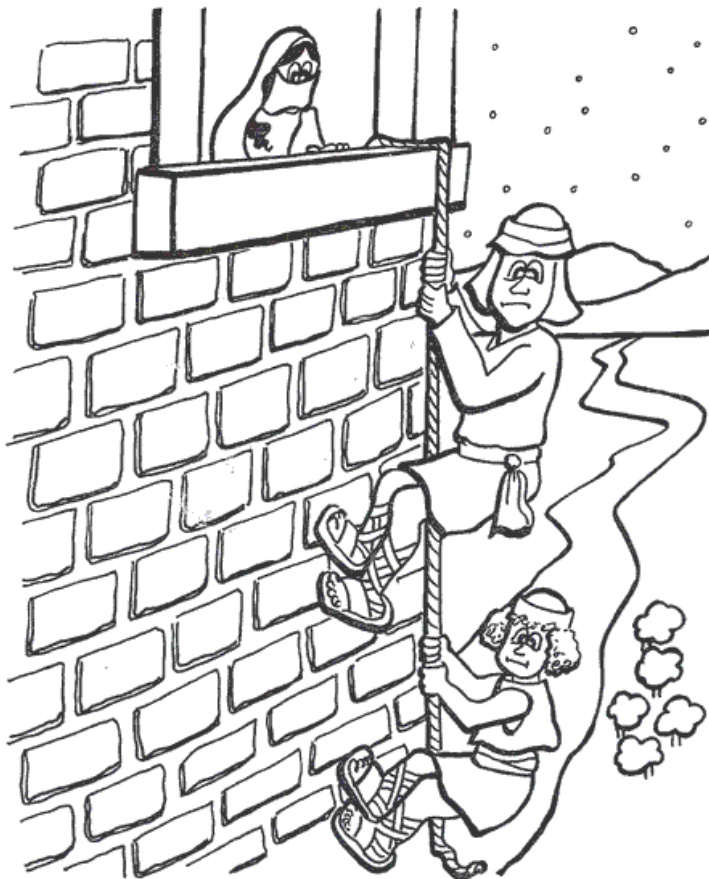


COUNTRY NEWS

MAY 2026

Parish Magazine of

Dunchideock and Shillingford St George



**Famous people from
the Bible. No. 8**

**Rahab the Canaanite -
and the spies
(I think they just
realised the rope is too
short!)**

We 'May' have finally got to Spring!
Please check the diary for (optimistically outside?) things
on this month.

LETTER FROM THE RECTORY



Happy May! The chocolate eggs are all eaten, the lambs are grown beyond gambolling, our early Easter is almost a memory, but we carry that Easter hope with us, through whatever life throws at us, whether it be sunshine or showers.

The mystery of God's love is not that our pain is taken away, but that God will share it with us. Loving makes us vulnerable; loving hurts. Loving marks us with laughter lines of joy and with lines drawn by pain. Even after the resurrection Jesus retained the marks of the scars on his hands and his feet: Easter is the story of new life growing out of pain and death. And we are the Easter people, beacons of light when all around us may seem to be in darkness; like the disciples, we need the Holy Spirit to empower us to boldly go in the footsteps of Jesus.

When the risen Christ told his wondering disciples that he would soon go to the Father, he promised that he would not leave them orphaned: 'And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.' (Matt 28:20) We remember the Ascension of the Lord on May 14 with Holy Communion at 6pm in Ashton church. Jesus promised that he would send the Holy Spirit to be with us, and we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost on May 24, filling us with a renewal of God's Life and love.

The days in between the Ascension and Pentecost are kept as a time of prayer known as *Thy Kingdom Come*: a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. Now a regular part of the calendar, Thy Kingdom Come has grown from an initial call to prayer from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Anglican Communion, to a worldwide ecumenical prayer movement uniting Christians from more than 170 countries and across 65 different denominations and traditions. My prayer in this year of worldwide conflicts and leadership elections is that God will inspire our leaders to work for peace and for the good of the least of their citizens.

During this time of prayer, on 17 May, the Bishop of Crediton, the Rt Rev'd Moira Astin, will be with us in St Mary's Dunsford to celebrate Holy Communion with our Mission Community. I invite as many as possible to come to meet her and pray with us that more people may come to know Jesus.

Shillingford St George Church Calendar for May 2026

Date	Name	Service	Time
3 May	Easter 5	Morning Service	9.30
Sidesmen	Nick		
Readers	Sue and Di		
Readings	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14	
Prayers	Clergy	Oak Close & Waybrook Lane	
Date	Name	Service	Time
10 May	Easter 6	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Derek		
Readers	Peter and Derek		
Reading	1 Peter 3:13-end	John 14:15-21	
Prayers	Clergy	Road through Shillingford Abbot	
Date	Name	Service	Time
14 May	Ascension Day	Holy Communion @ Alphington	7.30pm
Date	Name	Service	Time
17 May	Easter 7	Evensong	6.00pm
Sidesmen	Tom and Gwen		
Readers	Ken and Derek		
Readings	1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11	John 17:1-11	
Prayers	Clergy	Ash Court & St George's Tce	
Date	Name	Service	Time
24 May	Pentecost	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Di		
Readers	Sue and Di		
Readings	Acts 2:1-21	John 20:19-23	
Prayers	Nick	The Willows & Ilex Close	
Date	Name	Service	Time
31 May	Trinity Sunday	Mission Community HC	9.30
Sidesmen	Norman		
Readers	Derek and Norman		
Readings	2 Cor 13:11-end	Matthew 28:16-20	
Prayers	Clergy	Our Mission Community	
Date	Name	Service	Time
7 June	Trinity 2	Morning Service	9.30
Sidesmen	Liz		
Readers	Nick and Peter		
Readings	tbn	tbn	
Prayers	Clergy	Manstree Lane & Manstree Tce	

Flower Rota –May/June 2026

3 & 10 May – Pauline 17 & 24 May – Rosemary 31 May & 7 June - Delia

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

This will take place in church at 7.00pm on Tue 5 May 2026. All are welcome to attend for the election of churchwarden and PCC members; and presentation of the Annual Report.

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 – Shillingford Village Hall, 10:30 – 12:00

Wednesday 13th May

Wednesday 27th May

Daphne Crockford

You are invited to the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the

SHILLINGFORD VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Monday 2nd June at 2.00pm

It's your chance to come along and see what's been happening. Our Committee works hard to keep the Hall a welcoming space for the local community and you may have some ideas for the future and decide to join us.

Thank You!

Local Bus Service

From 5th April, there will be some changes to Service A and Service C that affect Alphington and surrounding areas

Service A - Alphington to City Centre

- Running times will be adjusted to improve reliability and punctuality. Off-peak buses (Monday-Friday and Saturdays) will continue to run every 15 minutes.
- During the morning and afternoon rush hours, buses will run roughly every 20 minutes.
- The aim of this change is to keep buses more reliable and on time, especially during busy periods.
- Between the City Centre and St Thomas, Service A and Service E will work together to provide a bus approximately every 7-8 minutes.
- New electric buses are expected to be introduced on Service A shortly after the timetable changes.

Service C - Matford Park & Ride to Sowton (via City Centre)

- Running times will also be adjusted to improve punctuality and reliability.
- Many Service C journeys will now extend to Alphington.
- The route will travel via Bad Homburg Way, A379, Chudleigh Road and Church Road.
- The return journey will operate via Church Road, Dawlish Road, Chantry Meadow, Chudleigh Road, A379 and Bad Homburg Way.
- This extension is designed to serve new housing developments in South West Exeter, including the new bus stops at Trood Lane on the A379.
- Additional bus stops may also be installed on Chudleigh Road as developments continue.

These changes are intended to improve access and reliability, particularly for residents in the growing areas around Alphington.

**FRIDAY WHIST
A REMINDER
*SHILLINGFORD VILLAGE HALL***

***Each Friday evening timings start at
18:45 for 19:00 start.***

We look forward to seeing all current players, and welcome new ones.

Prime Numbers 3

Prime Numbers are numbers which have no factors. We know a quick way to find prime numbers, (The Sieve of Eratosthenes). We know that every other number can be made by multiplying prime numbers together.

Christian Goldbach came up with a remarkable idea in 1742. No-one has yet been able to prove it and no-one has yet been able to disprove it. In the year 2000 Faber & Faber, the publishers, offered a prize of \$1 million dollars. They offered it for two years but in that time, no-one managed to either prove or disprove it. This idea is called the *Goldbach Conjecture*.

The Goldbach Conjecture is that

*Every even positive number greater than 2
can be written as the sum of two prime numbers.*

In other words, you can make even numbers by **adding two prime numbers** together. For example

$$4 = 2+2$$

$$8 = 3+5$$

$$12 = 5+7$$

$$16 = 5+11$$

$$20 = 3+17$$

$$6 = 3+3$$

$$10 = 5+5$$

$$14 = 7+7$$

$$18 = 5+13$$

$$22 = 5+17$$

and so on...

Get out your calculator and try it yourself. Here are the first 36 prime numbers to get you started:

2	3	5	7	11	13	17	19	23	29	31	37
41	43	47	53	59	61	67	71	73	79	83	89
97	101	103	107	109	113	127	131	137	139	149	151

You only need to find one even number that cannot be made by adding two prime numbers together and you will have disproved the conjecture which has been puzzling people for 284 years! Maybe you will be the person who wins a prize!

Dawn Bird



Shillingford Local History Society

From Topsham to the Poles. The Tale of H.M.S. Terror

Monday, 18th May 2026

7.30pm in Shillingford Village Hall



Speaker John Davidson is a researcher and lecturer known for his work on the history of HMS Terror, particularly its construction in Topsham during the Napoleonic Wars for the Royal Navy, and its subsequent Arctic and Antarctic expeditions

A short ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will precede the talk

Dunchideock Church Calendar

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

Date	Name	Service	Time
May 10	Easter 6	Holy Communion	10:30am
<i>Sidesperson</i>	Shirley Phillips		
<i>Readers</i>	Ann Mallett	Jamie Cummings	
<i>Readings</i>	Acts 17:22-31	1 Peter 3:13-22	
May 31	Trinity Sunday	Mission Community Holy Communion	10:30am
<i>Sidesperson</i>	Chris Bond		
<i>Readers</i>	Shirley Phillips	Dawn Bird	
<i>Readings</i>	Isaiah 40:12-17 & 27-31	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	

Cleaning team Pat Ouseley and Katrina Lawrence

Flowers Tina Cook

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

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").

Pilgrim Places, Holy Lives

Travel through places made holy by faithful lives and uncover fresh light for your journey with God. A new series of reflections themed around pilgrimage, exploring eight place which were important in the spread of Christianity in England and the stories of the saints who lived there – see <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/pilgrim-places-holy-lives-gospel-journey-early-english-saints>

Forest Church – Sunday 24 May

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!

Scattered Church – Home Communion – week beginning 25 May

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

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

News from Christow WI

News from Christow WI

You know what they say, "Behind every man there is a great woman" Well it seems this has applied through the ages not just today. Rosemary Griggs, author, researcher and seamstress will tell us that behind famous men of the Tudor Era such as Drake, Raleigh, Hawkins and Grenville there were indeed some interesting women. Rosemary is a popular speaker on Devon Tudor history which she brings to life by wearing costumes of the time that she makes herself. She says that the invention of the printing press in the late 15th Century meant that the middle classes had books and were more educated as a result. This posed a threat to the landed gentry who up until then were the only educated classes. So more widespread education and the total upheaval of religion made this a very interesting time of change. Rosemary has spent years researching how the people of Devon coped with life in Tudor times. She has written many books focussing on one family, the Champernownes who lived in Devon at this tumultuous time in history

Please come and join us on Thursday May 14th at 2pm at The Teign valley community Hall Christow for what promises to be a very interesting afternoon. Just bring £5 in cash to hear about this interesting time in our history followed by time to socialise over a hot drink and delicious cake at no extra cost. If you like what you see there is always the chance to join us on the day and get your £5 back. You can join the WI for just £54 for the year such good value at £4.50 per month. See you all soon.

For more information contact us at christowwi@gmail.com

Anne Rice

FITNESS AND WELLBEING

MOMENTS OF DISTRACTION: Are you distracted and overwhelmed by the constant flow of information from local to global news, updates? Laptops, Smartphones, TVs etc. are full of seductive distractions. Find out why cultivating a Mindfulness practice is more important than ever for the young and adults alike - it strengthens 'cognitive control'; builds the 'awareness muscle'; enhances our ability to pay attention and engage with work and one another. Free intro in person (Dunchideock) or via Zoom.

Contact Shirley Phillips, accredited Mindfulness Teacher
shirley@exetermindfulness.com; <https://www.exetermindfulness.com/>

OurLocalExpert is a free guide to recommended tradespeople, supported by local residents – now in its 15th year.

Nick welcomes genuine feedback on featured and unfeatured businesses. If you didn't receive your free copy of last year's little orange book (2025-26 edition), contact Nick Hall on 01392 340304 or Nick@OurLocalExpert.co.uk for a free copy.

The guide is also available online at www.OurLocalExpert.co.uk



Robert Williams

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TEIGN VALLEY MEN'S SHED

Teign Valley Men's Shed will be open every Thursday during May 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.

Some recent work...



A full workshop...



Woodturning....



Three legged bench...

Everyone is welcome!

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

Dunchideock Parish Council

NOTICE of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING for DUNCHIDEOCK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting for Dunchideock will be held at:

Dunchideock Village Hall on 11th May at 7.30pm

The Parish Council facilitates the meeting to include current matters of interest to the community. Any relevant matters can be raised for discussion at the meeting by any member of the Parish. It's your opportunity to exchange, interact, debate or perhaps simply make your views, on any parish matter, known to the Parish Council.

Come along and enjoy the opportunity.

After this meeting, the Annual Parish Council Meeting will take place, followed by an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting. The agendas for these will be on our web site –

Dunchideock.net

Please note, we're still would like to recruit a Parish Clerk and also fill the two vacancies on the Council. For further details, see web site.

Dudley Swain, Chairman

833 353 or email to: clerk@dunchideock-pc.gov.uk

Open Gardens at Haldon Grange

Peaceful, well established 19-acre garden, parts dating back to 1770s. This hidden gem boasts one of the largest collections of rhododendrons, azaleas, magnolias and camellias. Interspersed with mature and rare trees and complemented by a lake and cascading ponds. 6-acre arboretum, large lilac circle, wisteria pergola with views over Woodbury completes this family run treasure. Plant sale, tea, coffee and cake. Admission £6 (cash only) or £3 for children. No dogs. Visitors are welcome to bring a picnic. For more information please contact 01392 832329.

	Opening for Hospiscare 10:30-13:00	Opening for NGS 13:00-17:00
May	Sun 17 th , Mon 25 th	Sat 2 nd , Sun 3 rd , Mon 4 th , Sat 9 th , Sun 10 th , Sat 16 th , Sun 17 th , Sat 23 rd , Sun 24 th , Mon 25 th , Sat 30 th , Sun 31 st
June	Sun 7 th	Sat 6 th , Sun 7 th

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 5th & 19st May 2026



From 10:30 am until 12:00 midday



Everyone Welcome!

Lifts available if required please contact:

Anne Taylor: 01392 833282

Or Shirley Phillips: 07503 183224

Tea/Coffee: £1.80

Cake: £1.80

Dunchideock Village Hall Events

Registered Charity No. 301096.

MAY 2026:

Thursday 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th May: Cardio Drumming at 18:00. Enjoy music, improve cardio fitness, develop drumming skills and experience amazing feelings of wellbeing. £10 per session. Call Tamsin on 07891 861881.

Monday 11th May: Parish Council Meeting at 19:30

Friday 15th May: *Into the Breach* at Dunchideock Village Hall. Doors open at 19:00 for a 19:30 start. Tickets £10. A wonderful comedy written and performed by Mark Carey and produced by the Stratford Theatre Company. Contact **Sally** on **07712 465442** to reserve tickets. Early booking recommended. (See poster and critics review)

Friday 22nd May: Film Night at 18:45 for a 19:15 start. (Film to be confirmed). £5 Admittance includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Extra charge for ice cream and bar. Organised by Ray Mallett and Lee Curio.

JUNE 2026:

Thursday 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th June: 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

!!!Wanted!!!

Voluntary Treasurer for Dunchideock Village Hall

Love our village hall? Want to help it thrive? We are looking for a community-minded person to take over the simple bookkeeping for our village hall. If you are good with numbers and want to support the community, we'd love to hear from you!

So sad to say that after thirteen years of volunteering Sarah and Pete Doyle are standing down as Treasurers of the village hall. They have been quite simply amazing and we will miss them very much.

Please contact Anne Taylor on 07894 228570 or Sally Crabb on 07712 465442.



**STRATFORD THEATRE COMPANY PROUDLY PRESENTS
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INTO THE BREACH

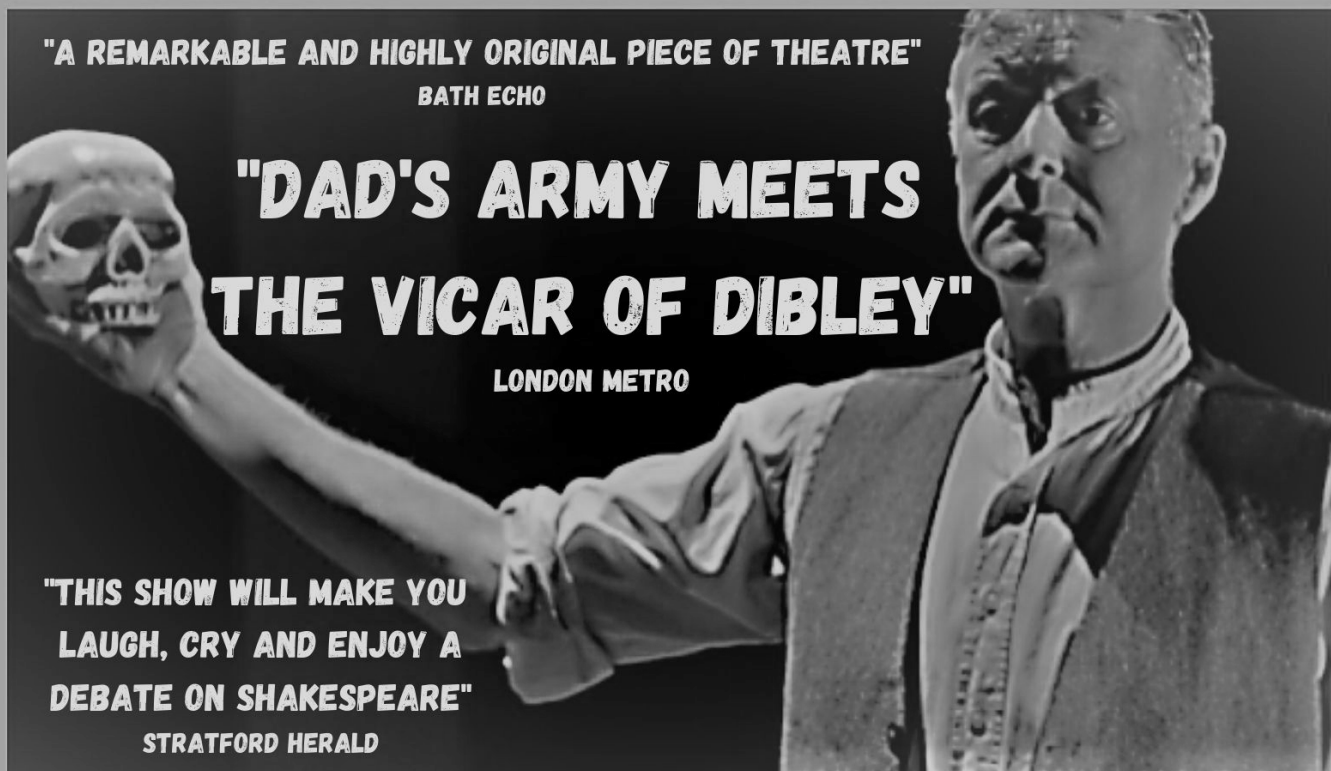
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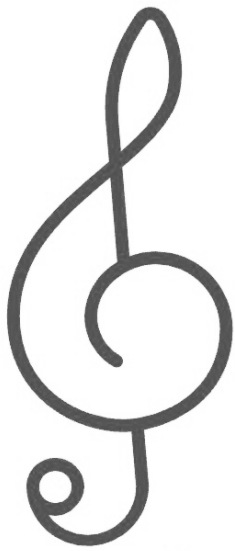


Dunchideock Film Night



Friday 22nd May 7.15 pm

Doors and Bar open 6.45 - 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.

Villages Diary

Date	Time	Event	Place
May			
Fri 1	18:45 for 19:00	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall
Sat 2	12:00-16:00	Bellringing – Tower Open Day	Christow Church
Tue 5	19:00	Annual Parochial Church Meeting	Shillingford Church
Thu 7	18:00	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock Village Hall
Fri 8	18:45 for 19:00	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall
Mon 11	19:30	Dunchideock Parish Council – Annual Parish Meeting	Dunchideock Village Hall
Wed 13	10:30 – 12:00	Open Door Cafe	Shillingford Village Hall
Thu 14	14:00	Devon Tudor History Talk	Christow Village Hall
Thu 14	18:00	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock Village Hall
Fri 15	18:45 for 19:00	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall
Fri 15	19:00 for 19:30	Play – <i>Into the Breach</i>	Dunchideock Village Hall
Mon 18	19:30	Shillingford Local History Society – AGM and talk <i>From Topsham to the Poles: the tale of HMS Terror</i>	Shillingford Village Hall
Thu 21	18:00	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock Village Hall
Fri 22	18:45 for 19:00	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall
Fri 22	18:45 for 19:15	Film Night – Midwinter Break	Dunchideock Village Hall
Sun 24	16:00	Forest Church Walk	Ashton Village Orchard
Wed 27	10:30 – 12:00	Open Door Café	Shillingford Village Hall
Thu 28	18:00	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock Village Hall
Fri 29	18:45 for 19:00	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall
JUNE			
Mon 2	12:00-16:00	Bellringing – Tower Open Day	Christow Church
Mon 2	14:00	Village Hall Committee AGM	Shillingford Village Hall
Thu 4	18:00	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock Village Hall
Fri 5	18:45 for 19:00	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall
Thu 11	18:00	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock Village Hall
Fri 12	18:45 for 19:00	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall
Thu 18	18:00	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock Village Hall
Fri 19	18:45 for 19:00	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall
Thu 25	18:00	Cardio Drumming	Dunchideock Village Hall
Fri 26	18:45 for 19:00	Whist	Shillingford Village Hall

Shillingford St George & Shillingford Abbot

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

Churchwarden: Nick Mansell
Tel: 01392 832660
Email: sa5632@btinternet.com

Dunchideock

Rector:
(day off Thursday) Revd. Ruth Frampton, The Rectory, Christow,
EX6 7PE. Tel: 01647 253164
Email: tvhrectory@yahoo.com

Churchwarden: Tina Cook
Email: tinamcook@btinternet.com

Churches Administrator: Steve Cook
Tel: 01392 832332
Email: tvhchurches@gmail.com

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