

# Moorland Parish Link



**April 2021**

Church and Community Magazine of The Moorland Team

# The Ministry Team

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<i>Methodist Minister</i> <b>Revd Kevin Hooke</b>		01626 832369 hookekp@hotmail.com

## **Safeguarding:**

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

*Moorland Team Safeguarding Adviser - Judy Southcombe 01364 621520*

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

**Moorland Team Website:** [www.moorlandteam.org.uk](http://www.moorlandteam.org.uk)

## **Table of Contents**

The Ministry Team	2	St Gabriel, Postbridge	23
Safeguarding	2	Church Services for April 2021	24
The Parish Letter	3	Holy Communion Midweek & Home	25
Churchwardens	4	Dates for the Diary	25
Moorland Team Officers	4	St Pancras, Widcombe-in-the-Moor	29
Church News & Events	5	Dunstone & Poundsgate Chapels	39
St Mary the Virgin, Holne	11	Other Community News & Events	41
St Raphael, Huccaby	15	Rainfall	45
St John the Baptist, Leusdon	19	Final Word	47

Something happened on that first Easter Day two thousand years ago. Something that has inspired and motivated millions of people ever since; motivated them to try and behave differently, to make the world a happier, safer and more loving place. These people found a release from their misery and oppression, became determined to make amends for mistakes they had made, and having started to lead a different kind of life, found joy and fulfilment and peace, which spread to those around them. They became Christians, followers of Jesus Christ who was killed on the cross for nothing he did wrong.

What happened? Well, all we really know is that dozens of people encountered Jesus after his death in a mysterious way – they saw him, met him, and then he “vanished from their sight”. They had an incredibly personal experience of encounter that transformed them from depressed mourners to joyful followers. Writing as a scientist (which I am), I know that the experiences that people had were unrepeatable and very personal. They had a spiritual experience that somehow inspired them to continue Jesus’ work of challenging injustice and improving their own behaviour, trying to live up to Jesus’ example. They felt they had been given another chance, something so personal that it couldn’t be bottled, any more than you can bottle the feeling of falling in love!

Today I come across many people who say “I can’t believe any of that stuff” They try and disprove the event by saying “that can’t have happened”, but then ignore the result – the result being a whole lot of people living a new life, and that did happen! The disciples were transformed, were empowered, were changed almost beyond recognition, and they couldn’t stop telling other people about it. Even when threatened with prosecution and death, they couldn’t stop enthusing about what Jesus had done!

In recent years, some of the most powerful and dramatic stories of people coming to a Christian faith are stories of prisoners who are serving long sentences for terrible acts of violence or assault. Some such people find a release and a fresh beginning by acknowledging the hurt they caused their victims, and discovering that they are hurting too, with guilt and shame unable to be hidden any longer. Perhaps a Chaplain lays hands on them and they find an enormous relief and peace in becoming a Christian, becoming determined to make amends and apologise, and often setting out to try and dissuade others from being drawn into the same criminal life.

*Continued on page 5*

## Churchwardens

St Mary the Virgin, Holne with St Raphael, Huccaby			
Gillian Parker	Thimble Hall, Hexworthy, PL20 6SD	01364 631507	gillianp1992@gmail.com
Anthony Parker	as above	as above	anthonyfp999@gmail.com
St John the Baptist, Leusdon			
Geoff Bamsey	26 Old Manor Close, Holne Cross, TQ13 7JF	01364 652820	geoff.bamsey486@gmail.com
Patrick Simpson	Spitchwick Manor, Poundsgate, TQ13 7PB	01364 631209	admin@bennah.co.uk
St Gabriel, Postbridge			
Annie Smerdon	4A Oaktree Park, Sticklepath, EX20 2NB	01837 840201	gerald.postbridge@btconnect.com
Wendy Watson	Middle Merripit Farm, Postbridge, PL20 6TJ	01822 880215	wendy@merribridge.plus.com
St Pancras, Widecombe			
Michael Pascoe	Wooder Bungalow, Widecombe, TQ13 7TR	01364 621333	pascoewooder@yahoo.co.uk
St Andrews, Ashburton			
William West	Tawstock, Knowle Close, Ashburton TQ13 7RA	01364 652666	william1208west@me.com
Francis Parffrey	Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton TQ13 7EA	01364 654067	francis.parffrey@gmail.com
St Mary the Virgin, Bickington			
Peter Warren	Rentor, Bickington	01626 821213	pw.rentor@gmail.com
St Peter, Buckland in the Moor			
Stephanie Palk	Halshanger Manor, Ashburton	01364 652430	stmp7@tiscali.co.uk

*For all editorial information - copy date, contact details etc. please see inside back cover.*

**BENEFACTICE OFFICE** - Cassie will be in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. She will be working remotely on Thursdays. Office hours are 9.00am - 1.00pm. Telephone **01364 654280 / 07445 240 133** or email: **admin@moorlandteam.org.uk**

**PARISH OFFICE** - Email: **parishoffice1@tiscali.co.uk**

## Moorland Team Officers

Treasurer	Francis Parffrey	Hillcrest, Bowden Hill, Ashburton TQ13 7EA	01364 654067	francis.parffrey@gmail.com
Secretary	Gillian Parker	Thimble Hall, Hexworthy, PL20 6SD	01364 631507	gillianp1992@gmail.com
Safeguarding Adviser	Judy Southcombe - 01364 621520		judysouthcombe@yahoo.co.uk	
Team Administrator	Cassie Long - 01364 654280		admin@moorlandteam.org.uk	

# Church News & Events

*(Continued from page 3)*

But I am even more cheered by the undramatic, day by day acts of kindness and love by quiet people who are trying to do their bit to make the world a better place. I believe that in everyone there is a desire to do good, but it turns out to be remarkably hard! For instance we discover that despite our best efforts we still upset people, that good intentions still fade away. Which is why Jesus' message and inspiration is about receiving forgiveness and having a fresh start, time and time again. Then thanking God that he loves us even when it all goes wrong. Drawing on the source of world-changing energy that powered Jesus – that of knowing that he was loved by God.

Easter Day was the start of all this. From Easter springs the joy of a fulfilled life. The joy of healed feuds. The joy of new life springing up. Easter is a day that will always be celebrated by everyone who has caught even a glimpse of Jesus' love.

*With every blessing*

*Geoffrey*

## From the Registers

There are no register entries

## Moorland Parish Link Online

This edition of the Moorland Parish Link (and previous editions) can be downloaded using the following links:

<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/news.htm>

[https://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/parish\\_link/index.php](https://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/parish_link/index.php)

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#### Some things to do in April ...

- NB Gardening boosts our immune systems!
- Weed & feed; tidy & deadhead daffs
- If dry (!) mow with blades set high
- Plant shrubs & divide perennials
- Prune ..
  - Forsythias
  - cut back silver leaved shrubs
- Plant spuds & sow leeks, fennel
- When warmer, plant sweet peas
- Feed berries & currants

01364 621386

Andy

## Churches Open

Our churches are open for services & private prayer. Opening times vary:

St Andrew's, Ashburton	Daily, 10.00am-4.00pm
St Mary the Virgin, Holne	Daily, 10.00am-4:30pm
St Raphael's, Huccaby	Daily, 9:30am-5:30pm
St Peter's, Buckland-in-the-Moor	Daily
St Mary the Virgin, Bickington	By appointment – 01626 821213
St Pancras, Widecombe	Daily 9.00am-5.00pm
St John the Baptist, Leusdon	Daily 9.00am-5.00pm
St Gabriel, Postbridge	Daily

## Services in April

There is a choice of worship across the benefice with services taking place in some of our churches together with online worship.

Please check the website [www.moorlandteam.org.uk](http://www.moorlandteam.org.uk) and Facebook pages, **The Ashburton and Moorland Team** <https://www.facebook.com/moorlandteam> and **Ashburton All Age Church** <https://www.facebook.com/Ashburtonallage>, for the latest updates.



## An hour of quiet reflection at Postbridge Church

The monthly services that will return to the church one day can be found on:

<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/p.htm>

They can be used at any time, in particular if you are feeling you need a time of quiet in these challenging days.

*Geoffrey*

More information from Revd Geoffrey Fenton, Widecombe Vicarage, 01364 621334

## Baby Group Two has started.

Are you having a baby in the summer?

We want to hear from you.

Baby Group 2 will initially be by Zoom, but we are hoping to expand it to **live meetings** as soon as the government allows.

Can you share this advert with anyone you know who is having a baby?

We have 4 new Mums so far who live locally around Ashburton. It would be lovely to link up with other expectant Mums.

We have had one **Zoom meeting so far it was exciting to meet each other.**

As people are working still we are varying the time we meet to suit as many as possible. Suggested times are an evening and sometimes 2pm. **Please join us and tell us what time would suit you.**

Please contact Jane for a link for the next Zoom or text Jane so she can join you to the WhatsApp group. **Jane 07850 974 286 mobile.**

**Jane's email [jashton@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:jashton@globalnet.co.uk) 01364 654 067 landline**



# Messy Church April 2021

## What is happening this month?

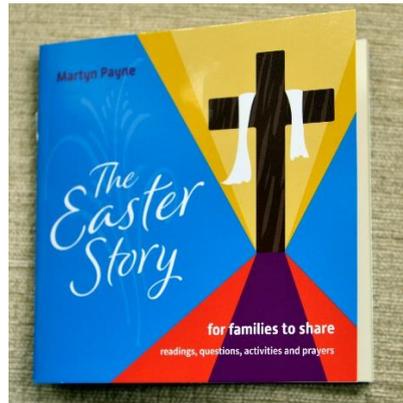
March has come and gone. It is hard to believe that on **March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020** we worried about closing Messy Church. We were the second activity using the Hall to cancel their activity. We didn't want to overreact!! Since then, we have had to come to terms with a lot of changes; none of us dreamed we would still be unable to hold regular Messy Church Meetings. On last month's Messy Church Zoom meeting Simeon asked me with a twinkle in his eyes "How are we going to have our meal together?" Another helper said to me recently.... "I can't believe how much I miss seeing everyone and coming to Messy Church. **"The good news is we hope that in May we will be able to hold some sort of Messy Church in the open air.** This all depends on what happens in the next few weeks. Please join me in praying to God asking him to inspire us and help us to get back together and share that meal soon.

**In April** we are sending out by post a book called **"The Easter Story for families to share"**. It has stories to read, questions, activities, and prayers for families to enjoy. Norma is writing a message to go in the books with our love. The books will arrive a week before Easter Sunday. This is our Easter present and it is April's Messy Church offering jammed full of ideas for all the family to do over the Easter Holidays.

In **March** we told the **Parable of the Mustard Seed**. This proved immensely popular. We sent out Mustard seeds to grow ....and they did!! Oh, Jane you are a doubting Thomas. All enjoyed the gliders - at least one flew into a hedge!!

**Matthew 13: 31-33** We all laughed at the Zoom meeting as we shared our efforts at making a latex glove inflate with the gas given off by the Yeast Experiment. Then we sang along to the children's song "Grow, Proclaim and Serve." Talking about our faith growing like seeds and yeast.

In Faith, Hope and Joy I pray that Messy Church may restart safely soon. Jane



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# St Mary the Virgin, Holne

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

**Church Services - see Page 24 for details**

Date	Time	Service
1st April	18:00	Maundy Thursday Institution of Last Supper at Huccaby
4th April	10:30	Easter Communion
11th April	-	
18th April	-	
25th April	17:00	Holy Communion

## St. Mary the Virgin, Holne - Open for private prayer

St. Mary the Virgin, Holne is now open daily for private prayer between **10.00am** and **4.30pm**.

Measures to be able to 'pray safe - stay safe' have been put in place and we hope that visitors will find peace and inspiration within the church.

Thank you to the ladies who have decorated the church with flowers and to those who have taken the responsibility for keeping the building clean and safe.

## Holne Garden Group

We have been thinking hard about the Garden Club and our much missed outings. It may be a long time before we can go out by coach again, but how about half day outings, by car, to nearby places where we can walk in beautiful surroundings and chat with our friends from a safe distance? We are getting together a short list, something to cheer the long dark days of winter. Please email Judy to add your suggestions.



If you are interested, get in touch, or we will contact you all you after Christmas. In the mean-time, very best wishes to all.

Gill Gray [gill@priddons.co.uk](mailto:gill@priddons.co.uk) 01364 631111 and  
Judy Le Marchant [judylemarchant@btinternet.com](mailto:judylemarchant@btinternet.com) 01364 644099.

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## HOLNE VILLAGE HALL SOUP & CHEESE LUNCH

**Lunches are cancelled  
until further notice**

## Whist Drives

are held in Holne Village Hall  
**All Whist Drives are cancelled until  
further notice.**



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## HOLNE VILLAGE HALL

At a recent review of the current status of the hall, the Committee have taken the decision that the hall will remain closed for the time being. .

We will review the situation in April or May 2021.

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Peter Bellamy [Joint Chairman HVHMC].

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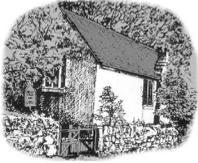
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# St Raphael, Huccaby

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

**Church Services - see Page 24 for details**

St.Raphael, Huccaby is open **daily between 9.30am and 5.30pm**

## Snowdrop Report 2

We are now at the end of the snowdrop season and we are delighted to report that over £1,700 has been donated, which is amazing! There are still snowdrops waiting to be collected when travel restrictions are lifted, but we are so grateful for the generosity of our supporters.

Here are some further stories from people who ordered snowdrops. The first is from Father Jeremy Hellier, who some may remember:

*Great to see the article about St Raphael's in the Church Times. I was the Team Rector of the Moorland Team Ministry from 1989-1994. During my time it was well used. Regular worship, a healing group meeting monthly and used for soup lunches during Lent. I also recall taking a wedding there and often playing the harmonium. We left it open 24/7 and travellers occasionally slept there which we considered was all part of its ministry.*

A Chaplain from Torbay Hospital rang and described how she was putting together videos, articles, and other resources to use when she visited patients and the house-bound who were unable to enjoy walking or visiting the Devon countryside. She had seen the video on the Diocesan website about St. Raphael's Chapel and the snowdrops and wanted to use it.

We were able to supply other videos and photographs to help her put a package together. It was also a wonderful opportunity to talk about the work that all the staff were doing at the hospital and the tremendous pressures they were under. Even though things are improving at the time of writing – they still need our prayers.

*Continued on page 17*



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(Continued from page 15)

Finally, following Tony's early morning contribution to Radio Devon, we had a call from a very elderly lady who wanted some snowdrops. Her story was that as a child, she had been extremely ill with measles. One morning she woke up to find a vase of snowdrops which her mother had placed by her bed. To her, snowdrops were a special memory of her mother.

As it was Valentine's Day, we decided to take some pots to her while the plants were in flower as she was unable to collect them. Her delight on receiving them was a very humbling moment.

God's creation is a wonderful thing, and we must continue to care for, and preserve it in all its forms and glory for future generations.

*Gillian*

The St. Raphael snowdrop video can be viewed at:

<https://exeter.anglican.org/st-raphaels-healing-snowdrop-ministry/>





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### Pottery Classes with Kate Lyons-Miller

I have recently been able to re-start my pottery classes at Holwell Studio, Widecombe in the Moor. Very small groups of 2/3, masks are worn and we do all we can to be Covid aware.

The classes are informal and friendly, handbuilding, but a kick wheel is available. Suitable for all ages and abilities, wheelchair friendly, except perhaps for access to the compost loo. I encourage experimentation, the only limits are the kiln sizes.

The sessions run on **Thursday, Friday and Saturdays, 10-12.30, or 2.00-5.00, and cost £20.00**, which includes first firing and basic materials, and of course, tea/coffee and biscuits, potters essentials. There is more information on my website, [www.katelyonsmiller.com](http://www.katelyonsmiller.com)

I'm very happy to say that I have just been selected as a member of The Devon Guild of Craftsmen at Bovey Tracey.

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# St John the Baptist, Leusdon

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

**Church Services - see Page 24 for details**

Date	Time	Service
4th April	12:00	Easter Communion
11th April	12:00	Holy Communion
18th April	12:00	Holy Communion
25th April	12:00	Holy Communion

## Leusdon Church - Information and Support

Please let someone know if for any reason you are feeling low or you need some help. There are lots of people in our community who are offering support for shopping or collecting something, or a listening ear – someone to talk to.

### Useful phone numbers:

Revd Geoffrey Fenton

01364 621334

[geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk)

Widcombe Post Office

01364 621347 Basic food and veg

### Useful web sites:

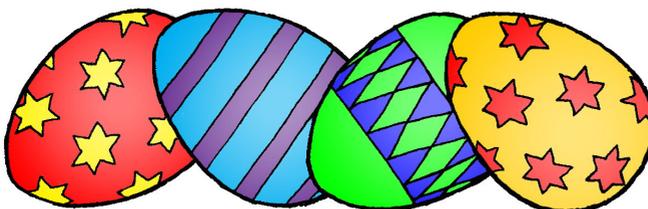
<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/l.htm>

A short cut to Leusdon Church page, including links to the weekly Sunday Service and the latest Link Magazine

<https://widcombe-in-the-moor.com/support>

Lots of isolation support and ideas – including online activities and learning

*Do keep safe! And do keep in touch – phone someone every day!*

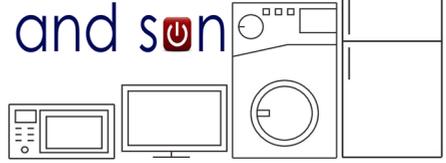


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## Coffee Morning and Stalls

We hold our Coffee & Stalls on the first Wednesday of every month.

It is a great opportunity for a community to get together for a couple of hours, and buy our homemade preserves including Marmalade, Jam and Chutney. Also great selection of books at assorted prices, puzzles, bric a brac and nearly new clothes. Raffle. Local meat stall from 'Meat Dartmoor'.



### Coffee Mornings cancelled until further notice

10-12 Admission £1.50 (includes tea/coffee etc)



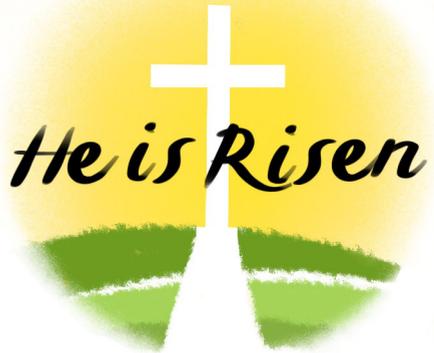
## Hiring Leusdon Memorial Hall

The Hall can take up to 100 people for functions or events. Inside there is a large, well equipped kitchen with plenty of worktop space.

Outside parking is available for many vehicles. Level access for wheelchairs and the less able-bodied.

Hire Rates: £8 per hour

For more information or booking contact  
Amanda on 01364 631432



## Whist Drive Dates

At Leusdon Memorial Hall

All Whist Drives are cancelled until further notice.





# Local people on the phone

## Get together without leaving home

Weekly activity programme - no internet required

### Morning 11am

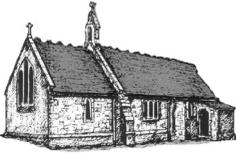
- M** **Crossword and coffee**  
**O** Wake up your brain cells to start  
**N** the week. You bring the coffee  
 and we bring the clues
- T** **Memory Lane - Sharing stories**  
**U** tall and wide about lives, loves  
**E** and little things lost in the wash.  
 New theme each week
- W** **Music Appreciation**  
**E** Explore and enjoy classical music  
**D** with the conductor of the Torbay  
 Symphony Orchestra
- T** **Quizzers Quiz**  
**H** Pit your wits against our quiz  
**U** master, with plenty of chat for a  
 sociable session
- F** **A Well-being Moment**  
**R** Chair based movement and  
**I** relaxation followed by a  
 nourishing visualisation

### Afternoon 2.30pm

- All About Dartmoor**  
 Fascinating informal talks about  
 everything Dartmoor. History,  
 wildlife, folklore, memories
- Seated Exercise**  
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 through the whole body whilst  
 seated in your favourite chair
- Poetry Listen in or bring your own**  
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 read, share and enjoy
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 choice questions to jog the memory
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Dial in for a sociable atmosphere any day of the week with our friendly hosts. Talk or listen, it's up to you.  
 All calls last 45 minutes. Free with a day time call plan or charged at standard rate without.

Call Sara or Suzy to find out more: **01364 712013**



# St Gabriel, Postbridge

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

Church Services - see Page 24 for details

## Postbridge Church - Information and Support

Please let someone know if for any reason you are feeling low or you need some help. There are lots of people in our community who are offering support for shopping or collecting something, or a listening ear – someone to talk to.

### Useful phone numbers:

Revd Geoffrey Fenton

01364 621334

[geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk)

DFPC Covid 19 Support Volunteers

01822 258549 (Steve Cox)

Postbridge Stores

01822 880201 Food, veg, etc

### Useful web sites:

<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/p.htm>

A short cut to Postbridge Church page, including links to the weekly Sunday Service and the latest Link Magazine

<http://www.dartmoorforestpc.net/>

Lots of isolation support and ideas – shops, deliveries, contacts, etc

*Do keep safe! And do keep in touch – phone someone every day!*



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# Church Services for April 2021

<b>1st April</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>						<b>Purple</b>
<i>Readings - Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35</i>							
Huccaby	18:00	Institution of Last Supper					
<b>2nd April</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>						<b>Purple</b>
<i>Readings - Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42</i>							
Widcombe	15:00	Good Friday Reflection	GF	Ashburton	10:00	Prayer Stations	
				Ashburton	11:30	All Age Service	
<b>4th April</b>	<b>Easter Day</b>						<b>White</b>
<i>Readings - Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12</i>							
Widcombe	10:30	Easter Communion	GF	Bickington	09:00	Easter Communion	
Holne	10:30	Easter Communion		Ashburton	10:30	All Age Communion	
Leusdon	12:00	Easter Communion	GF	Buckland	11:00	Easter Communion	
<b>11th April</b>	<b>Easter 2</b>						<b>White</b>
<i>Readings - Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21; Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31</i>							
Widcombe	10:30	Holy Communion	GF	Ashburton	10:30	Parish Communion	
Leusdon	12:00	Holy Communion	GF				
<b>18th April</b>	<b>Easter 3</b>						<b>White</b>
<i>Readings - Zephaniah 3:14-20; Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48</i>							
Huccaby	09:00	Holy Communion		Ashburton	10:30	Parish Communion	
Widcombe	10:30	Holy Communion	GF	TBC	14:00	Moor Church (All Age)	
Leusdon	12:00	Holy Communion	GF	Buckland	15:00	Holy Communion	
<b>25th April</b>	<b>Easter 4</b>						<b>White</b>
<i>Readings - Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:9-13; Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18</i>							
Widcombe	10:30	Holy Communion	GF	Ashburton	09:00	Breakfast Church	
Leusdon	12:00	Holy Communion	GF	Ashburton	10:30	Parish Communion	
Holne	17:00	Holy Communion					
<b>2nd May</b>	<b>Easter 5</b>						<b>White</b>
<i>Readings - Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4 or Genesis 22:1-18; Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8</i>							
Widcombe	10:30	Rogation Service	GF	Bickington	09:00	Holy Communion	
Leusdon	16:00	Evening Prayer	GF	Ashburton	10:30	Family Service	

**These are the services planned for April, subject to any changes in Covid rules.**

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 contact Mark or  
 Geoffrey.

*(see page 2 for contact details)*

### Mid-week Communion

Wednesday 7th April	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 14th April	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 21st April	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 28th April	Ashburton	10:30	
Wednesday 5th May	Ashburton	10:30	

### Key to Service Leaders

MR	Revd Mark Rylands	SS	Steve Sheldon	JA	Revd John Andrews
AR	Revd Mandy Rylands	DW	Revd David Witchell	HL	Heidi Lewis
GF	Revd Geoffrey Fenton	SLW	Simon Le-Pine Williams	KH	Revd Kevin Hooke
JG	Revd John Good	WW	William West	JAsh	Jane Ashton
AK	Anthony Kyriakides	CA	Chloe Axford		

### Should I wear a face covering in a church building?

Face coverings are currently mandatory in places of worship. While there are exemptions **this is a legal requirement.**

For further guidance review the **Who Needs to Wear a Face Covering During Services** section at <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

### Dates for the Diary - April 2021

There are no events to report					

# Clear Decorators

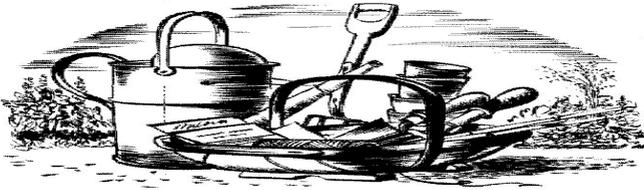
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[Jeanavery2010@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Jeanavery2010@hotmail.co.uk)



## Postbridge Whist Drives - Held in the Village Hall

**All Whist Drives are cancelled until further notice.**



Learners are especially welcome. Entrance fee of £2.50 to include refreshments and prizes.

Contact: Jackie Gee, Bungalow 2, Dartfordleigh, Postbridge, Yelverton, PL20 6TJ.

Tel: 01822 880224

## High Moorland Women's Institute Princetown



If you would like to be a part of a hugely respected organisation, come along to one of our monthly meetings for a taster to see if WI is for you. We meet on the **first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Community Centre small hall Princetown**. It will cost you £3. You are welcome to attend two meetings as a taster. We are a fun group of mixed age range ladies and we do have a good laugh. Do come and see what we get up to.

**All meetings are cancelled until further notice**

If you would like to know more about High Moorland Women's Institute or details of the events listed above, please drop Helly an email on [hellyhtsn@hotmail.com](mailto:hellyhtsn@hotmail.com) or follow us on Facebook: High Moorland Women's Institute.

## Princetown History Club

Apr 6th - A talk by Terry Faull on "Holy Wells of Cornwall" via Zoom

May 4th - A talk by Barbie Thompson on "George McGrath, Princetown's forgotten surgeon" via Zoom

If it becomes possible to return to the Community Centre before any of the above, we will do so.

Jun 1st - A walk around Moretonhampstead, with Gary Cox

Jul 6th - Exploration of Yennadon Down, with Liz Miall (or Simon Dell)

Aug 3rd - A visit to Whiteworks, with Andy Crabb, DNPA archeologist.

Sep 7th - A talk on "Stone Men" (hopefully back in the Community Centre) by Paul Rendell

Oct 5th - A talk on "The Trendle, Tavistock" by Andrew Thompson

Nov 2nd - A talk on "The Dave Brewer Archive" by Tim Jenkinson

For further information, please phone Mr John Lissenden on 01752 847573

or email [jlissenden@talktalk.net](mailto:jlissenden@talktalk.net) Web Site: [princetownhistoryclub.weebly.com](http://princetownhistoryclub.weebly.com)



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# St Pancras, Widecombe-in-the-Moor

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

**Church Services - see Page 24 for details**

Date	Time	Service
2nd April	15:00	Good Friday Reflection
4th April	10:30	Easter Communion
11th April	10:30	Holy Communion
18th April	10:30	Holy Communion
25th April	10:30	Holy Communion
2nd May	10:30	Rogation Service



## Widecombe Church - Information and Support

Please let someone know if for any reason you are feeling low or you need some help. There are lots of people in our community who are offering support for shopping or collecting something, or a listening ear – someone to talk to.

### Useful phone numbers:

Revd Geoffrey Fenton

01364 621334

[geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk](mailto:geoffrey@moorlandteam.org.uk)

Widecombe Post Office

01364 621347 Basic food and veg

### Useful web sites:

<https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/w>

A short cut to Widecombe Church page, including links to the weekly Sunday Service and the latest Link Magazine

<https://widecombe-in-the-moor.com/support>

Lots of isolation support and ideas – including online activities and learning

*Do keep safe! And do keep in touch – phone someone every day!*

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Hall Hire	£12	£95 9am - 6pm
Party Rate		£120 midday to midday
Weekend Rate		£350 from midday Friday to 6pm Sunday

For more information or to book email: [scoritonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:scoritonvillagehall@gmail.com)

For more details please see our website : <http://scoritonvillagehall.org/>

## Three-bedroom house for affordable rent in Widecombe

This summer, Widecombe-in-the-Moor Church House and Lands Charity is expecting to have a three-bedroom house for affordable rent at Church Cottages, Dunstone.

At this stage, the charity is seeking expressions of interest from anyone who might be interested in applying for a tenancy at that time.

If you are interested, please email the charity's clerk ([david.thomas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:david.thomas@hotmail.co.uk)) with your full name, address and contact details - indicating briefly why you need a house (1) with three bedrooms (2) at an affordable rent (3) in Widecombe.



### Widecombe Church House Management Committee Chairman - Mike Pascoe

To book the Hall please contact Rose Mortimore 01364 631238.

#### Rates of Hire (Local Events)

Daytime £3.50 per hour

Evenings £5.00 per hour

All Day £20.00

These rates are for local non commercial events only. For other rates please ask the bookings secretary.

Payment by cheque is preferred. Cheques to be made payable to Widecombe Church House Fund and sent 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*

## All Widecombe & District History Group meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Contact: Helen Barrow - [helenagsec@gmail.com](mailto:helenagsec@gmail.com) or  
Rosemary Mortimore - 01364 631238

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## Widecombe & District Sports Group

**Membership renewals are now due** if you have not received yours please email [cl.partridge@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cl.partridge@hotmail.co.uk) or tel: 621468.

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



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

For queries re tennis phone Di Cameron on 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/](http://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/sports_group/)

Thank you and enjoy your sports area.

## Widecombe Pre-School

At Widecombe Church House, established since the 1970's, our OFSTED inspected and highly rated sessions are designed to prepare your child for an easy and happy introduction to school. Through qualified and trained staff, we provide a safe and stimulating environment.

Tues 9.15am - 3pm Weds 9.15 - 12.45pm Fri 9.15am - 3pm

Tel: 01364 621273

**All Widecombe & District Ladies Social Group meetings are cancelled until further notice.**

For more details phone Rose 631238

## WIDDYTOTS

Widdytots is our local toddler group for children from 0-3 years. It runs on a Wednesday from 9.30-11am in the Church House, Widecombe-in-the-Moor.

Widdytots is a relaxed, informal parent and toddler group where you can turn up and chat with other parents whilst your children play. We provide hot drinks for parents and snacks for the little ones. Everyone is welcome.

Your first session, and any when your child is under 6 months, are free and then from 6 months to 3 years it is £1.50 per child and 50p for siblings.

For more information please call the preschool on 01364 621 273, or find out more on our website, [www.widecombepreschool.org.uk](http://www.widecombepreschool.org.uk)



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Parnham

## Allotments in Widecombe

Dear Parishioners

Widecombe-in-the-Moor Parish Council are seeking to establish the need in the parish to provide allotments.

We have been exploring possible uses for the parish field, a small plot of land owned by the Parish Council adjacent to the TDC car park in the village and allotments is one of several ideas being considered.

If you are interested in the possibility of being able to rent an allotment located in the village please email the parish clerk [suzanna.hughes21@gmail.com](mailto:suzanna.hughes21@gmail.com) by **Friday 30th April 2021**.

Widecombe-in-the-Moor Parish Council

## 20th Anniversary of another “infection”

The 20th February 2021 marks the 20th anniversary of the national outbreak of Foot & Mouth Disease. The disease which lasted until 30th September 2001 caused havoc throughout the country although  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the cases were confined to just seven counties, including Devon. (Cumbria 893, Devon 173, Dumfries & Galloway 176, North Yorkshire 133, Co Durham 85, Powys Wales 70, and Northumberland 88).

The virus is believed to have originated on a pig farm in Heddon on the Wall in Northumberland. It subsequently spread over two days by the movement of pigs to an abattoir in Essex and by other means to various other parts of the country. The spread to Dartmoor was caused when a sheep dealer bought sheep from an infected area in northern England and sold them to Dunnabridge Farm near Princetown. As part of the regulations to prevent the further spread of the disease, two farms adjacent to the infected premises had stock culled as being “contiguous”.

All stock movement was forbidden for the whole of the period of the outbreak, and this caused enormous animal welfare problems, especially when coupled with the

*Continued on page 36*

*(Continued from page 35)*

coldest and wettest spring for many years. Disinfection of people and vehicles was ensured by the use of baths of disinfectant at the entry to farms, and this, together with the closure of markets and other livestock venues contributed toward the eventual ending of the outbreak.

During the period of the infection, all access to the Moor was discouraged although cars were permitted to traverse the moor, car parks were blocked off and visitors on foot physically discouraged from entering Dartmoor.

Unlike in our present “lockdown” shops, pubs and hotels were permitted to remain



*Widcombe Village Green fenced off for the duration of the epidemic*

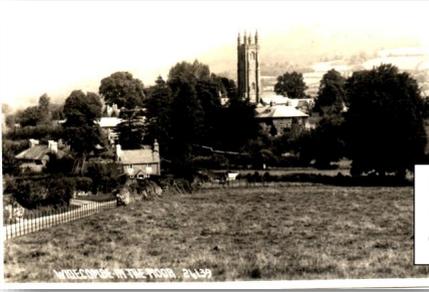
open, but the lack of visitors had devastating effects on those businesses.

I am proposing to create an archive relating to the foot & mouth outbreak so that future generations can understand the problems experienced within our rural community, and possibly compare them to the disruption caused by COVID 19.

If you have any reminiscences of how the foot & mouth in 2001 affected you, your farm or your family, and you would be willing to share them, please contact me at [david.ashman87@gmail.com](mailto:david.ashman87@gmail.com)

*David Ashman Widcombe History Group*

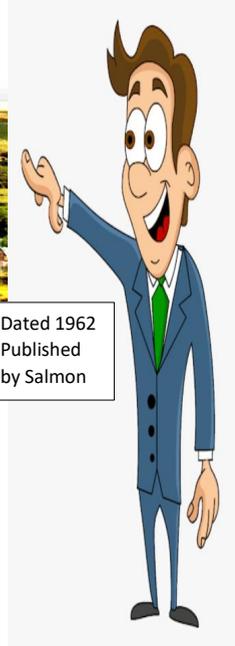
# Early postcards from Widecombe



Dated 1957  
Published by  
Chapman & Sons



Dated 1962  
Published  
by Salmon

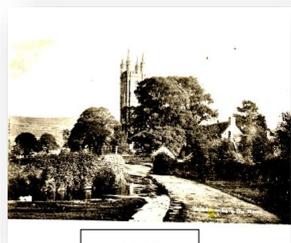


Dated 1932  
published by  
Friths

Identical View different dates



1928



1903

David Ashman  
Widecombe  
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## News from Ashburton, Dunstone and Poundsgate Methodist Churches

Dear Friends,

A Happy Easter from the Methodist community!

This month, our Zoom informal services at Dunstone will continue at 9am on Sundays.

At Poundsgate, our monthly service will be on the 2nd Sunday, April 11th, for a change, again on Zoom, and will be led by our Lay Minister from the Dawlish-Shaldon area, Sharon Hurlow.

At Ashburton, we will start worshipping outside this month, for the first time since the start of the most recent lockdown. That means that on Easter Sunday, April 4th, we will have an open air communion service in the grounds of St Andrew's at 3pm,

*Continued on page 39*



## Dunstone & Poundsgate Methodist Chapels

Ministers: Rev'd Kevin Hooke (01626) 832369

Church contacts: Nigel Davis (01364) 631476 or Serena Walcot (01364) 631279

### Sunday Service

We continue to hold an informal and friendly service via Zoom at 9am every Sunday.

For login and phone in details please contact Serena Walcot by phone on **01364 631279**.

You will be most welcome.

### Bible Study Group

We hold a bible study group via Zoom every Thursday evening at 6pm.

We are just about to commence the study of Acts and welcome your involvement.

Please contact Serena Walcot on **01364 631279** for Zoom login and phone in details.

*(Continued from page 38)*

Moor Church on Sunday 18th (time and location tbc), and a 'bring your own' Breakfast Service at 9am on Sunday 25th. Our weekly online bible conversation hours continue on Mondays at 4pm, and our prayer time on Wednesdays at 10am. We are now making more progress with our Growing Space project in Ashburton, and hope to have our first small (socially distanced!) working party on site at the British Legion on Friday April 9th.

We are also looking forward to developing our life and work alongside our Anglican friends as we move to an ecumenical Mission Community model of Church.

If you would like more information, or Zoom invitations to any of our events or activities, please contact me on [kevin.hooke@methodist.org.uk](mailto:kevin.hooke@methodist.org.uk).

With best wishes from us all

Kevin

Rev. Kevin Hooke, Methodist Minister



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*Carol is a fully qualified Human Givens practitioner, and a  
member of the British Complementary Medical Association*

### Spring Update From The President Of The Rotary Club Of Yelverton

Our programme of on-line meetings has continued with a variety of speakers – notably from Mercy Ships (a charity which runs two hospital ships, staffed entirely by volunteers who pay for their own food and accommodation) and from the Regional Fraud Protect Advisor.

In April we have organised a talk from Dartmoor Rescue who are presently raising funds for a new vehicle, and in May we have Plymouth YMCA telling us about their educational and medical recovery activities. This will be supplemented by our 'monthly' quiz, an on-line Bingo evening and a game of 'Majority Rule'. Hopefully we will be able to start meeting again face to face towards the end of May.

I'm delighted and grateful to report that our appeal in the last magazine issue for a Car CD Player to fit to Santa's sleigh has resulted in the donation of an excellent piece of equipment which should serve our needs for some years to come. Our thanks go to that generous donor.

With the announcement of the Government's road-map for lifting Covid restrictions we have had to reschedule the annual Easter Tea Party – for this year it will now be an Autumn Tea Party and all the advance arrangements have been put in place for this. If all goes well, it looks as though our School Holiday Fun Day should be able to take place in early August as planned and we have also put in place provisional arrangements for the annual Postbridge Dog Show at the end of July.

I am aware that many of the Village Fêtes have had to be cancelled again this year but we are looking forward to helping out at Harrowbeer Open Day and (hopefully) Widecombe Fair later in the year.

Using our reserves and our reduced Christmas collection, we have tried to continue to make donations to worthy causes during the pandemic but, sadly, the coffers are rapidly emptying and we look forward to starting to organise fund-raising events again towards the end of the Summer. We'll provide details of these as the planning matures in the hope that some of you will be able to support us.

See our website: [www.yelverton.rotary1175.org](http://www.yelverton.rotary1175.org)

Or contact us at: [president@yelverton.rotary1175.org](mailto:president@yelverton.rotary1175.org)

## News from the East Shallowford Trust

I am sat in the office peering, I would say leisurely, but of course it's not..... I do however, have a big grin on my face. On the other side of the glass are men. Several men! Builders, masons, plasterers, cobblers and carpenters all desperately trying to finish jobs. Two of them are shirtless!

It's still March..... the sun is out, the breeze is a mere wiff of joy. A cheeky Jag Terrier who humps ladies legs and bares his curled lip revealing sharply pointed gnashers to men, is lying blissfully in the sun, whilst there is a background hum of sanding machines in a distant room and the knock, knock of a metal hammer on stone as a literally herculean dedication to the cause is required to extend our cobbled yard.

We owe a huge gratitude of thanks for our neighbours enduring the noise of construction over the last twelve months! Soon we hope the bleeping and banging will be done!

Reviewing the puzzle – how will this granite jigsaw work?



Sand and grown scattered as the last pieces are laid.

As we all know, spring comes a little later to Dartmoor's singing streams and laughing trees as they warm and bask in the sun for seconds before a dangerous deluge of hail stones pounds the unsuspecting buds. Months ago at the farm, some extremely dedicated volunteers braved battering winds and miserable mizzle to bury over a

*Continued on page 43*

(Continued from page 42)

thousand bulbs along the banks and drive. The effort was most definitely worth it!



The snow drops are now subsiding, curling back into the earth where their clever little magic continues to ensure life will burst forth again next year.

It has taken a while, but daffodils, with powerful determination follow the snow drops poking out their

leaves, summoning the energy and strength to suddenly burst forth as trumpets of joy, defying the gusts of wind, the pelting of rain, they will stand forth and shout that spring is here..... It is here and they will proclaim it!



As nature wakes up to shake off it's protective slumbers, so the tenacious farmers plan their spring, timing and scheduling dependent on the dancing clouds which race playfully across the sky.

Stripes have appeared in many fields as harrowing breaks up the old knotted grass, encouraging new shoots to break forth. Dung

and manure is being spread as the soil temperature warms, encouraging the microbes to gobble up the fresh nutrients, multiply and turn them into rich feed for the grass.

Dartmoor's high rainfall, leaches chemicals from the soil leaving it highly acidic and difficult for the microbes to thrive. With the application of limestone from the

*Continued on page 44*

*(Continued from page 43)*

quarry in Ashburton at a rate of approx. 1-2 metric tonnes per acre, the alkalinity increases, the microbes are encouraged to multiply enhancing their activity and thus the availability of nutrients to the plants which in turn increases the plants productive capacity.

Interestingly the more productive grassland areas consume more carbon from the atmosphere and therefore are significantly better for our current



environment. With modern advanced computerised tractors, loaded with a lime spreader, through a series of electronics, calibration and distribution of lime is very accurate. Compaction on the soil is limited by huge tyres and

within minutes a once highly strenuous and inaccurate task is now completed with minimal input, no damage to the wildlife and in fact an encouragement to carbon capture and biodiversity on the moors.

We have had a massive increase in moles..... in fact one of our fields looks like a "Mole Farm". No harm – the mounds will be harrowed and this year we will wait to see if there is a natural decline. The moles have to be careful as the whacker plate of the Dracup's very smart fencing machine is due in their field. Chestnut posts harvested from Dorset ensures quality management of woodlands continues, maintaining skills and employment in British rural life..... the alternative would be poles from Scandinavia or China..... we think Dorset is a tad closer!

It's good to know that not all of modernity is bad. So much negativity in our poor little world at the moment. Yet nature will have her way. We just need to listen and respect her. Perhaps a few Easter Egg hunts combined with litter picking will

*Continued on page 45*

(Continued from page 44)

help. I do hope Parke puts up some signs this year. The BBC noted that there had been no new TV litter campaigns for 17 years – that is at least one generation who have not had ‘responsible Countryside behaviour’ rammed into them..... time to start again!

Julia

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



## Rainfall in February 2021

Place	Total Rainfall	Days without rain	Wettest Days
Postbridge	213.2mm (8.4")	8	19th 53.8 mm (2.1")
	(February 2020 - 404.9 mm (15.9"))		



## ***Contacting the Editorial Team***

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

For items sent by post please use the following addresses:

Link Finances (donations, advertising fees, invoices etc)

All Other Correspondence

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

**Parish Link**  
c/o The Vicarage  
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Devon  
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**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 Team.**

**If you would like to make a donation, please contact the editorial team.**

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

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Friends of Widcombe School

High Moorland WI

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Holne Garden Group

Holne Parish Council

Holne Second-Hand Books

Holne Village Hall Committee

Leusdon Memorial Hall

Moorland Merry-makers

Phyl's Follies (Postbridge)

Postbridge Village Hall

Princetown History Society

Various anonymous donations

Widcombe Church House Committee

Widcombe Fair Committee

Widcombe History Group

Widcombe Ladies Social Group

Widcombe Parish Council

Widcombe Sports Group

Now that the first phase of Lockdown has ended, the mood around the moor already feels brighter. It's been a long haul since Christmas in all the cold and damp and having to stay indoors, with only the Link for company! But now the daffodils are flowering (in particular the ones beside the road in Postbridge are stunning), the birds are singing and people can meet outside again. Sadly the snowdrops at Huccaby are now over, but what a great story that has been – see Page 15.

And when we get to 12th April, things will really start humming! All being well, the shops will re-open and pubs will be busy again serving people outdoors, and we can look forward to a great re-awakening on the moor. Even now, societies and organisations are meeting to plan their first events – and if you're involved in this, don't forget to tell us here at the Link what you've planned (even if it's only provisional), so we can advertise it all for free! Our pages are feeling neglected, and will be much cheered when they are promoting real events again.

It's also great news that a new General Store is opening very soon in Widecombe (Page 34). After the National Trust Shop in Church House closed last year, the Square has felt much the poorer. So now it's exciting to see this new venture starting up, and to have a new advert in our magazine – thank you John and Jenny for your initiative in making this happen.

Other highlights this month.... If you might be interested in having an Allotment in Widecombe do have a look at the ad on Page 35. And if you know someone looking for a house at an affordable rent, have a look at Page 31.

We'll be getting back into print in a month or two, but please tell everyone you meet that the Link can always be downloaded at any time from <https://www.moorlandteam.org.uk/news.htm> or [https://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/parish\\_link/index.php](https://www.widecombe-in-the-moor.com/parish_link/index.php) - spread the word!

*From all of us at the Link*

### **Parish Link Advertising Costs**

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

### **Final Copy Deadline**

*for the **May 2021** edition of the Link will be **Monday 26th April** but please send as early as you can by email. Next issue available on **Friday 30th April***

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