

Mission Community of Ipplepen with Torbryan, Denbury, Broadhempston and Woodland



*Ipplepen*



*Torbryan*



*Denbury*



*Broadhempston*



*Woodland*



*A very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year*

*See inside for details of Christmas services and events*

# What is the church for?

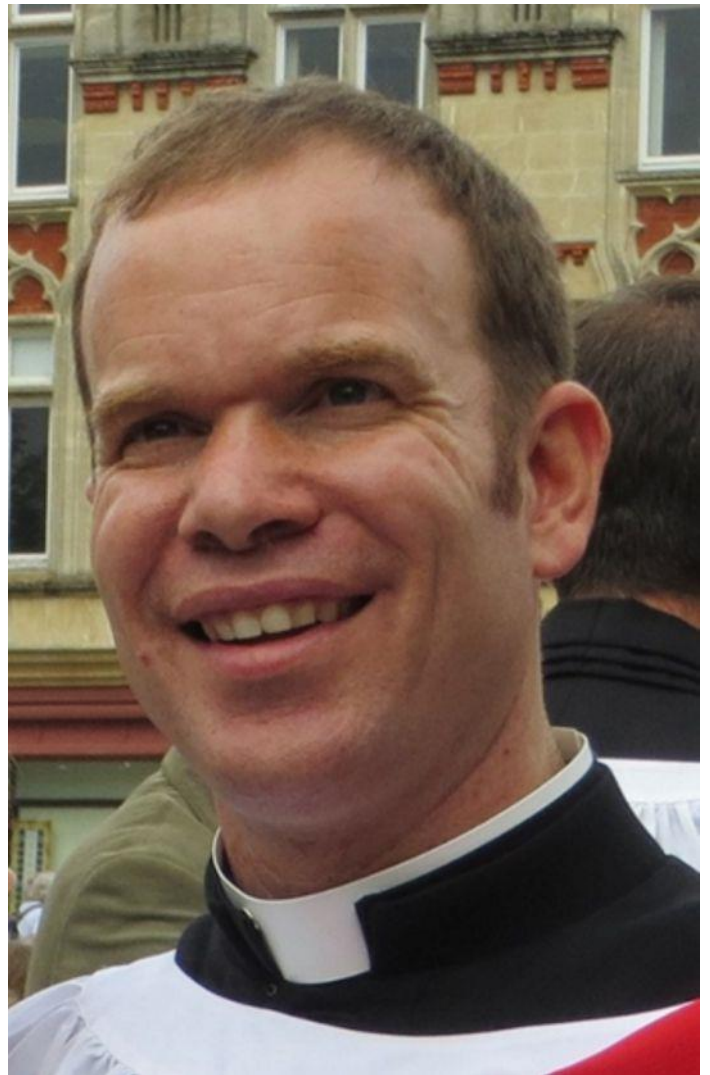
*An organisation that exists for the benefit of its **non members***

What is the church for? The church is a group of people who want to join in with what the God of love is doing in the place in which it is set. It is all about the flourishing of the people of the place and creation, fighting against structures that oppress and are unjust. We have five very distinct and beautiful villages in the group known as the Beacon Parishes Mission Community:

**Ipplepen, Torbryan, Denbury,  
Broadhempston and Woodland.**

In each village there is a church, with its most visible presence being the ancient building we have been entrusted with. But the church is not really the building, it is the people. The building is just the house in which we meet. The people of the church, in all sorts of ways, aim to join in and serve the wider community to help their communities be a place where all can flourish. In these pages you will find some reflection on what has been happening over the last year in our individual churches and across our extended family and also some of our hopes for the year to come. Our hope and prayer is that we as a church will learn more fully how to take our place in each of our beautiful communities and be that positive presence, involved in helping each community be the best it can be.

We also are a church with needs and so as we aim to serve our communities it will also be important that we share our needs with the wider community so we can be helped and receive the gifts of our communities. So whether you come into our church buildings or come across church members regularly or only occasionally, as the Beacon Parishes Mission Community we look forward over the



next year to partnering with and supporting in old ways and new our wonderful villages of Ipplepen, Torbryan, Denbury, Broadhempston and Woodland. The start of this will be the wonderful celebration of Christmas where we celebrate together the gift of Jesus, Immanuel, God with us.

Details of activities and services in our villages are given on the following pages. Do come along!

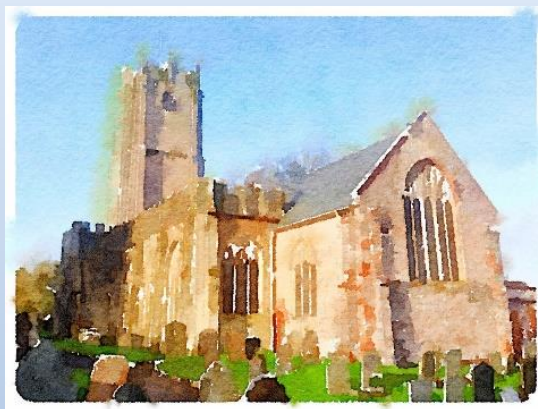
From the extended family of the churches in the Beacon Parishes Mission Community we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

*Andrew*

# Ipplepen

Christmas Season

Church and Village events



|      |                  |         |   |
|------|------------------|---------|---|
| Sun  | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 11am    | Sung Communion  |
|      |                  | 6pm     | <b>Mission Community Advent Service at Woodland</b>     |
| Mon  | 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 7pm     | <b>Carol Service for the Scout Group &amp; Brownies</b> |
| Sat  | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 3pm     | <b>Messy Church (with Lanterns)</b>                     |
| Sun  | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 8am     | Holy Communion (BCP)                                    |
|      |                  | 11am    | Sung Communion  |
| Fri  | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 3.45pm  | <b>Decorating the Christmas Tree</b>                    |
| Sun  | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 11am    | Sung Communion  |
|      |                  | 6pm     | <b>Carol Service</b>                                    |
| Fri  | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 7pm     | <b>Carols in the Square with Lanterns</b>               |
| Sun  | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 8am     | Holy Communion (BCP)                                    |
|      |                  | 11am    | Celtic Morning Prayer                                   |
| Tues | 24 <sup>th</sup> | 3pm     | <b>Crib Service</b>                                     |
|      |                  | 11pm    | <b>Midnight Mass</b>                                    |
| Wed  | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 8am     | <b>Holy Communion (BCP)</b>                             |
|      |                  | 10.30am | <b>Christmas Day Communion Service</b>                  |
| Sun  | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 11am    | Mission Community Communion Service at Denbury          |

# Woodland

Christmas Season

Church and Village events



|     |                  |      |   |
|-----|------------------|------|---|
| Sun | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 6pm  | <b>Mission Community Advent Service at Woodland</b> |
| Sat | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 10am | <b>Christmas Coffee Morning</b>                     |
| Sun | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 6pm  | Holy Communion                                      |
| Sun | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 6pm  | <b>Christmas Carol Service</b>                      |
| Wed | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 10am | <b>Christmas Family Communion</b>                   |
| Sun | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 11am | Mission Community Communion Service at Denbury      |



# Broadhempston

Christmas Season

Church and Village events



|       |                  |         |  |
|-------|------------------|---------|--|
| Sun   | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 6pm     | <b>Mission Community Advent Service at Woodland</b>  |
| Sun   | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 4pm     | Communion Service                                    |
| Thurs | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 8pm     | <b>BroadHarmony Christmas Concert</b>                |
| Sat   | 14 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30am  | <b>Decorating our Church for Christmas</b>           |
| Sun   | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 4pm     | Celtic Evening Prayer                                |
| Wed   | 18 <sup>th</sup> | 6.30pm  | <b>Christmas Carol Service (with School Choir)</b>   |
| Sun   | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 11am    | Communion Service (Note - new time of Service)       |
| Mon   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 7.30pm  | <b>Carols in the Square (with Totnes Brass Band)</b> |
| Wed   | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 10.45am | <b>Christmas Day Family Service</b>                  |
| Sun   | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 11am    | Mission Community Communion Service at Denbury       |

# Denbury

Christmas Season

Church and Village events



|      |                  |      |   |
|------|------------------|------|---|
| Sun  | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | 11am | Sung Communion                                      |
|      |                  | 6pm  | <b>Mission Community Advent Service at Woodland</b> |
| Sun  | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 9am  | Celtic Morning Prayer                               |
| Fri  | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 6pm  | <b>Carols on the Green</b>                          |
| Sun  | 15 <sup>th</sup> | 9am  | Sung Communion                                      |
| Sun  | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 9am  | Sung Communion                                      |
|      |                  | 4pm  | <b>Carol Service</b>                                |
| Tues | 24 <sup>th</sup> | 4pm  | <b>Crib Service</b>                                 |
|      |                  | 11pm | <b>Midnight Mass</b>                                |
| Wed  | 25 <sup>th</sup> | 9am  | <b>Christmas Day Communion Service</b>              |
| Sun  | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 11am | Mission Community Communion Service                 |

## News from Broadhempston

**St. Peter and St. Paul**



Our little tribe at Broadhempston continues to trundle along. We have had the unusual pleasure of two weddings this Autumn. The first on 21<sup>st</sup> September for Vanessa Field and Andy Endicott and the second on 12<sup>th</sup> October for Amy Beadel and Jaime Vernon-Yeo. It is such a joy to see the church used for this purpose and its symbolism of love and new life. We hope there will not be such a long pause before our next!

Quite magnificent flowers had been arranged by Julie Pooley, Dawn Brewer & Team for the second wedding and our church was able to revel in this majesty for the week afterwards.

This tied in very nicely to our School harvest festival that happened the following Wednesday afternoon. The school children performed various poems, songs and stories to a completely packed and overflowing church. The combination of the church space, the flowers, all the families and (dare I say it) God created such a fantastic atmosphere. A large collection of food donations was collected and taken to HITS (the Teignbridge food bank). Andrew was able to say a few words at the end and this event really made us feel we need to recreate these community and family events more often.

Our next event of note was our Remembrance Day Service. Always a well-attended service for our village community. The sermon (by Hillarie) left us considering how best to throw our starfish back in the ocean in our individual quest for peace. Two wreaths were laid after the service and a

further wreath laid by the school on the following (11<sup>th</sup>) day.

There is some trepid excitement for our Christmas calendar (see previous page). By the time this edition of the Beacon is published, the 'Jarrod Dickenson' concert will have happened. We feel very fortunate for the work of Devon Sent and the ability to host these fantastic events.

Finally, on behalf of our PCC and the parishioners of Broadhempston, may we wish you a joyous Christmas and let us all pray for a peaceful New Year.

*Paul Russell, Churchwarden*



*The school  
Harvest  
festival*



## Reverse Advent Calendars

Those of you who have read the Ipplepen Village Magazine might know what I am talking about – others may think I've really lost it this time!! But it's a simple idea. Usually people take something out of an Advent Calendar – probably chocolate (and eat it!). With this project people put an item of food into a box to make Christmas Hampers for families in particular need of Christmas cheer. HITS has supplied a list of items so that all boxes are equal – they collect the completed boxes from The HUB and then take them to families they know will enjoy them

Most people couldn't fill a box all by themselves – it would cost too much – but a group of people – like a church community – could work together and fill a box, or two, or more.... What do you think? Give it a go?

The list of items need is printed below – and there is a copy in each of the churches so that people can decide what they want to give and sign up.

We need to aim to collect all of the items for boxes between us – rather than, for instance, having lots of Christmas puddings and no biscuits – so talk to each other!

If anybody would prefer to give a gift of money, we can use it to buy 'missing' items to complete a box. The items must be in St. Andrew's (or with Anne Burden) by Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at the latest. The boxes will be there by then – and hopefully we will have enough to pack a good few of them.



- Christmas Card
- Christmas Pudding
- Christmas Cake
- Custard (1 tin)
- Christmas Crackers
- Box of Chocolates
- Sweets
- Mince Pies (1 pack)
- Ham (1 tin)
- Salmon (1 tin)
- Festive Biscuits
- Fruit (1 tin)
- Savoury biscuits (or large pack of crisps)
- Evaporated Milk/Cream (1 tin)
- Fruit Juice (2 small bottles)
- Pickle (1 jar)

Please offer as many items as you like, and a mix would be good.

*Anne Burden*

## Straplins

- You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late.
- A river cuts through a rock, not because of its power, but because of its persistence



## News from Woodland

St. John the Baptist



After what seems like months of torrential rain interspersed with rapidly shortening sunny days and a cold wintery nip in the air, it seems strange to look back over the last couple of months towards what was the end of summer and the very beginning of autumn. Harvest Festival and the village Harvest Supper seem so long ago, but the church did look lovely. So many people gleaned what they could out of their gardens and orchards to fill the church with love and care and a thoughtful touch was that the table decorations from the Harvest Supper were arranged beautifully on the font at the back of the church, connecting both events together.

Other notable events held in our village over the last couple of months have been the Macmillan Coffee Morning and the first aid course held in the Village Hall. Both were very successful events. Nobody can deny that a knowledge of first aid is important when dealing with those unexpected unfortunate events and I have heard that some of the course students had a reason to put their new knowledge to good use soon afterwards. The coffee morning also raised an admirable amount for such a worthy cause helping so many in such a challenging time of their lives. I can't remember the exact sum, which is currently posted on a notice outside the Village Hall, but I believe it is in the region of £300.

Looking towards the future, Christmas and all its associated events looms large on the horizon. I'm told that some people now start

decorating their homes in mid-November, which seems strange to me as, when growing up, my father insisted that the decorations should go up on Christmas Eve. I know that due to the efforts of a few dedicated people Woodland Church will, again, be beautifully decorated for its Christmas services – the first of which is the candlelit Advent Carol Service on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6pm. We also have, closer to Christmas, a Carol Service on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, again starting at 6pm. Both are lovely community events, at which we are always pleased to welcome any of our Mission Community friends, the former being more quiet and reflective in the soft lighting and the other a joyous affair.

Other cheerful community news is that, after being closed for so many months, the Rising Sun pub has been undergoing a good makeover inside and is due to reopen in mid-December, just in time for Christmas. We all wish the new publicans the best of luck with their new enterprise.

*Helen Pearce*

## Straplines

- What other people think of me is becoming less and less important, but what they think of Jesus because of me is critical. (Sir Cliff Richard)
- **What you give is not what counts; it is the love with which you give it that matters. (Mother Teresa)**
- Ability is what we are capable of doing; motivation determines what we do; attitude determines how well we do it
- **Background and circumstances may influence who we are, but we are responsible for who and what we become**

# Hillarie's big day!!

*The article below is from the Exeter Diocesan News. Hillarie writes:*

I wish to thank everyone from across the Beacon Parishes for their support throughout my Reader training, without it I would not have made it through the course. A special thank you to those who came up in the cathedral for the Licensing Service.

*Hillarie Griggs*



*Andrew and Hillarie  
before the service*

## CELEBRATING READERS



About 350 people attended the Reader celebration service in Exeter Cathedral which included the admission and licensing of new readers.

Those readers admitted and licensed were: Hillarie Griggs, Hilary Hyde, Caroline Poultney, David Richards and Elaine Vestey. Those licensed after a transfer

were: Deborah Maitland, Melanie Cleveland, Rebecca Colpus, Linda Dodwell, Deborah Bayliss, Peter Scott and Sam Upham.

They are pictured here with The Bishop of Plymouth, the Right Revd Nick McKinnel and the Archdeacon of Exeter, Canon Andrew Beane.



## News from Denbury

### St. Mary the Virgin



A glance out of the window reveals a white layer of snow over Haytor accompanied by a cold wind and threatening winter clouds. Against this backdrop, our Harvest celebrations at St. Mary the Virgin seem to have taken place a very long time ago, although, in fact, our Harvest festival service was held just a few weeks back on October 13<sup>th</sup>. The church was decorated with produce and flowers and items of food items donated were passed on to the local charity HITS who do sterling work helping the homeless in this area.

The Harvest service was preceded by the annual Soup and Sweets lunch held in Church Cottage. The attendance was excellent and diners enjoyed a tasty bowl of soup with a lovely selection of sweets to follow. The event raised a total of £106 which was also donated to HITS to support their work with those who, for many different reasons, are not fortunate enough to have a roof over their heads. This is vital work particularly as winter closes in and temperatures start to plummet.

All Souls Day was remembered at our Wednesday midweek service on 6<sup>th</sup> November at Denbury. At this service the names of loved ones who have died are read out from a list completed by churchgoers and families from the village.

The following weekend was Remembrance Day with the congregation meeting to remember the fallen in both world wars and the many conflicts all around the world since.

At the end of the communion service the Service of Remembrance began with a two

minute silence which followed the sounding of the Last Post (very effectively played on the trombone).

The congregation then processed out of the church to the monument at the centre of the village so that wreaths could be laid, the names of the fallen from both World Wars read out and to allow a time for reflection. The church congregation was joined by a similar number of people from the village who gathered around the memorial for this part of the Remembrance.

During November our services have been starting at the earlier time of 9am for reasons of practicality and to allow Andrew a bit more time following the service to spend with Denbury folk for a chat and to discuss any issues they might wish to raise, and to help with travelling between our Beacon parishes. Although the mornings can be a bit dark and gloomy at this time of year, the earlier start has not deterred the regular churchgoers and numbers attending the Sunday services have remained steady.

We look forward now to a period of full churches, many visitors to our services, choirs, carols and all the traditional attractions of the season. Christmas beckons.

*Mike Bray*

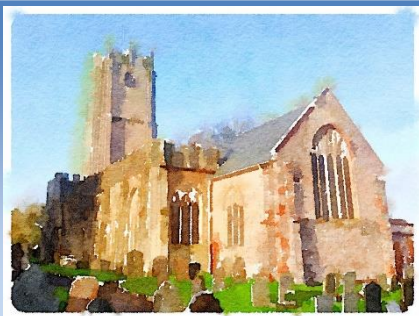
## Smile



- “At today’s harvest festival we welcome tinned goods, less so sheaves of wheat unless you also bring a Dyson.”
- .....and God created man, then He had a better idea.

## News from Ipplepen

St. Andrew



We held our Harvest Thanksgiving service with our friends from the Methodist Church on October 6<sup>th</sup>. As usual the church was beautifully decorated and thanks must go to the talented team of flower arrangers. It was good to see such a large amount of tins and packets of food donated by the congregation for the HITS food bank. We enjoyed a lovely Harvest lunch afterwards in the Church Hall. The following Sunday Celtic Morning Prayer was led by Tessa with Emma Matthews playing the clavichord and Sue Hird reading the prayers.

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October we had an enjoyable social evening in the Church Hall which was a sausage and mash supper with a quiz afterwards. Geraldine and Marilyn Ellis came up with the idea and it proved very successful. The quiz masters were Charles Quartley - with a variety of questions set by Steve Bassett - and Richard Lumsden who devised the musical round. Thanks to them and everyone who came and supported this event and to all the helpers, it was an evening to be remembered and hopefully repeated next year.

On 27<sup>th</sup> October, Bible Sunday was the theme for the Celtic Morning Prayer service led by Steven Sheldon - a most interesting and enjoyable service.

'All Saints' was celebrated at our Morning Sung Communion when it was good to remember past Saints and also those "saints" living amongst us in our congregation and wider community.

The All Souls service in the evening was especially moving when the names of our

past loved ones are read out and then all the candles lit by Sue and Gary Hird. Whilst the congregation were invited to go and light a candle themselves afterwards Rev Andrew sang and played his guitar which sounded so appropriate and beautiful. It was so lovely to see many people who have lost loved ones recently attend this special service and I know it meant a lot to them as they spoke about it over refreshments afterwards. The candles lit at both gates were a lovely touch and very welcoming.



The church was very full for the Remembrance Service conducted by Rev Tony Meek with Rev Kevin Hook giving the address. To the sound of muffled bells we processed to the War Memorial where many villagers were already waiting. The two minutes silence was observed and many organisations of the village had representatives to lay their wreaths. The names on the War Memorial were read by Charles Quartley.





## News from Ipplepen – cont'd

The annual shoebox service was held at the Methodist Church on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. It was a lovely informal service with Kevin and Andrew with good hymn singing. My granddaughter Amelie was asked by Maria to count the shoeboxes and they totalled 59.

We will be celebrating St Andrew's Patronal Festival on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November with lunch afterwards in the Church Hall. The following week is the Lantern Procession then



Advent begins and all the preparations for Christmas and the Christmas services to look forward to.

Happy Christmas everyone !

*Marilyn Clark*

p.s. Aubrey Turley is recovering in hospital after her recent fall. She would like to thank everyone who supported her during her recent incapacity and wish everyone a Happy Christmas.

## Golden Weddings



On the 22<sup>nd</sup> September Charlie and Jane Outhwaite celebrated their Golden Wedding with cake and champagne after the Service. Rev Andrew asked them out to the front during Celtic Morning Prayer and gave them a blessing.

Also to Jennie and Tony Meek who celebrated their Golden Wedding on October 18<sup>th</sup>.



# Experience Christmas

The Experience team of volunteers met in the middle of November to prepare to run this programme for the Year 5s and 6s of Ipplepen and Denbury Primary Schools in their respective parish churches. This year we have been joined by volunteers from Ipplepen Methodist Church.

Experience Christmas is designed so that congregations can provide stimulating and interactive activities that will engage children with the events leading up to the First Christmas. This is achieved by the children being welcomed during which the Christmas Story is read to them. They are then split into five small groups where they rotate around five stations, each group starting at a different point. The stations are:

**The Preparation :** *Preparing hearts as well as homes during Advent*

**The Announcement :** *The angel visits Mary*

**The Promises :** *The birth of Jesus is foretold*

**The Journey :** *Mary and Joseph make their way to Bethlehem*

**The Message :** *The angels appear to the Shepherd*

When all groups have visited each stations they are brought together for the final station, **The Gift** : God's gift of Jesus is given to the world.

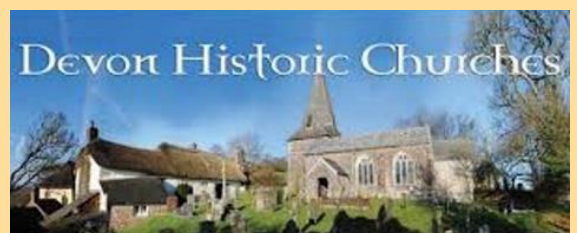


The team is now prepared, leaders for each of the stations decided and props are now being sourced and collected together so we now ask for your prayers that this will be a successful and enjoyable event.

The actual dates are December 2<sup>nd</sup> for Ipplepen and December 12<sup>th</sup> for Denbury.

Hillarie Griggs  
Experience Co-ordinator

## *Cream Tea*



50% of proceeds will go to Devon Historic Churches Trust

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020

2.30pm

St. Andrew's Church Hall



## **Volunteer needed!**

### **St Andrew's PCC Ipplepen Treasurer**

The majority of the duties relate to the PCC, but the incumbent is also responsible for the Church Hall and Church Estate Charity within the village.

The role would suit someone with previous accounting or finance experience, but this is not essential provided they have good all-round skills and experience.

The position is voluntary and is open to anyone willing to help. Church membership is not a criteria.

#### **JOB ROLE**

- General banking, including paying in cash & cheques, making payments and reconciling bank statements;
- General reporting on all financial matters to the PCC and charity trustees;
- Annual preparation of Accounts and submission to the Diocese or Charity Commission;
- Working closely with the Rector's PA to ensure the smooth running of the PCC finances.

The role would suit someone with good organisational and communication skills and a reasonable knowledge of basic administration software, such as Word and Excel.

Full training will be provided by the outgoing Treasurer and he will provide back-up support as required during the new Treasurer's initial period in office.

Please apply in the first instance to [office@beaconparishes.co.uk](mailto:office@beaconparishes.co.uk) or ring the office on 01803 814178

## **What count your blessings really means....**

Count your blessings instead of your crosses

Count your gains instead of your losses

Count your joys instead of your woes

Count your friends instead of your foes

Count your smiles instead of your tears

Count your hopes instead of your fears

Count your full years instead of your lean

Count your kind deeds instead of your mean

Count your health instead of your wealth

Count on God instead of yourself.

**The Beacon Parishes Mission Community of Ipplepen with Torbryan,  
Denbury, Broadhempston and Woodland  
and  
Ipplepen Methodist Church**

***Getting ready - bible groups during Advent***

During Advent, a season of preparation, there will be an opportunity to prepare for each Sunday by looking at the Sunday gospel with others. In groups we will read the passage together, listen to what resonates, challenges or intrigues us and share with each other how the passage speaks into our lives. Each group will last an hour with someone facilitating the time. There is a day time and evening group and you can attend either, mix and match, attend each week or just when you can.

**Evening group:**

Wednesdays, 7-8pm  
The Hub  
Ipplepen Methodist Church  
Ipplepen

27<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
4<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
11<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
18<sup>th</sup> December 2019

**Day time group**

Fridays 11am-12 noon  
Halwell Farm  
Denbury  
(01803) 812197

29<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
6<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
13<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

And the passages we will be looking at are:

Week 1: Matt 24: 36-44  
Week 2: Matt 3:1-12  
Week 3: Matt 11:1-17  
Week 4: Matt 1: 18-end





# St. Andrew's Christmas Fayre

We held our special Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall on Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup>. It was buzzing from the minute we started setting up at 12.30pm. It was wonderful to see so many helpers and the stalls were soon brimming with lovely goodies, cakes, preserves, crafts of all descriptions, books, toys, a great bottle tombola, bric-a-brac, and the most brilliant raffle.

People were queuing to come in at 2pm and the hall was soon filled with them enjoying themselves. We were busy also in the side hall as refreshments of tea, coffee, mince pies and shortbread were served. The raffle held was a highlight as people waited to see who was lucky to win all the wonderful prizes and we thank Ann Holroyd for obtaining those and selling lots of tickets. The total raised was about £1500 and a big thank you to everyone involved.



# Floodlighting

The towers at both Denbury and Ipplepen have floodlighting which needs sponsorship to cover the cost of electricity and maintenance. Sponsorship is usually for a week at a time, and people often like to sponsor to mark a special occasion.

For Denbury, contact Mick Sutherland-Cook on 01803 813871  
For Ipplepen, contact the Church office on 01803 814078

## Denbury:

Sue Abraham in memory of her late husband John

Canon Tom New in celebration of Joan's Birthday (December 6<sup>th</sup>) and their Wedding Anniversary (27<sup>th</sup>)

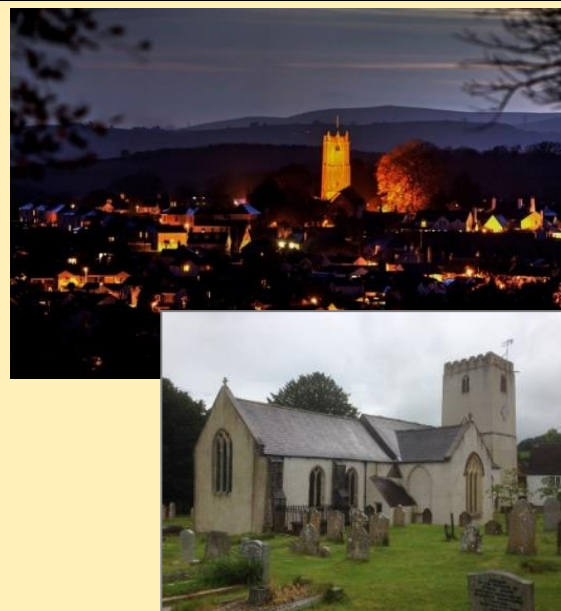
## Ipplepen:

### Retrospective

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept– 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct | From Vanessa Peter Bevan to celebrate the 18 <sup>th</sup> birthday of their granddaughter, Megan, on 4 <sup>th</sup> October |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct     | From June and Rod Wilkins in memory of a much loved Mum whose birthday would have been on 11 <sup>th</sup> October            |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov      | From Mark, Karen and Ken Squire, remembering Pamela, dearly loved mum and wife, who passed away November 6 <sup>th</sup> 2011 |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov    | From Rex Osborn and family in loving memory of Wendy Osborn   |

### New

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec | From David, Linda, Hannah and Katie Simmonds in memory of Hope and Faith                              |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec | From Peter Mason remembering his wife Jan whose birthday would have been on 23 <sup>rd</sup> December |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan | In loving memory of dear Ron on his birthday on 24 <sup>th</sup> January. Love from Pam Sharland      |



## Straplines

- Right is right, even if everyone is against it; and wrong is wrong, even if everyone is for it. (William Penn)
- People will rarely care about what you know until they know that you care.
- One of the greatest labour-saving devices of today is tomorrow



## Another Devon Clergyman - 'Parson Jack'

When I was at Primary School at Cheriton Fitzpaine in Mid-Devon, not long after the Second War ended, one of the highlights of the winter months was when the local Foxhounds met in the village. This was a great event and the school closed for the morning so that we could all go and watch the meet. We knew some of the riders - local farmers, landowning squires, a couple of clergymen and a few from further afield. We recognised some of the hounds, which had been 'walked' locally during the summer, and there was general good humour, especially when the stirrup cups (mostly port or brandy) were passed around. The stirrup cups were, of course, strictly off bounds to us schoolchildren.

There were no such things as hunt saboteurs in those days. Not agreeing with foxhunting would have been unthinkable in a close rural community, especially when the local hunt created employment - and the needs of the hunt kennels were an efficient way of disposing of dead farm animals.

When the hunt eventually moved off to draw their first cover, groups of villagers were in no hurry to return to work, and were only too willing to talk to us children about what the hunt was going to do that day, where they would most likely find a fox, and what the weather would be like.

When we eventually returned to school we all felt cheated because the teachers could relax for the rest of the day, while they invariably gave us the task of writing about the meet, and drawing pictures of the event. Certainly not as much fun as watching the real thing!

When we had talked to older people that morning they invariably wanted to tell us about 'the old days' and in particular the exploits of someone they referred to as 'Parson Jack'. They relished stories about how he had hunted in Cornwall for a day, rode to Newton Abbot and stayed overnight at Stover with the Templars,

hunted locally the next day at Cheriton Fitzpaine, and returned to North Devon afterwards.

Perhaps in total well over a hundred miles, plus however far the hunt had travelled. Sometimes he rode back from North Devon to Cheriton on a Sunday to 'do the duty' - that is take the service in church - and ride home again afterwards, about a sixty mile round trip in all weathers. The stories about Parson Jack were legendary, but I never thought to ask who he actually was, or even if the stories were true.

It was much later in life that I found out more about Parson Jack.

He was in fact the Reverend John Russell, the incumbent of Swimbridge near Barnstaple, and



indeed all the stories I had heard from the old men were in fact true. He was born in Dartmouth in 1795 and died at Black Torrington in North Devon, still the Rector, in 1883. He had continued to hunt well into his eighties, so at the period I am talking about after the war, local people in their late seventies and more would have known him.

But what sort of man was he? W.G. Hoskins, the Devon historian, called him "the futile Jack Russell", and while he is well-known for his hunting exploits, and breeding the famous terriers named after him, he was by all accounts much loved in his parish, and a welcome guest at all the great houses in Devon and Cornwall. He was a close friend of Lord Fortescue at Castle Hill, Lord Portsmouth at Eggesford house, the Chichester family at Hall, Lord Poltimore at North Molton and many other west country gentry. He was a welcome guest of the Prince of Wales at Sandringham, and a favourite of the Princess of Wales who loved to dance with him. At his death in 1883 the Prince of Wales personally sent a wreath, 26 clergymen took part in the funeral service, all the local dignitaries attended, and over a thousand people filled the church and churchyard. 'Futile' is an unlikely description of John Russell's life.

*Stephen Bryant*



## Jesus would not be allowed



A member of the House of Lords has criticised the Radio 4 feature 'Thought for the Day', saying it has just become platitudes and limits religious people saying what they really believe.

Lord Singh has said he will no longer fill the slot, which happens every day on the Today programme at 7:45am and features religious leaders and thinkers sharing a short, topical reflection with a philosophical or religious angle. The slot has often been criticised by former Today presenter John Humphreys, who said that Thought for the Day was pointless and discriminated against people without a religion and called for it to be scrapped.

Attacking it from the other end of the spectrum, Lord Indarjit Singh of Wimbledon, a Sikh and interfaith activist, said he was nearly prevented from broadcasting his thoughts about an executed Sikh guru who opposed the forced conversion of Hindus to Islam "because it might offend Muslims" and claimed he got the same response when he wanted to suggest that there was just one God. The cross-bench peer told The Times: "It was like saying to a Christian that he or she should not talk about Easter for fear of giving offence to the Jews".

Lord Singh persuaded the BBC to let him say what he wanted and there were no complaints. However, he has now quit the slot because he feels he can't represent his faith fairly. He said: "The need for sensitivity in talking about religious, political or social issues has now been taken to absurd proportions, with telephone insistence on trivial textual changes right up to going into the studio, making it difficult to say anything worthwhile. The aim of Thought for the Day has changed from giving an ethical input to social and political issues, to the recital of religious platitudes and the avoidance of controversy, with success measured by the absence of complaints. I believe Guru Nanak [the founder of Sikhism] and Jesus Christ, who boldly raised social concerns while stressing tolerance and respect, would not be allowed near Thought for the Day today."

He added the BBC had "a misplaced sense of political correctness that pushes contributors to bland and unworldly expressions of piety that no one can complain about".

## Smile



Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting in their church hall a few times a week to play table games. One day, one of them looked at the lady opposite and said, "Now don't get mad at me....I know we've been friends for a long time.....but I just can't think of your name! I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is." Her friend glared at her for at least a full minute and finally she said, "How soon do you need to know?"

# Whatever will Grandma make of this?



A computer was something on TV,  
From a science fiction show of note.  
Windows were something you hated to clean,  
And ram the cousin of a goat.

Meg was the name of my girlfriend,  
And a gig was a job for the night;  
Now they all mean something different,  
And that's really a great mega byte..

An application was for employment.,  
And a programme was a radio show;  
A cursor would use some profanity,  
And a keyboard was just a piano.

Compress was something you did to the  
garbage,  
Not something you did to a file,  
And if you unzipped anything in public  
You'd land up in jail for a while.

Log on was adding wood to the fire,  
Hard drive a long trip on the road;  
A mouse pad was where that little mouse  
lived,  
And back-up you did to a commode.

Cut you did with a pocket knife.  
Paste you did with some glue.  
A web was a spider's handiwork,  
And a virus was probably the flu.

I guess I'll stick to my paper and pen  
And the memory stored in my head.  
I hear nobody's been killed in a computer  
crash,  
But when it happens, they'll wish they were  
dead.

## Ali and friendship

*You don't have to be a fan of boxing to appreciate that there was something special about Muhammad Ali. During a TV discussion with Michael Parkinson in 1974 on the subject of friendship, Ali quoted the following poem which he had written.*

Friendship is a priceless gift  
That cannot be bought or sold,  
But its value is far greater  
Than a mountain made of gold.  
For gold is cold and lifeless,  
It can neither see nor hear  
And in time of trouble  
It is powerless to cheer.  
Gold has no ears to listen,  
No heart to understand'  
It cannot bring you comfort or  
Reach out a helping hand  
So when you ask God for a gift,  
Be thankful if He sends  
Not diamonds, pearls or riches  
But the love of real true friends.

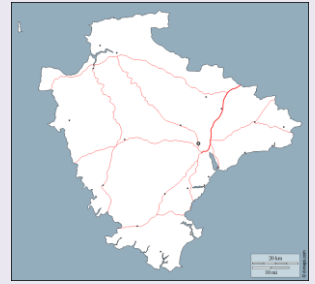
## Strapliness

- The best advice anyone can give you is to live your life and forget about your age.
- Children are a great comfort in your old age and they can often help you to reach it faster too.

# Serving the people of Devon with joy

Thanks to the Statistics for Mission returns we know that in 2017:

- 114 churches are involved with running a community café
- 260 are involved with food banks
- 67 are involved with running holiday/breakfast/after school clubs
- 108 congregations run or help with lunch clubs
- 28 offer money/debt advice
- 57 are involved with night shelter or homeless provision
- 118 run parent/carers and toddler group
- 117 offer or help with pastoral provision for the wider community (eg street pastors/counselling/befriending)
- 87 are involved with youth work for the wider community



On top of that Devon's churches have enormous impact on their communities by providing places for joy or comfort at the most significant moments in life. In 2017, our congregations were involved in:

- 2185 Baptisms and thanksgivings
- 1364 Weddings and marriage blessings
- 3547 funerals

While there are a little under 20,000 people in our pews on a usual Sunday, at the major festivals our congregations welcomed considerably more. We welcomed 38,800 into our churches at Easter and nearly 76,000 attended on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

*I will be submitting figures for 2019 at St. Andrew's to the diocese as this edition goes to print-ED*

## Smile



This has got to be one of the best. In Wales there is a legal requirement for road signs to be in both English and Welsh. So, in this case, the official of the Highways department emailed the English wording to the translator and, after receiving a reply, proceeded to have the sign made and installed. Unfortunately a few weeks later, Welsh-speaking drivers began to call up to point out that the Welsh reads.... "I am currently out of the office. Please submit any work to the translation team".





## For debate: Youth versus age

*Heather Tomlinson comments on the rise of Greta Thunberg, the 16 year old climate activist who believes the planet is facing an ecological crisis.*

As I'm happily straddling that age between 'old' and 'young', I enjoy the benefits that heading into middle age brings. I feel more secure, much wiser and happier than I did in my misspent youth. I understand why the Bible so often embraces age and encourages us to listen to the old. In many cultures around the world this is the norm: the older generations are respected and seen as a source of wisdom. Often they are given authority without question.

In the West, we've gone in completely the opposite direction. Since teenage culture took on a life of its own in the 1950s, we've gradually become more in awe of the young, and suspicious of the old. Everyone wants to look younger, the opinion formers on TV often appear to be just out of university; anything old-fashioned is seen as boring or even evil, and everyone seems to want change all the time. The Brexit bitterness has brought all of this out in the open. Hatred towards the older generations is voiced regularly.

Then of course we have the youngster of the moment, Greta Thunberg. As the mouthpiece of a youth movement that demands more action on climate change, she's become one of the most powerful women in the world, regularly given audiences with world leaders, and all over the news. Democratic senator Ed Markey recently told the 16 year-old: "We need your leadership." That's quite a mantle to hand to anyone, never mind a teenager.



I hope no-one paid too much attention to my political opinions when I was her age. The advice I gave – all too quickly – was patchy at best, and no wonder. I had little life experience, I hadn't read much, I had little exposure to opinions other than my parents and a few teachers, and even worse, I had the over-confidence of the young. I thought I was absolutely right about everything. I'm now more aware of my limitations, though there's still

plenty of way to go on that one! But I'm so glad I've grown up and that many of those opinions have changed. For example, now I believe in Jesus. I'm incredibly grateful that God showed me where I was going wrong.

Of course there are plenty of older people who agree with Greta on climate change. So why not listen to them, and have a thorough debate between people of different opinions on the subject? Why has this girl been thrust into the spotlight and treated as if she is a guru? For the older people who agree with her, it's a useful phenomenon: climate change is getting a lot of attention due to her celebrity. But that's hardly fair on her, and it doesn't seem a very healthy way to influence public opinion either. To give younger people a louder say than the old, or to heap the responsibility of changing the world onto one girl, is bizarre, and a little sinister. Let's hope for a better dialogue between the generations, as well as those of different political opinions – we need this much more than we need a young and vulnerable girl being put on a very high pedestal, that it's all too easy to fall off.

*I would love to have your views and comments for the next edition of the Beacon -Editor*

# Do you have a favourite local view?

Do you have a favourite local view? One that lifts your spirits and is good for your soul.

The view across to Dartmoor from the Rectory in Ipplepen is constantly changing with weather and the seasons. Sometimes the moor is covered in cloud and cannot be seen at all; at other times shafts of light break through the clouds and illuminate parts of the landscape. On clear evenings there are spectacular sunsets and as we move into winter Torbryan church which has been hidden emerges again from behind the trees. We have recently moved some chairs up into a bay window to make the most of the view - a view that is always there, always new, always amazing but that can easily be missed or ignored in the rush of life.

December is a time that can become very busy, with lots of competing demands as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. It is easy to become rushed and in doing so lose sight of the view that is right in-front of us. We can miss the wonder and amazement of what is there right beside us. One of my favourite stories that expresses something of this is Moses and the burning bush, in the book of Exodus Chapter 3. Moses is on a journey and notices beside the path a burning bush. He turns aside to see and in doing so has a profound and life changing encounter. Moses is not so hurried to simply miss it. My prayer as we journey towards and prepare to celebrate Christmas is that we won't let ourselves become so busy that we miss such moments and that we will still give time to stopping, noticing and have such potentially life changing encounters.

As one year ends and another begins it is natural to reflect on what has been and what we hope will be in the year to come. One thing I notice in the last year is that I have felt most alive and been most engaged when I have not been as hurried and when I have had time to notice and to turn aside. In these moments particularly I have encountered life, love and grace, moments



of dazzling light in the world around me and in those I have encountered. This encourages me in the year to come to work at not being so rushed or hurried so that there is more space for noticing and turning aside, for life-giving encounters, for taking in the view.

All of this is put far more eloquently by R. S. Thomas in his poem The Bright Field:

*I have seen the sun break through  
to illuminate a small field  
for a while, and gone my way  
and forgotten it. But that was the pearl  
of great price, the one field that had  
the treasure in it. I realise now  
that I must give all that I have  
to possess it. Life is not hurrying*

*on to a receding future, not hankering after  
an imagined past. It is the turning  
aside like Moses to the miracle  
of the lit bush, to a brightness  
that seemed as transitory as your youth  
once, but is the eternity that awaits you.*

May you experience life, light, love and grace this Christmas time and in the year to come. I extend a warm welcome on behalf of our local churches to the many and varied Christmas gatherings and services.

Peace and good wishes

Andrew



# The bells of St. Mary

A couple of weeks ago, this email arrived via Caren in the office and I thought I should share it with you. It came from an employee at Channings Wood:



*Hi either Denbury or Ipplepen,*

*Did you have bell ringing on Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> Oct at about 14:45? If it was you, I want to say that I heard it in Channings Wood prison, and it lifted my heart to hear it. It was lovely - and definitely what I needed at that time.*

*Thank you.*

*God bless.*

A couple of years ago a similar thing happened and I reported in The Beacon, you may remember it. What comes next is my reply to the email.

Dear ...

*Thank you for your email. It was Denbury's bells you heard. I'm pleased you found the ringing comforting. A similar thing happened before, and I'd like to share it with you.*

*A couple of years ago, I went into the church to do some jobs on a midweek day in January to find a lady sitting quietly in the Lady Chapel; she had lit a candle and was wiping tears away. I asked her if she was alright and offered her a cup of tea. Over the tea she told me that her tears were of happiness, not sadness.*

*The son of some old, deceased, family friends was in the prison and she was his only visitor. Apparently, his only friend in the prison had killed himself some weeks earlier and he was feeling increasingly alone, isolated and depressed. Although he only had a few more months to serve, by New Year's Eve he had decided to end it all by hanging himself from the window bars; but when he went to his window to the deed he heard us ringing the old year out and the new year in and the sound of the bells made him realise there was hope and life outside prison and it gave him the will to live.*

*I don't know the outcome as I never saw the lady again; we must hope all went well for him. I do know, however, through contacts that work at the prison, that there were no suicides that year, so I think it's safe to assume he was safe, bless him.*

Denbury was hosting a band of visiting ringers at that time and while we cannot claim the glory, there is a strong message here for us all.

We don't always see the results of the good things we do or the impact it has on others, but we should satisfy ourselves in the knowledge that someone, somewhere is better for it.

An inscription on our tenor bell says 'Peace to the Ringers of Denbury'. In this Christmas season I extend that wish to all our Beacon Parishes. From the ringers of Denbury and all at St. Mary's, we wish you all a peaceful and Joyous Christmas and a very happy and healthy New Year.

Steve Bassett.

# Ipplepen's windows – what did they do?

*Many in Ipplepen have commented on the craftsmanship and elegance of the windows on the east, south and north sides of the church recently restored to their mediaeval beauty together with the varnish and paint to the west door.*

*We asked David Price from Woodbury Stone for an insight into the work involved.- Editor*



It was a pleasure to work on the south & east windows of Ipplepen Church over the last couple of months in conjunction with the church Architect, Russ Palmer. We have repaired various pieces of stonework on these windows using a lime mortar mix which is made up using stone dust, sand and hydraulic lime.

This is fastened back to the stonework using stainless steel screws and plastic plugs which helps to stabilise the repairs. There were a few areas of stonework which have been pinned using 6mm stainless steel threaded bar and epoxy resin where stones were cracked or loose. The windows were shelter coated to help weathering of the stonework. Many people think that this is a paint that can be purchased however; this is made up ourselves using stone dust and putty lime. This will help protect the stone for a couple of years. The Chancel and West doors have also had some work. The metalwork was rubbed down and undercoated. The top coat is black gloss and the wood has been coated with a wood preservative. The flashings to the gable end of the East Wall above the chancel were replaced using code 5 lead.

*David Price*

## Smile



Rodney was a pillar of the church and the local community. His will provided £25,000 for an elaborate funeral. When he died, and as the visitors departed the service, his wife, Ethel, said to her friend Mary, "Well, I think Rodney would be pleased with that." Her friend replied in a whispered voice, "Sure, but how much did the whole thing cost?" Rodney's wife said, "All of the £25,000 he set aside." Mary's jaw dropped. "Yes," Ethel said, "the funeral, with the carriages and flowers was £5,000; I donated £1,000 to the church, and the wake came to £1,000." "What happened to the rest?" Mary asked. Ethel explained that the rest will go on a memorial stone. "My goodness," exclaimed Mary, "and how big will that be?" Ethel replied "I guess it will be several carats."



## It's pews into chopping boards at St. Matthew's in Exeter

A prophecy in the book of Micah tell us that the people will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks, but here is a church which is putting a new slant on this.

During a renovation scheme they have donated pews to a charity which works with prisoners nearing release, as well as those who are at risk of going to prison.

The pews from St. Matthew's in Exeter were given to the Landworks charity in Devon. The charity said the pews would be made into chopping boards, cookbook holders, bowls, plates, garden benches and more, but some will be kept as seats for quiet reflection.

Rev Matt Clayton from St. Matthew's said this is a great evangelistic opportunity. "We really believe that there is hope for people that are on the margins of society. There is real transition that can happen if we give them a chance to prove themselves and give them a great start. If we don't get out there and tell them that they are loved, that we believe there is a hope for them and that this can be a church that they can call home, we've failed - and we haven't done the Great Commission - we haven't gone out there and proclaimed Jesus."



*A hospital was told there was the possibility they would have enough money in the following year's budget to build a new wing. They decided to consult the various medical specialists and their reactions were as follows:*

The allergists voted to scratch it.  
The dermatologists preferred no rash moves.  
The gastroenterologists had a gut feeling about it.  
The neurologists thought the administration had a lot of nerve.  
The obstetricians stated they were labouring under a misconception.  
The ophthalmologists considered the idea short-sighted.  
The orthopaedists issued a joint resolution.  
The pathologists yelled, "Over my dead body!"  
The paediatricians said, "Grow up."  
The psychiatrists thought it was madness.  
The surgeons decided to wash their hands of the whole thing.  
The radiologists could see right through it.  
The plastic surgeons said, "This puts a whole new face on the matter."  
The podiatrists thought it was a big step forward.  
The urologists felt the scheme wouldn't hold water.  
The cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.

*.....and the committee couldn't reach a decision!*

# SCREWTAPE'S CHRISTMAS LETTER

## (WITH APOLOGIES TO C. S. LEWIS)

The Rt Rev'd Nick  
McKinnel, Bishop of  
Plymouth



### My dear Wormwood,

You have made a spectacular job of Brexit. Well done! Who would have thought that a proud and civilized country could be in such a mess. Families are divided, politicians scorned, the whole nation is frustrated, anxious and despairing. Keep up this diabolically good work.

But a word of caution. Christmas approaches and the Enemy and his people will be talking of peace and goodwill. This must be fought at all costs. Make every effort to deflect attention away from the baby born in a manger. Replace him with a fat, bearded man dressed in red. Patients seem to find him much easier to believe in.

On all accounts keep them spending money, and preferably more than they can afford. Materialism is the anaesthetic of faith. Bright lights, tempting TV commercials and celebrity endorsements should do the trick.



Get them so obsessed with their Christmas parties that they forget the hungry and lonely. And ensure that patients are so tired and stressed by Christmas Day that tempers are short and old feuds re-emerge.

Sentimentality helps too. Make them think "it's all for the children." Ensure that church services are bathed in nostalgia, with obscure readings that no-one understands.

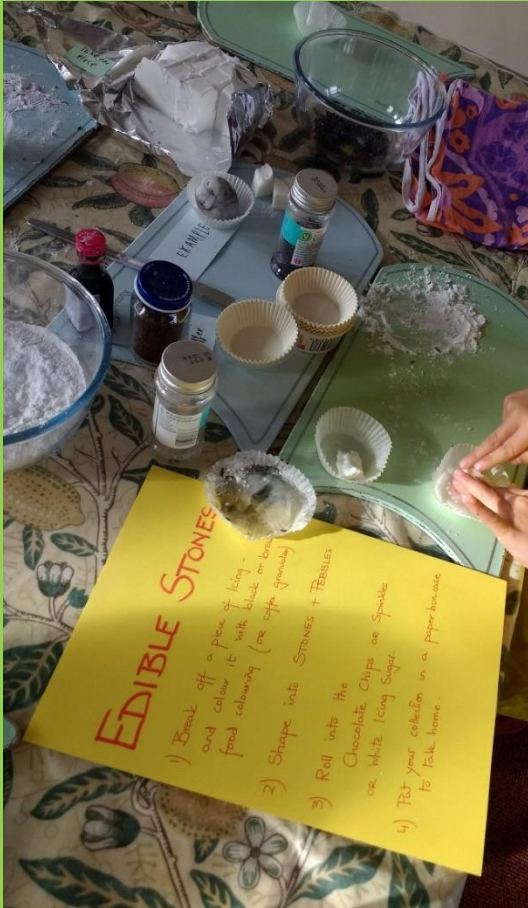
His Infernal Majesty has no answer to the angel's message of glad tidings of great joy, of the Saviour born in Bethlehem. We cannot refute the extraordinary humility of the Son of God entering their humanity, the Word made flesh. We see how lives are transformed by the grace of God that has dawned upon the world.

So do your best to hide these truths in mulled wine and mince pies, and have a miserable Christmas.

Your affectionate uncle,  
Screwtape







Messy Church for the Beacon Parishes (Ipplepen, Torbryan, Denbury, Broadhempston and Woodland), run by Tessa Amies, has a new facebook page: [www.facebook.com/beaconparishes](http://www.facebook.com/beaconparishes)

(The page can be viewed by all, including non-facebook members so please take a look at what happens at our Messy Church)

Messy Church logo © The Bible Reading Fellowship 2019. See [www.messychurch.org.uk](http://www.messychurch.org.uk)

## Intercessions for the Mission Community – December-January

| Sunday               | Mission Community                           | Ipplepen                            | Denbury                           | Broadhempston                     | Woodland                          |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Those who decorate the church               | Churches Together in Ipplepen       | The Union Inn                     | Community Shop                    | Library                           |
| Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Baptism ministry team                       | The Wellington Inn                  | Denbury Primary School            | Radfords                          | Parish Rooms                      |
| Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> | Vergers & sextons                           | The Post Office & Co-Operative Shop | Fairfield Farm                    | Beaston                           | Levaton Farm                      |
| Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Our churches                                | Ipplepen Primary School             | Community Groups                  | Downe                             | Bremridge                         |
| Dec 29 <sup>th</sup> | PCCs & Rector                               | Parish Council & local businesses   | Parish Council & local businesses | Parish Council & local businesses | Parish Meeting & local businesses |
| Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Wardens & Deputies                          | Ambrook & Dainton                   | The Union Inn                     | Knowle                            | Waye Farm                         |
| Jan 12 <sup>th</sup> | Secretaries                                 | Barn Park & Barn Park Cottages      | The Manor                         | Hemsford                          | Gurrington House                  |
| Jan 19 <sup>th</sup> | Treasurers & finance/stewardship committees | Beech Drive & Orchard Drive         | Fairfield Farm                    | Village Hall                      | The Old Parsonage                 |
| Jan 26 <sup>th</sup> | Safeguarding officer & reps.                | Biltor Road & Conniford Lane        | Community Groups                  | Monks Retreat & Coppa Dolla       | Lake Farm                         |



# Sunday Services for December and January

Services planned at time of going to print. Please check website / pew sheets for updates

## Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>

9.00 am Sung Communion  
11.00 am Sung Communion  
6.00 pm Advent Carol Service

## First Sunday of Advent

- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury  
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- St John the Baptist, Woodland

## Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup>

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
9.00 am Celtic Morning Prayer  
11.00 am Sung Communion  
4.00 pm Sung Communion

## Second Sunday of Advent

- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury  
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston

## Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>

9.00 am Sung Communion  
11.00 am Sung Communion  
4.00 pm Celtic Evening Prayer  
6.00 pm Carol Service  
6.00 pm Sung Communion

## Third Sunday of Advent

- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury  
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston  
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- St John the Baptist, Woodland

## Sunday December 22<sup>nd</sup>

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
9.00 am Sung Communion  
11.00 am Sung Communion  
11.00 am Celtic Morning Prayer  
4.00 pm Carol Service  
6.00 pm Carol Service

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury  
- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston  
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury  
- St John the Baptist, Woodland

## Sunday December 29<sup>th</sup>

11.00 am Mission Community Communion Service - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

## First Sunday of Christmas

## Sunday January 5<sup>th</sup>

9.00 am Sung Communion  
11.00 am Sung Communion  
4.00 pm Celtic Evening Prayer  
6.00 pm Sung Communion

## Epiphany / Second Sunday of Christmas

- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury  
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston  
- St John the Baptist, Woodland

## Sunday January 12<sup>th</sup>

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
9.00 am Celtic Morning Prayer  
11.00 am Sung Communion  
4.00 pm Sung Communion

## Baptism of Christ / First Sunday of Epiphany

- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury  
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston

## Sunday January 19<sup>th</sup>

9.00 am Sung Communion  
11.00 am Joint Communion service for the week of Christian Unity – Ipplepen Methodist Church  
4.00 pm Celtic Evening Prayer  
6.00 pm Sung Communion

## Second Sunday of Epiphany

- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury  
- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston  
- St John the Baptist, Woodland

## Sunday January 26<sup>th</sup>

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
9.00 am Sung Communion  
11.00 am Celtic Morning Prayer  
11.00 am Sung Communion  
6.00 pm Evensong

## Third Sunday of Epiphany

- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury  
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen  
- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston  
- St John the Baptist, Woodland

# Mid-week Services for December, Christmas and January

## Regular Daily Midweek Services

Mon – Fri      9.00 am      Morning Prayer      - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

## Regular Weekly Midweek Services

Wednesday    10.00 am      Holy Communion      - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Thursday      12 noon      Holy Communion      - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Thursday      4.30 pm      Evening Prayer (said) - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

## Regular Monthly Midweek Services

Fourth Monday (23<sup>rd</sup> December, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020)

6.30pm      Holy Communion (said) - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Last Monday (30<sup>th</sup> December, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020)

Home Communion      - All Beacon Parishes

## December 2019 – Midweek Services

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>      7.00pm      Carol Service for the Scout Group & Brownies - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>      6.30 pm      Carol Service - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>      Christmas Eve

4.00 pm      Crib Service - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

3.00 pm      Crib Service - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

11.00 pm      Midnight Mass - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

11.00 pm      Midnight Mass - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Wed 25<sup>th</sup>      Christmas day

8.00 am      Holy Communion (BCP) -- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

9.00 am      Christmas Day Communion Service - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

10.00 am      Christmas Day Communion Service - St John the Baptist, Woodland

10.30 am      Christmas Day Communion Service - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

10.45 am      Christmas Day Family Service      - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston

## Coffee Mates (Men of Denbury)

(and Friends)

this is your chance to become a 'Coffee Mate'  
gather around a cup of coffee, biscuits and cake  
2nd Thursday of each month at Church Cottage

10.30 am to 12.00 noon

Treat it as a 'coffee shop', bring your newspaper, book, do the crossword

## Dates ahead – December and January

### Regular Weekly Events

|           |         |                      |                                  |
|-----------|---------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Monday    | 3.00 pm | Monday Teapot        | - Church Cottage, Denbury        |
| Monday    | 7.30 pm | Bellringing Practice | - Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston |
| Wednesday | 7.30 pm | Bellringing Practice | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen          |
| Thursday  | 7.30 pm | Bellringing Practice | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury    |

### Regular Monthly Events

|   |                  |                       |                           |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| First Thursday  | 4.00 pm          | Choir Practice        | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen   |
| First and Third Thursday  | 5.00 pm          | Junior Choir Practice | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen   |
| Second Thursday (12 <sup>th</sup> December and 9 <sup>th</sup> January) | 10.30 to 12 noon | Coffee Mates          | - Church Cottage, Denbury |
| First Saturday (7 <sup>th</sup> December and 4 <sup>th</sup> January)   | 10.00 am         | Coffee Morning        | - Parish Rooms, Woodland  |

### Other Dates for your diary

|                             |           |  |                                     |
|-----------------------------|-----------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec   | 4.00pm    | Choir Practice                                       | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec   | 5.00pm    | Youth Choir Practice                                 | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec     | 3.00pm    | Messy Church (with Lanterns) "The Light of Christ"   | - St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen |
| Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec  | 4.00pm    | Choir Practice                                       | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec  | 5.00pm    | Youth Choir Practice                                 | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec  | 8.00pm    | BroadHarmony Concert                                 | - Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston    |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 3.45pm    | Decorating the Christmas Tree                        | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec    | 3.00pm    | Choir & Youth Choir Practice                         | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec    |           | Final day for Reverse Advent Gifts                   | - Beacon Parishes                   |
| Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec    | 6.00pm    | Carols on the Green                                  | - The Green, Denbury                |
|                             | 7.00pm    | Carols Around the Tree with Lanterns                 | - Ipplepen                          |
| Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec    | 7.30pm    | Carols in the Square                                 | - Broadhempston                     |
| Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan   | 4.00pm    | Choir Practice                                       | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan    | 3pm – 5pm | Teapot Christmas Party                               | - Church Cottage, Denbury           |
| Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan    | 2.30pm    | Cream Teas (Fundraising for Historic Churches Trust) | - St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen |
| Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan  | 4.00pm    | Choir Practice                                       | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | 4.00pm    | Choir Practice*                                      | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | 5.00pm    | Youth Choir Practice**                               | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen             |
| Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb     | 10.00am   | Coffee Morning                                       | - Parish Rooms, Woodland            |
| Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb     | 3.00pm    | Messy Church "Baptism"                               | - St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen |

\*Please note that in February, Choir Practice will resume to the usual first Thursday of each month.

\*\*Please note that in February, Youth Choir Practice will resume to the usual first and third Thursday of each month.

## Monday T Pot

each Monday, 3.00pm to 4.30pm.  
Denbury Church Cottage. All welcome.





**Beacon Parishes Office** office@beaconparishes.co.uk  
PA and Administrator Mrs Caren Martin

## Contacts

☎ 01803 814178

**Rector** The Reverend Andrew Down  
Hon Asst. Priests The Reverend Tony Meek  
The Reverend Anne Burden  
Canon Tom New  
Reader Mrs Tessa Amies

☎ 813403  
☎ 814370  
☎ 813520  
☎ 813775  
☎ 813993

### St Andrew's Church, Ipplepen

Churchwarden Mrs Jane Outhwaite  
Deputy Wardens Mrs Geraldine Dennis  
Dr Michael Price  
Mr Clive Tompkins  
Choir Mrs Jo Innes-Lumsden  
Bellringing Mr Colin Clark  
PCC Secretary Mrs Vanessa Bevan  
PCC Treasurer Mr Phill Harvey  
Church Hall Mrs Shirley Northwood  
Flowers Mrs Sheila Stacey  
Hospitality Mrs Sue Sanders  
Mrs Marilyn Clark  
Mrs Sue Hird

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☎ 813695  
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☎ 812812  
☎ 812273  
☎ 813980  
☎ 813609  
☎ 812247  
☎ 813010  
☎ 813386

### St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Churchwardens Mr Steve Bassett  
Mrs Tessa Amies  
Deputy Warden Mr Mike Bray  
Bellringing Mr Steve Bassett  
PCC Secretary  
PCC Treasurer Mr Mike Bray  
Cottage Mrs Fran Howells  
Flowers Mrs Tessa Amies  
Social Mrs Mary Head

☎ 812537  
☎ 813993  
☎ 812941  
☎ 812537  
  
☎ 812941  
☎ 812971  
☎ 813993  
☎ 812092

### Ss Peter & Paul, Broadhempston

Churchwardens Mr Chris Parker (& PCC Treasurer)  
Mrs Maggie Sercombe (& PCC Secretary)  
Mrs Janice Parnell  
Dr Alex Paton  
Dr Paul Russell  
Bellringing Mr Graham Pascoe  
Flowers Mrs Jane Parker

☎ 762543  
☎ 813790  
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☎ 812021  
☎ 762928  
☎ 812102  
☎ 762543

### St John the Baptist, Woodland

Churchwardens Miss Sheila Ashford  
Mrs Jane Usher  
PCC Secretary Mr David Wrayford  
PCC Treasurer Mr John Usher

☎ 01626 821288  
☎ 01626 353454  
☎ 01364 652323  
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### Safeguarding

Mrs Carol Robinson  
Local Advocate Mrs Ann Holroyd

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### The Beacon

Editor Dr Michael Price  
Production Mr Charles Quartley

☎ 813472  
☎ 812238

# The UK's favourite hymns

No doubt many people were surprised to discover that 'Jerusalem' has been voted the UK's favourite hymn in a survey held by BBC's Songs of Praise. Members of the public chose from the 100 hymns that have featured most on the show over the past five years. 'How Great Thou Art' and 'In Christ Alone' came in second and third.

Songs of Praise host Aled Jones made the announcement in a Songs of Praise special which was filmed at De Montfort Hall in Leicester.

Jerusalem did not feature among the top 10 the last time the public voted in 2013, presumably because it isn't sung regularly in services of worship.

The Top 10 hymns for 2019 were:



- Jerusalem
- How Great Thou Art
- In Christ Alone
- Dear Lord And Father Of Mankind
- Abide With Me
- I Vow To Thee My Country
- Gide Me O Thou Great Redeemer/Jehovah
- Amazing Grace
- Be Still For The Presence Of The Lord
- I, the Lord Of Sea And Sky

## From the Editor



## Take a plunge in 2020!

Can I invite you, the reader, to submit up to 200 words on the theme **"It happened to me"**, recalling some unusual, adventurous or remarkable incident in your life?

This will add personality and interest to the magazine, since we all enjoy reading about other people.

In addition, I feel there should be a place for more general articles which would be of interest to a wider readership. Can I encourage, young or old in the Beacon Community, to submit any general articles or information which they feel other readers might like to see.

We have had book reviews always worthwhile; any sea faring, farming, wild life or country tales to share?

I should need your articles by January 14<sup>th</sup> 2020 for the February / March edition of the Beacon.

[www.missioncommunity.org.uk](http://www.missioncommunity.org.uk)

Michael Price

*The Beacon is produced at no  
cost to the Mission Community*

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