

60p

April 2020

The BEACON



South Tawton

South Zeal

Belstone

Sticklepath

The Store & Tea Room

POST OFFICE
OFF LICENCE
NEWS & MAGAZINES
BREAD DAILY
LOCAL MEATS & POULTRY
COFFEE, TEAS & CAKES

LOCAL FAYRE
DEVON FOODS
FRESH FRUIT & VEG

South Zeal
01837 840229

FULLY
INSURED



Adam of Eden Tree Care



A friendly, family run company providing a range of high quality arboricultural services

**TREE SURGERY • HEDGE TRIMMING • STUMP GRINDING
SITE CLEARANCE • AND MUCH MORE...**

07398 268877
adamofedentrees@gmail.com

Check us out at:  
@adamofedentrees

OWLSFOOT GARAGE STICKLEPATH

DAVE & ANDY HOLLAND
TEL. 01837 840804

MOT TESTING STATION

**PROFESSIONAL FAMILY BUSINESS
FOR ALL YOUR MOTORING NEEDS**



**DIAGNOSTICS • REPAIRS &
SERVICING • ALL MODELS
PUNCTURES • EXHAUSTS
TRACKING • BALANCING
AIR-CON RE-GAS-REPAIRS & MOTs
BATTERIES • QUALITY TYRES**

accounts • tax • systems • support

From MBC accountants you can expect...

- **FREE** initial consultation
- Six week turnaround
- Friendly approach
- Fixed fees

MBC
accountants
.....

Call Claire
01837 55482

*We run your finances...
...you run your business*

Jacob's Pool House • 11 West Street • Okehampton • Devon EX20 1HQ

www.mbcaccountants.co.uk

moorland fuels
part of your landscape

Heating Oil and Tractor Diesel
Oil Tank Cleaning
Lubricants
Coal
Spill Response
Oil Tank Replacement and Installation

Moorlands House, North Rd, Okehampton EX20 1BQ
www.moorlandfuels.co.uk

Local Reliable Service
Call Us Today
01837 55700





April 2020

No. 460

Hello,

I do hope you are all keeping well. Our community is certainly outstanding and I feel we didn't need a virus to demonstrate this to us.

There are a great many changes to what is going on [or not] so please look carefully and contact the organiser if unsure. You will notice that the meetings of many organisations are suspended until further notice. I will ensure that as and when meetings resume The Beacon will be celebrating them!

On a personal note The Beacon has been a terrific comfort to me during isolation. At least I have something to concentrate on and I can feel that I am giving something back to my community and to all those who have helped us. There is a lot to enjoy in this month's issue and I will endeavour to collect joy and celebration in the months to come. If you have any tales of kindness, opinions, or something you would like to share please email me; I would love to hear from you.

Fiona

The deadline for copy for the **May 2020** Beacon is

Wednesday 15th April

You can email material to editor.thebeacon@icloud.com

or deliver it to Larksmead Cottage, South Zeal EX20 2JP

or contact anyone on the committee (see inside back cover).

The magazines will be delivered on or following the weekend of 25/26 April. Please be aware that we rely totally on a wonderful team of volunteers for delivery.

The Beacon can be bought at The Tea Rooms at Belstone and all your groceries as well as The Beacon can be bought at The Stores, South Zeal and Sticklepath Stores. We are grateful to them for providing this service and for helping us through challenging times!



The Archangel's Way

wander and wonder

A new Pilgrimage Way for the 21st century -
along ancient paths – where all are welcome to engage
with this fascinating landscape,
find sanctuary in 12 historic churches
and space for the soul through walking, poetry and the
beauty of Dartmoor, past and present.

Help shape the future of Dartmoor National Park!

The draft National Park Management Plan is a plan for anyone that cares about Dartmoor. The National Park Authority is seeking your views on the draft Management Plan, to ensure Dartmoor continues to be protected and enhanced in the future.

The Plan is a bold and ambitious partnership plan, that will be delivered by a range of partners and local communities across the National Park. It had been written and developed over the last 18 months, and identifies the main issues, priorities, opportunities and challenges facing Dartmoor today. It encourages everyone to work together to protect and enhance Dartmoor's special quality, for the benefit of all.

The plan covers seven main themes: Climate Change, Nature and Natural Beauty, Cultural Heritage, Farming and Forestry, Future Generations, Visitor Management and Communities and Business. The Plan aims to be bold, ambitious and clear on these themes, to help shape a future vision for Dartmoor.

We want everyone, regardless of age or background, to get involved with the draft Plan. We want to check that it reflects your ideas and aspirations for how we will work collectively for Dartmoor's future. We encourage you to submit your views online, via the Management Plan Review Page on the National Park

website. The period of submitting your views will end on 20th April.

Submit your views here! <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/living-and-working/management-plan/management-plan-review>

The draft Dartmoor Management Plan can also be viewed on the Management Plan Review page, with hard copies available at Dartmoor National Park Authority's Parke headquarters, Haytor and Princetown Visitors Centres and local libraries. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at manplan@dartmoor.gov.uk.

We look forward to hearing your views!

Many thanks, Alice Tilley. Assistant Policy Officer

STICKLEPATH VILLAGE WORK DAY 23rd Feb

Despite a cold, wet, blustery Sunday morning, a surprisingly large number of residents turned out to support the annual Village Work Day in Sticklepath. More than 25 people braved the elements to carry out a number of tasks around the village. The main focus of the morning was the planting of nearly 100 hedging plants on the Playing Field, alongside the road.

Additionally, there were enough workers to carry out the full list of tasks. The gardens at Ladywell and the Millennium Seat were both tidied up and prepared for some later spring planting. The footpath out towards Okehampton was cut well back and tidied up, and a new commemorative oak tree was planted in the freshly cleared area behind the Incised Stone at Ladywell. And our Dartmoor Ranger Ian Brooker took a small party onto Sticklepath Moor to carry out some drainage work.

Families joined in the morning, and some youngsters will remember for many years the day they planted an oak tree, and watch as the hedging plants grow on their Playing Field.

We all met back at the Pavilion – some wet and muddy, but not tired enough to enjoy the delicious home-made soups and cake, and of course not forgetting the traditional lardy cake. The Parish Council is very grateful to all those who came to help smarten up their village, and to Steve Matthews, Lyn Daniels and Libby Watson for the refreshments.

Sticklepath Community Church

As we all begin social distancing, Sticklepath Community Church will no longer be meeting together face to face and Sunday Services will not happen for the foreseeable future.

This is a challenging time for all of us and we are looking at how we can support one another and how we can find opportunities to continue being a loving, worshipping and praying community, whilst not being able to gather together physically. We hope to be able to share some of these ideas with you via our Facebook page.

Some of our Church members will be offering their time and support to existing efforts to reach out to members of the community who may be self-isolating or in need in anyway. We would encourage anyone reading this to seek help if they are feeling at risk, vulnerable or isolated. Please do not suffer alone.

At times like these, when so many are fearful and there is great uncertainty, we are reminded of our dependence on our Heavenly Father and the future that he holds. At 7pm this Sunday we will be joining other Christians across the UK in prayer and lighting a candle in our windows as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ, and our source of hope in this time. Our prayers will continue beyond Sunday and throughout this unknown season. If anyone has any requests for prayer, please do let us know and we will gladly pray with you and for you.

Protect the people you love and support Hospiscare.

Generous solicitors across Exeter, Mid and East Devon will be giving their time and expertise in May so you can have your Will prepared or updated. Instead of paying the usual solicitor's fee, make an appropriate donation to Hospiscare at your appointment.

Appointments fill up quickly, so call 01392 688020 or email fundraising@hospiscare.co.uk now to receive a list of participating solicitors as soon as it becomes available in April.

Book your appointment from Monday 20 April.

Thank you so much for your continued support.



Joyous
holistic happiness

Amy Rogers
Reflexology/Massage/Reiki Master

Tel: 01837877771 / 0796238382
email: info@feelgoodfriends.com

address: Higher Melbury, Northlew, Okehampton, EX20 3PG



CLEAN DIRECT

DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

Window Cleaning · Gutter Sucking · Deep Cleans
Pressure Washing · Estate Management

07376 499 792

cleandirectwindows@gmail.com



C GUSCOTT
Mini Digger Hire

Operated or Self-drive

- Driveways
- Landscaping
- Groundworks
- Site Clearances

Call Craig on
07530 435665

Fi's Jewellery


Beautiful, Unique Semi Precious Jewellery



Fi McKnight
Repairs
Reshringing

01837 840741
fisjewellery.co.uk

D.J. Stallion Ltd



electrical

Domestic
Commercial
Industrial Installations
H+V Lighting
PWR
Fire Alarm
Data
Inspection + Testing

Mob: 07876 205944
Tel: 01837 840980
davidstallion@btinternet.com

FARMER LUXTON'S

FARM SHOP AND CAFE

Taste the difference with our tasty meat and distinctive shop products. Our cafe offers hot snacks, the full English and delicious cakes.



01837 54308
www.farmerluxtons.co.uk



dartmoor
TILING
DO.UK

Professional Tiling Services

All types of tile / Waterproof tanking / Under tile heating / Walls & floors

Steve Essery

www.dartmoortiling.co.uk
dartmoortiling@gmail.com

07729 460746





We're Hiring!
SELF EMPLOYED
CLEANERS REQUIRED

• OFFICES
• HOLIDAY LETS

• DOMESTIC CLEANING
• IRONING

LIABILITY INSURED

CALL EMMA ON: 07486 913599



Fitness in the Outdoors
Introductory and Regular Walks
Fitness Sessions
One-to-One
Private Sessions for two or more
Walking Holidays

Denise Horner
British Nordic Walking & NWUK Instructor
Fully Insured / ITC Outdoor First Aid
07944 630 677
e: denise@dartmoornordicwalking.co.uk
www.dartmoornordicwalking.co.uk
in association with: www.moorlandpaws.co.uk

IN 5 WA
BRITISH NORDIC WALKING

Martin White & Son
Plumbing & Heating
OFTEC, GAS SAFE & LPG
01837 840162
Est. 1983
jane.mwhite@virgin.net

Hearn Haulage Ltd



Septic Tanks Emptied
(Small Lorry Available)

Phone: 01805 601203
Mobile: 07831 241531
Email: hearnhaulage@outlook.com

STICKLEPATH GARAGE
MECHANICAL & BODY REPAIRS

CALOR GAS, SPARES
REUSE - REPAIR - RECYCLE

NEW SERVICE AVAILABLE
A J ELECTRICS
REPAIRS, REWIRES & ALTERATIONS

FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

01837 840601
YOUR ACTIONS TODAY CREATE TOMORROW






The Okehampton Handyman
Simon Wright

Household and Garden Maintenance
Painting and Decorating
Carpentry and Household Repairs
Furniture Repair and Polish

Mobile - 07866 793914
Home - 01837 89171
Simon109Wright@googiemail.com

NEIL SQUANCE
GARDEN MAINTENANCE



Tel 01837 83665
Mob 07799 483720

Happy Easter Biscuits



175g butter
50g golden caster sugar
50g icing sugar
1 egg
½ teaspoon mixed spice
300g plain flour
Plus extra for rolling
Coloured icing for decorating

Preheat oven to 180oC. Beat the sugar and butter until creamy. Add egg, spice and flour. Mix to a firm dough.

Roll out onto a floured board 2 to 3cm thick.. Using Easter cookie cutters cut the biscuits.

Transfer to a lined baking tray. Bake for 8-10 minutes. Cool on a wire

rack. Leave to cool then decorate.

Okehampton and District Men's Probus Club

Readers may have seen a new entry in the Events Calendar last month for '**Okehampton and District Men's Probus Club**', which meets at Okehampton Conservative Club (The Old Drill Hall) in Mill Road Okehampton fortnightly on Mondays at 10 30 a.m. for a talk, coffee (or tea!), a short business meeting, and from time to time outings, lunches and holidays. Gentlemen, you will be most welcome – for dates, see the events calendar!

There is also a Ladies' Probus Club, which meets in the same place on the Mondays when the men's club does not, and they too will make ladies most welcome!

The PROBUS Club organisation has been in being for many years,; it is a local association of retired and semi-retired PROfessional and BUSiness people, and others who have had some measure of responsibility in any field. Clubs meet regularly for fellowship and an 'extension of their interests'.

Each club is autonomous and chooses its own rules and programme. Some clubs meet weekly, some monthly, some twice a month. Some have coffee mornings with guest speakers, some have lunches or dinners. Many organise day trips and holidays to which partners and friends may be invited if the club so chooses. Each club elects its own officers, and Okehampton has a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, and a programme organiser. PROBUS Clubs do not exist to raise money for charity, although some choose to run occasional fund-raising events and raffles. NO politics, NO religion.

Both Men's Probus and Ladies Probus will be delighted to welcome new members.

The movement is supported nationally, and has a magazine published quarterly, designed as a forum for clubs to share experiences and seek or impart advice. The magazines are free; clubs who choose to subscribe pay only the cost of packaging and delivery. Probus magazine is the only publication published nationally for Probus members.

PROBUS clubs in the UK and Ireland also now have an 'umbrella' website: www.probusonline.org

In addition to resources such as a directory of speakers, table graces, outing and holiday recommendations etc. each club may have its own page free of charge on which it controls the content. A 'chat' section allows registered users to ask for and give advice more quickly than through the magazine. Only bona fide PROBUS members may register to view the site, thus preventing unscrupulous companies from targeting members with unwanted advertising.

And finally, PROBUS is NOT a fundraising organisation; it exists to provide a social forum, fellowship and friendship for like-minded people; it is not affiliated to a central organising body, so that each Club sets its own rules.

The origins of PROBUS were with Rotary, who sponsored the first clubs; clubs may be of mixed gender, men only, or women only, and there are no upper or lower age limits.

Louis Baycock

Whiddon Mission Community

A service was held at St. Mary's, South Zeal on 6th March, joining in with 190 other countries which support the World Day of Prayer movement. This year we were celebrating and supporting the Christian Women of Zimbabwe, learning about their lives and

praying for social justice and human rights. It's a service that ripples across the globe starting at dawn in Samoa and then finishing some 36 hours later as the sun sets over American Samoa. The service is very accessible, finishing off with tea and refreshments. Thank you to all those who provided cake and biscuits and a big thank you to Gina Dale, our organist! It was wonderful to be able to send off the fabulous sum of £81.10 to World Day of Prayer, a large part of which will be sent to Christians in Zimbabwe. Many thanks all those who attended! I hope to see you again next year! Jill Hobbs. Reader for the Whiddon Mission Community.

The Moorland Group

The March meeting was well attended and Vicky O'Neill, assisted by Ursula Radford, brought along wooden spoons to be decorated by members. This was one of the forms of canal boat painting that also included metal pots, jugs and the boats themselves. There are various different European folk art styles and, although they are generally executed in bright colours the Moorland Group ladies painted the spoons in their own choice of hues!

It has been decided not to hold Moorland Group meetings for April and May and to consider the situation for June at a later date. Sadly the coffee morning will also be postponed until later in the year. Jacqueline Yeates

BEVAs last meeting included a talk by Trish Carrington from Peninsular Recycling. She gave a passionate insight into the ways we need to improve our management of packaging, by insisting that companies know exactly what happens to the plastics and cardboard that they use. We, as consumers, need to insist on changes. Although WDBC are amongst the best Authorities in the country for recycling, we agreed that more could be done to ensure waste is reduced or divided and kept clean enough to use again.

Meetings are suspended until further notice.

Commemorative Rowan Tree planting in Sticklepath

Sticklepath Parish Council were happy to accept the donation of a commemorative 'landmark tree'. These landmark trees were offered to Town and Parish Councils by Devon County Council, and act as a symbol of community awareness in the vital role of tree planting in tackling environmental threats, particularly climate change, and also to mark the huge loss of native ash trees through ash dieback.



The site behind the Incised Stone at Ladywell was chosen as a prominent location where our Rowan tree could be viewed by all on leaving the village. A small group of residents gathered as it was

planted near to a donated oak tree, which had been bedded in on Village Workday earlier this year.

Sticklepath Phoenix Meeting. 10th March

AGM. Followed by The work of a District Councillor Lynn Daniel

The AGM progressed smoothly without a hitch.

Followed by a talk from Lynn Daniel.

I was amazed at the variety of jobs the councillors do,

Before the talk I really didn't have much of a clue.

They deal with fuel poverty, waste, roads plus the many local issues.

With money of course playing a large part in what they can, or cannot, accomplish.

The Council is divided into six parts (hubs), each with its own committee and agenda.

I thoroughly enjoyed the talk, banter, plus information, and have

learnt a lot.

Thank you Lynn.

Meetings are suspended until further notice

For more information on this or future events please contact Lorinda on 01837 840326

Due to the recent virus Phoenix Meetings are to be postponed for the next three months.

Apologies ladies.

Hopefully we can continue later in the year.

News from the Castle

Hi everyone

I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. As you can imagine, we are keeping a very close eye on guidance coming through from government regarding Coronavirus. As of today, Tuesday 17 March, the following statement has been issued by the National Trust:

Coronavirus update

The safety and wellbeing of our staff, volunteers and visitors is our priority.

Following the Prime Minister's advice on Monday 16 March the National Trust's Director General Hilary McGrady said the National Trust's pay-for-entry sites including houses, cafes, restaurants and shops, would close by this Friday 20 March.

We'll work, where possible, to keep as many of the Trust's gardens and parklands open, free of charge, alongside coast and countryside, to encourage the nation to enjoy open space if at all possible, while observing social distancing measures.

This means that Castle Drogo, Finch Foundry and Lydford Gorge will be closed. This includes shops and cafes. Please visit the main National Trust website for updates or please do contact me directly. Thank you all for your continued support and kind messages as we all support each other through this difficult time.

Take care of yourself, and each other. Best wishes,

Paula Community Engagement Officer, Castle Drogo

01647 434130, paula.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk

South Zeal Players

So many people have said to me that we are 'rising from the ashes' that I should begin this note by saying that the South Zeal Players, like that infamous phoenix, is now emerging from its deep, decade long slumber; it is about to be born from the ashes of its ancestors; its heart having beaten so faintly for all that time, but pulsing now with increasing vigour and preparing to flower and flourish, ready to burst forth with spring-like majesty.

I could say that, but I won't: too much hyperbole.

But if I had said that then I might have gone on to say that the South Zeal Players had intended to astound you all with a major production on Friday and Saturday 5 and 6 June 2020 and to persuade you



to come along and be amazed by such talent, enthusiasm and dedication; and I might have gone on further to say that, thanks to a bug that has taken the name of a soft fizzy drink, it is not likely to happen then, and the event is far more likely to occur in the autumn.

So all I can say now is that you should be ready to see another note like this one in a few months' time in which I will tell you what I am not going to say in an effort to get you to buy tickets.

Good. That should be clear enough. Robin.

*I'll take my medicine every day
giving you peace of mind and the
freedom to concentrate on your business.*

North Tawton Pharmacy
At the heart of North Devon health care

North Tawton Pharmacy now offers
FREE prescription collection and
delivery service to all home and
work addresses in the area

Please contact us on **01837 828244** for details
and an application form.

North Tawton Pharmacy, 1 Exeter Street, North Tawton, Devon EX20 2HB

THE DARTMOOR BED COMPANY

Proudly handcrafted using the
finest certified Dartmoor wool

Huge choice of luxury fabrics
for divan bases and
headboards

FREE DELIVERY

4 Moorside Court
Yelverton Business
Park
PL20 7PE
01822 852244

www.thedartmoorbedcompany.com

**BeSafe
Scaffolding**

call
07936 075 855

for a free
no-obligation
quote



South Zeal Toddlers
The Pavilion, South Zeal Recreation Ground

All very welcome to come along for a play, a coffee and a chat
in a relaxed, friendly setting.
We look forward to welcoming old and new faces.
Fridays 9:15 - 11:15 am (Term Time)



Reynolds Barn
Tansy Rice Calsy B.A.

Holiday and short-term
accommodation in a
beautifully restored barn

Portrait Artist
Specialist in Pastel Portraits of
People, Equine and Pets

contact: Val Loader
Tel: 01837 840537
www.tansyricecalsy.com
E-mail: tansyricecalsy@btinternet.com
email: reynolds@btinternet.com

**CRAWFORD
ROOFING**

**SLATE, TILE, FLAT ROOFING,
LEAD WORK**

Over 30 year's experience
NVQ Roofing Assessor

Tel: 01837 53852
Mob: 07929 632874

B. G. BUFTON & CO.
When you need advice
Accountants
Shelley Sims, South Tawton, Okehampton
Telephone: (01837) 840772

Call our Okehampton office **01837 51 21 00**
Preparation of accounts for individuals, THN
traders and partnerships of all sizes.
Taxation, Mortgage and Investment Advice.
A comprehensive and highly personal service
At sensible rates.

Gilbert Stephens, Accountants, is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and is regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (no: 536070)

Services include...

- Agricultural Law
- Business Sales & Purchases
- Buying & Selling Property
- Commercial Litigation
- Estate Administration
- Employment Law
- Family Law & Mediation
- Residential Conveyancing
- Landlord & Tenant
- Land Sales & Purchases
- Later Life Planning
- Wills, Trusts & Tax and more

Completion of Income Tax and VAT Returns.

T.J. BERTRAM ELECTRICAL

Industrial, Commercial, Domestic
Installations + Maintenance
Testing & Inspection
Data Networking



Tel: 01837 840355
Mobile: 07736 131119

Approved Solar PV Installer



paulreddaway BUILDING

OVER 30 YEARS LOCAL EXPERIENCE

01837 840018
07896 617251
preddaway@cloud.com
www.reddaway.me



Registered installer No. 14259
of domestic solid fuel, wood
or biomass burning appliances

renovation
conversion
hard landscaping
maintenance, including cob
installation of solid fuel appliances

The Oxenham Arms Hotel & Restaurant

South Zeal, Okehampton, Devon EX20 2JT



Lovely lunches, delightful dinners, superb Sunday lunches . 1477 Bar, Snug,
The AA Rosette Monastery Restaurant, Oak Dining & function room. private
dining , parties, wedding receptions, wakes and events . Beautiful gardens

Telephone 01837 840244

www.theoxenhamarms.com



DARTMOOR GARDENERS

All aspects of garden maintenance

dartmoorgardeners@gmail.com

01837 89285



Ofsted registered
term-time care
for 2-4 year olds

Up to 15 or 30 hours per week paid by
Early Years Education Funding
with additional hours available

Monday - Friday

Part time 9:00am - 12:00pm / 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Full time 9:00am - 3:00pm

Victory Hall - South Zeal - EX20 2JT

For more information and application forms contact
the office at South Tawton Primary

01837 840242 or admin@southtawton.org

The Kings Arms

Our pubs are important community assets and at this time of uncertainty we are all trying to find ways of supporting our communities as well as to protect our businesses to ensure we are still here when this is all over.

The following information is correct at the time of writing, but may have changed by the time you read this if Government advice changes.

Social contact is so important and we know many of you will want to come out to the pub, but we also understand that many are not able to. We want to stay open to welcome those who wish to come, but we must also tighten our belts in order to survive. Unfortunately this means that, from March 23rd, we will not be open during the day Monday-Friday.

- During the week, Monday-Friday, we will only open evenings from 5pm.
- We will remain open all day (from midday) on Saturday and Sunday as long as this proves viable.
- We will offer takeaways from 5pm, and our normal eat-in menu from 6pm, everyday.
- Saturday and Sunday lunchtimes remain as normal 12-2.30, eat-in and takeaway menus available.
- We also sell two-pint takeaways, and are increasing our range of bottled beers and wine for your convenience.

Although we must cancel our events such as quizzes, live music and comedy, we are working on other ways to keep you entertained at this time. We are already storing cardboard for an exciting Beacon Arts project and for any children who want to take some away to make stuff!

We are still here, and if you just want a chat please feel free to phone us on 01837 840300! We are grateful for the support you have all shown us, and to our staff for their understanding.

Thank you, Woody & Carolyn.

The Beacon Junior

Hello and welcome to the second issue of The Beacon Junior! This month's theme is books! I will tell you news from around the world.

Happy 75th birthday Pippi Longstocking!

Pippi Longstocking is by Astrid Lingren.

Did you know?

- An asteroid was named after Lingren in 1978. It is called 3204 Lingren.
- Astrid was Swedish.
- Pippi Longstocking was published in 1945.
- Lingren wrote 75 books, which included 41 picture books, which sold 165 million copies in more than 100 different languages.
- She sadly died in 2002

World Book Day!

How many of you celebrated World Book Day this year? I love World Book Day as it encourages people to read more books. Don't forget to use your one-pound book voucher!

Musical What Am I?

I have a neck but no head and a bridge none can cross. I fret but I have no worry.

I am a

You can raise me, throw me and lose me, but I never actually go anywhere.

I am a

I have three legs, pins but no needles, hammers but no nails, I own lots of keys but never unlock any doors.

I am a

Answers at the bottom of the page

Books that you might like – The Girl...

The Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

The Girl Who Wasn't There by Karen McCombie

These are two of my favourite books that are constantly on my bedside table. The Girl Who Wasn't There is an easier read than the other one, but still challenging. It is more modern day and quite sad. The Girl of Ink and Stars is more descriptive, and a fantasy book. It is also very sad, but there are happy bits as well.

Well, that wraps this up. This week's word is BOOKS, so remember to send any drawings/stories/poems about books to editor.thebeacon@icloud.com.

Answers:

1) Guitar 2) Violin 3) Grand Piano

Looking forward tu tiling the garden

Well tiz that time of yer again, an didn us ave some rain this winter, seemed like tev rained every day since September, all druun Christmas an the New Yer day adder day of nort more than rain , sum days it eed a bit o winter in it, us could see snow upover Cawsand an also out tu Willtor. The nights be pullin out an of a evnin you can yer the birds chittering, the flowers be all comin out, daffodils an primrose's, I've even seed zum magnolia out, I zay's tu Misses every where is lookin Master.

Well of I goes tu Mole Valley down Bovey een the Landrover, pulled up een the car park an hopped out an locked me terrier dug een the Landrover, the reason beein if anybody comes along an obens the door to pat the dug eered be out out like a flash an come lookin fer me. I got een the shop an vound the zeeds , soon picked up the licks, beetroot, parsnips and carrots, I was lookin at the payers an beans an it seemed to me you'd a get about 20 payers an 15 beans fur about dree quid each. So I went an vound a young mole valley Maid an asked er if er ed a got zum bigger bags of payers an beans, er said cum vor long wi me my body, an up tother end o the shop wuz half kilo bags of payers an beans , four an a half quid each, right next tu the teddies ,

So I ed a couple o bags of they as well. I soon flittered back the road an Misses zaid you eden bit long when us got out the Landrover, me an the dug. I went out een the garden to zee how dry twas gettin adder two or dree days way a bit o sunshine.

I shoulden wonder by the eend o the week I'd get out thole rotovater and turn up a nice piece, yer I whispered tu me terrier the year soon cums round don't it. Titch

Church Services April 2020

All church services have been suspended during the imposed restrictions due to Covid 19 virus.

Church of England

St Andrew's South Tawton, St Mary's & Pavilion South Zeal

St Andrew's and St Mary's will remain open for those wishing to use them for quiet contemplation and prayer and to light a candle. Our churches will also be open for weddings and funerals. Exeter cathedral will be open without charge from 10am to 4pm every day

St Mary's Belstone & St Mary's Sticklepath

St Mary's Sticklepath will remain open, as always, during daylight hours thanks to our dedicated keyholder, for which we are so grateful. Quiet space, away from the daily uncertainties, may just provide some much needed solitude and comfort.

Unfortunately, due to Covid 19, Church Services at St Mary's Belstone will be suspended until further notice. However, the Church will be opened daily, and within the constraints set out by the Government, you are most welcome to visit St Mary's to pray for loved ones and a positive end to this crisis.

Sticklepath Community church

see article

Methodist Church

Minister: Rev. Liz Singleton Tel: 01837 52302
FairplaceChurch , Okehampton

Roman Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Father Darline Marianathan. Tel: 01837 52229
St Boniface Okehampton
Holy Family church Chagford

Okehampton Quaker Meeting

Ockment Centre Okehampton

Regular Events - April 2020

MANY EVENTS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE - SUFN
please check for alternatives and online classes

For more detail please contact organiser

Every		MONDAY	
Yoga, SUFN	7pm	Belstone Village Hall	Sarah 849 110
Pilates	7.00-8.00pm	Sticklepath Village Hall	Yvonne 07712 611 670
Knit & Knatter	(1st & 3rd) 1.30-3.30	Bert Stead Room, Sticklepath Village Hall	
Men's Probus Club	Every other Monday 10.30am	Okehampton Conservative Club (The Old Drill Hall) Mill Road Okehampton	Louis Baycock
Every		TUESDAY	
Belstone Arts & Crafts Group SUFN	9.30-12.30	Village Hall	
Art Group (STAG) ON LINE	10 am	karimcgowan.com	Kari 840695
SoulSpace	11-11.30am	St Mary's, South Zeal	
Yogalates	9.00am,	Whiddon Down Village Hall.	Sarah 849110
Dartmoor Nordic Walking	2.30 - 3.30	Different location every week	Denise 07944 630677
Hatha Yoga ON LINE	7 - 8.30pm	vivekagardens.com	Fiona Law 880050
Every		WEDNESDAY	
Moor Harmony SUFN	7.45-9pm		Jeremy 840 741
Reuters Coffee Club,	9.30-11.30	Sticklepath Village Hall	
Pilates,	8.45-9.45am	Belstone Village Hall.	Lynne 07827 787867
Yoga	10am	Belstone Village Hall,	Angela Blezard 07809 427 991
Meditation evening	6.30-8.00pm	Church House	Alison Hutton
Every		THURSDAY	
Mariners Away Shanty singers	8.30-10pm	Kings Arms	
Yoga, SUFN	7pm,	Belstone Village Hall	Sarah 849 110
Belstone Cafe SUFN	10am-noon except 26 Dec	Belstone Village Hall	

Every		THURSDAY	
Belstone Barter & Crop Swap SUFN	10am-noon	Belstone Village Hall	Rowena Bishop 840109
Pilates	9.30-10.30	Ockment Centre, Okehampton	Yvonne 07712611670
Nordic Walking	9.30-10.30	A different location every week	Denise 07944 6307677
Cogs & Wheels Ladies Morris Dancers SUFN	7.45 - 10.00pm	Victory Hall	Donna 659 190
Every		FRIDAY	
Sticklepath & Okehampton Conservation StOCs	10am	Finch Foundry car park	Mike 840183 Ian 840435 www.stocgroup.org
Pilates,	9.10-10.10	Belstone Village Hall.	Lynne 07827787867
Every		Saturday	
Nordic Walking	10 - 11.30am	A different location every week	Denise 07944 6307677
Every		SUNDAY	
Games Night SUFN	6.30pm	Kings Arms	
Tinner's Morris SUFN		Victory Hall	

Coming Events - April

April	
	BEVA meeting 7-9pm Sticklepath Village Hall. SUFN
Sat 4	The Hummingbirds close harmony trio, Belstone Village Hall, 8pm, see www.belstonevillage.net/events for details. CANCELLED
	South Zeal Classic Cars for Children's Books. Oxenham Arms. See <i>article</i>
Mon 13	North Dartmoor book Group, 7.30pm. The Good Soldier by Ford Madox Ford. William 07866047793. SUFN
Fri 17	Church House Concert 8.00pm £10 Geoff Lakeman & Rob Murch
Thu 23	"The South Tawton Commoners Association AGM 7.00p Kings Arms
Tue 28	South Zeal Model Railway Group 7.70pm Moon Daisy Cottage SUFN

May. Subject to change.

Thur 7

Friends of St Andrew's & St Mary's AGM 7.30pm St Mary's South Zeal.

For Sale:

Re-advertised with correct phone number this time (apologies from the seller for mis-typing!): Single bed, Durabed Panache, storage underneath with sliding door access. Clean, unmarked mattress and headboard. Looks like new, £60. Unmarked, perfect condition trolley for hanging files with four castors, two locking. Ideal for business or home records, flat packed for easy transport. £25. Vintage table-top snooker table approx. 5'6" x 2'6", with snooker and billiard balls, one child-size cue. Much loved, needs a good home! £10. Phone 07989 685 401.

Wooden futon for sale only used a couple of times. Good condition £20. Collect from Sticklepath 01837 840239
Thank you Joanna Currie NB this is for a neighbour and it is their phone number.

DEFIBRILLATOR

**For Sticklepath & South Tawton Parish Councils
Volunteer Emergency Telephone Scheme (VETs)**

In case of emergency, on finding a casualty who may need the
Defibrillator, **FIRST CALL 999**

You will be reminded of the location of your nearest defibrillator.

If you are unable to leave the casualty, call VETS on

Sticklepath PC: 01837 500523 South Tawton PC: 01837 500999

This will connect you to a local resident who can bring the defibrillator to you.

Enter this as your ICE no. in your mobile or in your speed-dial

Sticklepath Village Hall

VACANCY – our Village Hall Secretary Shane Vallance is standing down at the AGM in May; we are most appreciative of all that he has done as part of the management committee of the hall over recent years and he has kindly offered to continue to arrange the popular Villages in Action dramatic events which he has been organising since we started these.

The Secretary is one of the management committee of 3 trustees who look after the day-to-day running of the hall and is secretary to the main committee which consists of the trustees plus representatives of the main user groups of the hall, who meet three or four times per year to agree policy and to plan maintenance and other matters for the hall. It does NOT involve a lot of time but it is important that the hall is properly managed for the benefit of the residents of Sticklepath and other users.

If you would like to discuss if you could help, please contact Mike Eastman , Chairman of the Hall Committee, on 01837-840147.

Beacon Blog

Whilst I'm out walking around our lovely parish with my dog, I often think about the people that have passed on to another world. As a child I remember the shops in South Zeal and South Tawton – Perk's Stores, Rosie Coombs's shop, Paul Baker's shop, Ernie Mortimore's grocery delivery van, The Post Office, Bill Holman's grocery store and delivery van, Holman's bakers, Tony Cann's butchers, Endacott's bakers and Miss Moore's in South Tawton. Such happy memories of visiting these shops buying bread or some Bon Bons from big glass jars. I also remember the many pubs, Rising Sun, Cawsand Beacon, Oxenham Arms, Kings Arms and Seven Stars, some of which are still here today. We didn't need to leave the parish to go shopping unless it was for clothes and what a trek it was to Exeter. Not such a good memory travelling along the old A30 through Crockernwell, Cheriton Bishop, Tedburn St. Mary and finally Whitstone in my dad's old red Mini. I hated it.

I look about at the wonderful views and think about how these people would have gazed at the same views and landmarks, i.e., Cawsand Beacon, Ramsley, Moonscross Barn, Spitler Cross, Addiscott Cross, etc. I often think about whose feet will have walked the same path, the same thresholds... What would they think of our parish today?

As for the Dartmoor Folk Festival, which I've been a part of since I was 9 years old, when it was started by my late granddad Bob Cann with the assistance of my Nan, Joyce Cann. I remember as a child travelling to the village halls of Whiddon Down, Chagford and Spreyton borrowing chairs and tables. We borrowed scaffolding and tarpaulins from Keith Redstone to make a shelter for rural craft exhibitions. We ran electricity supplies from Denis and Dolly Ashe's and Dave and Diana England's. Health and Safety was pretty much non-existent. We only used the Victory Hall and the back of the Cawsand Beacon as venues. We used Church House as a hostel for dance teams and Nan and I would go and clean it before the festival weekend. The campsite was just the small field behind the Kings Arms and as the festival became ever more popular we over spilled into Slades the field owned by my now in-laws. Who would have ever thought that one day I would marry their youngest son, Martin and become their daughter in law. I wonder what the people involved then would think of the festival today, where we have a budget of approximately £40,000. I bet my Nan and granddad would not believe it and also be very proud that it's still going today.

I wouldn't ever like to live anywhere else in the world and I sometimes think we take our beautiful parish for granted. I wake up every day and thank God for another wonderful day in this glorious part of dear Ole Dart-i-moor.

Jane White

Coronavirus Update: FORCE CANCER CHARITY

FORCE Cancer Charity regretfully announced on Tuesday March 17 the temporary closure of its Support and Information Centre in Exeter.

The charity will continue to offer telephone and video call support to local people affected by cancer.

The decision to close its Support Centre in the grounds of the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital was taken after consultation with clinical staff at the RD&E.

It follows the first reported cases of Coronavirus/Covid19 at the hospital.

All support services at FORCE's weekly outreach centres in Okehampton, Tiverton and Honiton were also stopped with immediate effect but chemotherapy treatment will continue as normal in all three towns for now.

People with cancer who are undergoing active chemotherapy or radiotherapy treatment may be among those at particular risk from Coronavirus.

FORCE will be regularly updating its website - www.forcecancercharity.co.uk - with news of how to access whatever support is available.

THE NUMBERS YOU MAY NEED

FORCE Cancer Nursing Team: 01392 406151

Psychological and emotional support: 01392 406168/406169

Belstone Church News

Unfortunately, due to Covid 19, Church Services at St Mary's will be suspended until further notice. However, the Church will be opened daily, and within the constraints set out by the Government, you are most welcome to visit St Mary's to pray for loved ones and a positive end to this crisis.

Sue Cruickshank (Belstone Church Warden)

Belstone Cricket Club – All Stars and Dynamos Cricket

Last year Belstone joined the All Stars Cricket initiative for 5-8 year olds organised by the England and Wales Cricket Board – it was great fun for the 35 youngsters who got involved and for the adults who helped run it. This year **All Stars** is happening again for the 5-8 kids ... and it will be joined by **Dynamos Cricket**, specially designed for 8-11 year olds. Both all-action programmes look to get lots of youngsters involved in the game over eight Friday evenings at Rew Meadow starting on **Friday 29 May**. The activity and game based sessions are suitable for all skill levels, providing your child with the foundations to begin a lifelong love of physical activity and cricket, while making friends in a safe and enjoyable environment. All Stars kids receive their own personalised kit bag of cricket stuff and Dynamos kids get personalised T-shirts and play a fast-paced and exciting game of 60-ball countdown cricket every week, mimicking the new Hundred professional game. At Belstone the sessions will be led by our senior player Richard Drake, All Stars running between 5.30pm and 6.30pm and Dynamos between 6.30pm and 7.30pm. For more details and to register your child visit www.allstarscricket.co.uk or www.dynamoscricket.co.uk and search for Belstone.

Into the Twenties – April 1920

Is anyone in need of a Smut Machine*? Probably not these days, but you'd have been in luck at the White Hart Hotel in Okehampton on Saturday 17 April 1920 when an auction of *Desirable Mills, Cottages and Garden Plots* took place. First under the hammer was Cleave Mill, **Sticklepath**, *substantially built of stone, covered with slate, and containing spacious Warehouses with cement floor, and excellent Machinery, consisting of 3 Pairs Mill Stones, Purifier, Smut Machine, Silk Reed, Shafting, etc. In an adjoining Yard stands a useful Stable and large Drying Loft built of stone and slate, also Piggery and Wood Shed, with loft. The whole is now occupied by Mr Henry Littlejohns.* Mr Littlejohns was at the auction and bought the complex and the four adjoining cottages, in one of which he lived, for £905 (equating to about

£40000 today this seems incredibly cheap to us, but this was a time of very favourable house price to wage ratios, when the average house price was only twice average annual earnings). He had been working at the grist mill, which produced animal feed, since the 1890s; the business would continue with his sons William and George until the buildings fell into disrepair in the 1960s. Also in the auction was the nearby property Ska View (now Skaigh View) which was sold for £310 to Mr W Newcombe of Sampford Courtenay. The final lot in the auction was advertised as *all that productive Garden Plot, adjoining Ska View, and bounded on one side by the river, and on the other by the old mill leat, this lot being particularly well adapted for a building site*. This was withdrawn at £91 and never became a building site.

A week later there was another auction, this time in **Sticklepath** itself, when the *valuable furnishings* of Tawburn House were for sale, including; *Mahogany Music Canterbury, Oak Table with Brass drop Handles, handsome Inlaid Sheraton Drawing-room Chair, Antique Stuart Writing Bureau (dated 1662), four Oak Chairs with rush seats, 3-tier Inlaid Walnut Whatnot, Walnut Arm Chair in Silk Tapestry and Zsolnay Vase*.

Today, when the timetables of Stagecoach buses 6 and 6A are under review it is interesting to read that one hundred years ago, a propos **Sticklepath**; *visitors are arriving here, and it is anticipated that there will be a record number during the summer. It is a great boon and convenience to the general public of this district to have the Devon Motor Transport conveyances passing through to Exeter on Tuesdays and Thursdays*.

Equally interesting to consider how our expectations of health have changed. The 1919 annual report from the Medical Officer on Health Statistics in **Okehampton** and district included the following: 188

births, 84 males and 102 females [that's what the report says so I'm not sure what sex the other two were]; 166 deaths, 76 males, 90 female; 2 deaths from diphtheria, 5 from influenza, 21 from cancer, 17 from bronchitis, 5 from pneumonia; cases of measles

17, scarlet fever 3, German measles 3, malaria 3, diphtheria 13. No houses for the working classes had been erected during the year. Nearly 200 houses would be required for the district. Great difficulty was experienced in getting work done owing to the scarcity of workmen.

In these days of high prices, a sensational offer was made; Okehampton Guardians accepted a tender from a farmer at Folly Gate, Okehampton, for supply of new milk to the Workhouse at the rate of 5½d per quart for the next six months. The present prevailing price in Okehampton is 9d per quart. I make that just over 1p per pint and just under 2p per pint respectively.

The death was announced of Robert Burnard at the age of 71. He was well known for protecting the public rights on Dartmoor, exploring and writing about its antiquities and for publishing *Dartmoor Records*, four volumes of fine photographs. He was President of the Devonshire Association in 1911 and had close links with the Dartmoor Preservation Association, especially with his 1896 book *Plundered Dartmoor*. 537 of his Dartmoor photos, including some in *The Beacon* area, can be viewed online in the Dartmoor Trust Archive at www.dartmoorarchive.org/collections. Later this year an exhibition to commemorate his life will be held in Okehampton's Museum of Dartmoor Life.

In this series of articles four years ago I wrote about the silent film *The Mother of Dartmoor* which was shooting on the moor in May 1916. In April 1920 the *Sheffield Daily Independent* carried the following amusing story, under the heading *Trials of a Cinema Actor*, about one of the film's stars, Bertram Burleigh (1890-1961); it was necessary for him, as a supposed fugitive from justice, and in convict garb, to jump from a moving train a few miles from Princetown. He had to get to London afterwards, and this particular train was the only one to suit his purpose. He jumped, and the cameraman turned the handle, but when the 'shot' was finished, Bertram thought of nothing but the train, and he raced on, intending to catch it. It was not to be, however. An eagle-eyed signalman, imagining him to be a real escaped

convict, tripped him up, and claimed him as prisoner. The train was eventually stopped, and, after a lengthy explanation, Bertram was allowed to go.

* not a pornographic magazine shredder but a machine for extracting impurities from grain

Chris Walpole (unless stated otherwise, quotes are from the *Devon & Exeter Gazette* and *Western Times*).

Vegetarians at Belstone

That was the eye-catching headline of a report in the *Torquay Times and South Devon Advertiser*, dated 25 August 1899, which described a visit to the village by members of the Devon Vegetarian Society. The Vegetarian Society had been established in 1847 and by the end of the 19th century had around 5000 members including George Bernard Shaw and Mahatma Gandhi.

Dr George Black (1854-1913), a vice president of the Devon branch, ran a sanatorium in Torquay and was familiar with Belstone having previously spent summer holidays there. He had once remarked to a friend that, if people only knew it, Dartmoor was the finest sanatorium in Europe. So it was no surprise that he jumped at the chance to buy Dartmoor House in the centre of the village for £630 when it came on the market in early 1899, and soon after invited the society to visit for their annual picnic. The *Torquay Times* describes the day; Travelling by rail and cycle to Okehampton as a rendezvous, a delightful ramble was taken by way of the East Ockment Woods, where, 'in cool and shelter'd vale', a halt was made for mid-day refreshment. The journey was continued to Belstone, in order to enjoy the generous hospitality of the Society's esteemed, and enthusiastic Vice-President Dr Black, and Mrs [Marion] Black, who had spread a banquet luscious to the eye and taste, the tables being laid in the welcome shade of an adjoining paddock, the company being too numerous to be accommodated indoors. After tea the camera was utilized to secure a permanent memento of the visit [how I wish that photo was in the Belstone Community Archive], and an adjournment was made to inspect Dr Black's newly opened Convalescent Home, which is in connection with his Sanatorium, both of which are being conducted on strictly vegetarian regimen, and with notable success to the patients. Before returning to the Station, the irrepressibles of the party scaled the top of the famous Belstone Tor, and were rewarded by a charming view of the surrounding portions of the wonderful



10+ Years
Experience



Luke Matthews

T: 01837 811 104

M: 07980 623 678

JEFFERY AND PENGELLY

BUILDING CONTRACTORS AND JOINERS

UNIT 4, FATHERFORD FARM,
OKEHAMPTON

TEL: OKEHAMPTON (01837) 52277

FAX: (01837) 55379

AWWEBBER

GROUNDWORK CONTRACTORS

- DRAINAGE – FOUNDATIONS – LANDSCAPING
- WHEELED & TRACKED DIGGERS
- SUPPLIERS OF:
 - ✓ CRUSHED HARDCORES
 - ✓ ROAD PLAININGS
 - ✓ SCREENED TOPSOIL
 - ✓ LARGE SELECTION OF: GRANITE – QUOINS – KERBS – LINTOLS



STICKLEPATH - EX20 2JJ

01837 840191

07710 731729

SOUTH ZEAL VICTORY HALL



Available for hire at
reasonable rates. Great for
parties, meetings, classes,
exhibitions, performances
and wedding receptions.

Second smaller function
room, well equipped kitchen.

*For full details about booking, prices and
availability of the hall go to*

*www.southzealvictoryhall.org.uk
or e-mail southzealvictoryhall@gmail.com*



LOVATON FARM - DEVON

Naturally Reared, Native Breeds, Quality Meat

When purchasing your meat, are
the following important to you?

- High Quality
- Welfare Friendly
- Traditional Breeds
- Sustainably Produced
- Local & National Award Winning

If so, Lovaton Farm Beef,
Pork & Lamb is for you.

Tel.: (01647) 231649

www.lovatonfarmmeat.co.uk

e-mail: lovatonfarm@btconnect.com

Caroline Harris MIAB

Bookkeeping Services

Bookkeeping VAT Self Assessment
Accounts preparation

www.cmhbookkeeping.co.uk

cmhbookkeeping@btinternet.com

01566 783502 / 07866 953708



General Builders
estd. 30 years

- New Builds
- Renovations
- Restorations

Contact: 01637 840144
Phil 07977 578446 or Matt 07813 898863

Acupuncture

Qigong Tuina Massage
Kampo- Japanese Herbalism

01837 851886

07792 333109

www.the-wellspring.co.uk

Ihsan Jean-Paul Dal Din
Exbourne



British
Acupuncture
Council Member

Lazy Days Forever

An Independent Distributor for 'Forever Living'

Aloe Vera for Health & Beauty



Nora Bertram

39 The Heathers, Okehampton, EX20 1TB

Tel: 01837 54340

bertramnora1@gmail.com

The West
Country
Property
Experts



okehampton@stags.co.uk

01837 659420 | stags.co.uk

Move Freely

body control pilates and holistic treatments
massage and reiki

call Yvonne **07712 611 670**

yvonnewest@live.co.uk

Eastlake Livery & Retirement Yard

*DIY livery & full livery available.
Retirement home for your much loved horses
cared for by friendly, caring staff.
24-hour turnout and care in a
beautiful part of Dartmoor.
07966 6311895 www.eastlakelivery.co.uk
Also take a look at our FB page.*

Church House South Tawton

For your
Meetings, Parties,
Away Days, Lectures,
Exhibitions, Training, etc

01837 840418

bookings@thechurchhouse.org.uk

Moorland Paws @ Chagford

Natural Pet Care and Dog Grooming

Wellbeing • Eating • Playing • Sleeping • Grooming



2 The Square, Chagford. 01647433564 Moorlandpaws@gmail.com



moorland. The remainder of the party excited themselves over a discussion upon Druidical remains, whilst sitting in one of the most complete 'Circles' [Nine Maidens]. The outing was favoured with ideal weather, providing an enjoyment to the full of the marvellous carpet everywhere of gorse and heather, and of the life-giving air. In the desire to remain long upon the Moor the flight of time was ignored, and as a result, the company were detected in a precipitate rush over boulders and banks to the station, which being accomplished, the party separated for their homes at all points of the compass, invigorated in mind and body.

Chris Walpole

School News:

On an unusually sunny afternoon in Okehampton, 31 South Tawton children took part in the West Devon Cross Country finals. There was everything you might expect from cross country, including a lot of mud, a very steep hill and some treacherous steps! Luckily, we're no strangers to hills as we tackle them weekly at cross country club. There were some outstanding performances and, best of all, lots and lots of smiley faces. Of particular mention are our year4 girls team who won the team prize in their race and qualified for the county finals – the only Okehampton based team to do so! More good news followed the next day when we heard that our Year 6 girls' A team had qualified for the development race to be run at the same event. A huge well done to all who took part and a big thank you to the many parent drivers and supporters!



New Dartmoor MAT policies

The Dartmoor MAT have produced a new Code of Conduct for Parents and Social Media Use Policy. This sets out the Trust's approach to acceptable behaviour, both on site and off site, and via social media platforms, and can be found on the Dartmoor MAT website: <https://www.dartmoormat.org.uk/policies-and-documents.html>

Overheard in Year 3

Whilst introducing the 'Invaders' topic, Miss Chalcraft shared with

the class that her Mum is from Sweden and so we joked about Miss Chalcraft being half Viking. A little later on, some children were talking about the Vikings and were sharing how Miss Chalcraft's mum was all the way from 'Swindon'!

Made us all smile anyway, 😊

PTA News

The PTA are excited to announce that we now have a Facebook page so that we can keep you updated with events and news! Just search for South Tawton PTA.

Class Photos

Class photos will be taken on Monday 27th April. Please make sure that your child has a school jumper or cardigan with them on that day.

Music: Exploring Pitch through Art with Ms Rowe in Year 3

Dorothy "We listened to the piece of music called 'Aquarium' by French musician Camille Saint Saens; the pitch went up and down like the fish in the ocean." "There is a part too where the music quickens and it's like a fish swimming or spiralling to the bottom". "As the music

played, the fish swam up and down to the music on the screen – the fish were low when the music was low, for example."

"We listened to it and then made our own aquariums with fish on them."

Environmental Art Theme

We would like to make a large sculpture (after the Easter holidays, so heaps of time!) from items that have washed up on our beaches that shouldn't be there. So, if you get a chance, please visit your local beach **with an adult and thick gloves and bags to collect items. Check with your adult if something is safe to pick up first** please, then bag it and photograph yourselves cleaning the beach for a display, see photo below for ideas. Please bring items in to year 3 on a Wed, Thurs or Friday for Miss Chalcraft.

When we have our haul, you are welcome to come and help create our masterpiece!

****No broken glass, sharp items or ... animal remains please****

Please follow the SAS advice on beach clean safety: <https://www.sas.org.uk/our-work/beach-cleans/mini-beach-cleans/>

PTA 100 Club

February's draw was carried out at a recent school assembly and the following people/numbers won.

1st 77 2nd 70 3rd 42

For anyone unaware, the 100 Club is a PTA fundraising initiative whereby £1 per month buys you a number. Your number is then entered into a monthly draw in which three cash prizes are won. If you are interested in joining the 100 Club, please email the school office for a membership form and full details of how the scheme works. The more members we have, the bigger the prizes and the greater the amount raised for PTA funds. You can join at any time during the school year but please check with the office as to the correct subscription fee due at the time of joining.

Brian Vernon Louise Duffield Fiona Passmore

Sport relief- Friday 13th March

To mark sport relief all our pupils braved the drizzle, dressed in their sports clothes and took part in an afternoon of sporting activities. Year 6 pupils led mixed-aged groups and everyone tried 12 different sporting skills throughout the afternoon followed by a cool down and sport relief film clip. It was a wonderful, fun afternoon which show-cased the lovely relationships between the older and younger members of the school.

You can see lots more photos on our NEW website: <https://www.southtawton.co.uk/school-news/sports-relief-afternoon>

Bingo

Thank you to everyone who supported and heled at the PTA Chocolate Bingo on Friday. It raised an amazing £332!

Dates for your diaries

21.07.20 Leavers' assembly

Nomination for Parent Governor

I am writing to invite you to stand for election as a Parent Governor, or nominate another parent to do so, for the Three Hares Academy Committee, your school's Governing Body.

There is a vacancy for two Parent Governors to serve on the Three Hares Academy Committee, which is the governing body across Chagford, South Tawton and North Tawton Primary Schools, and part of the Dartmoor Multi-Academy Trust. We are very keen to encourage parents and carers of registered pupils to nominate themselves to become part of our Academy Committee.

Parent Governors are elected by other parents and are vital to our Academy Committee. They share equally with other governors the duty of carrying out the Committee's wide range of responsibilities across all three schools. Governors do not run the schools day to day, as their role is at the strategic or policy-making level. They ensure that the Executive Head performs her responsibilities for the educational performance of the schools and ensure the sound, proper and effective use of the schools' financial resources. You do not have to be an expert on education to be a school governor, and we value the experience and skills that all governors bring to the role. However, you will be expected to demonstrate skills and experience that will enhance governance at the schools, a commitment to undertake training and a willingness to engage in the life of all three schools and their strategic development, over and above merely attending meetings.

If you join our Academy Committee, you will serve a four-year term or until your child leaves the school (whichever comes first). Being a governor does take up time. There are ten Academy Committee meetings each year (one a month, lasting approx. 2.5-3 hours) and governors undertake a variety of roles that require additional meetings and visits. You will need to set aside time to be able to be an effective governor: time to prepare for meetings, for visiting all three schools, and to undertake training.

If you would like to put yourself forward as a candidate please contact the Clerk to Governors, Carolyn George, by email:

KEN WEBBER

ALL TREE WORK UNDERTAKEN
PLANTING • DISMANTLING • TREE SURGERY
APLINE TRACTOR • WINCH • TIMBER TRAILER
FOR SMALL WOODLAND MANAGEMENT

HEAVY DUTY FLAIL
FOR PADDOCKS & ROUGHER AREAS

PHONE KEN
01837 840579 or 07814 680293

MRS WENDY SKAE KING

CANE SEATING • SEA GRASS SEATING

Springfield • Belstone • Okehampton • EX20 1RD

01837 840 058

boldventure@hotmail.co.uk

The Dartmoor Soap Company

Natural artisan soap handmade
using locally sourced ingredients.



- Regular soap-making courses taking place at Kigbeare Studios nr. Okehampton.
- Gift vouchers available.
- Want to be a stockist?
Email Sophie at hello@thedartmoorsoapco.co.uk for more info.
- Guest soaps also available for hotels or wedding favours.

www.thedartmoorsoapco.co.uk



Breathing life into your property

Lime Plastering • Traditional Plastering • Venetian Plastering
Lime Putty • External Plastering • Texturing • Floor Screeding
Refurbishment • Renovation • Conservation

Belstone, Okehampton, EX20 1RA

01837 840891 07834 421177

www.cgheritageplastering.com

LEARN TO DRIVE WITH



— HEMINGWAY A.D.I.

PATIENT, FRIENDLY LOCAL INSTRUCTOR WITH OVER EIGHT
YEARS EXPERIENCE. I.A.M. AND PASS PLUS REGISTERED
BLOCK BOOKING DISCOUNTS
PRE 17 DRIVER TRAINING

Telephone: 01647 231424 / Mobile: 07858 160018

WWW.WILLHEMINGWAY.CO.UK

HOME CONDITION SURVEYS

- Building Surveys of older and historic properties
- Thatched or slate properties built of Cob or Stone
 - Custom Thatched Roof Surveys
- Advice on fire prevention in thatched houses

Master Thatcher and Residential Property Surveyor
www.thatchedhomeinspector.co.uk



Ring Charles on 01647 231 706
Holland Park Farm,
South Tawton,
Okehampton,
Devon EX20 2PP



North Park Veterinary Group Limited



North Tawton 01837 82327
Okehampton 01837 658777
Hatherleigh 01837 810455
Equus (horses) 01837 214004

*Dedicated vet teams for farm
& companion animals*

P&R Fishleigh

Sourton Cross

- Agricultural Fencing
- Contracting
- Agricultural Maintenance

No job too small. Friendly, reliable service.

Phone: 01837 53626 or 07895 308112 (Simon)

Email: prfishleigh@btinternet.com



**CCTV Drain
Surveys**

**Private Drainage
Systems**

**Drain Repairs &
Installations**

Blocked Drains



www.smart-drainage.co.uk

E-mail: enquiries@smart-drainage.co.uk

Phone: 01392 576 666



15 The Square, North Tawton, EX20 2EP

KWare

**Carpentry • Decorating • General Property Maintenance
Kitchens • Roofing • Joinery • Tiling • Conversions
Alterations • Renovations**

Mob: 0777 345 0777

OVER 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE



Devonshire Inn

~ 01837 840626 ~

**Real Ale Pub - Serving only local beers.
Now mentioned in the Good Beer Guide 2018**

Seasonal fresh local food served -

Light Lunches - 12.00 - 2.30pm

Okehampton Pasties. Aga Baked.

Buffet style catering for any occasion.

Happy to discuss Menu and price.

**Open all day Friday & Saturday. Beer garden
adjoining National Trust Land.**

Dogs always welcome

Music Folk Night - 1st Sunday in each month.

Bards (Poetry night) - 3rd Friday in each month.

Laura's Beauty, Massage and Make up

Waxing

Eyelash and Eyebrow Tinting

Body Massage

Pregnancy Massage

Indian Head Massage

Hopi Ear Candies

Make up

Laura Burrows

Beauty and Holistic Therapist

Okehampton, Devon

07700791886

Find me on Facebook @

Laura's Beauty, Massage and Make up



Traditional Hatha Yoga

TUESDAY

7 - 8.30pm

upstairs at Church House

South Tawton

Fiona 07914 843619

vivekagardens.com

Peter Green Wood Products

*Maker of Quality Tanalised Sheds,
Summer Houses, Gazebos, Poultry
Houses, Arks, Dog Kennels, Stables,
Field Shelters etc.*

Please phone 01837 52432



**Andrew Clark & Sons
Builders & Contractors**

Goldpark

Wiley Lane

Sticklepath

EX20 2NG

Mob: 07786837770

Tel: 01837 840803

cgeorge@dartmoormat.org.uk and request an application pack which will contain further information along with a Parent Governor election form. Please complete and return the election form to Carolyn George by 5pm on Friday 27th March.

If there are more nominations than vacancies an election will be held by secret ballot across all three schools. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

To find out more about being a governor at this school you can contact the Chair of Governors, Emma Neath (eneath@dartmoormat.org.uk), who will be very willing to answer any questions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Carolyn George , Clerk to Governors and Returning Officer

St. Mary's Sticklepath

Whilst drafting this report for the April Beacon, it has been confirmed that all church services will be suspended during the imposed restrictions due to the Covoid 19 virus sweeping the country. St Mary's will remain open, as always, during daylight hours thanks to our dedicated keyholder, for which we are so grateful. Quiet space, away from the daily uncertainties, may just provide some much needed solitude and comfort.

It would have been good to follow on with some more positive news, however, it has been confirmed that the application to Parishscapes (under the auspices of the DNP) has not been successful. Our bid for £4,500 was to enable expansion of the current facilities, as noted in the March edition of the Beacon, which could benefit all the community. So, for now, **St Mary's Heritage Project (PCC)** is temporarily on hold but not abandoned! Further meetings were planned, in the event of a successful outcome, but given the current lockdown situation these will of course not go ahead.

We would again like to thank everyone who attended the inaugural meeting in February and generated ideas and

enthusiasm, along with a commitment to the proposed project. Thank you to everyone who has shown interest.

'I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to my fellow-creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again' Stephen Grellet 1773-1855 French born American Quaker missionary.

Carol Johns

St Andrew's and St Mary's News for April 2020

A prior booking of Church House necessitated our early return to St Andrew's for our beginning of the month Holy Communion Service on Sunday 1 March. The wettest February on record did give rise to some concerns over how our church had survived the onslaught. In fact the roof and tower have kept the water out fairly well, although there is an ongoing problem with the ingress of rainwater through the walls of the south turret. Most of this has been caught in buckets, diligently emptied by the churchwardens throughout the winter. The damp patch over the main door is also rather large but quotes are being obtained for reroofing the porch which should solve the problem. However, by the time you read this in April, we sincerely hope that the worst of the rain will be behind us!

As you will be aware, there are no church services taking place at this time. However St Andrew's and St Mary's will remain open for those wishing to use them for quiet contemplation and prayer and to light a candle. Our churches will also be open for weddings and funerals. Exeter cathedral will be open without charge from 10am to 4pm every day.

The Church of England website has special prayer resources for those who are ill or in self-isolation. You will find prayers to be said with children at night, particularly if they become anxious. There are also simple forms of Morning Prayer and Night Prayer which can help to sustain us during this time. Go to:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

Locally, our church will be working alongside the Parish Council and other community organisations to offer support where possible to those isolated and in need of help. Also, don't forget that St Mary's has a Food Bank collection point should you wish to donate.

*Somewhere, out on the edges, the night
Is turning and the waves of darkness
Begin to brighten the shore of dawn.*

John O' Donohue, Irish Poet.

John Candler and Paul Snell (Church Wardens)

Will Pyne (Assistant Church Warden)

Serenity Prayer

Send me a slow news day,
A quiet, subdued day,
In which nothing much happens of note,
Save for the passing of time,
The consumption of wine,
And a re-run of *Murder; She Wrote*.

Grant me a no news day,
A spare-me-your-views day,
In which nothing much happens at all,
Except a few hours together
Some regional weather,
A day we can barely recall

Brian Bilston

Refuse and recycling collections

APRIL	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
Recycling, food waste and refuse week	30	31	1	2	3
Recycling, food waste and garden waste subscription week	6	7	8	9	10
Recycling, food waste and refuse week	13	14	15	16	17
Recycling, food waste and garden waste subscription week. ALL ONE DAY LATER	20	21	22	23	24
Recycling, food waste and refuse week	27	28	29	1	2

Tu14 = Th16. We15 = Fr17. Th16 = Sat18.

Week 20 - 24 ALL ONE DAY LATER

Village shop opening times

	The Stores, South Zeal	Sticklepath Stores
M	8am - 5.30pm	Closed
T	8am - 5.30pm	7.30-1.30 & 3.30 - 5.30
W	8am - 5.30pm	7.30-1.30 & 3.30 - 5.30
Th	8am - 5.30pm	7.30-1.30 & 3.30 - 5.30
F	8am - 5.30pm	7.30-1.30 & 3.30 - 5.30
S	8am - 1pm	8am - 1pm
S	9am - 12noon	Closed

Village Post Office opening times

	Sticklepath Village Hall	Belstone Village Hall	South Zeal Stores	Throwleigh St Mary's Church
Mon			09.00-13.00 14.00-16.45	
Tues		9.30 - 11.30	09.00-13.00 14.00-16.45	13.30 -15.00
Wed	9.30 - 11.30		09.00-13.00 14.00-16.45	
Thur			09.00 -13.00	
Fri			09.00-13.00 14.00-16.45	

Mobile Library Service - Wednesday April 22nd

Belstone	Green	10:15 - 11:00
Sticklepath	Oak Tree Park	11:15 - 11:45
South Tawton	Seven Stars	11:50 - 12:10
South Zeal	Zeal Head	12:20 - 12:50

The Beacon

editor.thebeacon@icloud.com

Robin Tilley (South Zeal) 01837 840 654
Jane Lehn (Belstone) 01837 840 087
Treasurer-Jane Messer 01837 840 405
Editor- Fiona Elsworth 01837 840 894

Pauline Baker (Sticklepath) 01837 840 858
Distribution-Barbara Ashton 01837 840 157
Advertising- Alison Cruse 01837 840 070
Louise Weller 01837 840168

Village Emergency Telephone System VETS

South Tawton Parish 01837 500 999

Sticklepath 01837 500 523

Police

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
Okehampton enquiries 101

Emergencies 999
PC Dave Pickles 101

Local Authority

Belstone Parish Council 01837 840 307
Sticklepath Parish Council 01837 840 367
Devon County Council 08451 551 015
Dartmoor National Park 01626 832 093

South Tawton Parish Council 01837 890 95
Okehampton Town Council 01837 531 79
West Devon Borough Council 01822 813 600
Okehampton Library 01837 528 05

Medical and Dental

Okehampton Medical Centre 01837 522 33
Chagford Health Centre 01647 433 320
MyDentist Okehampton 01837 527 45

Oke Community Hospital 01837 658 000
North Tawton Dental Practice 01837 822 61
Taw Valley Dental Care 01837 880 096

Veterinary

North Park Veterinary Group 01837 823 27
North Park (Oke Surgery) 01837 658 777
St David's Equine Practice 01837 849 096

Okeford Veterinary Centre 01837 521 48
Equus Vets 01837 214 004
Stringer Equine 01647 231 246

Schools

South Tawton Primary 01837 840 242
Okehampton College 01837 650 910
Chagford Primary 01647 432 412

Okehampton Primary 01837 528 66
Adult & Community Learning 01837 659 436
North Tawton Primary 01837 822 84

Transport

Okehampton Taxis. 01837 53555/840841
Bus timetables. www.travelinessw.com

Ring&Ride/Community Cars 01837 550 00

Churches & Chapels

Church of England - Belstone with Sticklepath
Church of England - South Tawton with South Zeal
Methodist Church
Roman Catholic Church
Okehampton Baptist Church
Sticklepath Community Church
Society of Friends - Quakers

Rev. Stephen Cook 01837 659 297
Rev. Paul Seaton-Burn 01647 432 880
Rev. Liz Singleton 01837 523 02
Fr. Darline Marianathan 01837 522 29
Jeff Jacobson 01837 318 563
Philip Dennis 01837 840 144
Ann Dickman 01837 840 966

Advisory Agencies

Citizens Advice 03444 111 444
Samaritans 116 123
Age UK Devon 0845 296 7810

Cruse Bereavement 01392 272 406
Relate 01392 275 681



north tawton pharmacy
...at the heart of local healthcare

OPENING HOURS*

MONDAY to FRIDAY 9.00 AM - 5.30 PM
SATURDAY 9.00 AM - 1.00 PM

**Pharmacist is not present 1.15-1.45 pm daily (no dispensing permitted at that time)*

Free PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY SERVICE
Free PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION SERVICE

Please contact us for details & application form

**North Tawton Pharmacy, The Old Bank,
The Square, North Tawton, EX20 2EW
www.northtawtonpharmacy.co.uk
northtawton.pharmacy@nhs.net**

t:01837 82824



be delicious!
with
Slimming World

TUESDAY 5.30pm & 7.30pm
WEDNESDAY 9.30am
Fairplace Church
Okehampton

WEDNESDAY 6pm
THURSDAY 9.30am
Okehampton Rugby Club

Contact Zoe on 07955 979460
Contact Jacqui on 07961 975690

slimmingworld.co.uk   0344 897 8000 



The Pet Care Guardian

We care, watch over & protect

PROFESSIONAL ANIMAL CARE

If you're out for the day, long day
at work, away for a while or
convalescing, then let
The Pet Care Guardian
take care of your pets
Dog Walking · Pet Sitting

www.thepetcareguardian.co.uk

Contact Rebecca Britz

01837 849092 - 07976 246576

rebeccadotb@hotmail.com

Chimney Sweep

VACUUM & BRUSH

01566 781362

MERVYN BROWN

INDUSTRY ACHIEVEMENTS

NACS

OFTEC 101/600

NVQ LEVEL 2

CHIMNEY ENGINEERING

CITY & GUILDS

APICS

CONSTRUCTION SKILLS

HEALTH & SAFETY

WORKING AT HEIGHTS

CERTIFIED



Spares For Stoves · Birds Nests Removed
Cowls Supplied & Fitted



MEMBER OF
HETAS & APICS



Clean & Professional Service

A Long Established Family Business (Over 30 Years)

Aerial Services (Mike Cummings)

- Same Day Service Available
- 7 Days A Week
- Sales • Service • Installation
- Repairs & Reception Problems
- Digital Aerial Upgrades
- CCTV Systems
- WI-FI Hotspots



NO CALL-OUT
CHARGE
FREE
ESTIMATES

25 Byron Road
Middlemoor
Exeter

SERVICES TO ALL AREAS

Certification mark
digital
Registered Installer

Freesat

Freeview

sky digital

C0857



Exeter - 01392 279513

Mobile - 07836 641635

Email - aerial_services@yahoo.co.uk

www.aerial-services-mikecummings.co.uk