



BUCKFASTLEIGH COMMUNITY NEWS

March 2026

Join Moorland Community Caring's volunteer team

Moorland Community Caring extends a warm welcome to our new admin volunteer, **Shelly**. Shelly will be supporting **Sophia**, our **Volunteer Co-ordinator**, helping to organise the **Buckfastleigh** and **Ashburton Moor Socials**, looking after administration, and keeping everything up to date. She's a very welcome addition to our incredible team of volunteers.



Volunteers training together

There are lots of friendly ways to lend a hand with our charity and support local neighbours — even a few hours a month helps:

- Use your driving skills to transport people to and from our social events.
- Make a tasty tea or a sensational sandwich.
- Be a welcoming face at our **Moor Socials**.



Volunteers at our volunteer event

- Share a hidden hobby or skill with others.
 - Offer companionship to an older person living alone.
- Come and join us — we'd love to see you.

To get involved, please contact **Sophia**:
volunteerco-

ordinator@moorlandcommunitycaring.org.uk or 07572 024636.

Buckfastleigh Mothers' Union trip and March meeting

March meeting – Thursday 5th March, 2.30pm: We'll meet in the lounge of **St. Luke's**. Our talk this month is by **Annie Jefferies** and will be about the **Anna Chaplaincy** ministry, which supports families and looks at supporting older people to have a good quality of life. All welcome to listen to the talk, have a chat, and enjoy refreshments. We'd love to see you there.

At our January meeting we had our **A.G.M.** and discussed looking forward to what **2026** brings us all.

Trip – Wednesday 8 July 2026: This year's Buckfastleigh Mothers' Union outing will be a boat trip from **Exmouth** up the **Exeter Canal** to **Exeter Quay**, with a coach journey home. Come and join us for a relaxed day by the water.

- **Depart Buckfastleigh:** Leave **Woodholme Car Park** at **9.45am**.
- **Boat from Exmouth:** Depart at **11.00am** up the canal to Exeter Quay.
- **On the water:** Boat trip is **2 hours 30 minutes**.
- **Free time:** About **1 hour 30 minutes** to look around Exeter Quay.
- **Return:** Coach back to Buckfastleigh for around **4.00pm**.
- **Cost:** **£25, cash only please**.
- **Booking:** Numbers and money by **7 June 2026** to **Janet Jones**.

Bookings and enquiries: Janet Jones, 01364 643627.

Join the twinning trip to Normandy

Would you like to experience village life in **Fontaine-Henry, Normandy**? Why not join the **Scoriton & Buckfastleigh Twinning Association** for our visit from **Thursday 27–Monday 31 August 2026**. You don't need to speak French to take part, though if you do, it's a lovely chance to practise.

How it works:

- **Travel:** Coach from **Buckfastleigh**, then **Brittany Ferries** from **Portsmouth** to **Caen**, where we are met by our French hosts.
- **Stay:** You'll be looked after by individual French families throughout our four-day stay — a unique chance to experience French family life, especially for youngsters.
- **Meeting point:** Simply come to **Woodholme Car Park** with your passport; the Association organises everything else.
- **Costs:** Adult travel costs are kept to a very reasonable level. The trip is **free for school-age children**, recognising the educational benefit. All expenses during the stay in France are covered by our French Twinning partners.

In **2027** our French friends will visit us on the return leg — a lovely chance to offer some Devon hospitality and welcome them into our homes.

Alongside the annual exchanges, we enjoy French-related activities through the year, including group suppers, wine-and-cheese evenings, our film club and discussions. Come and join us — you can pick and choose what suits you.

To guarantee your place for this year's trip to France, or for further information, please contact **Tim Coulton** on 01364 642008 or email scoritonbucktwinning@gmail.com.

Dean Prior 100 Club winners

In the **February draw**, the following names were drawn.

- **1st:** Jemma Brown
- **2nd:** Helen Buswell
- **3rd:** Helen Shepherd

Thank you for all your support; there are still empty tickets waiting for your name.

To join or find out more, contact **Lynda Grieveson** on [07933 112271](tel:07933112271), or write to **Moorshead Cottage, Dean Prior, Buckfastleigh TQ11 0NA**.

Moor Socials for over-50s in Buckfastleigh



Enjoying the Moor Social

Moorland Community Caring runs friendly **Moor Social** gatherings in Buckfastleigh on the **1st and 3rd Wednesday** of each month. If you're aged **50+**, come along to meet people, enjoy a slice of cake and a cuppa, listen to talks, join in activities, or simply settle in for a good natter.

For March, we're meeting:

- **Wednesday 4 March, 12 noon–2 pm**
- **Wednesday 18 March, 12 noon–2 pm**

Venue: The Globe, 123 Plymouth Road, Buckfastleigh, TQ11 0DA

Suggested donation £4: homemade sandwiches, a pudding, and hot drinks.

We can help with transport to and from the group (suggested donation **£1**). If you'd like a lift arranged, please see the contact details below. We'd love to

see you there.

For more information or help with transport, please call Sophia on 07572 024636 or email volunteerco-ordinator@moorlandcommunitycaring.org.uk.

Needlefelting workshop at Buckfast Abbey

Buckfast Abbey invites you to a friendly needlefelting workshop, where you'll learn the basics while creating your own duck brooch to take home. *No prior experience needed.*

- **Date:** Saturday 25 April 2026
- **Sessions:** 10.00am–12.00pm or 1.30–3.30pm
- **Suitable for:** Adults and young people aged 12+ (children must be accompanied by an adult)
- **Price:** £10 per person – all materials and expert tuition included



Come and join us — we'd love to see you there.

To find out more and to secure your place, email education@buckfast.org.uk

Holne annual plant sale at Holne Village Hall



Holne plant sale flyer

Holne Village Hall Committee invites you to our friendly Annual Plant Sale – come along for an afternoon of greenery and good company.

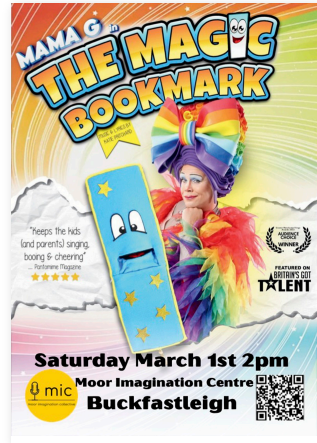
- Date: **Sunday 10 May 2026**
- Time: **2–4pm**
- Venue: **Holne Village Hall**
- Entry: Free

There will be refreshments, a raffle and, of course, plants! All proceeds go towards the maintenance of the Village Hall. We'd love to see you there.

See the Holne Village Hall Committee entry on our website for contact details.

Mama G: The Magic Bookmark

Join "everyone's favourite pantomime dame!" (Metro) and Britain's Got Talent semi-finalist Mama G on an award winning, panto adventure for the whole family. Book Worm is livid that encyclopaedias give people so much knowledge, so decides to steal all the books from Mama G's library. Before the world can turn to chaos, Mama G vows to save the day by proving that books can help make the world a better place. Of course, she can't do it alone, and that's when she discovers the mysterious and wonderful Magic Bookmark... Families will love this storytelling show full of panto fun, original songs, and some of the finest picture books on the market! The show has toured all over the UK and recently made its Off-Broadway debut at the SoHo Playhouse in New York. SUNDAY MARCH 1st 2pm! Book Here! <https://dandelion.events/e/n43g2>



Weekly phone groups: crossword, quiz and bingo



Monica and Joan together

Missing a bit of company? Our free phone groups run weekly, each a friendly 45-minute get-together you can join from the comfort of your home. Come and have a chat with neighbours and enjoy some light-hearted activities.

- **Mondays 11:00** – Crossword & Coffee
- **Thursdays 11:00** – Gentle Quiz
- **Fridays 14:30** – Bingo

Join one or try them all — we'd love to have you with us.

Contact: Moorland Community Caring — 01364 712013, info@moorlandcommunitycaring.org.uk. To find out more and to get the special numbers, please get in touch.

Talk on filming War Horse and other Dartmoor films

Join us as **Buckfastleigh History Society** hosts **The Making of War Horse and Other Films on Dartmoor** — a fascinating talk exploring filming on Dartmoor, including the making of War Horse and some of the tricks used to create the film. Speaker: **Paul Rendell**. We'd love to see you there.

- Date and time: **7pm, Thursday 19 March 2026**
- Venue: **Buckfastleigh Town Hall**

See the Buckfastleigh History Society entry on our website for contact details.

Free World Book Day costume swaps in Devon libraries

Libraries Unlimited is partnering with **Recycle Devon** to bring free **World Book Day** costume swap rails to libraries across Devon and Torbay. **World Book Day 2026 is on Thursday 5th March**, and the swap rails will run from **16th February to 8th March**.



How it works:

- Donate outgrown, unwanted **children's costumes** in good, wearable condition.
- Pick up a costume to take home **for free** — there's **no obligation to donate** to use the rails.

Costume swaps help families save money and cut waste. According to Hubbub and The Fairyland Trust, **7 million costumes** are thrown away every year — that's **2,000 tonnes** of plastic waste. Swaps give outfits a new lease of life.

As Beth Lovell from Recycle Devon commented: "It's brilliant to be working with Libraries Unlimited to bring World Book Day Costume Swaps to libraries across Devon! World Book Day is a great opportunity to celebrate stories and reading, but it can put pressure on families to buy new costumes every year. Many of these only being worn once before making their way into the bin, despite being in perfectly good condition. This initiative is a wonderful way to help Devon's families save money and reduce waste by reusing costumes again and again! Why not head down to your nearest participating library and see what you can find?"

Alex Kittow, Chief Executive at Libraries Unlimited, said: “World Book Day costumes are such a fun way for children to embody a character they love and spark conversations about stories. With 2026 being the National Year of Reading we hope to get more children than ever passionate about books. Library costume swaps allow parents and carers to find fancy dress options for free! We love that libraries are increasingly hubs for initiatives to reduce everyday waste. It’s been fantastic to see resources like seed swaps, community fridges and repair cafes become available in our libraries.”

Newton Abbot is our nearest participating library, along with **Ivybridge, Dawlish, Paignton and Torquay**.

Pop along during the dates above to see what treasures are on the rails — and if you’ve a spare costume in good nick, do bring it in. We’d love to see you join in and share the fun of World Book Day.

See the Buckfastleigh Library entry on our website for contact details.

Switzerland's National Redoubt in World War II



Join **Ashburton u3a** at **Ashburton Town Hall** for a talk by **David Hinchliffe** on Switzerland’s military response during World War II. We’d love to see you there.

“Of all the neutrals, Switzerland has the greatest right to distinction. She has been a democratic state, standing for freedom in self-defence among her mountains and in thought, in spite

of race.” — Winston Churchill.

Revisionists have, however, criticised Switzerland for being too helpful to the Nazis, laundering Nazi gold and not always welcoming refugees. This talk focuses on the military response to the threat of Nazi invasion — an aspect not often addressed.

Hear the story of the National Redoubt and an estimated **15,000** underground and disguised bunkers dating from WW2, and learn about remarkable fortifications you can visit today, many in spectacular locations.

- **Date:** Tuesday 24 March 2026
- **Time:** 2.30 pm (tea, percolated coffee and biscuits from 2.15 pm)
- **Venue:** Ashburton Town Hall

- **Admission:** Non-members welcome — £4 on the door (includes refreshments)

To find out more about our activities, or to join one of our interest groups, visit: ashburtondevon.u3asite.uk or ashburtondevon.u3asite.uk/contact



End of life conversations in Buckfastleigh

End of life is still not talked about very much. At the MIC Centre in Buckfastleigh there's a friendly monthly drop-in for anyone who would like to talk openly, ask the questions you've always wanted to ask, and explore how you feel. It's gently facilitated and generally there's no fixed agenda—just time to share, listen and learn over a cup of tea.

Topics may include:

- Bereavement
- Coping with grief
- Preparing for dying
- Living with someone who is dying
- Fears and anxieties about dying
- What happens after we die
- Funerals and funeral costs
- Advance decisions and living wills
- Wills
- Palliative care

"I felt we were all really respectful and interested in what others said, and all shared openly. I feel so grateful for the opportunity to talk about these profound issues."

"I found the conversations interesting and relevant and I'm glad I stayed. I'd like to come along to more of these groups and I feel comfortable mentioning it to friends."

When and where:

- **Last Thursday of each month, 6.30–8.00pm.**
- Next dates: **Thursday 26th February** and **Thursday 26th March.**
- Venue: **MIC Centre, Chapel Street, Buckfastleigh.**

- Cost: **No charge**; donations for tea, coffee and biscuits.

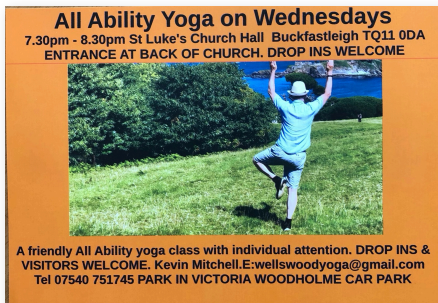
It's an open drop-in group, so do come along whenever you can—we'd love to see you.

Contact: Simon Smith, Heart and Soul Funerals. 01364 643522
hello@heartandsoufunerals.co.uk

All-ability yoga in Buckfastleigh

Friendly, all-ability yoga in Buckfastleigh with **Wellswood Yoga**. Come as you are — newcomers and returners warmly welcomed.

- **Wednesdays, 7.30pm–8.30pm** (year-round), **St Luke's Church, Buckfastleigh** — entrance at the back. Free parking at Victoria Woodholme car park. No need to book — just drop in.



Wellswood Yoga Poster

Expect calming breathwork, accessible postures with options for every body, and a relaxing wind-down. Work at your own pace — we'd love to see you there.

One-to-one and private sessions:

- Individual tuition for one or two people at home.
- Private classes for groups and organisations — ideal for staff wellbeing or community groups.

Yoga can:

- Improve strength, balance and flexibility
- Help with anxiety and stress
- Support back health
- Ease some arthritic symptoms
- Benefit heart health
- Aid relaxation and sleep

Contact: Kevin — 07540 751745 · wellswoodyoga@gmail.com ·
www.wellswoodyoga.com

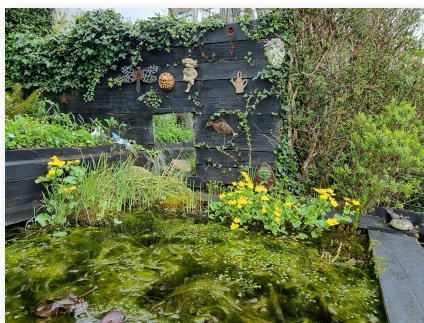
Free Easter craft workshops for families at Buckfast Abbey

Come and join us for free, drop-in, Easter-themed craft activities for families in the **School Room (next to Buckfast Abbey Church)**. Suitable for ages 3+; all children must be accompanied by an adult. We'd love to see you there.

- Dates: **Wednesday 8 April** and **Wednesday 15 April 2026**
- Times: **10.30am–12pm** and **1pm–2.30pm** (two sessions each day)
- Cost: **Free**

See the **Buckfast Abbey** entry on our website for contact details.

Take part in Buckfastleigh Open Wildlife Gardens



Buckfastleigh Action for Nature Group is inviting local gardeners and land stewards to take part in this year's popular Open Wildlife Gardens, running **22–25 May 2026**. Open to spaces in **Buckfastleigh, Buckfast and Dean Prior**.

- **All wildlife-friendly spaces welcome:** gardens, estates, farms and even industrial areas.
- **You choose** your opening times and whether to allow public access, or to be viewed from the street only.
- Your choices will be shown clearly in the programme.
- We'd also welcome offers of **walks, talks and workshops** — please note this is a volunteer-run event.

If you tend a space that supports wildlife, we'd love to have you involved. Come and join us to celebrate the buzzing, fluttering and flourishing nature on our doorsteps.

To take part, please complete the form: <https://bit.ly/4cdvU7M>

For further information, contact Charlie: theclockworkmoth@hotmail.com

Rethink urged on Buckfastleigh Library cuts

Recently we met with two Devon County Councillors, a senior librarian from Libraries Unlimited, the Town Hall manager and local librarians to discuss aspects of the County's consultation 'Shaping the future of Devon's library service'. We were disappointed with the response from the County Council and Libraries Unlimited to our concerns.

We are now working on a joint response to be issued on behalf of **Friends of Buckfastleigh Library** and **Buckfastleigh Town Council**. It will stress that Buckfastleigh is a rural community with a higher than national average number of lower income households and poor transport links, and that the availability of an accessible library provides a valuable resource for education, entertainment and community cohesion.

- **Banding:** Buckfastleigh Library has been placed in **Band D** alongside communities that do not share the same needs or usage.
- **Staff hours:** proposed to be cut to 6 per week — a 60% cut, compared with an overall 30% reduction across Devon libraries.
- **Usage:** Buckfastleigh issues around 9,000 books per year, yet is in the same band as Salcombe with only 470 issues per year.
- **Volunteers/fundraising:** we were told additional hours could be provided by volunteers or through fundraising. Larger libraries will continue to be adequately funded and resourced, while smaller libraries will be sacrificed.

We will therefore request that this proposal is reconsidered to provide a more balanced and fair system of banding, and that **Buckfastleigh Library** is placed in **Band C** with the original 15 hours for a paid member of staff reinstated.

If you are a library user who has not yet responded to the consultation, please do so. The document is available from the library or online. Please add your voice — it makes a real difference to our town.

See the Friends of Buckfastleigh Library entry on our website for contact details.

March at St Luke's

This March at St Luke's, we'll mostly be thinking about all things Lent-related. It's an important time in the church year as we prepare for Easter. Traditionally, people have given things up for Lent as a form of fasting to help us draw closer to Jesus, and there's nothing wrong with that. But this year the Church of England is looking at how we might develop new habits that can help draw us closer to Jesus and live better lives. So that might mean taking something up rather than giving something up.

During Lent this year we will be using a booklet called "Draw Near" to help us think about what habits we could develop - whether that's reading the Bible in a different way, trying a different form of prayer or working for social justice.

If you'd like to join our **Lent Group** from **10:00–11:00** on **Tuesdays in March**, then you'd be very welcome. If you can't make it but would be interested in learning more about the course we will be following, then you could sign up for daily reflections from the Church of England, or download the app, which can help you follow along at home.

You are also very welcome at any of our services. We have **Celtic Evening Prayer** at **3:00pm** on **March 1st**, **Holy Communion** services at **11:00am** on **8th** and **22nd**, and a special **Mothering Sunday** service at **11:00am** on **15th**. The **29th** is a fifth Sunday and is **Palm Sunday**, which marks the start of our Holy Week journey towards Easter Sunday. On **March 29th** we're joining with the other parishes in our Mission Community to celebrate Palm Sunday together at **St Petroc's, South Brent**.

Help from the Foodbank

Food or other support is available for those in need. Also, advice from our CAB worker, who can often help in finding financial assistance. The Foodbank and the accompanying café run on Friday mornings at **St Luke's** from **10:00am**.

If you need help, call in on a Friday morning, or ring **01364 644485** (messages can be left at any time).

For further information

See our website <https://www.stlukeschurchbuckfastleigh.org.uk> or contact Rev Alex Holmes on **07576 193701**.

Buckfastleigh WI: Buckfast Abbey bees and 80th anniversary plans

We welcomed Martin and Clare to our monthly meeting to speak about the history of beekeeping at **Buckfast Abbey**. We thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Buckfast Bee, famously bred by Brother Adam, and about the honey, mead and beeswax produced at the Abbey since the Middle Ages. Their talk lifted the lid on the intriguing, magical life of honeybees, and they stayed on for questions. If you grow lavender or borage in your garden, you may well be hosting some of our local pollinators.

Martin and Clare also kindly judged this month's competition, 'A poem to my Valentine'. Congratulations to Sylvee (1st), Liz (2nd) and Sheila (3rd) — who knew we had such talented poets in our midst!

We're now planning our year ahead, including commemorating International Women's Day, hosting our local WI group meeting, and celebrating our 80th Anniversary.

Next meeting: Our next members' meeting is on **Tuesday 10 March**. Our speaker will share his experience of being a police surgeon over several decades. Your first visit is free — do come along, we'd love to meet you.

- **Time:** 7pm–9pm
- **Venue:** the lounge at **St Luke's Church, Buckfastleigh**

Contact: buckfastleigh@devonwi.org.uk. You can also find us via our Facebook page.

Musical afternoon at Buckfastleigh Memory Cafe

Buckfastleigh Memory Cafe invites you to our last stationary memory café this March, featuring a musical treat from a young musician supported by Villages in Action, Devon Music Education Hub and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. If you are living with dementia or other memory problems, please do join us with a companion for a supportive and very friendly afternoon at the railway. We'd love to see you there.



- **Date:** Tuesday 17 March 2026

- **Time:** 2pm – 3.30pm
- **Location:** On the platform at the South Devon Railway, Buckfastleigh
- Suggested donation: £3

For more information, please contact Kathrine on 07899 993134 or email kathrine@conversationworks.co.uk.

St Benedict's Catholic Church



Greater love hath no man

St Benedict's Catholic Church in Chapel Street, Buckfastleigh, is a friendly Catholic worshipping community served by our Parish Priest, Fr Francis Straw, from Buckfast Abbey.

We warmly invite you to join with us on **Saturdays at 5pm** for Mass, followed by tea and coffee. Children are very welcome to enjoy our quiet activity area during the service.

A special note to visitors: Are you reading this whilst on holiday? Are you here for

Mothering Sunday weekend? The congregation at St Benedict's is always pleased to welcome visitors to our Saturday 5pm Mass. Come and find us. We look forward to meeting you.

Stations of the Cross: During Lent, you are invited to join us as we focus on Christ's journey to the cross. We meet in Buckfast Abbey on Fridays at 5.45pm.

Palm Sunday Vigil Mass: Saturday March 28th, St Benedict's, Buckfastleigh, 5pm.

We begin our Holy Week Journey on Saturday March 28th. This beautiful service begins with us recalling Christ's entry to Jerusalem and leads us through His final days and crucifixion.

Easter Advance Notices: Please note that there will not be a service at St Benedict's, Buckfastleigh, on Saturday April 4th. We will be joining with the congregation of Buckfast Abbey for all Holy Week Services, which are held in Buckfast Abbey.

- Maundy Thursday April 2nd: Mass of the Lord's Supper, 6pm
- Good Friday April 3rd: Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3pm
- Easter Saturday April 4th: Solemn Easter Vigil Mass, 9pm

- Easter Sunday April 5th: Mass celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus, 9am and 11am

Buckfastleigh Foodbank: There is a donation point for the Foodbank in St Benedict's, and we thank parishioners for their continuing generosity. As Easter approaches, Easter treats would be most welcome. A list of items particularly needed is available in the church or on the Buckfastleigh Foodbank website.

Contact details: parish@buckfast.org.uk **Telephone:** Fr Francis Straw: 01364 645526

Buckfast Methodist Chapel access ramp under way and coffee mornings continue

Work on the long-awaited new **Access for All** ramp and pathway into **Buckfast Methodist Chapel** started at the beginning of February. Despite the appalling weather, Unique Projects have been making good progress. The original approach path is being completely reconfigured to meet the height of the new side route. Oakford Archaeology are overseeing the work, as the site is designated as an Ancient Monument — so far, only a few chicken bones! The cost is being met by contributions from church members, funds in hand from the sale of Scoriton Chapel, and a grant from the Benefact Trust. New handrails will be fitted after the groundwork is completed.



Contractors, Unique Projects at work on the front approach to Buckfast Chapel

Sunday services are planned to recommence on **Sunday 22 March**. In the meantime, please look at the Buckfast Methodist Chapel Facebook page for our alternative arrangements.

Our weekly **Wednesday Coffee Mornings** continue at the **Valiant Soldier, 10.00am–12 noon**, under the **Warm Spaces Initiative**. Come and join us for a cuppa and a friendly chat — we'd love to see you.

See the Buckfastleigh Methodists & Buckfast Methodist Chapel entry on our website for contact details.

What's on at the Wool Hub



Woolly Nanas welcome you to weekday drop-ins for felting, spinning, knitting and weaving. *Donations welcome; no booking needed.* Come and join us — we'd love to see you.

Opening times

- **Monday:** 10.30am–12.30pm
- **Tuesday–Friday:** 10.30am–3pm

Regular sessions

- **Tuesday mornings, 10.30am–1.30pm:** Mums of new babies knitting & crochet group — learn or share skills in a friendly group. We also have baby clothes and blankets for sale.
- **Every Wednesday, 1–3pm:** Sock Knitting with Gill.
- **Every Tuesday, 3.30–5pm:** Beginners' knitting with Noni — £12 per session.
- **Every Wednesday, 3.30–5.30pm:** Skill-building Felting Course with Rita (ages 8+) — starts **25 February**, £75 for the course; no drop-ins. *Booking required.*

March highlights

- **Sunday 1 March, 11am–2pm:** Needle Felting Book Characters with Marcelle (ages 8+). *Booking required.*
- **Tuesday 3 March, 5–7pm:** Bring Your Own Project.
- **Saturday 21 March, 10am–3pm:** Weaving and natural dyeing drop-in with Noni.
- **Thursday 26 March, 1–3pm:** Sort-It with Jackie.
- **Saturday 28 March, 10.30am–2.30pm:** Needle felting a Bunny and an Easter egg with Coral Brown — £45. *Booking required (online or by email).*

Enquiries and bookings: thewoolhubcic@gmail.com | <https://www.thewoolhub.org>

Valiant Soldier Museum reopens for the season

We're opening for the season — do come and see us.

- **March:** Wednesday mornings only.
- **From 24 March:** open **Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–3.30pm** (last entry 3pm) until the end of October. Extra openings on summer Sundays and Bank Holidays.

The Valiant Soldier is a vibrant community museum sharing Buckfastleigh's rich history. **From April**, our new exhibition explores the importance of the wool trade and how the Hamlyns helped the town flourish in the 19th century, running for two seasons.



The Valiant Bar: opens **Easter Saturday, 4 April, 6–10pm**. Beer, cocktails and more — dust off your Easter bonnet; best outfit wins a chocolate egg.

Gift shop: our newly refurbished visitor centre offers puzzles, tea towels, maps, greetings cards, mugs, souvenirs, pre-loved books, and locally made arts and crafts.

Across the year we run coffee mornings, educational workshops and other special events, and our spaces are available to hire.

Volunteers: we'd love a few more hands — even an hour or two helps. Drop in on **23 March, 5–7pm** for our “Thanks to our Volunteers” evening to find out more.

Support us: join the Teignbridge Lottery for Communities — tickets are **£1 for six numbers**, top prize **£25,000**, and **50p** from every ticket supports the Valiant Soldier. Find us on the Teignbridge Lottery for Communities website.

Contact: info@valiantsoldier.org.uk | 01364 644522 |
https://valiantsoldier.org.uk

Monthly conversations about dying in Buckfastleigh

Talking about end of life isn't easy. There's a friendly, facilitated monthly drop-in at the **Moor Imagination Centre (MIC)**

Topics may include: bereavement and coping with grief; preparing for dying; supporting someone who is dying; fears and anxieties; what happens after

we die; funerals and costs; advance decisions/living wills and wills; palliative care.

- **When:** Last Thursday each month, 6.30–8.00pm.
- **Next dates:** Thu 26 February; Thu 26 March; Thu 30 April 2026.
- **Venue:** Café at Moor Imagination Centre (old Methodist Church), Chapel Street, Buckfastleigh TQ11 0AB.
- **Cost:** Free; donations for tea, coffee and biscuits welcome.

“I feel so grateful for the opportunity to talk about these profound issues.”

It’s an open drop-in—do come along. We’d love to see you.

Enquiries: Simon Smith, Heart & Soul Funerals — 01364 643522 — hello@heartandsoulfunerals.co.uk

New monthly film club at Moor Imagination Centre

There’s a new monthly film club at the **Moor Imagination Centre (MIC)**, held on the **3rd Sunday of each month**. The film starts at **6.30pm**, with the café and bar open beforehand for refreshments. We’d love to see you.

We’re choosing films that entertain, uplift and give you something to think about. The first screening was ‘I Swear’, about the life of someone with ‘Tourette’s Syndrome’ who was awarded the MBE.

- **Next film: Sunday 22 March, 6.30pm** — one of the highest-rated current films around, “an impeccably crafted thriller” starring Ralph Fiennes.
- **Price:** Entry free; donations welcomed.

We have a licence which makes the films affordable, but it means we can only share film titles on our own mailing list and within the building. If you’d like to know what’s coming up, please sign up to the MIC newsletter. If you’re keen to get involved, we’re especially looking for people who’d enjoy helping to run a **Kids Film Club**.

Contact: To receive film titles and newsletter updates — or to volunteer — email moorimaginationcollective@gmail.com.

Buckfastleigh Community News

Published by the Wigram Community Association. Delivered by volunteers.

Submit articles: www.buckfastleighnews.org.uk | news@buckfastleighnews.org.uk
Chris Doidge, 1 Glebelands, TQ11 0BH – 01364 643553

Copy deadline: 16 March **Donations:** Buckfast Post Office or paypal.me/bflnews

Read online: www.buckfastleighnews.org.uk

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