

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

The journey through February and March

February 2nd - Candlemas



February 21st – Shrove Tuesday



February 22nd – Ash Wednesday



March 19th – Mothering Sunday

Mothering Sunday



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The Beacon

The Beacon magazine is published every 2 months and due to a generous donation is currently produced at no cost to the Beacon Mission Community, which enables it to be free of advertisements.

Current and all past issues are available on the website www.missioncommunity.org.uk .

Articles for submission should be sent to the editor, Michael Price michaeljprice44@gmail.com
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Welcome

The Printed Heart of the Mission Community?

On 9th December, Church Times published a special feature about the future of parish and church magazines.

In January 2009, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, praised parish magazines as they celebrated their 150th anniversary. Dr Williams hailed them as 'the most widely read Christian publications in the country'. Many people, he said, read them without ever setting foot inside a church. *'A good parish magazine is a wonderful resource that places the local church at the heart of the community it serves.'*

So whether or not you set a foot inside church we hope there is something to interest and intrigue you in this edition!

I am always so grateful to our regular contributors for their reports of the many different activities within the individual parishes that make up our Beacon mission community.

- For the young and all who are musical or Welsh, then Tom Morris article will be enjoyed.
- The cooks and chefs will need their bibles this month as the recipe is in code. Answers or a baked cake to the editor. We will give the results in the next Beacon!
- The series of interviews with our churchwardens continues. This month it is the turn of Paul Russell, churchwarden at Broadhempston. He writes as well about the London marathon which he is running on April 23rd to raise money for Compassion UK. Do read his inspiring article and consider sponsoring his effort if you possible can.
- A reflective article on past experiences in the Middle East and the value of quiet and space in worship is shared with us in her article by Ann Holroyd
- Stephen Bryant working with Pam Thomas explains the part played both nationally and in Ipplepen church by 'the King's Clerk' who dedicated important parts of the building. Read the article to find out more!
- Charlotte Payne from Exeter who preached at St. Andrew's last October is discerning her future in Christian ministry. It was a valuable coffee chat for me after the service. She kindly agreed to share with us all something of this personal journey. I am grateful to her for her article on the Discernment Process.

Articles and photographs for the April /May edition should reach me by 17th March 2023.

Michael Price, Editor

Andrew's message



Wilderness: Reflecting on the wild places in our lives

During the season of Lent which begins at the end of February Christians throughout the world reflect on experiences of wilderness and the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism and before he began his public ministry.

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.

He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan;

and he was with the beasts;

and the angels waited on him

Mark Ch1 v12-13

Here are a few questions to help you to reflect on your own wilderness experiences:



What is your inner experience of wilderness? Is it in worry in the small hours of the night for example? How might creations wilderness support you in these experiences?

What lessons have you learnt from your inner experiences of wilderness and the battles you have had there? What lessons can we learn from a fuller understanding of, engagement with and connection to the wilds of nature around us and its wisdom?

Suggestion:

During this Lent which runs from Ash Wednesday on 22nd February all the way to Easter Day on 9th April why not seek out moments of wilderness - go somewhere in nature, perhaps a place to take in a view. Stop; take it in; be still; receive its gifts; be connected with yourself, with God and all that is around you once again.

The Peace of Wild Things by Wendell Berry

*When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.*

Andrew

Sunday Services (+ Ash Wednesday)

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

Sunday February 5th

Third Sunday before Lent

- | | | |
|----------|---|---------------------------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | - St John The Baptist, Woodland |
| 9.30 am | Celtic Morning Prayer | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion with Children's Activities | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 4.30 pm | Reflective Evening Prayer | - Holy Trinity, Torbryan |

Sunday February 12th

Second Sunday before Lent

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

Sunday February 19th

First Sunday before Lent

- | | | |
|----------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | - St John The Baptist, Woodland |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 4.30 pm | Come Holy Spirit: An Informal service of reflection | - St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen |

Wednesday February 22nd

Ash Wednesday - Mission Community Service

- | | | |
|---------|---|-------------------------|
| 6.30 pm | Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
|---------|---|-------------------------|

Sunday February 26th

First Sunday of Lent

- | | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 11.00 am | Churches Together – Family Service | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |

Sunday March 5th

Second Sunday of Lent

- | | | |
|----------|---|---------------------------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | - St John The Baptist, Woodland |
| 9.30 am | Celtic Morning Prayer | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion with Children's Activities | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |

Sunday March 12th

Third Sunday of Lent

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

Sunday March 19th

Mothering Sunday

- | | | |
|----------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | - St John The Baptist, Woodland |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | - St Andrew's, Ipplepen |
| 4.30 pm | Come Holy Spirit: An Informal service of reflection | - St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen |

Sunday March 26th

Fifth Sunday of Lent

- | | | |
|----------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion | - St Mary the Virgin, Denbury |
| 11.00 am | Holy Communion | - Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston |
| 11.00 am | Churches Together – Family Service | - Ipplepen Methodist Church |

Beacon Parishes Mission Community Weekly Events

Private Prayer

Our churches are open for private prayer and reflection throughout the week from 9am to 5pm each day

Weekly Morning Prayer

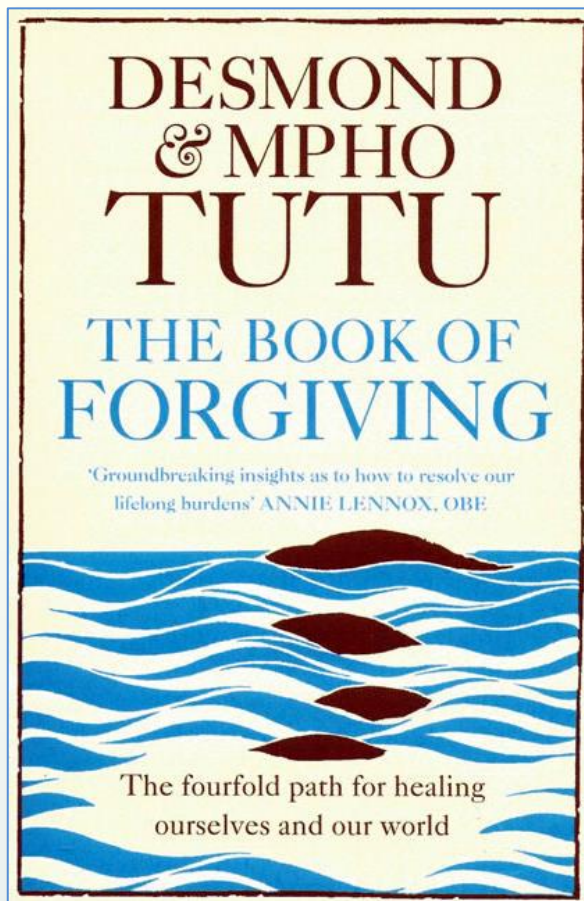
Tuesday	9.15 am (Book of Common Prayer)	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Wednesday	9.15 am (Celtic Morning Prayer)	- Online using 'Zoom'
		For the Zoom password, email: rev.andrewdown@gmail.com
Thursday	9.15 am (Celtic Morning Prayer)	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
Friday	9.15 am (A time of silent prayer and meditation)	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston

Regular Midweek Events and Communion Services

Mondays	at 3 – 5pm	'T-pot'	- Church Cottage, Denbury
	at 7.30pm	Bellringing Practice	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
Tuesdays	at 10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Wednesdays	at 7.00pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
Wednesdays	at 7.30pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Thursdays	at 10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
	at 4.30pm	Sta*x Youth Choir Practice	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

Other events

Wed 1 st Feb	12 noon	Churches Together - Lunch Club <i>(1st Wednesday of each month)</i>	- St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen
Sat 4 th Feb	10 am - 12 noon	Coffee Morning <i>(1st Saturday of each month)</i>	- The Parish Rooms, Woodland
Wed 8 th Feb	10.30 am	Coffee Mates <i>(2nd Wednesday of each month)</i>	- Church Cottage, Denbury
Fri 10 th Feb	6.00pm	Beetle Drive	- Denbury Village Hall
Tues 28 th Feb	6.30 pm	Lent Group: The Book of Forgiveness – wk1 <i>(and the next four Tuesdays)</i>	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Wed 1 st Mar	12 noon	Churches Together - Lunch Club	- St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen
Sat 4 th Mar	10 am - 12 noon	Coffee Morning	- The Parish Rooms, Woodland
Tues 7 th Mar	6.30 pm	Lent Group: The Book of Forgiveness - wk2	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Wed 8 th Mar	10.30 am	Coffee Mates	- Church Cottage, Denbury
Sat 11 th Mar	10.30 am	"Coffee Time!" <i>(2nd Saturday of each month)</i>	- St. Andrew's, Ipplepen
Tues 14 th Mar	6.30 pm	Lent Group: The Book of Forgiveness - wk3	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Sat 18 th Mar	10am – 4pm	Lent Retreat	- Woodland Rooms and Church
Tues 21 st Mar	6.30 pm	Lent Group: The Book of Forgiveness - wk4	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Wed 22 nd Mar	6.30 pm	Stations of the Cross	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
Tues 28 th Mar	6.30 pm	Lent Group: The Book of Forgiveness - wk5	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen



Beacon Parishes Lent Reading 2023

During lent this year we are encouraging as many people as possible to read The Book of Forgiving by Desmond & Mpho TuTu.

To assist this we will use the weekly notice sheet to ask questions to prompt reflection on what we are reading. For those who wish we will also offering a weekly group where you discuss the book.

The group will be held on Tuesdays 6:30 - 8pm in Ipplepen Church with the following format:

6:30pm Discussion.....7:30pm Refreshments.....7:45pm Compline

Week 1	28 th Feb	Understanding Forgiveness
Week 2	7 th March	Telling the story
Week 3	14 th March	Naming the Hurt
Week 4	21 st March	Granting Forgiveness
Week 5	28 th March	Renewing or Releasing the Relationship



To conclude our reading of The Book of Forgiving, on Wednesday 5th April at 6.30pm at St. Andrew's Ipplepen we will hold a *Service of Reconciliation with Eucharist* entitled "All can be forgiven".

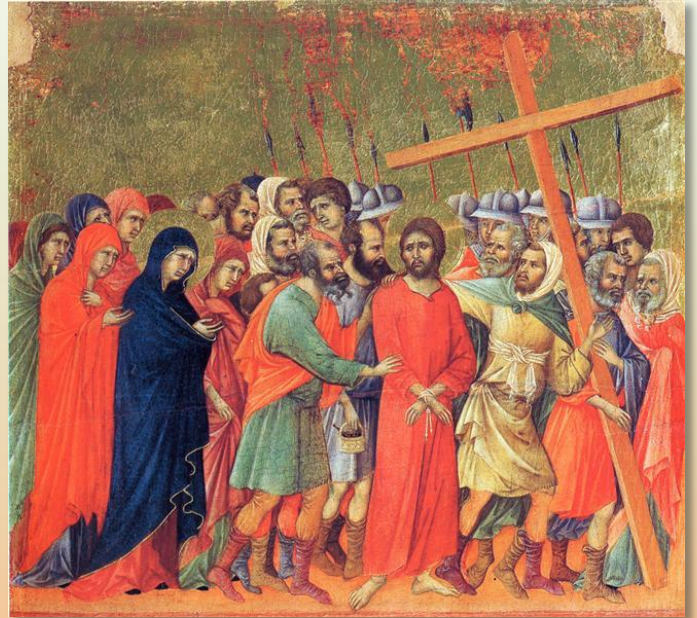


Stations of the Cross

Wednesday 22nd March

6.30pm

St Mary The Virgin Denbury



Carrying of the Cross by Duccio di Buoninsegna



Beacon Parishes Lent Retreat 2023

Reflecting on life's journey - a journey of love

A day retreat based on the book
"The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse"

by Charlie Mackesy

The Boy, the mole,
the fox and the horse



Charlie Mackesy



Venue

Woodland Parish Rooms and Church

Date and time

Saturday 18th March 2023

10am - 4pm

Please sign up on the sign up sheets
that will be at the back of each of
our churches

Further info to follow

"What's your best
discovery? asked
the mole



"That I'm enough as I am"
said the boy



Services at Holy Trinity Torbryan

These candlelit reflective services continue to provide an important space to gather and be together in this beautiful and historic church building

The next services will be at 4.30pm on Sunday

5th February

2nd April

4th June

Save the dates!

simple - celtic inspired
time of silence - music - art - poetry - prayer

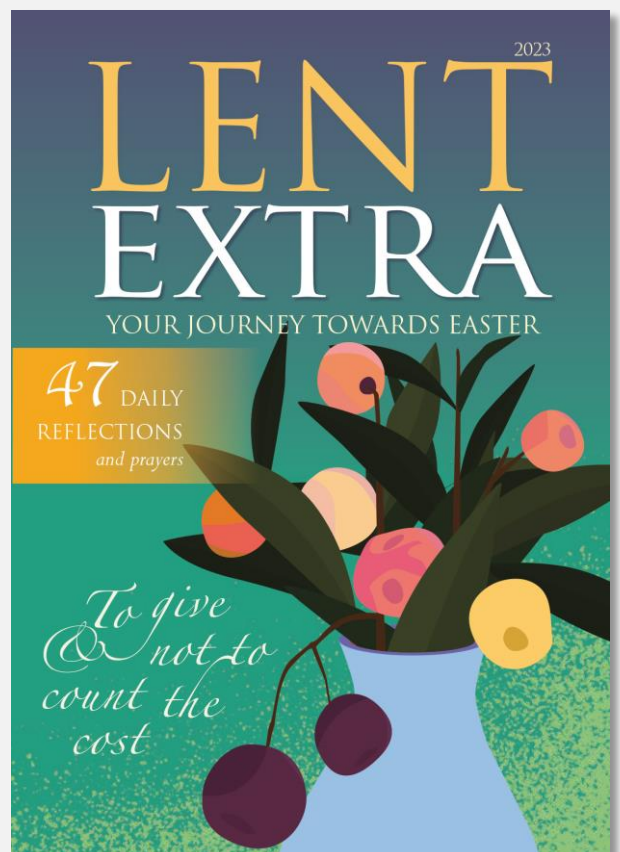


Holy Trinity Torbryan
part of the Beacon Parishes Mission Community

LENT EXTRA

Through its daily reflections and thought-provoking articles, **Lent Extra** 2023 is your essential guide to Lent and beyond.

If you would like to order a copy through the office at the cost of £2.25 please sign up on the sign up list in our churches by Sunday 12th February 2023



Come Holy Spirit



This is a short service where we gather in prayer,
reflect using music and readings
and have a time of silence waiting on the Spirit of God.

Every 3rd Sunday of the month
at 4:30pm in St. Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen

Upcoming Services:

February 19th

March 19th

Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

Revelation 2.17

Life Events

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

Baptisms

Sunday 4 th December 2022	Woodland	Samuel Ellis Luscombe
Sunday 15 th January 2023	Ipplepen	William Henry Owen Mortimore

Funerals

Thursday 1 st December 2022	Denbury	Margaret Wakeham
Tuesday 20 th December 2022	Ipplepen	Pamela Lloyd
Thursday 5 th January 2023	Ipplepen	Ian House
Monday 9 th January 2023	Ipplepen	Frank Petty
Tuesday 17 th January 2023	Woodland	Jennifer Buckle
Tuesday 17 th January 2023	Denbury	Arthur Guppy
Tuesday 24 th January 2023	Woodland	Peter Byrom OBE
Thursday 26 th January 2023	Ipplepen	Derek Reed
Friday 27 th January 2023	Denbury	Mary Cleave
Tuesday 31 st January 2023	Ipplepen	John Harris

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.



Denbury:

For Denbury, contact Rachel Belringer 01803 812529 / 07751804007

Ipplepen:

For Ipplepen, the suggested donation is £5 per occasion per week.

- Sponsor forms are available in St. Andrew's and also at www.missioncommunity.org.uk/floodlighting
- Or write to the office or email: ippleflood@beaconparishes.co.uk
- Donations can be made by cash, cheque, BACS or via www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ippleflood
- If you are a UK taxpayer, please Gift Aid your donation

Correction

29th Jan – 4th Feb In memory of Paul Kemp on his birthday, January 30th, with love from Sheila, Graham and Beckie Needs and Hannah Hopkins

Retrospective

11th – 17th Dec In memory of Len Harber on what would have been his 98th birthday, 11th December

New

19th – 25th Feb In loving memory of David Hatten, on 25th Feb, from his wife Margaret Hatten

In memory of Len Harber who died peacefully at home in Ipplepen a year ago today, 24th February

26th Feb – 4th Mar In loving memory of Wendy Osborn on her birthday on 26th February, with love Liz and Bruce Hooker and family

5th – 11th Mar From Val and Peter Sleight remembering her parents, Phil and Peter Monks, at the time of their birthdays.

From David, Linda, and Katie Simmonds for Hannah's birthday on 5th March

For Grace Domoney who sadly passed away in January 2022. Remembering our Mum on what would have been her 91st birthday on 9th March. Phil, Wendy and family

In memory of Margaret Kemp on her birthday 9th March, a dearly loved mother and granny, with love from Sheila, Graham, Beckie and Hannah Needs.

12th – 18th Mar From Nick Wildgoose in memory of his dear mother Pat on her birthday.

Thursday 16th March - in loving memory of Rex Osborn, with love Liz and Bruce Hooker and family.

26th Mar – 1st Apr In memory of Geoffrey Williamson, on the occasion of his birthday on 29th March. He is missed so much and with us always.

News from Ipplepen

St. Andrew



December 1st saw the start of the wonderful display of creativity of Christmas Trees for the Festival and over the ten days was visited by over 200 people who could vote for their favourite. Thanks to Pam Thomas for organising this event and also to all the helpers – see below.

At our 11am Service on the 4th we celebrated our Patronal Communion and at 4.30 pm there was a Celtic Advent Service in Torbryan.



There was a hive of activity on Saturday 10th December in preparation for the Christmas Fair which opened at 2pm. The stalls were all around the church and tables laid for a cafe area where people sat to enjoy refreshments of homemade cakes, mince pies or shortbread with tea or coffee, and catch up with friends. There was a wonderful raffle, Tombola Bottle stall, tempting cakes, chutneys, marmalades, and beautiful crafts of quilts, cushion covers

etc, Christmas cards, candleholders, the popular bric-a-brac, books, jigsaws, and toy stalls. This was a lovely occasion and there was a real buzz in the church so thank you to everyone who came along to support us and to all the helpers.



During Advent we enjoyed Mission Community Compline on Tuesdays from 7-7 30pm. A quiet reflective service with Readings, Meditations and Recorded Music.

On Sunday 11th December we had a Christingle Service when we were given the prepared oranges from Sue Hird. The following week Communion Service was at 11am and then at 6pm our Carol Service. It began with a welcome from Rev Andrew and in candlelight Katie and Rose from Sta*x sang the first verse of 'Once in Royal David's City'. The Story of the gift of Jesus was portrayed in the readings carols and songs from the Youth choir and anthems from the adult choir accompanied by Marilyn Ellis who played both the organ and the Clavinova. This lovely well attended service concluded with refreshments of mulled wine, juice, and mince pies.

On Wednesday 21st December there was a large gathering of villagers who enjoyed singing Carols around the Christmas tree in the Square. Rev Andrew led this joyous event where there were readings and prayers and he thanked Angela and Stephen Major for their musical accompaniment. As we were gathering the church bells sounded beautiful as they did for all the Christmas services and thanks must go to the bellringers for their dedicated service.



On Christmas Eve at 4pm there was a Churches Together Crib Service and at 11pm the traditional Christmas Eve Communion when at midnight Rev Andrew wished us a very happy blessed Christmas.

The happy Christmas Day Service at 10am was led by Rev Anne Burden where once again we could rejoice at the birth of Jesus.

The Baptism of Christ Carol Service took place at 11am on 8th January beginning with a lovely song from Tom Morris and playing his guitar. He also sang 'The Three Kings' accompanied by Marilyn which was led by Steve and Sheila Sheldon.

There was a Baptism on 15th January during the Holy Communion Service. Rev Andrew baptised William Henry Owen Mortimore a delightful 9 month old who was so good and happy and wore a beautiful Christening gown passed down through the family.

As the days start getting longer we look forward to the appearance of spring flowers in our gardens and the beautiful countryside we live in.

Marilyn Clark

Christmas Tree Festival

Pam Thomas organised a brilliant Christmas Tree Festival, which was well supported by many visitors from the village. The 10 displays were from: Saplings – WI – Robins' Art Group - Craft Group - Ipplepen Amateur Dramatics - Memory Café - Animals in Distress – Ippleplanet - Sta*x Choir.



Church clock



The 'eagle-eared' of you may have noticed that St. Andrew's clock has not been working. Fear not – all is in hand. Part of the internal workings needs a bit of TLC and has gone away to be made better up in Cumbria and will be back soon.

Coffee Time!

"Coffee Time!"- a monthly, café style, chance to get together to natter or whatever starts on Saturday March 11th in the church.



Coffee Time!

in

St. Andrew's church

Saturday 11st March

From 10.30 to 12 noon (ish)

Everyone is welcome, there is no charge, donations only.

We are hoping that you will come and enjoy a cup of delicious fresh coffee and tea - and a piece of cake or biscuit.

Bring friends and enjoy the space in our historic building.

The coffee morning will be held on the 2nd Saturday of each month from March 2023.

We look forward to seeing you there and having a chat.....



Every little helps!

A group of parishioners (Jo, Tom, Sue, Mary, Caren and Vanessa) teamed together to collect and refill a few bottles and containers for the bellringer's Bottle Tombola which took place at the St. Andrew's Christmas Fair on Saturday 10th December.

It was great to hear replies from people explaining that they were unable to supply any bottles as they already refill their own bottles regularly. Some people who already refilled their own bottles and jars were able to find a few that were surplus to their needs.



At the St. Andrew's Christmas tree Festival, which took place from 1st to the 10th December, some of the Christmas tree displays quietly covered the issue of plastic pollution and how to reduce the use of plastic when celebrating Christmas.

Those with an eye for detail may have also spotted that the laminate pouches in the churchyard for the Children's Activity Trail at the Christmas Tree Festival, were reusable laminate pouches. These turned out to be incredibly easy to make in a hurry and not only will prevent unnecessary single use plastic from polluting the environment from either incineration or landfill but also have the added advantage of saving future time and expense of laminating.

The reusable pouches stood up to their test of heavy wind, rain and snow over the weeks they were displayed and will be used again when needed.



As a more permanent solution within the St. Andrew's churchyard for displaying posters of services and events without unnecessary laminating, additional rain resistant A3 notice boards have been fitted to the two lychgates.

St Peter & St Paul's Church, Broadhempston, also utilised re-usable laminate pouches for posters this year.

Hopefully these simple solutions combined can make a huge difference to our plastic pollution over time.



Caren Martin

Straplines



- When you make a commitment, you build hope. When you keep it, you build trust.
- Your value doesn't decrease based on someone's inability to see your worth.
- The reason talk is cheap is because supply usually exceeds demand.
- If you feel you are at a loss for the right word to say – better say nothing!

In Welsh as well!

StA*X, Ipplen's Youth Choir based at St. Andrew's Church, sang a rather beautiful lullaby at the Carol Service on Sunday 18th of December. They sang, in Welsh, a short piece written by the contemporary, Welsh composer, Robat Arwyn. The poetic words had been written by Arwyn's mother, he set them to music and recorded the song in 2003.



I have an Auntie who, until very recently, lived in Rhuthun (pronounced Rithin) in the shadow of the beautiful Clwydian Hills in North Wales. Robat Arwyn lives on the other side of the town, only a short walk away. Also, living close by, is the famous Welsh tenor, Rhys Meirion. Arwyn received the Glyndŵr Award in 2022 for an "Outstanding Contribution to the Arts in Wales", previous recipients include Sir Karl Jenkins. He is internationally famous for writing a duet arrangement of Benedictus for Rhys Meirion and Sir Bryn Terfel, recorded in 2005. My wife, Sue, and I have been very fortunate to have got to know Arwyn over the years when we have visited my Auntie. He has written lovely words of encouragement for StA*X when the choir composed their own song at the start of the Pandemic and, very generously, sent me the original score for his song, "Cân Mair" (Mary's song), for the choir to sing this Christmas. The recording, which features Katie Simmonds, Rose Darnley and Tom Morris, can be found on the Beacon website at [StAX – St Andrew's Youth Choir | \(missioncommunity.org.uk\)](https://missioncommunity.org.uk).

Cân Mair portrays Mary, comforting the baby Jesus after the noise and spectacle of the Nativity scene has settled. She encourages him to sleep and tells him that, when he is older, he will hear all about the angels, shepherds and three kings from the east who bowed down before him!

I feel that the best way to honour Arwyn's generosity and convey our sincere thanks for letting StA*X sing this beautiful lullaby is let as many people as possible hear and enjoy the piece and, hopefully encourage others to include it in their Christmas carol repertoire. It deserves to be sung widely as this is the reward for a composer. Arwyn's website is: www.robatarwyn.co.uk

Here is a link to a YouTube clip showing Robat Arwyn & Rhys Meirion singing on the highest point of the Clwydian hills (Moel Famau) at sunrise: www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7SC5jxJa9s. The drone shots of the Vale of Clwyd are rather nice!



If you feel moved to give Arwyn some feedback after hearing C an Mair, his contact email address is on his website.

Tom Morris

Cân Mair

- by *Robot Arwyn*

Mary's Song

O huna fy mhlentyn ar fynwes dy fam,

Sleep, dear child, on your mother's breast,

Fe'th wyliaf yn dyner, fe'th gadwaf rhag cam;

I'll watch over you tenderly, I'll guard you from harm;

Mae pawb wedi gadael, cawn orffwys yn awr,

Everyone's left, we can rest now,

Paíd crío f'anwylyd cyn hir tyr y wawr.

Don't cry, my dear, dawn will soon break.

Rhyw ddydd fe gei wybod yr hanes i gyd,

One day you will hear all about it,

Am lety'r anifail a'r preseb yn grud;

About a stable and a crib for your bed;

Am lu o angylion a'u cân uwch y rhos,

About a host of angels singing above the fields,

A chwmnî'r bugeiliaid yng nghanol y nos.

And the company of shepherds at dead of night.

Tri brenin o'r Dwyrain, eu gwisgoedd yn wych,

Three kings from the East, in all their splendour,

Tri brenin benliniodd wrth breseb yr ych;

Three kings knelt at the oxen's crib;

Tydi mewn cadachau ar wely o wair,

You, wrapped in swaddling clothes on a bed of hay,

Tri brenin ymgrymodd i faban bach Mair.

Three kings bowed before Mary's little baby.

A view from Torbryan



There's a tree at the top of the hill outside Torbryan, standing all on its own. From whichever direction the wind is blowing, it takes a battering. Unsurprisingly, from time to time bits fall off it, and in some gales earlier in January a large branch came down and landed in the hedge.

I sometimes feel a bit sorry for this tree, standing there all on its own. Maybe it's ridiculous, but I imagine those down in the woods at the bottom of the valley having a better time of it, being able to be more sociable with each other. They can take comfort and feel secure in being surrounded by others, safe from the worst of the weather and hopefully from the chain saw too.

I suppose in this quiet time of the year when all nature is dormant, we get a chance to reflect on our natural surroundings and maybe also it is possible to think about how we can look after the environment a bit better than we have been doing, both on a local and a more worldwide basis.

Coming back to the tree though, it also strikes me that its plight can be a metaphor for other things that are going on in the world around us. Maybe it is telling us that when you are standing out on your own without the protection or support of others, you are vulnerable. The same could be said of leaders or presidents who decide to take unilateral actions that fly in the face of the opinion of the rest of the free world. For example, countries that invade a neighbouring country for no reason and then strike terror into its citizens through indiscriminate bombing campaigns. Ultimately, leaders that take such actions will be proved wrong and their days will also be numbered. And while I feel sad for the fate of the poor old tree, I would not shed a tear in the case of the demise of despotic, warmonger leaders.

Georgie Brendon

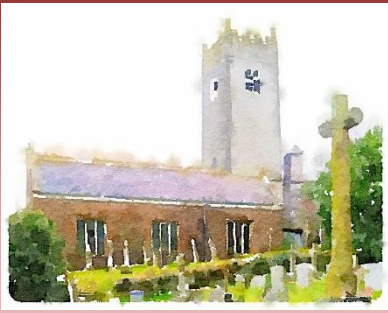
Thanks to Tim Vine:



- "I saw this bloke chatting-up a cheetah and I thought: 'He's trying to pull a fast one.'"
- "The advantages of easy origami are two-fold."
- "I'm against hunting. In fact, I'm a hunt saboteur. I go out the night before and shoot the fox."
- "This policeman came up to me with a pencil and a piece of very thin paper. He said, 'I want you to trace someone for me.'"
- "I met this bloke with a didgeridoo and he was playing Dancing Queen on it. I thought, 'that's Abba-riginal.'"
- "I went down the local supermarket. I said: 'I want to make a complaint – this vinegar's got lumps in it.' He said: 'Those are pickled onions.'"
- "I'll tell you what I love doing more than anything – trying to pack myself in a small suitcase. I can hardly contain myself."
- "I'm so lazy I've got a smoke alarm with a snooze button."

News from Woodland

St. John the Baptist



The wonderful thing about old churches is the connectivity that you feel with the generations of people who worshiped there in the past. This is especially easy in Woodland as so many of the people who were born in the village and christened in our church lived and worshiped there for their entire lives. It makes me smile to think of the bored child carving graffiti into the woodwork when I know that they grew up to be a stern and upright elder

member of the congregation. The wonderful handmade and often self-designed kneelers show that, as a community, there was (and still is) such care and pride in our church. Each kneeler, lovingly stitched, bears the name of the person who created it and often the name of someone important to them who they particularly wanted to be remembered. Whenever I am in church I always like to see who made the particular kneeler that I am sat by and at our carol service I noticed that I had one of Jenny Buckle's. This is particularly poignant as Jenny passed away a few days later, just after Christmas. At the time when the kneelers were being created and several other church and community projects were underway the guiding hand behind caring for our church finances was Peter Byrom. I am very sad to say that he, too, has recently passed away – just a few days after Jenny.

Jenny Buckle, or to give her full title – Jennifer Buckle MBE- was a larger than life personality with a sunny disposition and ready laughter. She was one of the first to welcome newcomers into our village and present at every village event, instigating or being involved in the running of many of them. She had a wonderful way with people and many a time have I observed someone brighten up and seem to come alive when she stopped to talk to them. Everyone will have many differing memories of her, from her playing the organ for church services or the piano at children's parties; eating one of her cream teas in her garden or treacle tarts at the village harvest supper; or her running activities in her garden for children's organisations such as the Cub Scouts or local playgroup. Her MBE was well earned as she worked tirelessly to raise money for the Devon Air Ambulance in as many capacities as she could and she has now been laid to rest in the graveyard of our church, which she loved so well, with her beloved husband Norman. All the mourners at her funeral were given bunches of daffodils to remember her by – so very Jenny!

Peter Byrom OBE played an important part in our village life too, although perhaps in a more covert way than Jenny. A lovely gentle man, he was always enormously interesting to talk to and could speak with great intelligence, wit and humour on diverse topics such as the levels of child poverty that he witnessed in his days as an Ofsted inspector or the intricate rules of the very cut throat game of croquet. Prior to living in Woodland he served in the navy, started to train as an architect and then had a lifetime career within the textile industry, being awarded an OBE for his work as Chairman of the Council of the Royal College of Art. I am writing this a few days before his funeral is due to take place but he, too, will be laid to rest in Woodland Churchyard - a place which he, like Jenny, valued, worshipped at and cared for and within sight of the house which he extensively renovated into a lovely home and lived in with his wife Gillie.

Jenny and Peter are both people whom I feel richer for having known and it is partly by their actions, amongst those of many others, that our church and village communities are what they are today. Coming up in the future we will still continue to hold our regular library and coffee mornings in the village hall on the first Saturday of each month. Following Shrove Tuesday, commonly known as Pancake Day, on the 21st February, Lent begins on 22nd February and Mothering Sunday is on 19th March. The days are noticeably beginning to get a little longer and the first spring bulbs are flowering. As the ground was covered this morning with a blanket of snow, however, there is plenty of wintertime still to go before spring is properly on its way.

Helen Pearse

News from Broadhempston

St. Peter and St. Paul



CRAFT TABLE FAMILY SERVICE

November's craft table was on Remembrance Sunday. After the two minutes silence and the poem for The Fallen, read by Rod Perriman, the children made a poppy wreath using paper



plates and poppies. They also put poppies on the mesh cross at the front of the church and joined the congregation outside for the laying of the poppy wreaths.

Unfortunately, the Christingle service, on the second Sunday in December, was cancelled due to illness but the church was open and we had coffee, biscuits and mince pies for those that came expecting a service. The children still made their Christingles at the craft table and the adults were able to take theirs away with them.

Our January craft table was on Epiphany Sunday, so the theme was the three kings. A busy children's table made collages of the three kings, using various paper shapes and their own crowns, which were highly decorated with jewels and glitter.

BROADBAND CONCERT

The Broadband concert went ahead on Saturday 10th December. This despite the sub zero temperatures and a certain England quarter final.

Not unsurprising we didn't have the best attendance. However it was once again lovely to hear music in the church from Broadband and a shanty band from Stoke Gabriel who were supporting.

It was also very generously supported by those who came. We raised £140 which was split between the church restoration fund and South West Children's hospice.

SCHOOL NATIVITY & CAROL SERVICE

We were very grateful to the support of the school during the Christmas period. They held both their key stage 1 and key stage 2 performances in the church. Then we had our Carol service on Wednesday 14th at 6pm. This was really well attended by the children and their parents. We had the Nativity readings and carols and some performances by the children. Who would have known there are two versions of Once in Royal David City?

COMMUNITY WALKING NATIVITY

The Community Walking Nativity took place on Tuesday 20th December which, thankfully was a dry evening. Starting in our church, Andrew welcomed a full house and the Christmas story started with the Angel Gabriel visiting Mary and Joseph in their home. Roman soldiers ushered the crowd out into the square, where they were ordered to pay their taxes. Mary and Joseph arrived with two adorable donkeys and a rope bus of singing children, where the innkeepers offered them the use of their stable. The crowd were led to the village hall, where Herod connived to get information from the three kings. The shepherds were visited by the Angel Gabriel in the little paddock by the hall, whilst the choir sang Hark the Herald Angels. The children, on their rope bus, sang whilst everyone made their way to the orchard, lit by Chinese lanterns to join the donkeys for a magical





scene of the Nativity. Forty shoe boxes were brought before the crib, to be distributed by Beyond Borders, to refugees being looked after in Torbay. The evening ended with mulled cider and mince pies.

Special thanks goes to Jane Parsons for writing, producing and bringing this altogether and to all those who took part or helped in any way.

CAROLS IN THE SQUARE

On Thursday 23rd December a very successful Carols in the Square was held in Broadhempston. The church bells rang out calling the village to the Village Square, to sing carols in front of the village Christmas tree accompanied by several members of Totnes Town Band.

Mince pies were served during the singing and mulled wine was available in the Monks Retreat. Many thanks to Jennifer and Clive Richards for, once again, helping with this event, the collection amounted to £210.33 to be split between The Church Restoration Fun and Shelter Box.

CHRISTMAS DAY

With some mild fatigue from all our December efforts there was not much expectation for our Christmas Day service. We had found the carol booklets though, and Hilary had done a great job planning out the service. The 10 o'clock start was also a bit tight for some.

It was therefore absolutely delightful to see a completely packed church with people of all ages from the village. Our nativity scene was looking fantastic and highly interesting to a certain toddler who spent most of the service delightfully inspecting it. Hilary message was absolutely spot on and incredibly touching. And it was all rounded off with some amazing singing - the choice of carols were excellent and the efforts of the children and Broadharmony choir earlier in the month were clearly felt. 'O come all ye faithful' still sends shivers down the spine thinking about it now and will live long in the memory. It really felt to be a resounding send off to our Christmas celebrations and making all our efforts earlier in the month well worth it. (We raised £240 for the children's society at the service too).

BROADHARMONY CHOIR

Broad Harmony were delighted to perform at what has become a regular annual event in our calendar, our Christmas Concert. As usual, choirmaster Bob Humphrys had worked hard to produce number of songs for the choir to sing, all new arrangements of some traditional songs plus some international seasonal harmonies. We were joined by some wonderful performers on percussion, wind instruments and guitars, and as we have done previously interspersed the songs with poems chosen and read by the choir. The evening was a huge amount of fun for all involved, and we love sharing a glass of wine and nibbles with the audience afterwards. We raised a generous amount for the church restoration fund. Many thanks to Bob, the choir, instrumentalists and the community for supporting us, keep your eyes out for future concerts in the Spring/Summer!"

SS Peter & Paul PCC Team

News from Denbury

St. Mary the Virgin



After the last two difficult years which severely disrupted our normal pattern of services and traditional activities at Christmas, it has been great to experience the resumption of 'business as usual' once again. Following a very hairy car journey on icy roads to collect the Christmas tree this was placed in the chancel and decorated and

the crib figures brought out from storage once again ready for placing in the space for the Nativity scene in the main altar.

Village families attended Carols on the Green held on the evening of December 16th congregating outside the Union Inn to enjoy singing a number of well loved carols. Mince pies and mulled wine were available to combat the chilly evening and as ever this event proved very popular and a great way to socialise with other village folk. A collection in support of The No Limits Café and Hub raised the excellent sum of £101 on the night.

On Sunday 18th we held our annual Carol Service which featured the Christmas Choir led by Chris Eastman. The choir performed at their usual very high standard and contributed a number of traditional musical items in addition to leading the congregation in singing the carols. The readings this year contained all the traditional and much loved passages whilst introducing a couple of poems reflecting the Christmas message which attracted a number of very favourable comments from attendees.

The Crib service on Christmas Eve reverted to the traditional time of 4pm after an experimental change last year and this showed in a return to a good number of children and their families attending. The service was led by Tessa and Rachel and the children helped to place the crib figures within the altar creating the Nativity scene. The theme of the service was bells and at one point in the service the church bellringers were asked to ring our bells illustrating the part bells have played over the centuries calling people to church.

Christmas Eve Communion was held at 9pm rather than the traditional 11pm as this enabled Andrew to take this service at Denbury before leading the midnight service at Ipplepen.

The ringing of bells at midnight on New Year's Eve has been a feature at Denbury for many years. Due to the pandemic and latterly the removal of the bells for refurbishment this has not been possible over the last 3 years. The return of the bells in time for this Christmas season enabled this much missed tradition to be restored and several villagers joined the ringers to hear the New Year welcomed and to have a go at chiming the bells once they had been lowered. It was much warmer/drier and more comfortable to be ringing from our new ringing room on the first floor this year.

We are very pleased with our newly refurbished and enlarged peal of bells. A team of ringers from the Cathedral rang a full peal (taking 2 hours 39 minutes!) on our bells a fortnight ago which gave them a thorough testing and sounded fantastic. Although not quite up to this level just yet!, our ringers are progressing well and getting to grips with handling this much more responsive set which are so different from

Guild of Devonshire Ringers

Denbury, Devon

St Mary the Virgin

Tuesday, 3 January 2023 in 2h 39 (8-3-12 in A)

5040 Surprise Minor (7m)

1 extent each - Carlisle, London, Bourne, York, Norwich, Beverley, Cambridge,

1 Ian L C Campbell

2 P Wendy Campbell

3 Michael H Tompsett

4 Peter L Bill

5 Ian V J Smith

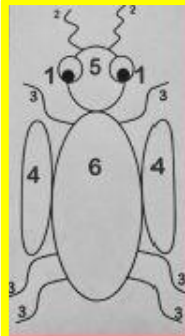
6 David Hird (C)

1st peal following rehanging and augmentation to 6.

the old bells. We have a couple of new young ringers learning how to ring and also a couple of former ringers have returned to the team so that we are confident of having sufficient numbers to ring all 6 bells on most occasions in the future.

After all the activity of Christmas the church now normally enters a quieter period but much work is being done behind the scenes planning some major events for the Summer and beyond which we look forward to with much anticipation.

Mike Bray



BEETLE DRIVE

DENBURY VILLAGE HALL

Friday 10th February - 6pm

SAVE THE DATE

This is a chance for some Springtime fun so make a note in your diary and bring your friends and family for a traditional game of Beetle.

What is a Beetle Drive? It's a simple, fun, dice game for all ages, enjoyable, easy to learn and prone to cause over excitement!

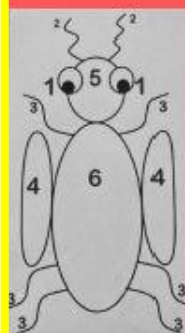
All will be revealed on the night as players try furiously to complete their beetles.

Adults: £5. includes a delicious West Country platter and a glass of non alcoholic Beetle Juice.

Children aged up to 10 years: £2.50 includes a mini hot dog and a glass of squash

Children's Competition, Prizes, Raffle, Tombola, and Guessing Games, Cakes and Beverages to purchase.

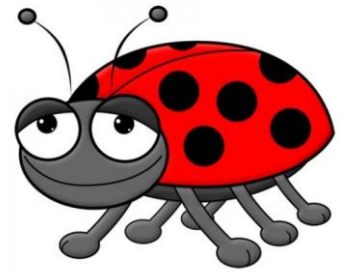
The main intention is that we all enjoy ourselves and each other's company, with proceeds going to Church funds and the pew cushion covers fund.



Purchase your tickets in advance from
imwdavey@gmail.com or tele 07767 771590



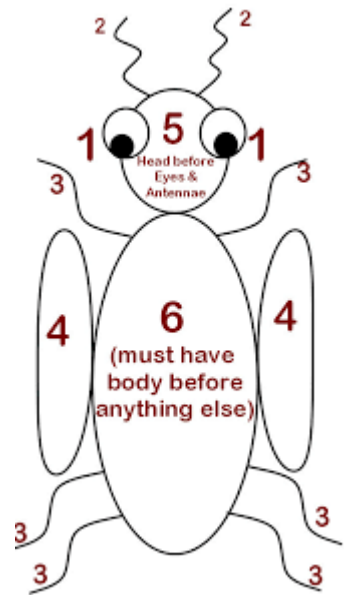
What is a Beetle Drive



- ❖ It's a fun, dice game for all ages, enjoyable, easy to learn and prone to cause over excitement!
- ❖ The players sit around different tables in groups of four to six.
- ❖ Each player has a card with 12 boxes in which to draw their beetles.

Each round

- On "GO" the game starts with each group of players trying furiously to complete their beetles.
- To start the youngest player in the group rolls the dice first, and then each player in the group takes a turn to roll the die, in a clockwise direction.
- A player must throw a 6 first to draw the body. They cannot start adding other body parts until they've thrown a six to draw the body.
- Players must also draw throw a 5 to draw a head before they can draw the eyes or antennae on their beetle.
- They must add the correct number of body parts to their beetle, for instance only 2 wings, a further throw of number 4 resulting in no addition and the die being passed on.
- The first player from each table to draw a completed beetle shouts 'BEETLE' and scores 14 points. That is the end of the game for everyone in the room.
- All other players at the table score 1 point per body part.



Moving on

- The highest scorer from each table then moves to the next table in a clockwise direction whilst the lowest scorer moves anti-clockwise.
- When everyone is sitting at their new tables the organiser shouts "GO" another round is played.
- Each player keeps a running total of their scores and at the end of the last round the winner is the player with the highest score (most points from all 12 rounds totalled).
- In the event of a tie, those two players throw the dice and the highest throw wins.

Recipe – a Puzzle!

Here is a **Bible Cake** recipe that has been around for several years, but in case you have not come across it before try it this month. The ingredients can be deciphered in the King James AV Bible.



When you have found the answer, write it here

Ingredients

1. ½ lb of Judges 5:25 (the last food in the list)
2. ½ lb of Jeremiah 6:20
3. 1 tablespoon of 1 Samuel 14:25
4. 3 of Jeremiah 17:11
5. ½ lb of 1 Samuel 30:12
6. ½ lb of Nahum 3:12 chopped
7. 2 oz of Numbers 17:8 blanched and chopped
8. 1 lb of 1 Kings 4:22
9. 2 Chronicles 9:9
10. a pinch of Leviticus 2:13
11. 1 teaspoonful of Amos 4:5
12. 3 tablespoons of Judges 4:19

Method

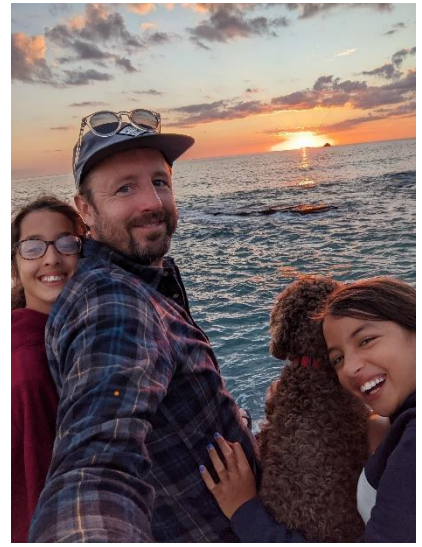
- Mix 8, 9, 10 and 11, and put them aside
- Beat 1, 2 and 3 to a cream
- Then beat in 4, one at a time
- Add 5, 6 and 7 and beat again
- Add 12
- Bake in a low oven for 1½ hours

“Getting to know you”

A meeting with Dr Paul Russell

by Sheila Sheldon.

Paul is a Church Warden in Broadhempston. He has lived in the village for 8 years with his wife Tahrina and their daughters, Ffion 12 and Sumner 10. He has been a GP for 14 years. Be sure to read his article in this issue about his London Marathon adventure.



What is your earliest memory?

A robin flying into our home, it had an injured wing. I wanted to care for it and picked it up, but I dropped it. I remember feeling dreadful about that! I think the robin survived.

Who had a big influence on your life?

My maternal Grandmother who lived in Newport, S Wales. I remember her as a very gentle woman. A prayerful person who held me in her prayers.

What would you say are your passions in life?

My family, Church and my work.

I love the countryside surrounding us in Devon and enjoy cycling, walking, running, swimming and paddle boarding.

I love listening to a wide variety of music.

Tell me a bit about your faith

I grew up in Winchester with an older sister, and as a family we attended church. So I have always had a faith, I think I have felt much closer to God in the last 10 years or so. I recognise I can only be the very best father, husband, doctor and person with God’s help, in His strength and with His guidance and grace.

How did you meet Tahrina?

We were both junior doctors and met in Christ Church, New Zealand in 2004-2005.

Have you always wanted to be a GP?

Not really. With encouragement from my parents to work hard at school, I did well in science. I graduated from University in Cardiff, and by then realised what I wanted to do.

We love living in Broadhempston.

Who would you most like to meet/converse with?

The disciple John. I love how he is described as the disciple Jesus loved!

Where is your favourite place in the UK?

It has to be Booby’s Bay in Cornwall. It is where I proposed.

What is your favourite food?

A Sunday roast with the family.

Compassion UK

Dr. Paul Russell, Church Warden at Broadhempston Church, is running in the London marathon to raise funds for Compassion UK.

Sponsorship would be wonderful and greatly appreciated. He writes:



I am running the London Marathon on 23rd April 2023 in aid of Compassion UK. This will be my first marathon and I'm apprehensive but excited about it. It will be fulfilling one of my life's ambitions and I'm very honoured to be doing it for such a great charity. The last time I did anything like this was in 2015 when I ran a half marathon.

Compassion is a leading Christian children's charity. Its aim is to end poverty in the life of a child in Jesus' name. Through sponsorship of an individual child, you become connected to their life in a highly focused and personal way.

I started sponsoring a child back in 2006. Her name is Joseline, and she is from Rwanda. At 21 years old she is graduating from the Compassion program this year.

It has been very inspiring to see her grow up and thrive. She is in her final year of university, has worked in an internship for the Government, and is looking to gain employment in this area at the end of her studies.

It is fantastic to see her doing so well and taking her opportunities. It is very humbling to think I may have helped her in her life journey.

Over the past few years, I was fortunate enough to provide her with monetary gifts for her birthday. For each gift she was able to buy things like chickens, a gas cooker and pigs - it really felt like I was making a positive difference to her life!

I would be really grateful for your sponsorship for running the marathon. But better still why not consider sponsoring a child through Compassion – you won't regret it!

For more information about me, see my interview on 'Getting to know you'.

For more information about the charity; <https://www.compassionuk.org/about-us/who-we-are/>

Please feel free to contact me for more information about Compassion and/or my challenge.

Thank you

Paul Russell pauljerussell@gmail.com

Time for a smile



- I had a dream the ocean was filled with orange soda. It was a Fanta Sea.
- Just got hospitalised due to a peekaboo accident. The put me in ICU.

CHALLENGE

SEE CHANGE THROUGH CHALLENGE

SUPPORT PAUL'S LONDON MARATHON 2023 COMPASSION CHALLENGE

Show your support to Paul as he takes part in The London Marathon this year on April 23

Money raised will go towards funding Compassion's child development work enabling children growing up in extreme poverty to survive and thrive.

TWO WAYS YOU CAN DONATE:

1 ONLINE

Find Paul's profile by scanning the QR code to donate or sponsor a child.



2 BANK TRANSFER

Or you can make a bank transfer directly to Compassion UK:

Sort Code: 20-93-32
Account: 50268321
Ref: P Russell- Challenges

FIND OUT MORE AT
compassionuk.org/challenges



COMPASSION UK CHRISTIAN CHILD DEVELOPMENT
Compassion House, Serley Way, Fleet GU51 2UT
TEL 01252 836490 EMAIL info@compassionuk.org www.compassionuk.org
Registered charity in England and Wales (317708) and Scotland (SC042085) A company limited by guarantee.
Registered in England and Wales company number 0578090



Quiet services do have an effect!

I come to church primarily to worship and learn. We are provided with a wide variety of services across the Beacon parishes, led by Andrew and his immediate team of Assistant priests, Readers and lay people.

There are inevitably some services that have a greater impact than others. One such occasion for me was a quiet Tuesday communion service in St. Andrew's when Andrew used the example of the life of Saint Augustine of Hippo, a rather controversial man whose faith was not always strong, to ask us to reflect on the milestones of our lives and where we were with our faith at those times. I appreciated the challenge at the time but here I focus on a moment in my life, not directly related to my faith, but to my interest in learning about biblical history.

Many years ago as a student I briefly studied religious studies, including the history of ancient civilizations. I learned about those who lived between the Rivers Tigris and the Euphrates, the Fertile Crescent, the cradle of civilization.

I did not know at that time that I would become familiar one day with Ur of the Chaldees, currently the land around Basra, in Southern Iraq, the hanging gardens of Babylon, only excavated by archaeologists at the beginning of the 20th century (sadly rebuilt by Saddam Hussein in 1983) and Ninevah in the north, east of modern day Mosul. Tom and I drove very close to Ninevah, as we drove for the first time from England to Baghdad where we would live, with our very young family for two years in the late seventies.

After Israel, Iraq has the greatest biblical history of any country. Abraham was from the city of Nasiriya in the South which Tom travelled through regularly. The Garden of Eden was supposedly said to be where the Euphrates meets the Tigris and flows into the Shatt Al Arab. It was here that the Sumerians built the first civilization.

Travelling by train from Basra to Baghdad, Tom was privileged to see a little of the life of the Marsh Arabs, living in their reed houses, travelling in their reed boats, and tending their water buffalo as they had for 5,000 years. Yet In 1983 they became victims of Saddam Hussein who drained the marshes and drove them out. Work is ongoing to restore them.

Until Saddam Hussein came to power there was much Christian worship in Iraq but now quite frequently Christians are subjected to attack including one incident recently in Mosul resulting in Christians fleeing to the area around Ninevah and to Iraqi Kurdistan.

Clearly not all the services in our Mission Community provoke such memories. In others, for example around Advent, we learn to see it not only as a time of reflection but mainly preparation or as I see it, a time for me to regroup. I feel I benefit from having such a creative range of services to be part of. Now, in Epiphany, following another quiet service, my thoughts go the Wise Men who pursued such a difficult journey for so long. Andrew explained that they could be described as the outsiders who didn't arrive at the same time as others, I have thought about this a great deal and what it means to me.

Whilst I love the music, the singing, and fellowship with others in the "big" events in our churches, I probably gain most from the quieter services. Quite something for someone who can be quite noisy!



Bishop Edmund Lacey

We recently ran out of copies of Ipplepen's church guide and decided that it needed an update. Pam Thomas and I had the privilege of doing this and improving on my original text - Pam was able to add much detail of which that I was unaware.

In particular we added some brief details of Bishop Edmund Lacey who had dedicated our pulpit and font. His coat of arms - three wild ducks' heads (known as shovellers) - is on the font and in mediaeval stained glass at the top of our East window.

Edmund Lacey was born in Gloucester in about 1370 and went to University College Oxford in 1391. He was Master of the College by 1398 and a Doctor of Theology by 1414. Such an able man was noticed by the King, Henry V, and he became known as "The King's Clerk". He was soon appointed Dean of the Chapel Royal of the King's Household - having been made a Canon and given the 9th stall of St George's Chapel Windsor.



We have all heard of the Battle of Agincourt, fought on St Crispin's day (25th October) 1415. Many of us will have had to learn Shakespeare's speech for the eve of the battle "Tomorrow is the feast of Crispin...". Edmund Lacey had to accompany the King to Agincourt and happily survived the battle.

In 1417 Edmund Lacey was appointed Bishop of Hereford, and in 1420 was translated (moved) to Exeter to become our Bishop.

By all accounts he was a busy and painstaking man, and served the Diocese for 35 years until his death on 18th September 1455. This occurred at his Palace at Chudleigh (there are still remains of the building there - and the local inn is called The Bishop Lacey.)

Edmund Lacey worked hard in the Diocese - the whole of Devon and Cornwall - and travelled widely. But eventually he developed a disease of his shin bones which made it painful and difficult for him to ride a horse, which, apart from going by sea, was the only viable means of transport then.

I am not sure when Bishop Lacey came to Ipplepen, but he clearly did in the early 1400s. One wonders what he thought of it and where he stayed and ate - presumably at the Priory (where the Health Centre now stands). Ipplepen at that time was one of the biggest settlements in the area, second only to Totnes, but it must have seemed pretty basic and rustic compared to Windsor and the King's Court - definitely quieter than Agincourt though.

As Bishop Lacey's health deteriorated and he was unable to ride he promoted the cult of the Archangel Raphael, arranging for an annual Feast in his honour in 1443. He worked throughout England to promote the cult, and on his death many healing miracles apparently occurred at his shrine in Exeter cathedral. Pilgrims flocked there and left candles, and wax votive offerings and figures.

Exeter cathedral was bombed in the last war, and Edmund Lacey's tomb was disturbed and over a thousand fragments of these beeswax offerings were found. They included human and animal parts, rings and pieces of glass but they are so fragile that they cannot easily be displayed.

Perhaps next year we could arrange a Parish Outing to Exeter cathedral to visit the tomb - and also that of Bishop Stapledon who we know came to Ipplepen in 1318. I'm sure that the cathedral guides would tell us more, and we could tie this in with Evensong at the cathedral.

Stephen Bryant

The Discernment Process in the Church of England

I chatted with Charlotte over coffee after she had given a thought provoking address on Modern Slavery in the morning service at St. Andrew's. I was fascinated that she was exploring the possibility of becoming a vicar.

"So how do you go about that?" I asked. I learnt much from her answer as we drank our coffee together.

Thinking this might interest you as well, I asked if she might consider writing another article for the Beacon. She kindly agreed and I am very grateful! Editor



John 15:16: *"You did not choose me; but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit, fruit that will last."*

I have felt a strong sense of calling to some form of Christian ministry for a long time but haven't known exactly what that might mean for me. It has been extremely helpful and a real blessing therefore to be able to explore this fully through the Discernment Process in The Church of England. The process carefully guides an individual on a journey of exploration of oneself and what the Church would require of you; that's why it's referred to as 'The Shared Discernment Process.' The process has changed within the time I have been in it, but it is essentially a comprehensive journey of discerning – involving various appointments within your Diocese and culminating in two formal stages with the National Church – Stage 1 being on Zoom and Stage 2 an in person interview away from home. Several people have asked me why it is such a long process but as someone going through it right now, it feels right to be steadily checking my sense of calling and discerning whether it's the right fit for what the Church needs. It also truly allows time and space for God – hearing God's call on my life.

I entered this process formally in Spring 2021 and have been meeting with an Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands (ADDO) regularly to discuss and test my sense of calling through various tasks which have included: journaling, reading Theological content, joining Diocese led Discernment gatherings on set topics (such as 'The Church of England') and visiting different Churches; including your very own Beacon Mission Community! It hasn't always been plain sailing as the issues you encounter as a part of this journeying are as much a learning opportunity as the positive re-affirming experiences. I am also not taking anything for granted and that's why I've framed this article in those words from John's Gospel – a reminder that God appoints us all for something in life to use our skills (fruits) to help others and it may not be ordained ministry (the calling that I feel I have) but that's OK, and the first step in all of this is to start the journey of discovering – to uncover what those fruits are for the Lord's work. I will either continue forwards on this process, which ultimately leads to a Theological training course and then practice in parishes (at least another five years), or I will continue my vocation to work with visually impaired young people and their families in Exeter. Or a new path will unfold, as one thing I have learnt so far, is that God's plan in our lives can be surprising but the key is to trust and listen to God (easier said than done!)

After these words in John's Gospel comes the commandment to 'love one another', again these words help to keep me grounded as I continue onwards in this process of discernment, and I am grateful to all those who are journeying alongside me or who have set the path before me in which to follow.

Charlotte Payne

A prayer for Candlemas

This prayer for Candlemas is from HART*

*Lord, we remember before you those whom this world has taught to expect nothing.
We are astonished when we meet them by the grace and graciousness they can show.
May they share in your riches.
We pray for those told by the world that they are worthless.
May your love teach and reassure them that they are precious and priceless and loved.
We pray for those who are treated as expendable and forgettable.
May HART, by my small efforts and support, reach them with your Love.
And may they always be in our hearts as they are always in yours.
We offer this prayer through the Jesus who heard every cry.
Amen.*



**Humanitarian
Aid Relief Trust**

** Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust (HART) is a UK registered charity. HART was founded by Baroness Caroline Cox, a cross-bench member of the UK House of Lords. Baroness Cox is also CEO of Hart. It works with 14 partners in 8 countries and is involved in areas such as education, environment, health, human rights, and women's empowerment. HART believes*

that local people are best placed to identify, understand, and fulfil their own needs, and that they should be at the helm of development efforts. All their projects are led by local partners, and many of the communities it supports suffer from protracted conflict, oppression, human rights abuse and deeply entrenched poverty. More information from: <https://www.hart-uk.org/>

More from Tim Vine:



- "Uncle Ben has died. No more Mr Rice Guy."
- "I once did a gig in a zoo. I got babooned off."
- "Eric Bristow asked me why I put superglue on one of his darts. I said 'you just can't let it go can you?'"
- "I saw this advert in a window that said: 'Television for sale, £1, volume stuck on full.' I thought, 'I can't turn that down.'"
- "I've just been on a once-in-a-lifetime holiday. I'll tell you what, never again."

Teach us to pray



Praying on behalf of others

As a church and as individual Christians we commit ourselves to say prayers on behalf of others. These are known as intercessions. In our intercessions we bring our lives and the lives of those around us, neighbours both near and far, to God for his love and care.

General weekly cycle of intercessions

- Sunday** We pray for... The universal church, that she proclaim the living Lord... The natural world, that we might use creation sustainably... The needy, that they might know new life...
- Monday** We pray for... The people of God, for inspiration by the spirit... Traditional and digital media, for healthy communication... Those who travel, for safety and protection...
- Tuesday** We pray for... The persecuted church, for protection and faithfulness... The criminal justice system, for wisdom and fairness... The world's displaced people, for freedom and security...
- Wednesday** We pray for... All who follow Christ, for growth in discipleship... All in the medical profession ... All who have no one to pray for them...
- Thursday** We pray for... Ministers of the gospel... Those who work for reconciliation... Those in hospital...
- Friday** We pray for... The local church, for courage to take up the cross of Christ... Those in authority, for the right use of power... Victims and perpetrators of violence, for healing and repentance...
- Saturday** We pray... That Christians may live as citizens of heaven... That the nations of the world will live in harmony... That the dying will know the joy of the resurrection...

Local weekly cycle of intercessions

We are set in a particular time and place and so we bring our local communities and relationships to God.



- Sunday** We pray for... Our Bishops and those in leadership... Prisoners and staff... Our own friends, family and neighbours... Our Beacon Parishes that we may grow in... Prayer... Discipleship... and Service...
- Monday** We pray for... The church community and villagers of Torbryan... Our schools... Those in hospital and the housebound...
- Tuesday** We pray for... The church community and villagers of Woodland... Our pubs and restaurants... Carers and those medical professionals...
- Wednesday** We pray for... The church community and villages of Denbury... Our residential and care homes... Those who care for children and young people...
- Thursday** We pray for... The church community and villagers of Ipplepen... Our local shops and post offices... Our Parish Councils...
- Friday** We pray for... The church community and villagers of Broadhempston... Local Farms... Local clubs and societies...
- Saturday** We pray for... Our brothers and sisters of other denominations and none... Local Businesses...

Intercessions for the Mission Community – February and March

Sunday	Mission Community	Ipplepen	Denbury	Broadhempston	Woodland
Feb 5 th	Hon. Asst. Priests	Blackstone Road	The Green	Main Street	Chardanay
Feb 12 th	Electoral Roll Officers	Bowden Road	Down View Road	Houndhead Way	Sunset Cottage
Feb 19 th	Servers	Bridge Street & Fore Street	Greenhill Lane	Vicarage Hill	Hawkes Farm
Feb 26 th	Eucharistic Ministers	Caunters Close & Harris Court	Fairview	Primary School	Orchard Cottage
Mar 5 th	Sidespeople	Church Path & Paternoster Lane	Moorland Avenue	Community Shop	Pulsford View
Mar 12 th	Sacristans	Clampitt Road and Clampitt Close	Orchard Close	Radfords	Pulsford Farm
Mar 19 th	Organists	Clarendon Road & Motehole Road	Heathfield Road	Beaston	Wickeridge Lodge
Mar 26 th	Choirs and Musical Directors	Cooke Drive & Lang Way	Heathfield Terrace	Downe	Quarry Farm

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