



### LETTER FROM THE RECTORY...

What does July hold in store for you? Is it the beginning of the summer holidays – school's out! – sunshine and seaside? Or a time to sit in the garden and admire the flourishing of all that has been sown and planted in the Spring?



Or possibly a time of frequent lawn mowing, trying to contain the abundance of growth!

July brings the realisation that we begin the second half of the year. We have laid our



plans, put down roots and now begin the cultivation that will lead to a later harvest. Some of us have said farewell to beloved family members and friends; we look forward amidst all the colour surrounding us and perhaps see a world that is a little dimmed. The way forward is unknown and we are not sure how we can go forward by ourselves; uncertain we have the inner strength to cope on our own.

Our churches, and more especially our village communities, are families; we support each other and come alongside anyone who needs a helping hand to take the next step along the road.

For some of us celebration is not what we feel, but joining in, taking part even in a small way, is a first step to reconnecting with the wider family that surrounds us. Dunsford Show begins the month on Saturday 5 July: pop into the St Mary's Church Family tent where there will be lots of activities for younger people, and a restful space to recover from festivities!

On Sunday 6th July we welcome our new Bishop of Crediton, the Rt Rev'd Moira Astin at a service in Exeter Cathedral at 4pm. All are invited; all are welcome!

Forest Church returns on Sunday 27 July in the Ashton Village Orchard at 4pm. Join us outside and listen to the spiritual message implicit in our natural world.

And listen out for the bells ringing gladness through our communities and advertising weddings and other celebrations! Happy Holidays!



## **Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community**

The Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community includes the parishes of Ashton,

Bridford, Christow, Doddiscombsleigh, Dunchideock and Dunsford.

Rev'd Ruth Frampton (Rector) - 01647 253164 or tvhhrectory@yahoo.com.

Rev'd Elizabeth Burren (Curate) - revelizabethburren@gmail.com

Rev'd Eleanor Oelmann (Anna Chaplain) - 07772 127598 or eleanoroelmann@gmail.com. **Pastoral Care** If you would like, or know someone who would be glad of, a call or "virtual" visit from Rev'd Ruth, Rev'd Elizabeth or Rev'd Eleanor, or another member of the church community, please contact the rectory (contact details above), or the Churches' Administrator (see Getting in touch... below).

## **Sunday Services**

There is a 9am telephone service each Sunday - you just need a landline or mobile telephone. Between 5 and 10 minutes before the service begins, please dial 0333 011 0616 and enter the code 334 7721, followed by the # key, when asked. The cost of the call is the standard cost for any 01, 02 or 03 number, but may vary according to your telephone contract. If you miss the Sunday sermon, catch up by phone. Call local number 01647 407047 to listen during the following week.

All our church buildings are open for public worship and details are provided in the separate schedule of services. Please check the "A Church Near You" website for your parish for updates (search for e.g. "A Church Near You Bridford").

Forest Church – 27 July and 24 August

A new monthly opportunity to explore outdoor spirituality, for all the family, at 4pm on Sunday 27 July and 24 August in Ashton Village Orchard (behind the Village Hall). We'd love for you to join us. You don't need to be a church-goer to come to Forest Church, just someone who appreciates creation and would like to have fun and explore their spiritual side outdoors. You can stay for all or part of the session and join in as you feel comfortable. Bring a camp chair or rug to sit on if you can, everyone of all ages is welcome, dogs too! **Dunsford Home Groups** 

An opportunity to think, discuss and learn together. There are two evening groups – one meeting on the second and fourth Monday of each month, and the other on the second and fourth Tuesday. For details, please contact Rev'd Ruth Frampton – contact details above. All welcome!

Scattered Church – Home Communion – weeks beginning 28 July and 25 August Rev'd Ruth and Rev'd Elizabeth will be taking home communion to those who are not able to attend church. If you would like to arrange a visit, please contact them (details above).

### Villages Prayer – Tuesday 15 July

An opportunity each month to join together specifically to pray for our world, our communities, our churches and those we know. Everyone is welcome. We meet to pray on the 3rd Tuesday of each month between 5pm and 6pm. In July the meeting will be held at Webberton Meadows, Dunchideock, Exeter, EX2 9TX. There will be no meeting in August.

### Getting in touch...

If you wish to discuss plans for a baptism/christening, banns of marriage, wedding, funeral, interment of ashes or memorial service, or have any other enquiry, please contact Steve Cook, the Churches' Administrator, on 01392 832332 or email tvhchurches@gmail.com

From the registers...

Dunchideock Church Services				
July 13	Trinity 4/ Proper 10 - Holy Communion			
Sidesperson	Chris Bond	10.200.00		
Readers	Tina Cook & Jamie Cummings	10.30am		
Readings	Zephaniah 3: v 14 - 20 & Philippians 4: V 4 - 7			
Aug 10	Trinity 8/ Proper 14 - Holy Communion			
Sidesperson	Shirley Phillips	10.30am		
Readers	Tina Cook & Steve Cook			
Readings	Genesis 15:1-6 & Hebrews 11:1-3 & 8-16			
Aug 24	St Bartholomew - Holy Communion			
Sidesperson	Ray Mallett	10.00		
Readers	Ann Mallett & Steve Cook	10.30am		
Readings	Isaiah 43:8-13 & Acts 5:12-16			
Aug 31	Trinity 11/ Proper 17 - Mission Community Holy Communion			
Sidesperson	Chris Bond	10.30am		
Readers	Ann Mallett & Ray Mallett			
Readings	Proverbs 25:6-7 & Hebrews 13:1-8 & 15-16	4		

Funerals: 9 June - Peter Goodchild (Dunchideock)

## Services in the Teign Valley and Haldon Hill Mission Community

July	Time	Details		
	10:30am	St James, Christow - Holy Communion		
6	10:30am	St Michael, Doddiscombsleigh - Holy Communion		
Trinity 3/Proper 9	10:30am	St Michael, Doddiscombsleigh - Holy Communion		
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word		
	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word		
13	10:30am	St Thomas Becket, Bridford - Holy Communion		
Trinity 4/Proper	10:30am	St Michael & All Angels, Dunchideock - Holy Communion		
10	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Family Service		
20	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word		
ZU Trinity 5/Proper	10:30am	St John the Baptist, Ashton - Holy Communion		
11	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Holy Communion		
	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word		
27	10:30am	St Thomas Becket, Bridford - Holy Communion		
Trinity 6/Proper	10:30am	St Michael, Doddiscombsleigh - Holy Communion		
12	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word		
	4:00pm	St John the Baptist, Ashton - Forest Church		
August	Time	Details		
•	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word		
3	10:30am	St James, Christow - Holy Communion		
Trinity 7/Proper 13	10:30am	St Michael, Doddiscombsleigh - Holy Communion		
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word		
	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word		
10	10:30am	St Thomas Becket, Bridford - Holy Communion		
Trinity 8/Proper 14	10:30am	St Michael & All Angels, Dunchideock - Holy Communion		
14	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word		
17	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word		
Trinity 9/Proper	10:30am	St John the Baptist, Ashton - Holy Communion		
15	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Holy Communion		
	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word		
24 St Bartholomew	10:30am	St James, Christow - Holy Communion		
	10:30am	St Michael & All Angels, Dunchideock - Holy Communion		
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word		
04	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word		
31 Trinity 11/Proper	10:30am	St Michael & All Angels, Dunchideock - Mission Community Holy Communion		
17	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word		

For telephone services, please dial 0333 011 0616 and enter the code 334 7721, followed by #

# www.dunchideock.org.uk

## Dunchideock Village Hall

## **Events as follows:**

**JULY 2025** 

Registered Charity No. 301096

Thurs 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24 and 31st July: Cardio Drumming @ 6pm Enjoy music, improve cardio fitness, develop drumming skills and experience amazing feelings of wellbeing. £10 per session. Call Tamsin- 07891 861881

Friday 4th and 11th July: Singing Villagers with Tamsin! 5.30-6.30pm. £1. No audition necessary. Please see poster for further details.

Sunday 6th July: Enjoy a lazy afternoon amongst friends @ Robin and Mark's 'Blooming Glorious' Garden Party 3-5pm £5 to include cream tea or cake. Please contact Sarah on 07738 631495 or Anne on 0789 4228570 to reserve a place.

**Monday 14th July** @ 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting. All welcome to attend.

### **August 2025**

Thurs 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th : Cardio Drumming @ 6pm Enjoy music, improve cardio fitness, develop drumming skills and experience amazing feelings of wellbeing. £10 per session. Call Tamsin- 07891 861881

Saturday 9th August: The Flower, Craft & Produce Show @Dunchideock Village Hall. \*\*POSTPONED\*\*. Due to the tremendous effort made by all members of our village community in supporting Dunchideock Fete on 31st May, a decision has been made to postpone the Flower, Craft and Produce show until August 2026. In the future, this will become a biennial event held on alternate years when there is no village fete taking place.

Dunchideock 100+ results: 業業業		Dunchideock Church Cleaning		
June:	July	August	Ray	& Ann Mallett
	•	Dunchide	ock C	hurch Flower Rota
1. C Bond	1. G Eveleigh	July		Anne Taylor
2. A Banks	2. R Castle	August		Stevi Cummings & Jean Cole
3. M Taylor	3. T Blarney			6

**Dunchideock Village Hall** 



endangered!

## As seen in other Church Magazines

## (We're too good to get caught, we hope!)

- This evening at 7 PM there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will
- The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake : breakfast next Sunday.





Getting older is just one body part after another saying 'Ha. You think that's bad? Watch this!' 7



A warm welcome awaits you in The Garden Room **The Lord Haldon Country Hotel** Dunchideock, EX6 7YF

\* \* \* \* \*

For Coffee, Cake and Good company!

\*\*\*\*

On Tuesday 1\*& 29<sup>th</sup> July 2025 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> August 2025

\*\*\*\*

From 10:30 am until 12:00 midday

**Everyone Welcome!** 



Lifts available if required please contact: Anne Taylor: 01392 838282 Or Shirley Phillips: 07508188224

Tea/Coffee: £1.80 Cake: £1.80

## **Dunchideock VE Day Pub Night**

The VE Day Pub night at the Village was a brilliant community get together with everyone bringing a plate of food to share. The bar was busy which helped the conversations to flow and the dance floor to fill up! Local busking band Plum Jam gave us some great live music from the 40's to classic rock tunes to bop to!



Thanks to everyone who came and joined in.

## **Dunchideock Fete 2025**

The summer fete at Dunchideock House was a great success with fantastic support and hard work from the villagers and some of our neighbours to organise it. Many thanks to Alison and Brian Ottewill for taking the lead this year with such good humour. On the day we welcomed over 500 visitors who fully immersed themselves in cream teas, bbq's, beers, Pimms, welly wanging, cake buying, plant purchasing, skittling, tombola'ing and children's activities. The Exeter Railway Band topped off the traditional fete atmosphere. A big thanks



to the local businesses who generously donated 18 wonderful draw prizes. Thanks to all who came and enjoyed themselves, Penny and Peter Goodchild would have loved it!

# SUN 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY

Entry Tickets £5

<u>3PM-5PN</u>

777

MARK AND ROBIN INVITE YOU TO

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# Zero

The debate continues... "Is zero a number?"

The Romans did not have a number for zero. They sensibly realised that if there were no sheep to count, they did not need number to count them.

The counting system we use came from India, via the Arabic countries hence is called Arabic Numerals. Fibonacci introduced these to Europe in his book "Liber Abaci" in the 13th century, and they eventually became widespread in Britain in the 16th century. The great strength of Arabic Numerals is that they use *place* to tell us the *value* of a number.

Think about this year, 2025. The first digit 2 means two thousand, the next 2 means two tens, i.e. twenty. The symbol 2 is used to mean two quite different values and

we know these values by their position in the number. We can write any number we like, even large numbers, using only ten symbols: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

Look back at 2025. If zero was not there, it would read 225. This is certainly not the year 225 and the Romans are not in charge! The purpose of 0 is simply to fill the space so that the first 2 is read as two thousand not two hundred. 0 is just a space filler, not a number at all. Think of your garden thermometer. The temperature drops, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 degrees. Then what happens? Imagine the temperature drops a further 1 degree, you can't have -1 next as that is two degrees below 1. You need a number between 1 and -1. We call it zero, not a number, just an interval marker.

There is in mathematics something called an *identity*. This is something which does not change a number. What is the answer when you add 0? 2025 + 0 = 2025

0 + 198 = 198

0 is an identity when you perform an addition. It is called the *identity under addition*. You can't add something to a number if it isn't a number itself. Does that make 0 a number?

What do you think?

Is 0 actually a number or just a space filler or interval marker? Dawn Bird



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# Children's Pages (for any age)

How many of these can you complete during the holidays? (cross off as you complete them)

- 1. Go on a picnic.
- 2. Find as many different animal tracks in your garden as you can and write a list. (yes, slug & snails count!)
- 3. Make a picture out of stuff you can find <u>without picking</u>/ damaging anything.
- 4. Try Geocaching there is a 10 cache walk in the forest!
- 5. Find & use a 'Book Swap' (The Exchange is allowed) and swap a book.
- 6. Spend some time at a beach.
- 7. Eat some ice cream!
- 8. Donate two things you no longer need to charity (or recycle them if they are broken!)
- 9. Spend some time on Dartmoor or at another National Park.
- 10. Find a recipe & cook something (with help if needed).
- 11. Make a Fairy/ Pixie door.
- 12. Have a water fight!
- 13. Visit a different county (Cornwall, Somerset, Dorset... help may be needed!)
- 14. Find a river or stream & cross it without using a bridge, and while staying dry!
- 15. Spend some time with friends.
- 16. Dance to a song you like, but dance like no-one is watching you!
- 17. Learn all of the words to a new (to you) song.
- 18. (Set up &) do a scavenger hunt.
- 19. Find out where one of the Historic England listed places are in your village. If possible and <u>without</u> going onto private property, go & see it. (a starting point could be the Church area!)
- 20. Play hide & seek.

Why do bananas wear sunscreen? Because they peel easily.
What time is it when an elephant sits on your bed? Time to get a new bed...
How does the ocean say hello? It waves.
Why is 2+2=5 like your left foot? It's not right!







# **Robert Williams**

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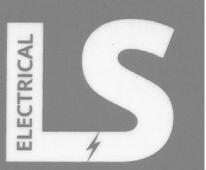


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Post Office:	Mon to Fri	8am -11.45am	
		1pm - 5pm	
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	Sundays &	CLOSED	
	Bank Holidays		
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#### \*\*\* OPENING HOURS\*\*\*

March onwards... Open 12pm-5pm Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday Closed Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

> www.boyces-manstree.co.uk TEL – 01392 832218

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## **Classifieds:**

Dementia day clock - £30 Shows date, time, day and month. In excellent condition - still has the plastic film on the screen. Contact Debbie: 07729 554 524

Leather and fabric Sofa (reduced for quick sale) - now £100. Two seater brown multiyork, in good condition. Contact Debbie 07729 554 524

## **Celebration of Shillingford**

This year's Annual Parish Meeting was a Celebration of Shillingford held in the Village Hall on 12th May. Councillors and members of the public enjoyed an interesting evening of presentations from members of twenty-two different groups and organisations enjoyed by Shillingford residents.

Among the highlights we learned that Shillingford Abbot residents have developed their own annual event in the form of the Shillingford Abbot Garden Party and Classic Car Show and SAGAS, the Shillingford Abbot Gin Appreciation Society enjoys regular meetings and finds its WhatsApp Group useful for sharing information and support. Two short films were shown to illustrate work being done by the Friends of Shillingford Wood and the Wildlife Group to support, encourage and record birds and other wildlife. Exeter Growers grow food in an environmentally friendly way as well as working to provide habitats for the wildlife they work alongside. Tribute was paid to the Chair and Committee of the Village Hall who care for and maintain the venue for many of our Parish Activities.

Cllr John Parrott gave an outline of what will be required to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for our Parish and it is hoped to move forward with this soon with a further meeting planned shortly. Cllr Peter Wareham commented that it is amazing that so many groups bring people together and thrive in our small Parish.

## **CAN YOU HELP SUPPORT COUNTRY NEWS?**

Country news is currently produced and delivered FREE OF CHARGE to every household in Dunchideock & Shillingford. To cover our costs we depend on income from advertisers, and from donations.

Over the last year, printing costs have increased significantly (again!) and as a result we have increased the cost of adverts by roughly 20%. On top of that the bank has also started charging us to hold our money - at approx. £60 per year!

COULD YOU CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO HELP COVER OUR COSTS AND KEEP THE MAGAZINE FREE FOR EVERYONE?



## Shillingford Village Hall SATURDAY 5th JULY 10.30 – 12.00

## Bring your Books, Toys, Puzzles, Plants and Seeds to swap, or just take away something you see!

No Bric a brac or clothing please

## Tasty cakes ~ Coffee ~ Tea

*The Following Exchange will be on Saturday* 16<sup>th</sup> August. 2



The Friends of Shillingford Wood & The Devon Moth Group

invite you to a

# MOTH EVENING



On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 9.30 pm in Shillingford Wood. Meet in the parish church car park. judges.composers.tells



There are over 2500 species of moth in the UK, the vast majority of which only come out at night; which is why this event starts so late! At our last Moth Event we identified over 120 species, one of them rare. Come along and have the chance to examine these secretive creatures very closely – you will be amazed at their colours, shapes and patterns.

This is a free event but we would appreciate donations towards the upkeep of the wood.

## BOOKING ESSENTIAL

To book and for further information: shillingfordwood@btinternet.com or 01392 833183.

## JAZZ IN SHILLINGFORD TWO

### SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2025 ADVANCE NOTICE

Following the success of the event last November, I am hoping to arrange a similar event on the above date. This will be a Community Event in the Village Hall arranged on behalf of St George the Martyr Church, Shillingford St George. If you are interested in attending could you please make a pencil note in your diaries. If the event proceeds, there will be full details in future editions of Country News and Alphington Life. Norman Harvey



## Shillingford St George Church Calendar for July & August 2025

Dates	Name	Service	Time	
6 July	Trinity 3	Morning Service	9.30	
Sidesmen	Derek			
Readers	Derek & Nick			
Reading/s	2 Kings 5:1-14, Galatia	ns 6: 1-6 & 7-16 Luke 10:1-11 & 16-20		
Prayers	Lay Team: Oak Close &	Waybrook Lane		
13 July	Trinity 4	Holy Communion	9.30	
Sidesmen	Norman		·	
Readers	Norman & Ken			
Reading/s	Amos 7:7-17, Colossia	ns 1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37		
Prayers	Clergy: Road through S	hillingford Abbot		
20 July	Trinity 5	Evensong in the Churchyard	6.00pm	
Sidesmen	Tom & Gwen		·	
Readers	Tam & Edmund			
Reading/s	Amos 8:1-12, Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42			
Prayers	Clergy: Ash Court & St	George's Terrace		
27 July	Trinity 6	Holy Communion	9.30	
Sidesmen	Norman			
Readers	Rose & Derek			
Reading/s	Hosea 1:2-10, Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19) Luke 11:1-13			
Prayers	Nick: Our Mission Com	munity with Alphington & Ide		
3 August	Trinity 7	Morning Service	9.30	
Sidesmen	Di			
Readers	Sue & Di			
Reading/s	Hosea 11:1-11, Colossi	ans 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21		
Prayers	Lay Team: The Willows & Ilex Close			
10 August	Trinity 8	Holy Communion	9.30	
Sidesmen	Norman	Norman		
Readers	Norman and Derek			
Reading/s	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40			
Prayers	Clergy: Manstree Lane & Manstree Terrace			
17 August	Trinity 9	Evensong in the churchyard	6.00	
Sidesmen	Tom and Gwen			
Readers	Tam and Edmund			
Reading/s	Isaiah 5:1-7, Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56			
Prayers	Clergy: Glebe Lane & P	lace Farm Area	23	

Date	Name	Service	Time	
24 August	Trinity 10	Holy Communion	9.30am	
Sidesmen	Derek			
Readers	Sue and Rose			
Reading/s	Jeremiah 1:4-10, Hebre	ews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17		
Prayers	Nick: Road through Shi	Nick: Road through Shillingford St George		
31 August	Trinity 11	MC Holy Communion	11.00	
Sidesmen		At Alphington		
Readers	At Alphington			
Reading/s	Jeremiah 2:4-13, Hebre	Jeremiah 2:4-13, Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:1, 7-14		
Prayers	Surrounding parishes o	Surrounding parishes of Dunchideock, Kenn & Exminster		
7 September	Trinity 12	Morning Service	9.30	
Sidesmen	Di			
Readers	Di and Peter			
Reading/s	Jeremiah 18:1-11, Philemon 1:1-21 Luke 14:25-33			
Prayers	Lay Team: Barrack Lane & Barton Lane			

Flower Rota				
July 6 Lesley July 13 + 20 Claire				
July 27 + Aug 3	Terry	Aug 10 + 17	Tam	
Aug 24 + 31	Carole	Sept 7 + 14	Sue	

**Summer Outdoor Evensong:** We are planning to have Evensong, outdoors in the churchyard at 6pm on Sunday 20 July & Sunday 17 August – that is assuming the rain gods don't have other ideas! All are very welcome to come along and join chorus with the songbirds.

**Church & Churchyard work:** Happily, all work on the church building has completed (for now!) and been paid for thanks to generous financial help from several sources, as mentioned in the June Country News. There are also signs of new life in the branches of the churchyard tree (although we will have to continue to trim the base of the tree so we don't end up with a solid, 2m wide "bush"!)

## For your diary

Gift Day Cream Teas are in the Village Hall on Saturday 28 June from 2-4.30pm. Music from the Shillingford Village Quartet.

The Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 12 October and Harvest Supper on Monday 13 October in the Village Hall.

## The Open Door Cafe

9th July 10.30-12 Noon S.V.H.

23rd July 10.30-12 Noon (Police & Communities) S.V.H.

6th August 10.30-12 Noon S.V.H.

20th August 10.30-12 Noon (Police & Communities) SVH

3rd September 10.30-12 Noon. S.V.H.

**RIDGETOP PARK** 

If anyone would like to try an invigorating walk may I suggest that this Park is very well worth taking the time to explore it.

The area can be reached from a free car park at the end of Trood Lane. There is a steady ascent to the top of Pearce's Hill near to where the two aerial masts are located. The park is divided into two sections and there are several Information Boards with maps. An official description is "this wonderful open green space has much to discover and explore, offering room to breathe, relax and enjoy the views.

Having reached the top, there are two panoramic views that will reward the effort. From the Sunset Seat, to the West as the name of the seat implies, and in the other section from the Sunrise seat to the East over the River Exe and beyond. Both provide an opportunity to rest and relax and watch the clouds and time go by. The area has wooden art carvings of birds and animals, local history information boards, walking paths together with bird watching and wildlife.

The area is managed by The Land Trust and an entry of "Ridgetop Park" on Google will display a website that has a map. If the ascent is not achievable, there is some limited unofficial parking at the top of Old Matford Lane. Norman Harvey

Two Interesting Signs seen at Ridgetop Park

"There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature - the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter" Rachael Carson – 1907 to 1964, American marine biologist, author and conservationist A Recipe for a Corn Field - Turn it over, crumble it up, sprinkle some seeds and roll it out. Sprinkle liberally with rain and bake it in the English summer

## SHILLINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY - BATTLE OF BRITAIN AT EXETER 1940

### MONDAY 19TH MAY 2025

This talk was given by Chris Wiseman and Dom Pound, who have been compiling a history of the RAF in Exeter and the Battle of Britain between them.



In 1932 the first ever Municipal Airport at Clyst Honiton was first considered by Exeter City Council. The site chosen was on land at Waterslade Farm, Clyst Honiton where 187 acres were obtained by compulsory purchase in 1937 by the city council. Only 90 acres were required for the first stage of the aerodrome and initially there was a grass runway of 870 yards. The terminal building was originally just a tented area and it officially opened in May 1937. The first landing took place on 10 May when a Leopard Moth airplane brought films of the Coronation of HM King George VI for showing in the cinemas of Exeter. It is believed that a Royal Navy aircraft also landed there in as part of an exercise. The airfield was in public use by 9 September 1937. By 30th July 1938 there was a small single storey terminal building and one hangar.

On 3rd September 1939, as part of the war effort, Exeter Airport was taken over by the Air Ministry as RAF Clyst Honiton and then as RAF Exeter. It was classified a Class 1 Military Airfield, a priority location, as it was within 20 miles of the port of Exmouth.

RAF Exeter became officially operational on 6th July 1940. 213 Squadron, equipped with Hawker Hurricane aircraft had already arrived on 18th June 1940, to be ready for action. They remained until September 1940, with 87 Squadron taking over and 601 (County of London) Squadron moving in temporarily. This was a Royal Auxiliary Air Force Squadron that bore the nickname "The Millionaire Squadron" because of the wealth of some of the pilots. We were given many examples of the bravery of pilots and their crews, both around Portland and Exmouth, two of them became "Aces" which required them to have shot down five enemy aircraft. Both were a first for their country, with one coming from Australia and the other from Belgium.

Chris then gave details of the casualties connected with RAF Exeter during the Battle of Britain, 22 men of at least 6 nationalities were killed in 1940 alone, along with some very senior officers, including a Squadron Leader and a Wing Commander. At least 24 of the final number are buried in Higher Cemetery.

This was an excellent talk and we hope their loss was not in vain and will not be forgotten. The next talk is on Monday July 21 when Stewart Henchie has agreed to speak about The History of the Orangery at Bitton House, Teignmouth. 26 The Committee is very much in need of new members, so if anyone is interested, please contact the Chairman, Jan Wood at jwood227@btinternet.com.

The membership year is from May to April and annual fees are now due. The annual fee remains only £8, and is payable now for 2025 to 2026. This includes free entry to the meetings and talks for the year, covers the cost of the buffet at the February meeting. New members are always welcome. The fee per meeting for guests is £4.

Norman Harvey - Committee Member Shillingford Local History Society



**MEMBERS FREE** 



## FRIENDS OF SHILLINGFORD WOOD

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### LINKS TO THE PAST – PART TWO

Jan Wood, Shillingford Local History Society

The Moxey family, who lived in Shillingford Abbot in the 19th century, have already featured briefly in a couple of previous articles published in Country News. Like many children born into poor labouring families, George Moxey, a farm labourer born in Whitestone, had been apprenticed as a boy by the parish overseers of the poor to a local farmer. In the early 1840s, as a middle-aged man settled in Shillingford Abbot with his wife Eliza and their children, he had given evidence before the Parliamentary Enquiry into Women and Children in Agriculture, on his experiences as a parish apprentice, and I included his story in an article on parish apprenticeship, published in the December 2023/January 2024 edition of Country News. He had in fact also been mentioned in another article about the Greenslade family of Shillingford Abbot, published a year before - in December 1861, he and his widowed neighbour Ann Greenslade had appeared before the magistrates at Exeter Castle, where they had been convicted and fined for selling cider without a licence. Since then, I've discovered several links from the present to the Moxey family of the 19th century. Some readers may know that I still work as an archivist at the Devon Heritage Centre (the county archives) and last year, I took in a document which related to the history of the Barley Estate in St Thomas and its eventual development as a housing estate in the 1930s. The donor, Jenny, happened to have moved fairly recently to Shillingford St George. She knew as a result of family history research, mostly carried out by her late mother, that she was a descendant of a Moxey family which had once lived in the Shillingfords. It proved that Jenny was a 4- times-great-grand-daughter of George and Eliza Moxey. She descends from one of their four sons, George Moxey Junior, who as a lad had worked as a farm servant for William Lear at Shillingford Farm, but who had died in his early 30s, leaving a widow and three small sons. His remaining family struggled financially - George's widow worked as a charwoman after they had moved to Alphington and the sons worked as farm labourers. Some of this family remained in Alphington, but others including Jenny's own ancestors, moved into Exeter, where they lived in the West Quarter, the poorest area of the city. In fact, it took several generations for the lives of most of George and Eliza Moxey's descendants to improve.

George and Eliza Moxey are buried in Exminster parish churchyard and their gravestone



stands in a row with those of their daughter, son and some of their grandchildren.

Since meeting Jenny, I have been prompted to carry on researching the Moxey family in much more detail and have been tracing their descendants wherever possible into the later 20th century. So, more of their stories are due to feature in the Country News in the future. I've also been looking at the lives of George Moxey's sisters and brothers, most of whom also eventually left Whitestone for other parishes, and this has led to links with two more living descendants – one in London and the other in Canada.

Interestingly, some of these Moxey family branches thrived far more than others. George's youngest sister Martha Moxey left Whitestone after marrying a gardener named Charles Chanter, who worked at nurseries in St. Sidwell and at Mount Dinham in Exeter. Although they had eleven children, most of these seemed to receive a good education, considering the family's fairly humble beginnings, and rose up the social scale. Several moved away from Devon. Their sons all took up clerical positions, one daughter married a Church of England missionary, and another a Bible Christian minister, and a few of their grandchildren then married into the middle classes.



One grand-daughter, Amy Chanter Goodchild, born in 1873, and shown here as a young woman, even attended St. Hugh's Hall, a college for women at the University of Oxford, and after moving to Ceylon, where from 1898 she managed a missionary school for girls, she married a young colonial officer. Sadly, she died young but left two daughters, and her husband rose through the colonial civil service to become Commissioner of Lands in Ceylon.

Another grand-daughter, Emma Jane Chanter, born in Exeter in 1857, married a well-connected young man named Francis Hyde Hinton East, who lived on his own means – he was the son of an Army Captain who had served in the West Indies, and the greatnephew of the former Chief Justice of Calcutta. They lived a comfortable lifestyle and employed servants.

Last year, two volumes of handwritten choral anthems and other music were donated to the Devon Heritage Centre by the descendant of Samuel Chanter, a young man who had lived in Exeter. These volumes had been compiled by Samuel in about 1867, and were attractively written in multi-coloured copperplate script, with separate staves for organ/piano accompaniment and the vocal lines. The family legend was that Samuel Chanter, who had moved from Exeter to London as a young man and had worked as a solicitor's clerk, had been an organist at the Exeter Cathedral. In fact, the volumes of music had originally been offered to the Cathedral Archives, but the archivist there had found that Samuel Chanter – though obviously a musician - had never been a Cathedral organist. It was only after I started researching Martha Moxey's marriage and children, that I realised this Samuel Chanter had been one of her eleven children.

My research has also found that early during their marriage Charles and Martha Chanter joined the Bible Christians, a Methodist denomination founded in 1815 in North Cornwall. So it is more likely that if Samuel Chanter had played the organ, it was at the Bible Christian Chapel in Exeter. In fact I've also found from newspaper articles that two of his nieces were good singers who performed in sacred music concerts in Exeter – one of them later made her living in Essex as a professional

singer and teacher of music. The Chanter family clearly lived quite different lives to those of their Moxey cousins.

George Moxey's oldest brother William remained an agricultural labourer all his life, and never left Whitestone, but almost all of his surviving children moved away, and some of their descendants ended up living far from Devon. William Moxey's oldest son John moved to Highweek, Newton Abbot, and married there, and although he also remained an agricultural labourer, his oldest daughter married a railway engine fitter named Thomas Webber, and their three sons all became apprentice fitters at the Great Western Railway workshops in Newton Abbot. Later two of the sons worked at Swindon Railway Workshops and the Naval Dockyards in Devonport, and in 1913, one of these - Thomas Henry Webber - emigrated to Canada with his wife and baby daughter.

While researching the Moxeys and Webbers in Newton Abbot, I made contact through the Ancestry family history website with Reg. Webber, one of their Canadian descendants, who is a retired librarian and keen family historian. In fact he and his sister came to Devon ten years ago, and although we weren't aware of them then, they visited Shillingford St. George, because they also descend from Frederick Brockington, the unfortunate Shillingford blacksmith who choked to death on a piece of beef while eating his supper in November 1872, and is buried in the churchyard.

So Reg has a closer link to another of the Shillingford families I've written about in Country News, April 2021. Reg is the great-grandson of Frederick George Brockington, one of Frederick Brockington's sons. From the village school in Shillingford, this son had gone on to become a footman, before enlisting in the Royal Navy, where he served as a steward on a number of ships, including the Dreadnought. He married in Paignton, and during gaps spent on shore, he seems to have worked as an innkeeper and market gardener. He spent less and less time at sea, and at the end of a rather chequered naval career, he left to become a coachman, and then lived in Exeter with his wife and four children.

One of his children was Beatrice Maud Brockington, born in Holcombe village, in the parish of Dawlish in 1889, and shown in this photograph as a young girl. Beatrice Maud Brockington became the wife of Moxey descendant Thomas Henry Webber, marrying him in Devonport in 1911. They were Reg. Webber's grandparents and, possibly with the encouragement of Beatrice's parents, who had emigrated to Canada with their other children about 6 or 7 years earlier in 1906.

Sadly, Reg. Webber never knew his grandmother Beatrice, as she died in Toronto General Hospital of Spanish flu during the pandemic of



1919, aged only 29, leaving a newborn baby, who also died of Spanish flu, and three small children. Unfortunately, her widowed husband Thomas could not cope with the children and placed them in an orphanage until he re-married, when he brought them home for a few years. But there we will have to leave the story of these Canadian Brockington and Moxey descendants, for the present.

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## **COMMUNITY ART GROUP**

The Community Art Group will continue through the Summer. You are welcome to join us from 10am -12 noon to do a couple of hours of S S S IN painting or any other chosen craft in Shillingford Village Hall. There is no charge. Tea and Coffee provided for a donation of 50p. 

JULY - Fridays 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>

AUGUST - Fridays 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, **NO ART** SROUP on Friday 15th, meet again on Fridays 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. 

Hope to see you there!

## **TEIGN VALLEY MEN'S SHED**

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Teign Valley Men's Shed will be open every Thursday during July and August from 9:30am to 12:30pm – weather permitting. If you are already a member, look out for an email or WhatsApp message if bad weather means we have to cancel or contact the email address below. The Shed is located at Embercombe in Higher Ashton, EX6 7QQ – on the first floor of the large building just beyond the main car park. Transport is available if required – a minibus (courtesy of Acorn) is available most weeks, at a cost of £5 per week.

Email: teignvalleyshed@gmail.com for more info or a transport request.

What are Men's Sheds? They are community spaces where men can enjoy, learn and share practical hobbies in kitted-out areas, along with coffee & tea & banter! It doesn't matter if you have no experience, or lots, you will still be welcome! There is an annual membership fee of £10, and a session fee of £5 for each session.

### **Recent Developments:**

With increased numbers coming to Men's Shed on a regular basis, we just finished opening up a new work area in the Embercombe workshop to give us more workbench space where we can work safely.

32 Don't miss an opportunity to meet new friends and learn/share some practical skills.

## Emergency Numbers:

The following is a list of those numbers that are important (or could be important) for you. If there are any mistakes or omissions here, please do let us know.

## POLICE / AMBULANCE / FIRE BRIGADE / COASTGUARD

## *Emergencies <u>only</u>: dial 999 Medical Situations*

**Accident & Emergency:** the nearest A&E department is the RD&E Hospital, Barrack Road, Exeter, EX2 5DW

*Minor Injuries Unit:* at the RD&E as above.

## Doctors urgent out of hours service 111

**Dental:** The NHS dental helpline gives advice on surgeries and emergency dental care 03330 063 300

Police: Non emergency: call 101

*To report fraud or attempted fraud or cyber crime:* call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 (Mon-Fri 8am - 8pm for individuals, 24 hr 7 days a week for businesses or charities).

**Crimestoppers:** to report a crime or give details anonymously ring 0800 555 111.

## Utilities

**Gas:** if you think you have a gas leak or can smell gas, ring the National Gas Emergencies Number: 0800 111 999

**Electricity:** if you have a power cut, ring 105 (though be aware that only landlines may work in a power cut) or 0800 6783 105. Western Power deals with distribution in Devon.

Electrical hazard or emergency with power lines: ring 0800 40 40 90 South West Water: for leaks ring the Services Helpline 0800 230 0561

## Weather

**Flood warning:** the Environment Agency issues flood warnings and you can sign up for alerts, or you can ring 0345 988 1188 to hear about current flood warnings **Weather warning:** the Met Office issues warnings for rain, snow, ice, fog and wind

and these are communicated via their website, apps, social media, TV and radio.

## Local Council/s:

**Devon County Council pothole reporting:** https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-andtransport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/

Teignbridge District Council:Customer support on 01626 361101 (Monday -Thursday 8.30am - 5pm. Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm).33

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#### **Useful Numbers** Dunchideock Village Hall: co-Chair: Sally 07712465442 Shillingford St George Village Hall - Bookings: online vhbookings@shillingford.org.uk or by phone between 9am and 5pm: Avril: Treasurer 01392 833796 or Sally: Chair 01392 833478 Shillingford Parish Council Chair: Peter Wareham, perterwharham@gmail.com 01392832366 Parish Clerk: Maureen Adams shillingfordpc@gmail.com Community defibrillators: - please contact Parish Clerk to report any issues **Devon County Councillor:** Alan Connett alan.connett@btinternet.com 07843013705 **MP:** Mel Stride 020 7219 7037/ email: mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk **Teignbridge** General: 01626 361101 / www.teignbridge.gov.uk Out of hours emergency: 0330 6782382 Waste collection https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste **Teignbridge District Councillors** Charles Nuttall charles.nuttall@teignbridge.gov.uk 07486041108 John Parrott john.parrott@teignbridge.gov.uk 07387533303 kevin.lake@teignbridge.gov.uk 01342 825767; 07532027145 Kevin Lake **Other Useful Numbers** Ide Lane Surgery 01392 428900 Online www.idelanesurgery@nhs.uk St Thomas Health Centre: 01392 676676 Online: www.stthomas.nhs.uk Teignbridge General: T: 01626 361101 / www.teignbridge.gov.uk Out of hours emergency: 0330 6782382 Waste collection https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste Report potholes or overgrown hedges: 0345 1551004 Report power cuts or damage to power lines: 0800 6783 105 Environment Agency hotline 0800 80 70 60 Citizens Advice Bureau 0800 144 8848 Samaritans 116123 For any suggested additions or amendments, please contact Shillingford Parish Clerk or Steve Cook for Dunchideock

Villages Diary - December, January & Beyond					
July					
1st & 29th	10.30am - 12	The Garden Room	Lord Haldon Hotel		
Every Thurs 3-	6.00pm	Cardio Drumming	D. V. H.		
4, 11, 18 + 25	10am - 12	Community Art Group	S. V. H.		
4th & 11th	5.30-6.30pm	Singing Villagers	D. V. H.		
5th	10.30am - 12	The Exchange	S. V. H.		
6th	3pm - 5pm	Garden Party	Robin & Mark's		
9th + 23rd	10.30am - 12	Open Door Café	S. V. H.		
12th	12 noon	Shillingford Villagers BBQ	S. V. H.		
14th	7.30pm	Dunchideock Parish Council	D. V. H.		
15th	5pm - 6pm	Villages Prayer	Webberton Meadows		
19th	9.30pm	Moth Evening	Shillingford Wood		
21st	7.30pm	Shillingford Local History talk	S. V. H.		
23rd	10.30am - 12	Open Door Café - Police & Com.	S. V. H.		
		August			
1, 8, 22, 29	10am - 12	Community Art Group	S. V. H.		
6th	10.30am - 12	Open Door Café	S. V. H,		
7, 14, 21, 28	6.00pm	Cardio Drumming	D. V. H.		
12th + 26th	10.30am - 12	The Garden Room	Lord Haldon Hotel		
16th	10.30am - 12	The Exchange	S. V. H.		
17th	2.00pm	Party in the Garden	The Cottage, S. St G.		
20th	10.30am - 12	Open Door Café - Police & Com.	S. V. H.		
& Beyond					
3rd Sept	10.30am - 12	Open Door Café	S. V. H.		
12th Oct		Shillingford Harvest Festival	Shillingford Church		
13th Oct		Shillingford Harvest Supper	S. V. H.		

## I told my calendar to be more spontaneous, now it just schedules surprises!

The Parishes of Shillingford, Ide & Alphington				
Rector:	Rev. Mike Partridge, The Rectory, Alphington. EX2 8XJ			
(day off Thursday)	Tel: 01392 491476 or 07751 725306			
	Email: rector@alphingtonstmichaels.org			
Churchwarden:	Mr. N. Mansell (832660) sa5632@btinternet.com			
	<u>Dunchideock</u>			
Rector:	Rev. Ruth Frampton, The Rectory, Christow. EX6 7PE			
(day off Thursday)	Tel: 01647 253164			
	Email: tvhhrectory@yahoo.com			
Curate:	Rev. Elizabeth Burren revelizabethburren@gmail.com			
Anna Chaplain:	Rev. Eleanor Oelmann eleanoroelmann@gmail.com			
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