

Ruby Country Benefice

The parishes of Ashwater, Beaworthy, Black Torrington,
Clawton, Halwill, Highampton & Tetcott

Bulletin March 2024



*I love you, LORD!
You answered my prayers.
You paid attention to me,
and so I will pray to you
as long as I live.*

Psalm 116: 1-2 (CEV)

February



25th

BAPTISM of Fern McINTOSH (Tetcott)

CONTACTS

Rector

Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick

01409 254 667

Contacts for Churches:

Ashwater	Diana Marriott	01409 211 146
Beaworthy	Richard Prior	01409 221 986
Black Torrington:	Sheila Grabham	07814 128 163
	Val Letheren*	01409 231 430
Clawton:	Irene Ellis	01409 254 572
Halwill:	John Lawlor	01409 221 987
Highampton	Mrs. M. Dayman	01837 810 435
	Mrs. A. Knight	07407 042 840
Tetcott:	Nikki Mitchell	01409 271 381

Safeguarding

Val Letheren

07484 880 770

* or as above

From the Parish Registers image (pg. 2) © Parish Pump,
Cover image: West Castick Farmhouse, North Hill, Cornwall by Hanton01, from
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:West_Castick_Farmhouse,_North_Hill.jpg
Pg 9 - image by Marjan Blan on Unsplash
Photos of GEORGE grave taken by Kay Napier 2024.
Ukraine graphic on the back page from pixabay.com, by chiajo-18290215
Thanks to Revd. Paul Fitzpatrick, Alma Knight, Shirley Richmond, Val Letheren, Sheila Grabham, Nikki Mitchell and John Lawlor for their contributions.

MARCH

From the Rector's Desk

As I write this, it is my first day back at work after my retreat. It feels a little unreal to be back. 7 peaceful days with lots of space to pray, read, bird watch, sleep and reflect.

The retreat house was in Cornwall St Leven's two miles from Land's End. The main room had two full sized glass walls which from the cliff top overlooked the sea closing on a beach. Most days were dry but also wonderfully stormy, my resulting wild bird list is at the bottom of this missal.

One of the themes for my retreat was grief and the different ways it affects people. No two people grieve in the same way, we are all unique and individual. Despite this obvious truth the number of different bereavement models for therapists sadly continues to grow daily.

The truth is we don't get over grief and loss, we learn to accommodate it. We hold love and pain as part of our identity, but over time, like the tide washing in and out, or the occasional storm, it becomes a part of us, sometimes difficult, sometimes comforting. Grief can be traumatic however, and like all trauma needs to be worked through with help.

It won't come as a surprise to anyone, (we all know how God works), that the first thing a friend mentioned when I returned was that several grief cafés are about to be set up in our area. Long before I was ever a psychologist, and still a teenager, my dad said to me after his mum had died, 'grief has to be shared, it is a witch if you lock it in'.

The Facebook page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheGriefEducator/>

Finally, evidence, if you needed it, that your Rector is a total geek (and because there are at least five other 'Birders' reading this), my retreat bird list is...

Following two major storms: Rock Dove, Grey Seals, Blackbird, Manx, Shag, Gannets, Herring Gull, GBB, BHG, Kittiwake, Fulmars (dancing in the storm). Raven, Rook, Crow, Jackdaws, Scoter, Common Gull, Guillemot, Razorbill (300 rafting off Lands' End), Yellowhammer, Black Redstart, Stonechat, Purple Sandpiper, Turnstones, Buzzard, Magpie, Starling, Robin, Bluet tit, Chaffinch, and for a full three seconds a single Chough!



Good Grief Café -starting soon in Black Torrington

If you have lost someone you love, recently or a long time ago and would like to be part of a group exploring this profound experience that happens to so many of us, you would be most welcome.

Five Tuesday afternoons 2.30 - 4.00
Starting Tuesday 13th February 2024

In Hope Chapel, Black Torrington

PRIOR BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Contact: Marion Balsdon (Social Prescriber)

At Blake House Surgery on

07704 155989 or

Amy Phillips (Hospital Discharge Support) on

07719 068188

"Good Grief" is run in conjunction with North Dartmoor Primary Care Network and West Devon Community and Voluntary Service



HATHERLEIGH

Grief
and a
Cuppa



MADE-WELL
A COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Join us for

Grief and a Cuppa

Mondays 10.00-11.30am

Once a Fortnight

starting 15th January 2024

For anyone bereaved recently or long ago,
you don't have to grieve alone

Contact Lucy at Lucy@griefspecialists.org
for more info





BEREAVEMENT CAFE IN BUDE

The Bereavement Café in Bude takes place
on the **2nd Thursday of the month**
at 2-4 pm at the **Neetside Community Hub.**

The upcoming dates are **11 January, 8 February, and 14 March.**

There is tea, coffee and cake!
The sessions are supported by a qualified counsellor.

Whether your loss was recent, or a long time ago,
everyone is welcome to this community-led service.

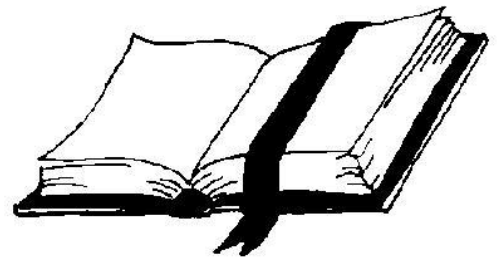
Donations towards running these sessions are gratefully received.

Please help spread the word, and we hope to see you there!



**For more information contact us on:
01288 353403/ 07308 266874
or vika@neetside.co.uk**

Lectionary Readings for March 2024



<p>Sunday 3rd (Third Sunday of Lent)</p> <p>Exodus 20: 1 -17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1: 18 – 25 John 2: 13 – 22</p> <p>Services at Ashwater, Black Torrington, Halwill, Tetcott</p>	<p>Sunday 10th (Mothering Sunday)</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>Services at Beaworthy, Black Torrington, Clawton</p>	<p>Sunday 17th (Fifth Sunday of Lent)</p> <p>Jeremiah 31: 31 – 34 Psalm 51: 3-4 Hebrews 5: 5 – 10 John 12: 20 – 33</p> <p>Services at Ashwater, Black Torrington, Halwill</p>
<p>Sunday 24th (Palm Sunday)</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>Services at Beaworthy, Clawton, Highampton</p>	<p>Thursday 28th (Maundy Thursday)</p> <p>Exodus 12: 1 – 14 Psalm 116: 1-2, 12 – 19 1 Corinthians 11: 23 – 26 John 13: 1 – 7, 31b – 35</p> <p>Service at Ashwater</p>	<p>Sunday 31st (Easter Day)</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>Services at Halwill, Beaworthy</p>

*To help you prepare for one of our services or to
read at home*

Ruby Country Benefice Services for March 2024

Friday 1st	2:30pm	Halwill	World Day of Prayer Service
Sunday 3rd	9:30am	Ashwater	Morning Service
3 rd Sunday of Lent	11am	Black Torrington	Holy Communion
	11am	Halwill	Morning Service
	5:30pm 6pm	Tetcott	Tea Evening Service
Sunday 10th	11am	Black Torrington	Café Church
Mothing Sunday	11am	Clawton	Holy Communion
	5pm	Beaworthy	BCP Evening Prayer
Sunday 17th	9:30am	Ashwater	Holy Communion
5 th Sunday of Lent	11am	Black Torrington	Morning Prayer
	11am	Halwill	Holy Communion
Sunday 24th	11am	Beaworthy	Holy Communion
Palm Sunday	11am	Clawton	United Service
	3:30pm	Highampton	Evening Service
Wednesday 27th	10am	Black Torrington	Holy Communion with Stations of the Cross
Thursday 28th Maundy Thursday	7pm	Ashwater	Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion
Friday 29th Good Friday	2:30pm	Beaworthy	Reflection for Good Friday Taize
Saturday 30th	6pm	Black Torrington	Service of Light with Holy Communion
Sunday 31st	8am	Halwill School	Sunrise Service
Easter Day	10am	Beaworthy	Benefice Easter Day Holy Communion

**Lord, you are our hope and strength,
staying with us in trouble,
walking with us in danger,
and comforting us in our sadness.
Keep us always mindful of your love,
that we may be strong and
courageous
in all we think and speak and do,
knowing that you are our closest
and our most loyal friend.**

Diocesan Pastoral Officer Meeting

Halwill Baptist Hall

Tuesday 6th February 2024

On Tuesday 6th February, representatives from our benefice met with Sophie West, the diocesan pastoral officer met to discuss options regarding a common framework which could be used across the benefice to simplify the work Paul does on the computer, to free up time he could spend pastorally and in the community, as well as exploring possibilities in the wider mission community.

It was a very informative meeting, and all seven of our churches were represented.

We were presented with several options, including complete handover of administrative control from PCCs to a central council model as the benefice of Nether Exe is currently pioneering, to partial working together, where parishes without the administrative structure of a Treasurer, Secretary and quorate PCC could be taken on by a council – either long term or temporarily, or how entire parishes could be merged – although this was put to us as pretty much the only permanent option.

Definitely something for us all to think on and discuss at PCC – all parish decisions remain with their parochial councils and – as we were told – almost all decisions would be reversable if necessary or wanted.



Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/rubybenefice

GEORGE family chest tomb, Tetcott

One of two Grade II listed gravestones in the grounds of Holy Cross church in Tetcott is the chest (or table) tomb of five members (and three generations) of the GEORGE family.



Immediately visible to your right on entering the churchyard near the Manor, this tomb holds the remains of John and Ann GEORGE, their sons John and James GEORGE and grandson William Henry GEORGE (son of James).

For such a prominent stone, surprisingly little is found about their lives. I initially thought I would give up on the GEORGEs as a “dead end”, but felt I owed it to their memory to at least try, and present what I discovered – even if it wasn’t much.

The patriarch of the family (at least as far as this grave is concerned) is **John GEORGE**. The gravestone tells us he died September 10th 1822 and from

this we need to work backwards.

By looking at the burial records for Tetcott, he was buried 13th September and was 69 years old when he died. This puts his year of birth at approximately 1753.

On 27th February 1754, a John GEORGE was baptised at St. Giles on the Heath – this is likely to be a record of his birth, which shows his parents were James GEORGE and Sarah FEATHERSTONE – James and Sarah were married at Tetcott 1st August 1753.

John GEORGE married Ann BAYLY at Tetcott on 1st February 1792. They had at least three children baptised at Tetcott – John (baptised 28th July 1793), James (baptised 8th December 1796 – who is buried with them) and William (baptised 18 December 1798).

Ann GEORGE, nee BAYLY died 2nd September 1820, was buried at Tetcott four days later and was 57 at the time of her death, making her estimated year of birth be 1763 – I haven't been able to find any records of an appropriate local birth for more info.

John and Ann are commemorated on the top of the tomb.



The oldest son, **John GEORGE** – also listed on the memorial - was buried at Tetcott 27th January 1815. As this is prior to censuses and legal registration, this is the only information we have on him. One can assume he did not marry. On the burial record, it is revealed that the place of residence was 'Barton' (presumably Tetcott Barton), Thomas Melhuish junior performed the funeral ceremony, and his brother James GEORGE was the churchwarden. He is commemorated with a plaque on the side of the tomb. I cannot find any information on the youngest son of the marriage, but will come to their middle child later.

The next burial in the tomb is **William Henry GEORGE**, son of this middle child James and his wife Jenyfer.

Young William was baptised on 9th March 1828, died on March 25th 1844 and buried at Tetcott. Very little is known records-wise about his short life.



William Henry GEORGE's burial panel.

So bringing us to the last noted burial in the tomb, and the person we have some more information about.

James GEORGE (1797 – 28th July 1877) was the middle child of John and

middle child of John and Ann, and father of the aforementioned William Henry GEORGE.

He married Jenefer VANNER of Luffincott and 3 years his senior at Tetcott on 22nd June 1823; the bonds and marriage record have survived.

Jenefer's parents John and Jane VANNER are buried at LUFFINCOTT, and her father, alongside Edmund SPETTIGUE were listed as owners of the Manor of Luffincott, indicating (if the fancy tomb didn't indicate it enough) that the GEORGE family were worthy enough to be marrying into landed families.

The children of this marriage include these four I can find baptism records for:

Ann Ellen GEORGE, baptised 9th August 1823 Tetcott

John Venner GEORGE, baptised 31 October 1824.

James GEORGE, baptised 27 November 1825 Tetcott

William Henry GEORGE – mentioned previously.

Ann (as "Helen") is a draper's assistant in the 1851 census, living in "Lanson", living with several younger people.

Although there are no baptism records readily available for other children, there are clues that there were more than the four children of the marriage in the 1861 census, Ann GEORGE is living as a niece of John and Joanna LUSHEY at West Castick, North Hill, Cornwall. Joanna was formerly a VANNER of Luffincott, and a sister of Ann's mother Jenefer. Alongside Ann is a fellow niece, Jane GEORGE of Luffincott, aged 26 (so born around 1835). Curiously, her occupation is listed as "inmate", whereas Ann is a "housekeeper." It is possible that Jane was an additional daughter of the marriage. Ann marries Samuel TREWIN in 1861.

There is an Arthur GEORGE born at Tetcott in around 1832 and he is at Higher Lana, Tetcott in the 1841 census aged 9 living with Richard and Elizabeth DROWN and, by the time of the 1851 census is an 18-year-old apprentice carpenter of 54-year-old Richard CHUBB at St. Giles on the Heath.



James George of the Parish of Telcott
 in the County of Devon (Bachelor) -
 appeared personally, and made Oath, that he, the said
 James George - - - is above the Age of
 Twenty-one Years, and not related to Jenefer
 Venner of the Parish of Luff-
 -fincott in the same County (Spinster)
 (for the Marriage of whom Licence is prayed), within the
 Degrees prohibited; and the said James George
 on his Oath, saith that the said Jenefer Venner
 is likewise above the Age of Twenty-one Years; and that the
 said Jenefer Venner - - hath had her
 usual Abode in the Parish of Luffincott
 aforesaid, for Four Weeks and upwards, immediately pre-
 ceding the Date hereof. And the said James
 George - - further on his Oath, saith, that
 he knows no Impediment whatever, but that he may be
 lawfully Married to the said Jenefer Venner. -

James George

Sworn before me this 22^d }
 Day of June 1823. } *John Rowe* *Surrogate*

Marriage Bond of Jenefer VENNERS and James GEORGE 1823

"England, Devon and Cornwall Marriages, 1660-1912", , FamilySearch
 (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QGY5-QRY8 : Tue Oct 24 06:19:42 UTC 2023), Entry for James
 George and Jenefer Venner, 22 Jun 1823.

Another GEORGE child in the Tetcott area is 4-year-old Orlando GEORGE who appears at Fernhill Cottage, Tetcott in the 1841 census living with Richard and Elizabeth GILBERT. By the 1861 census, Orlando is now going by the name of George Orlando GEORGE, draper's assistant in Islington, London. I don't think it's a coincidence that Orlando was a draper's assistant like Ann Ellen so would strongly suggest they were related.

Enough of the children, let's get to the man himself. However, this research has left me with more questions than answers.

James GEORGE appears in three censuses and, in none of these, he is listed with his family. One can only speculate as to why this is. In each census he is living in Ashwater.

In the 1841 Census, James GEORGE is 40 years old, living at Ashwater Village and his occupation is "Surveyor". Also listed alongside him are Francis HOCKADAY, the 35-year-old publican, Charity HOCKADAY (also 35) and Emanuel BEALE, a 15-year-old agricultural labourer.

Because of the nature of the census, it is possible that these people didn't live together but in nearby houses; the older censuses were lists of people and ages and, often, house names weren't recorded so would form just a list of names, in this case, in Ashwater Village.

Anyway, James either resided at or next to the old Manor Inn at Ashwater at this time. Those who knew of 1980s Ashwater will recall The Manor Inn before it burnt down in 1989 before the 'replacement pub' which we are more familiar with was built close by.

The 1851 census finds 54-year-old Land Agent James GEORGE listed as a visitor in Ashwater. As a visitor, he is the guest of Richard CLIFTON, aged 48 who was "Innkeeper farmer of 10 Acres Employing 1 Labourer" – James was at the pub again.

As the census records who was staying overnight at a property at one particular date, it is quite possible that James GEORGE was a visitor on Census night both years, but more likely that he was a long-term guest. Also on the 1851 census return are Richard's 40-year-old wife, Elizabeth

and their 7 children – Charles (16), Ann (14), John (11), Elizabeth (9), Margery (7), Rosamond (4), Harriet (2). Maria CLIFTON is also living with them as a 27-year-old unmarried house servant.

One assumes Maria is related to Richard – perhaps a niece or cousin. If one looks at the 1841 census, you will find 15-year-old Maria living at “Wordon” at Luffincott alongside a different Richard (as he is only 10 years old), alongside 10-year-old William YEO, 2-year-old Thomas YEO, 25-year-old John PARSONS and James GEORGE’s young son William GEORGE aged 10. These ages are likely approximated but it is baffling that these children are all together. I cannot even offer a guess as to why.

In the 1861 census, guess where we find James GEORGE?

No, he’s left the pub, he’s at East Down, Ashwater now, a 64-year-old Land Agent Surveyor. On the census with him are 60-year-old John Fury, farmer of 70 acres, employing two labourers, Elizabeth GOVEY, his 40-year-old housekeeper from Kingsbridge, Devon, 17-year-old house servant Fanny GILL of Halwill and 19-year-old carter/servant William LACAS (although this is probably LUCAS).

As an aside, if you’re in the market for grave visiting, Fanny GILL married George BAKER and is buried at Halwill, and the grave of Richard CLIFTON is at Ashwater – their stones are still visible.

I can’t find James GEORGE in the census for 1871, so his next visible record is his death certificate in 1877.

<i>Corriage Clawton Devon</i>					<i>E. J. Pearce S.R.C.P.</i>	<i>Clawton</i>
<i>Twenty Eighth July 1877 Bone Street Luffcott Devon</i>	<i>James George</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>81 Years</i>	<i>Land Agent</i>	<i>Cardiac Hypertrophy Bronchitic asthma 10 days Certified by Edward J. Pearce S. R. C. P.</i>	<i>+ The mark - Sophia Per Present at the d Lana Luffcott William Rog</i>
<i>Clawton Devon</i>					<i>Ed. J. Pearce</i>	<i>William Rog</i>

Death certificate of James GEORGE

© Crown Copyright

James died 28th July 1877 at Bone Street, Tetcott, and his death was recorded by Sophia PERKIN of Lana, Tetcott. He died of cardiac hypertrophy (according to Doctor Google – and put incredibly basically – the heart isn't pumping or receiving enough blood with each heartbeat) and bronchial asthma.

So, who was Sophia PERKIN? Born in Holsworthy in about 1842, Sophia (nee POMEROY) was married to William PERKIN, agricultural labourer from Ashwater. Neither Sophia nor William were cousins of James GEORGE or his wife Jenefer, so one can assume they were friends or neighbours. James was a land agent up to his death. His inscription is on the top of the tomb, below that of his parents.



“That’s all she wrote.”

I never find any record of Jenefer, despite James GEORGE listing himself as married in every census. She is apparently alive but not living with him. But I thought “that’s not how this ends, right?”

So, I decided to follow up on some of the children for clues;

George Orlando GEORGE remains a draper and never marries – in 1891 he is in Marylebone, and by 1901 he is living in Longdon in Worcestershire. But he is listed as “uncle; he is living with the family of Arthur Venner TREWIN, son of Ann Ellen GEORGE – therefore proving he was the son of James and Jenefer. He dies in Worcestershire in 1904.

The child Arthur GEORGE who was carpenter's apprentice to the CHUBB family is in Plymouth in the 1861 census in lodgings – the 48-year-old widowed Sophia Dixon of Devonport is the Lodging Keeper of the property known as Willow Plot and is living alongside three other ships carpenters. There is an Arthur GEORGE of England that shows up with the right kind of year of birth in Northampton, Massachusetts in 1870 but "England" is a bit too broad a place to be able to definitively confirm it's him!

The family have a distinct habit of dropping in and out of the census and records.

Curiously, the children of the marriage of James and Jenefer are never shown as living with their parents, and the parents aren't shown as living together either in the records readily available.

Obviously, censuses are just a snippet of a life – a view of one day out of over 3,600 every decade – but the three or four together form a picture that maybe these occurrences weren't one-offs. It is also curious that no members of the family were present at his death.

This family, so regally united in death through their large tomb goes to show that things may not always be what they seem.

Kay Napier
February 2024

Sources:

<https://www.familysearch.org>

<https://www.findagrave.com>

https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp

<https://www.freebmd.org.uk>

BOOK REVIEW

A new section who looking at new or rediscovered books. Lent is an ideal time to start but if this is liked, then 'Book Review' might run all year round.

Rethinking Christianity: Keith Ward

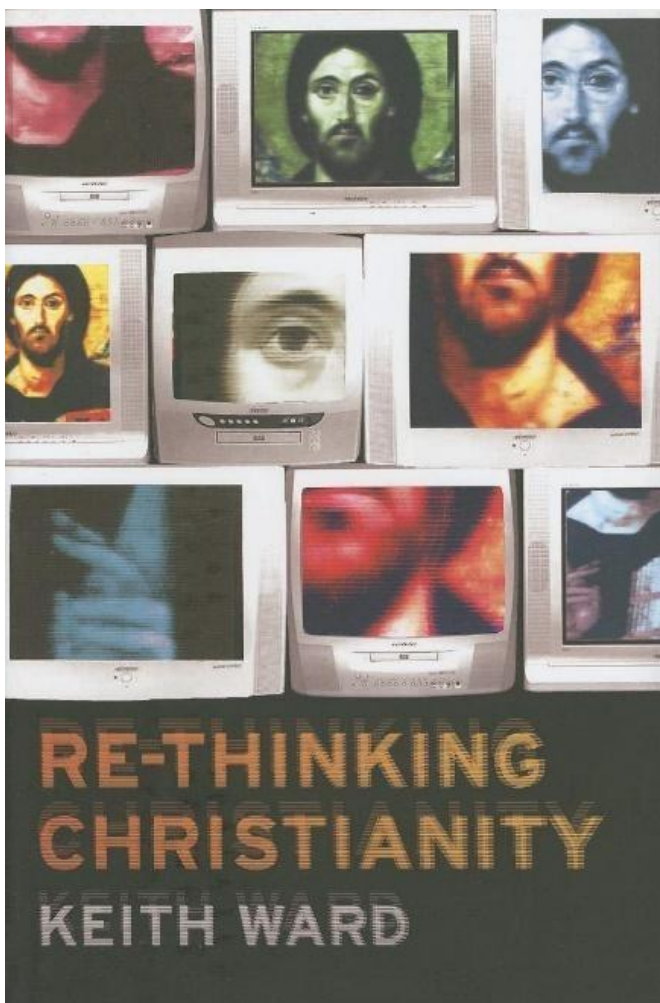
This is the first of my Lent books: The Christian faith is often criticised for being outmoded and anachronistic. An institution rooted in the past; many critics have claimed that it cannot adapt to modern society's needs.

In "Rethinking Christianity", Keith Ward argues that this view is untrue and refuted by historical evidence. Mapping the evolution of six major Christian beliefs, from the Hellenistic restatement to the challenged of evolutionary theory, Ward demonstrates that Christianity has always been expressed in constantly changing ways in response to new knowledge and understandings of the world. Controversial, liberal, and confronting

the principal questions facing Christianity today, Ward uses this basis to support the construction of his own ground-breaking theology: a 'systematic theology' for the post-scientific age.

When at Theological college in Oxford in the 1990's I was lectured by professor Ward, his teaching has formed the theology that has stayed with me for nearly 30 years. This book summaries' that teaching but is also the best book he has written. I am forever indebted to him.

Paul.





(Cartoon by the Rev. Jay Sidebotham and the Church Pension Group: www.cpg.org/global/online-resources/cartoons/)



DEADLINE



Please get your posters, news, pictures, articles, details of services, fundraisers or any other submissions in **by the 15th of each month** to feature in the next month's Bulletin

email rubbybulletin@gmail.com or call 01409 221 321

Electoral Roll and the upcoming APCM's

- **Revisions:** The Electoral Roll is revised annually when new people may be added and others removed. The revision is completed not less than 15 days and not more than 28 days before the annual meeting. This allows time for anyone who wishes to inspect it to do so. The revised list (which should include every name entered on the roll but no other personal data) is published for at least 14 days before the Annual Meeting. At the meeting itself, complete the Electoral Roll certificate and publish one copy (for at least 14 days) and send another to the diocesan offices. This has to be done by 1st July each year.
- **Renewals:** Every six years, a completely new Electoral Roll is prepared. This process is next due in 2025 and has a longer timetable. Not less than two months before the annual meeting, warning is given of the new roll. This warning period lasts for at least 14 days and at every service on each of the two Sundays in this period the person taking the service announces the intention to create a new roll. It is the responsibility of the PCC to take reasonable steps to inform everyone currently on the roll that a new roll is being prepared. Everyone who wishes to be on the roll, even if they are already on it, must complete an application form. The new roll is again completed not less than 15 days, and not more than 28 days, before the annual meeting followed by a period of inspection lasting at least 14 days. During this time corrections may be made but no additions or removals.

Are you on the Electoral Roll of your church?

Do you want to be?

Speak to a PCC member and fill in the form before their APCM and you can have your say about your church.

BELLEPLATES AT WORK

Belleplates are tuned percussion instruments that sound similar to handbells. They are light-weight, easy for children to play, can be played with our handbells but are less likely to be damaged! I have been loaned a set by HRGB [Handbell Ringers of Great Britain] which I take each week into our village school in Black Torrington

Our Twinkle Workshop lasted four weeks, can you guess the nursery rhyme we chose?

Each week the children come into the hall and stand quietly with their Belleplates on the table; they keep the same place and Belleplates each week. They check they are in the right order for right and left hand; the higher bell is in their right hand. Together they put their hands on the bells and without a sound, in turn leading from the biggest bell they pick them up one after the other, in what we call 'The Wave'. We don't know why, or understand it, but we all feel a silence of anticipation, like a held breath, and we're ready to play.

We start with rounds, like Tower bells. Beginning with the highest bell we ring steadily round in turn to the deepest bell, then start again. We ring slowly, quickly, softly and loudly, or backwards from the bottom bell to the top and back again.

The children stand with their feet slightly apart and as well as listening to their neighbour they are watching each other.

Now for the workshop:

The first week we started by singing our rhyme, then we learnt how to use our hands as instruments and clapped and sang. Then



we just clapped, it was called a rhythm. Some claps were longer than others. The different claps were called crotchets and minims. We wrote the rhythm for our tune on a chart.

The next week we found the tune. I suggested a starting bell and they experimented until they found the right notes, we wrote each note down in red, using letter names for each bell.

We spent the next two weeks finding notes that sounded right to make an accompaniment. Sometimes we had to use lower notes [green] and sometimes higher ones [blue]; we wanted the tune players to play just their notes so it would stand out. We played some chords which used the tune notes as well, to hear how lovely they sound when they are played at the same time.

Last week we gave Mrs Davey a performance. This was the first time we had stood the chart upright and we forgot to move the tables so they could all see easily!

We discussed playing Belleplates. The children told me the bells make them happy, they like their good sound, it makes them calm and they have fun!



They have gained so much musical knowledge, learnt respect and care for their instruments and have developed teamwork and co-ordination.

St Mary's Ruby Ringers are still ringing but I wanted to tell you about the Belleplates.

Shirley Richmond shirleyrichmond1941@gmail.com 01409 231 764

Ruby Ringers

EASTER



Bingo



Wednesday 3rd April
Highampton Village Hall

Doors open 7.00pm eyes down at 8pm

Meat dinner, goodie boxes and Easter egg prizes

£1 entry

Tea, coffee and Refreshments available.

**Black
Torrington
Church**



Morning Prayer

Every Wednesday

St Mary's Church, Black Torrington

10am

All welcome

USED POSTAGE STAMPS

St Mary's Church have a basket in the back of the Church to collect used postage stamps which go to the charity Leukemia Research.

Please do save your stamps.





COMING SOON

**Parson Jack Russell
Art & Photography Exhibition**

**St. Mary's Church
Black Torrington**

Summer 2024

The background features several colorful Easter eggs: a red one with white circles, a blue one with white polka dots, a yellow one with white stripes, a pink one with white stars, and a green one with white zig-zags. There are also four pink flowers with yellow spiral centers scattered around the text.

EASTER EGG HUNT
AT TETCOTT
CHURCH

SATURDAY 30TH MARCH

10AM TILL 12PM

ALL WELCOME

EASTER

Bingo

Highampton Play Park Fund

Wednesday 20th March
Highampton Village Hall

Doors open 7.30pm eyes down at 8pm

Meat dinners and Easter egg prizes

£1 entry



DIFFICULT QUESTIONS

Questions that seem to have no answers

16TH FEBRUARY - DEMONS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

23RD FEBRUARY - FASTING, FOOD AND FAMINE

1ST MARCH - THE LAMB OF GOD

8TH MARCH - WHY IS FORGIVENESS DIFFICULT

15TH MARCH - CARRYING A CROSS

22ND MARCH - WHAT IS HOLY COMMUNION ABOUT

LENT
2024

Come and join
in friendly
discussions about
some difficult
questions.

11AM
MADWORTHY
METHODIST
CHURCH

These meetings will last about 1 hour and be followed at 12.15pm with a lent lunch. You are welcome to come to the meeting and stay for lunch or join us for lunch at 12.15pm. For more information, ask Angela 07703 326573.

Everyone is very welcome. This is an ecumenical group.



HALWILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Invite you to

EXPLORE THE BIBLE
ON SATURDAY 9TH MARCH

LED BY Mr Alistair McKenna

(Faith Mission & Missionary in Japan)

Arrive 1.30pm with Tea & Coffee

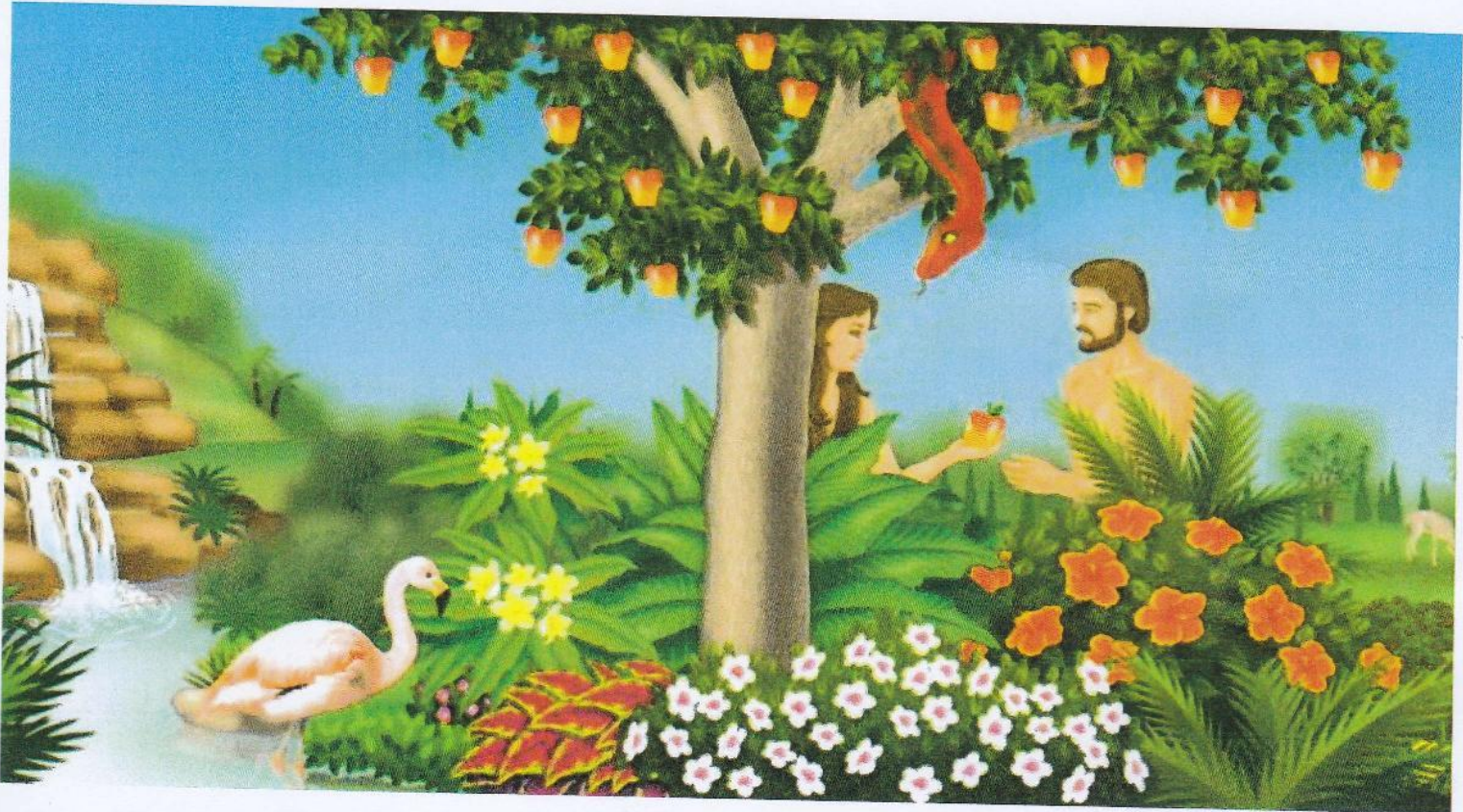
Sessions start at 2pm

*Followed by Buffet Tea at 5pm with
a time of worship to follow*

Phone Millie on 01409221491 if you want to know
more



From Eden to Eternity

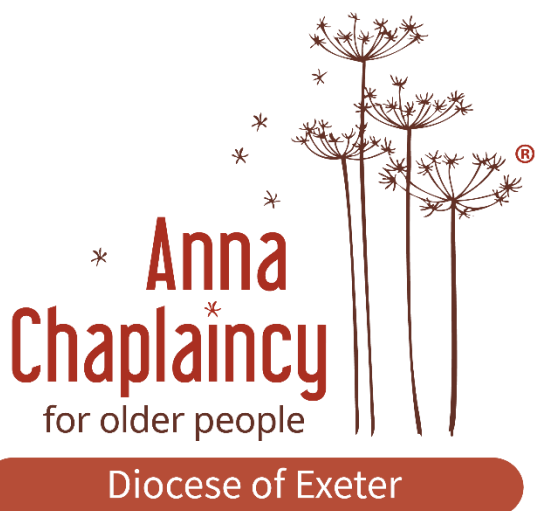


A musical written and produced by Diana Christensen
Music arranged by Ian Finch

Halwill Baptist Church on Friday 5th April at 7pm

Admission Free – a warm welcome to all

Refreshments afterwards



Hello all,
You've had an Anna Chaplain for the benefice for almost three months now, so I thought it was time to update you on what I have actually been doing.

Anna Chaplaincy training is fairly intense and very interesting - it definitely prepares you for the job, but isn't particularly good at describing what the job actually IS. So, unless you become an Anna Chaplain or Anna Friend in an established area, a lot of your first tasks are establishing what is already in place, what needs doing and putting that up against what you have time and resources to complete. To the outside world - and to me - it feels like I've not really done anything, the groundwork is definitely being laid.

Paul is doing a great job establishing what there is, and what needs doing, and I am only just beginning my journey.

At present, I am halfway through a Spiritual Care course (done via weekly zoom meetings and homework!) provided by BRF which is particularly interesting and is furthering my understanding of the workload to come.

I am learning that my chaplaincy will be more than visiting people in nursing homes, but walking alongside anyone who is in need of an ear, or some time to offload or reconnect - and the best bit is, that isn't really work at all.

Senior Clergy Reflection from Rev'd Tanya Hockley Still,
Diocesan UK Minority Ethnic (UKME) Advisor and Priest-in-
Charge of St. Mark's, Exeter

Created for Work, Rest and Worship

We have recently been running a series based on the book “The Rest is Worship” by Sara and Sam Hargreaves. An idea that I found in that book that struck me is the idea that we are created for work, rest and worship. If we look at the origin story of humanity found in *Genesis 1-3*, we unearth a narrative of pristine harmony before the fall, where work and rest were pure expressions of God's good creation. Work, presented as a gift, and rest, a divine invitation to enjoy creation with God, were intertwined in a seamless dance. The intrusion of sin transformed work into toil, and rest became recovery from the burdens of a fallen world. Today, is our concept of rest merely a desperate attempt to recharge before the next exhaustive task? God's gracious invitation urges us to rediscover His original intent for work and rest – as profound gifts inviting us to worship. In the perfection of Eden, God designed a place for seamless integration of work, rest, and worship. Sadly, in our fallen state, we often compartmentalize these aspects.

John Mark Comer beautifully articulates, "Just like work, when it's done right, is an act of worship, the same is true with rest." Indeed, every act of work can be offered to God as an act of worship. Similarly, rest, when experienced in communion with God, fulfils His intention in creating us. When we rest with God, we are not only embracing a crucial part of our design but also offering Him glory and praise. May we keep this in mind as we journey through Lent.

Rev'd Tanya Hockley Still, Diocesan UKME Advisor

Worried about a Child or Vulnerable Adult?

Please speak to your Parish Safeguarding Representative if you have any concerns for the well-being of a child or adult, or about the behaviour of someone towards a child or adult.

Your Parish Safeguarding Representative is:

Val Letheren – [rubycountry.beneficeadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:rubbycountry.beneficeadmin@btinternet.com) – 07484 880 770

If you cannot reach your Parish Safeguarding Representative, please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team:

Costa Nassaris - Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser – 01392 294969 – 07809 339502
costa.nassaris@exeter.anglican.org

James May – Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser – 01392 345910 – 07889 543646
james.may@exeter.anglican.org

Rebecca Lane – Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser- 01392 294975 - 07889542640
Rebecca.lane@exeter.anglican.org

For general enquiries – SafeguardingEnquiry@exeter.anglican.org

IMMEDIATE RISK OF HARM

If you believe someone is at immediate risk of harm or that a crime has been committed, dial **999**

If you have serious concerns about an individual's well-being, you should contact the relevant agencies:

Concerns about Children

Devon Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): **0345 155 1071**

Concerns about Adults

Devon – Care Direct: **0345 155 1007**

Domestic Abuse

Devon Help Line for professionals and individuals: **0345 155 1074**

Rape Crisis

National: **0808 802 9999** Devon and Torbay: **01392 204174**

Please notify your safeguarding Representative and/or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team after contacting any of these agencies.

Ruby Country Benefice

RUBY PEOPLE WORSHIPPING IN GOD'S COUNTRY

St. Peter Ad Vincula, Ashwater EX21 5EY

St. Alban, Beaworthy EX21 5AB

St. Mary's, Black Torrington EX21 5PU

St. Leonard, Clawton EX22 6PS

St. Peter & St. James, Halwill EX21 5UH

Holy Cross, Highampton EX21 5LE

Holy Cross, Tetcott EX22 6QZ



Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick, Rector

vicar-rubycountry@outlook.com