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October 2025

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From The Rectory

"I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. ... You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary." (Revelation 2:2-3)

Thirteen years ago, Hilary and Richard Edwards started to edit the Roundabout magazine for a "trial period" of six months. Since then, eleven times a year they have received contributions, edited and proof-read the magazine from cover to cover and then distributed the 1475 copies of the Roundabout to the lovely people who actually deliver the magazine to every home in the four parishes of North Tawton, Sampford Courtenay, Bondleigh and Honeychurch. On top of that they have dealt with all the administration of the many paid adverts in the Roundabout.

The Roundabout was started in the 1990s as a church magazine and has grown to become the magazine we know and love today. Many find the Roundabout an essential source of information for local events, even in this age of social media. I remember us as a family looking through the online version of the Roundabout (northtawtonroundabout.com if you've not visited) to find the names and numbers of various trades we needed to help with moving in. I know many others have had the same experience.

Richard and Hilary's long service reminded me of the

two verses from the book of Revelation above (totally taken out of context). While I am sure they have enjoyed editing the Roundabout in general, I guess their enjoyment was less when they have needed to deliver the 33 stacks of magazines across North Tawton in torrential winter rain or chase up that advertiser for the 10th time to pay their invoice. In those situations, they have needed all the strength and perseverance of God to not grow weary!

So, a very big thank you on behalf of the churches and all the readers to Hilary and Richard for all this amazing work they have done for our benefit, and on a voluntary basis. And can I add a big thank you to all those who deliver the Roundabout, and to all our contributors, advertiser and our printer for making the Roundabout such a great resource for our community. St. Peter's PCC (who oversee the magazine) have been putting together a new team to produce the Roundabout in future months, led by Ruth Smith. As we transition to the new team, please do bear with us as it will take us a little while to become as polished and efficient as Richard and Hilary. But please consider it 'business as usual' as we enter this new phase of the Roundabout story.

David Spence

LITTLE FISHES

Toddler Group

Every Thursday (inc. school holidays)

9am-11am @ St Peter's Church

Little Fishes is our weekly toddler group for parents and children aged 0-4 and is held in St Peter's Church, North Tawton.

We are a growing group from in and around the town and aim to provide a FREE space which is fun and safe for children and supportive for parents.



For more info, please contact Wez Cutler on: 07540127827 or wesleycutler@hotmail.co.uk



Drop in anytime between
10.30 a.m. – 12 noon
in the Mortimer Room
St. Peter's Church

2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month

Next meetings; 14th & 28th October

For more information contact
Jo Fear 01837 82553



Sampford Courtenay Flower & Produce Show 2025

Left. Weighing the entries for the potatoes in a bucket challenge.

Full results on Sampford Courtenay Website.



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Midweek Communion

St Peter's, North Tawton

12 noon — 28th October 2025

Please do join us for a traditional said communion service from the Prayer Book.



If you would like to talk to one of the team, please contact:

North Tawton

Ken Bragg	01363 530673
Jackie Tye	01837 880479

Sampford Courtenay/Honeychurch

Rory Robinson	07811 324154
Lynn Robinson	07966 477465

Bondleigh

Danny Semorad	07814 877151
Lin Warre	01837 82089

Roundabout

is published for the community on behalf of the four parish churches of North Tawton, Sampford Courtenay, Bondleigh and Honeychurch.

Opinions expressed by contributors are their own and are not necessarily endorsed by the Church, by the PCC, by members of the four churches, or by the Editor.

Contributions should be sent to
Ruth Smith
The Pottery,
5, The Square
North Tawton,
EX20 2ER
(tel. 07810 590954)

E mail: nt.roundabout@gmail.com
no later than noon on the 13th of the month
before publication is required
(and earlier, if possible)

New advertisers are always welcome.
Advertisements can be arranged for shorter periods than one year or for single editions.
For advertising enquiries contact Simon Williams
(tel. 07860 555 352)

Visit Roundabout on its own website:
www.norhtawtonroundabout.com
(There are also links online via the websites of the North Tawton Town Council and the Sampford Courtenay Village Council).

The Whiddon Mission Community

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& Revd Harriet Every— 01647 432402

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Introduced by Bishop Nick McKinnel

Thursday 16th October 2025

Whiddon Down Village Hall at 7pm



A space to meet people, have a coffee (or tea!) and get broken things mended

North Tawton Repair Café would like to thank everyone that comes along to our events – it makes us all happy when we can fix something that would otherwise be thrown away. Did you know that you don't have to have anything to fix in order to come along? We will be open on the dates below, and always have hot drinks available, and often soup, so please just pop along for a cuppa and a chat – we love meeting new people!

We are also now able to offer repairs to computers and to bikes. Bikes must be booked in – please drop us a message on Facebook, or call Ruth 01837 82207.

11th October – 10am to 12.30

8th November – 10am to 12.30

At the Community Centre, Barton Street, North Tawton, EX20 2HN.

For more information go to <https://fb.me/NTRRepairCafe>



North Tawton Library of Things

Join for £5 a year and borrow any of the items we have in the library for free. Open 5.30-6.30 every Thursday, in the Chapel of Rest. You can join online or with a paper form (available in the Post Office). Our library includes household tools, gardening equipment, beer and wine glasses, Hoover and carpet cleaners, prams, travel cots, pet carriers, food dehydrator, dehumidifier and craft equipment! Why not pop along and have a look?

<https://northtawtonlibraryofthings.myturn.com/library/>

We also have a mini scrapstore – come and take away some new craft materials and see what you can create! (The scrapstore will also be at the Repair Café for you to have a rummage).

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NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk: Caroline Ellis

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Tel: 01837 880121

e-mail: townclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Autumn at North Tawton Town Council.

Autumn approaches and thoughts of the new season are starting to filter through. Harvest time is a particularly important time for the farming community and there will be celebrations in our churches and schools. Then there are the festivals of Halloween and Bonfire Night. We are looking forward to the photos being sent in for our Photo of The Week, which is becoming increasingly popular. Photos appear, with permission, on our Facebook Page.

At the September Town Council Meeting, as always, our Councillors gave their usual progress reports. The addition of the new notice boards was noted, and discussions and planning on the new play equipment for the park were had. Devon Highways have been notified of the ongoing issues around the corner of Exeter Street and arrangements are being made to install the new Vehicle Activated Sign at Cottles View. The Council was pleased to host a defibrillator training session, which was held at the Rugby Club on the 27th of August. This was a success, very informative and well attended, with around 20 members of the public from here in North Tawton attending. Plans for this year's Christmas lighting - don't forget to put the 7th of December at 6 p.m. in your diaries, for this year's Christmas lights switch on. There will be other events throughout the day and evening. A full itinerary will be available soon.

We are pleased to announce the formation of a volunteer group at the Town Council. This group is for the purpose of helping with the management of the Town. There are several gardening and cleaning projects on the horizon. This group also highlights the connections between the Town Council and the residents of North Tawton, taking pride in where we live and work, its community and people. If you are interested in joining, please do contact the Town Council on the details below.

Members of the community can meet with Councillors and help to alert Councillors to local issues at the Council Surgeries, on the Second Saturday of each month. October the 11th, November the 8th and December the 13th are the up-and-coming sessions, with the venue for each to be announced. You can raise any concerns, issues or questions you may have. If we can't help, then we can sign post you to someone who may be able to help. You can also stop by the Council office and use our Book Swap for some cosy Autumnal reading. We would like to hear from you. If you have ideas for events, please contact us and let us know.

The office is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10.30 a.m.- 2.30 p.m.

Telephone 01837 880121. <http://www.northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk>

Email: townclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

deputyclerk@northtawtontowncouncil.gov.uk

PROPOSED ART GROUP

I would like to try and start a small art group at Sampford Courtenay village hall.

No more than 10 people and using any medium.

We would not have a tutor but could possibly help each other.

Wednesday morning or afternoon would suit me. I thought perhaps every two weeks.

Could anyone interested phone me on 01837 89209 or email me at heatheraldridge@btinternet.com



Okehampton Branch Basic Beekeeping Course 2026 runs Jan to April with 8 evening classes at Whiddon Down followed by 1 practical session with an experienced beekeeper later that summer.

Cost £110 includes mandatory 2026 membership of Okehampton Beekeepers branch and the British Beekeeping Association text book accompanying the course. We recommend taking a course before you start keeping bees. It is not the easiest of hobbies but can be extremely rewarding. Our group is a very friendly one and we support each other in our beekeeping adventures with year-round educational opportunities.

To book please visit our branch website

okehamptonbee.co.uk/education.html and follow the link to the course Eventbrite page. The Eventbrite course page is viewable now and the tickets for course places go on sale 2nd October 2025.

If you have questions about the [course](#) please contact Education Officer Ruth Stainer-Smith on

educationokebees@gmail.com

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North Tawton Afternoon W.I.

Dictionary definition of 'to gloat'. To dwell on one's own success or another's misfortune with smugness or malignant pleasure. Doesn't sound very nice does it? Wouldn't think a member of North Tawton W.I. could behave in such a manner would you? Well – think again. There is a gloater in our midst. And it's me. I couldn't help myself. I came over all 'gloatee' (that's not a real word) and it felt SO good. I blame the Sampford Courtenay & Honeychurch Flower, Produce and Craft Show. They made me do it. One of the classes is the exotically titled 'Spud in a Bucket' class. It is simply brilliant. You collect a bucket and a single seed spud early in the year from Bill and Marion (the hard-working and dedicated organisers) - you mix up your own growing medium/compost in the bucket, you pop your seed spud in the compost and that's it. Feed it/water it/earth it up. Take it along to the Show where the buckets will be emptied one at a time and your crop will be weighed. And that's where reputations can be savagely ripped apart. Husband and I thought we'd have a go. So we did. His spud bucket was upended and we all held our breath. His expectations were high. The compost was pulled apart. To reveal (in my opinion) a feeble and meagre crop. Tensions were rising as my bucket edged ever nearer to the 'big reveal'. I could barely watch. My bucket was heaved up on to the truck and upended. YES YES YES!!!!!! Husband's expression was one of total disbelief. And my moment of gloating began. I couldn't help myself. My little seed spud had produced twice the amount of spuds as his. He's not taken it too well. He's sat in his shed.

Sulking.

Our September speaker, Mick Harrison, is a retired policeman and is now working with the Devon and Cornwall Police as a Cyber Protection Officer. Every Police Force now receives funding from the Home Office in order to pay for Cyber Protection Officers due to the huge increase in phishing emails, bogus websites and telephone scams. Mick talks to businesses, charities and community groups raising awareness and promoting preventative measures that are available to help protect them from becoming victims of cyber crime.

Mick advises to always be sceptical – never assume, never believe and always confirm before you respond to incoming messages. 'If it's out of the blue – it's not for you' – and if you're not expecting it, dump it. Ensure you create strong passwords – he suggests using three random words, make sure they have at least 12 characters and consider including a £ sign which can make your password more difficult to hack. 2 step verification or 2 factor authentication is particularly vital to secure important accounts such as your bank account and your primary email account.

Always install the latest software and app updates and only install official apps, i.e. Windows, Google Play and Apple. Make sure your antivirus and firewalls are always on and regularly back up your most important data. Mick encouraged us to pay by credit card when online – you have better protection that way. Check for bogus emails by hovering your mouse over an email address or website, be sceptical of phone calls that you aren't expecting – check your own records for the proper number and phone them back. Dialling 159 will connect you to your banks fraud department, which is a secure way to verify suspicious financial calls. Finally (and scarily) AI scammers only need to record three seconds of your voice to make a copy. Wonder if a strong Devon accent would make them think twice?

Recent events and W.I. happenings have included an antiques evening, with the marvellously entertaining Charles Hanson, – and a garden visit to the picturesque Whiddon Goyle which was a real treat – it was a very hot afternoon but our ladies still managed to stay cool and float around the garden in a very floaty fashion knowing that lurking in the shade was tea and delicious home-made cake. Other events in our W.I. diary this year include a visit to North Tawton's very own blacksmith, our annual Quiz, a shopping trip to Clarks village and a silk scarf printing workshop. Oh – and skittles. Lots of skittles. Well, that all depends if we get past the first knockout round. Cos last year we didn't.

Husband says he's bored of sulking. So he's off to do some 'diggin' up and drawin' back' which is code for 'a bit o' shovellin'/movin' the soil around a bit'. It's like therapy. Only it's a lot cheaper.

And you get spuds.

Sue Knott

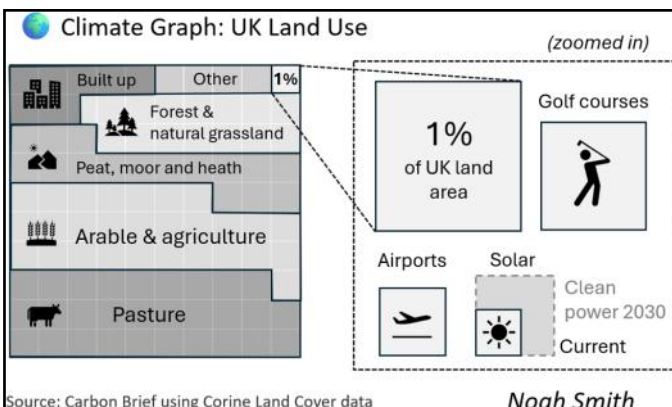
BONDLEIGH RAINFALL

August has been another dry month bringing a generally dry summer to an end. Total rainfall was 35.8 mm. compared to 32.2 mm. last year. This rain has come in small amounts through the month.

At the end of the month there has been a noticeable change to autumnal weather. The shorter days have brought cooler nights and in first 10 days of September there has already been 60 mm. of rain.

Is this the start of a long winter. Many signs of nature are already pointing to it. We shall see!

Danny Semorad





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NAPIT APPROVED



Would you be able to help with church flowers at St. Peter's Church, North Tawton?
No experience necessary.

Do come to a meeting on Tuesday 14th October at 12 noon in the Mortimer Room in the church

Bow & North Tawton Medical Practice Patient Participation Group (PPG)

The PPG exists to be a link between the patients and the Practice team:

To represent the views of the Patients.

To positively support the Practice.

The residents of North Tawton are currently represented by Carol Burrow and Carol Hughes. The latest news is that the arrival of Dr. Jack Hodge means that the North Tawton Branch Surgery will be extending its opening hours from late September, so please ask for appointments at North Tawton Surgery whenever possible.

South West Lindy Hoppers presents:



1940's VINTAGE CHARITY TEA DANCE

FINE WHINES VINTAGE DUO

SUNDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2025

**North Tawton Town Hall
The Square North Tawton**

2pm - 5pm

An afternoon of entertainment including
Vintage duo Fine Whines
Singing and playing Songs from the 30's to 50's



Lindy Hop Performance

**Lindy Hop Lesson
with Itchi and Agnes**

**Advance Price: £8, £10 on the door
to include Tea and cakes, Lindy Hop Lesson and Live entertainment**

Tickets will be available from: North Tawton POST OFFICE.

Dress theme: 1940's or 50's

Raffle prizes

In aid of the North Tawton branch of the British Legion and in memory of Alf Bolt

Limited numbers booking in advance advised

*Contact Jane/Derek 07821 721043

email:janeswlindehoppers@yahoo.com

www.swlindehoppers.org.uk

Introducing the new GP Partner for Bow and North Tawton Medical Practice, Dr. Jack Hodge.

He writes:

I grew up mainly in Sussex but also before that in Cardiff, North Wales and for 5 years in North Germany as my father worked for the MOD.

Following training as a medical student and (junior resident) doctor in Birmingham, I moved to Barnstaple to take up a training position in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the North Devon District Hospital. It was here I met my now wife who was completing teacher training at a local school. Following completion of that year, I transferred down to Derriford Hospital, Plymouth where I completed training in A&E and Trauma Surgery. I continued working in emergency medicine and intensive care in New Zealand and Australia, including an 18 month stint as a flying doctor covering most of New Zealand's South Island. I moved back to the UK, with my wife and a dog and continued intensive care training at a heart lung transplant unit in west London.

I decided to transfer to GP training when I started a family and have been mainly working in the Urgent Care sector since my completion of training in 2017.

I could not be happier to return to Devon. Nearly all the friends we made when we were here nearly 20 years ago have not left, which I feel says a lot for Devonians and the area.

When not working or parenting my 3 young children, I enjoy playing and watching (though mostly the latter nowadays) rugby and cricket. My local claim to fame is when playing for Barnstaple RFC, my place in the back row was taken by an All Black who happened to be the area as I was on call that weekend! I also enjoy winter sports.

My clinical interests are acute illness management and keeping patients out of hospital. I believe that, using technology and training, a lot of the services provided by resident doctors in a distant hospital setting can be provided by a GP locally.



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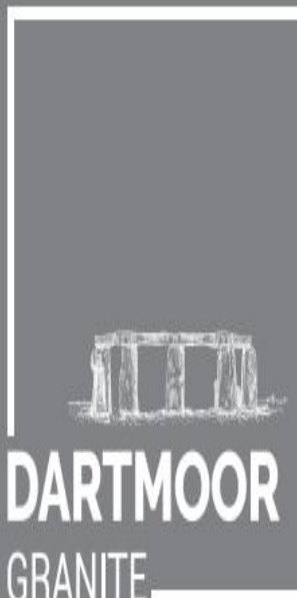
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DOORS OPEN 7.00 PM STARTS 7.30 PM



Registered charity number 283279

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Skittles evening

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Wednesday 15th October
7pm

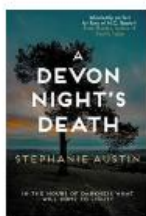
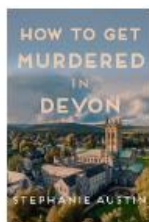
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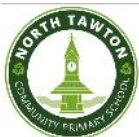
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News from North Tawton Community Primary School and Nursery

The children are now well settled into their classes and the new school year and there is a happy buzz of learning around the school.



- In Nursery and Reception our youngest children have been busy exploring their new surroundings. In Acorns and Oaks learning space you'll find dinosaurs, castles, princesses and dragons – paint, crayons, playdough, - sand, water and mud – books, and music – farms, kitchens, shops... the whole world in their small world! Our skilled teachers let the children lead the way, interacting with them to develop the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Areas of Learning. While they play the children are being guided in communication and language, personal, social and emotional development and physical development. Additionally they are being subtly introduced to literacy, mathematics, understanding the world and expressive arts and design.
- At the other end of the school our children in Hazel and Sycamore classes are rising to the challenge of being role models and buddies to the younger children. Hazel class visited Beech (Year 1 and 2) to show them how to use their Chrome Books to enhance their learning. Sycamore have made reading buddies in Reception. Right now, the older children do most of the reading, but it won't be long before the little ones are reading to them!

As a whole school we are always looking for ways to create a happy, safe and supportive environment where every child can thrive. As part of this, we are working with the children to develop a set of school values that will guide how we behave, treat others, and learn together. The children are exploring what values are and why they are important. They will work together in small groups to discuss different values such as kindness, respect, and resilience. Finally, they will agree on the values they feel are most important for our school community. Next month we will be ready to share those values with the wider community.

New to the school myself, I have been bowled over by the wonderful team I find myself in. Every member of staff puts the children first and works incredibly hard to ensure that they have the best possible experience at school. This is a very special school in a truly beautiful setting.

If you would like to be involved, please do get in touch. Volunteers can add so much to our school. Whether you could listen to children reading or help keep the school garden looking beautiful, we would love to hear from you.

Clare Vincent
Headteacher

SAMPFORD COURTENAY & HONEYCHURCH FLOWER, PRODUCE & CRAFT SHOW 2025

WHAT CAN I SAY EXCEPT A "HUGE" THANK YOU to everyone who supported our FLOWER & VEG SHOW this year. This time last year I was despondent that the Annual Flower Show, (that has taken place for over 60 years) had reached its "sell by date" – there did not seem to be enough interest in holding a show at all. HOWEVER, We said we would give it one more try and did a lot of nagging and persuading over the past 12 months and WOW

Entries were up 👍 (180 MORE THAN LAST YEAR)

Number of people entering were up 👍 (28 MORE THAN LAST YEAR)

Number of Newcomers Entrants were up 👍 (14 MORE THAN LAST YEAR)

Number of "young" entrants were up 👍 (11 MORE THAN LAST YEAR)

The sun shone and lots of people (not just those who entered) came to have a look.

I'd also like to say a BIG "Thank you" to all the helpers who set up, cleared away, made cakes & served refreshments & kept account of the scores, took your money on the door & sold you a raffle ticket & auctioned off the produce at the end of the show.

Just over £750 profit was made for Village Hall Funds.

Plus - a MASSIVE "Thanks" to our judges, without whom there wouldn't be a Show, and to President Christine Marsh for presenting the trophies.

LOOKS LIKE WE COULD BE DOING IT AGAIN NEXT YEAR 👍

But if any of you have any suggestions of how we can make it even better – feel free to get in touch.

Marion Pratt & Bill Robertson.

TAWLAND EVENTS
OLD SCHOOL DISCO
 St Peter's, North Tawton
 12 noon - 23rd September 2025
 Please do join us for a traditional said communion service from the Prayer Book.

3rd October 19.00pm
North Tawton Rugby Club

Tickets £5.00 in advance
from Merry Go Round or
£7.00 on the Door
Strictly Over 18's

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Our October speaker is Richard Clear
Tuesday 21 October

2.30pm at Fairplace Church

A talk about: Read Easy UK



Richard is a local representative for a national charity called Read Easy. They provide a free, one-to-one and confidential learning programme for adults (18+) who either cannot read or who have difficulty with their reading.

Established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2011 with the aim of improving adult literacy, Read Easy UK now includes nearly 100 volunteer-led groups helping 1500+ adults learn to read in their community.

With data from the National Literacy Trust in August 2024 citing that one in six adults in England had poor or no reading skills there is an obvious need for this service.

Having started a local branch of Read Easy covering North, East and West Devon in 2022 Richard will explain the impact that the lack of reading skills has on individuals and how the Read Easy programme can help transform their lives.

Admission - £1.00 to help towards the cost of the speaker, hiring the venue and refreshments.
 For further information please contact Dee McVey 01837 658590

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**October 13th, October 27th
November 10th, November 24th
December 8th
6.30-9p.m.**

The Royal British Legion

The North Tawton Royal British Legion branch has been finding it difficult to keep things going lately. Especially after losing some of our older, experienced, committee members.

Could you help support us and keep our branch going?

If you think you can please contact
Monica Simons, Jill Whiteley or Brian Weeks
01837 880233. Jill

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with apologies to Rudyard Kipling**

If you could chase the vicar for his essay
And coax the printer to reduce his rate,
And keep your humour through the madness,
Of trying to meet the deadline date
If you could spot the cheeky typos
That came across as being rather rude
You've made Roundabout a thing of beauty,
And earned our heartfelt gratitude.

If you could hunt for ads to fill the pages
And smiled when "urgent" meant "next month will do,"
If you could fit the jumble sale on Friday
Between the quiz and Red Mud Art review
Then yours is the pride in a task completed
And accept our many thanks to you!

If you have mastered tricky computer programs
In the art of being a modern day hack
You've earned time off for good behaviour
Take a final bow and don't look back!

So here's to thirteen years of dedication
To our favourite parish magazine
To Richard and to Hilary Edwards
The wonderful editorial team
You've kept us all informed, amused, connected—
With every issue, you've edited with flair.
Now take a bow, your legacy protected:
Roundabout rolls on—but you won't need to care!

Jan Gray

Hilary and Richard would like to thank everyone for their kind words on our retirement as editors of "Roundabout". We have enjoyed editing the magazine for the last thirteen years and we wish Ruth and the new team all the very best as they take over. It is also a moment to remember all the kind volunteers who post a monthly copy through every front door. Thank you all and please keep up the good work!

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Find out more about Jesus

This autumn we are inviting people to join us for “*Alpha*”, a course that creates a space where people can join together to have a conversation about faith, life and God.

There will be six sessions on Thursday evenings from 25th September [although you don’t need to make the first session] with a break for half term plus a day away. We will share a meal, watch a video, and have times for discussion. There is no cost.

For the
explorers,
open-minded,
still thinking,
curious.



For more information or to register contact David on 01837 89243 or revdspence@gmail.com.



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sung by the augmented choir

Conductor	Richard Edwards
Organ	Roger Cleverdon
Clarinet	Ruth Penrose

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on

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With The Bondleigh Barn Band, conducted
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Belstone Village Hall Sunday

5th October 3.00-5.00pm

Doors open 2.30pm

Tickets (include Cream Tea and Cakes)

£10.00; 16 & under £5.00.

Available online from

belstonevillage.net from 14th September

Further information, from Edwina on

07967 179769

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OCTOBER

4TH TIVERTON II (A)
11TH CULLOMPTON II (H)
(VP LUNCH)
25TH OKEHAMPTON II (A)

NOVEMBER

8TH EXETER ATHLETIC (H)
(PAST PLAYERS LUNCH)
22ND EXMOUTH II (A)
28TH EXETER ENGINEERS (H)

DECEMBER

6TH NEWTON ABBOT II (A)
13TH NEW CROSS (H)

JANUARY

10TH CULLOMPTON II (A)
16TH OKEHAMPTON II (H)
24TH EXETER ATHLETIC (A)

FEBRUARY

14TH EXMOUTH II (H)
28TH EXETER ENGINEERS (A)

MARCH

7TH NEWTON ABBOT II (H)
21ST NEW CROSS (A)

APRIL

11TH SIDMOUTH II (H)
(SPONSORS LUNCH)
18TH TIVERTON II (H)

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THE ART BOX – October 2025

In association with Ruth Smith Gallery and Red Mud Arts. If you would like to contribute, please send to Ruth at ruth@ruthsmithgallery.co.uk



The sun shone as we all made our way across the fields to Taw Valley Brewery last Saturday for our fifth Red Mud Arts Gathering, where we shared stories and ideas, enjoyed Marc's ale, and live music arranged by our Open Mic Night team. Emma, a local paint maker from Art Scribe, had prepared pots of paint made from earth pigments (including a red made from soil which had been dug up in North Tawton), and had laid down a large piece of fabric with brushes and sponges made using sticks and found objects, for people to use to make a big communal drawing. It was interesting to see how in the process of our mark making, we were affected by the marks already laid down but also contributed to evolving the drawing into something new. It was a good moment to reflect on the creative endeavours of the last year and look forward to a new year full of opportunity for fresh collaborations.

Many thanks again to everyone who came and made the gathering such a success.

Ruth



Red Mud Arts dates for your diary:

Artists' Critique Group: First Tuesday of the month, 7-9pm at Ruth Smith Gallery, North Tawton. Email ruth.helen.smith@outlook.com.

Open Mic Night: Second Wednesday of the month, from 7.30 at the White Hart, North Tawton. Find out more on the Facebook group.

Life Drawing: Last Tuesday of the month, 7-9pm at the Community Centre, North Tawton. Email ruth.helen.smith@outlook.com.

Join our mailing list to hear about upcoming gatherings, talks and workshops at redmudarts@gmail.com

The Guides will be holding their Walking Treasure Hunt & Takeaway Cream Teas on Sunday 28th September.

The treasure hunt will start at 2 p.m.
from Church Cottage, 5 Exeter Street.
Cost £1 per adult and 50p for a child.
Please bring a pen.

Takeaway Cream Teas will be available from 3 p.m.
Please remember to bring a container.

Proceeds for Guide funds.

Saturday 11th October

The Guides will be having a
Christmas Mini Market in the garden of
5 Exeter Street to raise money for funds.

They have been given many Christmas items -
tinsel, baubles, card holders, lights, 2 x trees plus much
more.

The garden will be open from 10 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.



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**The Okehampton and District
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Talk by Dr. P.J. Howard 'The Idea of Heritage -
using Poltimore House near Exeter as a local
example.

Wednesday 8th October - 7.30 p.m.
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All Welcome. Visitors £3.00.

Our November Talk will be 'The History of
Cranmere Pool' - Chris Walpole -
Wednesday 12th November.

NORTH STREET CHAPEL

October 19th

3 p.m.

Harvest Tea and Praise

Mark Stanbury



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<http://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/>

The website is managed by **Julie Carpenter**
who can be contacted on

juliec2911@hotmail.co.uk

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admin@sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk

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FLOWER CLUB 2nd Monday of every
month 2.30 p.m.

SKITTLES 3rd Wednesday of every month 7 p.m.

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Film night-The Penguin Lessons
Saturday 27th September 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. start.

Skittles evening
Wednesday 15th October 7 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Film night-Bridget Jones-Mad about the Boy
Friday 17th October 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. start.

Community lunch Tuesday 21st October 12.30 p.m.

Meet the Author Tuesday 28th October 2 p.m.

*Please see separate adverts in Roundabout or visit our
new Village Hall website
sampfordcourtenayvillagehall.co.uk
and Facebook for more details of all events.*



Sampford Courtenay Flower Club

**15th October
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at 12.30 p.m. on the
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(unless otherwise advised)

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EVENTS

OCTOBER

Storytime & Craft: Wednesday 1 October, 10:00-10:30

This month's theme is bugs and insects - come along to listen to some stories all about bugs and insects and make one to take home! Suitable for all ages.

Suggested donation 50p per child, drop-in.

Carbon Monoxide Awareness Drop in: Saturday 4 October, 9:30-11:00

Wales & West Utilities will be here to provide information regarding carbon monoxide awareness and will be handing out free carbon monoxide detectors.

CAB & Healthwatch Information Stand: Tuesday 28 October, 13:30-15:30

Kathy Fogerty, Healthwatch Champion, will be here to talk about CAB's work with Healthwatch, one of their specialist services partners, as well as answer any questions about the work of Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon or, indeed, volunteering with them.

StoryFest 2025 with Aardman

October Half Term: 25 October – 1 November

A week-long festival of reading and creativity for [children](#), kicks off on 25th October, bringing activities, hands-on animation workshops and an interactive AR trail in Exeter, Barnstaple and Paignton Library.

At Okehampton Library, we are inviting children to help us create a sheep-themed display by making their very own sheep, and to also enjoy some Aardman colouring and crafts – 'Shaun the Sheep' and 'Wallace and Gromit' themed. These are drop-in activities available during library opening hours, suitable for children of all ages, free but donations are welcome.

REGULAR EVENTS

Okehampton Library has a meeting room available for you to book, so you can spread your roots and break the work-from-home cycle or deliver training and meetings in a productive and comfortable environment. Book through our website roomhire.librariesunlimited.org.uk.

Friends of Okehampton Library: Call Okehampton library for date of next meeting

Are you interested in becoming a friend of your library?

Anyone is welcome to get involved and support the library, organising or helping with events, encouraging use of the library, and supporting fundraising activities.

Read Easy: First Tuesday of every month, 10:00-12:00

Come and chat with Richard from Read Easy, the charity that helps adults learn to read. Richard would love to talk to you, particularly if you are interested to know more about what Read Easy do and/or if you would like to introduce someone to their free 1:1 and confidential service.

Coffee & Create: Fridays, 10:00-12:00

Bring along your own creative projects and enjoy some optional socialising!

Hot drinks available. Free (donations welcome), drop-in, open to adults.

Okehampton Library Book Bingo

Join our FREE year-round reading challenge for adults! Read 12 library books across the year for 12 different prompts. Once you have completed a square, come in to have your bingo card stamped and move onto the next. They can be completed in any order; when all 12 have been completed, bring your card into the library to be entered into a prize draw to win a book bundle and mug – funded by The Friends of Okehampton Library. Completed bingo cards must be handed in to the library by 10 a.m. Saturday 20th December 2025. Collect your bingo card from Okehampton Library at any point in the year.

Recycling for Good Causes: Okehampton Library have taken some inspiration from other Devon Libraries who are doing their bit assisting in tackling the climate crisis and we are proud to say that we have also teamed up with [Recycling For Good Causes](#) to offer a recycling point in our library! You can now drop off certain electronics, stamps, currency or jewelry at the recycling point in front of the customer service desk and these items will get sorted and recycled, whilst also raising money for our charity Libraries Unlimited.

Business & IP Centre Devon, Okehampton Hub

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Find out more at bipc.librariesunlimited.org.uk

Opening Hours

Monday	09:00-17:00
Tuesday	09:00-18:00
Wednesday	09:00-13:00
Thursday	09:00-17:00
Friday	09:00-18:00
Saturday	09:00-13:00

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TEAM RECTOR: Chagford

Rev'd. Dr. David Spence (89243)

revdspence@gmail.com

Bishop Nick McKinnel

nick.mckinnel@gmail.com

ASSISTANT MINISTERS:

Rev'd. Rita Bullworthy (89168)

ritabullworthy@yahoo.co.uk

Rev'd Joe Moesel (07470 297287)

jsmoesel@outlook.com

CURATE: Chagford

Rev'd. Dr. Harriet Every (01647 432402)

PARISH WORKER: North Tawton

Mr. Wesley Cutler (07540 127827) wesleycutler@hotmail.co.uk

CHURCHWARDENS

St. Peter's North Tawton

Mr. Paul Andrews (82648)

Mrs Dinah Williams (07944 428195)

St. James's Bondleigh

Mr. Danny Semorad (07814 877151)

Mr. Graham Stokes (82240)

St. Andrew's Sampford Courtenay

Mr. Rory Robinson (07811 324154)

St. Mary's Honeychurch

Mr. Ray Squire (851627)

Mr. Richard Weeks
(07790 636920)

OCTOBER SERVICES at St. Andrew's Church Sampford Courtenay

5th October 9.30 a.m. Morning Worship
12th October 9.30 a.m. Communion
19th October 6.00 p.m. Full Choral Evensong
26th October 9.30 a.m. Communion

OCTOBER SERVICES at St. James's Church Bondleigh

5th October 9.30 a.m. Communion
19th October 9.30 a.m. Communion

OCTOBER SERVICES at St. Mary's Church Honeychurch

**5th October 3 p.m. Harvest
Evensong / Communion**

ORTHODOX CHURCH
Devon Parish of Holy Prophet Elias
For details of services contact
Celia or Martin Olsson (82796)

OCTOBER SERVICES at St. Peter's Church North Tawton

5th October 11 a.m. Morning Worship
12th October 11 a.m. Informal Communion
**19th October 11 a.m. Family Harvest
Festival Service**
26th October 9.30 a.m. Toast Church
26th October 11 a.m. Traditional Communion
28th October 12 noon Midweek Communion

North Street Chapel Sundays

OCTOBER 2025

**Oct 5th 11 a.m. - Special service –
Derick Andrews**
Oct 12th 11 a.m. - Breaking of Bread
**Oct 19th 3 p.m. - Harvest Tea and Praise -
Mark Stanbury**
Oct 26th 11 a.m. - Breaking of Bread

**Please contact Richard for further details
07835033062**

Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) & Energy Grants Available Now in North Tawton & beyond!

I'm **Simon Cleaver**, a local Bow resident and a qualified home energy assessor. Since 2015, I've proudly served our community, helping homeowners, landlords, and tenants make their homes more energy efficient through **Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs)** and access to **fully funded energy grants**.

Unlock Thousands in Energy Efficiency Grants

Did you know many homes in **North Tawton and surrounding areas** are eligible for **grants worth thousands of pounds**?

These can cover improvements like:

- Home insulation upgrades
- Heating system upgrades
- Solar panel

Some grants are available to *all eligible homes*, regardless of income, while others are specifically designed to support households with *health conditions or lower incomes*.

Important Update for Landlords:

The government has announced upcoming changes to EPC regulations. Soon, **all rental properties must achieve a minimum EPC rating of "C."** I've already helped many landlords in **Mid and West Devon** get ahead of these changes by:

- Conducting EPC assessments
- Securing fully funded grants for insulation, solar panels, and heating upgrades
- Helping future-proof their properties — and keep tenants warm with lower energy bills

Ready to Improve Your Home?

If you need an **EPC** or want to check if your home qualifies for a **fully funded energy grant**, get in touch today. I'm here to help you make your home warmer, greener, and more cost-efficient.

simon.cleaver@devonenergysurveyors.co.uk

07504 452594 or 01392 984122

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FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism	24 th August	Scarlett GRANT	St. Peter's North Tawton
Wedding	22 nd August	Alexander GREEN and Gina DENNIS	St. Peter's North Tawton
Funeral	21 st August	Alison BROWN (44 years)	St. Peter's North Tawton

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**St. Andrew's Church, Sampford Courtenay
Fourth Thursdays at 10 a.m.**

Next one 23rd October 2025



Please continue to remember those who need help via the Food Bank box in St. Peter's Church outer porch. It is accessible there during the day and contents are regularly moved to the community kitchen in Merry Go Round.





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Church Flowers & Brass

Sampford Courtenay

October	Sarah Hanks
November	Jackie Mardon

Honeychurch

October	Sue Svedang
November	Vera Collins

Bondleigh

Oct 5th / 12th	Cath Pettifer
Oct 19th / 26th	Nikki Jourdan
Nov 2nd / 9th	Lin Warre
Nov 16th / 23rd	Margaret Bridgman
Nov 30th	Caroline Stokes

(Advent - No flowers brass only)

North Tawton

Flowers

Oct 5th / 12th	Harvest Flowers
Oct 19th / 26th	Rosemary Davie/ Sue Knott

Brass

October	Joan Nicholls
---------	---------------

North Tawton Residents

Would anyone be interested in joining the rota to do church flowers?

We are always interested in having new arrangers and you do not need to have experience in flower arranging.

Please attend the meeting on Tuesday 14th October in the Church to discuss how you can help.

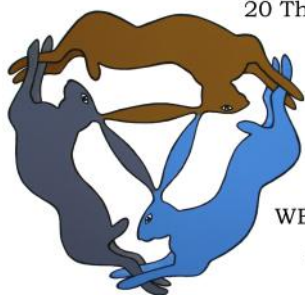
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Community News, Articles, and Events

are published (free of charge) in any edition, but must be received by the Editor no later than noon on the 13th of the month before publication.

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