

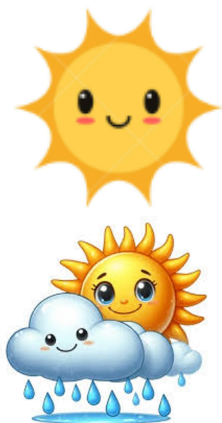
COUNTRY NEWS

JULY & AUGUST 2026

Parish Magazine of

Dunchideock and Shillingford St George

British Summer Bingo - weather edition



Fog ↗

Please check the Diary for everything on, and check inside for alternative things to do!



Letter from the Rectory

The Vicar of Dunsford (and others!) went to see the Vicar of Dibley recently! I mean of course the brilliant production by DADS last month. It was a strange, and somewhat uncanny experience, to watch scenarios mirrored from the stage of parish life: caricatures, but flecked with truth. I confess I tend to avoid watching The Vicar of Dibley on TV – it's a bit too close to home! But I was encouraged that, amongst all the 'slings and arrows of outrageous fortune', love overcame all obstacles and won in the end!

Sitting in Lord's cricket ground yesterday on the first day of the New Zealand test match, I was very aware of those slings and arrows: chance can so easily disrupt our hopes and expectations. Black clouds scudded overhead, throwing shadows across the pitch at a rate one associates with speeded up time-lapse photography. Thunder rumbled; it was hard to pay attention to the game with such a fine cloud display posing such a real threat. And yet, despite our foreboding, we enjoyed nearly a full day's play.

It's so easy sometimes to get bogged down by our fear of life's chances that we become "cup half empty" people. Perhaps it's no coincidence that I'm writing this in the first week of June before the World Cup has started – by the time this magazine pops through our letter boxes, we will still be little closer to knowing the winner. I try to be realistic but with hope! Whatever our skills and talents, however much work and training we put in, life has an element of chance that can reshape the future.

But after celebrating Easter and Pentecost, we should be "cup half full": not full of optimism - that expects everything to get better - but full of hope, because whatever chance befalls, we have faith that God is beside us, helping us put one foot in front of the other each step of the way; we trust that, whatever happens, God is with us to see us through.

Happy holidays!

Rev'd Ruth

Useful Anagrams - Church edition: Can you match the pairs?

All-age worship

humors comic richness

Lent discussion group

oral twofer

Flower rota

soundly chaos

Sunday School

incredulous pigs snot

Church Commissioners

alas, gripe, howl

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").

Forest Church – Sunday 26 July 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 – Wednesday 29 July

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).

Villages Prayer – Tuesday 21 July and Tuesday 18 August

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 meetings are on 21 July at Webberton Meadows, Dunchideock, EX2 9TX and 18 August 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

Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community

Services in the Teign Valley and Haldon Hill Group of Churches

July	Time	Details
5 Trinity 5	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word
	10:30am	St Thomas Becket, Bridford - Holy Communion
	10:30am	St Michael & All Angels, Dunchideock - Holy Communion
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word
12 Trinity 6	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word
	10:30am	St John the Baptist, Ashton - Mission Community Holy Communion
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word
19 Trinity 7	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word
	10:30am	St Michael & All Angels, Dunchideock - Mission Community Holy Communion
26 St James the Apostle	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word
	10:30am	St James, Christow - Mission Community Holy Communion
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word
	4:00pm	Ashton - Field by Village Hall - Forest Church
August	Time	Details
2 Trinity 9	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word
	10:30am	St Thomas Becket, Bridford - Holy Communion
	10:30am	St Michael, Doddiscombsleigh - Holy Communion
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word
9 Trinity 10	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word
	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
16 Trinity 11	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word
	10:30am	St John the Baptist, Ashton - Holy Communion
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Holy Communion
23 Trinity 12	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word
	10:30am	St Michael, Doddiscombsleigh - Mission Community Holy Communion
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Service of the Word
30 Trinity 13	9:00am	Scattered Church by Telephone - Service of the Word
	10:30am	St Mary, Dunsford - Mission Community Holy Communion

For scattered church by telephone details: see previous page.

There is no such thing as falling asleep during a sermon, only concentrating hard with your eyes closed. (Make sure you nod occasionally in agreement).

"As the door turns on it's hinges, so does the slothful on his bed." Proverbs 26 v 14

Dunchideock Church Calendar

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

Date	Name	Service	Time
Jul 5	Trinity 5	Holy Communion	10:30am
<i>Sidesperson</i>	Steve Cook		
<i>Readers</i>	Robin Caley	Ray Mallett	
<i>Readings</i>	Zechariah 9:9-12	Romans 7:15-25a	
<i>Intercessions</i>	Shirley Phillips		
Cleaning	Ann and Ray Mallett for the month		
Flowers	Madie Addison and Sue for the month		
Jul 19	Trinity 7	Mission Community Holy Communion	10:30am
<i>Sidesperson</i>	Dawn Bird		
<i>Readers</i>	Jamie Cummings	Shirley Phillips	
<i>Readings</i>	Isaiah 44:6-8	Romans 8:12-25	
<i>Intercessions</i>	Steve Cook		
Aug 9	Trinity 10	Holy Communion	10:30am
<i>Sidesperson</i>	Shirley Phillips		
<i>Readers</i>	Tina Cook	Dawn Bird	
<i>Readings</i>	1 Kings 19:9-18	Romans 10:5-15	
<i>Intercessions</i>	Ray Mallett		
Flowers	Stevi Cummings and Jean Cole for the month		

To all contributors to this magazine (repeated, by request)!

Please can you use (as far as possible) the following guidelines:

- When sending items in, please put what it is for in the message line of your email (ie. History poster for mag) it makes it easier for the Editors to keep track of things.
- Type size **minimum 14 point** - preferably calibri, arial or equivalent - the mag is shrunk during the printing process!
- Space: both for posters and articles – please, if possible send a text only version as well as the poster. We are limited on space, so we may need to edit/ shrink some posters/ articles (especially those with repeated info in both or lots of wasted/ white space). While we do not want to do this, **occasionally we have no choice**. A text only version gives us some leeway in getting everything in with minimum effort. Please note, even if we get only a poster or the article in, we will always try and get it into the diary (human error excepting, sorry!).
- For any reports on past events or longer info you want in, please **keep it to 1 page max** (at the 14 point size) in total. Exceptions are possible but may be edited!



MARK AND ROBIN INVITE YOU TO

*A Blossoming
paradise*

GARDEN PARTY

Sun 5th July

3pm-5pm

THE OLD MILL COTTAGE, DUNCHIDEOCK. EX2 9UJ

Entry Tickets £5

Includes Cream Tea or Cake

CONTACT SARAH 07738 631495 OR ANNE 07894228570

In aid of Dunchideock Village Hall funds

Square Roots

Draw a square



If I told you that this square has area 64, could you tell me the length of the side?

It is 8 because $8 \times 8 = 64$

We say $8^2 = 64$ pronounced 8 squared is 64.

How do we do this backwards? We say the *square root* of 64 is 8, written using this symbol $\sqrt{\quad}$ with the number inside it.

$\sqrt{64} = 8$ is pronounced the square root of 64 is 8.

It is impossible for a negative number to have a square root, but **any** positive real number can have a square root. In fact **every** positive real number has **two** square roots. Consider $8 \times 8 = 64$ also $(-8) \times (-8) = 64$ so $\sqrt{64} = 8$ and $\sqrt{64} = -8$. This is often abbreviated to $\sqrt{64} = \pm 8$

Square roots of square numbers are easy to deal with, for example:

$$\sqrt{81} = \pm 9 \quad \sqrt{100} = \pm 10 \quad \sqrt{121} = \pm 11 \quad \sqrt{144} = \pm 12$$

Every positive number has two square roots. They are very difficult to calculate. In the past people used tables like this to find square roots:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	1000 3162	1005 3178	1010 3194	1015 3209	1020 3225	1025 3240	1030 3256	1034 3271	1039 3286	1044 3302
11	1049 3317	1054 3332	1058 3347	1063 3362	1068 3376	1072 3391	1077 3406	1082 3421	1086 3435	1091 3450
12	1095 3464	1100 3479	1105 3493	1109 3507	1114 3521	1118 3536	1122 3550	1127 3564	1131 3578	1136 3592
13	1140 3606	1145 3619	1149 3633	1153 3647	1158 3661	1162 3674	1166 3688	1170 3701	1175 3715	1179 3728
14	1183 3742	1187 3755	1192 3768	1196 3782	1200 3795	1204 3808	1208 3821	1212 3834	1217 3847	1221 3860

Suppose we want to find the square root of 12.4. The figures could be 1114 or 3521. Since 12.4 is between 9 and 16, the square root must be between 3 and 4. Knowing this, the square root of 12.4 is ± 3.521 , a very complicated procedure.

Fortunately we now use our calculator or phone. Just press the button marked  followed by the number and equals. You will be given the positive square root. Try $\sqrt{169}$. Did you get 13?

Try these (answers later in Country News)

$$\sqrt{400}$$

$$\sqrt{256}$$

$$\sqrt{4000}$$

$$\sqrt{124}$$

$$\sqrt{40\,000}$$

$$\sqrt{1240}$$

Dunchideock Village Hall

Registered Charity No. 301096

JULY 2026:

Thursdays 2nd, 9th, 16th 23rd & 30th July: 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

Sunday 5th July: By kind invitation of Robin and Mark you are invited to **'A Blossoming Paradise' Garden Party @ Robin and Mark's House 3pm-5pm**. Tickets £5 to include cream tea and cakes. All proceeds to Dunchideock Village Hall.

Please contact Sarah on 07738 631495 or Anne on 07894 228570 to reserve your tickets.

Friday 10th July: Dunchideock Village Hall AGM @ 6.30pm followed by a drinks reception.

All village members are most welcome to attend and provide valued feedback on the past year's events together with suggestions for the forthcoming season. New committee members would be especially welcome! Do come and join us!

Monday 13th July: Parish Council Meeting @ 7.30pm

AUGUST 2026:

Thursdays 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th August: Cardio Drumming @ 6pm Enjoy music, improve cardio fitness, develop drumming skills and experience amazing feelings of wellbeing. £10

Summer Fun: Parent (or Grandparent) edition!

Week 1. Day 1: 'Isn't this nice, the kids are behaving well.'

Day 7: Google 'how to get away with murder.'

Week 2. Find a wine that pairs nicely with the kids being there ***all day***.

Week 3. Start up a summer camp for you & others in the same situation (bring your own cold drinks, kids optional).

Week 4. Realise teachers are underpaid, start planning the next end-of term gift (two seconds later hear the kids arguing ***AGAIN!***).

Week 5. Work out a parenting bingo sheet (summer edition), share it around your friends group. Someone posts it online, it goes viral...

Week 6. Look at calendar and panic because they are back to school next week & you've not got their new school uniforms organised yet.

Bonus: Back to school week:-



News from Christow WI

Hello all you lovely people of the Teign valley. It is summer and there is a lot going on. I hope you are not too busy to join us on Thursday 9th July 2pm at the Teign Valley Hall in Christow? I know a lot of you love horses. Here is your opportunity to learn more about a well-respected charity that has a positive impact on both horses and people across the southwest. We are welcoming Rosey Oakes who is the corporate and community lead at the mare and foal sanctuary to hear about the charities work with people horses and the environment. Since 1988 the charity has been rescuing, rehabilitating and rehoming horses and ponies in need. As well as providing lifelong care for vulnerable equines, the charities welfare and rehoming team offers free non-judgemental support to horse owners facing difficulties. The charity also supports people through horse led therapeutic sessions, helping vulnerable young people and adults experience the well being benefits of spending time with horses in nature. Rosey says that the charity is committed to sustainability using holistic grazing and biodiversity practices that benefit its horses, local wildlife and the wider environment.

Some of you may already know Rosey as she lives in Bridford and is the author of a book called "Devon dog walks". She enjoys exploring new walks great landscapes and a cake stop. On that note I feel she will be the perfect guest. Please join us for just £5 cash you can meet Rosey, hear what she has to say, eat cake and partake of a hot drink with your friendly WI members. We hope to see you soon.

Please consider joining us.

Anne Rice.

For more information contact us at christowwi@gmail.com

Things to do over the Summer - All age!

Go for a walk in the woods: Stop at intervals - what can you see, smell, hear? Can you identify any birds by their songs? (there are phone aps that can help). What's up high - in the treetops/ branches. What's down low - on the ground or in bushes. What do you notice moving between the two?

Make some Ephemeral Art: Without using anything other than what you find in nature (stones/ shells/ twigs/ leaves etc.) make a picture or item/ creature. If you're not in your own garden, if possible return what you've moved to where you found it after you've taken a picture!

Eat an ice cream - pick a flavour you've not tried before if possible!

The Garden Room

A warm welcome awaits you in The Garden Room at

The Lord Haldon Country Hotel

For Coffee, Cake and Good company!



Tuesdays: 14th & 28th July

Tuesdays: 11th & 25th August

From 10:30 am until 12:00 midday Tea/Coffee: £1.80 Cakes: £1.80



Everyone Welcome! Lifts available if required, please contact:

Anne Taylor: 01392 833282 or Shirley Phillips: 07503183224

Dunchideock Village Hall

Dunchideock Village Hall



100+ Club



JUNE

1. R Bean
2. R Squires
3. C Cull

JULY

1. A Swain
2. T Baker
3. J Travell



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.

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TEL – 01392 832218

TEIGN VALLEY MEN'S SHED

Teign Valley Men's Shed will be open every Thursday during July and August 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.

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.

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!



A busy session!

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OPENING HOURS

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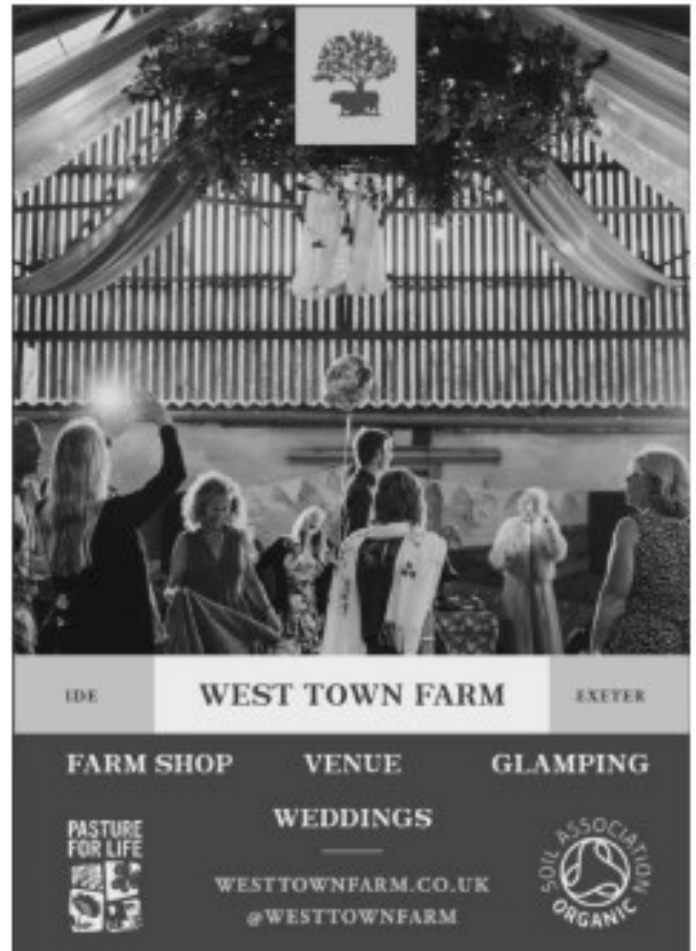
Saturdays: 8am - 1pm

Sundays and Bank Holidays: 9am - 12 noon

Post Office:

Mon to Fri 9am - 12 noon / 1pm - 5pm (last post 4.45pm)

Saturdays, Sundays & Bank Holidays: Closed



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'Thank goodness it's raining,



my mud was getting dehydrated'
said no-one, ever.

Square Roots Answers

$$\sqrt{400} = 20$$

$$\sqrt{4000} = 63.2$$

$$\sqrt{40000} = 200$$

$$\sqrt{256} = 16$$

$$\sqrt{124} = 11.1$$

$$\sqrt{1240} = 35.2$$

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Shillingford St George Church Calendar for July & August 2026

Date	Name	Service	Time
5 July	Trinity 5	Morning Service	9.30
Sidesmen	Liz		
Readers	Di and Peter		
Reading	Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	
Prayers	Lay Team	Oak Close & Waybrook Lane	
Date	Name	Service	Time
12 July	Trinity 6	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Tom and Gwen		
Readers	Sue and Derek		
Reading	Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	
Prayers	Clergy	Road through Shillingford Abbot	
Date	Name	Service	Time
19 July	Trinity 7	Evensong in the churchyard	6.00
Sidesmen	Di		
Readers	Tam and Edmund		
Readings	Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	
Prayers	Clergy	Ash Court & St George's Terrace	
Date	Name	Service	Time
26 July	Trinity 8	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Norman		
Readers	Norman and Derek		
Reading	Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52	
Prayers	Nick	Our Mission Community	
Date	Name	Service	Time
2 August	Trinity 9	Morning Service	9.30
Sidesmen	Nick		
Readers	Sue and Nick		
Reading	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21	
Prayers	Lay Team	The Willows & Ilex Close	
Date	Name	Service	Time
9 August	Trinity 10	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Tom and Gwen		
Readers	Derek and Norman		
Reading	Romans 10:5-15	Matthew 14:22-33	
Prayers	Clergy	Manstree Lane & Manstree Terrace	
Date	Name	Service	Time
16 August	Trinity 11	Evensong in the churchyard	6.00
Sidesmen	Liz		
Readers	Tam and Edmund		
Reading	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28	
Prayers	Clergy	Glebe Lane & Place Farm Area	15

Date	Name	Service	Time
23 August	Trinity 12	Holy Communion	9.30
Sidesmen	Norman		
Readers	Di and Norman		
Readings	Romans 12:1-8	Matthew 16:13-20	
Prayers	Nick	Road through Shillingford St George	
Date	Name	Service	Time
30 August	Trinity 13	MC Holy Communion	9.30
		at Ide	
Reading	Romans 12:9-21	Matthew 16:21-28	
Prayers		Surrounding parishes of Dunchideock, Kenn & Exminster	
Date	Name	Service	Time
6 September	Trinity 14	Morning Service	9.30
Sidesmen	Liz		
Readers	Peter and Derek		
Reading	Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20	
Prayers	Lay Team	Barrack Lane & Barton Lane	

Flower Rota – June 2025

July 5 – Lesley July 12 & 19 - Claire July 26 & 2 Aug - Terry
Aug 9 & 16 - Tam Aug 23 & 30 - Carole Sept 6 & 13 – Sue

Charity Collection

At our recent Mission Community service, we collected £185 for Devon In Sight. Thanks for all your generous donations.

Summer Outdoor Evensong

We are planning to have Evensong, outdoors in the churchyard at 6pm on Sunday 19 July & Sunday 16 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.

For your diary

Gift Day Cream Teas are in the Village Hall on Saturday 27 June from 2-4.30pm. Music from the Shillingford Village Trio.

Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 11 October and Harvest Supper on Monday 12 October in the Village Hall.

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.

Interregnum

Mike's last service in Shillingford will be @ 9.30 on Sunday 12 July; and I know we all would like to thank him for his time with us and wish him a long & happy retirement. Until his replacement is appointed, we will be served by visiting clergy and lay leaders. Our plan is to continue with our present service pattern; and I know we already have service cover every Sunday until the beginning of October. I am confident that we will continue our weekly Sunday services until such time as our new rector arrives.

In the meantime, requests for baptisms & weddings should be addressed to the Alphington Admin phone: 01392 662280

or email: christenings@alphingtonstmichaels.org
weddings@alphingtonstmichaels.org

For funerals; it will be for the Funeral Director to arrange.

ROAD WARDEN SCHEME... A PROPOSAL FOR SHILLINGFORD

Potholes!..... The scourge of drivers and riders going about their daily lives and having to take extra care to avoid damage to their vehicles and other road users.

Responsibility for road maintenance falls fairly and squarely on the shoulders of the Devon County Council (DCC) Highways Department and they do not shy away from their responsibility. However, despite having a huge annual budget and additional funds pumped into their coffers from central government, resources are still insufficient to keep the many of thousands of miles of Devon roads in a satisfactory condition.

Maybe there is a solution..... or partial answer anyway. As readers may be aware, DCC is now offering to work in partnership with local councils to set up groups, or teams, of local volunteers to carry out minor road repairs, i.e., potholes. Your Parish Council is currently giving serious thought and consulting with DCC, with a view to setting up a scheme. Your views would be appreciated but, above all, we are going to need a small team of volunteers. This need not be onerous and we can decide the scale and complexity of the work undertaken but it is likely the emphasis will be on filling the smaller potholes. Repairs to roads where there is a safety issue, for example, would be excluded.

Under the scheme, DCC covers insurance and there is a fund we can apply to for tools and materials once an agreement is in place between DCC and your Parish Council. The next step is for the Parish Council to agree how it moves the project forward on Monday 13th July 2026 at 7.30 PM in the Village Hall. Do come along to have your say and take part in discussion.

Meanwhile, a line of communication with DCC has been initiated and already positive interest has been expressed from members of the community. On a wider note, to

put this into context, this initiative not only reflects the financial challenges that councils are facing; it is also a reminder that the structure of local government is changing. From 2027/28, Teignbridge District Council and DCC will no longer exist and your Parish Council will become part of a Unitary Authority along with many other Parish and Town Councils. We will soon hear from central government as to which Unitary we shall be part of, quite possibly Exeter along with councils in parts of East and Mid-Devon but that is pure speculation.

The Unitary Authority will assume responsibility for many of the services we currently `enjoy` such as, education, transport, social care etc. It is less clear who will provide the services currently provided by district councils. Filling potholes could be seen as the thin end of the wedge for Parish Councils as we are assured of our future, serving our local communities. We are mindful of what might come our way but ever mindful of what we can realistically take on and what might be to the advantage of our community. Filling potholes with a team of community minded volunteers, seems realistic and an opportunity to do something that has a positive impact on the daily lives of almost all of us.

This proposal will not happen without your involvement, however small, so do get in touch or come along on July 13th.

Meanwhile, to learn more take a look at:-

<https://www.gov.uk/devonhighways/self-help/road-warden-scheme>

Peter Wareham - Chairman, Shillingford Parish Council. Contact:

peter.wareham@shillingford-pc.gov.uk

New E-mail Address – Parish Clerk - To contact your Parish Council please use the new e-mail address: clerk@shillingford-pc.gov.uk.

Contact details for individual Councillors can be found on the website www.shillingford-pc.gov.uk

The Open Door Cafe



Wednesday 8th July 10.30-12Noon S.V.H.

Wednesday 22nd July 10.30-12Noon S.V.H.

Wednesday 5th August 10.30-12Noon S.V.H.

Wednesday 19th August 10.30-12Noon (Police) S.V.H.

Wednesday 2nd September 10.30-12Noon S.V.H.



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James Taylor
Partner

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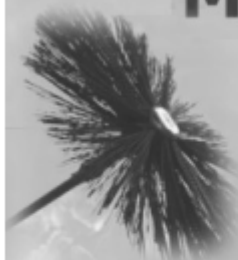
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Contact Katie Baker on

07413 796677



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Ide, Nr Exeter

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FREE QUOTATIONS

SHILLINGFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
FROM TOPSHAM TO THE POLES
THE TALE OF HMS TERROR
MONDAY 18 MAY 2026



This talk was given by John Davidson. He taught history at Exeter School and retired in 2018. During his retirement he has been a Redcoat Guide in Exeter and has written articles and given talks on landscapes, natural hazards and historical subjects. As a researcher and lecturer he is known for his work on the construction and history of HMS Terror.

The Tale of HMS Terror starts with the ship being built in Topsham. During the 18th century the then town and port became an established location for shipbuilding and had several yards along the banks of the River Exe. Some reasons for this were that it had a skilled labour force and a plentiful source of materials, and the river was not as shallow then as it is now. During the Napoleonic Wars, the Admiralty had ships built in yards some distance from London, as they received better value for the cost, and there was also the possible threat of a French invasion of London and its dockyards.

24 ships were built in Topsham for the Admiralty during the wars. They were smaller ships of about 300 to 400 tons and included HMS Terror which was possibly built at the Robert Davy yard and was launched on 29th June, 1813. The ship weighed 325 tons, had three masts, and was 102 feet long. The size of the crew varied with each voyage, and was between 64 and 72 men. She was built as a “Bomb Vessel” and was constructed as an exceptionally strong ship with a double oak hull. This could withstand the recoil from the 10 inch and 13 inch mortars, which were mounted in two wells below the main deck, so that the mortars could fire bombs up and over a fort’s walls and land inside.

HMS Terror did not actually see service in the Napoleonic Wars - but did see action in the War of 1812 between Britain and the United States, and took part in the bombardment of Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland, in September 1814. The resistance of the American soldiers inspired the lyrics of the American National Anthem “The Star Spangled Banner” with the words “the bombs bursting in air” referring to the bombs launched from the ship. After this war HMS Terror was decommissioned, until it undertook a further short period of service in the Mediterranean from 1828, where it was damaged and was again decommissioned.

During this period Sir John Barrow, who was Second Secretary to the Admiralty, pursued his ambition of Arctic and Antarctic exploration. This included ten expeditions between 1818 and 1837 to find the North West Passage, which was thought to pass from the Atlantic Ocean through the Canadian Archipelago, north of Canada, and into the Pacific Ocean, and would considerably shorten this journey. Because of her strong construction, HMS Terror was chosen for one of these expeditions, and underwent a major refit from 1835 to 1836. This included giving her deck a double thickness, the hull being double planked, adding copper plate to the keel, and triple strength sails.

Following this refit, she sailed under the command of Captain George Back, to the Arctic during 1836 and 1837, to explore the shores of Hudson Bay. During this voyage the ship became frozen in the ice for ten months in Frozen Strait and suffered heavy damage. The crew were able to play football on the ice. Despite the damage, the ship was able to return to Britain to be repaired.

Her next expedition was to the Antarctic from 1839 to 1843, together with HMS Erebus. Both ships were completely refitted with additional strengthening and a hot air heating system. The voyage was intended to complete the exploration of the Antarctic and search for Magnetic South. They made two expeditions circling the ice and a third that included going to South Africa, and during the voyage, the crew logged a lot of natural history, and identified plant and animal species. The mission mapped vast stretches of the Antarctic coastline, collected magnetic data, discovered Mount Erebus and Mount Terror, and pushed further south than any previous expedition. The ships became frozen in the ice in 1842 but both managed to escape, and on another occasion, one had to “Reverse Sails” to sail backwards to avoid being crushed by an iceberg.

Both ships returned to Britain and were refitted with steam engines and iron plating for a new and fateful mission in 1845. The aim of the voyage was to explore the Arctic and discover The Northwest Passage, and was led by Captain Sir John Franklin. The voyage became known as Franklin’s Lost Expedition.

HMS Terror and HMS Erebus sailed from Greenhithe, Kent on 19th May 1845 with a total crew of 134 on both ships, and with provisions for three years, to last until 1848, which was the intended duration of the expedition. On HMS Terror the provisions included over 17,000 pounds of tinned meat in tins with lead solder, over 18,000 pounds of biscuit, over 4,600 pounds of chocolate and over 9,500 pints of concentrated soup.

The ships reached Disko Bay on the west coast of Greenland in July 1845, and the crew was reduced to 129 due to illness. It is then believed that they sailed around Baffin Island, where they were last sighted by British whalers, then through Lancaster Sound, and spent the winter of 1845/46 on Beechey Island, a small island off the coast of the larger Devon Island, at the start of the Northwest Passage. The winter of 1846/47 was spent on King William Island, as was the winter of 1847/48, as the two ships were trapped in the heavy ice around the island and in the Victoria Strait.

There is some mystery as to what happened to the two ships and their crews. It is recorded that the ships were trapped for 19 months in dense pack ice around King William Island and all 129 crew died in different circumstances and for different reasons. The last known written record is the ‘Victory Point Note’, found in May 1859 in a stone cairn on King William Island, that stated in May 1847 “All Well”. A second message, added in April 1848, tells a much different story. Twenty-four people, including Franklin, were dead, and the ships had been deserted after being trapped by sea ice for 19 months.

The crews that had survived attempted to walk over the ice to the mainland, but died in trying to achieve this, and all vanished. Some bodies of the deceased were found by

those on subsequent expeditions to find the ships, and they also spoke to the local Inuit population for information. Examination of the discovered bodies indicated the probable causes of death as malnutrition, hypothermia, tuberculosis, scurvy and lead poisoning – the latter possibly from the lead solder on the tins of food or the lead pipes of the water system. There was also some evidence of cannibalism.

In September 2014, the wreck of HMS Erebus was found, and, in September 2016 the wreck of HMS Terror was discovered in Terror Bay, on the south coast of King William Island. The ship was sitting upright, 70 feet down on the sea bed, and was in pristine condition. Both ships were many miles south of their last known locations off the north west coast of the island, and it has been suggested by Royal Museums, Greenwich researchers that the ships drifted south, trapped in the ice. All the above locations, and the events, occurred inside the Arctic Circle.

The achievements of HMS Terror are that she was built in Topsham, was the first ship to go to both the Arctic and Antarctic, and that she still exists - although in a watery grave. Unfortunately her Log Book, which would provide more information, is missing. There is a model of the ship in Topsham Museum, together with a book about the ship. This was an excellent, very informative talk, supported by illustrations of the conditions in the two frozen parts of the world in the early days of Polar exploration. The presentation was enjoyed by a large audience.

The next meeting is on Monday July 27 with a talk titled “The Georgian Improvers of Dartmoor by Simon Dell, Dartmoor National Park guide, police historian, Quaker records custodian and author. This talk will describe the attempts 200 years ago to turn the moorlands of Dartmoor into agricultural land.

The Committee is very much in need of new members, so if anyone is interested, please contact the Chairperson, Jan Wood at jwood227@btinternet.com.

The membership year is from May to April. The annual fee remains at only £8, and was due from May 2026. This includes free entry to the four meetings and talks for the year, and also covers the cost of the buffet at the February meeting. New members are always welcome. The fee per meeting for guests is £4, or £6 for the February meeting, which also covers the cost of the buffet supper.

Norman Harvey - Committee Member
Shillingford Local History Society

I fought the lawn, and the lawn won!



Colouring Time!



A short resume from the last Shillingford Parish Council meeting

The Annual General Meeting held in April was felt to be a success with a good turnout. A proposed logo for the PC and to feature on the website was generally felt that it needed to reflect the local area more. Further work will be undertaken as regards this.

Cabinet, due to the adverse weather conditions earlier in the year moisture may have seeped into the cabinet. This will be for ongoing review.

Notice boards, the glass has been replaced in the SA notice board. Both cabinets will be refurbished.

Police reports, these are not always accurate as police from Exeter may be called to an incident in either village and the incident is then not passed onto our neighbourhood policing team based in Teignmouth.

Local Government Reorganisation this is still on-going but it is hoped that a decision will be made by the government in July this year.

The Teighbridge local plan, this is planned to be approved soon. It will set out land usage going forward and includes a total of 2050 houses on three sites, Peamore, Markhams Farm and Attwells farm in Whitestone. Markhams Farm Village will include affordable housing, a housing scheme for elderly, a primary school and Dr's surgery. There will be a "green belt" (SANGS) a countryside park area between Peamore and Exeter.

Neighbourhood Plan, committee members have been appointed and further meetings will be organised.

Pot holes, an ongoing problem. Waybrook Lane and Markhams Lane being particularly bad.

The date of the next PC meeting will be 13th July in the Village Hall.

Claire Dummett

Daniel: slept in the lions den.

Peter: slept in a prison.

Jesus: slept in a storm.

No matter what your circumstances are, you can take a nap!



F
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E
E !

CREAM TEAS & ICE CREAMS



The Exchange
Shillingford Village Hall

Saturday 4th July



2.00pm



Raffle in aid of Hospicecare

~ Cake Stall ~

Swap/ Bring along/ Take away

Books, Toys, Puzzles, Games, Plants

Or just come along for tea!

We would be very grateful for any contribution of cakes, - large or small - for our Cake Stall at the event on 4th July. Just bring them along to the Village Hall, morning or afternoon. Many thanks!

All profits from the afternoon are going to Hospicecare.



FRIENDS OF SHILLINGFORD WOOD
WELCOME YOU TO
“A PARTY IN THE GARDEN”



AT
THE COTTAGE
SHILLINGFORD ST GEORGE EX2 9QN
2.00PM
SUNDAY 16TH AUGUST 2026

PIMMS
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AND LOTS MORE

Shillingford Local History Society invites you:



MONDAY 27 JULY 2026

7.30PM IN SHILLINGFORD VILLAGE HALL

**THE GEORGIAN IMPROVERS OF
DARTMOOR**



The talk, which will be presented by popular speaker Simon Dell, describes the ambitious attempts 200 years ago to turn the moorlands of Dartmoor into productive agricultural land. The so-called 'improvers' had limited success, but their efforts made an impact on the landscape that can still be seen today.

Members and visitors are all welcome

MEMBERS FREE

GUESTS

£4

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 only: 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-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/>

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

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, perterwareham@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 07486 041108

John Parrott john.parrott@teignbridge.gov.uk 07387 533303

Kevin Smith kevin.smith@teignbridge.gov.uk 07790 490210

Other Useful Numbers

Idelane Surgery 01392 428900

Online booking: 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 - July, August (& beyond?)

July

Thurs 2/ 9/ 16/ 23/ 30	6.00pm	Cardio Drumming	D. V. H.
Sun 5 th	3 - 5pm	A Blossoming Paradise	Old Mill Cottage, Dunc.
Wed 8 th / 22 nd	10.30am- 12	Open Door Café	S. V. H.
Thurs 9 th	2.00pm	Christow WI	Teign Valley Comun. Hall
Fri 10 th	6.30pm	Dunchideock V. H. AGM	D. V. H.
Mon 13 th	7.30pm	Dunchideock P. C. Meeting	D. V. H.
Mon 13 th	7.30pm	Shillingford P. C. Meeting	S. V. H.
Tues 14 / 28 th	10.30am - 12	The Garden Room	Lord Haldon Hotel
Tues 21 st	5.00pm	Villages Prayer	Webberton Meadows
Mon 27 th	7.30pm	Georgian Improvers of Dartmoor	S. V. H.

August

Wed 5 & 19 th	10.30am	Open Door Café	S. V. H.
Thurs 6/ 13/ 20/ 27	6.00pm	Cardio drumming	D. V. H.
Tues 11/ 25 th	10.30am - 12	The Garden Room	Lord Haldon Hotel
Tues 18 th	5.00pm	Villages Prayer	Stonehouse, Christow

Sept & Beyond

Wed 2nd Sept	10.30am - 12	Open Door Café	S. V. H.
Sun 11 th Oct		Harvest Festival	Shillingford Church
Mon 12 th Oct		Harvest Supper	S. V. H.

D.V.H. - Dunchideock Village Hall

S.V.H. - Shillingford Village Hall



The Parishes of Shillingford, Ide & Alphington

Rector: Vacancy
Temporary Info: Tel: 01392 662280
email: christenings@alphingtonstmichaels.org /
weddings@alphingtonstmichaels.org
Churchwarden: Mr. N. Mansell (832660) sa5632@btinternet.com

Dunchideock

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
Churches Administrator: Steve Cook (832332) or tvhchurches@gmail.com

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Contributions should be sent to the Editor by the 15th of the preceding month

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All payments to the **Treasurer** in advance please. **To make it easier for the editors all submissions should be in minimum 14 point font size.**