



# FOST news

Friends of St Thomas' Church Northlew

## Away in a manger...

St Thomas of Canterbury Church  
Northlew



**Away in a manger...**  
A display of nativity sets from around the world  
Be sure to visit the amazing Manger Grotto!

Saturday 13 December 10:00-16:00  
Sunday 14 December 12:00 - 15:00  
then Nine lessons & carols with Northlew Silver Band 18:30

Supporting  
children's hospice  
SOUTH WEST  
Hospice Children's Services

Donations to Children's Hospice South West  
Refreshments

This year we have a really special treat in the lead up to Christmas. On Saturday & Sunday 13 & 14 December we'll be displaying dozens of nativity sets and images from around the world, so you can marvel at the many different interpretations of the birth of Jesus. Collected from around the world (and more locally too), they are made by talented crafters including woodworkers, felters,

and even lego builders! And there will also be a walk-in manger grotto in the Rutleigh Chapel especially for younger children.

There are refreshments too, and all proceeds and donations will go to the Children's Hospice South West who care for babies, children and young people with life-threatening and life-limiting conditions and their families.

If you have a Nativity set you would be happy to lend us for the display, please let Val Welsh know - phone/text on 07780 544679 or by email valofgreen@gmail.com.

## Update on church repairs

Faculty permission has now been granted by the Diocese for major repairs to the church. Jeremy Chadburn, our Conservation Architect, has produced a detailed report which includes specific requirements for the scaffolding, materials and techniques.

He will be issuing tender documents for the work which includes restoring the lead work on the roof and rainwater drainage, rendering the tower parapet and repairing the tower roof hatch and west door - along with some plaster work and redecoration.

## Supporting FOST

FOST news is an occasional newsletter with information about our church building and fund raising events. If you would prefer an electronic copy, just let us have your email address.

You can support the Friends' work by taking part in fund raising events but if you would like to get more actively involved and/or become a member, please contact Jackie Ellis jackie.ann.ellis@btinternet.com 01837 658750 .

Secure donations can be made using our QR code - and you can Gift Aid your contribution at the same time.



FOST is a Registered Charity  
No 1070123

## FOST facts



Some of faces on the roof bosses in the south aisle are a bit fierce...

## Coming up

Services are held on Sundays at 09:30. Communion is the second Sunday.

**Sunday 2 November**  
Service of Light, Ashbury Church

**Sunday 9 & Tuesday 11 November**  
10:45 Remembrance Services

**Sunday 7 December**  
16:00 Christingle Service

**Saturday 13 December**  
10:00 - 16:00 *Away in a manger...*

**Sunday 14 December**  
12:00 - 15:00 *Away in a manger...*  
18:30 Nine lessons and carols

**Wednesday 24 December**  
16:00 Crib service  
23:30 Midnight mass

## FOST finds

Early editions of the King James Bible were plagued with misprints.

The most scandalous appeared in the 1631 edition when the printer left out the word 'not' from the seventh commandment in Exodus 20. As a result the Bible had God declaring that people *should* commit adultery.

This edition became known as the Wicked or Adulterers' Bible.

Source: Huber RV & Miller SM (2016)  
*The one-stop history of the Bible*

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## Spotlight on...

A chance find on ebay is a postcard posted in Hatherleigh in May 1914, just two months before the start of the First World War. The card was sent from 11 year old Walter Northam in Gribbleford to his sister Miss F Northam at Wambrook Rectory near Chard.

*We are happy now, as we have a fortnights holiday, because several have the measles at Northlew.*

A major restoration of the church had taken place in the late 1880s including a new pulpit and lectern and repair of the bench ends but more major changes were to come.

### Spot the difference

These are some differences with today's views - can you find more? And hymns 499 and 274 on the board - I wonder which ones they were?

- Only the bottom half of the original rood screen is in place
- The seating in the side chapel runs east to west, not north to south
- There is no altar yet in the Rutleigh Chapel - the memorial to WWII casualties was added later
- The south window is still plain - the Pellew memorial stained glass window was installed in 1927
- Presumably there were oil lamps
- The Henry Willis organ is screened behind curtains
- The processional banner is a different design
- The Irish yew in the foreground is a mere shadow of its future self
- Some graves have metal railings
- The sycamore to the right of the lych gate is long gone
- Three memorial plaques are fixed on the centre of the east wall
- There's a flagpole on the tower!



*A second card given to FOST by Walter's grandson Richard Hann shows the view of the church from the east at about the same time*

