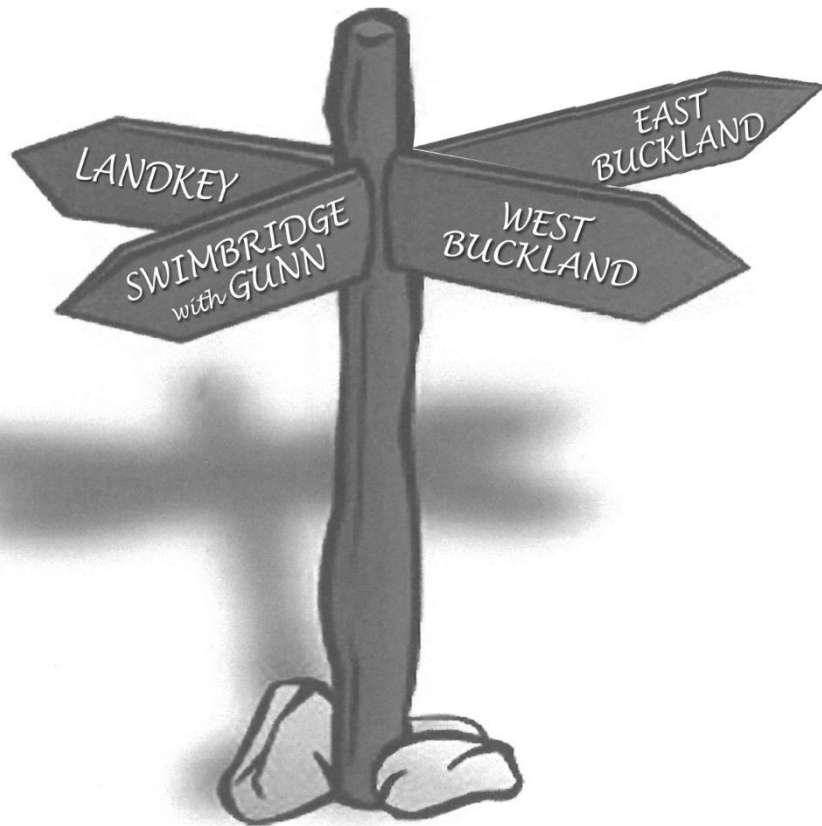


# ***Parish Magazine***

*for*

## **The Four Ways Mission Community**

**St Paul, Landkey, St James the Apostle, Swimbridge  
with The Holy Name, Gunn,  
St Peter, West Buckland & St Michael, East Buckland**



**July/August 2026**

## SUNDAY SERVICES – JULY 2026

|                                                |                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 5 July</b> <i>Trinity 5</i> (Green)  |                                                               |
| <b>Swimbridge, 9.30am HC</b>                   | Zechariah 9: 9-12; Romans 7: 15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-end |
| <b>Landkey, 10.30am</b>                        | <i>As above</i>                                               |
| <b>West Buckland, 11.15am HC</b>               | <i>As above</i>                                               |
| <b>Sunday 12 July</b> <i>Trinity 6</i> (Green) |                                                               |
| <b>East Buckland, 9.30am HC</b>                | Isaiah 55: 10-13; Romans 8: 1-11; Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23      |
| <b>Swimbridge, 9.30am HC</b>                   | <i>As above</i>                                               |
| <b>Landkey 10.30am HC</b>                      | <i>As above</i>                                               |
| <b>Gunn 11am HC</b>                            | <i>As above</i>                                               |
| <b>Sunday 19 July</b> <i>Trinity 7</i> (Green) |                                                               |
| <b>Swimbridge, 9.30am HC</b>                   | Isaiah 44: 6-8; Romans 8: 12-25; Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43     |
| <b>Landkey, 10.30am HC</b>                     | <i>As above</i>                                               |
| <b>West Buckland, 11.15am HC</b>               | <i>As above</i>                                               |
| <b>Sunday 26 July</b> <i>Trinity 8</i> (Green) |                                                               |
| <b>East Buckland, 9.30am MP</b>                | 1 Kings 3: 5-12; Romans 8: 26-end; Matthew 13 31- 33, 44-52.  |
| <b>Swimbridge, 9.30am HC</b>                   | <i>As East Buckland</i>                                       |
| <b>Swimbridge, 11am Baptism</b>                | <i>Baptism readings</i>                                       |
| <b>Landkey, 10.30am MP</b>                     | <i>As East Buckland</i>                                       |

### North Devon Interfaith Frawzy – Sunday July 12 2026

Members of churches within the Four Ways Mission Community are invited to join HM Lord Lieutenant of Devon, Mr David Fursdon and the Mayor of Barnstaple, Cllr Loki Dawson at an informal gathering of faith communities in Northern Devon.

**The event will take place between 3pm and 5pm on Sunday July 12, at Barnstaple's Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene and St Peter.**

Refreshments will be provided and a children's entertainer will be present – bring all the family!

*For those without a deep knowledge of North Devon dialect a 'frawzy' is a community gathering, typically involving sharing of food and stories.*

## SUNDAY SERVICES – AUGUST 2026

|                                                         |                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 2 August</b> <i>Trinity 9</i> (Green)         |                                                              |
| <b>Swimbridge, 9.30am HC</b>                            | Isaiah 55: 1-5; Romans 9: 1-5; Matthew 14: 13-21             |
| <b>Landkey, 10.30am</b>                                 | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>West Buckland, 11.15am HC</b>                        | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>Sunday 9 August</b> <i>Trinity 10</i> (Green)        |                                                              |
| <b>East Buckland, 9.30am HC</b>                         | 1 King 19: 9-18; Romans 10: 5-15; Matthew 14: 22-33          |
| <b>Swimbridge, 9.30am HC</b>                            | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>Landkey 10.30am MP</b>                               | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>Gunn 11am HC</b>                                     | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>Sunday 16 August</b> <i>Trinity 11</i> (Green)       |                                                              |
| <b>Swimbridge, 9.30am HC</b>                            | Isaiah 56, 1, 6-8; Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15: 21-28 |
| <b>Landkey, 10.30am HC</b>                              | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>Gunn, 11am HC</b>                                    | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>West Buckland, 11.15am HC</b>                        | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>Sunday 23 August</b> <i>Trinity 12</i> (Green)       |                                                              |
| <b>East Buckland, 9.30am MP</b>                         | Isaiah 51: 1-6; Romans 12: 1-8; Matthew 16: 13-20            |
| <b>Swimbridge, 9.30am HC</b>                            | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>Landkey, 10.30am HC</b>                              | <i>As above</i>                                              |
| <b>Landkey, 3pm Pet Blessing and Teddy Bears Picnic</b> | <i>As service sheets.</i>                                    |
| <b>Sunday 30 August</b> <i>Trinity 13</i> (Green)       | <b>MISSION COMMUNITY SERVICE</b>                             |
| <b>Swimbridge, 9.30am HC</b>                            | Jeremiah 15: 15-21; Romans 12: 9-end; Matthew 16 21-end      |



**The Mission Community of St. James, Swimbridge with the Chapel of the Holy Name, Gunn, St. Peter, West Buckland, St Michael, East Buckland and St. Paul, Landkey**

Patrons: The Bishop of Exeter and The Earl Fortescue Trust (Patronage suspended)

**Rector:** Revd. Preb. Cathy Scoffield,  
The Rectory, (off Liverton Drive) Barnstaple Hill, Swimbridge, Devon EX32 0PH  
01271 830352 revcathyscoffield@gmail.com

**St. James the Apostle, Swimbridge**

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Treasurer & Organist: Janet Patton 01271 831065 Electoral Roll: Mary Fardon 01271 344629  
Bell Tower Captain: Chris Ley 07890331478  
C of E Voluntary Aided Primary School: Head Teacher: Gemma Poland  
Website: [www.swimbridgeparishchurch.org](http://www.swimbridgeparishchurch.org)

**Chapel of the Holy Name, Gunn**

**Warden and Treasurer:** William Crosbie-Dawson 01271 831141

**St Peter, West Buckland**

**Churchwarden, PCC Secretary & Safeguarding Officer:** Gail Barker 01598 761149  
Churchwarden Emeritus: Pat Witheridge 01598 710512 Treasurer: Ally Ayre 01271 830011  
Electoral Roll: Liz Overall 01598 760314 Tower Captain: Peter Crook 01598 760437  
Deanery Synod: Vacant

**St Michael, East Buckland**

**Churchwarden:** Diane Tearall 01769 579031  
Assistant Churchwarden: Paul Smalley 01598 710629  
PCC Secretary & Safeguarding Officer: Charlotte Smalley 01598 710629  
Treasurer: Jeanette Ridd Tower Captain: Peter Crook 01598 760437

**St Paul, Landkey**

**Churchwarden, Safeguarding Officer & Deanery Synod Rep:** Hazel Price 01271 831259  
**Churchwarden** Peter Soper 01271 830801.  
PCC Secretary: *vacant* Treasurer: Ann Rumble 01271 346463  
Website: [www.landkeyparishchurch.org](http://www.landkeyparishchurch.org)

**Magazine Editors:**

Revd. Preb. Cathy Scoffield and Philip Dalling.  
Distribution: Cathy Scoffield

**Please Note:**

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Tel: 01769 540271 email: [dalling.philip@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dalling.philip@hotmail.co.uk)  
by the 15th of preceding month.

10 magazine editions each year. January/February and July/August are combined.

## The fascination of Cathedrals and unfinished creations... Revd Cathy Scoffield

Many of us are keen visitors to Cathedrals. Over the years, Steve and I have enjoyed visiting and worshipping at many English Cathedrals. We have stayed overnight at hotels opposite Canterbury and Lincoln cathedrals that are marvellous places of worship and heritage. I am always humbled to be part of services in Exeter Cathedral, sometimes sitting in my Prebendary stall dedicated to Luke, opposite the incredible craftsmanship of the Bishop of Exeter's seat. Last December I was blessed to visit the incredible Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, which was a truly holy experience of unfinished creation. [History of the Temple - Sagrada Família - Sagrada Familia](#)

As I write this, I am looking forward to an imminent pilgrimage to Chartres Cathedral in France, with a dear friend who I first met when we both lived at Lee Abbey Conference Centre with our young families. For years Ruth and I have both felt drawn to visit Chartres, to pray and to walk the labyrinth and to see a sculpture. [Chartres Cathedral - UNESCO World Heritage Centre](#)

During the time we lived at Lee Abbey, we both heard the priest, theologian and author Revd David Runcorn speak about a sculpture, *The Creation of Adam* which is at Chartres Cathedral. David Runcorn has written a Grove booklet containing seven reflections on *The Creation of Adam*. [S 76 The Creation of Adam: Seven Guided Reflections from Genesis - Grove Books](#)

I've never forgotten the talk given by David Runcorn, describing the sculpture of Christ with Adam as half-emerged into life and still incomplete – just like us. He said, 'we too are unfinished creations – 'human comers'.'

Here is an extract from Chapter 2 of David Runcorn's booklet:

### The Unfinished Creation

*'In the beginning when God began creating the heavens and the earth. Gen 1.1*

Seeing - Look at the sculpture for a while. What do you see?

adam (which means 'earth creature') is only half-emerged from the dust of the earth. The sculptor, in his wisdom, has frozen the work of creation at mid-point. This human being is incomplete. Unfinished. He is becoming. Creation is in process.

adam is halfway between earth and heaven, halfway between being and non-being, halfway between non-existence and life.

Is it significant that the sculptor should choose to express the work of creation at this moment – in the between-ness of things?

### Connecting

*'In the beginning.....'* Gen 1.1. At the bottom of this page in your Bible, you will probably find a note explaining that this verse can be translated in different ways.

*'In the beginning God created ...'* can also read, 'In the beginning God began creating'.



Both are true. God is the first source of life. Life began in him. But in Psalm 104, for example, this creating gift continues. *'You send forth your spirit and life begins. You (ever) renew the face of the earth'.* (v30 Jerusalem Bible). In this world we never reach an end to God's creating life and vitality.

This sculpture is a meditation on the second translation. It is a work of creating that is continuing.

A passage in the New Testament takes this insight further: *'See what love the Father has given us, that we might be called children of God; and that is what we are .... We are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is that when he appears, we will be like him, for we shall see him as he is.'* 1Jn 3.1&3

This tells us three things about our life in creation:

- Life is Gift        'see what love the Father has given us'
- Life is Mystery    'what we will become is not yet revealed'.
- Life is Promise    'we shall be like him'

Christ is the secret of our creation as well as our redemption. Being a human become means trusting to Jesus the secret of who we are becoming.

Reflecting - This picture hangs on the wall of my study above the considerable clutter and confusion of many unfinished things. I find it very affirming. It gives me permission to be unfinished.

There is no blame in this picture for a human being who has yet to 'get it together'. Rather, God is willingly involved in our continued emerging into life. His presence is above, beside and breathed into this adam with gentle care and deep concentration. But this is also an uncomfortable revelation.

The moment we receive the Gift and trust the Promise we also have to enter the Mystery of who we are. It has been said that Christ is the only truly human being, we are human becomers. We are unfinished. But we want to be finished products and with good reason.

This world is not a comfortable place for unfinished, incomplete, undefended people. We quickly feel our nakedness. We are afraid and we learn to hide. Out of anxiety and pressure we spend a lot of time carefully trying to look finished! We never quite lose the fear that those around us won't love and accept us if they saw the places where we are so naked, flawed and incomplete.

Not only does this sculpture affirm our incompleteness – and therefore our becoming – before God. It may also warn of us of the peril of pretending otherwise. Not only is our humanity unfinished and found in mystery – this is a vital part of the gift of being human.

*'Human beings need problems more than they need solutions. This is because we are beings with immortal longings and an indelible ideal and we suffer our greatest harm whenever, for a while, success sends us out believing that our ideal has been reached and our longing satisfied.'* John V Taylor

We are more alive as human becomers than as human beings. Our incompleteness is part of the original gift of God in creation.

Responding - Look at the sculpture. Take time for this. Imagine yourself in the place of adam. You are half born, vulnerable, unfinished – emerging somewhere between gift of life and dust of earth – not yet at home in either. What thoughts and feelings do you have? Where do you feel your incompleteness most? Is it more gift or burden to you? And God? What is God's gift in this picture?

***I will report back from Chartres.. You may also like to read more about David Runcorn.***

**About David – David Runcorn** I have many of David's books. Do ask if you would like to read one. CS



## News from the churches ...

### St Paul's Landkey



**Pentecost Sunday - A moving service:** Our Pentecost service on 24th May 2026 was led by Revd Cathy Scoffield. In her sermon, she drew on the Bible readings for the day which described how the Holy Spirit descended onto the early Christians, enabling them to achieve things which no-one would have thought possible. She assured us that the same Holy Spirit is with us and helps us to face the challenges that life brings our way.

It was a moving service, in the emotional sense, as we gave thanks for the contribution to the church which Mike and Josie have made over many years in their formal roles of churchwarden and Licensed Lay Minister, respectively. Over and above these, their hospitality, as evidenced most recently by the superb Lent lunch which they hosted on 10th March this year, was always much appreciated. Josie's thoughtful sermons will live long in the memory, including her belief that the importance of faith becomes apparent when it is really needed. Mike's successful efforts in the wake of the Covid pandemic to install technology in the church to enable services to be held without the need for an organist or printed booklets have not been forgotten.

It was a moving time also, in the literal sense, as Mike and Josie were due to move on the following day to a new house near Barnstaple. Illness has affected their lives, and the new house should give them added convenience. Mike and Josie chose the hymns for this Pentecost service and they were: Living Hope by Phil Wickham; Breathe on me, breath of God; Praise the Lord the Almighty with Lord the light of your love is shining to finish. The background music during Communion was *The Benedictus* from *The Armed Man* by Karl Jenkins, a particular favourite of theirs.

Tea, coffee, cake and some Asti were served afterwards, with many people lingering to wish Mike and Josie well. We are delighted that they will continue regard St Paul's as their home church and we hope that they will join us whenever they feel able to.

**Welcome back again, Richard!** We were pleased to welcome Revd Richard Freeman to lead our service of Holy Communion for the first Sunday after Trinity on 7th June 2026. He was joined by his wife, Angela, and a photo of them with Cathy and our churchwardens Hazel and Peter was taken afterwards (*right*). The focus of Richard's sermon was on the words of the prophet Hosea who says, in chapter 6, v6 of the book of the Bible in his name, "For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt-offerings." Hosea lived 800 years before the birth of Jesus but his words have just as much relevance for us in today's world as they did then. We look forward to welcoming Richard and Angela once more to lead our service on June 21.



### Charles Waldron

*(Photograph taken by Charles Waldron, picturing Revd Cathy, Churchwardens Hazel Price & Peter Soper, Revd Richard Freeman with his wife Angela).*

**Date for the August Diary:** *The pets service will be held in St Paul's garden at 3pm on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

## Welcome back, AD Verena!

We were pleased to welcome Archdeacon Verena Breed to lead our service of Holy Communion for the second Sunday after Trinity on 14th June 2026.

Verena has responsibility for 153 churches in North Devon, meaning that our "quota" of visits from her could be regarded as having been used up when she led our service on 10th May, just a few weeks ago. We are grateful to her, then, for leading another service for us so soon, and we hope to welcome her once more in August.

With the church liturgical calendar having recently changed from Eastertide to "Ordinary Time", Verena focused her sermon on the importance of understanding and observing the "seasons" of the church. She had previously worked with schools in the Peak District villages of Wincle and Bosley and had inspired them to create an artwork featuring the liturgical calendar. The result was two colourful textile "dials" with sections depicting the seasons from Advent through to Christ the King.

Verena displayed images from both schools on the screens during her sermon and the one created by the schoolchildren in Wincle can be seen on the right of the group photograph taken after the service and shown here.



*Photograph:  
Charles Waldron*

**Sunday 23 August 3-4pm**

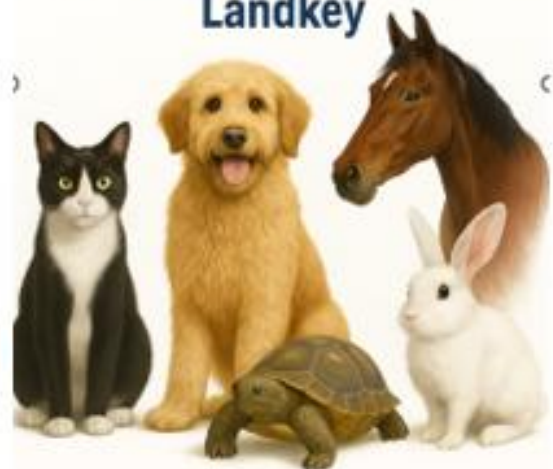
**PET BLESSING & TEDDY  
BEAR'S PICNIC**

*All welcome  
with pets and /or  
teddies.*



*Bring a picnic blanket or a camping-  
type chair.*

**St Paul's Church Garden,  
Landkey**





**Joyce Alderman from St Paul's Church, Landkey**  
**shares her recent experience visiting the Exhibition Queen Elizabeth II *Her Life & Style***

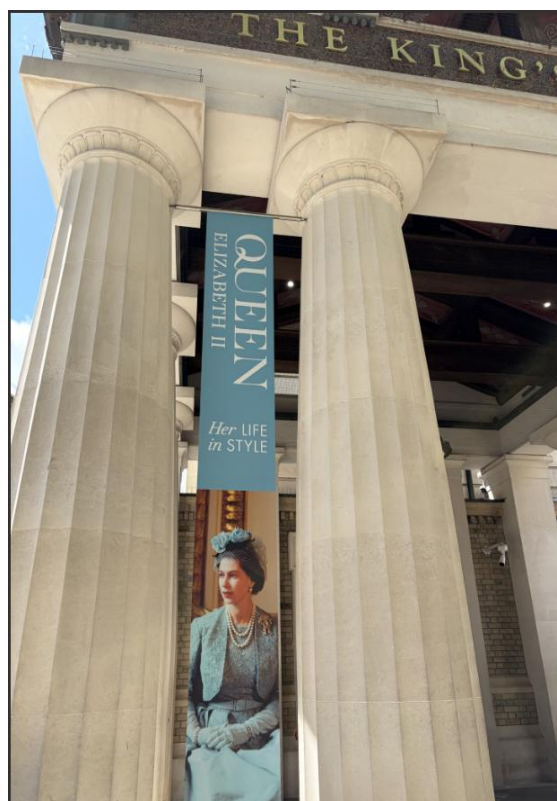
**On the 9<sup>th</sup> June I went to London to see the exhibition of the late Queen's clothes in the King's Gallery**

Because it's impossible to make the trip in one day I stayed overnight just outside London and made the journey on to Waterloo Station the next morning. As I left the station, I decided to give the tube a miss and walk the couple of miles to Buckingham Palace I had to take shelter from a cloud burst as I was about to cross Waterloo Bridge but after that the weather was dry if chilly. I hadn't realised that the Trooping of the Colour was to be held that Saturday so The Mall was hung with huge Union Jacks which fluttered in the breeze. In the distance I could hear the military bands practising. Near the palace there were a smartly dressed couple, the woman wearing a very fetching fascinator. They weren't going to a Garden Party which was my original thought, rather he was a retired Grenadier Guard and it was their flag which was being trooped on the Saturday. As it was a new flag ex-soldiers were invited to see it. I found it all very interesting.

And so to the exhibition. It was amazing. The pride of place was taken by the Queen's wedding dress. It is now so frail that it will never be exhibited again. Also, in cases of their own was the ensemble worn to Princess Margaret's wedding (the last time a member of the royal family wore a full-length dress to a wedding) and the fabulous gown worn to a state dinner with President Eisenhower.

Many, many evening gowns were on display, expertly tailored and exquisitely decorated with embroidery or beads. I was surprised at how petite she was and how tiny her waist. The evening dresses took pride of place but there was plenty more to look at from the lace bonnets she wore as a baby (Victorian lace repurposed) to the simple cotton Liberty print dresses she wore as a child. Some of her day outfits brought back memories. There was the one she wore to the Investiture of the Prince of Wales which I watched on TV as a teenager and the dress and hat worn for the 1977 silver jubilee which I saw in black and white but which I discovered now was pink. Do people remember the see through mac she wore and the plastic umbrellas she carried? They were there too. Skirts and jackets were also displayed, expertly cut in superb materials. And hats, so many, many hats!

Queen Elizabeth II performed the role God gave her with grace and dignity. She unswervingly put duty before self and did her best to follow Christian teaching. It sounds trite but we shall not see her like again.



## St Peter's, West Buckland.



Our sincere thanks to the **Lazy Susan company** [lazysusanfurniture.co.uk](http://lazysusanfurniture.co.uk) website [www.lazysusan.co.uk](http://www.lazysusan.co.uk) who have very kindly donated a friendship bench to the church. Please feel free to sit a while and enjoy the peace and tranquility. We intend to plant spring bulbs in the autumn and also to plant around the seating area with forget me nots, to create a lovely area for everyone to enjoy. We are very fortunate to receive this bench donation, so if you are thinking of obtaining a new item of garden furniture, please do take a look at their web page!

**Building works/repairs:** I am pleased to let you know that we have successfully completed some much needed building works/repairs at the very top of the 13th century bell tower and also on the main roof, where cracked and slipped slates have been replaced. Most of this damage is created from the severe weather which the tower and roof has been exposed to over the years, and it is hoped that the building is now once again watertight! (at least until the next severe winter storms) Along with routine maintenance, the next project to be faced is the "blown" plaster in the inside of the bell tower and on the left hand side as you enter the church. It is clear that water is getting in behind the plaster and causing the paint to bubble up and peel, the retained water is also not helping the churches damp issues, the evidence of which can be seen internally in the large expanse of green algae which is clinging to the Bell tower arch! We are currently seeking ways to deal with this issue, always something to do on these old buildings!!

Rev Cathy and I are always on the lookout for funding grants, and we currently have the start of 2 applications. In the longer term it will be great if we can; **Improve** the access to the church, especially important for disability access, creation of ramps and improved paving. **Create** additional space for the young peoples group. **Create** a WC facility which is especially needed for events, services and if West Buckland school comes along to support our services. **Space** and adequate servery facilities for coffee mornings and socialising after services, this will include bringing running water into the building. **Creation** of space for concert performances. **A reliable** wifi connection to allow for diverse use of the building.

If you have any ideas of how the building can be improved and put to increased and more diverse use please do let me know [Gailrbarker@gmail.com](mailto:Gailrbarker@gmail.com)

Thanks to **Tom Van-Husen** who has recently helped at the church for 12 weeks of volunteering in order to complete his Duke of Edinburgh award. Tom worked extremely hard on an old bench in order to restore it, cleaning inside the church, especially polishing the pews and cleaning the brass, and sanding and painting some of the church year wall rail spikes - although we still have this task to fully complete when the weather allows! I think the experience gave Tom a better appreciation of the church, and the effort required to keep the building going.

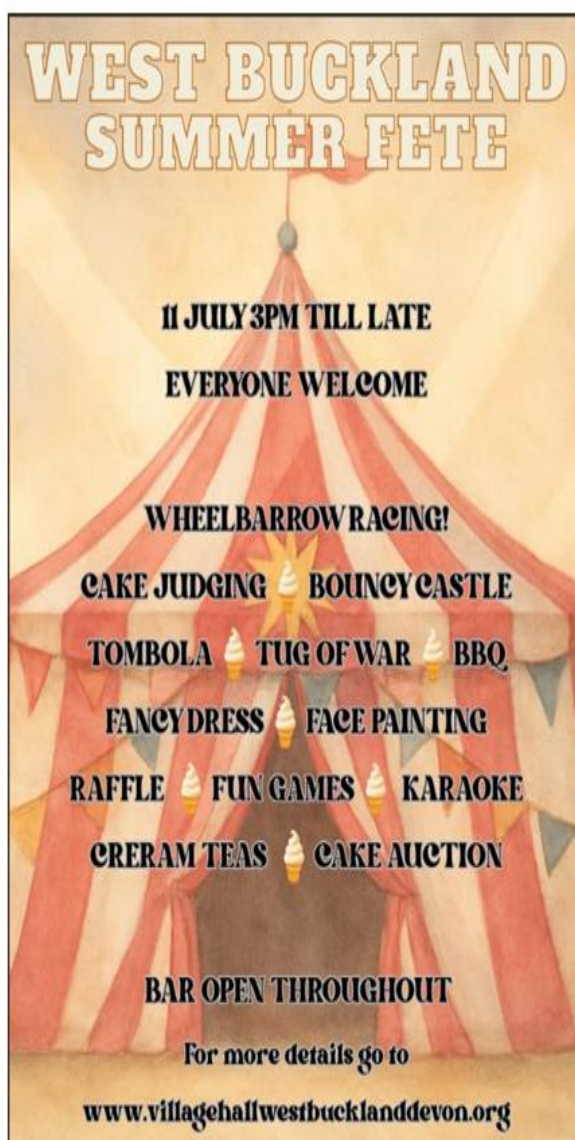
It was so nice that Tom was happy to volunteer and help support the church and the village community - we send Tom our best wishes as he moves on to his silver award!

**Archdeacon's Visitation:** I am attending this service on June 22<sup>nd</sup> in Holy Trinity church Barnstaple to be sworn in as Church Warden for a further year. I looked forward to seeing some fellow Church Wardens at this service!

I am pleased to say that we have a functioning PCC committee for another year, following our annual PCC meeting, and huge thanks to all who continually work to keep the church alive and functioning.

Also, thanks to Patricia Witheridge, who is our 'Church Warden Emeritus', ie honorary church warden, as we will be lost without her presence, knowledge and expertise. Thanks so much to Pat for all her support over so many years.

Thanks to all for their continued support of the church in whatever capacity, volunteer grass cutters, all those who help, donate and support the coffee mornings, and those who help in whatever capacity to keep the church doors open --- it is a team effort, and what a fantastic team we have !



**Coffee Mornings:** A reminder that we have our **coffee mornings** on the second Saturday of each month ---- JULY is a little different this year as we will be joining in the village "FETE" day which is being held on Saturday 11th July from 3pm, so **no coffee morning on this day**, as we will be serving cream teas from 3pm in the village hall instead!

Back to our normal routine on 8th August at 10 am in the village hall. We hope you can all come along and support the village fete day and we will see you as usual for coffee morning in August!

**Gail Barker**





## St Michael, East Buckland



*The dark clouds in the background to these three shots of East Buckland's working party show the weather conditions the workers had to cope with.*

**Not for the faint-hearted!** As I'm writing this it's the middle of June and miserable weather, but with warmer and drier weather forecast in a couple of days time.

A few of us have been working in the church yard, tidying, clearing and cleaning, not for the faint hearted! All will be looking good for our bell ringing competition hopefully in August, along with good weather we hope.

This piece is becoming weather related I fear, as along with our Treasurer, and her husband I am joining them in attending The Rt Rev Dr Mike Harrison, Bishop of Exeter's Garden Marquee social gathering in July. It would be lovely to meet some of you there, in the sunshine? **Di Tearall**

## St James, Swimbridge:



**Holy Communion:** St James' Parochial Church Council discussed arrangements for the giving of Holy Communion, a subject raised at this year's annual Parish Meeting. Rev Cathy Scoffield and Father David Chance are both open to the sacrament being given at the high altar but it is recognised that this raises practical difficulties.

Use of the high altar - currently limited to certain feast days - means that to be audible to the congregation, officiating priests would need to use microphones. There are also issues regarding access and health and safety. Steps leading up into the chancel and down from the Lady Chapel would require helpers to aid the infirm. Priests in their vestments are also at risk from the steps, particularly when moving back into the body of the church to serve communion to some members of the congregation in the pews, as at present. The altar table beside the lectern would need to be moved aside before communion - and back again afterwards, again requiring helpers. The PCC favours communion being offered at the high altar at festivals when the congregation is sufficient to assist. Normally, it would be given as at present. Rev Cathy would also consider feast day communion services held midweek being suitable for use of the high altar. A mid-week service, possibly Thursday - may be helpful and draw visitors or others from across the Mission Community. As a smaller service Rev Cathy could cover the chalice with congregants seated in the choir.

**Wigwam opens:** The runner-bean wigwam in Swimbridge's streamside garden has been officially opened by St James' former vicar, the Rev Peter Bowers and his wife Jane. The idea of the wigwam was suggested by staff at Swimbridge Pre-School, won the support of St James' Parochial Church Council and the Rev Cathy Scoffied and was developed by PCC member David Netherway.

It was with Peter Bower's support and championing in 2009 that the Streamside Garden project was able to be realised, creating a lovely community space from an overgrown, unused and fenced-off section of the churchyard. The garden was dedicated in 2010 and officially opened by Lady Arran in the same year.

The garden cost around sixty thousand pounds, which was largely met by a grant from the National Lottery Community Spaces fund. It was visited by Prince Edward in 2015. It is planned to sell the produce from the wigwam for Pre-School funds.

The structure's poles have been cut from the hazel growing on the Streamside Garden's banks and the wigwam was constructed with help from parent volunteers – with a little help from the Pre-school children. The children have planted seeds, both at the Pre-school premises before the wigwam was erected and again at the opening event. The cost of the seeds and some materials were met from funds distributed from profits from the Swimbridge Pantomime, in which Rev Cathy Scoffield starred!

David Netherway says: "The children – who weather permitting use the Streamside garden nearly every day – love the wigwam and climb through its gothic arch doorway into a hidden space.



*Pictured at the official opening of the wigwam, the Rev Peter Bowers (right) helps Pre-school children plant seeds in the wigwam, with Swimbridge Pre-school deputy play leader Georgina Lansdell on the left of the photograph. The wigwam was decorated for the occasion (Photographs by Mark Haworth-Booth)*



**IF YOU KNOW ANY FAMILIES WHO MAY LIKE TO REGISTER THEIR CHILD FOR A PLACE AT THIS WONDERFUL VILLAGE PRE-SCHOOL**  
please do share the link below for further information, which includes a link to download a registration form.

[About Us | Swimbridge Preschool](#)



## ***Important maintenance tasks completed at St James***



Ben Cox of Ascent Decorating has done a great job at St James completing important cleaning and maintenance tasks identified in the quinquennial inspection that was completed in November 2024 by Jonny Poland of Johnathan Rhind Architects. The gutters/rainwater goods were identified as category B works requiring attention within two years of the report.

The photographs (taken by Ted Picken) show (left) Ben cleaning the very high clerestory window in the church, a job not tackled for decades. PCC member Ted Picken was at the bottom of the long ladder.

The centre pic shows Ben at work on outside guttering. In the right hand shot the newly-painted guttering and downpipes on the north side of the church are apparent.

## **The Holy Name, Gunn**



I suppose it is good news that there is nothing new in Gunn. We are all enjoying this slightly better weather and looking forward to the heatwave that is constantly forecast but never seems to materialise!

On a sadder note Hazel Griffiths, mum of long-term resident Lorraine passed away recently and is to be cremated this week on 18<sup>th</sup> June. For many years Hazel lived next to the New Inn in Goodleigh.

Simon and Ray are moving to Stoke Rivers, although he has promised he hasn't left our congregation and was in good voice at yesterday's service.

Bryan and Iris Hawkins are to be congratulated on reaching another milestone - their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and William and Juliette got to 50 years in May. **William Crosbie-Dawson**

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**Swimbridge**

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**St James Church, Swimbridge**

*Fundraising for Swimbridge & Gunn churches*



**DROP OFF YOUR JUMBLE IN CHURCH by  
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**[christine.c.s.ley@gmail.com](mailto:christine.c.s.ley@gmail.com)**

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