



# Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

## WEEKLY NEWS

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025.

2nd Sunday before Lent – Sexagesima

### FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends

*‘Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.”’ Acts 15: 36*

Last Sunday I had the pleasure of taking the 11am BCP Holy Communion Service at St Mary’s Wolborough. It might surprise you to know that I really enjoy the Book of Common Prayer communion service, but I do. However, this was sadly my first visit to St Mary’s this year.

Herein lies one of the problems with a multi-church Parish, particularly one with some churches not having services every week due to fewer clergy than the number of churches. And so last Sunday I felt a little bit like Paul in Acts 15, going back to a place he hadn’t been to for some time to see how the people were doing.

So, despite all the many benefits and strengths of our multi-church parish (*and do go back and read last week’s article if you have forgotten what they are*) there are some difficulties and weaknesses too, and not being able to be with a congregation every week is certainly one of them. And if we are to be able to mitigate them as far as possible, we need to be honest and name them. So, let’s do that. Let me suggest 7. Again, if you can think of some more, do please let me know:

**We miss seeing our friends.** Many of you will have friends who usually worship in different churches on a Sunday, so we don’t see them as often as we might.

**We miss out on worshipping as a large congregation.** There’s something wonderful about being part of a large vibrant congregation- such as we experience on a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. That would be the case every week if we all worshipped together, but instead our attendances range from the high teens to the early 50s. Smaller is fine - and has its benefits - but it can make us feel more vulnerable against the world.

**A lack of Sunday services in every church.** In an ideal world, every church would have a service every Sunday. All the statistics show that this is the best way to grow a church, and yet we do not currently have the human resources to make this possible.

**A weakening of pastoral care.** Whilst some people will enjoy seeing and hearing from different clergy over a month, it does have its impact on the depth of relationships between pastor and

congregation. Weeks can go by without seeing the same minister, and for 9:30 a.m. congregations, the minister is often rushing off somewhere else! This means a lack of time with people, and that pastoral care from clergy to people is not as strong as it might be.

**5 buildings to look after.** Our buildings are a physical witness and all have their beauty, but looking after 5 ancient church buildings is a huge undertaking- both in terms of time and cost. This means that some churches have to wait longer than they might like for repairs or maintenance works to be done.

**A lack of theological diversity.** Whilst we have liturgical variety and varying musical styles across our churches, it's fair to say that sharing 2 full time clergy means that the theological diversity, which one might expect of 5 separate churches is not as wide as many would like. That makes it...

**Harder to agree on priorities and make plans that suit everyone.** Whether it is the times of our services, where we celebrate Christmas, which mission agencies to support, or how to respond to more contentious issues, being 5 churches united in 1 parish makes it harder to function as a united body.

Next week I'll suggest some ways we might mitigate these difficulties. But for now, can I ask that you start to reflect and pray about these challenges- and others you think of.

For better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, we are 5 church communities now joined in one parish. So let us prayerfully seek ways to grow stronger together.

Grace and peace,

*Dave*

### **Readings for 23<sup>rd</sup> February:**

1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to Timothy, Chapter 6, verses 11 to 16

Mark, Chapter 9, verses 33 to 37

### **Please pray for:**

**Our Church**, our parish, benefice and diocese, our Rector Dave Brown, Team Vicars Gareth Regan and Fr. Matthew Cashmore, and all others who carry out their own form of ministry.

**Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil**

**The Brixham Mission Community**

**Our King**, His Majesty King Charles III, members of the Royal Family and our government.

**Residents of Broadlands** including Ashburton Road, Meadowside, Pollybank Road and Bradley Lane.

**The sick and suffering including:** Judy Brown, Noah Maynard, Cherie Glover, Sheila Fletcher, Coral Bewsher, John and Joyce Sutherland, Jackie, Joshua, Jayne Harrison-Roberts, Anna Crocker, Simon, Jenny and James Le Pyne Williams, Tom, and others who are unwell in residential and nursing homes, their own homes, and in hospital. \*

**Ben**, Sarah and family as they care for Noah.

The families and friends of the recently deceased.

**Simon Le Pine-Williams** died on Tuesday. Please pray for his widow Jenny, their son James, and Simon's other 2 children - Rachel and Mark.

\* Please email [prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) to let us know about anyone needing our prayers.

## NEWS AND NOTICES

**Parish Prayer Gatherings.** The next EVENING PRAYER GATHERING will be on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7:45 p.m. The next MORNING PRAYER GATHERING will be on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March from 9:15 a.m.-10 a.m. Both will be at St Paul's.

**Benefice Evensong** at St Mary's Wolborough on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February - starting at 5:30pm. Do come and join us.

**Lent Lunches** – See the poster on page 5.

The following churches are responsible for organising the lunches:

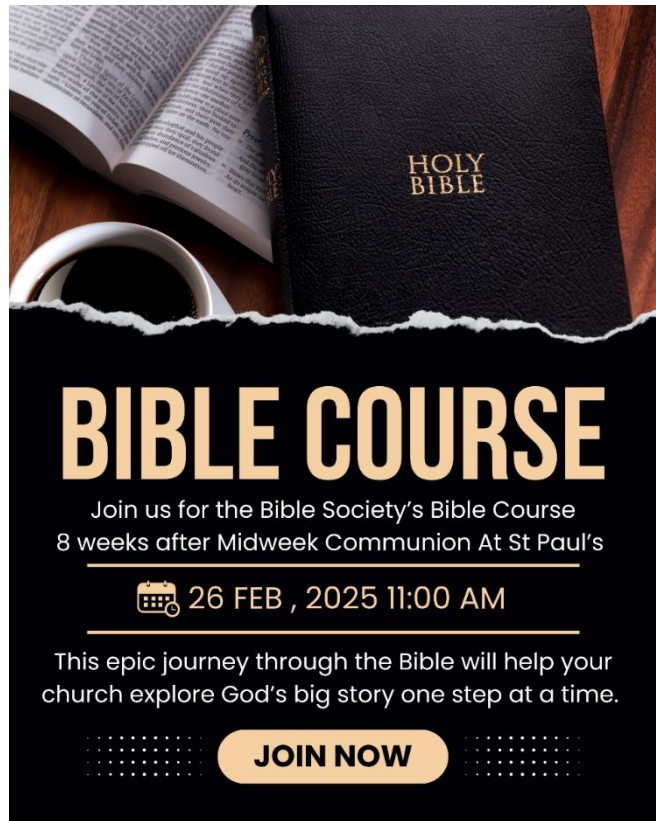
- 12/03 The Avenue
- 19/03 Shaldon Road/ Cornerstone
- 26/03 St Joseph's
- 02/04 Salvation Army/Society of Friends\*
- 09/04 Newton Abbot Benefice

\* to be confirmed

**Volunteers are needed** to help prepare and serve the simple lunches on 9<sup>th</sup> March. Please contact the office if you are able to help.

**An Evening Thinking Through Death and Assisted Dying. Sunday Evening 2<sup>nd</sup> March at St Paul's from 6:30pm.** There has been a lot of press coverage around the controversial Assisted Dying bill currently going through the committee stage in Parliament, and having had conversations with various people, we've decided to hold an evening of talks and discussion to help us think through this very emotive issue. The evening will be in 3 parts:

- 1: Thinking through how we, as Anglican Christians, should approach complex moral issues.
- 2: Hearing a clear Christian view on this issue.



**BIBLE COURSE**


Join us for the Bible Society's Bible Course  
8 weeks after Midweek Communion At St Paul's

📅 26 FEB, 2025 11:00 AM

This epic journey through the Bible will help your church explore God's big story one step at a time.

**JOIN NOW**

 [newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](http://newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

 St Paul's, Devon Square,  
Newton Abbot

3: Considering how we can speak about and deal with issues of death and dying in a way that reflects the great hope we have as Christians.

After each input there will be time for round table discussions and questions.

No need to book – just come along.

**Thank You!** With Poppins Nursery now having moved to St Luke's Milber, around a dozen people came along to St Paul's last Saturday to help redecorate the church hall and clean out and tidy the kitchen. Thank you to everyone! There is still more to do... so if you missed out this time, look out for the next date!



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025

**“I Made YOU Wonderful”**

**Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 3 p.m., at St Luke's Church,  
10, Laburnum Road, Milber,  
Newton Abbot TQ12 4LQ**

**All Welcome**

**\* On street parking**

**\* Limited pre-bookable Community Transport return from town centre via Peter on 01626 369478 by 5<sup>th</sup> Mar**

**\* Joint service facilitated by CTNA**

**(Christians Together in Newton Abbot)**

**\* Hosted by clergy and parishioners of St Luke's**



# LENT LUNCHESES 2025

Noon to 1.30 p.m.

at St Joseph's Church Hall  
Queen Street, Newton Abbot

facilitated by Christians Together in Newton Abbot  
hosted by St Joseph's RC Church  
operating

Wed 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> April



Donations this year are going to “Embrace the Middle East”, a charity based in UK supporting 40 Christian groups in Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Israel/Palestine (including Caritas Jerusalem), including a hospital in Gaza which has converted its chapel into a ward. Read Dr Maher’s story on their website under “News and Resources”.

**ALL WELCOME**

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**Share your views about the next Archbishop of Canterbury.** People across the Church of England and the Anglican Communion are being invited to share their views about the qualities, values and vision the next Archbishop of Canterbury will ideally have. The public consultation is running until 28 March. The process to find the new Archbishop of Canterbury is currently underway following the resignation of Justin Welby in January. [Share your views and read about the appointment timeline by clicking here.](#)

## **Parish Electoral Roll: The complete revision of the electoral roll this year.**

Every six years, everyone who wishes to join or remain on the roll must fill in an application form. If you are not familiar with the electoral roll, it's a way of identifying with the parish as the place where you believe you have been called to worship and serve. Basically it's 'church membership' allowing you to vote for members of the PCC and church wardens at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in May, and to serve on the PCC or as a church warden if you are nominated and elected.

It doesn't cost anything to join, although we encourage you to prayerfully consider regular giving – information on the Parish Giving Scheme is available in your church.

So, if you're over 16, baptised or confirmed in the Church of England, (or baptised in another trinitarian Christian denomination), living and regularly worshipping in our churches, there's nothing to prevent you from joining.

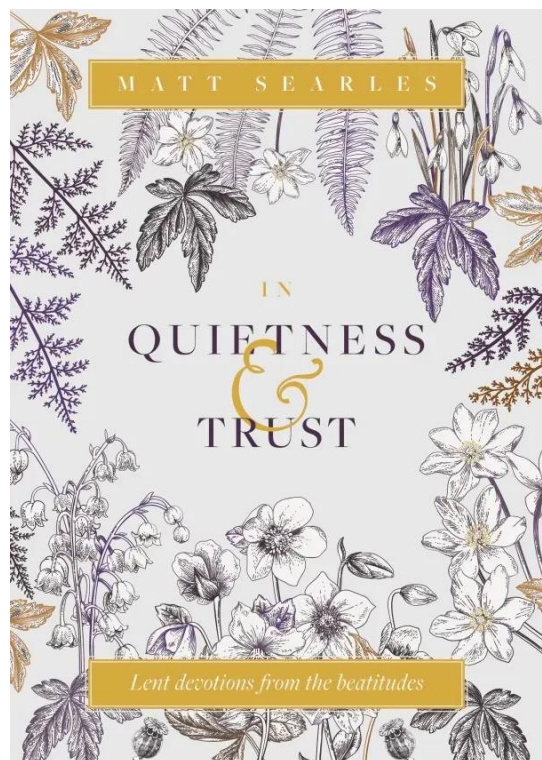
Forms are available in your church from this Sunday, please complete and return your form as soon as possible. If you require further information please speak to the clergy, your churchwarden or PCC members.

Barbara Garrick (Secretary to the Newton Abbot and Ogwell PCC)


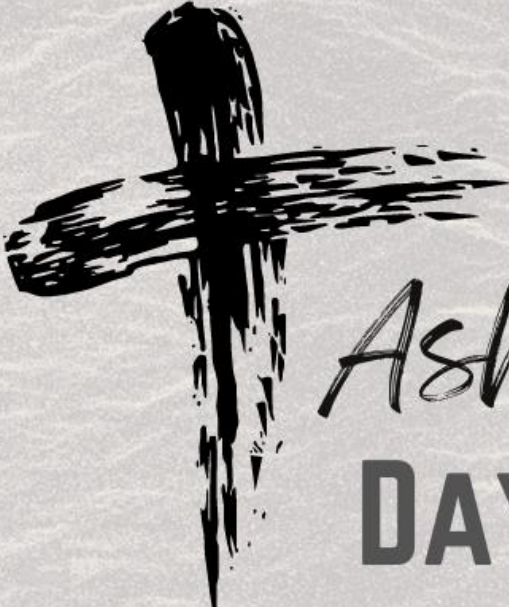
**Lent Devotional:** Our Lent devotional is now available in our churches. Offering readings and recollections for each of the 40-days of Lent, and priced at just £1, it would be a wonderful investment for the coming season. Details are below.

### **Matt Searles: In Quietness and Trust:**

Early in his ministry, Jesus gave his followers a description of how he wants his people to live. Rather than seeking to ascend to God, Christian discipleship is a downward flourishing; a counter-cultural way of blessing. These 40 devotions, with a daily reading and short reflection, will guide you through the beatitudes Jesus gave in the Sermon on the Mount. This Easter, join Jesus on his path to the cross, and see that his way – though so different to the way of the world – leads to freedom, joy, and life. This book has eight groups of five devotions, with each group focusing on the theme of one of the beatitudes from Matthew's gospel. Each day there is a verse or passage from Scripture with an accompanying devotion, a prayer and a song. The songs can be found online, but you can also find them on a Spotify playlist called 'In Quietness and Trust - Lent Playlist'.



**Ash Wednesday Day of Prayer with Bishop James.** As you will see from below, Bishop James is coming to St Paul's as part of his day of prayer and fasting. Why not book the time in your diary to come and join him. Fasting for the day is optional but encouraged.




# Ash Wednesday DAY OF PRAYER

**5 MARCH 2025 | PLYMOUTH & TOTNES ARCHDEACONRIES**

Bishop James will spend Ash Wednesday praying in churches across the two archdeaconries, and would love people to join him. He is doing this to focus on repentance and prayer.

He is hoping to spend 40 minutes in each church, and spend 30 minutes of that time leading a time of informal prayer with anyone who comes along.

- 8.30am:** St Mary's, Plymstock
- 9.30am:** St Mary's, Brixton
- 10.35am:** St Peter's, Ughborough
- 11.40am:** St George's, Modbury
- 1.35pm:** St Matthias, Torquay
- 2.50pm:** St Paul's, Newton Abbot
- 4.30pm:** St Thomas a Beckett, Sourton
- 5.50pm:** St Andrew's, Whitchurch
- 7.30pm:** St Andrew's, Royal Parade, Plymouth



**THE RT. REV'D JAMES GRIER,  
BISHOP OF PLYMOUTH**

*this final session will be for a longer time to include an informal communion.*



*The* **Torbay**  
**Singers**

Abbotsbury Church, Newton Abbot, TQ12 2ND

Saturday 5th April 2025, 7pm

# Mystery and Light

## a programme of English choral music

*including Howells: Requiem, Vaughan Williams: Five Mystical Songs,  
Elgar: Lux Aeterna and music by Parry and Stanford*



Musical Director **Matthew Cann**  
Baritone **Philip Lancaster**  
Organist **Christopher Too** (organ scholar at St Paul's Cathedral)

Tickets £15 in advance, £18 on the door (free for under 25s in full time education)  
Booking at [www.torbaysingers.org](http://www.torbaysingers.org)



## COMING EVENTS

**Charity Coffee Morning.** 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 10 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

**Evensong.** St Mary's Church, 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 5:30 p.m.

**Bible Course.** Starting 26<sup>th</sup> February for 8 consecutive Wednesdays. 11 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

**Charity Coffee Morning.** 28<sup>th</sup> February at 10 a.m. at St Bartholemew's Church.

**An Evening Thinking Through Death and Assisted Dying.** Sunday Evening 2<sup>nd</sup> March from 6:30 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

**Craft Club.** 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

**Ash Wednesday Day of Prayer with Bishop James.** 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2:50 p.m. at St Paul's Church

**World Day of Prayer 2025.** Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 3 p.m., at St Luke's Church.

**Women's Breakfast.** Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> March at 9:30 a.m. at The Country Table, Bank Street, Newton Abbot.

**2025 Lent Lunches.** Every Wednesday at 12 noon from 12<sup>th</sup> March to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at St Joseph's Church Hall (access via lane off St Paul's Road or path beside St Joseph's Church, Queen Street).

**Men's Breakfast.** Saturday 15<sup>nd</sup> March, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

**Donizetti's opera 'Anne Boleyn'** at Abbotsbury Church on Saturday 29 March 2025 at 7:30 p.m. performed by Red Earth Opera. Book at [www.torbaysingers.org](http://www.torbaysingers.org)

**Benefice Service (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of March).** Abbotsbury Church, 30<sup>th</sup> March at 10:30 a.m.

**Mystery and Light -** English Choral Music presented by the Torbay Singers at Abbotsbury Church on 5<sup>th</sup> April at 7 p.m. Tickets £15 from [www.torbaysingers.org](http://www.torbaysingers.org) or £18 on the door.

## REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

### 16<sup>th</sup> February

Abbotsbury Church, All Age Service at 9:30 a.m.

St Bartholemew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

St Paul's Church, Service of the Word at 11 a.m.

St Mary's Church, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

### 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Abbotsbury Church, Service of the Word at 9:30 a.m.

All Saints' Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

St Paul's Church, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

St Mary's Church, Evensong at 5:30 p.m.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Abbotsbury Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.  
St Bartholemew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.  
St Paul's Church, Service of the Word at 11 a.m.  
St Mary's Church, Matins at 11 a.m.  
St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

## 9<sup>th</sup> March

Abbotsbury Church, Service of the Word at 9:30 a.m.  
All Saints' Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.  
St Paul's Church, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.  
St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

If you are not able to attend in person, you can watch services at Abbotsbury Church and St Paul's Church through [YouTube](#).

The links are available at <https://newtonabbotparishes.co.uk/noticeboard/news/>

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** 10 a.m. Holy Communion at St Paul's Church, Devon Square  
and 10 a.m. Said Mass at St Luke's Church, Milber.

**EVERY FRIDAY** 10 a.m. Said Mass at St Luke's Church, Milber.

**ALL WEEK** St Bartholomew's Church in Ogwell is normally open during daylight hours for private prayer.

## OTHER SERVICES

Evensongs at 5:30 p.m.		5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday services at 10:30 a.m.	
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	St Mary's	30 <sup>th</sup> March	Abbotsbury
27 <sup>th</sup> April	St Bart's	29 <sup>th</sup> June	St Paul's
6 <sup>th</sup> July	All Saints Highweek	31 <sup>st</sup> August	St Bart's
31 <sup>st</sup> August	West Ogwell	30 <sup>th</sup> November	All Saints Highweek
20 <sup>th</sup> November	St Luke's Milber		

**PRAYER GATHERINGS** at St Paul's Church.

17<sup>th</sup> February at 9:15 a.m.

24<sup>th</sup> February at 7:45 a.m.

3<sup>rd</sup> March at 9:15 a.m.

## FUNERALS, MEMORIALS and INTERMENTS

**Reginal John Down.** Funeral service on 27<sup>th</sup> February at St Michael's Church, Kingsteignton at 2 p.m. Burial at All Saints' Church, at 3:30 p.m.

**Penelope Ann Pine.** Memorial Service. 26<sup>th</sup> March at 3:00 p.m. at All Saints' Church.  
**Mary Calderwood.** Interment of Ashes. 25<sup>th</sup> May at 11:30 a.m. at All Saints' Church.

## PARISH CONTACTS

**Team Rector: Rev Dave Brown.** Day off Thursday

[rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) 01626 335862

**Team Vicar and Vicar of St Luke's, Milber: Fr. Matthew Cashmore.** Day off Monday

[father@slsj.co.uk](mailto:father@slsj.co.uk) 07555 924862

**Team Vicar: Rev Gareth Regan:** Day Off: Friday.

[gareth@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:gareth@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) 01626 201237

**Licensed Lay Minister:**

**Keith Butler:** [puffin@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:puffin@blueyonder.co.uk) 07980 457919

**Lay minister for St Luke's, Graham Whittle** [family@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:family@hotmail.co.uk)

**Churchwardens:**

All Saints': **Michael Gillibrand**

Abbotsbury: **Douglas Machin** [d.m.machin2016@gmail.com](mailto:d.m.machin2016@gmail.com)

St Mary's **Sharon Lawrence** 07794 108166

St. Paul's **Lorna Tresidder** [lornatresidder@icloud.com](mailto:lornatresidder@icloud.com)

St Bartholomew's **Stella Llewellyn** [stellallewellyn@icloud.com](mailto:stellallewellyn@icloud.com) 01626 906814 and

**Gwyn Hughes.** [gwynhughes@icloud.com](mailto:gwynhughes@icloud.com) 01626 365028

**Anna Chaplain: Mei Lan Machin.** [d.m.machin2013@gmail.com](mailto:d.m.machin2013@gmail.com) 07926 991578

**Organists: Clive Sawers** 07967 148794 [clivesawers@aol.com](mailto:clivesawers@aol.com)

**Steve Cox** 079 686 21511 [stephen.cox54@talktalk.net](mailto:stephen.cox54@talktalk.net)

**Parochial Church Council Secretary: Barbara Garrick** 07910 207358

[barbara\\_garrick@yahoo.com](mailto:barbara_garrick@yahoo.com)

**Safeguarding Lead: Rob Palmer** 07792 081776 [treb0r@hotmail.com](mailto:treb0r@hotmail.com)

**Weekly Parish News** by Email. **John Calderwood.** [news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

01626 361952

**Other Communications Media** (website and social media)

[comms@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:comms@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

**Prayer List** Please let us know about anyone in need of prayers. Their name will be kept on the list for a month. Please email [prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

**Parish website:** [www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](http://www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

**Parish Office** at St Paul's Church, Devon Square. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday:  
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Phone 01626 211346 or email [office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk).

## OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

**Newton Abbot Town Council.** 01626 201120 [www.newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk](http://www.newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk)

**Shopmobility, Ring & Ride, Community cars** – 01626 335775

**Teignbridge Council** – 01626 361101, [www.teignbridge.gov.uk](http://www.teignbridge.gov.uk)

**Footnote.** Thank you very much to those of you who have sent me contributions. Relevant photos are very welcome.

I aim to circulate each weekly issue on Wednesday to give notice of the coming weekend's events and perhaps report what happened last weekend.

Please let me have any news of past events, notice of future activities or any other information that may be interesting or useful for our Church members, by Tuesday for the next issue.

If you know of anyone who does not receive this weekly email, but wishes to do so, please ask them to email me or contact the office.

John Calderwood [news@newtonbbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:news@newtonbbotparishes.co.uk)