

PARISH NEWS

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



South Tamar
Mission Community

October -
December 2026

Price: £1

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01822 613561

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Diary Dates

Event	October 2026	November 2026	December 2026
Coffee Mornings			
Coffee and Company, Priest's Room, Lamerton 10—12noon	2, 16, 30	13, 27	11
Coffee @ St Mary's, Sydenham Damerel from 10.30—12noon	3	7	5
Lamerton Coffee Mornings with Breakfast, Lamerton Hall 10.30 - 12pm	10, 24	7, 21	5, 19
Friendship Group, 9:30am - 12:30pm, Milton Abbot Village Hall	6, 13, 20, 27	3, 10, 17, 24	1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Church and other events			
Lamerton Hall Harvest Auction and Supper, 6:30pm	2		
Annual River Walk for Dunterton Church 11-4pm	18		
Lamerton Village Hall, Autumn Quiz 7pm for 7:30pm start	24		
Milton Abbott Christmas Fair 10am—1pm		14	
Lamerton Hall Christmas Fair, 11am—2pm		28	
Lamerton Hall Christmas Wreath Making 6:30pm—9pm			4
Milton Abbott Christmas Tree Festival 11am - 4pm			10-12
Lamerton Hall Christmas Hamper Draw, 10:30am—12pm			12

From the Vicarage . . .



Welcome to this edition of Parish News. You will notice that this edition takes us into Advent and Christmas. The reason for the 'bonus content' is that we are losing the brilliant Amy Harrowell from the role of Magazine Editor.

So, first and foremost, before all else, I want to say an enormous **THANK YOU** to Amy for doing such sterling work over the past few years. Amy was incredibly helpful as I was preparing to begin here, and continues to be a good friend. In saying thanks, we should also say Congratulations—not only for her getting married between the last edition and this one, but because her resignation is due to success and increased responsibility professionally.

This month we complete our **Harvest Festivals** with Marystowe and Coryton both on 18th October. In addition to the scripture readings this year we have two modern poems, reflecting current issues and enhancing this timeless festival. The dramatized reading also revealed an appetite for playing the devil—we have had some wholehearted renditions of "Bow down and worship me"! Not to be missed.

Bubble Church began in September with an enthusiastic team, excellent puppeteers, an abundance of breakfast goods, and fresh coffee. It's a very short service for younger children and their families, with puppets, bible story and action songs. Upcoming dates are: Sunday 25th October 9.30am at Lamerton, Sunday 22nd November 9.30am at Milton Abbot, and Sunday 20th December 9.30am at Lamerton.

Bubble Church is part of our ongoing outreach with schools, children and families—you can read more in this magazine.

Kingdom Season and Remembrance

At the start of November we begin Kingdom Season—a time to remember the saints and the departed, celebrate Christ as King, and look forward in hope to the fullness of God's Kingdom. The church colour changes from green to red. We begin on Sunday 1st November with a united benefice communion for All Saints, which is at All Saints' Church, Dunterton, to mark their patronal festival. That same day, at 6.30pm we are holding an All Souls' service. When I introduced this last year people found it was very helpful—it will be a quiet less formal service to bring our loss and our loved

ones into a sacred space, and will have the opportunity to light candles in memory. If you would like the name of someone who has died to be read aloud, please let Rev Gill know.

There are some changes to Remembrance this year, in that one of our Standard Bearers, Tony Ellory, has died and, at the time of writing, the local RBL chapter has dissolved and we now come under Tavistock RBL. We are grateful to Peter Hurdwell for continuing his services as bugler.

Advent and Christmas

We don't yet know if we will have a magazine editor by the time of the usual Dec/Jan issue, so we've taken the precaution of including some of the Advent and Christmas information here. For example you will find the December rota and readings included this time.

We are doing a **Posada** with our schools and communities this year. Look out for information to sign-up to give Mary, Joseph and the donkey a place for the night through to Christmas. (More about that nearer the time)

Looking forward

I'm currently supervising an ordinand (a person in training for ordination) - Nicola Brimblecombe—for her final year long placement. Nicola lives locally is a carer for Susan. It is really good to have fresh faces in the team. Thank you for your welcome to them both.

We have a number of volunteering opportunities—check out the role descriptions which are appearing on our website at **southtamarparishes.co.uk** or contact me (all enquiries will be treated in confidence). The website is where we have our up to date prayer list, calendars, and a whole lot more.

In the meantime, **please email your magazine submissions as usual**. We will try and produce a short "Christmas" edition for December, but also need submissions for Jan, Feb & March 2027 by early/mid December if possible, as we hope to continue producing a magazine in some form or other.

Yours in Christ,
Gillian

The Reverend Gillian George

Priest in Charge of the Parishes of Milton Abbot, Dunterton, Lamerton, Sydenham Damerel, Marystowe and Coryton, known as the South Tamar Mission Community

Bible Readings

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DATE	1st READING	PSALM or Canticle	2nd READING	GOSPEL
Sunday 11th October Trinity 19 / Proper 23 (Green)	Isaiah 25.1-9	23	Philippians 4.1-9	Matthew 22.1-14
Sunday 18th October Trinity 20 / Proper 24 (Green)	Isaiah 45.1-7	96.1-9	1 Thess. 1.1-10	Matthew 22.15-22
Sunday 25th October Last after Trinity / Proper 23 (Green)	Leviticus 19.1-2, 15-18	1	1 Thess. 2.1-8	Matthew 22.34-end
Sunday 1st November All Saints' Day (Gold or white)	Revelation 7.9-end	34.1-10	1 John 3.1-3	Matthew 5.1-12
Sunday 8th November Remembrance Sunday (Red)	Today's readings vary according to service and location. Please check if in doubt.			
Sunday 15th November 2nd Sunday before Advent (Red)	Zephaniah 1.7, 12-end	90.1-8	1 Thess. 5.1-11	Matthew 25.14-30

The readings can be printed off by going online here: <https://almanac.oremus.org>

Bible Readings

7

DATE	1st READING	PSALM or Canticle	2nd READING	GOSPEL
Sunday 22nd November Christ the King / Sunday next before Advent (Red)	Ezekiel 24.11-16, 20-24	95.1-7	Ephesians 1.15-end	Matthew 25.31-end
Sunday 29th November 1st Sunday of Advent (Purple)	Isaiah 64.1-9	80.1-8	1 Corinth. 1.3-9	Mark 13.24-end
Sunday 6th December 2nd Sunday of Advent (Purple)	Isaiah 40.1-11	85.1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3.8-15a	Mark 1.1-8
Sunday 13th December 3rd Sunday of Advent (Purple)	Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end	126 or <i>Magnificat</i>	1 Thess. 5.16-24	John 1.6-8, 19-28
Sunday 20th December 4th Sunday of Advent (Purple)	2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16	Magnificat or 89.1-4, 19-26	Romans 16.25-end	Luke 1.26-38
Christmas Night (Gold)	Isaiah 52.7-10	98	Hebrews 1.1-4	John 1.1-14
Christmas Day (Gold)	Isaiah 52.7-10	98	Hebrews 1.1-4	John 1.1-14

Each reading may conclude with "For the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**"

Life in the Nexus...

Children, Schools & Families

We have two schools in the benefice—Lamerton and Milton Abbot. Work continues in Lamerton with a number of church volunteers—Hilary, Carole, Barbara, Shona, Angie, Annie, & Mike. Between them, we are managing to provide the following:

- Bright Lights (after school Christian club each half term)
- Open The Book (team presenting dramatized Bible stories)
- Collective Worship almost every week (sometimes more)
- School displays and decorations in church
- School visits and services with St Peter's Church
- Termly 'ethos' meetings with the head.

Milton Abbot is not a church school although, nonetheless, operates within the DMAT Articles of Association which includes the presumption that children are educated in a predominantly Christian society. Rev Gill goes into school every week, to support RE and lead a short assembly with Bible teaching, reflection, and opportunity for prayer—and that has been welcomed for the past year. The school continues to participate in big church events such as the Flower Festival, and will be coming to us again this year for Remembrance, Carol Service, Christingle and Crib. We currently need more volunteers for a brand new Open The Book to run each month in the Spring.

Although North Tamar Mission Community, is directly accountable for Anglican church volunteers in Lew Trenchard School, we have historically had members there supporting the Methodists' Open The Book, and we invite families to all-age services in Coryton and Marystowe whenever we have them.

Bubble Church is a new short service for younger children and their families, running at 9.30am on Sunday 25th October, 22nd November and 20th December. Puppets and prayers, fun and food. Don't miss it—sign up at southtamarparishes.co.uk or call for info.

BUBBLE CHURCH

St. Mary's Church, Marystowe



Round up

Marystowe Church has had a very busy summer. Three weddings, including Nick and Georgina who have volunteered in churchyard maintenance and parking for several years. We wish them every happiness in their new lives together. We've had lots of comments about how good it is to hear the bells again. The bellringers also came out in full swing to honour Gladys Bennett for her funeral.

The 3rd Chillaton & Marystowe Funday had a different format. It was very successful and it was wonderful to see lots of children come to participate in the games and art displays. As usual, the closes proved people have such inspiration in our local community. Anita Townsend organised a fantastic children's art exhibition with all the local schools contributing. Congratulations to the winners and our thanks to the judges who gave prizes and their time.

A thank you James

Saturday mornings in the churchyard will feel very different without James Hitchcock, who after three years of leading our maintenance team has decided to step back from the role. James has given his time, energy and commitment wholeheartedly. Always one of the first to arrive, he kept the team organised, the machinery running and even the most overgrown corners of our ancient churchyard cared for. Under his guidance, we became more than a group of volunteers — we became a team, tackling a variety of jobs, sharing plenty of laughs, battling the British weather and enjoying the occasional tea and bacon butty along the way! James, thank you for your hard work, leadership and friendship—you will be greatly missed. We hope you'll still pop up from time to time — and won't be a stranger!

Be opened up, ye ancient doors!

Many thanks to Chris Taylor who put us onto Duncan Hall to fix the Schoolroom door so the room is accessible again! The room is being enjoyed each month by **Marystowe Material Girls** sewing/fabric craft group, as well as the monthly **Books & Brew**—come and enjoy!

Upcoming services

Sunday 18th October—Harvest Festival at 9.30am

Sunday 8th November—Remembrance Service begins at 10.45am

Sunday 15th November—A unique service designed and led by Ordinand Nicola Brimblecombe at 9.30am (come and support her)

Sunday 6th December—Holy Communion at 9.30am

Thursday 24th December—Christmas Communion at 6.30pm



St. Andrew's, Coryton

Services at St Andrew's

At the last PCC meeting in late August, we approved changes to the usual services rota. In previous years, Harvest Festival was held the second Sunday of October – the 11th. This year we have the Christening of Ronnie Ablett at 11.15am that day, so Harvest Festival is Sunday 18th October at 6.30pm. There is no service October 25th.

In November, the Remembrance Sunday service will be at Marystowe this year at 10.45am. There is no service on the 4th Sunday as Coryton will host the United Benefice Advent Sunday Communion on 29th November at 11.15am.

Moving into December, Coryton Christingle is 4pm Saturday 12th December – see you there! On Christmas Day at 11.15am we have a traditional Coryton Christmas of Nine Lessons and Carols – come and celebrate with us!

Looking after our church building and graveyard

A Conservators Survey was conducted in April which made recommendations for work on the Tower Tablets, the Ten Commandments Panel, two 18th century graves and restoration of the West Door. Also included in the planned maintenance work: the cable to the South Entrance light will be replaced and an overhead heater in Nave will be replaced. Many thanks to Niel O'Neill for organising both the survey and the work.



And more thanks

After many years of keeping the steps leading up to the church cleared before services, Roger Jennings has announced that he will finally be retiring. With very many thanks to Roger for having done this work for so long, come rain or shine.

Josie Whitfield

All Saint's Church, Dunterton

Services

We were delighted to be the chosen venue for Phil and Wendy's wedding on the 15th August.

Thank you to all those who helped make sure All Saint's was looking its absolute best on the day, both church volunteers and family and friends of the bride and groom.

We all enjoyed the beautiful service and wish the happy couple all the very best for their future together.



Our service on 6th September led by Gill and celebrated the start of Harvest Festival.

Thanks to all for the donations to Launceston Foodbank.

River Walk, Sunday 18th October

As we write this we are in planning mode for this year's walk with fingers firmly crossed for good weather.

This event, which raises funds for the ongoing maintenance of the church, is a firm favourite with locals and all walkers living in the wider area.

Starting and ending at Dunterton Cross (from 11.00 to 15.00), the 5.5mile circular route leads down to and along the Tamar, then curves back up through farmland and back via the church.

Parking will be signposted in the field by the church.

Dogs welcome; on leads please.

Refreshments including hot and cold drinks and a selection of cakes will be available to purchase towards the end of the walk.

Suggested donation £5 per person, children free.

A wonderful opportunity for our wider community to get together in our beautiful local countryside – please do join us!



SERVICES AT DUNTERTON CHURCH – DATE & TIME

Sunday November 1st	11.00 – All Saints Service
Friday December 25 th	09.30 – Christmas Service

John Spensley & Christine Youds



St. Mary's Church, Sydenham Damerel

Summertime ... and the living has been easy.

It has been very sleepy in our little corner of the Tamar Valley while we have enjoyed the sunshine and the lingering evenings. My garden is a bit of a fried wilderness but, as ever, Eli's dahlias are resplendent at the telephone box making everyone smile as

we slip into autumn.

The nearby village apple tree was somehow, and very forcibly, knocked over and partially uprooted. This little tree has been producing apples for decades and this was so sad to hear. However, Nicky, Janet and Peter came together and managed to put the tree back in position, add fresh compost and they pruned it. It is now very well supported and looking much healthier. A huge thank you to you all.

Another magnificent fundraiser was held in August with a midsummer picnic. A fabulous day was had by all.

The Tamar Valley Voices sang in the church, and a lovely video is available on our YouTube channel.

The picnic raised £330 which will be equally split between the DEC Venezuelan Earthquake Appeal Fund and the St. Mary's Development Fund.

Our thanks as always to the Sydenham Damerel organisers who are tireless in their efforts to raise money and bring the Community together.

What you do matters. John has kept us entertained this year with footage from his wildlife camera. This time it was an otter, in broad daylight, after the fish in the pond – the scoundrel!!

We do hope some survived...

We shared in the eclipse fun too with many colander and pinhole cameras being used to get some interesting footage. Never a dull moment in Sydenham Damerel!

Our 100 Club starts a new year on the 4th of October.

All the winning numbers are available to buy at just £12 per number from

nicky919@btinternet.com

You have to be in it to win it!

As always, for those following along with the Book Club reads, the next one is *The Artist* by Lucy Steeds.

We were all heartbroken to learn that Malcom Gillett had died. Malcom was a gentleman, wise and always with a twinkle in his eye. He was a bookworm, had a huge zest for life, a passion and knowledge for Reggae that was unmatched and a deep love for his family. We are sending all our love to Sarah and the boys.



St. Peter's Lamerton



How welcome the rain is at last. The churchyard is again looking nice and green. The down side is, however, that we need to get the mowers out again but well worth it.

The yew trees along the paths have been getting ever more straggly and needed bringing lower and the sides cutting back. We have contacted three different companies who all said they were interested in doing the work but as yet no one has come back with a price.

We have waited well past bird nesting time and have done some tidying up ourselves.

Now that the school are back we are looking for anyone willing and able to offer support and help. We particularly need people who can listen to children reading and help for Hillary with Bright Lights.

Neither of these are very difficult and your help would be greatly appreciated.

The school Harvest service will be on Thursday 1st October at 2.00pm. and our Harvest Service at 6.30pm on Sunday 4th October which will be followed by a bring and share supper. We do hope you will be able to join us at either service.

We have an exciting new children's service on Sunday 25th October. Bubble Church is a Sunday church service especially for babies, toddlers, and young families.

It's a puppet-packed, Jesus-centred, coffee-and-food-fuelled, 30 minute kids and families adventure. Do come and join us.

**BUBBLE
CHURCH**

St. Constantine's Church, Milton Abbot



At the time of writing, planning and rehearsals are well under way for our first Bubble Church at 9:30am on Sunday 27th September here at Milton Abbot.

Do book in and bring your little ones to join in and see the puppets!

October's Bubble Church will be at Lamerton at 9.30am on 25th October and in November the puppets will be back in Milton Abbot at 9.30am on 22nd November.

Fundraising continues!

Our Christmas Fair will once again be in the church on Saturday 14th November with lots of different stalls for you to start your Christmas shopping.

There will be food, drink, wreaths, gifts and crafts, as well as refreshments, and the Sydenham Damerel Blowers will be providing musical entertainment.

Then we will be holding a Christmas Tree Festival in the church on the 10th, 11th and 12th December between 11.00am and 4.00pm, and light refreshments will be available.

Pat's stall will also be going on its travels again, to Lifton Fair on 21st November and then to Lamerton Fair on 28th November.

Liz Padmore

A decorative border surrounds the text, featuring various autumn-themed elements: brown and orange leaves, purple and red berries, green leaves, a lightbulb, a chess knight, a puzzle piece, a checkmark in a circle, and a trophy.

Lamerton Village Hall

presents their

Autumn Quiz

Night!

Saturday 24 October 2026

Doors open at 7pm for
a 7:30pm start

Teams of up to 6 people

£5 per person

BYO food and drink

UK Charity Number: 900404



A CHILD'S FOOTSTEPS TO FAITH

Practice what you preach

Practice what you preach. What does that mean? I think it means that if you tell someone to do something, you need to do it, too. Practice what you preach means don't do the opposite thing to what you say. Instead do what you say others should do.

In our Bible lesson today, Jesus had something to say about "practicing what you preach." Jesus was talking about the teachers of the law and the Pharisees in the synagogue where people went to worship. Jesus said that everything that they did was done so that others would see them and think how great they were. But they didn't do what they told other people to do. In fact, they did the opposite!



What did Jesus tell us to do about teachers like these?

You might think Jesus would say, "Don't listen to them! You don't have to do what they say." But He didn't. Jesus said, "Obey these teachers and do everything they say. But do not do what they do, because they do not practice what they preach." When it comes to living the Christian life, we need to make sure we do what we say.

Here's a little poem that would be good to remember.

You can know a lot of Scripture
And have the gift to teach,
But what is more important --
Is to practice what you preach!

Dear God, help us be people who do what we say so that others
can see the love of Jesus in us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Practice What You Preach

But do not do what they do, for they do not practice
what they preach. Matthew 23:3b (NIV)

Based on Matthew 23:1-12 (NIV)



J T F C R B X G R M A S T E R
I K F O I U N R C I Q I J X T
P S N B T Y B A N Q U E T S B
Q O B F A P X R F C O S B Y D
H A F M Q S E O R R C D X H I
R P P N I H M O S E S S Y S S
I R K R C X P B S Q R V R E C
M A Z A E X D E O E A E K F I
P C E K T A E Y D E H P T A P
O T U V Y L C L H T R F A T L
R I Z J B L U H O E I P H H E
T C L M E O Q R G L T U K E S
A E U L H C B N N B G O P R L
N H F S M R I C U H L O A D S
T W Z H X F P H A R I S E E S

SHOULDERS
HUMBLE
BROTHERS
OBEY

TEACHER
FATHER
FINGER
PREACH

MASTER
HONOR
IMPORTANT
LIFT

DISCIPLES
LOADS
MOSES
PHARISEES

PRACTICE
RABBI
HEAVY
BANQUETS

A Story on the Theme of Compassion

Clarence the Friendly Crocodile

Once upon a time in the jungle, there lived a friendly crocodile named Clarence. Clarence was not like any other crocodile; he was kind-hearted and always willing to help his fellow jungle creatures.

One sunny morning, Clarence heard a loud cry for help. It was coming from a group of monkeys who were trapped on a small island in the middle of the river. Without a second thought, Clarence swam towards the island to rescue them.

"Thank you, Clarence! You're our hero!" said the grateful monkeys as they safely climbed onto the crocodile's back to cross the river. Clarence smiled and replied, "It's my pleasure to help. We must always look out for each other in the jungle."



As they reached the other side of the river, the monkeys thanked Clarence once again and went on their way, promising to always remember his kindness.

Days passed, and a mysterious illness spread through the jungle, affecting many animals. Clarence noticed that his friends, the elephants, were feeling unwell. Determined to find a cure, he set off on a journey to seek the wisdom of the wise old owl who lived deep in the heart of the forest.

When Clarence reached the wise old owl's treehouse, the owl listened attentively to Clarence's plea for help and shared a remedy made from rare herbs and berries that could cure the illness.

"Thank you, wise owl! I will bring this remedy back to my friends," said Clarence gratefully as he hurried back to the jungle.

With the wise owl's remedy in hand, Clarence reached the elephant herd and administered the cure to them. Slowly but surely, the elephants began to regain their strength and health, thanks to Clarence's quick thinking and compassion.

Word of Clarence's selfless act spread throughout the jungle, and soon, animals from far and wide came to seek his help and guidance. Clarence became known as the "Healer of the Jungle," always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need.

As the jungle prospered once again, Clarence realized the true power of friendship and kindness. He had learned that by caring for others and working together, anything was possible.



A vibrant yellow poster for a Harvest Auction and Supper. At the top, two pumpkins are flanking a circular wreath. The text 'LAMERTON HALL' is arched over the top left of the wreath. Inside the wreath, the words 'HARVEST AUCTION AND SUPPER' are prominently displayed in large, bold letters. Below this, a red ribbon banner reads 'AT LAMERTON HALL'. The date and time 'Friday 2nd October 2026 commences 6.30pm' are centered below the banner. Further down, the text 'SUPPER AND DESSERT INCLUDED WITH TICKET' and 'LICENSED BAR' are listed. Below that, 'LOTS INCLUDE HARVEST ITEMS, DAYS OUT, MEALS AND LOTS MORE' is written. At the bottom, the purpose of the event is stated: 'RAISING FUNDS FOR LAMERTON HALL CHARITY NUMBER 900404'. The poster is decorated with various autumn-themed illustrations, including pumpkins, leaves, and two children at the bottom corners.

LAMERTON HALL

HARVEST AUCTION AND SUPPER

AT LAMERTON HALL

**Friday 2nd October 2026
commences 6.30pm**

**SUPPER AND DESSERT INCLUDED
WITH TICKET**

LICENSED BAR

**LOTS INCLUDE HARVEST ITEMS,
DAYS OUT, MEALS AND LOTS
MORE**

**RAISING FUNDS FOR LAMERTON HALL
CHARITY NUMBER 900404**



GARDEN NOTES BY DOUG

What a challenging year for us gardeners!

So much heat, so little rain and now it's gushing down again as I write this piece!

Many days it's been too hot to garden and the greenhouse has been bonkers; even the cat wouldn't go in there!

I do wish I had whitewashed/painted some of the windows in spring. I should plan to do that next year....it really was too hot in there.

But, in the greenhouse, the tomatoes have done ok, especially the plum Montello F1's which didn't need much attention other than a regular drink. They didn't get much support but they managed.

Some nice Kale attracted white butterflies who laid their eggs and hundreds of their caterpillars munched all the leaves. Having the windows open all the time gave the butterflies very easy access. Perhaps the kale will recover in the coming weeks?



The courgettes were up and down. Some were fine and some thought they were pumpkins, or marrows!

Carrots, sowed in a large pot outside and covered with fleece to keep out the carrot fly, did well.

Just a bit of watering and no real care and they did ok - see the above photo of one.

Lots already cropped, just a few left.

Maybe in the coming weeks I'll catch up with jobs - cut the grass, cut back perennials in the beds, get rid of dead stuff, mulch, wonder what to replace, think about planting bulbs for a lovely spring Order seeds for next spring?

Let's hope that the coming year is not too extreme - wind, rain, temperature.

Remember the sunshine and the nice times sitting outside in the evening.



53RD LAMERTON ANNUAL HANDBELL FESTIVAL

Saturday 10th October 2026
 Lamerton Sports & Community Centre
 7pm
 Free Admission. Refreshments. Draw

The Charity that Lamerton Handbell Ringers will be supporting this year is: - THE DARTMOOR SEARCH AND RESCUE GROUP

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S, SYDENHAM DAMEREL **ONE HUNDRED CLUB**

**Drawn at 10:30am, Saturday 5th September 2026,
in the Church at our monthly coffee morning.**

Tickets available from:

john.r.hearn19@gmail.com



Congratulations to Septembers winners:

1st prize ~ Pat McKenna

2nd Prize ~ Esther Stansbury

3rd Prize ~ Steve Burroughs

Join the fun – you have to be in it to win it!



Coffee @ St. Mary's Sydenham Damerel

**First Saturday of every month
10.30am onwards
All welcome.**

COFFEE & COMPANY



**Come and join us for a coffee, some cake, and
chit chat or a board game.**

**Every other Friday, 10am-12pm, at the Priest
Room (Chapel) by St Peter's Church,
Lamerton.**

Everyone welcome!

After the success of the Warm Hub, several people wished to carry on meeting and wanted more people to come along too, so we have relaunched as Coffee & Company.

Coffee & Company will be on the alternate week to the village coffee morning that takes place on a Saturday every other week, but do check the church calendar regularly as it doesn't always follow an exact alternating pattern:
www.southtamar.church/calendar/

We would love you to join us.

Mid-week Holy Communion



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

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



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



Christmas Fair



Milton Abbot Church

PL19 0PA

Saturday 14th November
10am to 1pm



Unquie Christmas gifts inc. preserves,
chocolates, alcohol, crafts, wreaths
& local butcher with early bird offers.

Sydenham Damerel Blowers Brass Band

Hot dogs, warmed mince pies, mulled
wine, cakes, tea & coffee

Extra parking at the Village School

Contact: matreasurer@southtamar.church

NATURE NOTES BY BLUEBELL



It was a damp grey afternoon in early June. Bluebell spotted a round, whitish object at the foot of a big beech tree in her garden.

It was a little tawny owl, perched on a root, immobile. Its eyes were nearly closed and it was keeping still. She approached slowly.

It was not apparently afraid, did not try to move away, or open its beak, or hiss at her. She stroked its back, could not resist, – it was so soft. It opened its eyes a little, but showed no sign of fear. She left it and came back half an hour later and found it had gone. There was no sign of distress, no blood or feathers.

The next day Bluebell was relieved to see two owlets high up on a branch of the big beech tree beneath which she had found it.

The next evening about 10pm on a clear night in her garden, Bluebell heard two young tawny owls calling each other, from branches of the big white cherry and the ash tree, near the beech, calling for their mother to feed them. They make a distinctive noise like a loud kissing noise, not the adult “too whit too whoo”. They could often be heard and answered to over the next month or two.

Another big excitement for Bluebell this summer of heat waves, was the swarm of bees which left their nest in a hole in her ash tree, in late May, led by the old queen. Bluebell saw the rounded black mass of the swarm hanging from a branch of a cedar of Lebanon, weighing it down almost to the grass in the field where it stood. There were probably more than a thousand bees there. A new young queen would have been left in the hole in the ash tree to rebuild a new colony.



It was a damp evening, so the bees stayed on the branch, did not fly any further, and early the next morning, two beekeepers from Milton Abbot came, dressed in white protective clothing, bringing two boxes with combs in, and laid a white sheet on the grass under the bees. They very slowly and gently stroked and coaxed the swarm of bees into a box with the queen, and guided those which did not get in straight away, across the sheet up a little gangway into the box. Swarming is a perilous venture for bees, they must find a new home in a good place or they will die.

These bees, a good tempered colony, settled happily into their new home in Milton Abbot, and later in the summer Bluebell was delighted to be given a jar of their new season honey.



MILTON ABBOT CHURCH

*Christmas Tree
Festival*

*Thursday 10th-Saturday 12th December
11am - 4pm*

*Entry and programme with donation
Homemade cake, and warming drinks available*

ENQUIRIES: MATREASURER@SOUTHTAMAR.CHURCH

LAMERTON WI

Tuesday 6th October 2:00pm

Learning to draw with Anita
Raffle & Tea

Competition: Fascinator/Posh Hat

Tuesday 3rd November 2.00pm

When I was a film star with William Dawe
Raffle & Tea

Hand Bag Mirror

Tuesday 1st December 2.00pm

Christmas Celebration: Knitting Angels
Raffle & Tea

Table Runner

*All meetings held at Lamerton Village Hall
New members welcome*



Safeguarding



Please report any safeguarding concerns to your Parish safeguarding representatives or Rev Gill George.

Lamerton: Annie Jefferies 01822 614178; Annie.jefferies@btinternet.com

Sydenham Damerel: Janet Giles; JLGiles89@yahoo.co.uk

Milton Abbot/Dunterton: Derek Youds; dyouds@aol.com;

Coryton: Jane Vicat; 01822 860254; janevicat@gmail.com

Marystowe: Anita Townsend 01822 860123;

Mongoosemoondaisy12@gmail.com

If you are concerned for the immediate safety of someone, dial 999

Lamerton Hall invite you to

LAMERTON CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 28th November 2026

11am til 2pm

- Handmade gifts
- Crafts
- Food

- Grotto
- Wreaths
- Drinks

Father Christmas will be visiting!

Free Entry

Lamerton Hall, Green Hill, Lamerton PL19 8QP

Christmas Wreath Making at Lamerton Hall

**Get into the festive spirit and
make your own Christmas wreath!**

Details:

Friday 4 December 2026, 6:30-9:00pm

Lamerton Hall, PL19 8QP

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Limited places. Please ring 01822 616799
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and the Winner is.. **Lucky Lamerton Lottery!**
***Thank you for all who have
 joined the Lamerton Lottery again this year.***



The winning number for last year's draw for August 2026 – 62

The first winning number for September 2026 – 21

Congratulations to our winners

All proceeds go towards St Peters Church, Lamerton.

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Contact: Mike Jefferies on 01822 614178

E-mail: mike.jefferies5@btinternet.com
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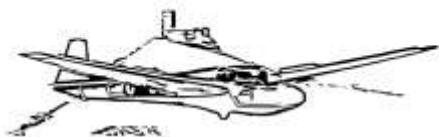
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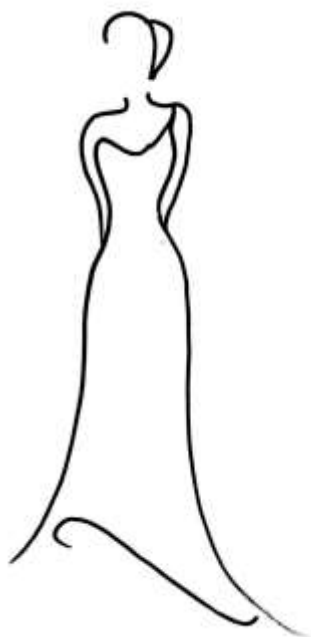
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Be Alert for Asian hornets!

Asian or yellow-legged hornets (scientific name *Vespa velutina*) were accidentally introduced into France in around 2004. Now they have spread through much of Western Europe. They are serious predators of honey bees, and also attack bumblebees, solitary bees and other insects.

They defend their nests aggressively and will attack anyone who gets too close: **never approach a nest**. Since 2016, there have been sightings of the Asian hornet in the UK, and a few nests have been found.

Asian hornet

actual size



Asian hornets are generally smaller (25-30 mm head to tail) than our native hornet, the European hornet (*Vespa crabro*), which is 30-35 mm head to tail (but can seem much bigger!). They are easy to distinguish because Asian hornets are mostly dark brown/black, with yellow 'socks' and an orange-yellow band near the tail. Native hornets look like very large wasps, with brown legs and bright yellow and black/brown markings. Native hornets fly both night and day, while Asian hornets fly only during the day.

**If you see this insect
PLEASE REPORT IT!**



Asian hornet
REPORT



Native hornet
do not report

The best way to report the Asian hornet is by using the app: **'Asian Hornet Watch'**, or you can send photos and location details to:
alernonnative@ceh.ac.uk

For identification help and advice in your area, go to www.bbka.org.uk (British Beekeepers' Association), hover over **Asian Hornet** and choose **Asian Hornet Action Team map** from the dropdown menu. Click on a pin on the map for local contact details.



The Benefice of
Milton Abbot and Dunterton, Lamerton and Sydenham Damerel, Marystowe, and Coryton
 in the Church of England Diocese of Exeter

Church Services in October 2026



Sun 4th Oct Trinity 18 (Green/St Francis) Creation Season Ends	9.30am Communion Marystowe (GG & RS)		6.30pm Harvest Festival Lamerton (GG)
Wed 7th Oct	10am Midweek Communion (GG)		
Sun 11th Oct Trinity 19 (Green)	10.30am Communion Sydenham Damerel (TT)	11.15am Morning Worship and Baptism of Ronnie Ablett Coryton (GG)	
Wed 14th Oct	10am Midweek Communion (TT)		
Sun 18th Oct Luke the Apostle/TT20 (Red/Green)	9.30 Harvest Festival Marystowe (RS)	11.00am Communion Lamerton (GG)	6.30pm Harvest Festival Coryton (GG)
Wed 21st Oct	10am Midweek Communion (GG)		
Sun 25th Oct Bible Sunday/LAT (Green)	9.30am BUBBLE CHURCH #2 Lamerton	11am Communion Milton Abbot (TT)	4pm Holy Communion (BCP) Coryton (GG)
Wed 28th Oct	10am Midweek Communion (TT)		

All are welcome. Refreshments are served at most services. Some of our churches are more accessible than others.

Please do contact Rev Gill George on 07947 604160 or vicar@southtamar.church for more information

Church Services in November 2026

Sun 1st Nov All Saints' Day (Gold/White)		11am Patronal Festival Dunterton (GG, TT, & RS)	6.30pm All Souls' Service Sydenham Damerel (GG & JG)
Wed 4th Nov	10am Midweek Communion (GG)		
Sun 8th Nov Remembrance Sunday (Red)	10.40am Remembrance Service for the Parish of Lamerton and Sydenham Damerel at Lamerton (TT)	10.45am Remembrance Service for the Parish of Milton Abbot and Dunterton at Milton Abbot (GG)	10.45 Remembrance Marystowe (RS)
Wed 11th Nov	Acts of Remembrance at Lamerton School and Sydenham Damerel		
Sun 15th Nov 2nd before Advent (Red)	9.30am Northumbria Service Marystowe (GG)	11.00am Communion Lamerton (TT)	11.30am Baptism of Felix at Coryton (GG)
Wed 18th Nov	10am Midweek Communion (GG)		
Sun 22nd Nov Christ the King (Red)	9.30am BUBBLE CHURCH #3 Milton Abbot	11am Communion Milton Abbot (GG)	6.30pm Songs of Praise Sydenham Damerel (RS)
Wed 25th Nov	10am Midweek Communion (TT)		
Sun 29th Nov ADVENT SUNDAY (Purple)	11.15am United Benefice Holy Communion at Coryton (GG, TT, RS)		

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Milton Abbot and Dunterton, Lamerton and Sydenham Damerel, Marystowe, and Coryton

The Benefice of



in the Church of England Diocese of Exeter



Church Services in December 2026

Wed 2nd Dec	10am Midweek Communion in the Priest Chapel, Lamerton PL19 8RN (GG)		
Sat 5th Dec	Marystowe Panto & Crafts		
Sun 6th Dec Advent 2 (Purple)		3pm Christingle Lamerton (GG)	6.30pm Advent Carol Service Marystowe (GG)
Wed 9th Dec	10am Midweek Communion in the Priest Chapel, Lamerton PL19 8RN (TT)		
Sat 12th Dec	6.30pm Coryton Christingle (GG)		
Sun 13th Dec Advent 3 (Purple)	10.30am Communion Sydenham Damerel (TT)	11.15am Matins (BCP) Coryton (RS)	4pm Christingle among the Christmas Trees Milton Abbot (GG)
Wed 16th Dec	10am Midweek Communion in the Priest Chapel, Lamerton PL19 8RN (GG)		
Sun 20th Dec Advent 4 (Purple)	9.30am BUBBLE CHURCH Crib & Angels at Lamerton		6.30pm Carol Service with Handbells Lamerton (GG)
Mon 21st Dec	6.30pm Carol Service Sydenham Damerel (GG)		
Wed 23rd Dec	10am Midweek Communion in the Priest Chapel, Lamerton PL19 8RN (TT)		
Thurs 24th Dec Christmas Eve (Purple then Gold)		4pm Crib and Carol Service at Milton Abbot (GG)	6.30pm Christmas Communion at Marystowe
Fri 25th Dec CHRISTMAS DAY (Gold/White)	9.30am Christmas Breakfast Service at Dunterton (GG)	10.30am Christmas Communion at Sydenham Damerel (GG)	11.15am Nine Lessons and Carols at Coryton (GG)
Sun 27th Dec (White)		11am Spoken Communion Milton Abbot	
Wed 30th Dec	No midweek service		

All are welcome. Refreshments are served at most services. Some of our churches are more accessible than others.
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