

SAMPFORD PEVERELL & UPLOWMAN
PARISH NEWS

FEBRUARY 2021

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you
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**JACKSON
LEIGH** 

Making Christmas Cheerful in 2020

Our Winners

The Quartly Family
Simon, Helen, Lottie & Jack



A message from our judges
The Reverend Glynn and Mandy Lewry.

Thank you so much to everyone, not just those who entered, for taking time to brighten our lives in what has been a tough year. What a fantastic effort by everyone to make our village, Sampford Peverell sparkle a little brighter this Christmas. To those who took the time and effort to enter the competition, the creativity, originality and resourcefulness of what you achieved is truly amazing and has brought much joy and pleasure to many, lifting our spirits. Whilst judging, we really enjoyed wandering around the village looking at the different displays.

A really tough decision as they were all brilliant but 10 Higher Town caused us to pause a little longer and go back for another look. So well done to the Quartly family.

Mandy and Glynn

I would like to give my personal thanks to the 30 families who responded so magnificently to my poster.

Ron Holmes



Editorial

Well, here we are again, back in Lockdown; schools having to cope with teaching children both in class and online; shops shut, apart from those deemed to be essential; restaurants closed unless they can offer take-aways; all our churches shut and the daily news full of doom and gloom.

A ray of hope, however, is the role-out of the vaccine - Neil Macdonald's article on page 20 gives us a good insight into what is happening. The Head of Sampford School, Sarah Price, also tells us a little bit about how the school is managing in the current circumstances. Both Uplowman and Sampford schools have been trying to raise funds for laptops for their children to use at home. We are very pleased that the magazine has been able to contribute towards that.

As editor of the magazine one is very much in the background, piecing together all the articles sent in by contributors and, hopefully, creating something readable.

I have been editing from January 2016, but have decided to make this my last edition. I hope that others will join the editing Team and continue to offer this really good magazine to the people of Sampford Peverell and Uplowman.

MR

We're on the Web.....

<http://www.sampfordpeverell.org.uk/parishmag.html>

- Information about the magazine and those who produce it
- A free to download magazine archive
- Do take a look

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Thinking of Advertising?

Advertise here for just £45 a year for a quarter page advert.

Why not enhance your business and raise your profile in the community by emailing your queries to:

parishmag@sampfordpeverell.org.uk

Magazine Information

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	Print by	Community Magazine Printing www.comunitymagazineprinting.co.uk

News MUST reach us by no later than 18th of the preceding month.

Short newsworthy articles (max 2 pages) are always welcome, particularly if accompanied by good quality pictures or graphics. Max of 300 words per page please (less with pictures).

Please Note: All articles may be edited subject to space availability and at the discretion of the editors.

Please email all articles, advertising, comment or queries to:
parishmag@sampfordpeverell.org.uk

***Please make any cheques payable to
"Sampford Peverell Parish Magazine"
and send to***

The Treasurer, Manleys, 16 Turnpike, Sampford Peverell EX16 7BN

Use of photographs

Any photographs submitted for publication must be provided with the permission of everyone shown. Photographs will be used in both the printed magazine and also digitally online. Without permission, images cannot be published.

The magazine is available in digital form on the Parish website the month after publication.

Web address <http://www.sampfordpeverell.org.uk/parish-mag.html>

From Councillor Ray Radford

Devon County Council has launched its third round of COVID-19 Funding to help provide valuable funding to organisations working in communities that have been affected by the coronavirus outbreak.

The scheme was launched on Monday January 11, and grants of up to £700 are available. The funding aims to help voluntary and community groups to tackle the social and economic impacts of the virus outbreak and help those who are most vulnerable in their communities.

The new Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine is being given to the first people in Devon, with thousands more doses expected to be administered in coming days and weeks. The Oxford vaccine does not need to be stored at ultra-low temperatures, making it easier for the NHS in Devon to vaccinate people in care homes and those who are housebound.

Devon County Council has a statutory responsibility each year to set a balanced budget. Financial targets are set for all the areas of activity that are undertaken by the County Council. Elected Members approve all budgets of the authority and, throughout the year, monitoring of expenditure and income is undertaken to ensure that spending remains under control. The funding for the Council's budget currently comes from a number of sources including council tax, business rates, government grants, fees and charges.

The County of Devon is a big organisation and manages millions of pounds of our money, I thought you might like to know how we spend the money and where it comes from.

If there are any issues that you are concerned with, please let me know and I will do what I can to get them resolved. We know about the roads, it has been a difficult time, but I can assure you that our Highway Officer is on to it and getting it sorted.

On 17th December 2020 the Government published the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2021/22. The increase in Government funding for the Council is £3.7 million or 2.2%.

This includes:

- An additional £3.1 million from a new Social Care grant of £300 million nationally. This is to support both Children's and Adults Social Care;
- An increase in Devon's allocation of Rural Services Delivery Grant of £368,000;
- A reduction in New Home Bonus Grant of £957,000;
- Government compensation for no inflationary increase in the business rates multiplier of £1.2 million.
- Other social care grants continue with no inflationary increase.

The Government has also announced:

- Devon's share of national COVID funding for 2021/22 is £14.823 million.
- The continuation of the 75% Covid Sales Fees and Charges compensation scheme into the first quarter of 2021/22.
- The Fairer Funding Review, 75% Business Rate Retention and the Business Rates Reset have been delayed.
- A public sector pay freeze has been announced, except for those earning less than £24,000 per annum who will receive an increase of at least £250. The pay freeze does not apply to front-line NHS staff; and
- The National Living Wage will increase by 2.2% next year to £8.91 per hour.

2021/22 Targets

Cabinet in December approved Revenue Spending Targets that totalled just over £571 million, an increase of £28.4 million or 5.2% and included savings of £15.3 million. Although that was only a few weeks ago much has happened. A new variant of the Coronavirus has been identified and the Country has entered another national lockdown. It is hard to imagine that a return to normal will happen quickly. The changing circumstances has led to a review of the Targets. In summary they are:

- Reduce planned savings by £3.7 million across Adult Care & Health, Children's Services and Highways, Infrastructure and Waste;
- Additional Investment of £302,000 in Legal Services to support Children's Services and Risk Management;
- Additional £3.3 million to fund the cost of the 2.2% increase in the National Living Wage.

I can only help, if I know about it, so do not hesitate to give me a call, always pleased to hear from you.

Ray Radford, Your Devon County Councillor.

Church News

Sampford Peverell Team Mission Community

Including the Parishes of *Burlescombe, Halberton, Hockworthy, Holcombe Rogus, Sampford Peverell and Uplowman*

SPTMC

New website address
www.sptmc.uk

SPTMC

For service times of all these churches, see next page

Rector: Revd Glyn Lewry 01884 829356
revglyn01@gmail.com

Team Office & Administrator: Mandy Rowley 07906 381451
churchoffice2@btconnect.com

Office: The Methodist Chapel, Higher Town, Sampford Peverell EX16 7BR

St John the Baptist Church

Sampford Peverell

Warden

Vivienne Heeley: 01884 822936

St Peter's Church

Uplowman

Warden

Pam Holley: 01884 820868
Steph Packham: 07914 246808

Sampford Peverell Methodist Church

Minister: Revd Paul Booth 01884 32679

Steward Judy Bolton: 01884 821445

For services, see listings on the following pages

St James RC Church

Old Street, Tiverton

Contact the Parish Priest

Fr Kristian Paver 01884 252292

SERVICES SUSPENDED UNTIL AFTER 15TH FEBRUARY 2021

The Rector, Revd Glyn Lewry, and the Parochial Church Councils have decided to suspend Services in the Sampford Peverell Team Mission Community until after the Government review on 15th February. The reason for this is that, in the light of the Government's guidance on preventing the spread of Coronavirus, there is no church in the Team which can be used safely for public worship on those occasions. **If it is safe to do so**, services might recommence after 15th February.

For latest information go to the website www.sptmc.uk

Wednesday 17th February - Ash Wednesday

19.30 Online Team service - please refer to website www.sptmc.uk for details

IF CHURCHES REOPEN:

Sunday 21st February - 1st Sunday of Lent

9.30	Holy Communion (CW)	Sampford Peverell
11.00	Holy Communion (CW)	Uplowman
18.30	Evening Prayer	Holcombe Rogus

Sunday 28th February - 2nd Sunday of Lent

9.30	Holy Communion (CW)	Burlescombe
10.00	Messy Church/Sundaze	Via Zoom (Contact Robin Budgell for Details)
11.00	Morning Prayer	Hockworthy

Weekday services

18.15	Every Wednesday - Evening Prayer	Facebook live
9.00	Every Friday - Morning Prayer	Via Zoom (see websites)

Every Sunday

9.00	Morning Prayer	Posted on SPTMC Facebook page
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SAMPFORD PEVERELL METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist Church is closed at present, due to the potential danger of infection from the new Covid variant.

The situation will be reviewed during February.

Thought For the Month

So here we are at the beginning of February, often considered a time of year when people are feeling that the cold winter days are going on a bit, Christmas seems a distant memory, and there's not too much to look forward to, other than the probability of rain, chilly winds and possibly some snow. The hope of warmer, brighter days is strongly on our minds.

There is one positive thing that you may have noticed, and that is that the days are getting noticeably a little bit longer. On the day with the shortest number of daylight hours we had less than 8 hours of daylight. Today as I write we have approximately an extra 40 minutes and 13 seconds since then (9th Jan), this will extend by about 2 minutes and 7 seconds per day.

Ancient peoples would certainly have noticed this, and in pre-Christian times they would have undergone certain rituals to encourage the sun to increase in power and bring back the sunlight that they craved. These rituals would almost certainly have included the lighting of fires and tapers of light.



I love candles and would normally have candles lit most evenings when relaxing, but this last year with so much going on I didn't light them as often and I will admit to having missed my candles.

February 2nd, in some church traditions, marks Candlemas which they see as the end of the Christmas season. It is not too surprising that these churches choose this time to bless candles.

In the Church, candles represent the Light of Christ. The new Easter Candle (Paschal Candle) is lit for the first time at the Easter service of first light to represent the Risen Christ. This candle is lit at every service on Sundays during the Easter season. After this it is lit for every baptism that takes place in church during the year. A candle is given to those who are baptised to symbolise their turning from the darkness of sin to the Light of Jesus. The Easter Candle is also lit at funerals as a sign of the hope of the resurrection into which Christians are baptised.

Bible prophets, Simeon and Anna, sought the greater and uncreated Light of God. They spent many years waiting for this Light which they recognised in a baby that was brought to the Temple, Jesus was the very Light they were waiting for.

So, in these dark days, as we look forward to lighter days to come maybe you could join me and light a candle and be reminded of the Light that has come into the world in Jesus.

Mandy Lewry, Reader

READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 2021

From the Common Worship Lectionary Year B

At Holy Communion: Epistle and Gospel;

At Matins and Evensong: Old Testament and Gospe

Sunday 7th February - 2nd Sunday before Lent

GREEN

Old Testament	Proverbs 8.1,22-31
Epistle	Colossians 1.15-20
Gospel	John 1.1-14

Sunday 14th February - Sunday next before Lent

GREEN

Old Testament	2 Kings 2.1-12
Epistle	2 Corinthians 4.3-6
Gospel	Mark 9.2-9

Sunday 21st February - 1st Sunday of Lent

PURPLE

Old Testament	Genesis 9.8-17
Epistle	1 Peter 3.18-22
Gospel	Mark 1.9-15

Sunday 28th February - 2nd Sunday of Lent

PURPLE

Old Testament	Genesis 17.1-7,15,16
Epistle	Romans 4.13-25
Gospel	Mark 8.31-38



**Quaker Meeting for Worship
Spiceland Quaker Meeting Uffculme EX15 3AZ**

Sadly – due to the current situation with Covid 19 the Meeting House is closed - We would however be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to join a Zoom Meeting for Worship.

For more information phone Ali Dominy 07810768557 or use the “contact us” form on our website:
<http://www.spicelanduffculmequakers.com/>
or email **spicelandnotices@btinternet.com**

SAMPFORD PEVERELL

the **200**
.. CLUB

January 2021 Winners

**First prize No 117 - Nick Paddon
Second prize No 129 - Beverly Perks
Third prize No 56 - Carole Elkins**

The next draw will be in February.

Sampford Community



As you may know, Sampford Peverell Primary School is only open to some of our children due to the ongoing situation; however, learning and education is going on every day in homes across the village and beyond! Our children and families have made us immeasurably proud with the effort and dedication they are showing to the challenge of learning at home; we see amazing things from each and every child!

While we can't wait to be fully open again, we have all quickly adapted to this new way of learning which we had planned for, but hoped would never happen. The building blocks we had put in place really helped us to be prepared when Lockdown 3.0 was announced and a donation from our PTFA (£3000) and Parish Magazine (£1200) has allowed us to purchase 14 new chrome books so that every child who needs a laptop to access home learning has access to one. This really is a community all pulling together to ensure that every child can continue with their learning and I, as do my staff, feel immensely proud to be part of that.

All the staff have worked so hard to ensure that learning continues; they have been busily recording lessons, preparing resources, setting work challenges, participating in daily live story-time and catch up chats for each class.

The colour picture on page **33** shows our blended Reception class having story-time with one of our teaching assistants, Miss H - some listening at home, some listening in class, but all having fun and taking part!

Sarah Price, Headteacher

Housing at Higher Town

We thought it was all over ... but it isn't yet!

In last month's Parish News we told you that the Inquiry into housing at Higher Town was over. The final stages were to be

- the site visit by the Inspector Mrs Helen Heward (15 December)
- comments from Turnpike residents who live close to the proposed new road crossing near canal bridge (24 December).

Another twist

On 23 December, the Inspector sent out an email that said the Inquiry was to remain open until 18 January 2021. The email went to each of the three main parties involved in the appeal. These are

- The appellant, Place Land. This is the company seeking outline planning permission for 60 houses at the Higher Town site.
- Mid Devon District Council. This is the local planning authority. Its officers recommended that the elected Planning Committee should give permission for the housing to go ahead. In July 2019, however, that committee refused planning permission. This led to an appeal by Place Land and then to this Inquiry.
- The 'Rule 6 Party'. This is local resident Jamie Byrom. He is representing 250 local people who make up an informal group known as 'Save Our Sampford'. This opposes the development.

The Inspector's email said that she was concerned about the plans for an access for pedestrians and cyclists at the north east of the site. The plans showed that there should be 45 metres of visibility in each direction from the point where this proposed new access joins Higher Town. At the site visit, she found that she could not see the correct distance to the east.

The Inspector asked all three parties to produce a document known as a 'Statement of Common Ground' to explain why she had not been able to see the required distance and to consider possible solutions. She wanted to receive the Statement of Common Ground on 15 January.

No common ground?

In early January, the parties started to explore the Statement of Common Ground. The disagreements ran deep, however, and the appellant suggested that the attempt should be abandoned. The Rule 6 Party suggested that it should at least be possible to agree what happened on the day of the site visit and also asked the others to meet again at the site to agree on all relevant measurements. The appellant declined to pursue either of these suggestions. MDDC did not respond directly.

So, by 15 January, each party had sent its own statement to the Inspector.

- The appellant insists that all its drawings are accurate and that the problem on the day of the site visit was that it was not possible to mark out the exact spot from which pedestrians and cyclists should be able to see 45m. The roads were muddy and wet following overnight rain. The movement of cars had removed some markings that had been made temporarily on the roads.
- MDDC stated that it had never raised concerns over the north east access and that it preferred not to be drawn into the disputes between the appellant and the Rule 6 Party. It said nothing about measurements or about why the Inspector could not see the relevant distance.
- The Rule 6 Party argues that the position from which the Inspector was asked to view the visibility splay was measured and checked several times on the day. This included the time when the Inspector was at the access point with the three highway experts. It has also tried to meet the Inspector's request for an explanation by providing evidence that the barn / garage that juts into the lane nearby has been incorrectly drawn in the appellant's plans.

Another deadline extension

On Monday 18 January, the Inspector chose not to close the Inquiry. She sent a further email requiring the Rule 6 party to comment on the appellant's statement. This must reach her by 22 January. The appellant will comment on the Rule 6 response by 28 January. The Inquiry is now due to close on 29 January. We may know the decision in early March.

Kingfisher

HERITAGE QUIZ

Heritage Quiz January 2021 - Answers



Q1. What is this?

It is a plaque bearing the coat of arms of Margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond and Derby. It also has the inscription 'Learn to do well', which is not Margaret Beaufort's motto, but that of a school.

Q2. Where is it?

The plaque is now on the wall of the garage of the Old Rectory, next to the pavement. There was a school at the Old Rectory from 1850 until 1874, so the plaque most likely dates from this time.

Q3. Why is it in this location?

This was not its original position: it had been on the arched stone gate at the entrance to the Old Rectory. The gateway was taken down in 1960 by the then-owners, Mr & Mrs Lodge, in order to widen the access. Its removal caused a lot of ill feeling amongst the locals and the matter was debated by Tiverton Rural Council. They established that: the Planning Authorities had given verbal consent in principle to the gateway's demolition; the Planning Authorities denied that they had given 'actual approval'; and the Lodges were defiant in maintaining that they had done nothing wrong. There were several heated exchanges in the local press, some of which mention that this plaque had been 'left in the mud'. When things had quietened down, the plaque was duly rescued and incorporated into the garage wall.



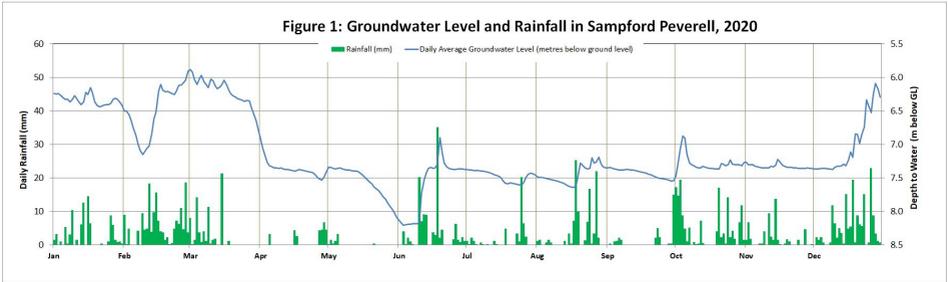
The archway at the entrance to the Old Rectory as it looked in about 1904.

There is no sign of the plaque, which may have been mounted on the inside face.

Below is a similar view, today, 115 years later.



Sampford Peverell Groundwater Levels 2020

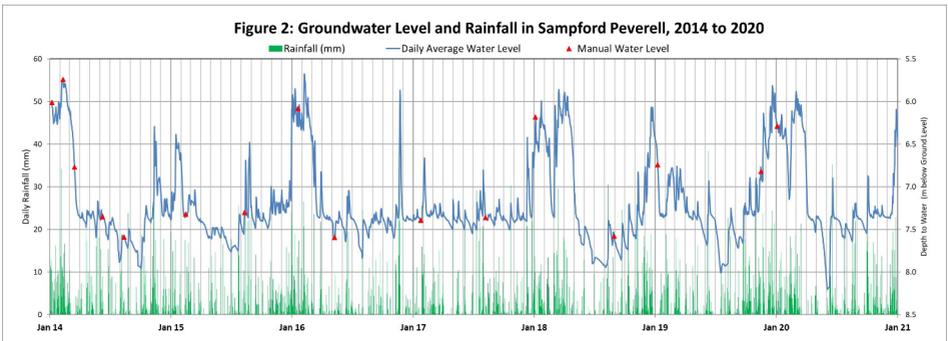


Groundwater level variations have been automatically recorded in a well opposite the church on Higher Town every 15 minutes for the last 7 years (January 2014 to December 2020). This equates to nearly one-quarter of a million records collected!

The high frequency of measurements provides a detailed picture of groundwater level changes, demonstrating rapid rises in levels following sustained rainfall events and falling levels during dry periods.

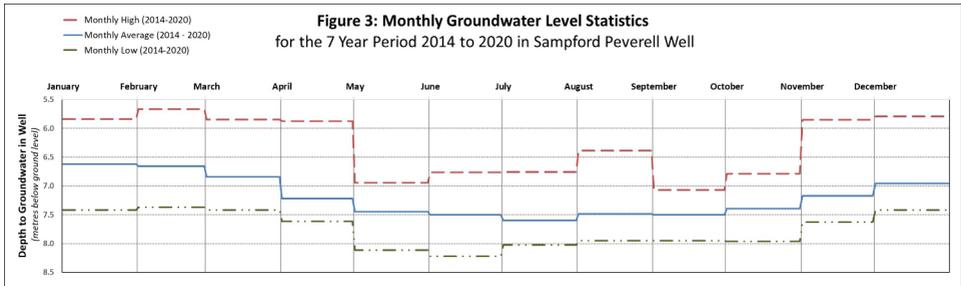
Figure 1 shows fluctuations in the level of groundwater during 2020 compared to daily rainfall from Richard’s rain gauge. Levels are measured in metres below ground level (m bgl). The highest water level of the year was recorded on 29 February and also on 1 March at 5.86 m bgl. The lowest level was on 7 June at 8.22 m bgl. The overall groundwater level range for the year was therefore 2.36 metres.

Figure 2 is the entire groundwater level and rainfall record for the last 7 years. Groundwater levels reflect changes in our climate, and no two years are ever the same.



The final graphic, Figure 3, illustrates the highest, lowest and average groundwater level for each month over the last 7 years. The highest water level was recorded on 8 February 2016 (5.67 m bgl) and the lowest on 7 June 2020 (8.22 m bgl) - an overall groundwater level variation of 2.56 metres.

Peter Dumble



Sampford Peverell Rainfall 2020

British weather is noted for its variability and 2020 was no exception. At least five named storms crossed the country and weather records were broken. We were fortunate, here, to be spared the worst impacts of these events.

January was uneventful but we had storms Ciara and Dennis in February, and it rained almost every day. However, the total amount was not as great as in 2014 or 1990 (or 1923 which was probably the wettest February here in the last 100 years). Across the country as a whole, 2020 was the wettest February on record because the rainfall was so widespread.

March saw average rainfall but April and May together were exceptionally dry. The combined April and May total was probably the lowest here in 2020 for over 100 years. The dry spell did not last and the June total was well above average. We saw the wettest day of the year on the 18th, with over 35mm. This pattern, of a dry month followed by a wet month, was then repeated for the rest of the year.

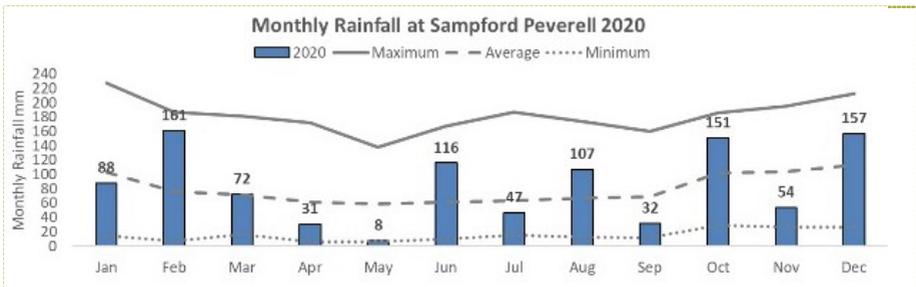
July was a little below average and August was well above, due to a succession of storms including Ellen that brought the second wettest day of the year, and storm Francis a week later.

September was a dry month followed by storm Alex in October. This brought more than 50mm of rain over three days at the start of the month. (Cont. Over)

November had below-average rainfall and December above; Boxing Day was the third wettest day of the year.

For the UK as a whole, 2020 was one of the top ten wettest years on record. We have had ten wetter years in the last 25, so it was not so exceptional for us.

The monthly totals are shown in the chart below, based on the record of 40 years:



Richard Horrocks, Sampford Peverell

Thank you

Thanks from Dave Thompson

I would like to say thank you to all our neighbours and friends in the village for the cards and well wishes on the death of Sue on 28th November 2020.

Her ashes will placed in Sampford Peverell garden at a later date.



FAKE VACCINATION TEXTS

A message from Linzi Berryman,

Police, DC Alert Officer, Devon and Cornwall



Please be wary of fake COVID-19 vaccine text alerts, the fake text alerts appear to be from the NHS stating that the recipient is eligible to apply for a vaccine and followed by a link - please do not click on the link - the link is a convincing fake NHS website which asks for personal and financial information. The NHS will never ask for your banking information.

Please be wary of other scams related to COVID-19 which may include:

- Fake links claiming to take you to a Government website for a COVID-19 related payment
- Offers of health supplements that will prevent you from becoming infected
- Financial support offers that appear to be from your bank
- Fines suggesting you have breached lockdown

If you have clicked and supplied your details please phone your bank/building society immediately on a telephone number from a reliable source (if any financial information has been passed) and report to Action Fraud via the website <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/> or by phoning 0300 123 2040.

If you have any concerns please email 101@dc.police.uk or phone 101. Please pass this information on and consider displaying in public areas such as notice boards etc.

Thank you.



VACCINATIONS GET UNDER WAY AT COLLEGE SURGERY

College Surgery, with its four satellite surgeries including ours in Sampford Peverell, has teamed up with two other surgeries in Cullompton and Silvertown to establish a vaccination hub, using the spacious premises at Cullompton. Initially hoping to start at the beginning of January, this was delayed due to supply problems and the work finally got under way on January 15th.

The system being used requires a large team of both medical staff and non-medical volunteers to control the flow of patients safely and keep careful records. Several of the Caring Friends team in our Parish volunteered to help with stewarding and are now playing their part in a rota system of half-day shifts which already stretches out beyond the end of February.

The patient experience begins with a phone call from the practice, offering the vaccination with dates and times just under a week ahead. Questions are asked to establish the patient details accurately and ensure that no COVID symptoms have been experienced, before fixing the appointment. At the same time, a forward appointment is made in three month's time for the second jab that is needed to complete protection.

You are asked to turn up a few minutes before the set time, as there is a short form to complete on arrival, while waiting to be moved forward to the clinic rooms being used for injections.

Three parallel streams are used, supporting each of the three practices, all the time maintaining social distance with the minimum delay. Printed information is supplied about the vaccination process and details of the actual doses being used, together with a card recording the date and batch no. you receive. This you are asked to keep with you at all times. All the details are recorded against your patient record on computer while you are there.

Once successfully jabbed, patients are led to a second waiting area and required to sit for 10 minutes under observation, in case any adverse reaction is seen. And that's it, all done and away out of the back door, in less than half an hour.

The spacious premises at College prove very useful for this purpose as, while the vaccination programme is rolling on, other patients are being seen elsewhere in the building to maintain a full service level, despite all this extra work. My wife and I went through the whole process (booked in immediately behind each other) in the second week of operations and there were no queues and no-one having to wait outside. Neither of us experienced any side effects at all. It was impressive to see the care with which all contact surfaces, seats, clip boards etc. were sterilised after each patient and care taken to keep people well separated.

For those needing help with transport to get to the surgery for their vaccination, the Caring Friends hope to be able to provide a driver, but we are very limited as the few drivers we have available are the same people who are helping at the surgery!

If you feel you would like to volunteer to help at College Surgery, we will be happy to put you in touch with the organising staff. To complete the vaccination programme is going to take several months and more help will certainly be needed.

Neil MacDonald, - see Caring Friends advert on page 67.

POEM

(Summing up 2020)

What a year we've had
Mostly bad
Virulent bug
Unable to hug
No spontaneity
Missing the gaiety
Nothing has thrived
Confidence dived
Thankful for vid calls, Duo and Zoom
Shortage of bump for the smallest room
Doctors will only do telephone chats
Masses of people behaving like pratts
Some people clap for the NHS
Meanwhile the others couldn't care less
Home school teaching
Savings leaching
Months on furlough
Reach for Merlot
Amazon thriving
Townships diving
Insufficient PPE
Faces covered – nowt to see
Having bubbles
Eases troubles
Theatres showing no more plays
Restaurants just take-aways
While others struggle China basks
In profits made from selling masks
On that note, must go. I fear
And wish for all a BETTER NEW YEAR

Maggie Muggleton

New Year – New Hope - a point of view by Allan Sheath

So our troubled membership of the EU is over, ending a 30 year running sore in British politics which has cost four Conservative Prime Ministers their jobs. Calls for a People's Vote foundered on the realisation that the people might well vote to 'get it done'; some out of conviction, others as a weary necessity. For if a second referendum did go narrowly the other way, what then? Would it calm the furies unleashed by the first one?

Now, 47 years after joining, we have a deal that allows free trade with the EU. Geography always wins, and not for the first time a British Prime Minister has recognised that what goes on across the Channel cannot be ignored. At least the Germans will miss us, fearing the French will run things.

Perhaps the most toxic legacy of the last four years has been the attacks on our constitution. Following the Government's shameless attempt to prorogue Parliament, *The Daily Mail* called the Supreme Court judges 'enemies of the people'. Yet a sovereign Parliament and an independent judiciary are everyman's defence against exploitation by the rich or by the mob; a counterweight to powerful interests, aggressive majorities and an overbearing or arbitrary state.

The Prime Minister sees a nimble UK freed from a sclerotic EU prospering mightily with world beating green technology; while the Government's own forecasts are for us to become poorer. But as the Remain campaign found out to its cost, Brexit is about more than GDP. Will Scotland leave the UK? Will the border down the Irish Sea lead to a united Ireland? The one safe bet is that red tape is here to stay as no one is more prone to it than we are; maybe India, but who taught them?

At least now that we have taken back control we can take responsibility for our straight bananas and, like divorced parents getting on for the children's sake, have a more grown-up relationship with our neighbours.

Brexit will also be good for us if it helps us to be more realistic about ourselves. Of course we should not play down the heroic aspects of our past, but of all the ugliness attached to the Leave campaign the myth of reclaiming past glories is the most pernicious. A more balanced sense of our history should free us to tell a better story. One that turns 'them and us' into 'we' and lets us follow a more modest way in the world in becoming the best it is in us to be.

Because our best is around in this pandemic; ‘them and us’ are becoming ‘we’. Shopping for shielding neighbours, donating to food banks, working sacrificially on Covid wards and in other key jobs, and developing the Oxford vaccine at record speed and offering it to low-income countries on a non-profit basis. These are things we can justifiably take pride in – and our best hope too.

The Rev’d Allan Sheath.

‘it is what it is’.....these words are the title of one of the most read and loved poems in modern German literature: ‘Was es ist’ [What it is], by Erich Fried. 1921-1988



It is nonsense says reason

It is what it is says love

It is calamity says calculation

It is nothing but pain says fear

It is hopeless says insight

It is what it is says love

It is ludicrous says pride

It is foolish says caution

It is impossible says experience

It is what it is says love.

Erich was born in Vienna to Jewish parents. After Hitler’s annexation of Austria, he fled to London. The Nazis had murdered his father but he managed to organise the escape of his mother and a good many other Jews. He lived in London for the rest of his life. Erich was a natural wordsmith in his mother tongue. He earned his living by translating Shakespeare, TS Eliot and others.

By the late 1960s Erich had become the most popular German folk poet. His razor sharp political mind led to many volumes of poetry. It was his love poems, however, that became bestsellers. ‘Was es ist’ has outsold any collection of poetry in present day Germany.

In January 2021, Paul Oestricher, in The Friend ‘ Quaker Magazine, said of Erich Fried, , ‘The word that best describes him is compassion. He hated no-one’.

Sport and Leisure

Walking Group Report for January 2021

Nine humans and one dog set off from Shillingford, split into two groups of 5 and 4 to walk along the back roads to Morebath. It was a long uphill although not too steep for quite a while but with the uphill come the views! Across the valley you could see Morebath Manor, this being the best view that we had of it on the whole walk.



Photo - Country Life

Finally reaching the end of this road we turned right and walked into Morebath, passing the remnants of the dismantled railway. We took a small diversion to the church where a short break was taken for hot drinks (it was a chilly day!) and then carried on up the main road for a short while before turning right to Claypit. This back road took us past Morebath Manor, hidden from here by hedges and tall trees. Next, we turned left by the MCC Cricket Ground; as it turned out, the M stood for was Morebath and not Marylebone, but I'm sure they enjoy their cricket just as much.

Then on we went towards Combe Cross where we turned right and, shortly after, left towards Quartley Farm. A right turn just past the farm took us slowly back into Shillingford and a walk through back to the cars.

A 5 ½ mile walk, all on roads.

Uplowman Community



St Peter's, Uplowman



Services are suspended until after the government review on 15th February. They might resume after this if it is safe to do so.

See p 8 for services or go to the website www.sptmc.uk for the latest information.

MEMORIES OF PETER TREMLETT

In The January edition it was stated that Peter died in 2019.

That was incorrect.

His dates were 1939 - 1920.

Sincere apologies to Pat and his family.



UPLOWMAN PARISH COUNCIL

The January parish council meeting met on 21st January via the socially distanced Zoom app. There was wide-ranging discussion of future village-enhancement proposals.

Great progress is being made with organising faster broadband in the parish. Thanks to the amazing persistence of Mark Donald and Sheon Sturland, we now have a community fibre partnership (CFP) broadband proposal that could connect nearly all the premises in Uplowman directly to fast, reliable fibre broadband.

By the time of writing the scheme had almost enough positive responses to ensure that the grants available will mean that the installation will be cost-free to us and all you need to pay is the ongoing marginal cost of the very significant upgrade to your broadband provision for at least one year. Fibre broadband will make your home more valuable and this is the only opportunity to get it installed for free.

If you have not yet responded then please email **uplowmanparishplan@gmail.com** as soon as possible, giving your name, the name of the premises to be connected and also the name of any business that is operated from there. Alternatively, call Suzanne on 01884 829106. Please also tell us if you do not wish to be part of the scheme.

There was an encouraging response to the note about the air ambulance night landing site. This opportunity is time-limited and we need someone or a small group to drive it forward, as has been done with broadband. Anyone who believes strongly in the importance of this potentially life-saving project should please get in touch now!

The PC is drawing up a list of projects intended to improve all our lives and/or preserve Uplowman's heritage. We will put them on the website at **<https://www.middevonparish.co.uk/uplowman/>** and will welcome your suggestions for additional projects. The next step will be to work out how to fund them. To start with, options for replacing wooden sign posts with traditional metal ones are being investigated and the bus shelter will soon be re-roofed and repainted.

The next parish council meeting will be by Zoom on **18th March**, starting at 7.30pm.

From the Clerk, Uplowman Parish Council,
Lower Beer, Uplowman,
Tiverton EX16 7PF Tel 01884-821239
Web: [middevonparish.co.uk/uplowman](https://www.middevonparish.co.uk/uplowman)

theWI
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UPLOWMAN

WI

This is the downside, owing to the pandemic we have not been able to meet since March.

But on the upside we have all mastered technology.....well almost. In January we have managed a committee meeting, two coffee mornings and an actual meeting with a **SPEAKER!!!!**

Yes it was all on Zoom. We listened to a very entertaining slightly risque James Haddo a taxi driver come poet.

When we all caught up we just realized how much we miss our meetings and chats.

If you feel you would like to join us please ring or text me and we would give you a very warm welcome, absolutely no pressure to join permanently but a really good way to get the feel of very happy group of ladies.

We are hoping to do some virtual craft meetings.
Stay safe and well everybody

Pam Holley, President, Uplowman WI 07443452799
jeffreyholley1888@btinternet.com

One Womens' Institute decided to run its first ever onion chopping competition.

The judge said ' Mark my words, it will all end in tears!'

GARDENING TIPS FOR FEBRUARY - get out the secateurs!

1. Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover



2. Chit potato tubers

3. Protect blossom on apricots, nectarines and peaches

4. Net fruit and vegetable crops to keep the birds off

5. Prune winter-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering

6. Divide bulbs such as snowdrops, and plant those that need planting 'in the green'

7. Prune Wisteria

8. Prune hardy evergreen hedges and renovate overgrown deciduous hedges

9. Prune conservatory climbers such as bougainvillea

10. Cut back deciduous grasses left uncut over the winter, remove dead grass from evergreen grasses

AND IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO -

11. Winter-prune apple and pear trees to remove any dead, damaged, congested and diseased branches

12. Prune gooseberries and redcurrants, cutting sideshoots back to three buds from their base

13. Cover rhubarb plants with a bucket or terracotta pot to force an early crop of tender long stems

14. Prune blackcurrants, if you haven't done so already, removing about a quarter of the old stems



A Thriving Business Community in Devon Libraries:

Business & IP Centre Devon (BIPC)

Libraries Unlimited, in partnership with the British Library and other libraries across the UK are leading a revolution by inspiring a thriving community of potential, new and existing business owners. We currently have centres in Exeter and Barnstaple libraries with a centre in Paignton library opening soon.

Whether you're just starting out, need advice on protecting your assets, or are ready to take the next step on your journey, we're here to help.

This is a difficult time for business owners, so the Business & IP Centre network has developed a dedicated programme of free talks and webinars, Reset. Restart, to support small to medium business across the country. Details of both local and national Reset. Restart events are on our website.

You can access our varied range of databases which include Kompass, British Standards Online, Local Data Online and IBISWorld, some are available remotely.

Protecting your idea is paramount when developing an invention or design. We can give you basic Intellectual Property (IP) information and signpost you to further help. Ensuring you have the right protection for your idea is easier than you think!

We also have a bank of experts in various fields and we can arrange a free one-to-one for you.

For details of how to access our databases or any other enquiries, email bipc@librariesunlimited.org.uk

To browse our event listings and resources, take a look at our website: <https://bipc.librariesunlimited.org.uk/>

NEW YEAR HONOUR FOR COLDHARBOUR MILL VOLUNTEER!

In the 2021 New Year Honours list, John Jasper, volunteer at Coldharbour Mill received the British Empire Medal for services to Cultural Heritage in Devon and Somerset.

John has been a volunteer at Coldharbour Mill for 30 years. Without him it is doubtful that anyone would have had the knowledge or commitment to successfully lead the volunteer 'Steam Team' to return the dilapidated steam plant to operation. John has been the driving force to return the Mill's rare and original steam plant and associated engines to full working order, to lead a team of dedicated volunteers to operate the historic Steam Complex for the public at regular Steam Up! events throughout the year, manage the labour-intensive annual insurance inspection process, and continue improvements to the Museum's many machines by managing regular work days of volunteers.

Undoubtedly, his greatest achievement was to oversee the rescue, restoration and installation by the steam volunteers of the 1867 Kittoe and Brotherhood Beam Engine in the Beam Engine House, replacing the original 1865 model that had sadly been scrapped in an earlier era. To not only re-assemble it from scratch but then to successfully steam it for the public to enjoy is an amazing achievement and a terrific legacy. John has recounted the full five-year story in 'The Beam Engine Story' on the Mill website: <https://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/the-beam-engine-story/>

Unfortunately, owing to the current situation we will not be able to hold our Steam Days for a while, but John and his team will continue to keep the machinery in working order until things return to normal.

Although the Mill is closed to the public at present, we are all working hard on many ongoing projects and preparing for reopening when it is allowed.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who have been helping to get the Mill back in order, as well as those who have been supporting us from a distance.

If you would like to get involved in volunteering at the Mill in any way, please feel free to get in touch with me at the Mill.

Peter Holdway-Bradley, General Manager

***To contact the Mill phone 01884 840960 or email:
info@coldharbourmill.org.uk***



The birds, the birds!

I think we need an air-traffic controller for our back garden. At peak feeding time on our bird feeder+, we are in serious danger of an aerial collision as so many turn up at once, elbowing (or should that be winging?) each other out of the way.

Fortunately, they seem to have quite different feeding habits, and some of the smaller ones turn out to be the biggest bullies. Most prolific are the Great Tits, who come swooping in onto the feeder, delicately select one seed and immediately fly off to a nearby tree. Sparrows will usually take two or three items, eating each in situ before beating a retreat. Dunnocks, however, and Chaffinches will only pick up off the ground and don't like landing on the feeder. They are helped in this by the Tree Creeper who arrives at high speed, lands anywhere he can get at the feeder, upside down if need be, bullies everyone else out of the way and proceeds to pull out and discard everything while looking for his favourite seed.

The Collar Dove whose behaviour belies its delicate appearance, will see off any of the other pigeons or a Magpie which is nearly twice its size. Goldfinches will land in the nearby tree and spend some time watching the crowd below before deciding to take their chance. Blue Tits come and go so quickly, you hardly see them but I think my favourite has to be the Long Tailed Tits, who turn up in an extended family, zipping about in the trees first and then descending in a small cloud of noisy feathers, all over the different feeders, wanting to try a bit of everything before bustling off again as if intent on exploring the whole village.

Our Robin (very territorial, one per garden) tends to stay aloof, not so keen on seeds but occasionally tempted by bread crumbs or a few meal worms.

While all this aerial traffic is whizzing around, you can see the watchfulness of some. They know from long experience that the enemy is never far away. And sure enough, once in a while, everyone around the feeder scatters and bolts for cover as a blurred flash of colour tries to make a kill. I have not seen him make contact, but once he has, the Sparrow Hawk will nonchalantly stand and demolish his prey, while the rest of the garden hides, silent and still.



A robin and goldfinch enjoying the bird feeders, but keeping an eye open for the sparrow hawk in Neil MacDonald's garden.



Some pictures to remind us of the beautiful part of the world that we live in.



Frances Salisbury's pictures of a stunning sunrise and swans on the ice near Westleigh.



Above and below - the editor's photos taken along the canal on a sunny Saturday walk from Sampford out to Ayshford.





**Above - Frances Salisbury - 'Frosty Canal' and snowdrops.
Below - the 'blended' Reception class at Sampford School enjoying a story. See article on page 11.**





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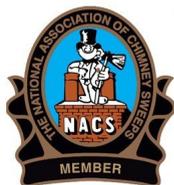
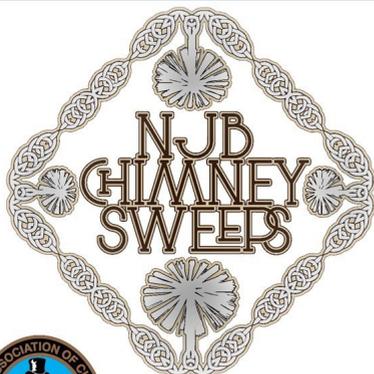
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Need to Make Contact?

Sampford Peverell Parish Council

www.sampfordpeverell.org.uk

Chairman	David Cutts	01884 821582
Clerk to the Council	Mike Aspray	01884 242606
Councillor	Tim Burt	01884 821311
Councillor Website Manager	Heather Culpin	01884 829164
Councillor	Angus Mackenzie	01884 872384
Councillor	Steve Taylor	01884 829474
Councillor	Lynda Taylor	01884 821513
Councillor	Bernie O'Connell	07773 560123
Councillor	Bev Perks	07801 415186

Uplowman Parish Council

<https://parish.middevon.gov.uk/uplowman>

Email: uplowmanPC@btconnect.com

Chair	Trevor Milner	01884 821155
Clerk to the Council	Robert Hodgson	01884 821239
Councillor	Ross Adcock	01884 820735
Councillor	Kevin Baugh	01884 829183
Councillor	Nicky Branton	01884 820392
Councillor	Alasdair McCombe	01884 829312
Councillor Website Manager	Rob Norman	01884 821207

Mid-Devon District Council

www.middevon.gov.uk

Councillor Canonsleigh Ward	Jo Norton	07980 372660
Councillor Canonsleigh Ward	Christine Colis	01884 820449
Council General Enquiries		01884 255255
Council Refuse and Recycling		01884 234382
Council Recycling Centre	EX16 5PD	

Devon County Council DDC

www.devon.gov.uk

Councillor Willand & Uffculme	ray.radford@devon.gov.uk	01884 820000
Council General Enquiries		01392 382000
Canal Rangers		01884 254072
Highways* grass cutting	csc.roads@devon.gov.uk	0345 155 1004
Street Lights		0800 197 6763
Trading Standards		0345 404 0506
Potholes* (Report size, location)	https://new.devon.gov.uk	

Parliament

MP neil.parish.mp@parliament.uk 020 7219 7172

Local Shops, Food and Drink

Pizza Van SP	Mondays 4.-8.pm - Car Park	07498 869563
Ceylon Curry House SP	Thursday 4.30 - 8pm - Car Park	07756 191754
Jo's Hair Boutique SP	Unisex Hairdressers	01884 820228
Little Turberfield Farm Shop	Butchers, produce, coffee	01884 820908
Post Office at Uplowman	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday	01884 820467
Spar Shop SP	Local Store and Post Office	01884 829535
The Globe Inn SP	Pub, food, accommodation	02884 821214
The Redwoods Inn Uplowman	Pub, food	01884 820148
WGA Golf Course	Golf & Cafe www.wgagolf.co.uk	01884 820825

Local Transport

SP to Tiverton Bus	Service No1, Tiverton - Exeter	01392 427711
UL to Tiverton Bus	Fridays only Outward 10.10am Return 13.15pm	
Ring & Ride Service	Tues and Wed to/from Tiverton	01884 242099
SP Caring Friends	Marilyn Sheath	07954 081705
Rail	Tiverton Parkway	08457 484950
Taxis (local)	Parkway Taxis	01884 38899

Churches, Doctor, Library, Schools and Leisure Centres

C of E Church	Sampford Peverell & Uplowman	07906 381451
Methodist Church	Sampford Peverell	01884 821445
Messy Church (Service)	Robin Budgell	07902 774626
Doctors	Sampford Peverell Surgery	01884 820304
Library Services	www.devon.gov.uk/libraries	
Library	Tiverton	01884 244644
SP primary School	Head Sarah Price	01884 820284
Uffculme Academy School	Secretary	01884 840458
Uplowman Primary School	Head Steven Badcott	01884 820552
Toddler Group	Jacqui Budgell	01884 820106
Exe Valley Leisure Centre	Tiverton	01884 254221
Culm Valley Sports Centre	Cullumpton	01884 234320

Mobile Library Service

Every 4th Wednesday - 2.00 -3.10pm
Sampford Peverell Car Park

Sampford Peverell Clubs, Groups and Leisure

Allotments	John and Linda Hill	01884 820817
Art Group	Gerald Dinnage	01884 820575
Bell Ringers	Henrietta Hirst - Tower Captain	01884 821232
Busy Bees	Hayley Keary	07961 715231
Choir - St John's Church	Sylvia Archibald	01884 821437
Community Composting	Bernie O'Connell	07773 560123
Country Music Club	Mr. A Perkins	01884 820869
Cricket Club	Fred Harding	01884 820603
Culm Valley Model Railway	Peter Fosberry - Secretary	01884 821811
Cycling Group	Gill or Pete Bowers	01884 820256
Drama Group	Graham Mason	01884 820817
Football AFC	Mr. T Burston	01884 821855
Football Juniors 6+	Stuart Brooks	07712 116065
Garden Club	Gina Shepherd - Chair	01884 820307
	Liz Husbands - Secretary	01884 799878
Multi Use Games Area MUGA	Stuart Brooks	07712 116065
Sampford Singers	Wendy Winter	01884 821318
	Fiona Hutton	01884 820234
Ballroom Dancers	Sue Childs	01884 821067
Charity Knitters	Barbara Pinner	01884 821090
	Rachael Hart	01884 820053
Community Land Trust	Heather Culpin - Secretary	spclt@mail.com
Historic Vehicle Show	Lindy Astbury - Secretary	01884 820527
Playpark Support Group	info@sampfordpeverellplaypark.co.uk	
History Society	Peter Bowers - Chair	01884 820256
Skittles League	TBA	
Tennis Club	Rachel Jasinska	07741 417801
Traidscraft Sales	Mandy Rowley	01884 799011
Tree Wardens	Pete Bowers	01884 820256
Walking Group	Gill or Pete Bowers	01884 820256

Hiring Rooms

Methodist Room Bookings	Margaret Dinnage	01884 820575
Village Hall Bookings SP	Bill Bloxham	01884 820022
Village Hall Bookings Uplowman	Lynne Veen	01884 820467

Uplowman Clubs, Groups and Leisure

Badminton - St Pauls	Janet Rendle - Mondays	01884 254914
	Fred Rogers - Wednesdays	01884 243312
Badminton Adult Social	Robert Hodgson	01884 821239
Beekeepers Tiverton	Malcolm Jenkins	01884 258086
Bell Ringers	Ross Adock	01884 820735
Camcorder Club	tivcamclub@gmail.com	01884 254072
Football Team	Martyn Tapp - Secretary	07815 181980
	Andy Orchard - Men	07887 594235
	Paul A'Lee - Youth	07977 041674
History Club (The Ferrets)	Pam Holley	01884 820868
Netball Team Ladies	Mandy Norman	01884 821638
Skittles Mens	Alan Branton	01884 820388
	Mark Cornish	07855 316081
Skittles Ladies	Lynne Veen	01884 820467
	Carol Cornish	01884 820418
Skittles Mixed	Russel Westcott	07740 031395
	Paul (Young Farmers)	01884 820148
Table Tennis	James Boughton jboughton@hotmail.com	
Uplowman Show	Pam Holley	01884 820868
Uplowman WI	Pam Holley	01884 820868
Village Hall	Mandy Norman - Chair	01884 821638
Young at Heart Club - over 60's	Lloyd Yorke - Chair	07704 040399

Other Local Organisations

Friends of Coldharbour Mill	Jenny Border - Chair	01884 243071
Grand Western Canal	Robert Hodgson - Friends Group	01884 821239
Mothers Union	Lesley Passey	01884 821694
Royal British Legion	Keith Astbury - Chairman	01884 820527
RB Legion Women's Section		
TACT Sustainability Enquiries	www.transitionnetwork.com	
Twinning Association	Jenny Worsfold	01884 821805
Uplowman Women's Institute	Pam Holley - President	01884 820868

Local Websites

Sampford Peverell	www.sampfordpeverell.org.uk
Uplowman	www.uplowman.org.uk
Grand Western Canal	www.friendsgrandwesterncanal.org.uk

Emergency Service

Fire, Police, Ambulance	Emergency only	999
Police Non Emergency	email: 101dc.police.uk	101
Police Telephone	Deaf, hearing/ speech impaired -text	18001 101
Community Police Officer	PCSO 30658 Danielle McNeill	
Cullompton EX15 1AH	email: 30658@dc.police.uk	08452 777444
Police	Crime Stoppers	0800 555111
Police Action Fraud	Action Fraud	0300 123 2040
Electricity Emergency	Western Power	0800 365900
Gas Emergency	British Gas	0800 111999
Water Leak Line	South West Water	0800 2300561

Help

Age UK	Tiverton	01884 255362
Almshouse Trust	Tiverton	01884 251444
Blood Doner	www.blood.co.uk	0300123 2323
Carer Helpline	Talk in confidence 6pm - 8am	01825 257185
Childline	National call line	0800 1111
Citizens Advice Bureau CAB	Tiverton Town Hall	01884 219379
CLIC Sargent	Effie Mason	01884 820987
CHAT Housing/Foodbank	www.chatmid.org	01884 255606
Farming Community Network	www.fcn.org.uk	0845 3679990
Job Centre Plus	Tiverton	01884 703000
SP Lands Charity	David Cutts	01884 821582
Lifeline Personal Alarms	lifeline@middevon.gov.uk	01884 234383
NSPCC	Child Protection Line	0800 800 500
RSPCA	National Call Line	08705 555 999
Samaritans	Free to call 24 hour number	116 123
	Exeter and Mid Devon	01392 411711
SP Caring Friends	Marilyn Sheath	07954 081705
Victim Support	Coordinator Exmouth	01395 222493

Home Library Service

We can deliver books and audio books to people who cannot visit a library.

Contact: Tiverton Library 01884 244644

Or Royal Voluntary Service Manager

Jackie Cleaver 07786 635163



Amendments to: parishmag@samfordpeverell.org.uk 01884 829394



For those needing help in getting to medical appointments...

...we are beginning to see the restart of hospital consultations after the long period of concentration on COVID-19 treatment. How rapidly this will be able to reduce the backlog of both essential and elective treatments remains unclear.

If you need transport to get to either surgery or hospital appointments we are able to help, but on a limited basis. Our driver numbers are depleted by the need to protect those of a vulnerable age or who are themselves shielding relatives. Currently we have only four drivers theoretically available out of a normal list of twenty.

To protect both passenger and driver, we will need to follow careful safety procedures including the use of face masks, sanitising vehicles etc. We will provide anything the passenger needs in that respect but we will need as much notice as possible in which to make arrangements.

Similarly, we are unable to provide physical assistance to passengers, getting into or out of the rear seat of a vehicle or making their way into the building. We will do everything we can to seek alternative help.

Contact us on 07954 081705

Please allow at least 48 hours notice if you need transport

Sampford Peverell Caring Friends -

Hon Secretary: Rosalie Chamberlin 01823 672135

Hon Chairman: Neil Macdonald 01884 821096

***We need to recruit more drivers particularly in the age range 50 - 70 to reduce the average age of our drivers. Can you help?
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Wednesday

8.30am - 1pm The surgery is **closed Wednesday afternoon.**

If you need to contact the surgery urgently between 1pm and 2pm then please phone College Surgery, Cullompton on 01884 831300.

Late appointments

Can be booked on Mondays-Thursdays at College Surgery, Cullompton from 6.30 -7.00pm. To make an appointment you can contact either Sampford Peverell or College Surgery.

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If you need to see the Nurse or HCA please phone the surgery to check availability.

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For out of hours advice call 111 or 999 in an emergency.



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