

Parish News

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



**Wishing you all a peaceful and
loving Christmas and Happy New Year**



**December 2018
+ January 2019
Price: £1**



South Famar
Mission Community

RECTOR: **Rev Andrew Atkins** **01822 870298**
 The Vicarage, The Parade, Milton Abbot PL19 0NZ;
 Email: revandymiltonabbot@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDENS

Lamerton:	Mike Jefferies	614178
	Ian Minshull	810027
Milton Abbot:	Liz Padmore	870642
	Sandra Dunbar	870218
Dunterton:	Arthur Vigers	870244
Sydenham Damerel:	Margaret Hurdwell	870545
Marystowe:	Barbara Dawe	(01566)784797
	Deborah Asbridge	860378
Coryton:	Richard Searight	860148
	Giles Vicat	860254

PCC SECRETARIES

Lamerton:	Barbara Meikle	617229
Sydenham Damerel:	(Barbara Meikle)	617229
Milton Abbot + Dunterton:	Angie Rodwell	870636
Marystowe:	Guy Talbot	860314
Coryton:	Josie Whitfield	860189

CHURCH TREASURERS

Lamerton:	Mike Jefferies	Church Avenue House, Lamerton	614178
Sydenham Damerel:	Peter Hurdwell		870545
Milton Abbot:	Pat Lovell	2 Fern Meadow, Tavistock	618452
Dunterton:	Gerald Napier	Glebe House, Dunterton	870285
Marystowe:	Guy Talbot		860314
Coryton:	Niel O'Neill		860263

UNITED BENEFICE APPOINTMENTS

Safeguarding Officer	Julie Hibbert	618221
Safeguarding Representatives	Deborah Asbridge	860378
	Josie Whitfield	860189
Vicar's Assigned Administrator	Guy Talbot	860314

MAGAZINE

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

PARISH COUNCILS

	Chairman	Tel.	Clerk	Tel.
Lamerton:	Roger Geake	860224	Ann Cole	810213
Milton Abbot group parish:	Peter Hough		Emma James	07742557982
Sydenham Damerel:	Barry Isaacs	870269		
	Clerk Mike Forster	870752	clerk@sydenham-damerel.org.uk	

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Lamerton C of E	Head Teacher: Melody Sterry	Tel. 613561
Milton Abbot	Head Teacher: Chris Luxford	Tel. 870273

Diary Dates

Event	December dates	January 2019 dates
<i>Coffee Mornings</i>		
Milton Abbot Coffee mornings, Village Hall, 10.30 - 12	1	5
Lamerton coffee mornings, Community Centre, 10.30 - 12	8, 22	5, 19
<i>Bingo</i>		
Milton Abbot, Village Hall, 7.30pm	10	14
Lamerton Community Centre, 8.00pm	11	?
<i>Church events (Services are on pages 7, 43 and 44)</i>		
Taize Service, Sydenham Damerel Church, 7.00pm		15
Messy Church -next session on Friday 1st February		
<i>Fund raising and other events</i>		
Milton Abbot Christmas Community get-together. MA church, 7.00pm	15	
Marystowe Christmas Coffee Morning, 10 - 12noon	1	
St Bridget's church, Bridestowe, Christmas tree festival	8 - 14	
Carols at Lew Trenchard Manor, with Lew Trenchard school choir, 3 - 5.30pm	16	

Magazine deadline for February and March 2019 edition is mid-day, Tuesday 15th January.

Thank you for your timely submissions - they are much appreciated.

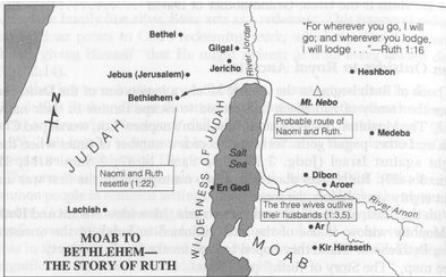
***December and January church services are on the back cover.
Bible Readings are on pages 8 and 9***

The Old Testament book of Ruth



The story of Ruth is a set during a short lull in the violent times of the Judges, when the conflict between the nations of Israel and Moab were in a period of respite.

Ruth is a short book of only 4 chapters and is set in two places: the land of Moab to the east of the river Jordan, and Bethlehem. The theme is one of love and loyalty and of God's care - for everyone who turns to him whatever their situation or nationality.



The story starts at the time of famine, which drives Naomi and her family from Bethlehem to Moab. Her husband and 2 sons die there, leaving Naomi with her two daughters-in-law Orpah and Ruth. Both Ruth and Orpah were Moabites. On hearing that the famine in Judah was over, Naomi returned there but

did not insist that Ruth and Orpah also went to Judah. Naomi in fact pleaded that the women return to their homeland but Ruth decided to stay with Naomi, saying:

'Don't urge me to leave you for wherever you live I will live; your people will be my people and your God my God' (1.16)

So Ruth stayed, eventually marrying Boaz, a relative of Naomi. Ruth had a son called Obed who was the father of Jessie. Jessie's son became, in due course, King David. Thus Ruth is a link between Judah and the Gentile world in the ancestry of Jesus see *Matthew 1.5 -6 and Luke 3.23 - 38*.

Aside from the historical and genealogical contents, the book of Ruth is of great merit and importance because of its ethical teachings. Ruth's refusal to return home to her people in Moab exemplifies the importance of being obedient. God made a promise to Naomi and her people and He was her true God. Also there is a message of redemption - especially in the transformation in the personal situation of Naomi from desperation and poverty to one of hope and security. It is a model of love and commitment and a virtue that should be pre-eminent among Christians today.

The fact that Ruth as a Moabite had her origins outside Israel is particularly relevant - showing that God's love is for all peoples, no matter what their nationality or origin. A pertinent message for us today!

Ian Silcox

Mid-week Holy Communion



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

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



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

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



Dear Friends in Christ,

I think we all enjoy receiving a gift to unwrap at Christmas. I include myself in this respect. But the greatest gift I am given by the Church, each Christmas, is that I have the amazing experience of listening to, or even reading, the first few verses of John's Gospel.

They are as follows:

'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.'

And then:

'And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.'

The Word is that tiny baby, Jesus. God made man. Jesus is the light for all people, for everyone.

Christmas is a time when all of creation paused, when heaven met earth. When a baby was born to a young girl in a stable. This is why we celebrate Christmas. God coming to earth in glory as a baby. The shepherds saw the glory of God in that baby, the wise men saw the glory in that same baby.

So we should try to celebrate Christmas with this in mind. Sometimes we may lose sight of the reason for the celebration, of the immense glory, of the light coming into the world. It does take a little effort to find Christian themed Christmas cards. Recently I heard the strap line for a PC World Curry's advert *'we have everything you need for Christmas.'* – I beg to differ!

We should celebrate Christmas in a way that we are comfortable with. This may well exclude any thoughts of Jesus and the incredible gift of love that God gave us of his only Son, that tiny baby in a manger. I hope and pray that this is not so. We may go and help at a homeless shelter. We may have a great party with friends and family. We may spend the time quietly on our own.

But there are many opportunities to come and celebrate Christmas with your friends and neighbours in our churches. When Christmas comes up in conversation people sympathize with me saying it must be a busy time for a Priest. I agree that it is a busy time, but I will start celebrating Christmas here in Milton Abbot with our first Advent service at Marystowe

on Sunday 2nd December. I will continue with my celebrations until the 11:30 a.m. service at Coryton on Christmas Day, eighteen services later. Then I will pause, have a coffee open some presents with my family before enjoying a quiet meal reflecting on the Word made flesh, of creation pausing and of the love that that tiny baby represents, a love that is here for everyone. Quite a celebration!

With every Blessing this Christmas,

Fr. Andy

Church Services at Christmas



Sunday 23 December, Last Sunday of Advent

<i>Milton Abbot</i>	<i>11.00am</i>	<i>Holy Communion, CW</i>
<i>Coryton</i>	<i>11.15am</i>	<i>Holy Communion, CW</i>
<i>Sydenham</i>	<i>5.00pm</i>	<i>Carol Service</i>
<i>Damerel</i>		

Monday 24 December, Christmas Eve

<i>Milton Abbot</i>	<i>4.00pm</i>	<i>Crib and Carol Service</i>
<i>Marystowe</i>	<i>6.30pm</i>	<i>Holy Communion</i>
<i>Lamerton</i>	<i>11.30pm</i>	<i>Midnight Mass</i>

Tuesday 25 December, Christmas Day

<i>Dunterton</i>	<i>9.30am</i>	<i>Holy Communion, BCP</i>
<i>Coryton</i>	<i>11.30am</i>	<i>Christmas Celebration</i>

BIBLE READINGS (Year C)

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

DATE	1 ST READING	2 ND READING	GOSPEL
Sunday 2nd December <i>Advent 1 (Purple)</i>	Jeremiah 33.14 - 16	1 Thessalonians 3.9-13	Luke 21.25 - 36
Sunday 9th December <i>Advent 2 (Purple)</i>	Baruch 5.1 - 9	Phillippians 1.3 - 11	Luke 3.1 - 6
Sunday 16th December <i>Advent 3 (Purple)</i>	Zephaniah 3.14 - 12	Phillippians 4.4 - 7	Luke 3.7 - 18
Sunday 23rd December <i>Advent 4 (Purple)</i>	Micah 5.2 - 5a	Hebrews 10.5 - 10	Luke 1.39 - 45 (46 - 55)
Tuesday 25th December <i>Christmas Day (Gold or white)</i>	Isaiah 52.7 - 10	Hebrews 1.1 - 4 (5 - 12)	John 1.1 - 14

The readings are ended with ***'This is the Word of the Lord'*** (used during services of HC) or, during other services ***'Here ends the lesson (or 1st reading or 2nd reading)'***.
The response is ***'Thanks be to God'***.

BIBLE READINGS (Year C) continued			
DATE	1ST READING	2ND READING	GOSPEL
Sunday 30th December <i>Christmas 1</i> <i>(White)</i>	1 Samuel 2.18 - 20,26	Colossians 3.12 - 17	Luke 2.41 - 52
Sunday 6th January <i>Epiphany</i> <i>(Gold or White)</i>	Isaiah 60.1 - 6	Ephesians 3.1 - 12	Matthew 2.1 - 12
Sunday 13th January <i>Baptism of Christ</i> <i>(White)</i>	Isaiah 43.1 - 7	Acts 8.14 - 17	Luke 3.15 - 17,21,22
Sunday 20th January <i>Epiphany 3</i> <i>(White)</i>	Isaiah 62.1 - 5	1 Corinthians 12.1 - 11	John 2.1 - 11
Sunday 27th January <i>Epiphany 4</i> <i>(White)</i>	Nehemiah 8.1 - 3, 5, 6, 8 - 10	1 Corinthians 12.12 - 31a	Luke 4.14 - 21

N.B. Readings for Christmas Eve are the same as those for Christmas Day

*'For unto us a child is born,
Unto us a Son is given'*

St Constantine's Church, Milton Abbot



The Flower Festival held to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War 1 produced a church full of beautiful, thought-provoking and moving floral displays. Thanks are due to everyone who gave of their time and talents and to all who came to see the displays. We were particularly impressed by the three displays which were put together by the children and staff of Milton Abbot School. The Festival culminated with a very well attended Service of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday.

At the time of writing we are just drawing breath before our Christmas Craft Day on Saturday

24th November – we hope you will all have had the opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping!

The next event on our calendar is a Festive Community Get-together in the church on Saturday 15th December at 7.00pm. Ellie and Jodie will be singing for us and we will also be singing some carols together; there will be cheese and wine afterwards. Entry will be £7.00.

For further information please contact Angie on 01822 870636.

We look forward to seeing many of you in church at 4.00pm on Christmas Eve when Andy will once again be leading us in our Crib and Carol Service – always a lovely way to start the Christmas festivities with our families.

It has now been decided to reduce the Coffee Mornings to the first Saturday of every month as no further assistance in running them has been forthcoming. Unfortunately this will result in a drop of income for both the Church and the Village Hall but we hope as many of you as possible will join us between 10.30am and 12 noon in the Reading Room on the first Sunday of the month. These mornings will still offer excellent value at £1 for coffee including a refill and biscuits, as well as the chance to have a chat and find out what's going on in the village.

St. Mary's Church, Sydenham Damerel

In past winters 'cosy and warm' would sadly not have described St. Mary's but now the fabulous under-pew heating is installed our visitors can bask in a warm glow without the need for mittens, mufflers and long johns!



The bells of St. Mary's will have a new lease of life, thanks to Mike for his superb rope skills and also Peter and Tom for their triumph at the Eden Project Half Marathon where they raised a considerable sum. We have also received a very generous single donation for one complete new rope. Further contributions to our target of £1,200 remain most welcome.

The celebrated

St. Mary's Carol Service on Sunday 23 December at 5pm

will be a little different this year and include contributions from children. We hope you will come along to join the festive spirit and raise the rafters with your singing. Mince pies, coffee, wine and soft drinks will be served and the entire collection will, as usual, be donated to Shekinah in Plymouth. Shekinah is a Devon and Cornwall based charity providing relief for homelessness, drug and alcohol issues, offending behaviours and mental health problems.



Carol Service St. Mary's Sydenham Damerel 5.00pm 23 December Everyone Welcome

Collection to Shekinah Mission

We at St. Mary's wish you all a merry Christmas and a healthy, peaceful 2019.

Margaret

St Mary's, Marystowe



On Friday, 21st September, an **Antiques Road Show** organised by Margaret Dunn, was held at Lamerton



Community Centre. Everyone brought along an antique, and throughout the evening, Roger Knowles, the auctioneer, valued and spoke about each piece in turn. There was also a raffle, a quiz and an auction, supper and delicious home-made desserts! Our thanks go to everyone who supported this event, which raised a grand total of £1,344 shared equally between Plymouth & Cornwall Cancer Fund and the church.



For our **Harvest Festival**, on Sunday, 21st Oct, the church was filled with beautiful floral displays, some including fruit and vegetables. This joyful service was led by Rosie Woodcock and afterwards, coffee was served. We would like to thank Kamila Mazur-Park for playing the organ, the ladies who decorated the church and everyone for their generous harvest gifts, including a large donation from Ambrosia. All

the dried, tinned and fresh produce, some bedding and money from the collection were again, kindly delivered by John and Barbara Dawe to The Shekinah Mission in Plymouth.

We will be having a **Christmas Coffee Morning** on Saturday, 1st December 10am - 12noon in the Schoolroom at Marystowe Church to raise money for church funds. There will be various stalls, a raffle and also the Post Office, so an opportunity to post your parcels in good time! Do come along and have coffee and your first mince pie!

If you have any **books** you have finished with, please let us know. We are happy to arrange to collect them. Call Barbara Dawe on 01566 784797.

We hope you will join us on Sunday, 16th December at 4.00pm for a **Crib and Carol Service**, suitable for all ages and followed by refreshments. Children may like to come dressed as angels, kings, shepherds or animals. We will also have some costumes for the children to wear on the day. And **on Christmas Eve**, Monday, 24th December at 6.30pm for a **Christmas Communion Service**. Everyone is very welcome!

Deborah Asbridge



St. Peter's Lamerton

The Great Lamerton Quiz was again a great success and raised over £400. Many thanks to Margaret and Dave for organising the evening and providing refreshments and to all of you who came supported us.

The Tractor Day and Country Fair proved as popular as ever and Mike was presented with a cheque on behalf of St Peter's for £750 at a very enjoyable evening at the Copper Penny.

St. Peter's was also the beneficiary of a cheque for £150 as the result of a spectacular fireworks display at the Village Hall which was extremely well attended. Many thanks to all of you who worked to make the evening a success.



Our school commemorated the special Remembrance Day with a parade to the cemetery to put crosses at the War Memorial. Thanks to Rosie for taking the service and to Peter for playing the bugle and for members of the British Legion who joined us. The children made a banner for the Lady Chapel altar at Messy Church with a hundred

poppies on it.

We had a full church for our Remembrance Day service and were able to give the British Legion £350 from the collection.



We hope you will join us for Advent Carols at Collacombe Barton on Friday 30th November. Please see poster for details.

We have lots of services within the Benefice in the days before Christmas - please look at the calendar of services in the magazine. At St Peter's we have our **Christingle Service at 4.00pm on Sunday 9th December**, our **Carol Service on Sunday 16th December at 6.30pm** and **Midnight Mass at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve**.

Your Church Wardens at St. Peter's wish you a happy and holy Christmas.



A CHILD'S FOOTSTEPS TO FAITH

The Gift of Love

In a very popular movie called "The Sound of Music", there is a song called "My Favourite Things." Some of you may have seen the movie and you may know that song. If so, you will remember that the character named Maria sings about her "favourite things." One of the things that she mentions in that song is "brown paper packages tied up with string."



On Christmas morning, we will wake up to find a lot of packages under the tree. Packages wrapped in brightly coloured paper and tied up with pretty ribbons and bows. What if there was one package under the tree wrapped in plain brown paper tied up with string -- and what if that package had your name on it? Would that be the package you would choose to open first? I don't think so! After all, a gift is supposed to come in a beautiful package, isn't it?



You know, perhaps that is why a lot of people have missed out on the gift that God sent to them. You see, God's Gift didn't come in a beautifully wrapped package. God sent Jesus, His only Son, as His gift to us. His mother was a young virgin... his earthly father was a poor carpenter... he was born in a stable. Not a very pretty package, is it? But do you know what? It was the greatest gift the world has ever known. It was the gift of salvation and it had your name on it... and the names of your family ... and the names of your friends... in fact, everyone's name!

The Bible tells us that when Mary found out that she had been chosen to be the one to deliver God's gift to the world, she was filled with joy. She hurried to the home of Elizabeth to share the good news. When Elizabeth heard the news, she exclaimed in a loud voice, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said."

Well, the Lord has fulfilled his promises to us too. He has sent us the gift of His love, but some people are so busy unwrapping the



beautifully wrapped packages that this world offers that they have missed out on the greatest gift. Maybe it is because it came wrapped in brown paper tied up with string.

Dear Father, we are thankful that you loved us so much that you sent your only Son to be our Saviour. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Gift of Love

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"
Luke 1:45 (NIV)



Complete the activity.

The words below have been written in code. Use the hints in the decoder at the top of the page to help break the code (the letters on top are the correct answers, the letters on the bottom are the code). Write the correct word on the line provided beside each code word.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 5-12-9-26-1-2-5-20-8 _____
- 13-1-18-25 _____
- 12-5-1-16-5-4 _____
- 2-1-2-25 _____
- 2-12-5-19-19-5-4 _____
- 16-18-15-13-9-19-5-19 _____
- 10-15-25 _____
- 13-15-20-8-5-18 _____
- 23-15-13-5-14 _____
- 6-21-12-6-9-12-12 _____

ELIZABETH
PROMISES

MARY
JOY

LEAPED
MOTHER

BABY
WOMEN

BLESSED
FULFILL

Lamerton Tractor Day and Country Fair 2018



As a result of the very successful Tractor Day and Country Fair in Lamerton in September the Tamar Valley Vintage Club held the cheque presentation from the proceeds this year's day at the Copper Penny Inn at Chipshop. Many of the volunteers who help make this charity fund raising event possible joined us along with representatives of the charities. After the cheques were presented we found time for Bar Snacks, Beer and Skittles!!

This year we were able to give £750 to each of our four main charities - Bliss, Devon Air Ambulance, Cystic Fibrosis Trust and St. Peter's Church. We were able to give to the Explorer Scouts a cheque for £250 in recognition of the sterling work they do for the show and a cheque for £50 to Chicks.

We would like to thank all our volunteers and visitors for their great support.

*The date for our Tractor Day and Country Fair for 2019 is
15th September*

Lamerton PCC

The next meeting will be on
Tuesday 22nd January at
7.30pm in the Priest's Room,
Lamerton

All parishioners are welcome
to attend



The Virgin Mary, by Anita Townsend



Tuesday 15th January 2019
7:00pm

(There is no planned Taizé service in December)

Sydenham Damerel Church

Please do come and join us for our Taizé services at **Sydenham Damerel Church**. The service will start at **7:00 pm** and will last for around 45 minutes.

Taize worship is a service consisting of Bible readings, prayer, meditative singing and periods of silence. To learn more about Taizé and to listen to some of the music please visit

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

Future Dates:

Tuesday 26th February 2019

If you have any questions please do call Rev'd Andy on:
01822 870298



LAMERTON HANDBELL FESTIVAL 2018



Lamerton Handbell Ringers held their
45th ANNUAL HANDBELL FESTIVAL
on Saturday 13th October

in Lamerton Parish Hall. Yet another very successful event with teams coming from as far afield as Poole, Dorset.

The Lamerton Team opened the evening with “Dambusters March” recognising the Centenary of the formation of the RAF. Other teams taking part were: Inwardleigh Senior and Junior Teams, Horrabridge Primary School known as “Diamonds & Sapphires”, All the Fours from Okehampton, St Dominick, Bere Ferrers, The Clangers from Plympton St Maurice, Pillaton and “Clapper Chaos” from Dorset.

All sections of the competition were very well supported with some excellent ringing throughout. It was so encouraging to see some many youngsters ringing and the Junior Section was hotly contested – in fact the Inwardleigh and Horrabridge Teams shared The Firkins Shield for the best Junior Performance. The Mr & Mrs P Dawe Cup for the best Tune Ringing performance and The Hamlet Trophy for the best “4 in Hand” performance went to “Clapper Chaos” – A team of 4 who were very entertaining. The William Manning Memorial Shield went to The Pillaton team and The D Roy Bould Cup for the team having shown most progress went to “Diamonds & Sapphires”

A lot of entries meant that the Judges had quite a task. We were so pleased to welcome back our judges, Fergus Stracey, Ringing Master at St Andrews Church, Plymouth and so delighted that Jo Hugo was able to come and work with Fergus again. The Pillaton Team were last year’s winners of The Dawe Cup and this year finished the Festival with 4 tunes – Music of the Night, Chariots of Fire concluding with “Pack up your troubles” and Tipperary in commemoration of the Centenary of the ending of the First World War. Allen Benstead from Marlborough presented the awards and the evening concluded with a wonderful supper and Draw.

It is the custom of the Lamerton Team to support a Charity each year and this time money collected from the Festival and leading up to Xmas totalling around £200 to date will be donated to The Triangle Centre which is the Chemotherapy Outreach Centre based at Tavistock Clinic.

The Lamerton Team hosted The Handbell Ringers of Great Britain South West Region’s “Christmas Prelude” in Lamerton Parish Hall on Saturday 17th November, 2018. Another successful event with teams coming from all around the region. Christmas seems to be starting very early!!!! The Peal Ringing team have been invited to take part in The Devon Church Bellringers Carol Service to be held at Buckfast Abbey this year on Sunday 9th December at 3pm and the whole team will be taking part in Lamerton Church Carol Service on Sunday 16th December.

Next year’s Handbell Festival will take place on Saturday 12 October, 2019



Lamerton Sports and Community Centre

As we approach Christmas we can look back on another successful year for your Village Hall. We started with our very popular annual Countryside Quiz thanks to Jenny and her crew. One4The Road gave us music that many of us of a certain age could recognise and appreciate! Thanks to Clive for organising it.

The Duck Race day again brought in a very good income and for the first time we had a dog show thanks to Caroline and team. Andy did the presentation of the prizes for the Fun Run and Shane was back with his water slide - greatly enjoyed by many wet children.

Thanks to Barbara for co-ordinating the Harvest Auction and Supper - and more funds towards our play equipment.

The joint Fireworks Night saw a profit for the Hall, the school and St. Peter's. Many thanks to Chrissie's team for the food and Shane and Ferret for the display.

Many are working away quietly for us. Thanks to Bev and her ladies busy keeping the gardens looking lovely, to our maintenance boys Richard, Martin and Gerald and to Val who keep us in order financially.

Coffee mornings continue and are always very well attended and are a great occasion for the community to get together.

We still have the Christmas Fayre on 1st December to look forward to with the super hamper to be won and our special Christmas Bingo on December 11th.

We are still working towards Phase 3 of providing play facilities for our older children - we will see some progress in the Spring. Many thanks to Lamerton WI for their donation of £500 towards our play equipment fund.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and thank you for your support throughout the year.

TABLE TOP
SALE

Lamerton Village Hall
Saturday 9th February 10am – 1:30pm

Grab a bargain or get rid of your clutter

Good quality second hand books, toys,
clothes, bric-a-brac and much more for sale

Come and browse or grab yourself a Cup of Tea and a Cake
maybe even a Bowl of Soup or a Bacon Roll!

Open to Sellers from 9am – 2 pm
£5 Small Table (3 x 3ft)
£10 Large Table (3 x 6ft)

Tables to be booked in advance.
Please call Chrissy on 07779 514512 or 01822 616965



Funding memories for the
Children of Lamerton School

LUCKY LAMERTON LOTTERY in aid of St Peter's Lamerton

Winning number for October draw = 59
Winning number for November draw = 22

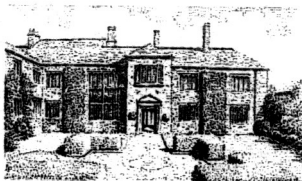
Full terms and conditions are on the Benefice website: www.southtamar.church

The Parish is registered with West Devon Council as a Small Society Lottery



Advent Carols

at



Collacombe Barton

by kind permission of
Mr. and Mrs Forrest

with mince pies and mulled wine

Friday 30th November 7.00pm

Tickets from Angela on
01 822 810 027

Collection for St. Peter's Church



CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 1st December
10am - 12 noon
in the Schoolroom at
Marystowe Church

with stalls & Post Office

Tea, Coffee and Mince Pies
Raffle, Crafts, Cards, Gifts,
Cakes & Preserves

Raising money for Church funds



South Tamar Mission Community

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

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

Our Facebook page: @southtamarmission

e-mail: vicar@southtamar.church

tel: 01822 870298



at **St Peter's Church, Lamerton**

**Crafts • Games • Stories • Drink
A Meal • Fun • Family Time**

This is a free event but donations are welcome

**There will be no Messy Church in December
or January. We meet next on**

Friday 1st February

3:30pm - 5:30pm

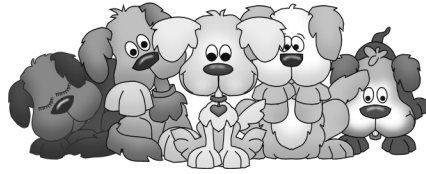
for all the family

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Contact Rev. Andy on: 01822 870298

A Story on the Theme of Compassion

PUPPIES FOR SALE



A sign above a shop read "Puppies for Sale."

Signs like these have a way of grabbing the attention of the children. A small boy, upon seeing the sign, entered into the shop asking; "How much are you selling the puppies for?"

The store owner said - "Anywhere from £30 to £50."

The little boy removed all the money he had from his pocket - "I have £2.37," he said. "Can I please look at them?"

The shop owner smiled and whistled. From the kennel, five cute puppies ran out. One puppy was lagging considerably behind. Pointing at the dog the little boy asked - "What is wrong with that one?"

The shopkeeper explained - "The puppy's hip is damaged. At least that is what the veterinarian said. It will never walk properly again."

The little boy cheered with excitement - "That is the puppy that I want to buy."

"You don't have to buy that dog. You can have it for free."

The little boy was upset. He looked up at the shop owner and said; "I don't want you to give him to me. That dog is worth just as much as the other the puppies. I'll give you £2.37 now, and 50 pence a month until I have fully paid for him."

The shopkeeper replied - "Are you sure you want this dog? It is never going to walk, run or play with you."

The little boy lifted one side of his trousers up exposing his crippled leg supported on a big metal brace. He looked up at the shop owner and softly replied, "Well, I don't run so well myself, and the little puppy will need someone who understands!"



A date for your diary...

Lamerton Quilt Exhibition

Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd
March 2019
at
St Peter's Church,
Lamerton



open 11am-4pm,
free admission and parking

Refreshments and raffle

Proceeds to be divided between the Church,
Brain Tumour Research Campaign and Motor Neurone
Disease Association.

For further information please contact
Rosalind Wiggins 01822 612440.



Cake with a cuppa and a flight down a zip wire!

I would just like to say a great big
thank you to everyone who very
generously helped my friends and I
raise over **£1900** for the
Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy
out patients departments at

Derriford hospital. (Plymouth hospitals charity) The money will go
towards necessary equipment for patient comfort.

Many thanks, Kate Leeves.

Nature Notes by Bluebell – December 2018 and January 2019



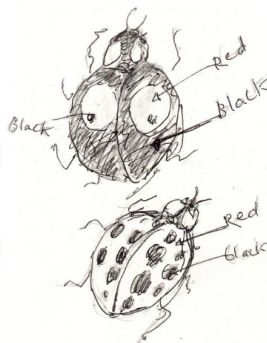
"I stood on a tower in the wet,
And New Year and Old Year met,
And winds were roaring and blowing;
And I said, 'O years, that meet in tears,

Have ye aught that is worth the knowing?"

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

The worst thing that happened to poor Ziggy this year was to be bitten on the throat by an adder. A hard, hot, red and purple swelling, the size of a tennis ball, appeared within twenty minutes, leaking blood and serum, but with no evident wound to be seen. Luckily he survived. An emergency trip to the vet's surgery, painkillers and antibiotics brought down his temperature, blood tests assured us that his blood and vital organs were safe and the poison was contained in the swelling. And after several days the swelling started to subside and two little puncture marks could just be seen.

The cracks and corners of the house are all stuffed with ladybirds this year, there are many little creatures wedging themselves in. They display a great variety of spot patterns: mostly black spots on red wing-cases, five to 21 spots, and some displaying red spots on black wing-cases!



Over Bluebell's homestead two pairs of ravens are sailing fast on the cold east wind. They start courting early with acrobatic flight displays and nest while winter holds Dartmoor in its grip. Despite their mythic association with King Arthur and The Tower of London, they are hated by the farmers for their brutal attacks on young lambs.



Ziggy and Lily put up some of the thousands of local pheasants. They rise with a great clatter of wings, alarm calls, and waving tail feathers. A beautiful little roe deer, confused, moves towards Bluebell, then turns and runs. Gradually the deer's stride lengthens till it seems to bounce twice as high and twice as long as its body, effortlessly and gracefully through the turnip field, pursued by optimistic

springers, gradually falling back (not a hope, but filled with the joy of the chase!).

In the darkest and coldest days of midwinter a baby is born again in a stable, to bring light and love and hope into the world.

Lily and Ziggy and the spirit of Bluebell wish all our readers a Christmas full of joy and peace, and a happy New Year.



GARDEN NOTES BY DOUG

I expect, a bit like me, you're enjoying a break from the gardening chores and looking with interest at illuminated reindeer, glittering stars and jovial Father Christmases, all powered by LEDs, either mains or battery. Some lovely lights available now to keep the garden full of interest in the dark. Such short days and the chilly winds don't tempt one out to the compost heap too often. However, by now you will have finished picking up all the leaves, scarifying the lawn, tidying up your beds and borders, cleaning out the greenhouse and shed, planted your tulips, sweet peas and broad beans, pruned your roses to minimise root rock and have probably just finished pruning the apples and other fruit, and the acer. So, you deserve a break!

Some people cut their borders down to the soil at this time of year and others leave at least the seed heads for the wildlife. In fact, some seed heads can look really smart, especially if they get frosted and then glisten in the sunshine. My phlomis is looking great and won't get cut back until Spring unless it gets blown over, that is.



*Phlomis and
Veronicastrum
seed heads in
late November*



If you want some inspiration as you curl up by the fire with a nice glass of wine – mulled or otherwise – you could read Penelope Lively's book *'Life in the Garden'* published last year. As she says in her introduction, "*this is a book in which fictional gardens act as prompts for a consideration of what gardens and gardening have been for us over time. Why and how do people garden? Why and how have they gardened?*" She considers her own gardens from Cairo as a child to a small urban garden in London where she now lives. Gardens which live in literature from *Paradise Lost* to *Alice in Wonderland* attract her attention. The garden of Manderley, for example, with its neglected rhododendrons entwined with bracken, ivy creeping across the lawns, nettles everywhere, the vanguard of the army, choking the terrace. The garden evokes what might lurk in the house itself. A very good read indeed.

Doug wishes a Happy Christmas to all gardeners - put your feet up!



Christmas Tree Festival
at
St. Bridget's Church, Bridestowe

**Friday 8 Dec to Friday 14
December**

The church will be open from
10am to 7pm every day
Do pop in to look at the trees and enjoy the background music.
It would be lovely to see you.

We will be collecting teddies and other soft, cuddly toys in
good condition for

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to be sent to traumatised and displaced children overseas.
So please bring any redundant furry friends with you.

To find out more please visit
<http://thetteddytrust.wixsite.com>)



Christmas Disco



0-12 years



Saturday 22nd December 2018

5.30-8 pm

At Victory Hall, Lewdown

In aid of Lewdown Playground

Tickets include a gift from Father Christmas himself!

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or Call 01566 783606



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At Lew Trenchard Manor Hotel

Sunday 16th December 2018

3-5.30 pm

Free entry

In aid of the Lewdown Playground

Further info

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Primary School Children

Following from the successful programmes at Lamerton and Launceston Schools, a new team of local volunteers will be performing well known Bible Stories for the Children at Lewtrenchard Church of England Primary School from January 2019.

If successful we hope to be able to bring this lively initiative to other local schools.

The team volunteer their time, but we need books, props, costumes and your prayers!

Please help by:

- ❖ Becoming a member of our team and telling the stories
- ❖ Supporting our stall at Milton Abbot Christmas Crafts with home produce to sell, or come along and buy on the 24th November
- ❖ Donating useful props* and costumes

For more information please call

Anita Townsend 01822 860123

Joy McSmythurs 01822 860630

* Unfortunately we cannot store live whales/lions/sheep/camels or angels

Lamerton Women's Institute

Meetings are at Lamerton Sports and Community Centre, 2.00pm

4 Dec	Carol Service at Exeter Cathedral
11 Dec	Christmas Tea
8 Jan	Resolutions
5 Feb	'The Fire Brigade', presentation

New members are very welcome



Milton Abbot Players Sleighed to Death

**“Christmas is coming
The goose is getting fat
The village hall at Milton
Is where the MAPS are at!”**



Yes the start of the Christmas season is heralded by the Milton Abbot Players annual production in mid-November and is always eagerly anticipated as almost every seat is sold out every night.

So what was this year's offering?. Following last year's successful production written by Peter Gordon it was the prequel to the Inspector Pratt trilogy called Sleighed to Death.

In the tradition of farces it takes place in a large country house in the mid 1930s where people are arriving for a family Christmas get-together. The cast consists of Sir Walter Gates, played by Alan Stone, as the old buffer and his younger wife (or second or third), Grace, who married him for his money, played by Claudine Sparks (in her case much younger) awaiting the arrival of his daughter with her beau who had obviously been an old flame of Grace. The daughter was played by Elizabeth Field who played the part “weally, weally, vewy well” and Patrick Medd as James Washington (ladies watch out!). Sir Walter's brother (deported to Australia at a young age to avoid family problems) arrives to complete the family and always there is Morag McKay, the faithful old family retainer who tolerates the brainless Sir Walter and runs everything. Sally Reid played the part and was brilliant, a marvellous acquisition by MAPS with a wonderful Scot's accent – even if unreal. And then there is Sergeant Pratt (how did he ever get promoted to Inspector) played by Robin Clowes (who else?) with his usual ability to get laughs (even when not meant to!) and his side-kick Constable Potter played by Susan Champion who always knows more than her boss. I feel at this point I should thank two unseen members of the cast who were word-perfect and never missed a line, Sandy Edney and Suzanne Allen, well done.

The plot. Well to be honest what plot? How to get the laughs is far more important. To get the audience laughing what is better than the light coming just before the actor reaches the switch, the phone rings just after someone says “I had better answer the phone” or the gun being shot through the window which takes about three seconds to break. Better than any warm-up man. Pratt who has a sideline in dreadful magic tricks brings his own gun, a recipe for disaster. Can he decide whether an attempted murder has been committed, can he take action to stop a murder. You do not need me to answer that!

The story was a little slow to get going and the jokes were not as widespread through the cast as in some years. No clothes were shed and no bodies were dragged across the stage to ensure that nobody, except the audience, knows where they are.

But, did we enjoy it. Of course we did. The best place to enjoy laughs in November is wherever the MAPS are playing. Just one word of warning If ever you meet someone called Morag McKay with an Australian fiend called Archie who has a dodgy accent, steer well clear of them.

Stage Door Johnnie



Sixteen Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence 25th November - 10th December 2018

Exeter diocese Mothers' Union will be campaigning against gender-based violence during the 'Sixteen Days' period, which runs from 25th November (International Day against Violence against Women and Girls) till 10th December (International Human Rights Day). This is a global annual campaign which is joined in by very many organisations around the world, including the wider church itself in Devon. Archbishop Justin Welby has described gender-based violence as 'one of the worst evils in the world'. One in four women are victims, or survivors, of sexual violence and domestic abuse. Mothers' Union will be holding two Silent Protests against it. The first will be on Saturday 24th November, from 11 am till noon, in the Mill Walk in Bideford and the second will be on Tuesday 27th November, again from 11 am till noon, outside St. Stephens Church, High Street, Exeter. These protests will be seen by thousands of people. Mothers' Union members and others if they wish will sit silently beneath a long banner describing the campaign, holding placards which make statements about how this crime affects various people. Other volunteers will talk to anyone who wishes to and will give out leaflets. If you would like simply to come and support them, enjoy a coffee or a mince pie, you will be adding your own valuable witness to these important events.

Thank you.



WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD OR VULNERABLE ADULT?



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

Your Benefice Safeguarding Representative is:

Julie Hibbert

Contact: **01822 618221**;

Email: safeguarding@southtamar.church

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

Email: vicar@southtamar.church

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



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From the editor's desk ...

Deadline for the February + March 2019 issue is

Tuesday 15th January 2019

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

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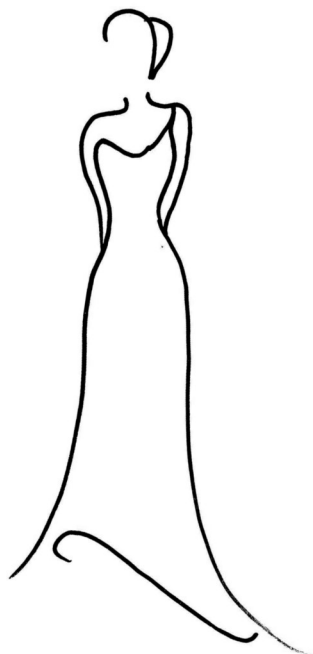
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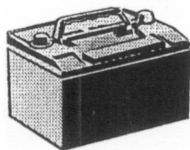
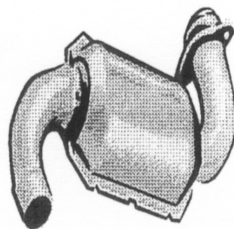
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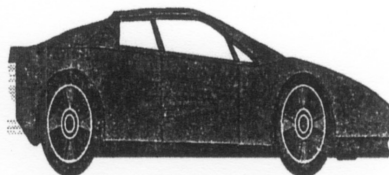
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Before the ice is in the pools
by
Emily Dickinson

Before the ice is in the pools
Before the skaters go,
Or any check at nightfall
Is tarnished by the snow

Before the fields have finished,
Before the Christmas tree,
Wonder upon wonder
Will arrive to me!



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EVERY THURSDAY

Tavistock Bedford Square	0945	Tavistock Bedford Square	13.30
Tavistock Hospital	0948	Tavistock Hospital	1332
Lamerton Blacksmith's	0954	Lamerton School	1339
Milton Abbot Edgcumbe Arms	1000	Chillaton Square	1348
Launceston Westgate arr. dep.	1020 1023	Launceston Westgate arr. dep.	1413 1415
Chillaton Square	1050	Milton Abbot Edgcumbe Arms	1432
Lamerton School	1101	Lamerton Blacksmith's	1438
Tavistock Hospital	1106	Tavistock Hospital	1444
Tavistock Bedford Square	1109	Tavistock Bedford Square	1446

OAKLEY'S COACHES - 121 TAVISTOCK - MILTON ABBOT - TAVISTOCK

FRIDAYS (except bank holidays)

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

CHURCH SERVICES

January 2019

Day	St Mary M. Sydenham Damerel	St Peter's Lamerton	All Saints' Dunterton	St Constan- tine Milton Abbot	St Mary the Virgin Marystowe	St Andrew's Coryton
Weds 2nd Jan	10.00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 6th Jan <i>Epiphany</i>	:	6.30pm Even- song			9.30am HC CW	
Weds 9th Jan	10.00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 13th Jan <i>Baptism of Christ</i>	10.30am HC CW			11.00am HC CW		11.15am Matins BCP
Tues 15th Jan	7.00pm, 'Taize Service' St Mary's church, Sydenham Damerel					
Weds 16th Jan	:	10.00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton				
Sunday 20th Jan <i>Epiphany 3</i>		11.00am HC CW			9.30am Family Service, Morning Praise	
Weds 23rd Jan	10.00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 27th Jan <i>Epiphany Sunday 4</i>	6.30pm Songs of Praise	9.30am Family Service		11.00am HC CW		11.15am HC CW
Weds 30th Jan	10.00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					

CHURCH SERVICES

December 2018

Day	St Mary M. Sydenham Damerel	St Peter's Lamerton	All Saints' Dunterton	St Constan- tine Milton Abbot	St Mary the Virgin Marystowe	St Andrew's Coryton
Sunday 2nd Dec <i>Advent 1</i>		6.30pm Even- song			9.30 HC by ext. CW	
Weds 5th Dec	10.00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sunday 9th Dec <i>Advent 2</i>	10.30am HC CW	4.00pm Christ- ingle		11.00am HC CW		11.15am Matins CW
Weds 12th Dec	10.00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
Sat 15th Dec	6.00pm Coryton Carol Service					
Sunday 16th Dec <i>Advent 3</i>		6.30pm Carol Service			4.00pm Crib and Carol Service	
Weds 19th Dec	10.00am Holy Communion Priest's Room at St Peter's Lamerton					
23 to 25 Dec	Church services for Christmas see page 7					
Sunday 30th Dec <i>Christmas 1</i>	10.30am United benefice Service Morning Praise at Sydenham Damerel					