

THE LINK

FEBRUARY 2019



THE BENEFICE OF COTLEIGH, FARWAY, OFFWELL &
WIDWORTHY AND THE VILLAGE OF NORTHLEIGH

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

SERVICE ROTA	OFFWELL	COTLEIGH	FARWAY	NORTHLEIGH	WIDWORTHY
Feb 3 rd	9:30am HC with Cotleigh	9:30am HC at Offwell	11:15am HC at Northleigh	11:15am HC with Farway	9:30am Family Service
Feb 10 th	9:30am HC at Cotleigh	9:30am HC with Offwell	11:15am HC	6:00pm Evensong	9:30am Family Service
Feb 17 th	5:00pm Evening Prayer	9:30am HC	11:15am HC	No Service	9:30am HC
Feb 24 th	9:30am All age worship	9:30am with Offwell	11:15am HC	11:15am HC	9:30am Family Service
Mar 3 rd 1 st before Lent	9:30am HC with Cotleigh	9:30am HC at Offwell	11:15am HC at Northleigh	11:15am HC with Farway	9:30am Family Service

BIBLE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

Feb 3 rd	Jeremiah 1: 4-10	Psalms 71: 1-6	1 Corinthians 13: 1-13	Luke 4: 21-30
Feb 10 th	Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)	Psalms 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
Feb 17 th	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Psalms 1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
Feb 24 th	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	Luke 6:27-38
Mar 3 rd	Exodus 34:29-35	Psalms 99	2 Corinthians 3:12- 4:2	Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

FARWAY METHODIST CHURCH

Services for February

Feb 3rd	11:00am	Dr. Alan McIlveen
Feb 10th	3:00pm	Mrs. Ann Skinner
Feb 17th	11:00am	Mr. Paul Skinner
Feb 24th	3:00pm	Prof. Stephen Lea
Mar 3rd	11:00am	T.B.A.



Due to February being a short month, please send your **contributions for the March** issue of the Link by **Wednesday 13th February**. Thank you, The Editor

Front cover - St Michael, Cotleigh

BENEFICE NEWS

It is a new year and we may be thinking about making plans and changes for the year ahead. We enjoy the blessings of change but not always the process of change. We are creatures of habit but without change there is no growth.

When we have the right attitude, every experience both positive and negative can be an opportunity for progress. The Lord makes us more and more like him.....we are changed into his glorious image (2 Corinthians 3:18) but to follow Jesus we need to follow wherever He leads.

If we can stop being afraid and resisting change in our lives, we can start seeing God at work. Even though on the outside it may look like things are falling apart ...on the inside God is making new life.

February is a time when the garden is still, but there are signs of growth with shoots appearingthe sign of change and a new season ahead.

God of love
refresh and revive us.

God of love
help us to grow in fellowship and in love and understanding so we can embrace changes in our lives in the year ahead.

God of love
we pray you will be with us all as we face changes in our Benefice.

God of love
be with us.

Tara Huffman, Church Warden at Farway

CHURCHWARDENS COTLEIGH

Pam Lane 01404 43339

FARWAY

Tara Huffman 01404 871372

Robin Banks 01404 871355

NORTHLEIGH

John Platt 01297 552416

Pam Mayall 01404 871397

OFFWELL

Jonathan Paveley 01404 831450

Marion Hutchinson 01404 830055

WIDWORTHY

Mim Prins 01404 831688

Mary Wakeley 01404 831345

Benefice Coffee Morning

for all our Parishes

Thursday 21st February

(3rd Thursday of every month)

From 10:30am to 12 noon

At Offwell Social Club Room

This is for everyone. Whether you go to church or not you will be made very welcome. You just have to enjoy coffee, home made cake and a chat!



The Parishes LINK is the magazine of the Five Parishes of COTLEIGH, FARWAY, NORTHLEIGH, OFFWELL and WIDWORTHY. Views expressed here are not necessarily the opinion of the Editor or the Community. Submissions, BY THE 13th OF THE MONTH, should be sent, preferably by email in text, Word, JPG, PDF or PNG format, to the editor at parisheslink@gmail.com The editor reserves the right to delay or refuse publication of articles for reasons of decorum, space or practicality.

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English and Maths form the bedrock of the Primary School curriculum, but there is much more to discover and to inspire our children during the school week – albeit they are core areas of learning. This month we will focus on the History that will be taught this term to try to give you an idea of how that develops as children progress through the school. Hopefully, we can also learn the lessons of time...



You start school life in Ash Class when you are 4/5 years old. Mrs Hunt (the teacher) instils in the children an idea of history being long, long ago (to very young children that can be yesterday!) so they will play and learn by looking at castles. For such young children a whole term on one topic would be overwhelming so Mrs Hunt will keep their learning fresh by introducing another topic after half-term.



The child then moves on to Willow Class (6/7 years old). Miss Kirkland will be talking to the children about inspirational people from the past and how their lives have impacted on our lives today. She is going to start by studying Sir Walter Raleigh and Sir Francis Drake (the school houses are Drake and Raleigh). Children will learn about their exciting explorations to other lands, the trade that developed

from those journeys (thank goodness for the potato) and the place that they fill in history.



We move now to Beech Class (8/9 years old). Mr Thomas' topic is Railways. The development of the railways proved a significant turning point for industry, agriculture and travel in our history. Mr Thomas will provide learning based around those concepts as well as highlighting those inspirational and talented people in our history who shaped this area of our development.

Finally, you will arrive in Oak Class (10/11 years old) where Mr Dunning and Miss Phillips will teach 'The Vikings', looking at where they came from, why they invaded, their skills as boatmen (mirrored years later by Drake and Raleigh), their religions and their lasting impact on this country and who we are. Somewhat sadly, we have already learned that Viking helmets did not have horns!



At Offwell we are proud of our creative curriculum, linking subject areas to give a rounded view of learning and the world. For example, in Oak Class the children have already made models of a Viking longship (D&T) and are going to be creating Powerpoints (ICT) based on one of the learning points. These topics can engender a life-long love of learning; encourage reading, writing and maths skills, and are the tools to discovering the secrets of the past, and as the means to communicate with the future.

We hope this has given you just a brief insight into one aspect of primary learning. We welcome input from our local community on our topics – when studying WWI, Oak Class were well supported by villagers coming in to share their relative's experiences – so if anybody has a particular interest, artefact or knowledge of any of the above subjects, please do contact us.

COTLEIGH



CHURCH DUTIES for February

Sidesmen:

Feb 11th Mr N Barrington Prowse

Feb 18th Mrs Manon Harding

Altar Flowers and War Memorial:

Mrs Pam Spiller

Cleaning Rota:

Mrs V Penney , Mrs M Cook

Cotleigh 200 Club

There was **no** draw
for the months of
December and January
Membership is open to
all and costs £10 per
year If you would like to
join please contact:
Chris or Tessa Henley
Tel: 01404 831028

COTLEIGH VILLAGE CONTACTS

Parish Council

John Woolcott 831820

Parish Clerk

Kerry Kennell 861129

Fete Committe

Nigel Young 831300

Village Hall Bookings

Len Spiller 861396

PCC / Church Wardens

Pam Lane 43339

Bowls Club

Pauline Gordon 831878

200 Club

Chris or Tessa Henley 831028

COTLEIGH EASTER BINGO

Saturday 13th April

Details to follow next month

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OFFWELL



Quiz Night

Friday 22nd February, 6:30 for 7:00pm in Offwell Village Hall

Ploughman's Supper, Bar and Raffle

Tickets - £5 each

To book contact either Phyllis 831520, Marion 830055 or Jonathan 831450

Don't worry about not having a team, we can join you up with others

Please try to come along and support this – all proceeds to the church

Currently the printing costs of the Link are not being covered but a minimum contribution of £5 a year from every household would rectify this. An envelope has been included and this can be returned to the person who delivers your copy of the Link or to any member of the PCC.

Payment can also be made online.

Offwell PCC Bank details are: **Sort Code 40-24-28, Account number 41012487**

Please put 'LINK' as a reference.

Thank you in anticipation.

There was a real festive spirit at the December Parish Coffee Morning. Seasonal headwear and seasonal nibbles all added to the enjoyment..



Here's some info you must know

There's a different date for the **FLOWER SHOW**

We thought that it might make a change

To grow some things from a different range

Your July weekend will now be free

Here's the new date for all to see

Saturday 14th September

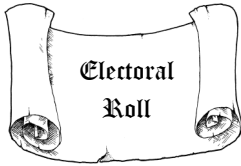
Keep watching for further details



FARWAY



Farway PCC meet on **Tuesday February 12th at 7:30pm at "Devenish Pitt"**.



This year a new **Church Electoral Roll** has to be completed. Anyone who wishes to remain on it, or new people who wish to be added, need to fill in a form for the APCM in April. More details regarding forms next month.

Winter League Skittles Matches continue every Friday night in Farway Village Hall. The bar will be open from 7:30pm and you are most welcome to join us for a drink and chat. Details of matches to be played and results so far can be seen on the Village Hall page of the Farway Village website at www.farwaydevon.org.uk



The Farway & Northleigh Oil Buying Group will be ordering oil at the beginning of February. If you are not in the Group but would like to be included in this order, please email patandpat12@yahoo.co.uk

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Open the Book

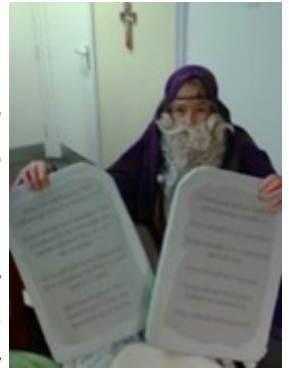
Bringing the Bible to life for every child in every primary school



Open the Book is a project which offers primary school children an opportunity to hear the major stories of the Bible, from a team of Christians from local churches, who present the stories during assemblies or acts of Collective Worship. The stories are all from The Lion Storyteller Bible by Bob Hartman. Open the Book started as a local project of church volunteers going into a few schools in Bedford in 1999 and as the project grew in 2007 it became a National Charity. With increasing demand, Open The Book joined the Bible Society in 2013 and they now work together to promote the storytelling in schools and churches and provide resources for the teams.

Open the Book celebrates its 20th anniversary this year and is starting the year having crossed a significant milestone – groups are now in 3,000 schools! Special events are being held around the country inviting the groups to attend special thanksgiving and celebration services.

Our Team - Tara Huffman from Farway, Marion Hutchinson from Offwell, John Platt, Jim Fulton and Pam Mayall from Northleigh and Barbara McKinna, has just begun its fifth year visiting Farway and Offwell CofE Primary Schools. We meet once a month to rehearse our next story and perform our stories a week or two



later. We make our own costumes and are often found scouring the local charity shops for material and props. We have found the storytelling to be very rewarding and we thoroughly enjoy performing the stories at the schools. The children enjoy our visits and are often encouraged to dress up and join in when needed.

We always welcome new members to our team so if you are interested in getting involved please contact either:
Barbara McKinna on 01404 831731 or
Tara Huffman on 01404 871372.

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St Valentine and the Saint's Day of 14th February

Saint Valentine, officially Saint Valentine of Rome, was a widely recognized 3rd-century Roman saint commemorated on February 14th and since the High Middle Ages has been associated with a tradition of courtly love. Like many saints, he's very obscure and the facts of his life disputed and consist of contradictory traditions. If it were not for his adoption by the secular, commercial world as a sales opportunity at an otherwise quiet time of year, he would be totally unknown to most people today.

All that is reliably known of the saint commemorated on February 14th (a date established by Pope Gelasius in 496 AD) is his name and that he was martyred and buried at a cemetery on the Via Flaminia to the north of Rome on that day. It is uncertain whether Saint Valentine was one individual or a pseudonym for several. Because so little is reliably known of him, in 1969 the Catholic Church removed his name from the General Roman Calendar, but continues to recognize him as a saint. He is commemorated in the Anglican Communion, on February 14th.

One tradition says that in the 3rd century AD Valentine, who was a priest, defied the order of the emperor Claudius and secretly married couples so that the husbands wouldn't have to go to war. The legend claims that soldiers were sparse at this time so this was a big inconvenience to the emperor. Another legend is that Valentine refused to sacrifice to pagan gods. Being imprisoned for this, Valentine gave his testimony in prison and through his prayers healed the jailer's daughter who was suffering from blindness. On the day of his execution he left her a note that was signed, "Your Valentine".

Relevance to Us Today

In reality St Valentine is an obscure and minor saint unworthy of today's high profile, but it is his ill-founded association with romantic love which has conferred such a high profile on his memory, romantic love being a far greater money-spinner than the other types of love of course.

The Ancient Greeks, like many peoples, used different words for the differing types of love, unlike English, the three most important being Eros (erotic love, romantic love – how most people see St Valentine today), philia (deep friendship or companionship, tantamount to non-sexual love) and agape (spiritual love, the highest form, the love God has for us and that we should, as Christians, have for one another). All three types are needed for the perfect marriage, but the ones that give a marriage longevity are philia and agape. Eros all too often cools, being the shallowest, and a marriage lacking the other two will end up in difficulties, hence today's high divorce rates.

So perhaps we need to rescue St Valentine's Day from its commercial focus on romantic love and use it to remind ourselves that while romantic love may get a relationship started, it's the other two that will make it last a lifetime, and, if we have a relationship of agape with Jesus Christ, it will last us eternity.

St Cuthbert's WIDWORTHY



Attention everyone who likes to work with flowers!

**Tara Huffman will be giving a demonstration
in St Cuthbert's Church, Widworthy
on Saturday 16th February at 10:30am**

This is for practiced flower arrangers and beginners alike. She will show us how to prepare flowers and foliage for arrangements and everything we need to know to develop the confidence to make arrangements for the pedestals and windows in the church. She will bring flowers and foliage but you are welcome to come with any extra flowers or foliage you would like to work with. She will bring some secateurs but bring some with you if you have them. The morning is free and open to anyone who wants to learn, whether or not you come to church. There will be **coffee, tea and cake** provided. If you would like to come, please ring: Mary Wakely: 01404 831345 or Mim Prins: 01404 831688 so we will have an idea of numbers.

Our family service on **Sunday, February 3rd at 9:30** will be taken by Dr Miriam Prins
The Rev. Nigel Freathy will take our Parish Service on **Sunday, February 10th at 9:30am**
Bishop Oliver Simon will celebrate Holy Communion on **Sunday, February 17th at 9:30am**
The fourth Sunday Parish Service on **February 24th at 9:30am** will be taken by the Rev Nigel Freathy and we hope you will be able to join us after the service for **tea or coffee, biscuits and a chat!**

WILMINGTON WONDERS



Our next session will be held on:
**Saturday 9th February
from 2:30pm to 4:00pm
in Wilmington Village Hall**



We will play games, do some arts and crafts and learn the story of Jonah and the Whale. It is hoped that the children will then share some of their creations in the Family Service, the following day at Widworthy Church, at 9:30am. You are welcome to come along and join in the fun with your children, or alternatively collect them at the end of the session.

If your children would be interested in attending, please contact :

Kate Vernon at 2 The Firs (mobile no. 07928 227224)

We look forward to meeting you and your children.

NORTHLEIGH VILLAGE



Northleigh Village Hall Bar is open on Sundays from 12:00pm to 2:00pm

St Giles Church - a "big thank you"

Looking back on Christmas, a big thank you to all who contributed to decorating the church and to our Christmas service of lessons and carols. It was a joy to be in a full church that was looking beautiful and was echoing to some great carol singing!

Church Electoral Roll

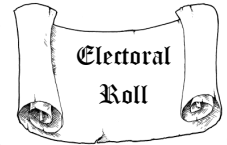
Northleigh Parish Electoral Roll is completely renewed every 6 years and this is due this year.

Anyone who wishes to be on the electoral roll before the Annual Parish Church Meeting must complete a new application form.

Please look out for more details including application forms in the Church or speak to the Electoral Roll Officer Antonia Goddard.

Blank application forms are available at:

https://exeter.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/electoral_roll_application.pdf



February Diary:

Thursday 7th Crafty coffee at Carole's house.

Wednesday 13th - Norley Nosh Lunch 12:15 for 12:30
book with Pam 01404 871397 by preceding Monday

Wednesday 13th Quiz 7:30 for 8pm £4 entry to include light refreshments, bar open, call Caroline 01404 871395 for details

Tuesday Feb 19th - The Northleigh Film Club Film starts **7:30**

The Children Act

Based on the much-loved novel by Ian McEwan (Atonement) and brought to the big screen by director Richard Eyre (Notes on a Scandal, Iris), The Children Act is a compelling and powerful drama telling the story of Fiona Maye (Emma Thompson), an eminent high court judge presiding over ethically complex cases.

The Bar will be open and new members will be very welcome.

Claire 01404 871280

Tuesday 19th March Bohemian Rhapsody

Regular Activities:

Monday: **Art Group** 2:00 to 4:00pm Carole 01404 871444

Yoga 7:00pm

Thursday: **Drama** 01404 831462

Friday: **Short Mat Bowls** 7:15pm Pauline 01404 871516

Legacy to Landscape a three year project involving the community and celebrating a hidden area of landscape based upon an historic 1781 map of the Shute Estate. Our aim is to reveal the rich heritage of this hidden landscape that remained virtually unchanged for centuries.

To find out more about this local project in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty that we are privileged to live in, visit the website www.eastdevonaonb.org.uk

Here is taster from the Winter Newsletter 2019 of Legacy To Landscape

A very successful year.

In 2018 the project has run over 50 events and we have some more practical events to announce. These events have attracted over 1320 people to come along. This is by far the most interest that our events have generated in a year. So encouraged by the attendance at events and the positive response we have received from participants that the project steering committee have applied to the Heritage Lottery for a successor project **Wild Roots**. This will be a further 3 year project that builds upon the enthusiasm the project has generated and assists local people to develop their own interests focused upon raising understanding and awareness of the areas rich heritage. We will know if the bid is successful in Mid February.

Caring for King John's Oak.

After 3 years of volunteer effort, King John's Oak is now totally free of brambles that have been competing for water and nutrients. This winter we will be mulching around its base with wood chips and planting some young oaks in tree guards. If you would like to lend a hand then please get in touch.



A sample of some of the 50 events:

- ◆ **Shute Apple Day and Pruning workshop**
- ◆ **Wheelwright visit.**
- ◆ **Exeter Cathedral Archive.**
- ◆ **Virtual walks.**

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Greetings to fellow gardeners and other readers who might be curious to know what all the fuss is about!!

I think I will start on a negative note with warning about two plant diseases that don't get a lot of 'publicity', one of them relevant to the coming season.

FIREBLIGHT is a bacterial disease that attacks cotoneasters and similarly structured woody plants. It will defoliate the plant quickly and the bark will blacken with cankers showing on the branches. The overall appearance of the affected plant will look as if it has burned. It should be rooted out and burned if possible, at least it should be disposed of such that the disease is not spread to other bushes.

TULIP FIRE is a fungal disease. It gives tulips brown spots on the leaves, withered foliage, grey fungal mould appears and the plant looks 'sick'. It spreads like wildfire! Any affected plants should be uprooted and disposed of carefully. I believe it can also affect lilies so beware in lily time. I have read one commentator on garden affairs who suggests that it is better not to grow tulips in the open garden, where they can succumb more easily to tulip fire but rather always buy fresh bulbs each year, plant and display them in pots or planters, and when spent -destroy. There it is, just a thought!!

One of my Christmas presents was a small but compact book entitled 'Garden Lover's Quiz and Puzzle Book' This set me thinking—I've not included quiz questions before. So, here goes five horticultural general knowledge questions: I will give the answers in next months article.

1. What is a STOLON?
2. What is the common name for the BELLADONNA plant?
3. Who was the Roman Goddess of flowering plants?
4. The term A LA FLORENTINE means served with which vegetable?
5. MARACHINO and MORELLO are varieties of which fruit?



Now for a few jobs:

- * Take down nesting boxes and clean thoroughly ready for the coming mating season, or, if you've never had one then this is the time to install one or two.
- * If you have a pond, float a ball of some sort on the surface, it helps keeping the pond ice free. If it freezes then melt a hole for the fish, – do not thump the surface to break the ice, it shocks the fish.
- * Take some hard-wood cuttings. They are cuttings from mature growth of deciduous or evergreen plants. Cut just above a bud or pair of buds where the current season's and previous year's growth meet. Shorten the cutting to 8 inches if taken from a large bush or tree, or 4 to 5 inches if taken from a smaller specimen. Make an angled cut above the top bud and a horizontal cut just below the bottom bud. Remove leaves and side shoots but leave buds. Insert a number of cuttings in and around the edge of a pot of cutting compost with 2 to 3 inches between each one. Leave 2 or 3 buds visible. Firm in and water and place in a greenhouse or cold frame. By next Autumn you should have rooted cuttings ready for potting-up or planting out.
- * Finish pruning apples, pears, currants and gooseberries by the end of this month.
- * Sow sweet peas and broad beans,. Sow bedding plants such as antirrhinum, begonia, gazania, lobelia, and pelargonium, and perennials and grasses to flower this year.
- * Get in your choice of potatoes and 'chit' using egg boxes.
- * Start planting greenhouse crops like tomatoes, peppers, chillies, aubergines and cucumbers.

I'm looking forward to the coming spring and hope you are as well.

Green Finger



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