

Mission Community of Ipplepen with Torbryan, Denbury, Broadhempston and Woodland

A New Dawn



Photograph by Barry Quick

Happy Easter!

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From the Editor



Looking forward

A very warm welcome to this edition of The Beacon. An edition during which we travel from Maundy Thursday on 1st April, through Good Friday and Easter Day. It will include the feast of the Ascension on Thursday 13th May, the day of Pentecost on 23rd May and Trinity Sunday on 30th May.

There is much to hold in our thoughts in the coming days and weeks, but we need to journey step by step. We need to stay in the place where we are, fellow travellers not jumping ahead.

In our everyday lives we hope that the pandemic is changing allowing some sort of recovery. I am writing this on the day after Ash Wednesday so there is much yet to happen.

Thank you to Barry Quick for his photograph of the sun through the lych gate at St. Andrew's.

Articles for the June/July edition should reach me by May 16th

Michael Price

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*The Beacon is produced at no
cost to the Mission Community*

www.missioncommunity.org.uk

The legacy of winter and the opportunity of spring

I write this on Mothering Sunday. This was the first Sunday when public worship was suspended in the first lockdown a year ago. Since this time we have made an extraordinary and painfully difficult journey of a year facing as a world loss of life, liberty and livelihoods. We have also witnessed extraordinary acts of kindness, care, skill and ingenuity.

Our church life has mirrored and been caught up in what has been going on in our families and throughout society and the world. We have faced the loss of the familiar ways of worship and prayer, a physical absence from one another and many other losses. Yet despite and perhaps often because of these losses new growth has emerged:



- There has been the development a weekly notice sheet with a written reflection each week
- We have begun to use Facebook as a way of keeping in touch and developing our communal life as well as taking our place in our wider village communities
- The development of the our Beacon Magazine
- Our buildings have increasingly become an important place for private prayer and reflection for our wider communities
- We have simplified our physical services which are also often recorded and made available for those not able to attend
- We have explored new ways of gathering such as the Journey to the Crib, Pet services and zoom morning prayer which has been instrumental in deepening our connections with one another across our churches
- Zoom gatherings have also allowed us to meet and keep the business of our community going
- There has been the development of churchwarden teams
- We have set up a safeguarding team with a representative in each parish supported by Anne Holroyd and the office
- In order to navigate through this time a Beacon Parishes Steering group consisting of a churchwarden from each parish plus a few others has been called together and met regularly to guide and advice both me as Rector and our individual parishes
- We have just hosted a placement for a Sarah Nichols one of the chaplaincy team at Channings Wood Prison
- Our youth choir have been rehearsing and recording music via zoom
- And excitingly we have just begun a new course exploring the Christian way of life which is being used by some to prepare for confirmation and others to look at their faith afresh. At this moment this being delivered on line but when we are able will be offered face to face.

All of this in what can only be described as a long and hard winter! These developments and adaptations have allowed us to continue to serve our communities and be alongside them through the past year.

Legacy and opportunity - continued

So what now....if this has been winter we have to journey through spring before summer will come again. Spring is a time of change, transition and extraordinary new potential. Sometimes there is warmth and then on other days it feels like winter once more. The growth of spring is vulnerable. In spring we look out for new growth, protect it until it is strong enough to survive on its own. We also focus on what seeds we want to plant in this new season of the year. So this is the task ahead of us ...

- to spot the new growth, protect it and nurture it until it is able to survive on its own, until it becomes established enough to withstand the changing seasons.
- to consider what seeds we want to plant in the cleared soil and do some planting
- And as the warmer weather comes to keep on top of the weeding and watch out for what might chock this new growth we are wanting to nurture and encourage.

Andrew

Straplines



- What do you mean we don't communicate anymore? Only yesterday I sent you a text to reply to the message you left on my ansafone.
- A clever person is someone who can lay a foundation with the bricks other people have thrown.
- A great pleasure in life is to do a good turn in secret and have it discovered by accident.
- 'Be yourself' is about the worst advice you can give to some people.
- Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.
- Christians should always ensure they keep the faith – but not from others.
- During my search for life I considered atheism, but there weren't enough holidays.
- God's biggest problem with labourers in His vineyard is absenteeism.
- A sermon can help people in one of two ways; they can either walk from it strengthened, or wake from it refreshed.
- Age doesn't always bring wisdom; sometimes age comes along on its own.
- Blowing out someone else's candle won't make yours shine any brighter.
- If our church was perfect, most of us would have the problem of looking for somewhere else to worship.
- Ignorance of the Bible was brought home by the university student who thought the Mount of Olives was an EU food mountain.

Beacon Parishes Mission Community Weekly Services

Weekly Zoom Morning Prayer

9.00 am to 9.30am Monday to Thursday - online via Zoom

Please email Rev'd Andrew Down for the meeting ID and passcode: rev.andrewdown@gmail.com

Regular Midweek Communion Service

Tuesdays at 10.15 am Holy Communion - St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Thursdays at 10.15 am Holy Communion (Not on 1st April) - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Services for April

Services planned at time of going to print. Please check website / Weekly Notices for updates.

Maundy Thursday April 1st

10.30am Cathedral Chrism Eucharist - Cathedral Facebook page online
5.30pm Holy Communion followed by Watch- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
7.30pm Holy Communion followed by Watch- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Good Friday April 2nd

10.30am Reflecting on the cross - St Andrew's, Ipplepen
2pm Reflecting on the Cross - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Holy Saturday April 3rd

8pm Easter Vigil - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury

Easter Day April 4th

9.30am Holy Communion - St John The Baptist, Woodland
9.30am Holy Communion - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am Holy Communion - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am Holy Communion - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Sunday April 11th Easter 2

9.30am Holy Communion - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am Holy Communion - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am Celtic Morning Prayer - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Sunday April 18th Easter 3

9.30am Holy Communion - St John The Baptist, Woodland
11.00 am Holy Communion - St Andrew's, Ipplepen
6pm Zoom Evening Prayer - meeting ID and passcode: rachelbelringer@gmail.com

Sunday April 25th Easter 4

9.30am Holy Communion - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am Holy Communion - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am Morning Worship - St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Services for May

Services planned at time of going to print. Please check website / Weekly Notices for updates.

Sunday May 2nd

Easter 5

9.30am Holy Communion
11.00 am Holy Communion
6pm Zoom Evening Prayer

- St John The Baptist, Woodland
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
- meeting ID and passcode: rachelbelringer@gmail.com

Sunday May 9th

Easter 6

9.30am Holy Communion
11.00 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Christian Aid Service

- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Sunday May 16th

Easter 7

9.30am Holy Communion
11.00 am Holy Communion
6pm Zoom Evening Prayer

- St John The Baptist, Woodland
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
- meeting ID and passcode: rachelbelringer@gmail.com

Sunday May 23rd

Pentecost

9.30am Holy Communion
11.00 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Morning Worship

- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Sunday May 30th

Trinity Sunday

Services t.b.c.



Christian Aid Week Appeal
10 - 16 May 2021

Climate chaos is one of the greatest injustices we face. Together we STOP this climate crisis.

To donate go to: www.christianaid.org.uk

Christian Aid Service

St. Andrew's Ipplepen, Sunday May 9th, 11.am

Churches together in Ipplepen

St. Andrew's and the Methodist Church



Life Events

We continue to pray for those we, as Beacon Parishes, have had the privilege of supporting and accompanying, and also their family and friends.

Funerals, Interments and Burials of Ashes

Barbra Stephens - Denbury
Betty Adams - Ipplepen
Michael Harrison - Broadhempston
Francis Harvey - Ipplepen
Peter Dewhurst - Ipplepen
David Hallett - Ipplepen
Edwin Squires - Ipplepen
John Minnis – Ipplepen
Rex Osborne - Ipplepen

How to keep in touch

- Weekly Notices** These contain up to date information of services and activities in our parishes. Published prior to each weekend, these are given out at services and also available to pick in the churches during the week. They are also emailed out by the office to those on the email circulation list
- Website** The Beacon Parishes website www.missioncommunity.org.uk is the 'go to' place for information. It also contains the Weekly Notices and Beacon Magazine
- Videos** Video recordings of some of the services held in our Beacon Community can be found on the website
- Facebook** Three of our parishes keep up to date Facebook pages:
www.facebook.com/StAndrewsIpplepen/
www.facebook.com/denburyworship
www.facebook.com/Broad20/
and the Beacon Community Discussion group:
www.facebook.com/groups/424938598594105
- Email** The Church Office has an email list which is used for sending out the Weekly Notices as well as any other important information. If you or someone you know would like to be included on this list, please contact the office
- Contacts** Names and telephone numbers are to be found in The Beacon.
- Rector** Rev'd Andrew Down. Tel: 01803 813403 E: rev.andrewdown@gmail.com
- Church Office** Church Office, St. Andrew's Church Hall, Church Path, Ipplepen, TQ12 5RZ
Tel: 01803 814178 E: office@beaconparishes.co.uk

Floodlighting

The towers at both Denbury and Ipplepen have floodlighting which needs sponsorship to cover the cost of electricity and maintenance. Sponsorship is usually for a week at a time, and people often like to sponsor to mark a special occasion.

For Denbury, contact Rachel Belringer 01803 812529
Mobile: 07751804007
For Ipplepen, write to the office or email
ippleflood@beaconparishes.co.uk



Denbury:

April	Sponsored by Tim and Pam Howe
May	Sponsored by Colin Williams in memory of his dear wife, Monica.

Ipplepen:

7 th – 20 th March	In memory of Trevor Morgan who would have been 95 years on 13 th March. Love from Beryl, Denise & Hazel.
14 th – 20 th March	In memory of John Noble who would have been 87 on the 18 th March. A dearly loved husband, father and grandad, missed by all his family.
21 st – 27 th March	Linda, David, and Hannah Simmonds for Katie's birthday on 25 th March
21 st Mar – 3 rd Apr	In memory of our Mum, Muriel Stephens, who would have been 100 on the 24 th of March, missed by all the family.
28 th Mar – 3 rd Apr	For our wonderful parents Melvin and Doreen Carter for their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 1 st April from Roger and Becci Carter and Sheila and David Lord. Wishing Stewart and Kay Wallhead a happy 50 th wedding anniversary. All our love from Debbie, Matt, Joe and Jamie, and Lorraine, Martin, Tom and Emily.
4 th – 10 th April	Remembering Pamela, a loving Wife and Grandma on her birthday 10 th April. From Mark, Karen and Ken Squire.
11 th – 17 th April	Ivor, Janice, Julie and Adam remembering Daphne Partridge, a dear wife, mother & Gran on her birthday 15 th April. Alistair and Judy Dewhirst to celebrate the birthday of Otto Mace on 12 th April Alistair and Judy Dewhirst to celebrate the birthday of Franz Mace on 15 th April
11 th – 24 th April	Dennis Hurrell and family in memory of his wife, Sally, whose birthday would have been on 14 th April In memory of a very dear friend, who loved and lived in Ipplepen for 36 years. Her birthday would have been the 20 th of April. She was a very private lady, so we know she would prefer not to have her name published and as she had many friends in the village we would prefer to remain anonymous too. She brightened our lives every day, so a light shining on the village is so appropriate.

Floodlighting

Ipplepen, continued:

25 th Apr – 1 st May	Alistair and Judy Dewhirst to celebrate the wedding anniversary of Alex and Jonas on 26 th April Antony Mitchell remembering his mother Mary, and Grandfather George Came In memory of Jim Clark on his birthday, 30 th April. From Tony, Marilyn and family.
9 th – 15 th May	A beacon of light on 11 th May for Wendy Jensen on her birthday
16 th – 29 th May	Margaret Hatten in loving memory of her darling husband David, whose birthday would have been on 17 th May.
23 rd – 29 th May	Linda, David and Hannah Simmonds for Katie's birthday on 25 th May Peter Mason remembering his wife Jan on 29 th May when they would have been married for 56 years.
23 rd May – 5 th June	From Mike and Jill Berry to celebrate their granddaughter becoming a teenager on 23 rd May.

A selection of special days and events in April

1 st	Maundy Thursday
2 nd	Good Friday World Autism Awareness Day International Children's Book Day
4 th	Easter Sunday
22 nd	Earth Day
23 rd	Shakespeare Day St George's Day
25 th	Anzac Day Penguin Day - birds not biscuits!
30 th	International Jazz Day

Smile



"Hey you! Pull over!" shouted the traffic cop. The old lady had been speeding on her way to church and felt very embarrassed. Shortly afterwards she was fined £50 and paid by cheque. She was very anxious about this because she didn't want her husband to find out, but she knew he had a habit of going through the cheque book stubs. Then inspiration struck and she wrote on the stub –

"One pullover. £50"

How might Facebook help us reflect as a church?

Since the pandemic began we have started to use Facebook for the first time as churches in the Beacon Mission Community.

Why? - because it is a form of communication accessible and used widely in our wider culture/villages and can be used when physical meeting is restricted. e.g. it is appropriate to the circumstances and time.



Question: What does this say to us about how we do or might communicate the gospel? Accessibly and appropriately?

In our short time of using Facebook we have realised we are using our pages for all our activity and posts in this medium - information, advertising, discussion, reflection, building community etc. and often repeating posts across our different Facebook pages.

Question: Do we do the same thing in our church life? Do we put all our eggs in one basket as it were. Can you think of examples?

In response to this issue we have introduced a number of layers to our Facebook use:

Beacon Community Group

www.facebook.com/groups/424938598594105

a group for those wanting to build community and have discussion

Facebook pages for our churches

www.facebook.com/StAndrewsIpplpen/

www.facebook.com/denburyworship

www.facebook.com/Broad20/

outward looking to communicate and engage a wider audience - our shop front.

Posting on village Facebook pages

taking our place in the wider village communities.

Question: What is the equivalent to these different layers in church life? Is each layer present? Are any layers dominating or underdeveloped?

And a prayer...

Loving God

**You do everything to communicate with us
help us to do all we can to communicate
the love you have for the world. Amen**

News from Ipplepen

St. Andrew



Walking through the churchyard to our service of Said Communion Tony and I admire the beauty all around us, there is the flowering Daphne Bush smelling so sweet, the vibrant yellow of the

daffodils and the grass so lush green and beautifully cut. Spring is a wonderful season - a re-awakening. The service today 7th March being the 3rd Sunday of Lent was conducted by Rev Andrew and Sarah, a chaplain from Channings Wood Prison, gave an interesting address. The Reflection for the theme of this service was written by Steve Sheldon on John's Gospel.

It was good to see many more people in the Congregation but all safely social distancing and to hear the first bans of marriage read out in a long time. This makes us feel much more optimistic that life is starting to return to some normality.

The Ash Wednesday Service at 7pm on 17th February was a little different and quieter this year but we were still able to mark ourselves with a cross with a little ash brought to us individually by Andrew.

Each Wednesday evening at 7pm during Lent there is a service of compline (evening prayer) lasting 30 minutes with prayers, readings, meditations and reflective music. Jane Outhwaite organises these lovely services. The first was led by Vanessa and I read a meditation of St. John the Baptist. The following one led by Jane with Bridget reading a meditation of St. Paul. Stephen led the third one which is halfway through Lent. Winnie read the meditation from St. Mark.

Winnie is still contacting by 'phone many of our St. Andrew's family every week and keeping the Pastoral care team up to date which is much appreciated.

Sadly we have heard of the passing of two of our church members recently. Betty Adams who was the wonderful age of 104 and a lovely cheerful lady and also David Hallett who was a stalwart of the church and served it in many ways. He always enjoyed the hymns and choir singing anthems and descents. We send love to Cynthia and families of both David and Betty.

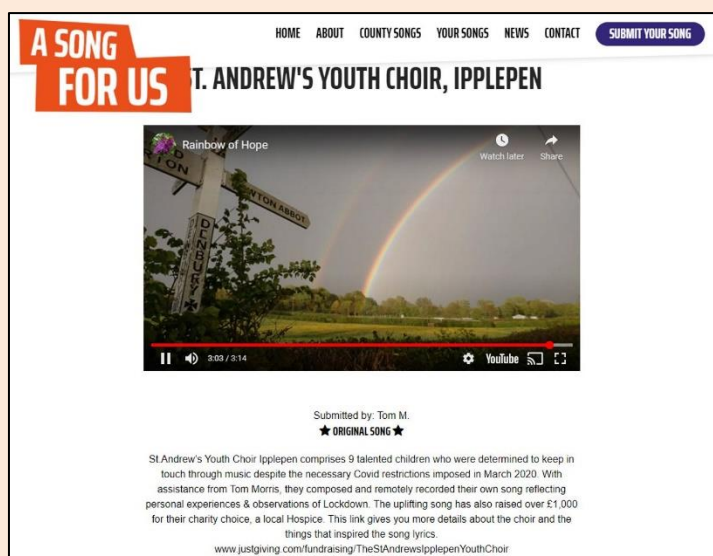


It is good that we have been able to join in or watch later Zoom services and seeing all churches of the Beacon Community involved. The Beacon Magazine which seems to get better and better and so important to reach out to so many people who may not attend church. The weekly News Sheets and Reflections keep church members in the link even in isolation. Thank you to Andrew and Caren for organising these every week.

We look forward to Mothering Sunday and the Easter Services and the day we are able to socialise together in a more normal way.

Marilyn Clark

St Andrew's Youth Choir



Watch and hear our recording of 'Rainbow of Hope'

<https://asongforus.org/submissions/st-andrews-youth-choir-ipplepen/>

Still going strong

We sing a variety of songs and even try other languages just for fun.

We have made recordings of our songs for charity.

We're now on ZOOM!

Thursday 5.30 – 6.00 pm

Friday 5.30 – 6.00 pm

To join us contact us at 01803 812654

A letter to us all

World Wildlife Day
Wednesday 3rd March 2021



As the school Eco-Ambassador, I wanted to write to you to tell you that Year 6 and many other year groups across the school have been celebrating World Wildlife Day today.

I feel that it is my duty to inform you of some of the things that were part of our work today and some of the things that you may wish to do at home in order to care for Wildlife. Some of the things that could be done are:

1. Preserve habitat for Wildlife in your garden by planting bee friendly and insect friendly flowers.
2. If you can, buy eco-friendly products (especially house cleaning products) because these are made with the environment in mind and often come in biodegradable packing.
3. Feed birds during the cold weather-It is set to get cold again soon!
4. Relating to birds, be aware of what your cat is doing if you have one! It may be a good idea to keep them inside if you know that birds are nesting nearby!
5. Provide water for wild animals too. We often think to feed them but actually many wild animals find it difficult to find water.
6. Try not to trim trees, bushes, hedges in your garden in the spring when many species of wildlife will be using it as their home.

It would be great if you could consider some of these things in order to help our wildlife.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Saunders, Class 6 (ECO-Ambassador Ipplepen Primary School)

A view from Torbryan



Torbryan is of course a place which is full of water. We have two streams that intersect here and at least four ponds along the side of these. And where there are ponds amphibians will also be found. On a series of unseasonably warm evenings in late February literally hundreds of frogs, toads and newts were on the move. Unfortunately, many of them also got squashed by cars on the busy Ipplepen to Broadhempston road. If you happen to be driving along this road on a warm, wet spring evening do keep a look out for them.



During this time I was out on toad patrol every night, trying to help their safe passage across the road. This would involve gently gathering them up and carefully depositing them on the other side of the road. When you pick them up they make a sort of squawking alarm call but otherwise don't seem much bothered by the experience. Certainly, it's preferable to getting squashed by a vehicle.

Some of the amphibians had an even greater death wish and had taken to mating in the middle of the road. I certainly felt quite bad about interrupting them, but hope that moving them on

would teach them that this isn't the best spot for this activity. My neighbour told me that the Beatles once wrote a song about humans 'mating' in the street called 'Why Don't we Do It In the Road?' and that perhaps the frogs and toads were also following this advice. I wasn't aware that frogs and toads were particularly aware of the Beatles' oeuvre but who am I to say?! You would have thought that they would be more into The Muppets and the output of Kermit the Frog, who put out some quite fine music in their day.

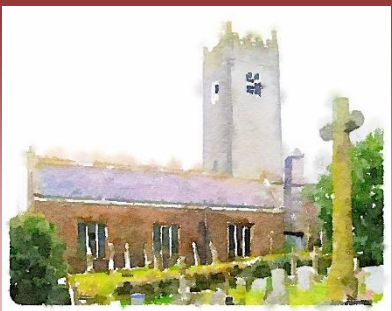
Anyway, I digress. I really think our frogs, toads and newts are charming creatures and we're lucky to have them around. Some newt species such as the greater crested newt are critically endangered; yet another reason why we should go out of our way to look after these animals.

Georgie Brendon



News from Woodland

St. John the
Baptist



With a National Day of Reflection planned for later this month, it is difficult not to write an article reflecting on the past year and its effect on the friends and residents of Woodland. With the notices on the village notice board having remained almost unchanged since last year, sometimes it feels that the past year has been unreal. It has been a year of heroes and

tragedies; a year of scientific breakthroughs which have soon become part of everyday life. A year where our children have only spent one term physically at school and university students substantially less as their courses moved predominantly online. A year for finding new ways of obtaining staple foods after finding supermarket shelves remorselessly empty and a year for being creative with cookery as a consequence. This has also, however, been a year of opportunities. Many households have welcomed a new pet into the family, proving that we are, indeed, a nation of animal lovers. Most of us took advantage of the extra time and beautiful weather of lockdown 1 to catch up on large amounts of painting and decorating, re-invent the garden and tidy out cupboards whose contents hadn't been touched for years. Some have enjoyed learning new skills. One member of my family has enjoyed sewing, turning old curtains and out grown clothing into new, whilst another discovered an interest in woodwork and can now turn a bowl. It has also been an opportunity to make plans for the future, rekindle old friendships that we have let slide and listen to and understand the needs of others. The rise in awareness of issues relating to racism and mental health that has also occurred can only be a good thing.

Woodland is the sort of rural village where cows and sheep are far more numerous than its human residents. I know that the effect of the pandemic has permanently altered the lives of some of our families, yet we are surrounded by a wider landscape for whom the turn of the seasons and change in the weather has more significance. The few bright, warm and sunny days that we have recently had have sent most of us out into our gardens for a frenzy of lawn mowing, pruning, hedge trimming and weeding. Bright yellow daffodils and primroses abound in our hedgerows and gardens, young lambs skip in our fields and the spring field work has begun on our farms. Spring cattle turn out, from their winter barns into the fields, the arrival of the first



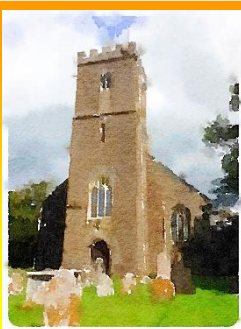
Photo by Anthony Mitchell

swallow and the birds nesting in earnest are still things to look forward to as springtime progresses. I used to ride a horse around our village lanes who viewed each nodding daffodil bloom with great suspicion, fearing that they might leap out and bite him. For me, though, the daffodil symbolises hope and the promise that the gloomy days of winter are nearly over.

Helen Pearse

News from Broadhempston

St. Peter and St. Paul



Journey to Easter and Beyond

At the time of writing, preparations for our Easter Journey are well under way. We hope many will take the opportunity to visit the church and join in this journey of hope, as we look forward to the future months with easing of

restrictions and more freedom. The displays show the journey from the arrival of the donkey on Palm Sunday, through a series of tableaux, pictures, poetry, music and flowers, together with Easter gardens made by the children of Broadhempston School.

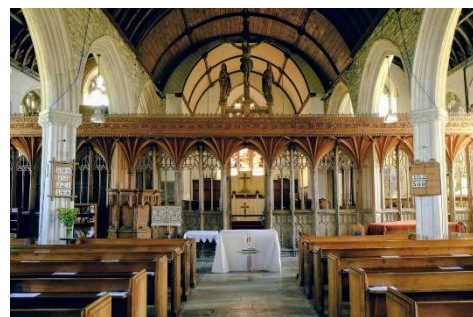
The church will be open for viewing and private prayer from Palm Sunday (28th March) throughout Holy Week and over Easter until Wednesday 7th April, from 9am to 5pm. We look forward to restarting our service gatherings in the coming months.

FREDERICK TOWNSHEND CHAMBERLAIN Vicar of Broadhempston: 1873 – 1903

This article is a presentation that was produced by the Broadhempston Archive and Local History Group (BALHG), website: broadhempstonlocalhistory.wordpress.com

The church as we know it today is largely the result of the actions of Frederick Townshend Chamberlain, Vicar of Broadhempston between 1873 and 1903.

Born in Portsmouth in 1830, the son of a Royal Navy Commander, he was an educated man securing an MA from Trinity College, Dublin (1897 Clergy List). He subsequently trained for the Anglican Clergy at St. Aidan's College Birkenhead and was ordained in Chester Cathedral in 1854 (newspaper report). He spent time as a curate in Liverpool, Chester, and in Hawarden, Flintshire (1897 Clergy List), before being appointed as vicar of Broadhempston by Queen Victoria in 1873 (newspaper report).

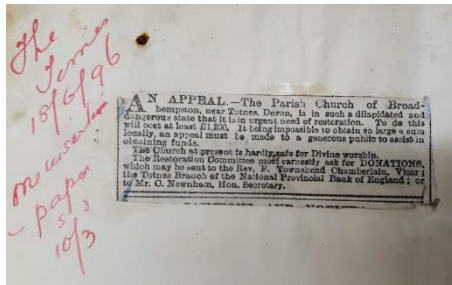


He was a family man, having married Sarah Sophia Beatty in 1857 in Liverpool (Ancestry record). Together they had a large family of 4 girls and 6 boys. Evans (Broadhempston 1958) describes him as an indulgent parent and autocratic priest. Their eldest son, Frederick William Chamberlain, was born in 1858 and followed in his father's footsteps to become an ordained priest in Exeter in 1885. He served as a curate in Georham, Whimble, and Berry Pomeroy before becoming a Chaplain in the Bengal Ecclesiastical Establishment in India in 1893 (1897 Clergy List).

In 1873, Broadhempston was in decline; the population was disappearing, and houses were derelict. Despite this, and with no private income of his own, the Vicar set about 'doing things for the benefit of the Church and Parish' (Evans, Broadhempston, 1958). The chancel was restored in 1877 with choir seats and a new east window installed; the west gallery was removed, and a new screen erected in its place. In 1878, an organ was installed and subsequently enlarged and improved in 1890. The bells were rehung, and a sixth bell installed in 1887 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee. A new altar was constructed using old oak from within the church. (Evans, Broadhempston, 1958).

News from Broadhempston - continued

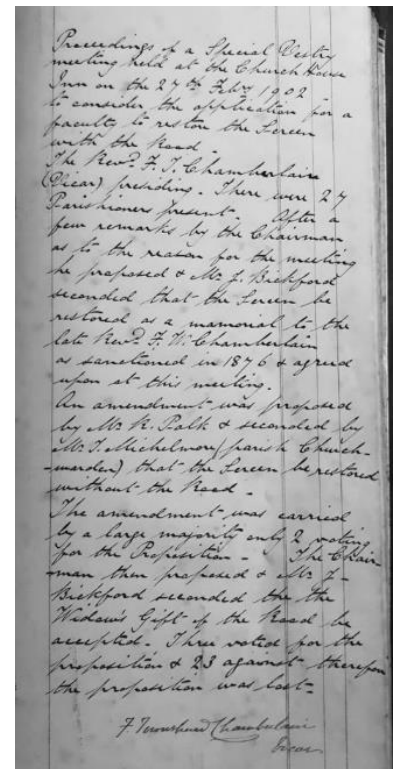
Unfortunately, the work on the roof meant many early 15th century features were lost. However at least two original roof bosses survive; one which depicts two men and two women in idle chatter (Sue Andrew Thesis, 2011). It is located towards the east end of the north aisle. Another is at the entrance to the Lady Chapel.



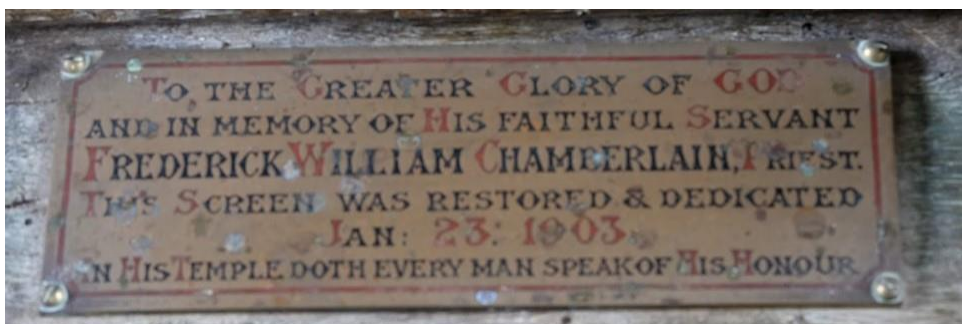
restoration of the church was started, which took two years. The windows were reglazed, the floor replaced, and a new roof and supports installed at a cost of £1018. (Evans, Broadhempston, 1958). This money was raised by the Vicar, who undertook a national fundraising appeal

through adverts in the main daily newspapers.

Sadly, in 1900, Frederick's eldest son Frederick William died in Totnes having returned from India. The Vicar set to again and organised refurbishment of the original early 16th century rood screen. The work was undertaken by the Herbert Read company in Exeter in 1902, and, having secured the agreement of Parishioners at a Special Vestry meeting, the screen was dedicated to Frederick William Chamberlain in 1903. Father and son's initials can be seen carved into the screen, and also the date. There is also a memorial plaque fixed to the base of the screen.



The work on the screen included many replacement parts, however the carvings were kept true to the originals. This can be seen particularly when comparing features such as the Renaissance dolphins carved into the base of the pillar cladding. The original (on the right) dates from the early 16th century.



News from Broadhempston - concluded

In 1903, Frederick Townshend Chamberlain retired from Broadhempston to live in Paignton.

His service to Broadhempston Parish was marked by the installation of a new pulpit in December 1903. A memorial plaque is affixed which includes the biblical quotation "He hath made everything beautiful in his time (Ecclesiastes III.II.)". The pulpit was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Exeter during a special service in February 1904 (newspaper report).

Frederick died in 1906 (Ancestry), and his funeral was held in Broadhempston on 30th April 1906 (newspaper report). He and his wife Sarah Sophia, along with sons Frederick William and Herbert Stevens Chamberlain, are buried in the north west corner of Broadhempston churchyard. Sadly, their memorial stones have been damaged over the years and are now somewhat neglected.



Insults with class



- "He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary."
William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway)
- "Poor Faulkner. Does he really think big emotions come from big words?"
Ernest Hemingway (about William Faulkner)
- "Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it."
Moses Hadas
- "He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any man I know."
Abraham Lincoln
- "I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it."
Groucho Marx

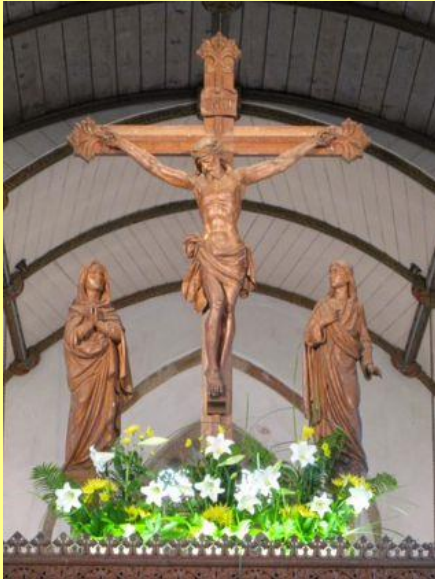
Easter Journey

Broadhempston Church



Christ's journey from Palm Sunday to the Cross

Sunday 28th March to Wednesday 7th April
9 am – 5 pm



- Easter Donkey
- Pictures & Poetry
- Music & Flowers
- Easter Gardens



While you are in church, you can also:

*Visit the village
library*



*View the village
archive displays*



Please observe social distancing requirements during your visit

News from Denbury

St. Mary the
Virgin



With the recent encouraging news regarding the gradual lifting of lockdown restrictions over the weeks to come, we can at last start to think positively about the prospect of the resumption of our normal service programme, potentially holding some social events and the simple pleasure of meeting friends over a coffee after

church for a good old natter.

For a large number of us the separation from family and loved ones has been hard and loneliness has been a major issue for many.

We are so lucky to live here in the countryside where, as we enter spring, nature can be relied on to provide regrowth, new life and colour so apparent in the fields and in our gardens to help with the healing process.

At St. Mary's our services continue to follow the pattern of a Communion every other week sandwiched with a Mission Community Zoom service. Numbers attending the services in church are gradually increasing. The church remains open daily between 10am and 5pm for private thought and prayer and this facility has been used regularly by members of the community.

As we travel through Lent, several of the congregation have been reading the novel "Phoebe" which will be collectively reviewed and discussed online during this period of reflection taking the place of our normal Lent Discussion Group meetings. The part that the Internet will play in our future ministry is a subject under discussion as the filming and online presentation of services has been very popular and could be a great way to reach a wider congregation in the future. Also its use as a means of distributing information about church activities and generally keeping in contact with each other is another area we can continue to develop going forward.

The project to refurbish the church bells, which has suffered significant delays during 2020 due to the lockdowns, is again currently held up by the current restrictions. Trapdoors for the removal and subsequent reinstallation of the bells have been completed and the necessary lifting beams put in place. We are still hopeful that the main work on the bells and running gear scheduled to commence June/July 2021 will still take place this year. It would be great if we could ring in the New Year on a revamped, enlarged peal of bells. It seems a long time since the ringers were able to meet on a Sunday and for a practise on Thursdays. When we do return, the ringers are all looking forward to ringing from the newly created ringing room on the first floor which should provide a far warmer, brighter and more comfortable area than our previous location on the ground floor. Hopefully it will be possible to return to our original plan to set up a 'mini museum' in the former ringing room with exhibits and information reflecting the church's long history.

By the next edition of the Beacon we will be entering summer and if all goes to plan we should be enjoying some additional freedoms in our daily routines. Our APCM will have been completed and the PCC will be looking at how we can kickstart church activities across the board to try to recover lost ground, how we can best reach out to the community in the months to come and relishing the prospect of the church family spending time together once again.

Mike Bray

Recipe for the month – ANZAC Biscuits



On 25th April 1915, the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) set out to capture the Gallipoli peninsula in Ottoman Turkey. The plan was to open the Dardanelles for the allied navies. It soon became the day on which Australians and New Zealanders remember the sacrifice of those who had died in the war. A year later, on 25th April 1916, King George V and Queen Mary attended the first commemorative service in Westminster Abbey and it has been held there ever since.

This month's recipe is for the traditional ANZAC biscuits which are thought to date back to the Ottoman Turkey war when mothers made them for their boys heading for the front line. This recipe was found on the Royal British Legion website in 2014.

Ingredients

- 4 oz plain flour
- 4 oz light brown sugar
- 4 oz desiccated coconut
- 5 oz rolled oats
- 4 oz butter
- 2 tablespoons golden syrup
- ½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- 2 tablespoons boiling water

Method

- Mix the flour, sugar, coconut and oats together in a large mixing bowl. Melt together the butter and syrup.
- Dissolve the bicarbonate of soda in the boiling water and add to the butter and syrup. Add butter and syrup to the flour mixture.
- Place teaspoon-sized mounds of the mixture on a greased baking tray large enough to hold 12. Give each mound room to expand.
- Bake at 180C, Gas Mark 4, for 15 - 20 minutes, transfer to a cooling rack as soon as cooked.

In Memoriam – Betty Adams

The following is the eulogy given by Steven Came at Betty's funeral.

Winnifred Elizabeth Adams died on January 15th 20021 aged 104 years. Known to all as Betty Adams she had lived in Ipplepen for over 90 years, active in so many spheres of Ipplepen village life as the photographs show. She was a faithful member and regular worshiper at St Andrew's where her father had been churchwarden in the 1920's and 30's. I am grateful to Steven Came for allowing me to reproduce part of the eulogy he gave at her funeral.- Editor

Betty Adams was born on the 31st May 1916 at Southdown Farm, Brixham to George Sylvanus Came and Winifred Came. Auntie Betty's father George, was one of ten children, all from the South Hams. Betty's mother, Winifred Triggol, may well have been one of several more siblings from Somerset, as Betty once mentioned she had 42 first cousins! An enormous family, and sometimes hard to keep track of.

When Betty was aged about 9, and her sister Mary, 11, the family moved from Southdown, Brixham to the big white house in The Elms in East Street, Ipplepen. That is the large house next door to Elmside, which Betty and her husband Loye had built before moving into it, from the Elms, in about 1986. In 1925, The Elms and the surrounding few acres were in a poor state of repair when George and family acquired it. As well as having to move farm equipment and some animals from Brixham to Ipplepen, George and Winifred needed to get the house in a suitable state in which the family could occupy.

And so whilst the move was taking place, Betty and Mary (aged about 9 and 11) were sent down to stay with relatives in the South Hams. However, Auntie and Mary soon found that this was not to their liking. I expect they missed Mum and Dad, their freedoms and the beach. And so they both climbed out of an upstairs bedroom window to make their way home, two girls of 11 and 9 on the run in the South Hams, determined to find Mum and Dad again.

Eventually when settled at The Elms, with his skills, George with the support of the family began to do up the property, farmed a few acres, and sold produce much of which was grown in the walled garden, the same walled garden where Auntie's house now stands. The Comes integrated into the village life and I am sure would have been involved in many village events. I do know that George was a churchwarden at this church of St Andrews, Ipplepen.



Betty and her sister both attended a private school at Hillcrest, on the way to Newton Abbot. By all accounts both sisters were popular, especially Betty who was blessed with good looks and her incredibly long hair, which as we know she always wore in a bun.

Those early years must have been hard work building up a business, coping with the weather and variable harvests, and getting through the depression of the 1930s. Once established there was time for family outings, and Ipplepen being closer to Dartmoor

In Memoriam – continued

than Brixham, the family seemed to develop a real love of Dartmoor. There are pictures of the family taking picnics on Dartmoor,

meeting up with many other of the large “Came” family, and pictures of Auntie Betty and her sister sitting on a pony, or a donkey. That love of Dartmoor remained, and indeed it is where Mary spent most of her adult life, living in Haytor Vale, a place where Auntie and family would visit often, as Mary and Betty always remained close.

Whilst her elder sister Mary eventually moved away, Betty stayed with her parents at Ipplepen. I imagine she would have accompanied them to this church week in and week out, her father George was church warden here for several years. In 1959, Betty married Loye Adams, and Loye moved in with Betty and his new in-laws at The Elms! But Betty and Loye had a lovely relationship together.

They had no children of their own, but her sister Mary had started her family even before Betty and Loye were married. The first of her nieces was Anne, my mother, then along came Antony, then Margie (Margaret), and finally Edward, all here today. Betty was the Aunt that everyone would have loved to have. Her four nieces and nephews would travel down from Worthing by train during the holidays and stay with Auntie and her parents at the Elms

I’m told that her mother, Winifred Triggol before she became Winifred Came, came from a family who loved horses, and horse-riding. Although her father George could ride, and of course would have had horses for the farm-work, Auntie probably learned to ride from her mother. She passed that skill on to her niece Anne, who learned on a fairly big cob horse called Tommy. Tommy belonged to Mr Mann who rented a field in Ipplepen from the Cames, and who would ride Tommy down through the village to check on his animals, apparently wearing a bowler hat.

Tommy, the horse was going to be enlisted for riding lessons, with Auntie as chief instructor. After learning to ride Tommy safely at a walk, it was time for Auntie to teach Anne to trot. So Auntie jumped on her bicycle, after making sure Anne was safely in the saddle, and then out on the road she would go on her bike, rein in hand and Tommy and Anne following. After readying the pupil, Auntie sped up on her bike, leading the horse in a trot. At any level, it seems to me fraught with danger, but I suppose in those more innocent days, it could be done, as there were few vehicles around.

Auntie of course loved her picnics, especially the family ones. I don’t recall her ever missing the annual ‘Came’ family picnic, until she became too unwell to attend, and it was always lovely to see her. As well as making THE best apple pie ever, she would join in with the ball games, whether that was simple catch, or a simple game of cricket.

Other times we would meet her sister Mary and one or two other relatives on Dartmoor. It might be Haytor, or Hound Tor, Spitchwick or Ruddicleave. Always for fun, and with plenty of food and tea to drink. Simple food though – a particular favourite of hers was Sandwich Spread. And of course, the annual trip in September to find and pick Whortleberries. Searching and picking the very small tangy berries for several hours for the sake of a mouthful of whortleberry pie later, might sound like one of the duller things ever, but it was a sheer pleasure with Auntie. A pleasure that my family and I now enjoy too.

For me, though, my abiding memory of Auntie as a child was her lovely reassuring expression that some ‘grown ups’ have. Children seek reassurance often, and a glance at Auntie, and if she caught your eye, she would ‘beam’ at you with a warm glint in her eye – it was so lovely and reassuring.

Those of us who stayed with her would also have had a taste of her busy village life. I can only give a small idea of the time Betty spent getting involved and helping others. As well as a lifelong supporter of



In Memoriam – continued

St. Andrew's, Betty was a member of the WI, supporting the various events. She enjoyed her amateur dramatics too. Along with Uncle

Loye, and my grandmother Cecily Came at Collaton Farm, she would go regularly to watch 'TOADS' - the Torbay Operatic and Dramatic Society, then at the Babbacombe Theatre.



Betty wasn't just a "watcher" though – she was very much involved in the Ipplepen village plays. I think she directed and/or produced more than one, and was certainly in them. Whilst I was staying with Betty one holiday, I went to several of her rehearsals for "Lloyd George Knew My Father", in which she played a character alongside a couple of other names that you may be familiar with – Phil Jobe and his wife (I think Joan), and Mrs Ena Mould. It was fun in my early teens to be able to sit and watch Auntie in the final production knowing almost all the words ...

Auntie was such a kind lady too, and would help no end of people.

Almost invariably we would leave early for church as we would be picking up one lady or another to take her to and from the Sunday service. Auntie was a good driver, and would confidently drive up and down East Street and around the village in her Sunday hat. And then there were her Meals on Wheels rounds. I remember them, in the same way that my eldest daughter Coral does, when Coral stayed. Auntie would say stay in the car for a minute whilst she would take the meal in, and appear again after 10 minutes after Auntie had had a kindly word with the grateful recipient.

Auntie liked to do things properly. She would dress well, was always prompt, rarely spoke ill of anyone, and had a quiet strength of character. She was such a gracious lady, and such fun too. As a result she was very well liked by most. Because of what might be described as a "prim and proper" demeanour, one could be forgiven in thinking she lacked any kind of fibre or temper, and not say "boo to a goose". But of course she was after all a farmer's daughter, and she would have spent a great deal of time with animals, and understood much about animals, who aren't always the best behaved. My mother recalled an incident with a gander. Auntie kept geese several geese out on the orchard, for Christmas dinner, and indeed used to hatch the eggs by keeping them warm on top of the Aga.

Whilst the four nieces and nephews were staying and helping Auntie feed the kitchen scraps, a large but rather vicious gander took a dislike to youngest nephew, Edward when was aged about 4 or 5, and flew at him and grabbed his collar. Hearing some shrieking and cries for help at being attached, Auntie came running, and my mother recalls her surprise at seeing Auntie grabbing the gander by the wings, and tossing him over her shoulder exclaiming "you naughty Goose, we will NOT have any of that" or some such admonishment!

Auntie was one of those people that seemed to be able to get everything done, and more, but still have time to stop, read the paper and play a card game, or teach you a new game of patience. She seemed totally unflustered in everything she did, with a calm and bright spirit.

As a hostess, I think Auntie's talents were clear. My earliest memories of Christmas day were always of Christmas lunch at The Elms. Goose would be served at almost exactly 1 o'clock with perhaps 10 – 12 perhaps 14 family members present each year. There were her sister and her four children, and latterly their new husbands or wives, and then the little great nephews and great nieces started to arrive. Very often one or two elderly relatives would have been invited to stay with Auntie, for Christmas too. We had to stop always for the Queen at 3pm ... of course.

Not forgetting others at Christmas, she would take us little ones, very often I think on Christmas day, to see one or two old ladies in the village to say thank you for the box of chocolates, or little book that we had been bought. There was Mrs. Froom, who used to keep house for Auntie, and Miss Beavis, who I think helped with the children. Auntie was such a giving person.

In Memoriam – concluded

I have to mention two things ... because Auntie Betty and Uncle Loye were the key to developing my real enjoyment of them, and

that is being on the water, and playing bridge. Once old enough, I was invited to go out on “Bambino”, a small motor boat that Betty and Loye had moored just off Greenway, on the river Dart. Auntie really enjoyed being on the water – she loved the sea – a cruise down the river Dart and out to sea, to catch some mackerel. I never had to bring a thing - she always had a picnic lunch, with a flask of tea – invariably it seemed, sandwich spread sandwiches! On longer days, we would sail around from Dartmouth up the coast to Mansands, to the very beach that she knew so well from her very young days. We’d drop anchor, and taken the dinghy to the beach, and enjoy a picnic, and pick winkles from the rock pools if the tide was out.

A great many things tickled Auntie. I was reminded of the time when she was asked to talk to the local school children about her experiences of the Second World War, being one of the older residents in Ipplepen throughout. This was some 25 years ago. Auntie talked about the rationing, the locals who had to serve the war effort. She mentioned a lady who had her nose injured by some shrapnel from a German explosive. A few days later all the children sent a picture as a thank you to Auntie, and almost all of them had the same theme albeit different drawings A lady covered in blood with part of her nose blown away! Auntie was highly amused.

Auntie had always been competitive at games, always in a healthy, good spirited way. As well as Bridge and card playing, she was an excellent scrabble player, and good with words. Her lovely lawn leant itself to croquet, and no doubt most if not all of us remember the croquet set out on the lawn in the summer, and having a game with Auntie.

And so to one of her favourite games yet to be mentioned – her Bowls. Uncle Loye I remember was one of the founding members of the Ipplepen Bowling Club. He must have been searching for a competitive sport having had to give up his golfing at Churston, as it was a bit too much. I recall seeing Loye’s smiling face on the TV (ITV local news, or possibly Spotlight) back in the 1980s, when he “rolled up” at the official opening of the club, in a deluge of rain! It neatly demonstrated the advantage of the all weather pitch. I think I’m right that Loye was the first President. But Auntie took to the bowling like a duck to water, and she and Loye loved playing. It would have appealed to her competitive spirit. I know Auntie had many friends from the club. Auntie was herself President for very many years, and was a great support to the club, I believe, and it is a privilege that representatives from the Bowling Club, as well as the Ipplepen WI, and Ipplepen memory café are here today, so thank you for your representation.



My guess is that at an early age Auntie Betty developed an awareness of her many blessings, through her family and friends. We all face good times and bad times, and Auntie was no different, but with her good grace, a quiet strength and resolve to do good, Auntie would have worked through those bad times, no doubt supported by her deep faith. She gave freely of her time through her many good deeds, she supported her mother and father who remained at The Elms, and nursed them at home through their final days, grateful for all they had given to her. And through all the love, good humour, grace and kindness, I hope she felt the love and support was given back to her in her last days.

Just an hour or two after she slipped away, I spoke to my Auntie Felicity, who had been with her. One thing Felicity said to me “You know, she never complained”.

My GREAT Auntie Betty was a kind and vary gracious lady, and if there really is a heaven, then she is certainly on her way.

Steven Came

GROWING THE RURAL CHURCH



The new 'Growing the Rural Church' online resource hub to help rural churches 'grow and thrive' has been launched by the Bishop of Exeter. www.exeter.anglican.org/resources/growing-rural-church/

Growing the Rural Church (GtRC) is a Diocese of Exeter pilot project funded by the Church of England's Strategic Development Fund.

Its aim is to resource rural mission communities to creatively use their talents and buildings to connect with their communities and landscapes to develop sustainable futures.

Growing the Rural Church began in 2017, but is now relaunching following a major re-appraisal of its operational methods during the pandemic.

The resource hub will offer churches across the UK support to plan projects, apply for grants, work with local communities, get help with building maintenance, plan special events and make the most of church festivals. As well as free tutorial videos and online guidance, there will be regular free webinars throughout the year.

The Growing the Rural Church team also wants to help churches explore innovative uses for their buildings, for example as community work hubs and cafés during the week for people working from home.

Sarah Cracknell, the project manager, said *"When the pandemic hit, we couldn't operate as before, going out to meet church groups face to face. We realised that offering support online would enable us to offer the same advice and guidance to a much greater number of rural churches. Also, we can connect churches in similar situations with each other through the webinars, so they can work together more easily."*



Sarah Cracknell

The Bishop of Exeter, the Right Reverend Robert Atwell, said *"Helping our rural churches to grow and flourish is something I am passionate about. For centuries our village churches have been at the heart of our communities and now rural life is at a turning point with people rediscovering the 'gift of local'. A healthy church is a sign of a healthy society and the Growing the Rural Church team is here to help with that."*

Sarah said the project was about much more than just preserving church buildings for the future.

"We want to help churches which see they need to change in order to survive, grow and thrive," she said. "We are really excited about the launch. This feels like it could be a helpful resource for rural churches. It will give them the essential building blocks to be sustainable but it also has a lot of creative ideas for 'risk taking' and growth."

Sarah said the lifestyle changes forced by the pandemic had given rural churches a renewed opportunity to be at the heart of their communities:

"People are becoming much more committed to their local areas and as a society we have become more aware of the needs of others and the importance of our own wellbeing. Rural churches have a unique opportunity to speak into that. We are hoping to work with the Devon Work Hubs organisation to encourage churches to offer community work spaces so people don't just have to work at home alone. People are missing that connection with others."

An adventure into the land of computer games

Question: What was the rector doing on the first Sunday of Lent?

Answer: Playing computer games!

My 8 and 10 year old are showing increasing interest in computer games - hearing from friends at school and (before lockdown) occasionally playing computer games at friend's houses. Never having had an interest in, let alone love of computer games, the question I face along with many parents is where to start? How can I help and guide my children in this world which feels like a foreign land to me?



I called the journalist and broadcaster Andy Robertson who writes about computer gaming and who I knew had recently written a book called 'Taming Gaming: guiding your child to video game health'. To my surprise Andy's advice was not directed towards what I should do for the children but instead was for me to start playing and indeed enjoying computer games! He explained that my own literacy in this form of 'new media' would be the biggest factor in my ability to help my children navigate well and become literate in this media themselves.

This advice reminded me of when I was working as an alcohol counsellor before I became a vicar where I often worked with parents who would describe how they wanted the best for their children. We would explore together what they meant. They might say 'I want my child to enjoy sport and be fit and healthy' or 'to be able to look after themselves emotionally and be happy in who they are'. I would then ask how they were doing with these things for themselves, knowing the biggest predictor of their parenting success was their abilities to live these things for themselves. That is where we started.

So it was this that led me on the First Sunday of Lent not to pick up some great theological tome but to play my first computer game in years. It was a game called Florence a puzzle game, hand drawn and full of whimsy with some great music that tells the story of a relationship with all its ups and downs. I haven't yet ventured much further into the world of computer games (still building up courage!) but I have been reading 'Taming Gaming'. A book that I am treating a bit like getting a lonely planet guide and reading it before travelling to some far flung part of the world.

It is a fascinating book. In it Andy explores the media of computer games with great care and attention and significant insight and skill. As well as chapters covering worries about this media, its benefits, practical things like what equipment does what and a really helpful chapter entitled

An adventure into the land of computer games - continued



'Games need parenting not policing' the second half of the book contains what Andy has termed 'Gaming recipes'. In this he outlines under various categories a wide variety of games. In each recipe he tells you what they are like to play, how long they will take, age categories, what you will need to play (ingredients) and interestingly what he has termed 'serving suggestions' where he talks about how families have approached and enjoyed the game together. There is also a 'follow on' section for each game with further suggestions if your family has enjoyed this particular game. For the children and I this is the section we go to most and that is already getting dog eared and had a few drinks spilled over it - although no one has yet owned up to this!

In terms of my parenting this exploration of the media of computer games has had a knock on effect on my parenting in other media and is causing us to change our habits around how we engage together with children's TV for example. I am now an avid fan of Tracy Beaker! Like a good bedtime story computer

games tell stories and need to be related to in this way. Andy expands on this in a chapter entitled 'learning to love video games'. He asserts that computer games are more like ...mountains rather than machines....paintings rather than films....poems rather than novels....walks rather than races.... If you want to know more about what Andy means by these statements you will need to get yourself a copy of Taming Gaming. I for one would highly recommend it whether you are a parent, grandparent, godparent, uncle, aunt or simply wanting to become more literate in this form of media and story telling.

Andrew

Smile



A teenager asked his father if they could discuss his use of the car.

His father said "You get good A level grades, study your Bible and get your hair cut, then we'll talk." The boy agreed.

Some time later, the father said "I'm pleased with your grades and I note you've been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed with your long hair."

The boy said, "OK, but I've noticed in my studies that Samson, John the Baptist, Moses and probably Jesus all had long hair."

His father replied, "And did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?"

Phoebe - Book review 1

Paula Gooder is a leading New Testament theologian who has used her biblical knowledge and has extensively researched into the geography and social history of First Century Rome to write this book. She imagines and vividly depicts what daily life would be like for the Christian communities at the time when they receive St. Paul's letter.

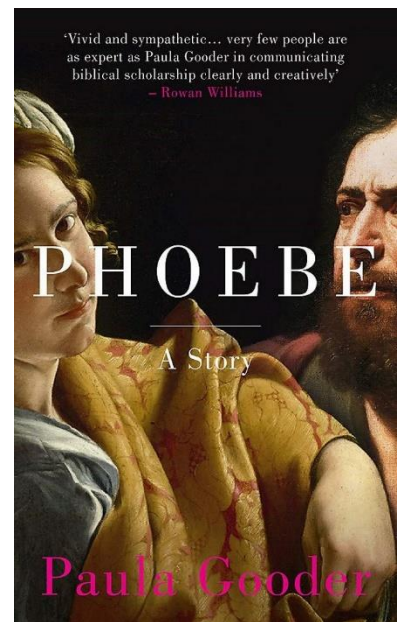
Her central character is Phoebe, who is mentioned in Romans 16:1-2 as a deacon and benefactor of the church of Cenchreae, an ancient port town a few miles from Corinth. In her story, Paula asks the question who this remarkable woman was? She takes the position held amongst scholars that it was Phoebe who Paul entrusted with delivering his letter to the Roman Christians. This would not only have meant physically delivering the letter. She would have been instructed by him, in order to represent him, so that she could personally provide answers and explanations to the community regarding the letter's contents. Paula also takes the view that Paul had put Phoebe in charge of getting everything ready for his planned trip to Spain, mentioned in Romans 15:23.

Knowing that the name Phoebe was commonly given to slaves, Paula imagines what Phoebe's back story might have been. She imagines how it could have been possible for this former slave to become not only a deacon of the Early Church but a patron who was using her wealth to support Paul and others.

Paula also brings to life some of the other people and situations mentioned in the biblical text. We meet Prisca, Priscilla as she is known in Acts, Aquila, Junia, Andronicus, Stachys, Herodion and also the Apostle Peter. St. Paul never directly appears but his influence and theology are present throughout the story. It is in telling the stories and listening to the conversations of each of these people, and some fictional characters, that we learn not only about their daily lives, but the faith of the Early Church. This includes the struggles this caused those first followers of Christ and the role of women within the church.

At the end of the book, Paula provides helpful notes to the historical background and explains why she made some of the choices she did when developing the storyline. She also provides some recommended reading on the various themes in the book for those who would like to explore further.

I would whole heartedly recommend this book to everyone as it can be read on many levels. It is an easy to read and engaging novel in its own right. But be warned, while reading you might begin to think about issues as diverse as slavery and forgiveness. It certainly encourages readers to think carefully and critically about the world at the time the New Testament was written. It can also be used as a starting point to explore and engage more deeply with Paul and his theology, as it provides useful background information to help set Paul's letter in its cultural context.



Hillarie Griggs

Phoebe - Book review 2

What a brilliant lent course and all in one book!

I have always found the challenging debate and study in lent courses stimulating, as previously we were able to meet during those weeks.

I had not heard of Phoebe and actually had not considered the character of Paul, despite some knowledge of his letters.

My mind wandered in the first few pages of Paula Gooder's story to a journey by road made by my husband Tom and I many years ago with our young son. We travelled through Tarsus, the birthplace of Paul, near the Turkish/Syrian border, as we drove to Iraq, where we lived in Baghdad at the time. It was a difficult journey through a region little changed over the centuries.

As I read of Phoebe's journey to Rome from Corinth and the decision made by her with friends, towards the end of the book, to travel to Spain to establish the Christian church there, my thoughts focused on her great commitment and determination to share her faith. The journeys would have been long and arduous.

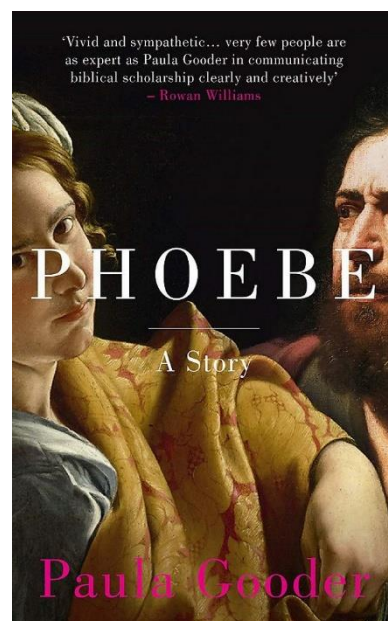
There are many parallels to our world now. There are big questions of forgiveness, community, slavery, the place of women, our responsibilities to others and inclusion yet it is in the specific and moving details of the lives of Phoebe and those few first Christians that seems so relevant now.

The gathering of family and friends to eat together has been absent in these restricted times of lockdown and we have had to adapt our ways of worship, yet from the very beginning some people engaged in private prayer and others gathered in their homes and workshops in larger numbers. Place was not so important but rather the inclusion of everyone regardless of their faith.

It reminds me also of Steven Sheldon's excellent recent reflection on mission in the weekly notice sheet for the third Sunday of lent.

There are no wasted words in this book. The examples of physical suffering as well as mental pain and doubt are understated but beautifully described and balanced with compassion and humour.

I was reading only chapter one, page seven, when I said I would write a brief note for the Beacon. I was not even sure that I would read it all or understand it. By chapter two, I couldn't put it down. I do hope there will be an opportunity before long when we can meet to discuss it together. It has certainly had an impact on me and now I am going to read it again in a more leisurely and considered way.



Ann Holroyd

Phoebe - Book review 3

My thoughts on "PHOEBE" by Paula Gooder

Although I haven't completely finished reading the author's notes at the end of the book (just as well, as it seems my take on this historical fiction and the author's somewhat differ!). I have been absorbed into the story and really enjoyed meeting and getting to know the characters.

I have been particularly struck by the similarities between the way humanity behaved then and the way we live today. For example how communities (early Christians) are drawn together and delight in the company of others. The warmth of hospitality, gathering together in homes, sharing food (remember?). Respect and love shared among the group and the welcome shown to new friends.

Paula gives the reader a real sense of time and place and characters come to life. I have learnt so much about Peter's and Paul's theology.

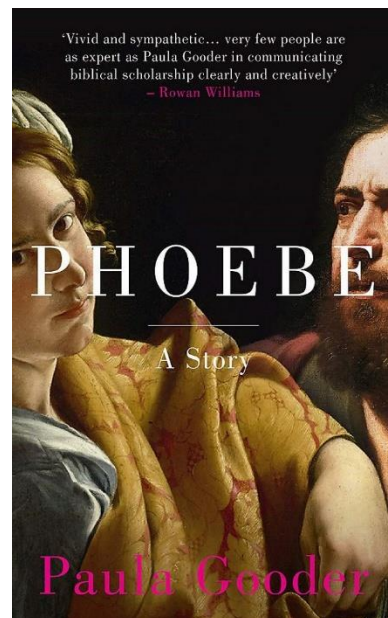
The group of diverse Christians we meet in the book are so alive with their love for Jesus and their desire to spread the Good News. We read how they practise the art of vibrant debate, listen to each other and respect the differing views put forward.

The other similarity twixt life then and life now that occurred to me is less positive.

As we learn more about Phoebe and her life we learn that Phoebe was a slave girl abused and traumatised by powerful, entitled men and because of their actions Phoebe lived with that toxic mix of misplaced shame and guilt that abused women today experience.

Phoebe was entrusted by Paul to bring his letters to the Christians in Rome. A very radical message that there is no divide in God's eyes, no Jew or Gentile, we are all children of God.

Sheila Sheldon



Easter Anagrams

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Airy odd fog | ----- / ----- |
| 2. Rags see get | ----- / ---- |
| 3. Layman spud | ---- / ----- |
| 4. Coin uric fix | ----- |
| 5. Brunch so toss | -- / ----- / ---- |
| 6. Apples rus | ---- / ----- |
| 7. Acid air just so | ----- / ----- |
| 8. Torch frowns on | ----- / -- / ----- |
| 9. Hen irises | -- / -- / -----! |

Answers on page 39

We had hoped.....

From The Right Revd Jackie Searle, Bishop of Crediton.



- We had hoped ...** to sing our Alleluias in Church on Easter Day, to gather with our friends and families, to be 'back to normal'.
- We had hoped ...** some of the most poignant words of scripture, words of grief and longing, that were spoken on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24). Two travellers, walking away from Jerusalem, entrust their sadness to a stranger.
- We had hoped,** they said, that Jesus would be the one to save us. Unknown to them, he is the very person to whom they are speaking. The one in whom they had hoped, the one they had witnessed dying on a cross. He was here now walking beside them, and they didn't recognise him. But at his invitation they are telling their story.

This is still the invitation of the risen Lord Jesus – tell me how it is, let me hear your story. As we look back over the past year, we have had hopes that have risen and fallen. The risen Lord Jesus is interested in our hopes and our disappointments. He invites us to share them with him.

As the three draw near to the village of Emmaus the couple invite Jesus in to eat and stay. 'When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened.' Like those disciples, may our eyes be opened and hearts set on fire by the risen Jesus giving us new hope and faith. For whether in sadness or joy the truth is this – that Christ is risen from the dead, and the way to life stands open. So let us shout and sing our Alleluias however and wherever we are. For we are Easter people and Alleluia is our song.

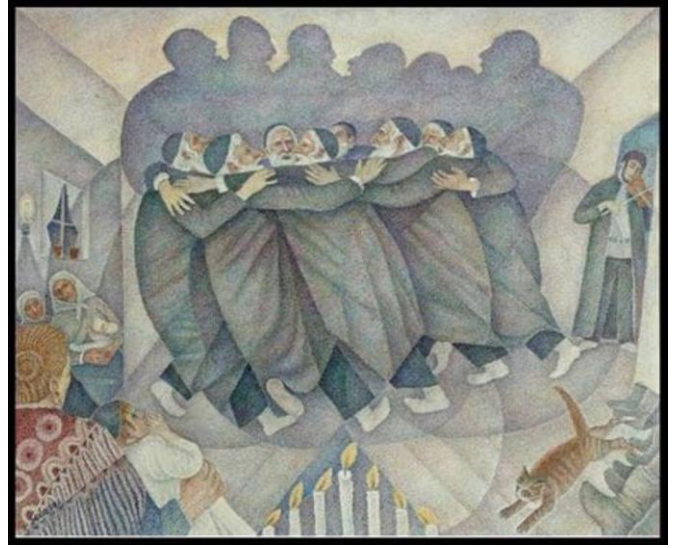
Where to?



- I have been in many places, but I've never been in Kahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Kahoots with someone.
- I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.
- I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my children, friends, family and work.
- I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.
- I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.
- I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

With thanks to Marilyn Clark for sending these in

The worst thing we ever did



The worst thing we ever did
was put God in the sky
out of reach
pulling the divinity
from the leaf,
sifting out the holy from our bones,
insisting God isn't bursting dazzlement
through everything we've made
a hard commitment to see as ordinary,
stripping the sacred from everywhere
to put in a cloud man elsewhere,
prying closeness from your heart.

The worst thing we ever did
was take the dance and the song
out of prayer
made it sit up straight
and cross its legs
removed it of rejoicing
wiped clean its hip sway,
its questions,
its ecstatic yowl,
its tears.

The worst thing we ever did is pretend
God isn't the easiest thing
in this Universe
available to every soul
in every breath

Chelan Harkin - from her poetry book 'Susceptible to Light'. Art by Maria Vorobieva

Sustainability

What is a sustainable future and how can we get there? – Part 3

In this last of these three articles I will talk about what progress has been made in implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals. For those who need a reminder (you mean you haven't memorised them yet!) here they are again:



I think it is fair to say that country implementation of the SDGs has been mixed. Many nations, in particular developing countries, have embedded the SDGs into their national development plans.

The UK says it is committed to the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals by ensuring that the Goals are fully embedded in planned activity of each Government department. But, cynically, I have yet to see any evidence of any direct influence the SDGs has had on UK government policy. Many businesses are aligning their activities to the SDGs. For example, Unilever co-founded the Business and Sustainable Development Commission in 2016, culminating in the launch of a seminal report “Better Business, Better World” on the business case for action on the SDGs.

Sustainability - continued

And major aid and development agencies and Foundations, such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, are dedicating themselves to the achievement of the SDGs. Started by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Goalkeepers is a catalyst for action toward the SDGs, bringing together leaders from around the world to accelerate progress.

And progress was starting to be made with most of the indicators heading in the right direction. But then in 2019 the world was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. The annual Sustainable Development Goals Report is an annual stocktaking report on progress and some of its latest key findings are:

- An estimated 71 million people are expected to be pushed back into extreme poverty in 2020, the first rise in global poverty since 1998.
- Underemployment and unemployment due to the crisis mean some 1.6 billion already vulnerable workers in the informal economy – half the global workforce – may be significantly affected, with their incomes estimated to have fallen by 60 per cent in the first month of the crisis.
- The more than one billion slum dwellers worldwide are acutely at risk from the effects of COVID-19, suffering from a lack of adequate housing, no running water at home, shared toilets, little or no waste management systems, overcrowded public transport and limited access to formal health care facilities.
- Women and children are also among those bearing the heaviest brunt of the pandemic's effects. Disruption to health and vaccination services and limited access to diet and nutrition services have the potential to cause hundreds of thousands of additional under-5 deaths and tens of thousands of additional maternal deaths in 2020. Many countries have seen a surge in reports of domestic violence against women and children.
- School closures have kept 90 per cent of students worldwide (1.57 billion) out of school and caused over 370 million children to miss out on school meals they depend on. About 70 countries reported moderate to severe disruptions or a total suspension of childhood vaccination services during March and April of 2020.

As more families fall into extreme poverty, children in poor and disadvantaged communities are at much greater risk of child labour, child marriage and child trafficking. In fact, the global gains in reducing child labour are likely to be reversed for the first time in 20 years.

So, today more than ever, we need to redouble our efforts and make sure that we build back a better, more sustainable “normal”. And it is not just governments, business, aid agencies and foundations that have a part to play. Every one of us can, and must be, part of the solution.

The most difficult question I am asked when I give talks is “What can I do?” It is the most difficult question to answer because it is different for everyone because everyone's circumstances are different. I certainly wouldn't recommend what I did - give up a job as a Director in the Met Office and move half way around the world to Australia to set up a sustainable development institute in Melbourne.

Sustainability - concluded

But can you:

- Cycle instead of drive to work?
- Buy more sustainable products, even if they might cost a bit more?
- Eat less meat because it generates greenhouse gases?
- Volunteer some time to a good cause?
- Follow the 4R's – reduce, re-use, recycle, repurpose?
- Start a Green team at work?

.....and so on.

The bottom line is to do whatever you can do in your home lives, your work lives, your church lives and your political lives

I will end with a true story. While in Australia I got to know some politicians and one, who was in the cabinet, told me this story. At the time the Australian government was going to introduce an emissions trading scheme to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change. However, the opposition were arguing against it and the press were scaremongering, to the point where the Prime Minister changed his mind about introducing it. However, this politician had received a letter from a vicar (see why I thought this story was appropriate!). He said that he was a lifelong supporter but he wanted this politician to know how really, really angry he was that they might not introduce the scheme. He ranted on about what it would mean for his children and his grandchildren's future. This politician took this letter into the cabinet room and told his colleagues that if they were alienating their core supporters they had lost their way. The cabinet reversed its decision and introduced the scheme. The vicar will never know that his letter changed national policy, it might well have just got thrown in the bin, but still he took the time to write it.

So, you never know whether what you will do will make a difference but that is not a reason for not trying.

Straplines



- A diplomat is someone who always remembers a woman's birthday, but never remembers her age.
- Our great-grandfathers called it the holy Sabbath; our grandfathers called it the Sabbath; our fathers called it Sunday; today it's known as the weekend.
- Pride makes us do things well, but it is love that makes us do them towards perfection.
- The best vitamin for a Christian is B1.

Pointers for Prayer - from Andrew

.... in the Season of Easter

We pray...

That the people of God might proclaim the risen Lord

That humankind will care for creation

That those in fear of death will find faith through the resurrection

..... from the Friday after Ascension Day to the Day of Pentecost

We pray...

That we will be empowered by the Spirit

That the world's rulers will work for Justice

That those who wait on God will find renewal

Intercessions for the Mission Community – April and May

Sunday	Mission Community	Ipplepen	Denbury	Broadhempston	Woodland
Apr 4 th	The Office	Court Gate Close & Edgelands Lane	West End Terrace	Knowle	Oldstone House
Apr 11 th	The Beacon team	Croft Road, Croft Meadow & Croft Orchard	Denbury Down Lane	Hemsford	Tor Farm
Apr 18 th	The website team	Crokers Way	Woodland Road	Village Hall	Lower Woodland Farm
Apr 25 th	Churchyard teams	Denbury Cross	Woodland Close	Monks Retreat & Coppa Dolla	Woodland Cottage
May 2 nd	Fabric teams	Dornafield Road & Dornafield Close	Shute Lane	Main Street	Wickeridge House
May 9 th	Bellringers	Dornafield Drive East, West & Fulton Close	Halwell Farm	Houndhead Way	Oakdene
May 16 th	Messy Church	East Street & Foredown Road	Bramble Down	Vicarage Hill	Orleycombe
May 23 rd	Sunday Club	Fore Street	North Street	Primary School	Hillside
May 30 th	PCCs & Rector	Parish Council & local businesses	Parish Council & local businesses	Parish Council & local businesses	Parish Meeting & local businesses

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Sudoku

Hard

2						9		
			6				3	
			4	9				
4			7				9	1
	9	1		5	4	7		8
3			9				5	6
			8	7				
			2				7	
5						8		

Hard

8	2		1					
	5			4		1		
			8	5	6			
	8				1			
		5	4		7		1	2
	1				5			
			3	1	4			
	3			7		8		
4	7		6					

Medium

7								5
5				9				7
6	1						9	2
9				5				1
4				3				9
		5		6		8		
	4	6		7		1	2	
8				1				6
		7	8		6	9		

Easy

	7	2		8	3		6	5
6			1		2	9		7
	4			7	5		2	
		8		9		7		
	1	6	8	5	4		9	2
		4		1		8		
	6			3	9		7	
4			7		8	5		9
	8	7		2	1		3	4

Answers to Easter Anagrams, p31: 1. Good Friday; 2. Easter Eggs; 3. Palm Sunday; 4. Crucifixion;
5. Hot Cross Buns; 6. Last Supper; 7. Judas Iscariot; 8. Crown of Thorns; 9. He is Risen!

Wordsearch



AMBROOK
BICKATON
BROADHEMPSTON
BULLEIGH
COMBEFISHACRE
COPPADOLLA
DAINTON
DENBURY
DORNAFIELD

DOWN
FORDER
GURRINGTON
HALWELL
IPPLEPEN
MONKSRETREAT
ORLEY
POOLE
PULSFORD

PURCOMBE
RISINGSUN
RIVERHEMS
TORBRYAN
TORNEWTON
WAYE
WELLINGTON
WICKERIDGE
WOODLAND
WRIGWELL