uby Country Benef

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

Bulletin November 2023



The LORD is our God, and we are his people, the sheep he takes care of in his own pasture. Listen to God's voice today! Psalm 95:7

OCTOBER

FUNERAL of Michael LUXTON (Ashwater)

WEDDING of Emma COLWILL and Max MARSHALL

(Ashwater)

FUNERAL of **Pat CHARD** (Black Torrington)

CONTACTS Rector

Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick

7nd

7th

25th

sters

the Parish

01409 254 667

Contacts for Churches:

Highampton Tetcott: Safeguarding	Mrs. M. Dayman Mrs. A. Knight Nikki Mitchell Val Letheren	01837 810 435 07407 042 840 01409 271 381 07484 880 770
Clawton: Halwill:	lrene Ellis John Lawlor	01409 271 371 01409 221 987
Beaworthy Black Torrington:	Richard Prior Sheila Grabham Val Letheren*	01409 221 986 07814 128 163 01409 231 430
Ashwater	Diana Marriott	01409 211 146

From the Parish Registers image (pg. 2) © Parish Pump,

Cover image and images on page 11: Metherell Tower, Beaworthy taken by Kay Napier, June 2013.

Image on pg. 8 with grateful thanks to Katharine Matthews

Image on pg. 9 – Gorle grave at Beaworthy Church taken by Kay Napier 2022.

Ukraine graphic on the back page from pixabay.com, by chiajo-18290215

Thanks to Revd. Paul Fitzpatrick, Katharine Matthews, Nikki Mitchell and Sheila Grabham for their contributions.

Holy Cross, Highampton

Please find this update on Holy Cross. Following a Diocesan visit to the site, the Diocese have decided that the church and churchyard are extremely unsafe and the process of closure will begin now. This will take some time and will include a public consultation about the site, but the building cannot be realistically saved.

The churchyard also remains closed at this time.

I know we expected this news but that doesn't make it any easier.

Paul.

NOVEMBER

From the Rector's Desk

With my Rural Dean's hat on as well as my Rector's, I want to share where we are with one of our two central mission priorities: schools and young families. So, to start, a quick update.

- Holsworthy Primary has at least one big service per term which it holds in the church. It is an incredibly successful school which has added 60 children this academic year. The school had 230 children and 110 adults with two classes absent on trips at the Harvest service which I was fortunate enough to take. Holsworthy Parish church is massive, but it could barely hold the numbers. The real joy is the increase in parents attending these services despite it being in daytime.
- In our benefice, I have become a Governor at Ashwater and Halwill (single group but not church schools), and am in the process of becoming an 'Advocate' (new form of group Governors) for the Dartmoor schools' group, specifically for Black Torrington C of E school.
- Ashwater had 21 children and 30 Adults into its Harvest festival which the head and I shared in the morning and then Halwill with 60 children and 50 adults (happily little space again!) in the afternoon. These took place in the schools not the churches, but there is a real positivity for Christian assemblies and events. Both schools have booked the churches for their Christmas services/concerts.
- Black Torrington primary had their Harvest in the church (9 children which is the full school population and 14 adults), where we did a café service with coffee, cakes and sandwiches which was a positive change in how to run these events.
- I have done an induction with Clawton School (88 children) but no services yet, although they want to visit the church for its history, cultural position, and ecology, so this is where the equipment that the diocese purchased will have its second outing next term.

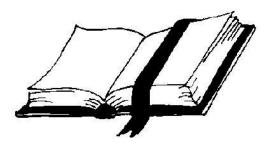
This all looks wonderful but, with frankness, there is so much to do yet. I am still making connections and although **all** our churches positively want children and young families in them, there are three key problems to address:

- 1. There is little cultural history of young families attending churches for at least the last few years; hence the different engagement plans to get past the perceived 'Alienness' of church.
- 2. Young families do not understand or relate to a Sunday service of Holy Communion so engagement may need to be by a different route; special services and outreach projects are excellent and readily accepted but congregations need children in their Sunday Services as their primary way of building a sustainable future. This is doable, but requires a lot of work and commitment moving forward.
- 3. Our Benefice has five primary schools, Holsworthy two and Bradworthy two, covering 240 miles. The two colleges are in Holsworthy and Okehampton and they both have connect/youth teams in them. These are evangelical teams and although supported by our congregations financially, there is no connection between Primary Christian input and secondary provision and no parish connections at all.

Our worship leaders attended the Scripture Union 'Mission Possible' evening on youth work which our Deanery hosted. The key point I took away from this was that we need to get away from 'engagement projects', and new concepts, and invest in training to facilitate (a) long term continuity and efficiency in youthwork and young families, based in our parishes. (b) We have got to develop our professional ability to work outside the box in terms of integrated mission, growth, and evangelism. (c) This will need a consistent local strategy behind it, 'touch and go' ministry is not going to work.

As I said, there is much to do, but the possibilities are, happily, enormous. I meet with the diocesan advisor in early November.

Lectionary Readings for November 2023



Sunday 5 th (4 th Sunday before Advent) 1 Thessalonians 2: 9 – 13 Matthew 23: 1 – 12	Sunday 12 th (3 rd Sunday before Advent) Remembrance Sunday 1Thessalonians 4: 13 – end Matthew 25: 1 – 3	Sunday 19 th (2 rd Sunday before Advent) 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 – 11 Matthew 25: 14 – 30
Services at Ashwater, Black Torrington, Halwill, Tetcott	Services at Ashwater, Halwill Village Hall, Tetcott, Clawton, Beaworthy	Services at Ashwater, Black Torrington, Halwill
Sunday 26 th Christ the King		
Ephesians 1:		
15 – end		
Matthew 25:		
31 – end		
Services at		
Holsworthy, Clawton,		
Highampton		

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

Ruby Country Benefice Services for November 2023

Sunday 5 th	9.30am	Ashwater	Morning Service
4 th Sunday	11am	Black Torrington	Holy Communion
before Advent			
	11am	Halwill	Morning Service
	5:30pm	Tetcott	Tea followed by
			Evening Service
			(6pm)
Saturday 11 th	10:50am	Black Torrington	Remembrance Service
		war memorial	
Sunday 12 th	10:50am	Ashwater	Remembrance Service
Remembrance	10:50am	Halwill	Remembrance Service
Sunday		(War Memorial &	
		Village Hall)	
	10:50am	Tetcott	Remembrance Service
	2:30pm	Clawton	Remembrance Service
	6:30pm	Beaworthy	Remembrance Service
Sunday 19 th	9:30am	Ashwater	Holy Communion
2 nd Sunday	11am	Black Torrington	Café Church
before Advent		0	
	11am	Halwill	Holy Communion
Sunday 26 th	10:30am	Holsworthy	Induction of Revd.
			Alison Hardy with the
			Bishop of Crediton
Christ the King	11am	Clawton	United Service
	3:30pm	Highampton	Holy Communion

Weekly – all welcome from the benefice

Wednesday	10am	Black	Morning Prayer
		Torrington	

From last month's Bulletin on **Ernest Arthur Stirling WOOLLCOMBE**...



Following last month's Bulletin, I received an email from Katharine MATTHEWS with the image above of a lamp which belonged to her late mother – as you can see, it once belonged to the WOOLLCOMBE family.

This lamp was presented to Charles Belfield WOOLLCOMBE, the second son Archdeacon WOOLLCOMBE (and cousin of young Ernest whose grave the last article was about) on the occasion of his marriage to Betty in London in 1892.

Charles was born in around 1851 in Kingsteignton, but lived and is commemorated at Ashbury near Northlew. He died in 1901, and his wife Betty died 42 years later in 1943.

John Tayler GORLE 1822 – 2nd August 1888

Tucked away in St. Albans churchyard is a broken, weathered grave which is the marker for Captain John Tayler GORLE and his wife Frances. The stone has stood in place for over a century, and in that time, the GORLE family have moved from this place and their story forgotten.



John was born in around 1822 in Kempsey in Worcestershire, a village near the River Severn and a few miles out from Worcester itself. Baptised on 26th September 1822, his record tells us he was the son of John GORLE and his wife Ann TAYLOR. He was the fifth of seven children. but the only son to survive to adulthood: his older brother – John William having died in 1818 aged only 7.

John Tayler GORLE married his wife Frances MOORE on the 7th November 1848. Frances was the daughter of Macartney MOORE and his wife Henrietta HALHED. Macartney worked as a writer with the East India Company, where he met and married Henrietta, and his four children, including Frances, were born in what were the East Indies. Frances was born in about 1826 in Saharunpur, in modern day Uttar Pradesh in India. By the time of Frances' marriage to John GORLE, they were back in England, marrying in GORLE's native Worcestershire.

The marriage produced several children; Henrietta Ann GORLE, who was born in Plymouth in 1850. Frances Elizabeth GORLE, who was baptised in 1851, Worcestershire Frances Elizabeth GORLE – who may be the previous Frances, but her birth is listed as 1853 Nice, France in the census John Macartney GORLE, born in 1855 Godshill, Isle of Wight and baptised in Kempsey, Worcestershire May 1855 Rachel Mary GORLE, born 1857 in Ferryside, Camarthenshire Richmond GORLE, born 1859 in Chepstow, Monmouthshire Rosa Myra GORLE, born and baptised in 1860 in Kempsey Ambrose GORLE, born in Poughill, Cornwall in 1862. Phillis GORLE, baptised 1st November 1864 in Poughill, however I can find no further record or proof of her existence. Louisa GORLE, known as Luta, baptised 10th December 1866 at Poughill

And Harry Vaughan GORLE, born and baptised in 1868 at Poughill.

The only mention I can find of John senior is in the 1861 Census. The family is living in Naphton Road in Kempsey, Worcestershire, and John Tayler GORLE is listed as "Late Captain in the Army". He is living at the address with his wife Frances, aged 34, and children Harrietta (sic.) aged 11, Frances aged 8, John aged 6, Rachel, aged 4, Richmond aged 2, and Rosa aged 0. Living with them are John's widowed mother Ann GORLE aged 74, and unmarried sister, Ann M GORLE aged 47. Both John's mother and sister have their occupations listed as "Fundholder" – I am informed by the wonderful world wide web that this means "A person who has money invested in Government securities;" as occupations go, I don't think that's too shabby! Living with the GORLES are those with less affluent occupations – maid Hannah Horcher, 25 of Gloucester, domestic servant Sarah J Bubb, aged 18 of Pirton, Worcester and her sister Ann M Bubb, aged 16 who is the family nurse. We know the family move to Poughill outside Bude the following year as Ambrose GORLE's baptism record reveals that the family are residing at Lake Cottage, Poughill. It is likely that the family moved with John Tayler GORLE's army stationing, before returning to his home parish, but we cannot be sure what brought the family from there to Poughill and later to Beaworthy.

The gravestone for John Tayler GORLE states that he was a captain, and a website about his son Harry lists that John served with Her Majesty's 28th Regiment of Foot, and would likely have served in the Mediterranean, Ireland, England, Australia, India and possibly during the Crimean War.

John Tayler's probate record shows that he was living at Metherell Towers at the time of his death, his daughter Luta also died here in 1903, and the 1911 census shows his son Richmond living here with his wife Hilda Mary and son Richmond Ambrose GORLE.



Images of Metherell Tower, taken June 2013

Metherell Towers had become the firm home of the GORLE family.

However, by 1919, Richmond was living in North Tawton at Nichols Nymet House – now in 2023 being run as a bed and breakfast. Hilda and Richmond junior are buried in the churchyard at North Tawton.

Richmond GORLE died in the Okehampton registration district in 1936, and it wasn't long before Metherell Towers was in the hands of journalist, writer and photographer Edward Hemingway, a cousin of the author Ernest. In 1936, Metherell Towers became a nine-acre nudist camp; one of the oldest nudist colonies in the country prior to its sale in 2004. Part of this estate is now the Ruby Country Lodge Park, and the dilapidated house stands on the outskirts of it.

Going back.

John Tayler GORLE died on 2nd August 1888 and was buried at Beaworthy. His widow was listed as living in Bratton Village, Bratton Clovelly at the time of the 1891 census, aged 64, alongside their children Richmond aged 32, listed as a Horse Breeder, Rachel aged 33, Rosa aged 30 and Louisa aged 24.

Footman Thomas R HIGGINS aged 18 and domestic servant Damaris DARK aged 16 made up their staff.

On Christmas Eve 1900, Frances GORLE died and would be buried in Beaworthy with her husband.

But what of their children?

Oldest daughter Henrietta married Thomas Hamilton ANSON in 1872 and they emigrated to Christchurch, New Zealand where she died 27th July 1929.

Frances Elizabeth GORLE married Henry Vernon ANSON, cousin of her brother-in-law Thomas. She died in Upton on Severn in 1933, but was buried in Greenwich Cemetery, having set up home with her husband in Blackheath, South East London. John Macartney GORLE, named for both his father and maternal grandfather, seems to disappear after his mention in the 1861 census so may have emigrated abroad.

Rachel Mary GORLE died unmarried in 1931 in the Crediton registration district.

Richmond GORLE – as we explored earlier, married Hilda Mary HEATH in 1909 and had a son, also called Richmond. Richmond senior's death was registered in the March quarter of 1936 in the Okehampton district.

Rosa Myra GORLE also died unmarried in 1937 in the Central Devon registration district.

Ambrose GORLE died in 1930, Forest Green, Surrey having married Hilda Mary MOORE of Cheshire in 1907.

Phillis GORLE was not mentioned again after her baptism in 1864 – there is not even a corresponding birth record for her.

Louisa "Luta" GORLE died unmarried at Metherell Towers in 1903 and is buried at Bratton Clovelly.

Their youngest son Harry Vernon GORLE holds the most fascinating part of the story.

Harry, born at Poughill, married twice. Firstly to Ethel Katherine ARCHDALL of Ireland, and secondly to Edith Mary FRANCIS of Devon.

Ethel was the daughter of Reverend William ARCHDALL of Armagh and latterly County Cork. Ethel and Harry married in 1895 in Antrim, Ireland and had a son, Robert.

Harry served in the Boer Wars, and, apparently, narrowly missed out on being awarded the Victoria Cross, instead receiving the Distinguished Service Order. Harry was commissioned as a Lieutenant in 1893 via the Militia and joined the Army Service Corps the next month on active duty.

By 1898, Harry had advanced to the rank of Captain and was, by this time, serving in South Africa.

He was appointed to defend Kimberley and was in charge of arrangements for all supplies and transport for the garrison, and it was his idea in 1900 that personal food supplies were to be commandeered for general sale to the people of Kimberley instead of just the individuals who had brought food for themselves.

Harry's first wife Ethel died in 1904.

Harry was advanced to the rank of Major in 1905, and retired in 1908 aged 40. During this retirement, he married his second wife Edith in 1914. In 1915 his first daughter was born in Portsmouth- Joan Mary Partridge GORLE.

A second child was conceived; however he was recalled as part of the Great War effort aged 48 and served in Macedonian theatre from 1916 to 1918. His second son, Michael John Vaughan GORLE was born in Havant in 1917.

Harry Vernon GORLE died aged 83 in Bury St Edmunds in 1951.

His son Michael is commemorated on the war memorial at Beyton, Suffolk as Major GORLE, R.A.S.C, having given his life during the Second World War. I cannot find any record of his death.

I also assume that Harry's daughter Joan moved abroad as I cannot find any record of her.

I take this opportunity to apologise for the lack of photographs to this point – I simply haven't been able to find any. However, I hope the next page makes up for it.

Harry's son from his first marriage was Robert Vaughan GORLE, born 6th May 1896 in Southsea, and died the 9th January 1937 in Durban South Africa where he had emigrated before the beginning of World War One. After the war he worked as a librarian. He married Ruth THOMAS in 1924 and they had two children – Timothy and Drucilla.

Robert Vaughan GORLE VC 1896 –1937

From the London Gazette:

"For the most conspicuous bravery, initiative and devotion to duty during the attack on Ledeghem on 1st October, 1918, when in command of an 18-pdr gun working in close conjunction with infantry. He brought his gun into action in the most exposed positions on four separate occasions, and disposed of enemy machine guns by firing over open sights under direct machine gun fire at 500 to 600 yards' range.



Later, seeing that the infantry were being driven back by intense hostile fire, he, without hesitation, galloped his gun in front of the leading infantry, and on two occasions knocked out enemy machine guns which were causing the trouble. His disregard of personal safety and dash were a magnificent example to the wavering line, which rallied and re-took the northern end of the village."



His Victoria Cross was purchased privately and is now displayed on rotation at The Lord Ashcroft Gallery: Extraordinary Heroes Exhibition, Imperial War Museum, London.

https://www.lordashcroftmedals.com/collection/robert-vaughan-gorle-vc/

So next time you find yourself at St Albans, walk around and look out for the broken cross and take a moment to stop and think.

Four generations of this family saw active war service.

The couple beneath your feet have a son who almost got a Victoria Cross, and a grandson, buried a few thousand miles away in South Africa who was awarded for – as the government website describes it – 'most conspicuous bravery, or some daring or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice, or extreme devotion to duty in the presence of the enemy'", and his medals can be seen in the Imperial War Museum.

It all seems a million miles away from a leafy countryside churchyard, doesn't it.

Kay Napier October 2023

Sources:

https://www.thepeerage.com/p26321.htm https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert Vaughan Gorle https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/2/27/Robert Vaughan Gorle VC.jpg https://www.lordashcroftmedals.com/collection/robert-vaughan-gorle-vc/ https://www.thegazette.co.uk/Edinburgh/issue/13369/page/4583 https://www.deceasedonline.com https://www.werelate.org/wiki/Person:Macartney Moore (1) https://www.devonbedandbreakfast.co.uk/web/devonbandb/history.aspx http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/devon/3682369.stm https://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/property/advice/propertymarket/3324378/No t-so-hidden-assets.html https://prabook.com/web/harry vaughan.gorle/747357 https://www.familysearch.org https://www.findagrave.com https://www.geni.com/people/Major-Harry-Gorle-D-S-O-A-S-C/600000003216083867 https://www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/item/memorial/4699 https://www.oocities.org/athens/academy/5386/gorle.htm?202329#harry https://www.memorialsinportsmouth.co.uk/vc/gorle.htm

Please get your posters, news, pictures, articles, details of services, fundraisers or any other submissions in FOR

DEADLINE

DECEMBER AND JANUARY by the 15th November to feature in the next Bulletin. If you need an extra day or two to get the information together, please let Kay know whether you'll need a whole page or half a page by the 15th to reserve a space, however the latest possible cutoff for receiving items will be midday on Friday 17th November.

email rubycbulletin@gmail.com or call 01409 221 321



KIVELLS and the Market Chaplaincy Team

warmly invite you to join us on Friday 10th November at 7:00 pm for our



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2023 Harvest Celebration

at Holsworthy Livestock Market

Speaker: Rt. Revd Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury

Music by: Devon YFC

Refreshments to follow in the Market Cafe





RRayner, CC BY-SA 4.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0>, via Wikimedia Commons

The Licensing of Revd Alison Hardy as Rector of the Holsworthy Benefice.





Bridgerule, Hollacombe, Holsworthy, Pyworthy with Pancrasweek

The Benefice churchwardens cordially invite you to The Licensing of the Revd Alison Hardy by the Rt Revd Jackie Searle, Bishop of Crediton, at the church of St Peter and St Paul, Holsworthy Sunday 26th November 2023 at 10.30am

Refreshments to follow the service.

RSVP by 1st November- holsworthybenefice@icloud.com



St Peter & St. James Church, Halwill

invites you to

the commissioning service of

Kay Napier as Anna Chaplain

with Archdeacon Verena Breed

Monday 27th November 2023

7pm

with refreshments to follow

for older people

Fuby Country Benefice

RUBY PEOPLE WORSHIPPING IN GOD'S COUNTRY

Children's Christmas craft's morning at Tetcott church

children can make decorations to take home and help decorate the Church Saturday November 25th 10am - 12pm

ll welcom

Festive events to save the date for in December: (dates subject to change)

- 10th Christingle Café Church at Black Torrington
- 10th Carol Service at Highampton
- 15th Festive event at Halwill
- 16th Christingle at Beaworthy
- 17th Carol Service at Ashwater
- 17th Advent Service at Black Torrington
- 18th Carol Service at Beaworthy
- 21st Carol Service at Black Torrington
- 24th Crib Service at Ashwater
- 24th Carol Services at Clawton and Halwill
- 24th Christmas Eve Holy Communion at Black Torrington
- 25th Christmas Day Holy Communion at Beaworthy

Senior Clergy Reflection from Revd. Canon Deborah Parsons, <u>Team Vicar of St Mary's and St John's Churches Totnes and</u> <u>Canon Chancellor, Exeter Cathedral</u>

Welcoming the Stranger

An Army Chaplain once told me that at any one time in our life, we'll only ever know a handful of people very well. Influencers have followers, facebook users have friends but in a world population of 8.1 billion most of the population will be strangers to us.

Migration has brought diverse groups of people together from different national, cultural, linguistic and religious backgrounds. Those once seen as "exotic" have become "strangers" in our own communities. 2.3 percent of the world's population, live outside their country of nationality.

Being a stranger, is a recurring motif in the Christian Tradition. Abraham leaves his homeland; the Israelites wander in the wilderness and Jesus himself was a refugee and had an itinerant ministry.

In the Bible, we see two different responses to strangers; one based on fear; the other on faith. Ezra and Nehemiah show hostility to strangers. They are keen to establish a clear group identity as God's people. They fear intermarriage will dilute their national, religious and cultural identity. In contrast to this, the book of Ruth, the story of the Good Samaritan and Jesus's own ministry show a deep love and care for the stranger.

In the pandemic, many of us got to know our neighbours better and the war in Ukraine has seen many open their homes to strangers.

On a visit to Bahrain, to strengthen links with our companion dioceses, I was impressed by their work in welcoming the stranger through King Hamad`s Centre for Peaceful Co-existence, which encourages interfaith dialogue and religious tolerance and by their conversations supporting safe migration through the Just Good Works App.

Interfaith week runs from 12-19 November. How might our churches act as crucibles for encounter, conversation and social action?

Rev'd Canon Deborah Parsons, Diocesan Interfaith Advisor

Worried about a Child or Vulnerable Adult?				
Please speak to your Parish Safeguarding Repr concerns for t well-being of a child or adult, or about the behaviour of someone towards a child or ad				
Your Parish Safeguarding Representative is:				
Val Letheren – <u>rubycountry.beneficeadmin@btinternet.com</u> – 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 CrisisNational: 0808 802 9999Devon and Torbay: 01392 204174				
Please notify your safeguarding Representative and/or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team after contacting any of these agencies.				

All information in this bulletin correct at time of publication

Fuby 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

