

# COUNTRY NEWS

MARCH 2026

Parish Magazine of  
*Dunchideock and Shillingford St George*

'What can we learn from the  
Palm Sunday story?'



'If someone waves palm  
leaves at you, eat them!'

We are all looking forward to some sunshine this month  
(please?)

For everything on in the villages, see the Diary!

## FROM ALPHINGTON RECTORY

It's striking how deliberately and methodically Jesus sets out in the gospels to follow in the footsteps of Moses and the people of Israel (his own Desert Fathers and Mothers). Just as they had spent forty years in the wilderness being tested and prepared for the Promised Land, so he now enters the wilderness for forty days to be tested and prepared for the beginning of his own public ministry.

Reflecting on this passage, the Dutch priest, Henri Nouwen summarises its three provocations in contemporary terms as the **temptation to be relevant** (bread from stones being precisely what Jesus needed at that time), **the temptation to be spectacular** (dramatic angelic protection being just the kind of heroic miracle to wow a crowd), and **the temptation to wield power** (over "all the kingdoms of the world and their glory"). "Being relevant, popular and powerful," says Nouwen, "are not vocations, but temptations." Framed in this way, I'm forced to acknowledge my vulnerability in all three areas. Yes, of course I want my life to be relevant – strategic, effective, and productive. And yes, I also aspire to be spectacular – heroic, successful and extraordinary. And as for the allure of power, yes, I do desire to be in control, to lead and influence, to command the respect of others.

It's striking how **Jesus resists each of these temptations by quoting the Bible**. Anticipating the familiar temptations of the coming day, I memorise and personalise Romans 8:37 in order to quote it later: "I am more than a conqueror through Christ who loves me".

**Jesus also overcomes the Enemy by fasting.** Is there a particular bodily appetite the Lord might be asking me to fast during Lent as an act of spiritual defiance against the ever-present temptations of "the world, the flesh and the devil"?

Henri Nouwen proposes three very practical antidotes to each of these temptations. **The antidote to relevance, he says, is contemplative prayer.** What could possibly seem more irrelevant to the problems of our world than someone sitting alone in prayer "merely" enjoying the love of God? **Against the temptation to be spectacular, Nouwen prescribes confession of sin.** Pinpointing my shame in the presence of another person has unparalleled power to puncture my inflated ego! (James 5:16) And finally, **the antidote to the allure of power, he says, is personal study,** because devotional reading and theological reflection has the power to realign worldly priorities and fundamentally reframe my thinking. Contemplation, confession and study – which one of these disciplines might be useful for me this Lent? Perhaps I could simply allocate five minutes a day to silent, contemplative prayer? Maybe I should make an appointment to confess my sin to someone I trust? Or is there a book I might read to stretch and shape my heart and my mind?

In his book “Surprised by Hope”, Tom Wright describes a meeting of eminent philosophers in Cambridge in 1946. It ended with unresolved conflict. He tells us how different the subsequent accounts of this meeting are. The details of who said what, where and how are still uncertain. Did Ludwig Wittgenstein really brandish a poker at Karl Popper, and was it red-hot? Did he have an acrimonious exchange with Bertrand Russell, and then storm out slamming the door behind him? Did he leave quietly? We’ll never know. There’s no doubt the meeting took place, and we can be pretty sure of who was present. Much of the substance of the meeting is agreed. But even though these were people whose lives were driven by a quest for truth and a passion for accuracy, a good number of the details of what took place will never be 100% verified.

Tom Wright applies this story to the accounts of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Those who challenge what has been written because they don’t fit together perfectly like a jigsaw can’t throw out the baby with the bathwater. Just as with the bizarre meeting in Cambridge, so with the death of Jesus. Small details which don’t fit together don’t give us reason to dismiss the whole thing as an invention. There can be no doubt that Jesus existed and was crucified. It’s very difficult to contest the belief which his followers held on to with deep conviction, that he was resurrected on the third day. The subsequent passion and sacrificial lives of his disciples indicate that they truly believed a never-before-heard-of event happened.

There are many people in our post-Christian world who have never heard of Jesus’ death and resurrection. Many who have considered the claims of the Christian faith have concluded that they can’t be true because dead people don’t come back to life. They’d say that it’s much more likely that what we read in the Bible was created many decades later to give some sort of substance to their inner religious experiences.

It’s right and proper to ask serious questions about the Bible and the faith we, as Christians believe. The writers of the New Testament present us with events which are hard to believe, difficult to take seriously. As a Christian, I do believe what is written there. But not because “it’s the Bible, the word of God, so it must be true”. I believe it because despite every suggestion to the contrary, it makes sense. And because it makes sense, it points me to the God of love and grace who is described to us in the words of Jesus and St Paul.

There are plenty of other ways of trying to explain what happened at Easter. None can really grapple with the fact that the disciples, who most definitely weren’t expecting Jesus to rise after 3 days, soon felt a powerful conviction that this was the only way of describing their experience. They spoke about it, wrote about it, died for it, based their lives on it, not because they had a mysterious sense of the presence of Jesus, but because they truly believed him to have been raised from the dead. Mike Partridge

## **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 [tvhrectory@yahoo.com](mailto:tvhrectory@yahoo.com)

### ***Pastoral Care***

If you would like, or know someone who would be glad of, a call or "virtual" visit from Rev'd Ruth or another member of the church community or from an Anna Chaplain, 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 do not need internet access, just 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 will 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 or see the "A Church Near You" website for your parish (search for e.g. "A Church Near You Bridford").

### ***Scattered Church – Home Communion – last week of the month***

Rev'd Ruth will be taking home communion during the last week of the month to those who are not able to attend church. If you would like to arrange a visit, please contact Rev'd Ruth (details above).

### ***Lent Lunches***

A warm invitation to the Lent Lunch series in Dunsford Village Hall Dressing Room, every Monday in March, from 12:45pm to 2:00pm and including a soup lunch (£5 with profits to TEAR Fund).

### ***Lent Course – "Come and See"***

Open to anyone, whether mature Christians or seeking – every Wednesday until 1 April is based on watching sections of the well-known series about the life of Jesus – called *The Chosen*. See <https://watch.thechosen.tv>

### ***World Day of Prayer – A Service for All***

#### ***Friday 6 March 2:30pm at St John the Baptist, Ashton***

A service for all! This year the service has been crafted by women in Nigeria talking about their experiences of the burdens of poverty and despair, religious persecution and systemic oppression. The service they have prepared reflects on the theme, 'I will give you rest.' Come and join us to pray for that rest: for peace founded in justice. See [wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk) or contact Shirley Phillips 07503 183224.

### ***Forest Church – 22 March***

This is a monthly opportunity to explore outdoor spirituality, for all the family, at 4pm in

Ashton Village Orchard (behind the Village Hall). Bring a camp chair or rug to sit on if you can, everyone of all ages is welcome, dogs too!

### **Villages Prayer – 17 March**

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 normally meet to pray on the 3rd Tuesday of each month between 5pm and 6pm. The next meeting will be on 17 March at Webberton Meadows, Dunchideock, EX2 9TX. Please contact Rev'd Ruth (details above) or the Churches' Administrator (details below) if you have requests for prayer.

### **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](mailto:tvhchurches@gmail.com)

### **From the registers...**

#### Funerals:

28 January Frances Baxter (interment) (Bridford)  
 30 January Trevor Lamacraft (interment) (Dunsford)  
 20 February Christine Thomas (Dunsford)

<b>March</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>1</b> Lent 2	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone</b> - Service of the Word
	10:30am	<b>St John the Baptist, Ashton</b> - Holy Communion
	10:30am	<b>St James, Christow</b> - Holy Communion (including baptism)
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford</b> - Service of the Word
<b>8</b> Lent 3	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone</b> - Service of the Word
	10:30am	<b>St Thomas Becket, Bridford</b> - Holy Communion
	10:30am	<b>St Michael &amp; All Angels, Dunchideock</b> - Holy Communion
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford</b> - Family Service
<b>15</b> Mothering Sunday	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone</b> - Service of the Word
	10:30am	<b>St Michael, Doddiscombsleigh</b> - Holy Communion
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford</b> - Holy Communion
<b>22</b> Passion Sunday	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone</b> - Service of the Word
	10:30am	<b>St Thomas Becket, Bridford</b> - Mission Community Holy Communion
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford</b> - Service of the Word
	4:00pm	<b>Ashton Village Hall</b> - Forest Church
<b>29</b> Palm Sunday	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone</b> - Service of the Word
	10:30am	<b>St John the Baptist, Ashton</b> - Mission Community Holy Communion
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford</b> - Service of the Word
<b>30</b> Monday of Holy Week	6:00pm	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone</b> - Service of the Word
<b>31</b> Tuesday of Holy Week	6:00pm	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone</b> - Service of the Word

## Dunchideock Church Calendar

(for other church services in the Mission Community see the main schedule)

Date	Name	Service	Time
Mar 8	Lent 3	Holy Communion	10:30am
Sidesperson	Ray Mallett		
Readers	Jamie Cummings	Ann Mallett	
Readings	Exodus 17:1-17	Romans 5:1-11	

**Cleaning** Tina Cook and Liz Thompson

**Flowers** No flowers in Lent

## HELP NEEDED IN OUR BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE CHURCHYARD!

Our church is a medieval gem and the oldest building in our village. The church is always open in daylight hours, available to enjoy a few peaceful moments and well worth a visit if you haven't seen inside before.

The churchyard is part of our heritage, just as much as the building, where generations of people from Dunchideock have been buried, and is also a rare and undisturbed green space. We are trying to

manage this in a way which makes it attractive and accessible for people and maximises caring for creation by encouraging wildlife and wild flowers!

**We are arranging a session from 10.00-12.30 on Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>**

...for a tidy of the churchyard. We could do with as much help as possible to cut grass, tidy hedges and the amazing camelia bed planted by Don and June Randall, former Dunchideock residents – and other jobs too!



We will provide pasties and drinks for those who can join us – it would help greatly if you could let us know for numbers please.

Please bring some garden tools eg secateurs, loppers, sturdy gloves, strimmers etc. Thank you.

Contact Tina on 07528 701 817 or email [tinamcook@btinternet.com](mailto:tinamcook@btinternet.com)

## FITNESS AND WELLBEING

**MOMENTS OF CALM:** Do you find your lifestyle is pretty full of 'doing' at work and at play? Lots of distractions, not giving you a break? Are you suffering from anxiety symptoms, trying to manage stress? Improve your health through cultivating your own Mindfulness practice - an evidence-based approach to increasing wellness and getting in touch with the free resources within yourself! **Choose to have moments of calm every day! Restore well-being!** To attend an 8-week Mindfulness Programme - contact Shirley Phillips at [shirley@exetermindfulness.com](mailto:shirley@exetermindfulness.com) Website: [www.exetermindfulness.com](http://www.exetermindfulness.com)

## TEIGN VALLEY MEN'S SHED

Teign Valley Men's Shed will be open **every Thursday during March** from **9:30am to 12:30pm**. If you are already a member, look out for an email or WhatsApp message just in case 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. Coffee and tea will be available. Transport is available if required – a minibus (courtesy of Acorn) is available most weeks, at a cost of £5 per week. See contact details below.

### What are Men's Sheds?

"Sheds" are kitted-out community spaces where men can enjoy practical hobbies. They're about making friends, learning and sharing skills - and for a bit of banter over a cup of coffee or tea. The current focus is on woodwork. If you have skills to share, or you have very little or no experience and want to learn, then you will be very welcome! There is an annual membership fee of £10, and a session fee of £5 for each session.



**Everyone is welcome!**

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

The Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community  
Ashton ~ Bridford ~ Christow ~ Doddiscombsleigh ~ Dunchideock ~ Dunsford

# Lent Course 2026 "Come & See" based on the series called "The Chosen"

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February: Ashton Village Hall  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March: Bowden Room, TVCH  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March: Bowden Room, TVCH  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March: Bowden Room, TVCH  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March: Bowden Room, TVCH  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April - Bowden Room, TVCH

All from 6:00pm - 7:30pm

<https://watch.thechosen.tv>

For more information contact Amanda Drake T: 07973 785950

or E: [tvchurches@gmail.com](mailto:tvchurches@gmail.com)

# The Garden Room



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



For Coffee, Cake and Good company!

Tuesday 10th & 24th March & 7th & 21st April 2026

**From 10:30 am until 12:00 midday**

**Everyone Welcome!**

Lifts available if required please contact:

Anne Taylor: 01392 833282

Tea/Coffee: £1.80

Or Shirley Phillips: 07503183224

Cakes: £1.80

## **Dunchideock Village Hall**

### **100+ Club**



### **FEBRUARY**

1. A Board
2. M Hunt
3. M & J Jones

Dunchideock Village Hall



An informal singing group focussing on well known songs with simple harmonies. The emphasis is purely upon enjoying the benefits of group singing. No audition is necessary.

We meet up generally twice a month on a Friday 5.30-6.30

! The bar will be open!  
£1 to cover hall expenses

Call Tamsin - 07891 861881  
if you'd like to reserve a space.

Registered charity no.301096

## **Dunchideock Village Hall Renovations Update:**

For the past few weeks the village hall committee and a very helpful group of village volunteers have been working very hard to modernise and redecorate the hall. We now have central heating, a newly installed hearing loop, new window blinds and a completely new colour scheme. All these elements have given it a new lease of life and we cannot wait to welcome villagers to our warm and welcoming space this spring.

### **Massive thanks to:**

DPC for the donation of £7257.65 which represented 50% towards the renovation project.

Des Walker for the generous donation of the window blinds.

Alan Connett for a grant for the hearing loop (applied for by Callum)

Village decorating team - Gina, Leslie, Helen (Hart), Katrina, Louise, Peter (Doyle), Anne (Bainbridge), Tony.

The DVH committee: Alison, Anne, Brian, Lynnette, Sally, Sarah, Tanya

**After the work is completed, we will be making the hall available for private hires and anyone with ideas for meetings, workshops or events.**

**Watch this space!**

## **Critics review of ‘Sunshine on Leith’:**

Sunshine on Leith is an adaptation of the stage musical, a jukebox musical featuring songs by the Proclaimers. The songs, arranged by musical director Paul Englishby, are performed by the cast. The Proclaimers themselves appear in a brief cameo.

### **Film Critic Mark Kermode wrote:**

“We open in an armoured vehicle travelling through Afghanistan in which the assembled squaddies sing Sky Takes the Soul – a surprisingly effective overture ending inevitably in earth and clay. From here we move to Edinburgh where our battle-worn heroes (George MacKay and Kevin Guthrie) attempt to rebuild their lives and loves, picking up the pieces of relationships with friends and family in inevitably circuitous fashion.

Hearts are broken and mended, tears cried and dried, children lost and found, secrets and lies kept and revealed. It's easy to sneer at the level of cheesy contrivance with which the dots are joined, but actor-turned-director Dexter Fletcher gives this movie real down-to-earth charm. As for me, I shed a tear within the first 10 minutes and spent the rest of the movie beaming like a gibbering, love-struck fool.”

# **Dunchideock Village Hall**

Registered Charity No. 301096

## **MARCH 2026:**

**Thursday 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th March: Cardio Drumming @ 6pm** Enjoy music, improve cardio fitness, develop drumming skills and experience amazing feelings of wellbeing. £10 per session. Call Tamsin on 07891 861881

**Monday 9th March: Parish Council Meeting @ 7.30pm**

**Friday 20th March: Film Night. 'Sunshine on Leith' @ 6.45pm** for a 7.15pm start. £5 Admittance includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Extra charge for ice cream and bar.

Organised by Ray Mallett and Lee Curio.

'Sunshine on Leith' is an adaptation of the stage musical, a jukebox musical featuring songs by the Proclaimers. The songs, arranged by musical director Paul Englishby, are performed by the cast. The Proclaimers themselves appear in a brief cameo.

(See poster & critics review)

## **APRIL 2026:**

**Thursday 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th April: Cardio Drumming @ 6pm** Enjoy music, improve cardio fitness, develop drumming skills and experience amazing feelings of wellbeing. £10 per session. Call Tamsin on 07891 861881

**Friday 17th April: Film Night. Title to be confirmed @ 6.45pm** for a 7.15pm start. £5 Admittance includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Extra charge for ice cream and bar.

Organised by Ray Mallett and Lee Curio.

## **MAY 2026:**

**\*\*ADVANCE NOTICE\*\*:**

**Friday 15th May: 'Into the Breach' @ Dunchideock Village Hall.** Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets £10. A wonderful comedy written and performed by Mark Carey and produced by Stratford Theatre Company. Contact Sally on 07712 465442 to reserve tickets. Early booking recommended. (See poster and critics review)

It's "Dad's Army meets The Vicar of Dibley!"

## **Questions from children given the recent weather...**

Did Noah include termites on the ark?

Were the bees kept in the Ark-hives?

Was Noah's wife called Joan of Ark?

Did Noah build an ark, and the animals came in pairs?



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THE MAIL ON SUNDAY  
THE MAIL ON SUNDAY

**"A SOARING, BIG-HEARTED DELIGHT"**  
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**"THIS YEAR'S MAMMA MIA!"**  
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**"JOYOUS, UNINHIBITED, UNADULTERATED FUN"**  
THE MAIL ON SUNDAY  
THE MAIL ON SUNDAY

WHEN IT HAPPENS... THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT!

**SUNSHINE ON LEITH**

**"A DEFINITE WINNER"**  
THE MAIL ON SUNDAY

PETER MULLAN JANE HOBROCKS GEORGE MACKAY FREYA THOMAS KEVIN MAJOR KEVIN GUTHRIE JASON FLEMING

**PG** PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED  
**PG** PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED

*"and you won't have to walk 500 Miles"*

**Friday 20th March 7.15 pm**

**(Doors open 6.45)**

**Village Hall**



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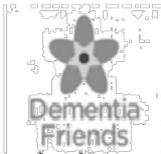
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TEL - 01392 832218

## Shillingford St George Church Calendar for March 2026

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
1 March	Lent 2	Morning Service	9.30
Sidesmen	Di		
Readers	Di and Nick		
Reading	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	John 3:1-17	
Prayers	Clergy	Ash Court & St George's Terrace	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
8 March	Lent 3	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Liz		
Readers	Sue and Norman		
Reading	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42	
Prayers	Clergy	Our Mission Community with Alphington & Ide	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
15 March	Lent 4	Mothering Sunday Evensong	4.00pm
Sidesmen	Tom and Gwen		
Readers	Tam and Edmund		
Readings	Colossians 3.12-17	Luke 2.33-35	
Prayers	Clergy	The Willows & Ilex Close	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
22 March	Lent 5	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Derek		
Readers	Derek and Peter		
Readings	Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45	
Prayers	Nick	Manstree Lane & Manstree Tce	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
29 March	Palm Sunday	Confirmation & Holy Communion at Alphington	11.00
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
2 April	Maundy Thursday	Holy Communion @ Ide	7.30pm
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
3 April	Good Friday	Devotional Service	11.00
Sidesmen	Nick		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
5 April	Easter Day	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Norman		
Readers	Di and Norman		
Reading	Colossians 3:1-4	Matthew 8:1-10	
Prayers	Clergy	Glebe Lane & Place Farm Area	

## Flower Rota – March/April 2026

No flowers during Lent 18 Feb – 2 Apr.

5 & 12 April - Maureen

### **Lent Lunches**

Lent Lunches will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesdays 11 & 25 March from 12.00 to 2.00pm. Despite food prices increasing we are maintaining the price at £6.

The PCC looks on these lunches as Community Events, and all are welcome to share this meal with us. See posters for further details.

### **From the Registers**

26 February – Patricia Anne Watts. Funeral followed by burial at Alphington.

### **Easter Services**

*Palm Sunday* will be combined with a Confirmation Service with Moira, Bishop of Crediton at Alphington, starting at 11.00. There will be no service at Shillingford that day, but palm crosses will be distributed at St George's on Easter Day.

*Maundy Thursday* Holy Communion at Ide @ 7.30pm

*Good Friday* Devotional Service @ 11.00am. A time of prayer and quiet reflection

*Easter Day* Holy Communion @ 9.30

**For your diary** St George's Supper will take place in the Village Hall on Monday 27 April at 7.00pm. More details next month.

### **Churchyard & Carpark**

We welcome dog walkers through the church grounds; but please respect there are family graves here:

Keep your dog on a lead. Clear up if your dog goes to the loo and dispose of the poo bag properly. Take your dog groomings away with you – the birds DO NOT pick them up for nesting.

Thank you.

### **The Open Door Café in Shillingford Village Hall**



4th March 10.30am-12.00  
18th March 10.30am-12.00  
1st April 10.30am-12.00



SHILLINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

# **AN AFTERNOON**

WITH

## **JIM CAUSLEY**

MULTI-AWARD WINNING FOLK SINGER AND SONG WRITER  
AND ALL ROUND ENTERTAINER FROM DEVON WHO WILL  
PRESENT AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC AND SINGING

IN

SHILLINGFORD ST GEORGE VILLAGE HALL

ON

SATURDAY 21ST MARCH 2026

AT 2.30 PM

TICKETS £10.00 FROM

NORMAN - 01392 422390

DI - 01392 832723

ADVANCE BOOKING OF TICKETS ONLY

PAY ON THE DOOR

REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

## **St George's Lent Lunches** SHILLINGFORD



Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March

12noon to 2pm, in The Village Hall  
Shillingford St George

£6 per person. Please sign the lists in Church or at  
Open Door Café or call  
Peter & Liz Wareham 832366

SHILLINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY  
PROGRAMME FOR 2026

The following meetings have been arranged for 2026.

All the meetings and talks for the year will be held on **Monday** evenings in Shillingford St George Village Hall at 7.30 pm. The event on Saturday March 21 will also be in the Village Hall at 2.30 pm.

Saturday March 21 at 2.30 pm

**An Afternoon with Jim Causley**

Devon folk singer, songwriter, and musician.

Music and refreshments provided.

Tickets: £10. Advance booking required.

Monday May 18

**From Topsham to the Poles. The Tale of HMS Terror**

by John Davidson.

H.M.S. Terror was built in Topsham during the Napoleonic Wars. After active service she went to both the Arctic and Antarctic on voyages of exploration.

The Annual General Meeting will precede the talk.

Monday July 20

**The Georgian Improvers of Dartmoor**

by Simon Dell, Dartmoor National Park guide, police historian, Quaker records custodian and author.

This talk describes the attempts 200 years ago to turn the moorlands of Dartmoor into agricultural land.

Monday October 5

**My Devonshire Darlings – The Women's Land Army in Devon**, by Rebekah Pearson.

A former Royal Navy Officer who lives locally in Lympstone. She will bring some authentic Women's Land Army uniforms with her.

**Membership and Guest Fees**

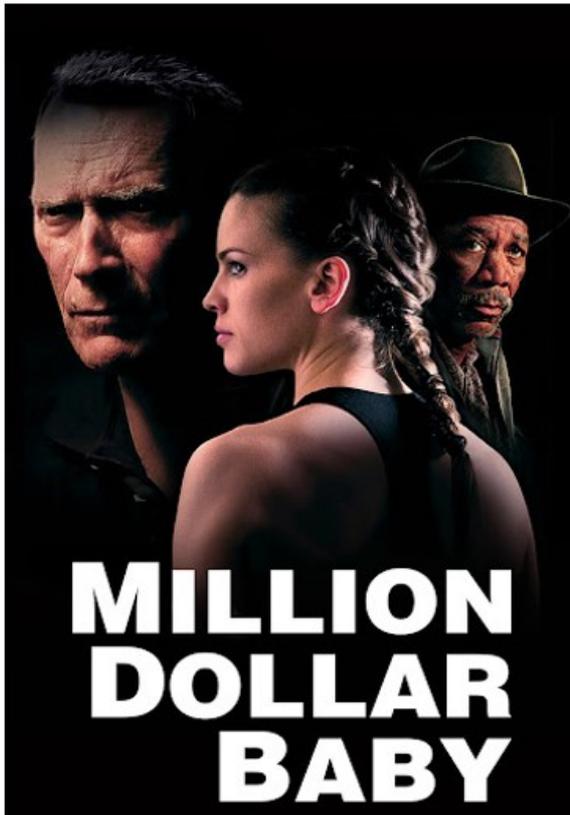
The membership year is from May to April. The current annual fee is still £8 and is payable in May for 2026 to 2027. This includes free entry to the talks for the year, and for the buffet at the February meeting. New members are always welcome.

The fee per talk meeting for guests is £4, and £6 for the buffet in February.

For further information please contact Jan Wood at [jwood227@btinternet.com](mailto:jwood227@btinternet.com)

Norman Harvey  
Committee Member  
Shillingford Local History Society

The Exchange  
will be on Saturday 11th April at 10.30 at Shillingford Village Hall



**Film Night**  
Shillingford St George Village  
Hall  
March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
7:30pm start – doors open  
7:15  
Free Entry! All welcome  
Come and enjoy watching a film and  
getting to know your neighbours  
Ice cream £1.50 Popcorn £1 (cash only)

**MILLION  
DOLLAR  
BABY**

Clint Eastwood, Hillary Swank, Morgan Freeman

Academy Award for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actress, and Best Supporting Actor

### News from Christow WI

Our March meeting is our AGM. We have a new team stepping up to run the Christow WI with fresh new ideas but be assured the welcome and friendship will be just the same. Have you thought about joining us but not sure what it is all about? Please feel free to come as a guest to one of our meetings for just £5 to find out if it may be for you. Here is the low down on what £56 a year will buy you. As well as a local membership in the village with a group of likeminded ladies and regular meetings on the second Thursday of the month, a lunch club, craft group and out and about opportunities you will also have access to something much bigger. You will be joining the national federation of women's institutes. This means you get 8 issues of WI life magazine per year delivered to your door. The opportunity to involve yourself in the campaigns. This is a democratic resolution process with ideas coming directly from the membership and led by the NFWI public affairs team. Each WI member has access to a member's area on the website called MY WI where they can find everything they need to know to make the most of their membership. There is also access to free courses and learning on the WI learning hub. The WI believes that lifelong learning leads to improved knowledge allowing women a better quality of life, with a sense of worth and inspiration to achieve personal goals and take on new challenges and discover new passions. I think it is a well-known fact that keeping our brains healthy by new learning helps with enhanced mental wellbeing and keeping our brains active is a good thing as we age. We hope to see you soon. Please consider joining us.

For more information contact us at [christowwi@gmail.com](mailto:christowwi@gmail.com)

Anne Rice

# Prime Numbers

Prime Numbers have no factors (apart from themselves and 1). How do you know which numbers are prime numbers and which numbers are not? You can divide each number in turn to find out whether it has any factors.

Eratosthenes was born in Cyrene, now in Libya, in 276 BC. He thought this was far too time consuming. Watching children playing with a sieve on the beach, he saw the sand fall through and the stones left on top of the sieve. Inspired, he invented the *Sieve of Eratosthenes*. Most numbers fall through and *Prime Numbers* are left on the top. Much quicker than dividing and lots more fun!

Try it yourself over today's cup of coffee. All you need is a coloured pencil:

The first prime number is 2 so leave 2 and colour out all the numbers which are 2 times something. So colour out 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 etc. They are not prime numbers because 2 is a factor of them.

Now do the same for 3. Leave 3 and colour out all the numbers which are 3 times something; 6, 9, 12, 15, etc. They are not prime numbers because 3 is a factor of those.

Continue with all the numbers that are not coloured. You can stop when you get to 10 (because  $10 \times 10 = 100$ )

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

All the numbers left, i.e. those that are not coloured are **Prime Numbers**. You have made the **Sieve of Eratosthenes!** Dawn Bird

# Villages Diary for March

DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12 noon	Open Door Café	Shillingford V Hall
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	6.00-7.30pm	Lent Course 'The Chosen'	TVHH Bowden Room
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock V Hall
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	Dunchideock V Hall
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.00	Coffee morning	Lord Haldon Hotel
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	12.00-2.00pm	Lent lunches	Shillingford V Hall
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	6.00-7.30pm	Lent Course 'The Chosen'	TVHH Bowden Room
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock V Hall
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Film night 'Million Dollar Baby'	Shillingford V Hall
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	6.00-7.00pm	Villages prayer	Webberton Meadows
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.00	Open Door Café	Shillingford V Hall
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	6.00-7.30pm	Lent Course 'The Chosen'	TVHH Bowden Room
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock V Hall
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	Film night 'Million Dollar Baby'	Dunchideock V Hall
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00-12.30	Churchyard working party	Dunchideock Church
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	2.30pm	Jim Causley	Shillingford V Hall
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.00	Coffee morning	Lord Haldon Hotel
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	12.00-2.00pm	Lent Lunches	Shillingford V Hall
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	6.00-7.30pm	Lent Course 'The Chosen'	TVHH Bowden Room
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock V Hall
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	00.01	British Summer Time	Everywhere!

## Future events in April: -

Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30-12.00	Exchange	Shillingford V Hall
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	Film night	Dunchideock V Hall

## **Shillingford St. George and Shillingford Abbot**

Rector: (day off Thursday) Revd. Mike Partridge, The Rectory,  
Alphington, EX2 8XJ  
[rector@alphingtonstmichaels.org](mailto:rector@alphingtonstmichaels.org)  
01392 491476 or 07751 725306

Churchwarden: Nick Mansell (01392 832660)  
[sa5632@btinternet.com](mailto:sa5632@btinternet.com)

### **Dunchideock**

Rector: (day off Thursday) Revd. Ruth Frampton, The Rectory,  
Dry Lane, Christow, EX6 7PE  
[tvhhrectory@yahoo.com](mailto:tvhhrectory@yahoo.com)  
01647 253164

Churchwarden: Tina Cook  
[tinamcook@btinternet.com](mailto:tinamcook@btinternet.com)

Churches Administrator Steve Cook (01392 832332)  
[tvhchurches@gmail.com](mailto:tvhchurches@gmail.com)

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Articles for the April edition of Country News  
please send to the Editor by 15 March.

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