with the caveats contained in the tender documentation until **25th December 2026**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

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

## ASHBURTON AND BUCKFASTLEIGH HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

-REG. CHARITY NO. 900416

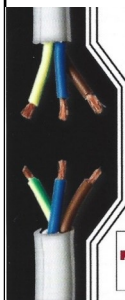
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[ashburtonleagueoffriends@outlook.com](mailto:ashburtonleagueoffriends@outlook.com)

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Rachel Arrowsmith-Brown

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## Moor Logs

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loads start from £110 for  
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mob 07784 146037



# Dunstone & Poundsgate Methodist Chapels

Ministers: Revd. Kevin Hooke 07772 571647

Church contacts: Sandy McFeat 07860 555206 or Serena Walcot (01364) 631279

## Sunday Services

**Dunstone** - Informal service at 3pm in Dunstone Chapel every week and all are welcome.

**Poundsgate - 1st March** at 3 pm. Led by Revd. Kevin Hooke in conversation with Revd. Phill Parker..

## Dunstone Lunches

**Wednesday 11th March from 12 noon until 2.30pm.**

**This month's lunch is for Marie Curie**

There will be soup, bread, sushi, savoury dishes, salads and cakes. Please make as generous a donation as possible.

Thank you to everyone that joined us in February. We raised **£130** for Try Praying and **£80** towards the running of our Chapel.

A huge thank you to all our helpers and to all the people who join us at our lunches!

**Mums  
life  
group**

*Doing life together*

**Monday 1.30pm - 3pm**  
0-5's welcome  
(during term time)

**faith, life, bible and chat**

Please contact  
Angie  
07863 854013  
Angie@moorlandteam.org.uk  
for further information

Please join us

*Come and hang out with us, and bring a friend!*

# Youth

**HANGOUT**

**SNACKS, GAMES, CHAT, FUN, FRIENDSHIP**

**Sunday evenings 6.30pm-8pm**

@ St Andrew's Church Hall, West Street  
Ashburton, TQ13 7DU

18 Jan  
1 Feb  
15 Feb  
1 Mar  
15 Mar  
29 Mar

Movie Night (6.30-8.30pm)  
Grill Phill  
Pancake Parlour  
Exodus: Desert Disco  
Exodus: Law & Order  
Easter Party

**info: [angie@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:angie@moorlandteam.org.uk)**



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07771 761125

[info@carrollcleaning.co.uk](mailto:info@carrollcleaning.co.uk)

[www.carrollcleaning.co.uk](http://www.carrollcleaning.co.uk)

The Hollies, Avenue Road, Bovey Tracey TQ13 9BQ

## Other Community News and Events

### Princetown History Club

meets **1st Tuesday** every month

Princetown Community Centre 7 for 7.30pm

**3rd March** - Napoleon in Plymouth , a talk by Clive Charlton

**7th April** - An Overview of Dartmoor Archaeology with Lee Bray

For further information, please contact:

Mr. John Lissenden

**phone** 01752 47573

**email** [jlissenden@talktalk.net](mailto:jlissenden@talktalk.net)

Mr. Bill Radcliffe

**email** [bill.radcliffe2@btopenworld.com](mailto:bill.radcliffe2@btopenworld.com)

**or** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PrincetownHistoryClub/events>

### Ashburton Food Bank

#### A CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE FOR ALL IN FOOD NEED

Covering Ashburton and surrounding villages and hamlets

#### WE WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER A DELIVERY SERVICE

If you require food please phone: **07767 453844** and leave a message with your name, number in household, any pets, telephone number and address. We will deliver to you as quickly as possible.

Should you prefer to collect food, please phone and we will find a suitable time and let you know.



### High Moorland Women's Institute Princetown

We are a group of local ladies meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month 7.30pm at the Community Centre Princetown.

Our wide interests are reflected in our variety of speakers, from .Blood Bikers , to a talk about the operation of Plymouth Harbour and Sound.

Outings have included the Box, in Plymouth and the Eden Project.

We raise funds for the popular local elderly residents event in December..

Do come along to our next meeting on 4th March at 730pm Princetown

Community Centre if you are interested.

Email address: [sidsan114@hotmail.com](mailto:sidsan114@hotmail.com)

**Goodwill  
little free  
library**

Goodwill community hub  
@ Grannypats old A38  
near Bickington  
thousands of quality fiction  
and biographies  
for you to choose from  
part of the little free library network  
donations welcome

Community  
Action  
Groups  
Devon



# CHRISTOPHERS' FAMILY FUNERALS

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

01364 654065

Bridge House, 9 Kingsbridge Lane, Ashburton, TQ13 7DX  
www.christophersfunerals.co.uk info@christophersfunerals.co.uk



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**Community RePaint**

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We are able to accept your half used tins of paint and recycle them to benefit the community and reduce landfill.

We have a large range of paints available for you to select from gloss to fence paint etc with a suggested donation of £1 a litre to support our community projects. ♡♻️

and amazing savings on the cost of paint for your Projects



**NEIGHBOURS  
HELPING  
NEIGHBOURS**  
Registered charity 1116549

DASH is an independent Ashburton Charity, existing solely to provide support for patients of Ashburton Surgery

We can help with transport to medical appointments or to deliver prescriptions to patients' homes

If you have some time and would like to support **DASH** as a volunteer or if you would like some help with transport, please call Evie on **01364 653335** or email [dashcoord@gmail.com](mailto:dashcoord@gmail.com)

A stay and play toddler group for 0-5 years

# HEDGEHOGS

## FRIDAYS

9:00am-11am  
in termtime

Free play, Crafts, Music,  
Snack-time, Outdoorplay

 St Andrew's Church Hall  
West Street  
Ashburton, TQ13 7DU

info:  
[deniserobinson111@gmail.com](mailto:deniserobinson111@gmail.com)



## Old Gardening Tools Wanted

Give your unloved tools stuck at the back of the shed another useful life as part of our tool shed available for everyone to borrow

Goodwill community allotments  
old A38 Bickington  
TQ12 6JY

info Michael 07458 359541

Hand tools only from forks and spades to wheelbarrows and everything in between  
Help us recycle your tools

*Thank You*



# Bovey 'Love Local' Market

Saturday  
9th May | 11th July | 10th Oct  
10:00 - 15:00

More details on [www.missivyevents.co.uk](http://www.missivyevents.co.uk)

*Where local creativity comes to flourish*

- \* Over 45 Makers
- \* Live music
- \* Street Food

In association with  
*Miss Ivy Events*





# Scott's Chainsaw Carvings

[www.scottschainsawcarvings.co.uk](http://www.scottschainsawcarvings.co.uk)

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Visit my website or Facebook page for ideas.

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## Goodwill



## Kids Welly Swap

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and nursery old A38

near Bickington



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and recycle your boots



Good quality Adults  
welcome to

## Spring is round the corner

Along the driveway to the farm up have sprung the snowdrops; a welcome harbinger that we are making it through winter, despite what a wet, sodden, drenched, soaking, ever so slightly rainy winter it has been. As I arrive at work each day the mild melancholy brought on by the rain in its many drops is being cleared away with every freshly emerged drop of white.

This is the feeling I hope Shallowford evokes in its visitors year-round. The notion that, no matter the stormy world you have travelled through to get here, as you cross the threshold and close the gate behind you there is hope for the day ahead.

I have been working at Shallowford Farm for 6 months now. As much joy that it brings me to observe the changes in the seasons, it is equally joyous to see the transformations in the groups of young people who come to stay each week. The simple shift from warily donning wellies on the first day to merrily wearing them to jump in copious puddles on the last is a reminder of the small but impactful part we are playing as these children find their way in the world.

In November 2025 we were successful in securing funding from UK Youth, whose vision is that all young people are equipped to thrive and empowered to contribute at every stage of their lives. This funding has enabled us to invite approximately 330 disadvantaged young people from our local communities to experience a slice of rural life. The fun challenge of this being that we need to make sure all these visits have run before the end of March. As you are reading this, we will be coming to the end of a wildly wonderful three months of hosting 170 children on day visits, 100 children for one-night stays, and 60 children for two-night stays. Coming from Plymouth, Torbay, Ashburton, Bovey Tracey, South Dartmoor, and beyond.

As most of these groups came from youth and young carers groups, we put our regular educational programme of events aside to let the children decide what they wanted to do. From board games, to walks in the rain, metal detecting to making memories with their friends. In a world that often requires them to be older than they are, we want to give them space to breathe, and play, and just be kids.

Coming up on the farm....

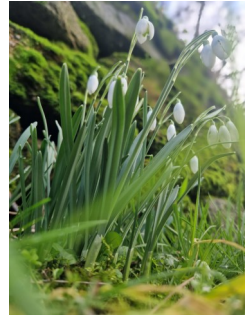
**Friday 13th March** – Coffee morning 10am-12pm, you are welcome to join for coffee and cake, and this month sow some seeds! Free to attend, no need to book.

**Tuesday 17th March** – Volunteer Day spent in the Kitchen Garden, preparing it for the season ahead. Book your free ticket on our website.

Check out our shiny new online events calendar here

<https://www.shallowfordfarm.co.uk/events/>

Emily



*50 years of making the difference*

learn, laugh, live

u3a  
ASHBURTON

## Tuesday 24 March 2026 THE REDOUBTABLE SWISS during World War II

A Talk by David Hinchliffe

Ashburton Town Hall at 2.30 pm

The story of Switzerland during World War 2 is somewhat controversial – Winston Churchill said, “Of all the neutrals, Switzerland has the greatest right to distinction. She has been a democratic state, standing for freedom in self-defence among her mountains and in thought, in spite of race.”, but revisionists have criticised it for being too helpful to the Nazis, laundering Nazi gold and not always welcoming refugees.



This talk deals specifically with the Swiss military response to the threat of Nazi invasion, not an aspect that is commonly addressed. Who would have guessed that



Switzerland has an estimated 15,000 underground and disguised bunkers dating from WW2, all forming part of the National Redoubt, intended to deter German invasion?

The talk reviews the background to Swiss neutrality and the decision to create the National Redoubt. It then moves on to look at some of the fortifications that can be visited nowadays, often in spectacular locations.

Non-members are welcome to attend our talks, £4 payable on the door which includes tea, percolated coffee and biscuits from 2.15 pm

If you would like to find out more about our activities, or better still to join us for one or more of our interest groups, visit: <https://ashburtondevon.u3asite.uk/welcome/>

### Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

Council normally meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month, with the meetings starting at 7.30pm in the small hall, Princetown Community Centre. One meeting per year is held at Postbridge Village Hall; usually in the summer months.



#### **Who are your Parish Councillors?**

<https://www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk/members.php>

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings and can address Council during the Public Sessions; to comment on issues discussed, raise new issues or concerns for discussion at subsequent meetings or just come and listen to what Council is discussing.

The Agenda and Minutes for all Council meetings can be viewed on our website: <https://www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings.php>

**Date of next meeting:** 24th March held at Princetown Community Centre, small hall starting at 7.30pm. We are also on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dartmoorforestpc.net>

[dartmoorforestpc.net](https://www.facebook.com/dartmoorforestpc.net)

**Parish Clerk:** Duncan Swift

**Telephone:** 07831 325530 **Email:** [clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk)

# Business Directory

In each issue of the Parish Link we promote businesses across the Parish and surrounding area, these businesses support us and enable us to publish this magazine for the local community. If you are looking for a great local business then look below. Next to each business is the page where they appear in this issue. **If you call them, please let them know you found them in the Parish Link.**

<b>Agricultural Services</b>		Clear Decorating	<a href="#">26</a>
Dartmoor Rural Services	<a href="#">32</a>	K Decorating	<a href="#">20</a>
<b>Architect Services</b>		Robin Milne Woodworks	<a href="#">36</a>
HMAD Architects	<a href="#">14</a>	Rochelle's Curtains & Blinds	<a href="#">12</a>
Mike Gilbert Architectural Design	<a href="#">36</a>	<b>Hotels and Inns</b>	
<b>Cleaning &amp; Domestic Services</b>		The Old Inn	<a href="#">44</a>
A Clean Pair	<a href="#">14</a>	The Rugglestone Inn	<a href="#">30</a>
Carroll Cleaning Services	<a href="#">34</a>	<b>Legal Services</b>	
Country Carpet Care	<a href="#">8</a>	Francis Parffrey	<a href="#">6</a>
<b>Community</b>		<b>Plumbing and Heating Services</b>	
Scott Elson Chainsaw Carvings	<a href="#">38</a>	MH Perry	<a href="#">38</a>
<b>Electrical Goods and Services</b>		MTP Services Ltd	<a href="#">12</a>
Darryl Hutchinson	<a href="#">32</a>	<b>Private Water Services</b>	
J Searle & Son	<a href="#">10</a>	County Cleansing	<a href="#">32</a>
<b>Funeral Directors</b>		<b>Property for sale / rent</b>	
Christophers Family Funerals	<a href="#">36</a>	Robert Williams Estate Agents	<a href="#">16</a>
Morris Bros. Funeral Directors	<a href="#">14</a>	<b>Stores</b>	
<b>Garden Services</b>		Holne Community Shop	<a href="#">9</a>
Mole Problems	<a href="#">20</a>	<b>Tree Surgeons / Timber services</b>	
<b>Health, Wellbeing &amp; Beauty</b>		Geoff Partridge	<a href="#">14</a>
Moor Mobile Foot Clinic	<a href="#">32</a>	JS Tree Services	<a href="#">10</a>
Sophie Milton Massage Therapy	<a href="#">20</a>	Knowle Tree Services	<a href="#">8</a>
<b>Home Improvements</b>		Sam Hall Professional Tree Care	<a href="#">34</a>
Ashburton Glass & Locks	<a href="#">16</a>	Spike Milton Timber Services	<a href="#">28</a>

## Contacting the Editorial Team

Email items for inclusion or any other queries to: [link@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:link@moorlandteam.org.uk)

For items sent by post please use the following addresses:

Link Finances (donations, advertising fees, invoices etc)

All Other Correspondence

**Parish Link Treasurer**  
**c/o Way Park**  
**Widcombe-in-the-Moor**  
**Newton Abbot**  
**Devon**  
**TQ13 7TU**

**Parish Link**  
**c/o Bonehill Bungalow**  
**Widcombe-in-the-Moor**  
**Newton Abbot**  
**Devon**  
**TQ13 7TD**

Cheques payable to:  
**P C C Widcombe - Link Account**

**Thank you to all those who make donations to the Parish Link. Commercial advertising and donations ensure that the Link continues to be provided free of charge throughout the Moorland. If you would like to make a donation, please contact the editorial team.**

### ***Final Copy Deadline***

*For the **April 2026** edition of the Link, copy deadline will be **Sunday 15th March**. As ever if you are able to let us have any entries before the deadline that would be much appreciated.*

*Next issue available on **Thursday 26th March***

### ***Groups and Individuals who support the Parish Link***

**Friends of Widcombe School**

**St Peter's Buckland-in-the-Moor**

**High Moorland WI**

**Various anonymous donations**

**Holne Parish Council**

**Widcombe Church House Committee**

**Holne Second-Hand Books**

**Widcombe Community Hall CIO**

**Holne Village Hall Committee**

**Widcombe Fair Committee**

**Leusdon Memorial Hall Committee**

**Widcombe History Group**

**Moorland Merrymakers**

**Widcombe Social Group**

**Phyl's Follies (Postbridge)**

**Widcombe Parish Council**

**Postbridge Village Hall**

**Widcombe Sports Group**

After such a grey, wet winter let us hope that by the time you are reading this we will be seeing some Spring sunshine at last.



Spring brings many local activities back to life, including the beginning of the 2026 Widecombe Social Club season. What better way to start than with a low budget comedy-melodrama filmed exclusively on Dartmoor ([27](#) & [17](#))?

Huccaby are looking forward to welcoming us to a cream tea in aid of their beautiful chapel ([13](#)), which sounds delicious. There is advance notice of two events later in the year that will appeal to the green fingered and other flower lovers with the Holne Plant Sale ([10](#)) and Village Vases at Buckland ([6](#)). On the subject of Spring flowers our speculation last month about whether Gallant le Bower, near Holne, derived it's name from the Latin name for snowdrops - Galanthus, - brought the following response: "Re the question at the end of the last Link about Gallant Le Bower, whilst I like a snowdrop as much as the next man, I have seen a few similar place names around the country. I think it is more likely associated with Holne Chase which was a hunting ground given to a nobleman after the Norman conquest. I think it is a name for a hunting lodge of some sort with a good view of the chase."

In an exciting development we are going to run a full colour edition for April so that contributors can take advantage of colour to promote the many Easter, and other Spring, events that will be happening. If this is successful we are hoping to run a few more colour issues throughout the year, most notably for Christmas. Do let us know if you think this is a good idea.

With Best Wishes  
"The Link Team"

**Parish Link Advertising Costs**

Size	Size	Month	Year
Sixth Page	61x60mm	£7.50	£80
Quarter Page	61x92mm	£12	£125
Half Page	128x92mm	£20	£215
Full Page	128x192mm	£35	£380

**Please contact the Editorial Team for information and availability of advertising space at [link@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:link@moorlandteam.org.uk)**

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for all our  
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events & to  
book

