



# COUNTRY NEWS

FEBRUARY 2026

Parish Magazine of

*Shillingford St George and Dunchideock*



*We love because  
he first loved us.*

*1 John 4:19*

Valentines Day: Sat. 14th (for those that need a reminder)  
For everything else this month, see the Diary!

## LETTER FROM THE RECTORY



The lights are packed away; the trees have long since been shredded; the decorations are back in boxes. Although the days are getting longer the hope of light and warmth is still faint; it takes time for light to transform the darkness.

But February brings its own light! The Christmas and Epiphany season comes to an end at Candlemas on 2 February, the commemoration of the *Presentation of our Lord in the Temple*: the baby Jesus was brought to the Temple to be dedicated to God and was recognised by the elderly Simeon and Anna as the “light of the Gentiles,” a light for all peoples, all nations. We will celebrate this feast in Ashton and in Christow at our 10.30am services on Sunday 1 February. Traditionally on this day people would bring their candles, together with all the church candles, to be blessed in the name of Jesus, Light of the World – why not bring a candle with you for a blessing?

Lent starts early this year as we commence our annual six-week pilgrimage towards Easter; on Ash Wednesday, 18 Feb, we will hold a service of *Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes* at 6pm at St James’s, Christow. The ash cross on our foreheads reminds us that one day we will return to the earth, the ground of our beginning. During Lent we ponder how best we should spend the rest our time on this earth in preparation for the meeting with our Redeemer and Judge.

We explore this in our Lent course on the following Wednesdays, starting 25 February, as we watch episodes of *The Chosen* to discern how and why God has chosen *us*, and what that means for *our* lives. For details, please see the poster later in *Unity*. The Monday Lent lunches begin in Dunsford on 23 February at 12.45pm in the Village Hall Dressing Room. Come and share a soup lunch with a short 10-minute talk from different members of our community.

God of our pilgrimage,  
you invite us to walk your unknown ways:  
teach us to entrust the past to your mercy,  
the present to your grace  
and the future to your providence;  
that transformed by your Spirit  
we may be faithful disciples of your Son,  
Jesus Christ.



Ruth Frampton

## Shillingford St George Church Calendar for February 2026

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
1 February	Candlemas	Morning Service	9.30
Sidesmen	Derek		
Readers	Derek and Nick		
Reading	Hebrews 2:14-end	Luke 2:22-40	
Prayers	Lay Team	Surrounding parishes of Dunchideock, Kenn & Exminster	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
8 February	2 before Lent	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Norman		
Readers	Sue and Norman		
Reading	Romans 8:18-25	Matthew 6:25-34	
Prayers	Clergy	Barrack Lane & Barton Lane	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
15 February	1 Before Lent	Evensong	4.00
Sidesmen	Tom and Gwen		
Readers	Ken and Peter		
Readings	2 Peter 1:16-end	Matthew 17:1-9	
Prayers	Clergy	Oak Close & Waybrook Lane	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
18 February	Ash Wednesday	Holy Communion	7.30pm
Sidesmen	Nick		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Time</b>
22 February	Lent 1	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Liz		
Readers	Sue and Norman		
Reading	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11	
Prayers	Nick	Road through Shillingford Abbot	
<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	

### Flower Rota – February 2026

1 Feb - Claire            8 & 15 Feb - Marian  
 No flowers during Lent – 18 Feb – 2 April 2026.

### Christmas Services

We were really happy to welcome larger numbers to our Christmas services, including children of all ages. Thanks to your generosity we were able to send a

cheque for £336 to the Children's Hospice SW from our collections at the Advent Candle & Carol services.

### **Lent Lunches**

Lent Lunches will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesdays from 12.00 to 2.00pm on 25 February, and 11 & 25 March. 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**

21 January - Beryl Aggett. Interment of ashes.

### **The Open Door Cafe**

The Cafe celebrated our 15th Christmas Lunch on the 10<sup>th</sup> December with 38 friends enjoying lovely food and drinks and Father Christmas coming with gifts for all.

The occasion was a bitter sweet one especially for me with the recent loss of my dearest friend Wendy. I thank everyone for their support and friendship during this difficult time.

Daphne

#### **Cafe Dates for February and March**

4th February - 10.30am-12Noon. Shillingford Village Hall. With Police/Community

18th February. NO CAFE

4th March - 10.30am-12Noon Shillingford Village Hall

## **Shillingford Local History Society**



## **The Two Doctor Pages: Medical Officers of Health**

**Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.30pm in Shillingford Village Hall**

The talk will be given by Professor David Radstone describing the career of Dr Page senior from chemist at a gunpowder factory to the new Public Health service in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and the route that his son later took to join his father in this vital work - in Exeter.

Professor Radstone will bring some historical medical items from the Devon & Exeter Medical Heritage Trust (DEMHT) collection.

The talk will be followed by our **Annual Buffet Supper**.

MEMBERS FREE

**Members and visitors are all welcome**

GUESTS £6

# Bringing Back Pine Martens

Reintroducing a key member of the woodland family



Shillingford Wildlife Group presents a talk by  
Devon Wildlife Trusts Daniel Brown,

at Shillingford Village Hall on February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30.

Daniel is the Devon Wildlife Trusts Two Moors Pine Marten Project Officer and has been one of the key members in the DWT team helping in the reintroduction of the Pine Martens to Devon. The animal has been extinct in Devon for more than 150 years, but now that it is back it is hoped to help restore a natural balance back into Devon's wildlife.

## Pine Martens Return

Shy, curious and playful. The pine marten is a stealthy, acrobatic hunter that relies on the cover of woods and trees for its foraging missions. It was once a fundamental part of our woodlands, but it is now critically endangered in England and Wales. As a result, we risk losing a beautiful, fascinating wild creature that plays a key role in the health of our woodlands.

Pine Martens Bounce Back: The Two Moors project aims to reintroduce pine martens to Dartmoor and Exmoor helping to restore natural balance to our much loved woodlands and bringing back these fascinating wild creatures to the landscapes where they once belonged. The return of pine martens to this area will be a positive step in restoring the fortunes of local wildlife at a time when it faces huge challenges.



## **A short resume of the last Shillingford parish meeting**

The damaged pavement on the corner of Ilex Close is still awaiting Highways attention. This is to be followed up.

The chairman voiced his concern that in spite of an agreement with Teign Housing having been agreed, the PC is not always being notified of vacant properties in SSG, but only when they are about to be advertised. This is to be followed up.

The chairman has approached one of the Trustees of the Village Green in the hope that there could be an informal meeting with the remaining four Trustees. He awaits a response to this request.

**The Local Government reorganisation** is still proposed with various options on the table. This decision is now with the Government with the final decision being made this summer. There is still much confusion and uncertainty surrounding this topic. Devon is a difficult county to split up logically one reason being its size.

Teignbridge councillors will be trying to do their best for the final two years of their authority.

There is to be a “**fake fly tip**” at Haldon Forest car park on 21st January arranged by TDC and the police. This is aiming to raise awareness and publicity for this unlawful act.

### **Neighbourhood Development Plan.**

The previous meeting was cancelled at short notice due to adverse weather conditions. There will be another meeting arranged soon and the date circulated.

A recent Cluster meeting was hosted by Shillingford with four neighbouring parishes represented. A useful discussion and exchange of ideas ensued.

**The Annual Litter Pick.** This is to be arranged for the 28th February, more information will be posted.

**Potholes** in Markhams Lane, Manstree Lane and a blocked drain also in Manstree Lane are to be reported.

**Next PC meeting is to be held on Monday 9th March in the Village Hall.**



## SHILLINGFORD VILLAGES LITTER PICK

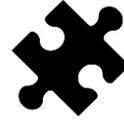
10AM SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2026

Meet in the Church Car Park at 10am  
Equipment will be provided

Bring your filled rubbish bags to the Village Hall  
and join **The Exchange**  
for a well-earned coffee and cake once the big clean up  
has been done



# THE EXCHANGE



**Shillingford Village Hall**

**SATURDAY 28th FEBRUARY**

**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**

**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**.

Monday February 23      **The Two Doctor Pages: Medical Officers of Health**  
by Dr. David Radstone. This will include a display of items from the Devon & Exeter Medical Heritage Trust (DEMHT) collection.  
The talk will be followed by our annual Buffet Supper

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.  
The Annual General Meeting will precede the talk.

Monday July 20            **Talk on a topic to be confirmed**  
by Simon Dell, Dartmoor National Park guide, police historian, Quaker records custodian and author.

Monday October 5        **Topic and speaker to be confirmed**

**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 May 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

# St George's Lent Lunches

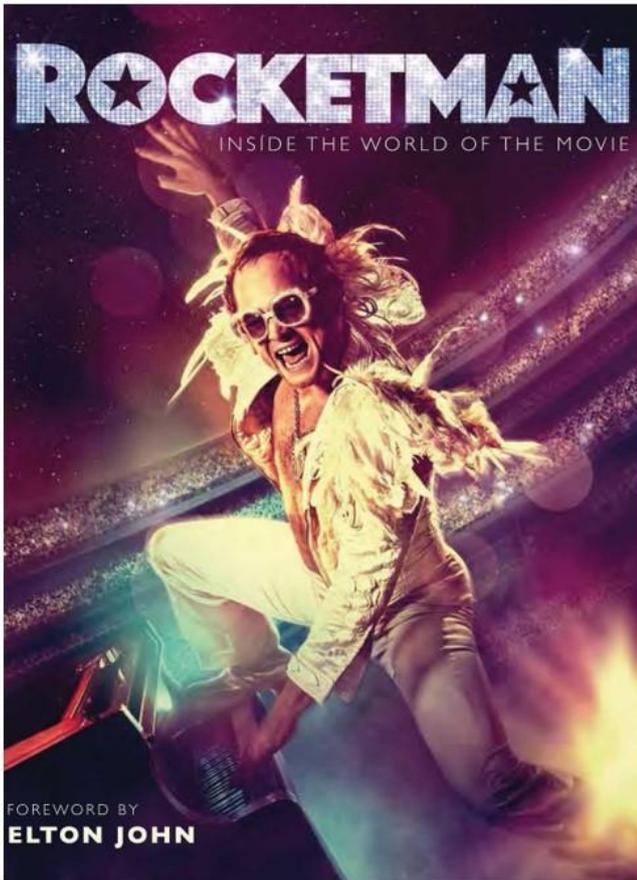
SHILLINGFORD



**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**  
**Norman Harvey 422390**



## Film Night

**Shillingford St George  
Village Hall**

**February 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)**

### **THE EXCHANGE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL AT SHILLINGFORD VILLAGE HALL**

Thankyou to absolutely everyone who came to the December Exchange and made it so happy and enjoyable.

Having raffled off a box of “Christmas Dinner” we then managed to send £150 to St.Petrocs for help the homeless. Thankyou to Tom and Gwen for assisting so well with this raffle!

And thankyou to Jackie and Dorothy for running the Village Hall raffle so splendidly!

And to everyone who helped with teas, coffees, cakes, mulled wine and mince pies - and washing up afterwards..... you are all so appreciated! Thankyou!

VHM Committee

*SHILLINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY*

# ***AN AFTERNOON***

**WITH**

# ***JIM CAUSLEY***

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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  
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*REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED*

# 700

My friend looked so happy. I'm going to get £700 compensation for each of my cars!  
I thought about how disappointed they would look when I told them they will **not** get £700 because that is **not how averages work**.



Imagine there are four of us who got compensation. I got £100, you got £200, he got £300 and she got £2200. To work out the average, we add these up (= £2800) and divide by four (because there are four of us). We get  $2800 \div 4 = 700$ . The *average* compensation is £700 but notice, no-one actually got £700. Three of us got a lot less and one of us got mega-pounds more.

So if the average doesn't tell you what you will get, what is the point of working it out? Is its existence just so the marketing department can fool us into thinking we're going to get something we're not?

Averages are most useful for comparisons. For example, compare average rainfall in February:

Exeter Airport 65mm	Greenwich Observatory, London 40mm
Princetown 73mm	South West of Britain 104.5mm

You can quickly see here that generally Princetown is wetter than Exeter and Greenwich is drier.

Look at the Met Office data for the South West: in the last 190 years only one February (in 2001) had the average 104.8 mm of rain. No other years had the average rainfall, they varied dramatically anywhere between 1.9mm and 248mm. The average is useful for *comparison* with other years and other places, it doesn't tell you what will happen this year.

This February the South West will not have 104mm of rain and, back to car finance compensation, with one or two exceptions no-one will get the average of £700.

If you want to know more about Compensation for Car Finance Mis-Selling, check out the government website:

<https://www.fca.org.uk/consumers/car-finance-complaints>

Dawn Bird



# Robert Williams

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## Dunchideock Church Calendar

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

Date	Name	Service	Time
<b>Feb 8</b>	<b>2 Before Lent</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
<i>Sidesperson</i>	Chris Bond		
<i>Readers</i>	Dawn	Shirley	
<i>Readings</i>	Genesis 1:1-2:3	Romans 8:18-25	

Church Cleaning - Ann and Ray Mallett

Flower arranging - Katrina Lawrence and Pat Ouseley

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

February	Time	Details
<b>1</b> Candlemas	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word</b>
	10:30am	<b>St John the Baptist, Ashton - Holy Communion</b>
	10:30am	<b>St James, Christow - Holy Communion</b>
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word</b>
<b>8</b> 2 Before Lent	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word</b>
	10:30am	<b>St Thomas Becket, Bridford - Holy Communion</b>
	10:30am	<b>St Michael &amp; All Angels, Dunchideock - Holy Communion</b>
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word</b>
<b>15</b> Sunday Before Lent	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word</b>
	10:30am	<b>St Michael, Doddiscombsleigh - Holy Communion</b>
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford - Holy Communion</b>
	3:00pm	<b>St Mary, Dunsford - Tea Time Service</b>
<b>18</b> Ash Wednesday	6:00pm	<b>St James, Christow - Holy Communion</b>
<b>22</b> Lent 1	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word</b>
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford - Mission Community Holy Communion</b>
	4:00pm	<b>The Mission Community - Forest Church</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>1</b> Lent 2	9:00am	<b>Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word</b>
	10:30am	<b>St John the Baptist, Ashton - Holy Communion</b>
	10:30am	<b>St James, Christow - Holy Communion (including baptism)</b>
	10:30am	<b>St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word</b>

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

Dunchideock Village Hall invites everyone to



Veggie



Meaty

# PIE AND MASH NIGHT



IN AID OF DEVON AIR AMBULANCE



Devon Air  
Ambulance



LIVE MUSIC

BY TAMSIN & RIK

7PM  
SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> FEB



EAT PIES,

SAVE LIVES & DANCE

TICKETS £10 INC PIE, MASH, GRAVY

CONTACT ANNE ON 0789 4228570

## **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. Please check the "A Church Near You" website for your parish for updates (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).

### ***Ash Wednesday – 18 February***

A special service to mark the beginning of Lent – Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes at 6pm at St James', Christow.

### ***Lent Lunches – starting Monday 23 February***

A warm invitation to the Lent Lunch series in Dunsford Village Hall Dressing Room, for six Monday starting on 23 February, from 12:45pm to 2:00pm and including a soup lunch (£5 with profits to TEAR Fund).

### ***Lent Course – starting Wednesday 25 February***

Open to anyone, whether mature Christians or seeking – each Wednesday, starting on 25 February until 1 April (inclusive), from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. The first session is in Ashton Village Hall, and the remaining sessions in the Bowden Room, Teign Valley Community Hall. The course will be based on watching six sections of the well-known series about the life of Jesus – called *The Chosen*. See <https://watch.thechosen.tv>

### ***Forest Church – 22 February***

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 February 2026

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 February at Stonehouse, Village Road, Christow, EX6 7NF. 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...

#### Weddings:

6 December Humphrey Fulford and Ella Coleman (Dunsford)

#### Funerals:

4 December Sam Archer (Christow)

6 December Diana Wadia (Bridford)

13 December Rachel Bruford (Christow)

7 January Elizabeth Widger (Christow) (interment)



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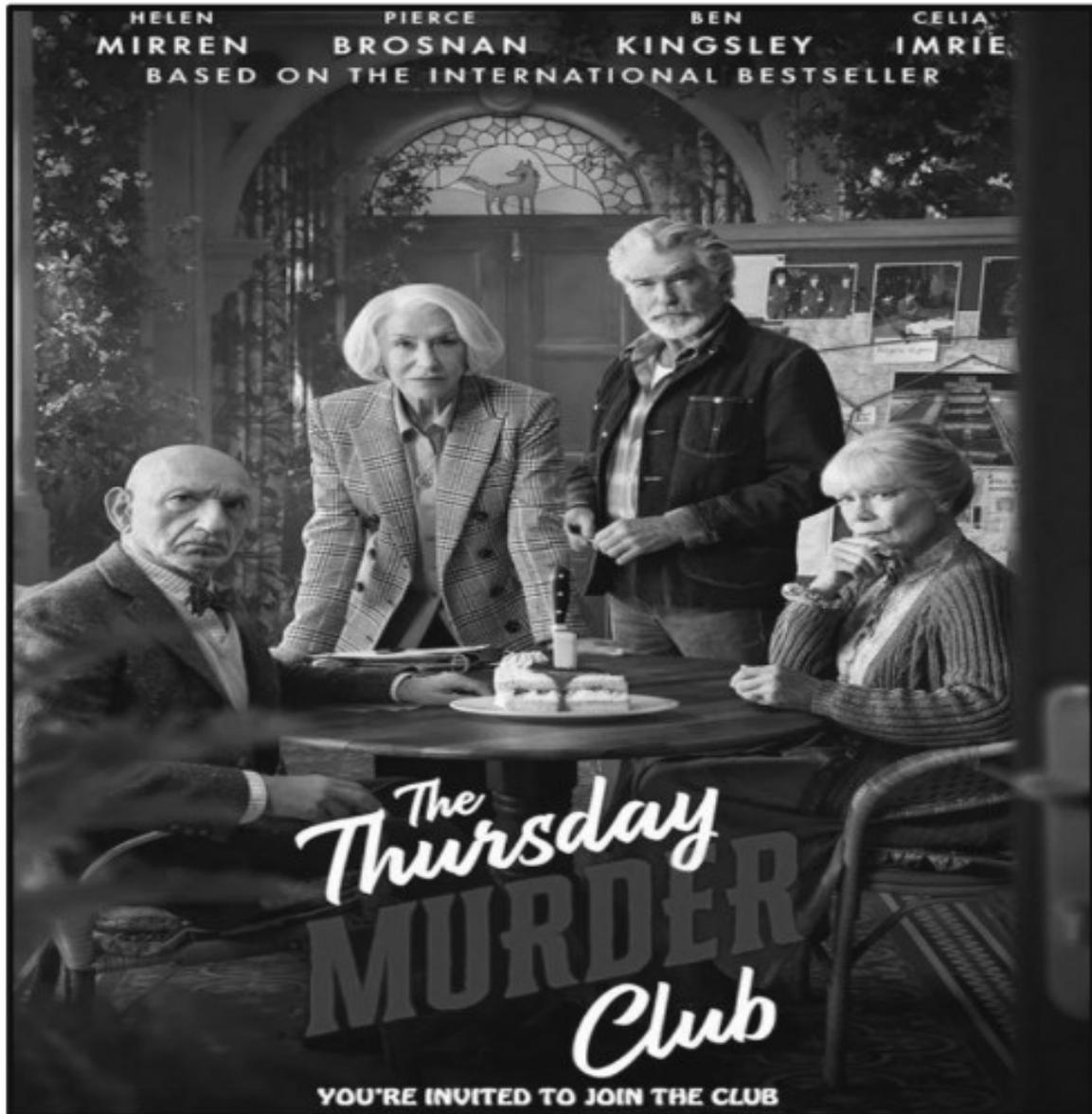
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# Dunchideock Film Night



**Friday 20th February**

**7.15 pm**

**(Doors open 6.45)**

**Village Hall**

# **Dunchideock Village Hall**

Registered Charity No. 301096

## **FEBRUARY 2026:**

**Thursday 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th February: 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 13th & 27th February: Singing Villagers with Tamsin! 5.30-6.30pm. £1.** No audition necessary. Very casual and friendly group who just enjoy singing! Mixed abilities. New members welcome. Please see poster for further details.

**Friday 20th February: Film Night. The Thursday Murder Club @ 6.45pm** for a 7.15pm start. A group of senior sleuths passionate about solving cold cases get plunged into a real-life murder mystery in this comic crime caper based on the novel. Starry cast Helen Mirren, Pierce Brosnan, Ben Kingsley and Celia Imrie.

£5 Admittance includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Extra charge for ice cream and bar.

Organised by Ray Mallett and Lee Curio.

**Saturday 21st February: A Charity Fundraising Event in aid of Devon Air Ambulance. 'Pie and Mash Evening' @ 7pm. Tickets £10** to include a delicious Tom's Pie: Steak and Ale or Vegan Spiced Cauliflower, Spinach and Lentil pie, plus mash and gravy. With live music performed by Rik and Tamsin. Raffle!

Please contact Anne on 0789 4228570 to reserve tickets. Early booking is recommended.

## **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.** 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.

"I told my pastor I was going to change my ways. He said, 'Good luck, I'm still working on changing the church bulletin!'"

# 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 February 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**



### **DECEMBER 2025**

1. Callum & Michelle
2. R Travell
3. Mick & Alison

### **JANUARY 2026**

2. S Harris
3. M Ellis
4. D Hares

Dunchideock Village Hall



**Singing Villagers**  
with Tamsin.

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

## **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)

## **News from Christow WI**

Come join us for some fun in 2026. We are planning a dips and chips evening, soup tasting evening, monthly lunch, bunting making and a trip to the Box in Plymouth as our winter/spring activities. These activities are organised by Christow WI and are open to our members only as friends' activities. If you become a paid up member, you can join any of these events provided spaces are available. This is in addition to our regular activities and meetings.

Our next meeting is **on Thursday February 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm** in the Bowden Room at the Teign Valley Hall Christow and you are all invited. Bring £5 in cash and expect to be entertained and fed tea and cake. Our speaker is John May, his talk is entitled "A life behind bars". We are not talking alcoholic beverages or criminal pursuits but the career of a prison officer. John says about his life that he was born in Ashton on a farm. He then went to the University of Kent and thought he was going to earn his living as a French teacher. When this did not live up to expectations, he joined the prison service where he worked in several different penal establishments over the next 40 years. He is now retired and back on the family farm and clearly talking about his life experiences to interested parties.

At our January meeting we discussed the National federation resolutions and individually voted for the one that we wanted to support. Each WI member gets this chance every year. National federation collate all the votes and at the AGM the membership will be informed of the most voted for campaign, which will be supported. Our members were favouring helping women who are homeless and better accessibility to public toilets. We will be hoping that one of these will make it through to become a campaign for 2026.

Hope to see you soon. We are open for new members to join.

Anne Rice

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

## Dunchideock History Society (DHS)

**SUNDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2026**

**A GUIDED TOUR OF HALDON BELVEDERE**

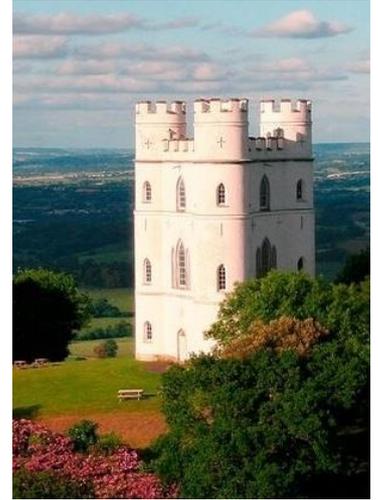
**TIME: 2.30pm**

Book in advance by email: [dunchideockhistory@outlook.com](mailto:dunchideockhistory@outlook.com)

Also, email if you have a group who wish to visit on another day.

Parking at the castle, car share where possible. Members and non-members will be able to enjoy a tour of the Castle, including Refreshments and delicious cakes. See the stunning views from the roof terrace (weather permitting) and the new Museum in the Lawrence Hall (ground floor).

No Charge: The Devon Historic Buildings Trust (owners) will be pleased to receive donations on the day.



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**ESSENTIAL TO BOOK IN ADVANCE:** email: [dunchideockhistory@outlook.com](mailto:dunchideockhistory@outlook.com);  
**MEMBERS FREE, GUESTS £4,**

**SUNDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2026**

**VENUE: HALDON BELVEDERE**

**Limited to 50 people**

**TIME: Doors Open 2.00pm**

**TALK: 2.30pm to 4.00pm**

**SPEAKER: DR RACHEL TRETHERWEY**

Local author, **Dr Rachel Trethewey**, will give a talk on her latest book, *M U V*, which explores the life of **Lady Redesdale**, mother of the famous "**Mitford Girls**".

The talk will be followed by a Q&A session, and Rachel will be happy to sign copies of her book, which will be available for purchase.

This promises to be a fascinating afternoon, offering a different historical focus from our usual Dunchideock history programme. Dr Trethewey is an **award-winning author**.

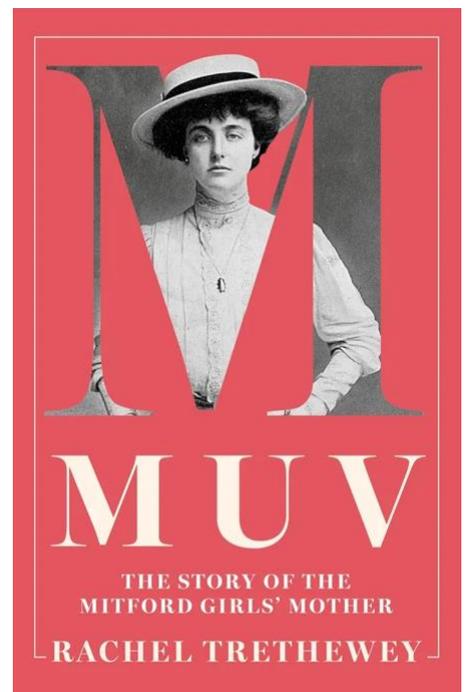
Please note: The Talk will take place in the **Ballroom, first floor**.

**Become a Member of Dunchideock History Society (£10 per year, Nov-Oct)** go to : [www.dunchideockhistory.com](http://www.dunchideockhistory.com) or **Queries** email: [dunchideockhistory@outlook.com](mailto:dunchideockhistory@outlook.com);

Become a **Friend of Haldon Belvedere** : details on [www.dunchideockhistory.com](http://www.dunchideockhistory.com)

DHS Members £2 p.a.

Non-Members £5 p.a.



## Villages Diary February 2026

Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Open Door Café	Shillingford Village Hall
Every Thur.	9.30am	Teign Valley Men's Shed	Higher Ashton
Every Fri.	10-12noon	Community Art Group	Shillingford Village Hall
Every Fri.	2.30pm	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Shillingford Wildlife Group-Talk	Shillingford Village Hall
Tues 10, 24	10.30am	Garden Room Coffee	Lord Haldon Hotel
Thur. 12 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Christow WI meeting	TV Village Hall
Mon. 16 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Shillingford Film Night	Shillingford Village Hall
Fri. 20 <sup>th</sup>	6.45pm	Dunchideock Film Night	Dunchideock Village Hall
Sat. 21 <sup>st</sup>	7.00pm	'Pie and Mash' Night	Dunchideock Village Hall
Sun. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	2.30pm	Dunchideock History Society	(Tour of) Haldon Belvedere
Mon. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	Shill. Local History talk and Social	Shillingford Village Hall
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Lent Lunch	Shillingford Village Hall
Sat. 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Shillingford Litter Pick	Shill. Church Car Park
Sat. 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	The Exchange	Shillingford Village Hall
*there is no Open Door Café on Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb			
<b>March</b>			
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	2.00pm	Dunchideock History Society	Haldon Belvedere
Wed. 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Open Door Café	Shillingford Village Hall
Wed 11& 25	12 noon	Shillingford Lent Lunches	Shillingford Village Hall
Fri. 20 <sup>th</sup>	6.45pm	Dunchideock Film Night	Dunchideock Village Hall
Sat. 21 <sup>st</sup>	2.30pm	An Afternoon with Jim Causley	Shillingford Village Hall

### Teign Valley Men's Shed

Teign Valley Men's Shed will be open **every Friday in February, from 9.30am to 12.30pm**. The Shed is located in Embercombe, Higher Ashton EX6 7QQ - on the first floor of the large building just beyond the car park. 'The Shed' is kitted out for men to enjoy practical hobbies – current focus is on woodwork – and to make friends and have a chat over a cup of coffee or tea.

Annual Membership fee: £10, and a session fee: £5.

**Everyone is welcome**

## SHILLINGFORD ST GEORGE

Rector: Rev. Mike Partridge, The Rectory, Alphington EX2 8XJ  
(day off Thursday) The Parishes of Alphington Tel: 01392 491476: 07751 725306  
Ide and Shillingford [rector@alphingtonstmichaels.org](mailto:rector@alphingtonstmichaels.org)

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

## DUNCHIDEOCK

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

Churchwarden Tina Cook 01392 832057 [tinamcook@btinternet.com](mailto:tinamcook@btinternet.com)

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

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**Articles for March issue must reach the editor by 15<sup>th</sup> February**

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Half page: £10/issue or £72 per annum Full page: £19/issue or £144 per annum

All payments to the **Treasurer** in advance please.

**Contributors:** to make it easier for the editors, please ensure all submissions are a minimum 14pt font size.