

Moorland Parish Link

- Widecombe -

Huccaby - Ilington - Leusdon - Postbridge



Askrigg - Bickington - Buckland - Holne

October 2026

Church and Community Magazine of The Moorland Team

The Ministry Team

<i>Team Rector</i> Revd Phillip Parker	The Rectory Copperwood Close Ashburton TQ13 7JQ	01364 389638 rector@moorlandteam.org.uk
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Several people have asked about the location of the front cover photos.
For **October** the photo is of
Buckland Church

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 641211

Diocesan Safeguarding Team - SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org

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

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A WOODLAND WELCOME

Some of you will know that I was warmly welcomed at St John the Baptist Church, Leusdon, into the Moorland Mission Community at the end of September as a Pioneer Priest. I'm excited about this new season, working alongside a wonderful staff team and as a pioneer, I'm tasked with exploring creative and meaningful ways of bringing the church into the community. Being new to Dartmoor, this role will crucially involve listening to your stories and learning more about your hopes and dreams for our local communities. I'm looking forward to a myriad of conversations in coffee shops, over a pint in the pub, or even over a shared flask of hot chocolate out on the moors!

Moving from Southampton to Poundsgate last year, I feel enormously privileged to have such diverse beauty right on my doorstep; I've already enjoyed some glorious sunsets out on the moors, had fun climbing many rugged, granite outcrops, and have loved those wild dips in the River Dart - even on January 1st! However it is the woodlands that have captivated me the most, from the unexpected discovery of ancient temperate rainforests that host rich ecosystems of moss and lichen, to the old oak trees lining the River Dart, with their overhanging branches and exposed roots. I was delighted to discover that the name Dart originates from the celtic word meaning 'oak stream'.

During many ambles along the Dart, noticing the changing light through the trees, I have been reminded of some encouraging words from the book of Jeremiah; (17:7-8)

"But blessed are those who trust in the Lord, and have made the Lord their hope and confidence. They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit."

I love this observation from three thousand years ago of trees being sustained by roots that reach deep into the water. Sitting alongside the Dart and pondering these aged oaks – which still bear fruit in their older years - I'm mindful of these words from Jeremiah. Is my spiritual life being sustained by the living water of the Holy Spirit? Am I rooted in the love of God? Do I pause for long enough to receive the gifts that God has for me?

I wonder how many of you are aware of the "Woodwide Web". Referring to the extraordinary, network of fungi, invisible to the human eye, connecting the roots of trees underground, this mycorrhizal network allows communication between the trees. Signals of distress are recognised, nutrients shared and mother trees support younger trees of the same species. There is so much we can learn from this Woodwide Web; about the value of connectedness, of listening to each other and responding to those in need. As I embark on this new role in the community as a Pioneer, I look forward to hearing your stories and understanding more about both the joys and challenges of being rooted and connected in your own community.

Erica Roberts

Churchwardens

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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
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HARVEST SERVICES

4TH OCTOBER

10.30AM WIDECOMBE
3PM BUCKLAND
3PM POUNDSGATE

11TH OCTOBER

12.15PM LEUSDON
4PM HOLNE

16TH OCTOBER

6.30PM ILSINGTON

18TH OCTOBER

10.30AM ASHBURTON
10.30AM ILSINGTON
3PM HUCCABY
6PM POSTBRIDGE

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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

Date	Table Flowers	Time	Service
4th October	Jonet	15.00	Harvest Service
11th October	Jonet		
18th October	Rebecca	15.00	Holy Communion
25th October	Rebecca		
1st November	Irene/Mary		

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.



HARVEST 2026



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

3.00pm SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER

in church followed by ye olde fashioned

Harvest Tea in the Village Hall

Collection for Farming Community Network

DIARY DATES.....with opportunities for giving

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3.00pm service Sunday 8 November with collection for RBL.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY 3.00pm Christingle service Sunday 6 December
with collection for Children Society.

CAROL service 3.00pm Sunday 20 December.

CHRISTMAS DAY 9.30am service. 25 December



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Parishioners £8 per hour

Others £10 per hour

For further details or to book, please call

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Buckland-in-the-Moor Whist



Thursday 22nd October

Whist at 2pm

with half-time refreshments & draw

Optional soup & roll lunch £2 at 12.30pm

Whist every fourth Thursday in the month.

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St Mary the Virgin, Holne

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/holne

Date	Time	Service
11th October	16.00	Harvest Festival (Harvest Tea at 17.00)
18th October	15.00	Harvest Service at Huccaby
25th October	17.00	Holy Communion

Soup & Pudding Lunch

Holne Village Hall



2nd October

Everyone welcome!

Please contact Maggie Arden on
01364 631438 for further details

Holne Whist

Tuesday 6th October

from 2pm

Raffle, tea or coffee and biscuits for £3.

If there are any suggestions or queries
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Judy Henderson on 01364 631461

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HOLNE HERITAGE CORNER

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

Other information is currently being gathered and it is hoped to provide additional local material.

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

Would anyone like to run a playgroup?

Holne playgroup was a lovely group but due to a lack of volunteers to carry it on, sadly it has had to fold.

The village hall is available and toys are still in the hall. If someone would like to come forward to take this on, please contact Hannah Iskander
hannaha@hotmail.co.uk

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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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

The second Summer Wedding at St Raphael's was celebrated on Saturday 5th September. The service for local couple Caitlin and Tomas was conducted by the Rev. Phill Parker. Locally grown foliage and blossoms, arranged by the wedding party, adorned the church, including a floral willow arch around the entrance, and a display for the fireplace.



The Harvest Festival Service for this year at St Raphael's will take place on Sunday 18th October at 3pm. This event is usually very well-attended, and we look forward to a convivial gathering with a cream tea following the service. There will be lots of delicious fresh produce available to take away, with donations going to the Farming Community Network.

The Farming Community Network (FCN) is a voluntary organisation and charity that supports farmers, farming families and people in rural communities through difficult times and periods of change. The charity is founded on Christian principles, and is there to support people of all faiths and none. The FCN have a network of over 400 volunteers across England and Wales, many of whom are involved in farming, or have close links with agriculture, and therefore have a great understanding of the issues that farmers, farm workers and farming families regularly face. Volunteers provide free, confidential, pastoral support to anyone who seeks help, regardless of whether the issue is personal or business-related. A confidential national helpline (03000 111 999) and e-helpline (help@fcn.org.uk) is open every day of the year from 7am-11pm.

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St John the Baptist, Leusdon

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/leusdon

Date	Time	Service
11th October	12.15	Harvest Service
25th October	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



Well, hello September! As we move towards autumn, Leusdon Memorial Hall is still a hive of activity.

At the end of August we had a lovely Afternoon Tea which was enjoyed by all our guests! Good company and delicious food and drink, followed by some *Guess the Amount* games and a Raffle. We raised an impressive £616.23 for our hall.

Our monthly coffee morning was well attended on the 2nd of September, raising £150.11, our next coffee morning will be on **Wednesday 7th October** and everyone is welcome. We have our monthly Whist afternoon on **Monday 12th October**.

Our hall hire continues happily with regular meetings for Keep Fit and Religious Meditation among many others.

The Moorland Merrymakers begin their rehearsal meetings soon to bring us another spectacular Panto in December.

We have a number of ideas up our sleeves to offer some entertainment to our community, please check back soon for news of our next exciting events.

Leusdon Memorial Hall is a lovely sizeable space with disabled access and facilities, a well-equipped kitchen and comfy chairs and tables, perfect for meetings, courses, gatherings, events and parties. At just £11 per hour to hire, please contact our booking secretary for more information on leusdonmemorialhallbooking@gmail.com
 If you would like to chat to me, contact me anytime on leusdonchair@gmail.com

As always, take care.

Tonia (chairperson)

For Leusdon Memorial Hall Charity No 300887.

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Help our Hedgehogs!



This is a friendly reminder to please take care when gardening, especially if you are using equipment such as strimmers. It is important to check for wildlife before starting as a strimmer can cause fatal injuries to a hedgehog!

Never light a bonfire without completely dismantling it and rebuilding it on the exact day of burning to ensure no one is sleeping inside.

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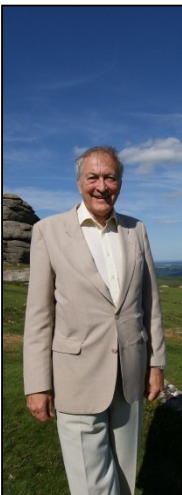
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St Gabriel, Postbridge

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

Date	Time	Service
18th October	18.00	Harvest 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 October 5th

Next month, November 2nd

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.

Maureen



POSTBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL



Our next Monthly Coffee Shop & Mini Market will be held on

Monday 19th October 11.00am - 12.30pm.

All our usual stalls and the famous Postbridge raffle

If you are interested in bringing your stall, Charity or Trade

please **call Sue on 01822 880223**

POSTBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

Welcome you all to our Social evening-

HARVEST SUPPER

Ploughmans & Pudding

Sunday 18th October at 7pm

Adults £10 Children £5
book with Sue on 01822 880223
& let us know of your dietary needs

"Thank you" to everyone who attended and helped at the

Postbridge Dog Show

on Sunday 6th September.

Jan Locke had 55 entries of amazing dogs to judge.

The dog show entries, refreshments and raffle raised a total of **£195.00** to be shared between Postbridge Village Hall and St. Gabriel's Church.

Great fun was had by all and your support is very much appreciated.

DHYL'S FOLLIES

Postbridge Panto Group
Interest Evening

Monday 28th September at 7pm
in the Village Hall.

If you fancy joining our happy team, we welcome new faces. If performing is not for you - how about moving scenery, making props, costumes (or the copious amount of tea we drink)? Come along for a chat. Warning - we like eating cake! If you can't make that night,

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Contact Ian Gunter on (01364) 515828

Sophie Milton Mobile

Massage Therapy



BSc(Hons), RGN, ITEC, Federation of Holistic Therapists

Medically trained massage therapist offering safe, gentle techniques designed to support relaxation and well-being in the comfort of your own home for clients with pre-existing health conditions or those with pain or mobility issues.

01364 621581 or 07875 923981

Autumn Update



What a wonderful summer it has been! Our highlight was the Fun Day at Yelverton airfield at the beginning of August. This free event for children aged 11 and under gave families the chance to enjoy an exciting day out during the school holidays. Twenty-five organisations took part, offering a wide range of activities and information. Children could tackle an assault course, try a musical instrument or build LEGO creations. The tractor rides were a firm favourite, with people still queuing as the event ended. We were lucky with the weather, although the wind made badminton quite a challenge: shuttlecocks were flying everywhere! Seeing so many happy, smiling families made all the hard work worthwhile.

The fun continued at one of our evening meetings with a crazy golf competition, courtesy of Yelverton Golf Club. There were some very interesting shots, and let's just say none of us is quite ready for the Open Championship!

We were also delighted to present a Rotary Service Recognition Award to Jayne Griffiths, who is from Yelverton and manages the local Co-op store. Jayne's longstanding support has been invaluable at many of our events, through both food donations from the Co-op and her own hands-on involvement. She also supports many other local groups and is an inspirational figure in our community.



As autumn gets under way, we have been busy helping with car parking at Widecombe Fair and enjoying an evening skittles competition. We are looking forward to a variety of speaker evenings and a fundraising barn dance on Saturday 14 November at Yelverton Memorial Hall.

We are also pleased to be supporting nature projects in Buckland Monachorum and sponsoring Horrabridge Rangers Football Club. Helping our community brings us together, and the friendship and humour we share make our club special.

If you are free on a Wednesday evening and would like to discover the fun for yourself, please contact our secretary at secretary@yelverton.rotary1175.org.



Mobile Post Office *Every Monday incl Bank Holidays*



Widecombe 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"

Church Services for October 2026

4th October			18th after Trinity		Green	
Readings: Exodus 20.1–4, 7–9, 12–20, Psalm 19*, Philippians 3.4b–14, Matthew 21.33–end						
Widcombe	10.30	Harvest Service + Lunch	Ashburton	10.30	Family Service	
			Ilsington	10.30	Holy Communion	
			Buckland	15.00	Harvest Service	
11th October			19th after Trinity		Green	
Readings - Exodus 32.1–14, Psalm 106.1–6, 19–23*, Philippians 4.1–9, Matthew 22.1–14						
Widcombe	10.30	Parish Communion	Ilsington	08.00	Holy Communion (BCP)	
Leusdon	12.15	Harvest Service	Ashburton	10.30	Parish Communion	
Holne	16.00	Harvest Service - Harvest Tea at 17.00	Ilsington	10.30	Morning Praise	
				15.00	Moor & Messy -Location tbc	
Friday 16th October						
			Ilsington	18.30	Harvest Festival & Supper	
Saturday 17th October						
Widcombe	14.00	Shallowford Trust 50th Anniversary Service				
18th October			20th after Trinity		Green	
Readings - Exodus 33.12–end, Psalm 99 1, Thessalonians 1.1–10, Matthew 22.15–22						
Widcombe	10.30	Morning Worship	Ashburton	10.30	Harvest Festival Communion with lunch	
Postbridge	18.00	Harvest Service	Ilsington	10.30	Harvest Family Service	
			Bickington	10.30	Morning Worship	
			Buckland	15.00	Holy Communion	
			Ashburton	18.30	St Petroc's Reflective Service	
25th October			Bible Sunday		Green	
Readings - Nehemiah 8.1–4a [5–6] 8–12, Psalm 119. 9–16, Colossians 3.12–17, Matthew 24.30–35						
Widcombe	10.30	Parish Communion	Ashburton	09.15	Breakfast Church	
Leusdon	12.15	Parish Communion	Ashburton	10.30	Parish Communion	
Holne	17.00	Holy Communion	Ilsington	10.30	Morning Praise	

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 August 2026

Place	Total Rainfall	Days without Rain	Wettest Days
Postbridge	70.2mm (2.8)	19	18th and 28th
	August 2025 76.1mm (3")		
Holne	415.6mm (16.36")		26th



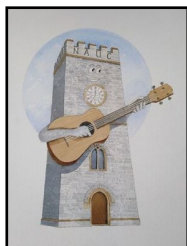
From the Registers

Wedding	5th September	Huccaby	Tomas Zmolil & Caitlin Hudson
Wedding	19th September	Widecombe	Nikos Mylonakis & Katherine Richmond

Dates for the Diary

October 2026		Page	October 2026		Page
1st	Widecombe PC	25	14th	Dunstone Charity Lunch	33
2nd	Holne Soup & Pudding	9	17th	Shallowford Anniversary	33
4th	Buckland Harvest Festival	7	17th	Ashburton Apple Pressing	37
4th	Widecombe Harvest Festival	26	18th	Huccaby Harvest Festival	13
5th	Postbridge Coffee Morning	19	18th	Postbridge Harvest Supper	19
6th	Holne Whist	9	19th	Ilington Coffee & Cakes	33
6th	Princetown History Group	35	19th	Postbridge Mini Market	19
7th	Leusdon Coffee Morning	15	22nd	Buckland Whist	7
7th	Widecombe History Group	29	22nd	Princetown Film Screening	35
7th	High Moorland WI	35	23rd	Merrymakers Matinee Box	17
8th	Widecombe Social Group	24	25th	Dartmoor Devil Cycle Ride	24
10th	Bovey Local Market	37	27th	Dartmoor Forest PC	40
11th	Holne Harvest Festival	9	31st	Widecombe Small Grants deadline	28
11th	Parish Link Copy Deadline		Advance Notice for November		
12th	Leusdon Whist	15	1st	Jazz Quartet Widecombe	27

Widcombe & District Social Group
Thursday 8th October
Newton Abbot Ukelele
Group
Church House Widcombe,
7.30pm



£3 entry to include tea/coffee
Further info from Rose
07749 717105

**WIDECOMBE EDUCATIONAL
 FOUNDATION**

This local charity founded in 1635 to help in the education of Parish Residents under the age of 25 also includes support for Widcombe Primary school and Widcombe Pre-school activities.

The charity can, and does, give financial assistance for anything to do with education, training and work.

If you as an individual have need of help, please contact Julia Young (Administrator)

juliayoung644@btinternet.com

The annual

Dartmoor Devil Cycle Ride

will pass through our parishes on Sunday, 25th October.

There will be a total of no more than 200 riders on the event and they should be very well spread out to prevent bunching.

Riders leave Bovey Tracey in two groups, at 8am and 9am, and will follow the route on the attached map. The first riders to pass by Hound Tor will do so at around 10.00 and the last at around 14.00. From

there they drop down towards Ashburton and stop at the Lavender House Hotel for refreshments at around 10.15-13.30. They then go past River Dart Country Park, on past Venford Reservoir, through Hexworthy and on to Princetown for a stop at the Plume of Feathers from 11.15 to 15.20. From Princetown they go to Postbridge before turning right to Widcombe, at around 12.15-15.00, up Widcombe Hill and on to the finish at Bovey Tracey.

For more details, please contact David Twigger, Organiser on dartmoordevil@gmail.com

Weekender: The Dartmoor Devil





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
4th October	10.30	Harvest Festival with the Bishop followed by lunch in the Church House, organised by Debbie, Philly and Jenny		Sat 3rd at 9.00am all help for Harvest flowers
11th October	10.30	Penny	Penny	Harvest flowers
17th October	14.00	Shallowford Trust 50th Anniversary Service		
18th October	10.30	Clare	Val C	Jenny
25th October	10.30	Annabel	Annabel & Daniel	Miho

Widecombe Church is open all day, every day, 9-5. You are welcome to visit at any time – an opportunity to sit quietly, say a prayer and enjoy our beautiful building.

Widecombe Parish Council

Next meeting Thursday 1st October at 7.30pm
Church House, Widecombe



PRELIMINARY NOTICE!

WIDECOMBE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2026

This year's Christmas Tree Festival will run from

Saturday 12th December to Sunday 20th December,

This means that the trees will be up for the Christmas Market, the Carol Service as well as the End of Term Celebrations for the School, Preschool and Widdytots!

The trees will go up on Friday 11th December and come down on Monday 21st December.

The theme this year is **"HOBBIES"** which, as usual, can be interpreted any way you like!

Entries are welcome from Groups, Organisations, Families and Individuals

Please do start planning your tree, the Christmas Tree Festival is always very popular, with regular visitors coming back year after year!

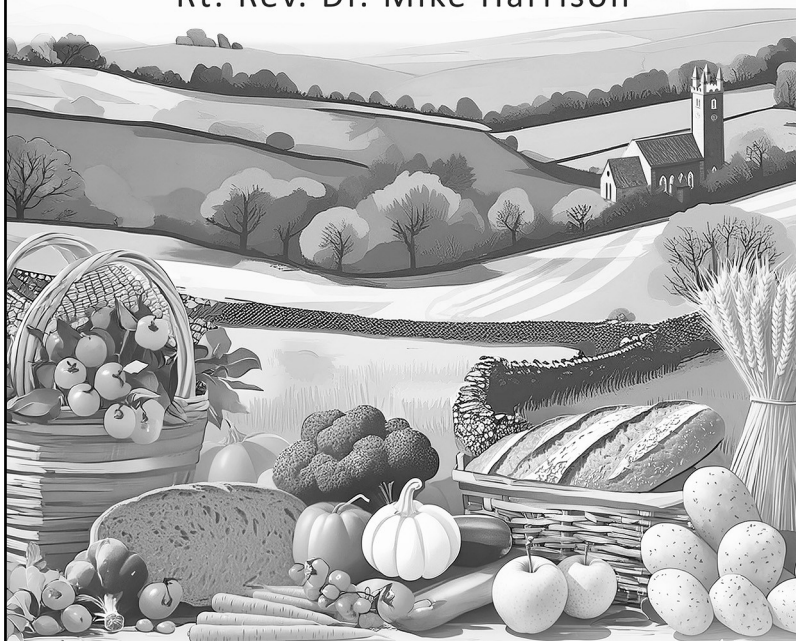
This Year's Charity is still to be decided.

We would really appreciate more volunteer stewards, it is lovely seeing how much people do appreciate all the work that goes into the trees, we work on two hour slots, so please do contact Mary or me if you feel you could spare a couple of hours over the period the trees are in the Church. We normally have two people on at the same time, so maybe come with a friend!

Entry forms will be available in the Church from the beginning of November or from me, Judy Southcombe 01364 641211 judyouthcombe@yahoo.co.uk, or Mary in the Kiosk.

Join us for
HARVEST FESTIVAL

at St. Pancras' Church, Widecombe
Sunday 4th October at 10.30am
with the **Bishop of Exeter**
Rt. Rev. Dr. Mike Harrison



Followed by lunch in Church House
EVERYONE WELCOME!

'Harvest Festival service and lunch in St Pancras'

We are delighted to welcome the Bishop of Exeter, Right Reverend Dr Mike Harrison, to lead our Harvest Thanksgiving service in St Pancras' Church, Widecombe on Sunday 4th October at 10.30 am.

The service will be followed by a lunch in Church House, to which all who attend are invited.

A collection will be taken in aid of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI).

We hope as many of the farming community as possible will attend, as well as all those wishing to celebrate living in this beautiful part of the world and having a chance to meet Bishop Mike

Jazzed up at St Pancras

In St Pancras Widecombe on Sunday 1st November at 4pm Sarah Harris quartet will be bringing us music from The Great American Songbook, with well known hits from the likes of Gershwin, Cole Porter, Berlin and others. Sarah, backed by drums, bass and keyboards, will give us an authentic 30's sound with a modern twist. We'll serve tea and homemade cakes in Church House from 3pm, and the concert will be over by 5.45pm. The Rugglestone Inn is laying on a post concert supper at 6pm and 7.30pm, featuring venison casserole and a starter or dessert and glass of wine for £30. Book now to avoid disappointment: 01364 621327.

Tickets are £15 at the door for unreserved seats, or you can book in advance using this QR code:

Premium reserved seats at the front £20. Email Michael Brown to book;
mikebrown007@hotmail.com

SARAH HARRIS
JAZZ QUARTET

Songs from the great American songbook
 GERSHWIN, COLE PORTER,
 BERLIN AND MORE.

ST PANCRAS' CHURCH,
WIDECOMBE TQ13 7TA

Tickets £15 at the door or online
 Under 14s free
 Scan for tickets and info

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER
 at 4pm
 teas served from 3pm



Widecombe & District Sports Group

For membership renewals please email 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-16s 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.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/sports_group/

Thank you and enjoy your sports area.

Widecombe 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 Widecombe Church House Fund and send to Sarah Reeve,

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

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



THE RUGGLESTONE INN

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Home from home with Cask ales, fine wines, local cider & country food.
Traditional Dartmoor Inn with an inviting atmosphere, all set in
a fabulous beer garden, with moorland brook.

ACCOMMODATION

Rugglestone Cottage set in the grounds of the inn offers two bedrooms,
open plan kitchen / living area and private patio.

Available all year round.

www.rugglestoneinn.co.uk

01364 621327

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Monday Mornings

ASHBURTON Town Hall

Tuesday mornings

BUCKFASTLEIGH St Luke's

Wednesday mornings

ONLINE CLASSES

Thursday mornings

To book a place in class contact: Faith Burch

07952 157585 faithburch1964@gmail.com

Qualified with The Pilates Foundation



Widcombe Parish Council Grant Applications Invited

If you are a community group wishing to be considered for a small grant, please contact the clerk for an application form: clerk@widecombeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Applications should be submitted by

31st October 2026

for consideration in the November
Parish Council Meeting.



WINSTON CHURCHILL'S "BATTLE OF BRITAIN"



MARTIN CHERRETT, AUTHOR OF "WORLD WAR II TODAY" SUBSTACK
NEWSLETTER TELLS THE LITTLE KNOWN STORY BEHIND THE
SPEECHES THAT CHURCHILL MADE IN THE SUMMER OF 1942, ALONG
WITH WORDS PERFORMED BY LLOYD MORTIMORE.

WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER

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

EVERYONE WELCOME

DOORS OPEN 7PM FOR 7.30 START
£5 DONATION

COMING UP NEXT MONTH — ALAN ENDICOTT ON PREHISTORIC RITUAL LANDSCAPES
[PLEASE NOTE THAT TALKS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE]

WIDECOMBE HISTORY GROUP CHARITY NO. 1144884

Christmas

AT THE OLD INN

WIDECOMBE IN THE MOOR

THE OLD INN

WIDECOMBE
IN THE MOOR

Saturday
21ST NOVEMBER
Christmas
LIGHT SWITCH ON!



MORE LIGHTS!



SNOW MACHINE



CHRISTMAS MARKETS



LANTERN PARADE



BRASS BAND



PLUS LOTS MORE!

THE OLD INN IS CLOSING FOR
A MINI FRESHEN UP FROM
MONDAY 5TH OCTOBER,
AND WILL REOPEN ON
FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER AT 7PM
JOIN US FOR OUR REOPENING
WITH TOM BAKER
PERFORMING FOR US!

*Celebrate the magic
of Christmas with us!*

GOOD TIMES, GREAT PEOPLE
AND FESTIVE CHEER!

Thursday
26TH
NOVEMBER

MONTHLY QUIZ NIGHT



Saturday
28TH
NOVEMBER

RHYTHM AND SHOES



Friday
4TH
DECEMBER

THE OLD INNS HOLLY BALL

7.30PM
£10PP INCLUDES HOT BUFFET
AND ENTERTAINMENT



Saturday
5TH
DECEMBER

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!

£12 PER CHILD, INCLUDES
BREAKFAST AND A VISIT TO SEE
SANTA IN HIS SPECIAL GROTTTO!



Saturday
5TH
DECEMBER

SHIRLEY BASSEY TRIBUTE



Sunday
6TH
DECEMBER

RICH COTTELL

2PM



Wednesday
9TH
DECEMBER

WREATH MAKING

£30PP
BOOK EARLY AS THIS
WILL SELL OUT



Thursday
10TH
DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS BINGO!

£10PP



Saturday
12TH
DECEMBER

**WIDECOMBE
CHRISTMAS MARKETS**

10AM - 4PM
NOW TAKING BOOKINGS



Saturday
12TH
DECEMBER

EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

TBC



Thursday
17TH
DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS QUIZ



Saturday
19TH
DECEMBER

**DISCO / KARAOKE
AND CHRISTMAS DRAW**



*Christmas
Day*

OPEN FOR DRINKS ONLY

11-3PM



Thursday
31ST
DECEMBER

**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
WITH BANNED FROM THE MOOR**

£15PP INCLUDES HOT AND
COLD BUFFET



Widcombe Singers

If you want to join the Singers we
rehearse at

**The Church House,
Widcombe**

Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm

Admission £4

Telephone Rose

01364 621444

for more details



Add your voice



**WIDECOMBE SCHOOL
LOTTERY**

**£5 £10 & £15
PRIZE MONEY TO BE
WON EVERY MONTH**

ONLY £2 PER MONTH

To sign up, or for more info
please email:
friendslotto25@gmail.com

EVERYONE CAN JOIN. PLEASE PROMOTE
AMONGST FAMILY AND FRIENDS



Our PreSchool is set in the heart of Widcombe with weekly music, yoga, cooking and lots of exploring and play!

We also have a fantastic sensory garden, space to dig, grow vegetables and pick fruit.

Our outdoor classroom is run every Wednesday in our field nearby where we cook over an open fire, hunt for bugs and swing in the trees!

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 Widcombe exploring the various outside spaces and taking adventure walks around the local fields'

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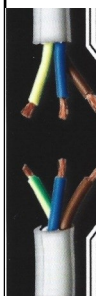
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E:Spikemilontimberservices@gmail.com

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Athletes Foot

Rachel Arrowsmith-Brown

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loads start from £110 for
1.5m

Call Tom or Rachel Arrowsmith-Brown

Home 01822 880005

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 - 4th October at 3pm. Harvest Thanksgiving



Dunstone Lunches

Wednesday 14th October
from 12 noon until 2.30pm.



This month's lunch is for Widecombe Community Hall

Our volunteers work tirelessly to provide a choice of sumptuous, homemade hot dinners, soup, salads, sandwiches and cakes. Please make as generous a donation as possible.

In September we raised **£200.00** for
Living Waters in Borneo and **£90.00** for our Chapel.

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



ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

COFFEE, CAKE & COMPANY

ILSINGTON VILLAGE HALL

MONDAY: 10:30 UNTIL NOON

**21 SEPTEMBER
19 OCTOBER**

**16 NOVEMBER
14 DECEMBER
25 JANUARY**

Join us for tea, coffee & cake
plus lots of chat!



**This is a free event open to everybody
(donations welcomed)**

Shallowford Farm 50th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service



Saturday 17th October 2026 - 2pm - Widecombe Parish Church
Refreshments afterwards at East Shallowford Farm, TQ13 7PW
Guest Speaker - Right Rev Nick McKinnel



Join us as we mark 50 years of
Shallowford and give thanks for the
people, friendships and stories that
have shaped the farm since 1976.

www.shallowfordfarm.co.uk Please RSVP to help us plan





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The Hollies, Avenue Road, Bovey Tracey TQ13 9BQ

Other Community News and Events



High Moorland Women's Institute Princetown

Our WI September meeting was held in the Princetown Community Centre on the 2nd. We had a very interesting and informative talk about Marie Curie and the wonderful work they do helping cancer patients. Our next meeting is at the Community Centre at **7.30 pm on the 7th October** where we will have a go at painting plants with Karen Austin guiding us.

Email: sara.attfield@btinternet.com

If you are interested please message Sara on **07969733828**

National Emergency Briefing

A powerful free film screening featuring **Chris Packham** and 10 leading climate experts.

Roasting summers and wetter, wilder winters are a real and worrying challenge for our communities. The briefing explores the implications of climate change for nature, food systems, national security and the economy.

**Thursday 22nd October
at 7pm**

**Princetown Community Centre
PL20 6QE**

. Free entry and refreshments

Contact:

Luke@highdart.co.uk **07980 632158**

Princetown History Club

meets **1st Tuesday** every month
Princetown Community Centre 7 for 7.30pm

6th October Join Dr David Stone for his lecture on the Black Death on Dartmoor and its effects on our landscape

3rd November Paul Finegan, curator at Dartmoor Prison Museum on Dartmoor's Colourful Prisoners.

For further information, please contact:

Mr. John Lissenden **phone** 01752 47573
email jlissenden@talktalk.net

Mr. Bill Radcliffe

email bill.radcliffe2@btopenworld.com
or <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PrincetownHistoryClub/events>

Ashburton Book Group is looking for new members!

We meet at the Quaker Meeting House in Ashburton on the first Tuesday of the month. We choose a list of books, fact or fiction, for the coming months. On alternate meetings we discuss books we have enjoyed to recommend to other members and sometimes people are happy to lend or give away books. We are a friendly group – you can be any age or gender – you just need to love books!

Our books for the coming months are:

Godmersham Park by Gill Hornby,
Four Thousand Weeks by Oliver Burkeman,
A Town Called Solace by Mary Lawson,
The Land in Winter by Andrew Miller and
The Case for Christ by Lee Strobel.

There is a small charge which goes towards the hire of the room.

Please contact Audrey Ryder on audreyryder@icloud.com for further details or just come along to the meeting.

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ADULT SESSIONS with MED THEATRE

Weekly: Adult Improvisation Group

- ★ Enjoy connecting, playing, exploring and experimenting.
- ★ Learn to let go and be spontaneous.
- ★ Create drama effortlessly through attention, listening and acting before thinking.
- ★ Break through internal barriers such as overthinking and self-doubt.

Monday evenings 7-9pm. **September 7th - October 19th**
Seven session block for £84

Monthly: Healing stories from Dartmoor.

A mixture of monthly, two-hour sessions integrating Dramatherapy and Psychodrama.

- Looking at how local mythical stories from Dartmoor, intersect with our own life stories.
- An introduction to the psychodrama model of theatre in a safe, confidential space.
- **Second Thursday of each month, 7-9pm (First session on Sept 10th)**
- **£140 for four sessions.**

Sessions held at the MED Theatre Studio, Moretonhampstead. To register interest, email Abby on abbystobart@medtheatre.co.uk
If cost a barrier please get in touch.



Growing SPACE



Annual Community Feast & Apple Pressing

Saturday 17th October
3:30 - 6pm
Ashburton Town Hall



Join us for a Feast of Delicious
Autumnal Puddings
Craft Stalls & Live Music.

✦ This is a free event but donations gratefully received towards Moorland Community Caring.

✦ Dietary needs accommodated - just get in touch.

✦ Opens from 3:30pm for Apple Pressing, 4pm for Music, Autumnal Puddings, Craft Stalls and Activities. All ages welcome.



For Updates LIKE Growing Space



JUICE YOUR OWN APPLES

Bring your own apples and bottles to make your own juice - booking essential. Last pressing 5:30pm

growingspaceAsh@outlook.com
text Claire 07919 925 590

Raising essential funds for



www.moorlandcommunitycaring.org.uk

This project is supported by the Methodist Church Community

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

6th Sept.

20th Sept

4th Oct

18th Oct

Film Night

Deadly Disease

Games Night

Spooky Stuff



info: angie@moorlandteam.org.uk

Bovey 'Love Local' Market

Saturday

9th May | 11th July | 10th Oct

10:00 - 15:00

More details on www.missivyevents.co.uk

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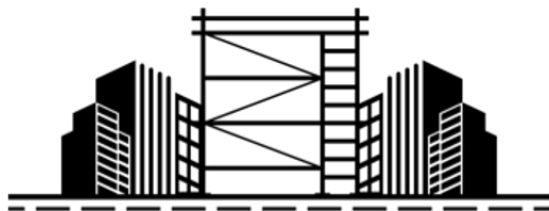
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Tommy - 07863314242 Paul - 07522552611

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It's all about the numbers.

210 miles cycling. 24,000ft of climbing Dartmoor hills. Four days on the road.

Target: to raise £10,000 to enable 180 children to experience a four-day residential at East Shallowford, particularly young people who might not otherwise get the chance to spend time on a working farm and out on Dartmoor. Led by Shallowford trustees Johnny Walker and Ally Kohler each day a small team of cyclists mounted their bikes and set off for the hills.

Day One: 54 miles, plenty of climbing, through Buckfastleigh and Ivybridge before continuing towards Plymouth, Meavy, Princetown, Postbridge and home.

Day Two: A different spin of the wheels. A static bike at Widecombe Fair outside the Shallowford gazebo. Another 50 miles clocked with 30 volunteers and passers-by taking part.

Day Three: There are hills, and then there are hills. Grimspond, Moretonhampstead, Steps Bridge, Exminster, Haldon Hill, home. Another 50 miles.

Day Four: 50-mile Denbury Circuit, with 5,666ft of climbing and a noticeably quicker pace than the rest of the week, and the final long climb home via Trendlebere Down, Manaton and Hound Tor.

Day Five: 11 cyclists for the final day. Postbridge, Mary Tavy, Lydford Gorge and then the Granite Way towards Okehampton. End point: a welcome pint and square meal at the Rugglestone Inn, Widecombe.

Congratulations to the team, and still opportunity to support the giving target:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/shallowford-farm-50>



The Shallowford 50-year celebrations have been a bit of a ride, with the 50+ tree planting in November to come, but next in sight is **Shallowford's 50th Anniversary Service at Widecombe Parish Church on Saturday 17th October**. 2pm for the church service, with refreshments afterwards at East Shallowford Farm. Rev Nick McKinnell will be the speaker, and there will be testimonials representing 50 years of the project at Shallowford.

Meanwhile the 50 stories project continues and each week a new story appears on the website:

[50 Years in 50 Stories – Shallowford Farm](#)

Robert Musgrave



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WEBSITE: [WWW.CLEARDECORATORS.CO.UK](http://www.cleardecorators.co.uk)

Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

Date of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting, 27th October.

See full list of councillors here:

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

Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak during Public Sessions, whether to comment on agenda items, raise issues for future meetings, or simply listen. Agendas and minutes are available on our website:

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

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dartmoorforestpc.net>

Parish Clerk: Abi Horn **Tel:** 07480 834523

email: clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk



Widcombe Sailing Club

Launches the

Winter Regatta!

Back by reasonably popular demand, the Winter Regatta will take place at the Old Inn, Widcombe, on **Friday 22nd January 2027**.

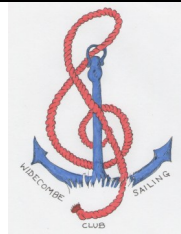
Hot buffet and singing, music, telling stories, poems, jokes

Dust off those stripey teeshirts and knotted hankies, brush up your performing skills!
Don't forget your parrot!

And save the date!

More details from Daf Edwards

07957 280129 dafedwards53@gmail.com



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.**

Agricultural Services

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Architect Services

HMA Architects [8](#)

Mike Gilbert Architectural Design [36](#)

Cleaning & Domestic Services

A Clean Pair [8](#)

Carroll Cleaning Services [34](#)

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Community

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Sam Hall Professional Tree Care [34](#)

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Tutoring

Lauren Miller Tutoring [14](#)

Contacting the Editorial Team

Email items for inclusion or any other queries to: 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 **November 2026** edition of the Link, copy deadline will be*
Sunday 11th October. *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 22nd October.***

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

What a summer we had! The landscape brown and yellow, the sky an unrelenting blue. The never-ending round of slapping on sun cream, watering plants, raincoats and lawnmowers collecting dust... Who would have believed that our bit of Devon could so suddenly turn lush and green again? Just in time for our Harvest Festivals! There must be something about the onset of autumn that makes us think of food, as I see this year we have five harvest festivals, five coffee mornings/lunches, (including the welcome return of the Holne Soup & Pud lunch - see [p9](#)) an apple pressing and feast in Ashburton and the Postbridge mini-market where there is always something to nibble... They're all listed in the Dates for the Diary ([p23](#)).

Speaking of Christmas, (although I wasn't), now is the time to be considering the Christmas tree festival in Widecombe ([p25](#)). We had a fabulous display last December, it would be great to outdo it this year.

Other dates we're flagging up are the opening of the Moorland Merrymakers box office – which, for the matinee only, is this month ([p17](#)) and the closing date for the Small Grants Scheme run by Widecombe Parish Council, which can provide much-needed funds for groups around the parish ([p28](#)).

We would also like to welcome Erica Roberts, our new Pioneer Priest. She has recently moved from Southampton, do read her parish letter ([p3](#)). Her email address appears on the Ministry Team table on [p2](#).

And, finally. This is the last Parish Link produced in Microsoft Publisher, which was retired (like an old warhorse) at the end of September. Debbie, the lead techy person on the Link editorial team has spent endless hours learning the new software so she can guide Fiona and I in creating the next issue. We are unlikely to be foot-perfect so please bear with us and please, **please** get your content to us as early as possible. It would be very helpful if, when sending articles, accompanying photographs, drawings and logos are emailed as separate attachments and are of a high quality.

Thank you!

With Best Wishes

"The Link Team"

Parish Link Advertising Costs

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