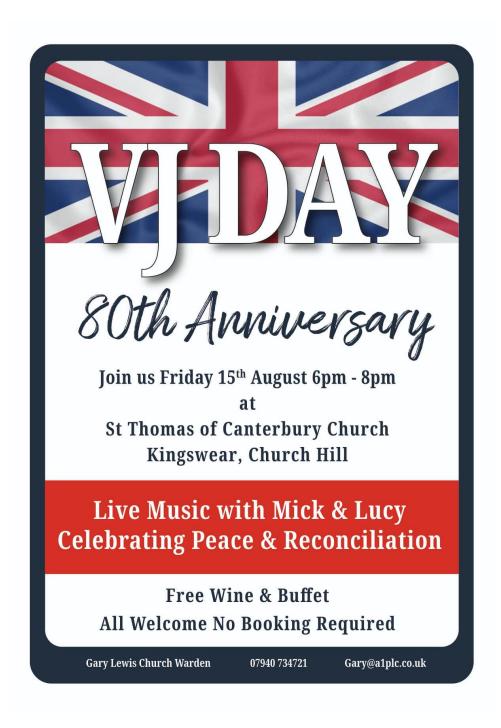
THE BRIXHAM MISSION COMMUNITY

PEACE and REMEMBERANCE



MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

2025	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
					Trinity 11
					ВМС
			The Blessed	Trinity 10	joint
Sunday	Trinity 7	Trinity 8	Virgin Mary	St Bartholomew	Eucharist
	3 rd	10 th	17 th	24 th	
August					31 st
			09:30		
All Saints	09:30	09:30	Worship for	09:30	
Brixham	Eucharist	Eucharist	All	Eucharist	
St Mary's	08:45	08:45	08:45	08:45	
Brixham	No service	Eucharist	No service	Eucharist	
		11:00	11:00	11:00	11:00
	11:00	Morning	Eucharist	Morning	Eucharist
	Eucharist	Worship	With baptism	worship	
	10.00	10:00	10:00	10:00	
SMVC	Morning			Family	
Churston	Worship	Eucharist	Eucharist	Worship	
STCK	10:30	10:30	10:30	10:30	
Kings-	Morning		Morning		
wear	Worship	Eucharist	worship	Eucharist	
	08:45	08:45	08:45	08:45	
CGSG		Morning	Morning		
Galmpton	Eucharist	worship	worship	Eucharist	
Mid-week					
	5 th			26 th	
All Saints	Communion	12 th	19 th	Communion	
Brixham	by ext.	Eucharist	Eucharist	by ext.	
				27 th	
St Mary's	6 th	13 th	20 th	Eucharist	
Brixham	Eucharist	Eucharist	Eucharist		

Brixham Mission Community Churches welcome you!

Welcome to 'Moving Forward Together'

Our theme for August is Remembrance and Peace.

The Peace Bell will ring at St Thomas of Canterbury, Kingswear, on Wednesday 6 August at 4.15pm to mark the moment that the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Bells will also be rung across the Mission Community at this time.



On Friday 15 August Gary and Carmen Lewis and the Kingswear team invite the local community and visitors to mark VJ Day. It is an opportunity to share fellowship, with a buffet and wine, in the church at Kingswear.

The Archbishop of York has issued an urgent statement calling for international action and an end to the violence in Gaza, and the BMC is leading the way locally, with prayer and action. Details of action for Christian Aid in Gaza, and for Ukraine, follow.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is at the heart of everything that we do in the BMC. There will be a Safeguarding feature in all future magazines. This month we meet the Safeguarding Lead for Churston, Philip Mantell.

New Logo

We introduce the new BMC logo, with an explanation from Margaret 'M' Pickthorne who is responsible for the design. There is also a profile of 'M'.

continued

Our Schools

Our schools are such an important and inspiring part of the BMC. Headteacher Katy Burns provides an end-of-year report.

July Highlights

The highlight of July was St Mary's, Higher Brixham Summer Festival.

A huge thank you

A huge thank you to our wonderful proof-reader, Anne Rickwood. Anne has done a lot more than proof-read this edition, holding my hand throughout. There would be no *Moving Forward Together* without Anne.

Thank you also to Alison Lodge for her thorough and efficient introduction to the BMC office.

Finally, thank you to you all for your kind, warm welcome. I have received a huge number of contributions for *Moving Forward Together*, some saved for the September edition. Please keep them coming – this is your magazine.

Debbie Perret

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE of MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

should please be sent to

Debbie Perret, BMC Administrator, at
debbie.brixhammc@gmail.com
by Sunday 24 August

Brixham's Aid Convoy to Ukraine

Brixham-based churches, among many others, assisted by local group *Ukraine Action*, are working together seeking donations including second-hand pick-up trucks, mini-buses, vans and ambulances.



These will be filled with much-needed supplies including mobility aids, generators, first medical aid, water carriers, warm clean sleeping bags etc.

The convoy will include a mini-bus with an adapted rear lift. There is a desperate need for transport adapted for wheel-chairs, to help evacuate Ukrainian elders and disabled people from the ever-changing front-line areas.

The Brixham convoy will depart in late autumn.

John Brennan johnjosephmbrennan@hotmail.co.uk

Brixham Royal British Legion are arranging some events in support of *Ukrainian Action*:

Saturday 23 August 7.30pm Quiz Night at the Conservative Club, New Road (next to the museum/theatre). Maximum 5 per team, £3 per person.

Saturday 20 September 7.30pm Quiz Night at the Conservative Club – details as above.

Friday 17 October 6.30pm Hog Roast Dinner at the Berry Head Hotel, followed by a talk from Ukrainian Action (Devon). £35.

All profits from these events will be given to the aid convoy.



Christian Aid Gaza Appeal

The people of Gaza are facing unimaginable devastation.

Christian Aid is responding through trusted local partners, providing urgent essentials like food; water; life saving medical aid and shelter to families affected by the ongoing conflict. With needs rising daily, your support can make a vital difference. To donate: christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/gaza-appeal,

Or your BMC representatives **Marie**, **Lindsay and Mary**And on **Saturday 9 August from 12 noon DINE FOR CHRISTIAN AID:** come to **48 Summer Lane TQ5 0DL**,
make your Pizza and cook it on a woodfired pizza oven.

Rector's Report

Welcome to our August magazine!

This is my first summer holiday season as a Brixham resident. It's good to see and meet many visitors on holiday in the area, especially now it's August and the school holidays are well underway.

It got me thinking about how we welcome visitors.

I think some of the pictures in this issue of the St Mary's Brixham Summer Festival and other events around the Mission Community suggest we welcome visitors well.

My experience of arriving as your new Rector last November has certainly been one of feeling most welcome.

Sometimes just a smile or a 'hello' can make a big difference.

Welcome to all readers, and a special welcome to our visitors.

Rev'd Philippa

Safeguarding

Introducing Philip Mantell: Safeguarding Lead, St Mary the Virgin, Churston Ferrers

'My involvement in Safeguarding started in my life in education, as a Headteacher, protecting and supporting vulnerable young people.

On retirement, I offered to be Safeguarding Lead at St Mary's, Churston, and have held that role since.

However, Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, so it's important that everyone with an important role in parish life is aware of any potential situations, through training and understanding.

My involvement at Churston goes back several decades, with a good number of Team Vicars and Rectors, starting as a Server, then being a PCC member for most of that time.'

Philip Mantell

The Archdeacon's Visitation: Theme Safeguarding

This year we were invited to St Matthew's Church in Cockington. It is a requirement that all Wardens are sworn in each year. It was lovely that all five of us from the Brixham Mission Community were there together, supported by Rev'd Philippa and Wendy and also Lesley and David Roberts. We were welcomed on arrival with a nice cup of tea.

The occasion comprises a service in which all wardens declare they will carry out their duties, which the archdeacon explained. It is the oldest job in the land and you might like to

know that we have the authority to arrest people amongst other tasks. I hope everyone will bear that in mind !!!!

It is always an uplifting service as the congregation consists mostly of clergy, readers and wardens who all tend to speak up and sing up which is quite powerful in itself.

The theme this year is Safeguarding - not the easiest topic to make interesting but Douglas the Archdeacon had us all giving him our complete attention as what he had to say was very compelling to listen to.

We all know and probably dread the paperwork, DBS checks, the training and all the rest, but that is all (important though it is) just the skeleton on which we actually hang our safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults. The task of the wardens, PCCs and indeed everyone in our congregation is to ensure that everyone who comes to our churches feels genuinely welcomed and safe when they come through the door. We don't know who may have been harmed or hurt but our job is simply to be loving, kind, respectful, caring and honest to anyone who ventures inside.

One last point, the Church is the only organisation that also welcomes those who have committed safeguarding offences. We obviously have the responsibility of ensuring there is no opportunity for things to go wrong again but, in Jesus's own words, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us".

Please pray for your wardens as they carry out their responsibilities over the coming year.

Jane Washington

NEW MISSION COMMUNITY LOGO

Philippa asked me to put my mind to designing a new logo for Brixham Mission Community. I started with a few initial ideas involving fish and nets ("You are fishers of people." etc) Then I decided the image needed to be less generic. A more bespoke image is needed to reinforce the way we are progressing to greater unity and relationship between the parishes.

I started experimenting with the distinctive outline of the Brixham peninsula. Then I added each parish church in their place.

Initial sketches showed them marked by a cross but this looked uncomfortably like a graveyard, so I reverted to fish which are, of course, an ancient symbol for Christianity. This is what I finally came up with. I hope you enjoy it.

Margaret Pickthorne





Thirty-Four Years a Reader: a Profile of 'M' who designed the new BMC logo

After thirty-four years I can still say that there are moments when I wonder how I got here. It all began when I had children. Forty years ago I had a three-year-old (Tom) and a one-year-old (Lucy). After leaving school I did not give God a second thought for ten or so years. But it became clear to me that I needed my children to

know Christianity so that they could make an informed choice about faith in adulthood. So I decided they would go to Sunday school. And if they went to Sunday school it would be hypocritical if I did not also attend church.

This was the catalyst for my return to faith and from that moment I started to grow as a Christian. After a while I began to question the short extracts of scripture that were the Sunday readings (the old ASB service book had notoriously short readings which were referred to as 'gobbets'!). So I went to a night class and took a Religious Studies A Level. Next I did a three-year Bishops Certificate Course and this led to Reader Training. I discovered that I could stand in a pulpit and occasionally people listened to what I said. In May 1991 I was Admitted and Licensed in the Cathedral Church of St Thomas of Canterbury, Portsmouth, to be a Reader for the parish of St Andrew, Farlington and the Church of the Resurrection, Drayton. The photo shows me on that day, complete with nineties mullet hairdo.

I did not stop learning but set off to complete a full-time degree at Southampton University. In 1996 I graduated at the age of 39. Then the ranks of clergy and Readers grew in the parish and one Easter the staff were fighting to get a preaching slot, so I asked to be transferred. In 1997 I went to St Philip's Church, Highbury in Cosham. At the same time I had completed an adult education certificate and landed a job in Winchester Diocese as a Lay Training Officer. I went around the diocese teaching parish groups all sorts of skills such as pastoral visiting, lesson reading and writing intercessions. The job also involved the training of Winchester Readers. That was when I completed a Master's Degree in Preaching through Spurgeon's College. The lay training was a gift of a job and lasted until 2004 when my life took an unexpected turn and I found myself single and living in Bishops Waltham.

My second husband had cancer for eight years and I took a back step to care for him. I became part of a very small house church, nine people meeting in someone's living room. There I learned a significant amount about prayer and the Holy Spirit and I also learned a lot about myself. That was when I also stopped collecting academic qualifications with the emphasis on head-stuff. Knowledge only gets one so far when building a relationship with God. In the end any relationship is rooted in the heart and this is the greatest lesson I learnt.

I was widowed in 2014 and moved to Brixham in 2020, just before Christmas when everything locked down again! I discovered that since I was now on my own I could live anywhere I liked and this is where I plumped to settle.

Then my ministry was resurrected and renamed Local Lay Ministry. Bishop James relicensed me to Brixham Mission Community in October 2023. It was a baptism of fire as we were already in a full vacancy. I can honestly say I have never had so much call on my ministry as I have in almost two years since I returned to the call. Philippa is the seventh incumbent I have worked with.

Those two small children are now 43 and 41 and do not go to church. So in the end the person who benefited most from us all going to church together was me and maybe all the people who have heard me speak of God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit and the power of spending time with God reading scripture!

M Pickthorne

End of Year report from our Galmpton C of E school

The end of the academic year creeps up on us at speed each year! But it has been a year of so many successes on so many levels. Most recently, we had a very successful SIAMs inspection and we'll have the full report in September. It really was a joy to hear the inspector feedback to us about the children's understanding of character values and the work that we do around our Christian distinctiveness.

In addition to this we've had some really excellent statutory assessment results in the last couple of weeks too. To achieve 100% in both phonics and KS2 reading is a testament to all the staff's input into our reading programme. Then to also secure such strong outcomes across the whole school, really does reflect the high quality teaching that is in place from EYFS to Y6.

But of course our curriculum is not just about academic excellence, it's about instilling in children the values and

attitudes that will enable them to become resilient, well motivated and engaged learners who can learn well, both on their own, and in collaboration with others.

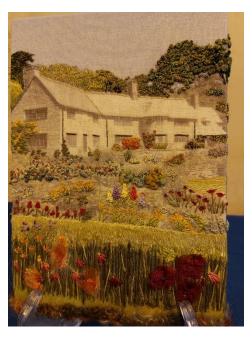
Finally, Galmpton is a successful school because we have such a committed and highly-skilled team who work incredibly hard to ensure each and every child 'achieves and flourishes.' Of course, we are saddened to be saying goodbye to two of our teachers and a member of our catering team, but are excited to be working with our new staff and have been making plans to welcome them and our new children.

Wishing you all a wonderful Summer and thanking all of you for your continued engagement and support!

Mrs Katy Burns, Headteacher

St Mary's, Higher Brixham July

Early in July we hosted the concert by **Brixham Orpheus Choir** and the jazz group *Odds & Ends*. There was a good audience, many very happy to be in a cool church on a very hot day. The choir was in good voice under their new MD, and the jazz group had us dancing in the aisle!



July saw the preparation for - and setting up of - St Mary's has

Talents; our festival reaching out to the local community and beyond, inviting them to come into our beautiful church. There they were able to enjoy lovely flower displays, artwork in acrylics and watercolours, wonderful embroidery, theatre costumes and props, woodturning and glassware.

Then they could enjoy a vast choice of home-made cakes and lunches while listening to the organ or piano played in the background by talented musicians.

The 'Festival' began with an **Opening Service** at which Rev'd Philippa blessed a beautiful stained glass window wall hanging by Barbara Dawes (a member of both our congregation and the local embroiderers' group), who expressed a wish that it went to the church after her death. Events during the Festival included a demonstration by Ella of *Ella's Flowers* in Brixham, at which she showed how a hand-tied bouquet is made. This was then donated as a raffle prize (and was appropriately won by one of our flower-arrangers). **Year 4 from Brixham C/E Primary School** visited the church for a tour and enjoyed the displays as well as a demonstration of the power of the organ. The whole school returned the following week for their moving **Year 6 Leavers' Service**.

Saturday saw a wonderful **Music Workshop** where children and adults enjoyed singing together and discovering the joy of music-making. A group returned in the evening to 'perform' at the concert, including the youngest member. There was a lovely **wedding** at lunchtime taken by Rev'd Philippa, followed by **Vintage Tea** in the afternoon, organised by the Anna Friends and attended by many people (see report below). In the evening a **concert of 'Homegrown Talents'** entertained an audience, many of whom were surprised by the number of talented people who shared the pews with them week by week.



Highlights on Sunday were the Eucharist
Service with the Baptism of little
Kamillah who, along with her mother
Karen, is a regular member of our
congregation, and the Songs of Praise in
the afternoon, where favourite hymns
had been chosen and were sung,
punctuated by a commentary on the
hymns and reasons for their choice. 'St

Mary's has Talents' finished with a final tea....and still plenty of cake!

Visitors came from far and near, every single one remarking on the welcoming atmosphere, the displays around the church, and the cakes....! Many spent time catching up with old friends and making new ones. All money donated goes towards the Restoration Project which will see improvements to the back of the church, making community events more accessible to all.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way, stewarding, serving teas, washing up, baking cakes, making lunches, moving furniture, and to all who came to support by attending the various events, bringing friends and neighbours, ringing handbells, playing the piano and organ, singing and consuming lots of cake!! **Bless you all!** \mathcal{LW}

For our **Vintage Social** we had chosen to have this during the Festival of Talents as an added attraction and interest. The afternoon was planned by my Anna Friends and the wonderful 'crafty' Issie with the theme 'summer holiday'. We considered the things you need for a holiday: key rings, bookmarks, a fan, a notebook and cards to send home. We

had some songs to sing, a seaside quiz and a bible passage to listen to. Most of all we had plenty of delicious cake to eat, with cups of tea, all as for previous socials.

When the time came to start so many people were enjoying the Festival that most of the tables were full and the chatter so loud with joyful reminiscences that the plans were put on hold and just the people who wanted to enjoy the crafts moved to one table and continued as they wished. The other activities were cancelled as the fun was already being had!

What did I learn from this? We can plan things to the very last detail, but sometimes God has a much better plan!

Anyway, we can save what was prepared for another time.

Our next Vintage event will be for Harvest in October.

With blessings

Hilary

News from Churston

How do you fit 750 people into a church?

Well, you do. Churston Grammar School undertook a 10km walk around the district calling at Churston on 8 July. On arrival we found six Portaloos discreetly sited in the car park and then a group of students who were unable to walk for various reasons arrived to help and help they did! One spent the whole morning filling water bottles and another, with leg in a boot due to a fracture, served teas and coffees to all the staff. Well done to them both, they didn't stop until the last groups had passed through at about 1.00pm and they had made sure everything was left clean and tidy.

Soon after 11.00 the first group of students arrived – about 30 followed by several other similar groups. They came into the church to fill their water bottles and took a pew to rest in

the shade a while. What was immediately apparent in all the groups as they came through was how very friendly and polite all the students were: not the usual teenage language but smiley, chatty young people with whom it was a real pleasure to talk. They were delightful as were the many teachers and others who accompanied them.

As the next batch of groups started to arrive the first students were mustered to continue their walk and another group of charming young people came in to fill their bottles, rest a while and listen to Graham as he pointed out various things around the church, including the Agatha Christie window. They listened intently. One young person recalled his parents' marriage in the church some years previously! The Portaloos were used by some students but some had not encountered them before and were invited into the church to uncross their legs before continuing their walk.

Amongst all the students the headmaster appeared, not bespectacled and clad in a suit but appropriately attired for the occasion, which made him a little difficult to spot but he was nevertheless as delightful as all his young students!

So our team of helpers enjoyed a wonderful morning, and we are already looking forward to doing it all over again next year. What a privilege to share in this activity with the school. I had hoped to share photographs, but they have not yet arrived from the school – sorry.

On Sunday 27 July we held our first outdoor service of 2025. It is a lot of work getting furniture and the sound system outside and we really appreciate the efforts of those who did all that hard work. The service was led by LLM Elaine and the theme was the Lord's Prayer. The wonderful music and

hymn accompaniments were supplied by Jacqui and Graham with their flute and guitar which was very special as it fitted so well with the outdoor setting. We had a large congregation of over fifty, and seven children had a wonderful morning with Ally Bowles looking for pieces of the Lord's Prayer around the churchyard. Of course, we finished with coffee and cakes and the chance to mingle and chat. Although people came prepared for rain and, yes, it did spot as the service was being set up, as soon as we started it stopped – a big thank you to God for that!

At both events the students and others commented on the beauty of our churchyard and how well it is kept. Thank you Potterers – you are great ambassadors!

Our next outdoor service featuring *Odds 'n Ends* Jazz Band is on 24 August at 10.00am. All our welcome to come along.

Jane Washington

MESSY CHURCH St Mary's July 2025

On a beautiful day in July we were delighted to see so many Messy-Churchers arrive, eager to get into the *messiness' of the afternoon!



After some painting, dressing paper people and making caps to wear, there was the fun of a hunt round church, seeking the 12 hidden fish and marking their names on a map. Then we had a quiz in family/friendship groups

to see whether statements about all we had covered this year were right or wrong. We are proud to have so many good listeners!

Highlight of the afternoon was time spent junkmodel-making. In pairs or small groups, they had such fun building models (from the pile of boxes etc. that littered the nave), to remind them of activities this year. For those who preferred something less energetic, there was some stuffing of pillows, colourful summer umbrellas, prayer hearts, colouring, and Rocky Road to make and take home! It has been a wonderful year in which our children have encouraged others to come and join them at Messy Church. Friday afternoon after school is often a time when children are very tired.....not so our energetic participants. What great characters they are, looking after the younger children as well as concentrating on their own endeavours. We wish them all safe and happy school holidays.

Our thanks as always go to our super team of helpers for their inventiveness, creativity and commitment to sowing the seed of the gospel, and to the girls from Brixham college who regularly come to assist after school. Our fabulous 'A' team in the kitchen deserve special mention as they manage to produce great meals for an unknown number each month. Thank you everyone!

Our next Messy Church is on Friday 12 September after school. For more information please contact Lindsay 07813 311613 or Lesley 01803 854036. $\mathcal{L}W$

From resident poet Stephen Bellows

I occasionally put a poem into the parish magazine, sending it to Philippa when she was pulling it all together. Over the course of St Mary's Festival a suggestion was made that we (I) do something to do with poetry. I have written this as a sort of advertisement to see if anyone else is interested. Do get in touch if you are.

Do you enjoy the feel of a pen
The sight of a line
On the page?
The occasional flutter
In the style of Pam Ayers
Or perhaps as John Cooper Clarke?
Could we pull it together
And put something on
For the edification of troops?
Give me a bell and I'll make us a brew
And we could see what we might do.

Stephen



Dates for your diary

AUGUST

Friday 8th 10.00-12.00 Churston Teddy bears picnic for children

Saturday 9th 12 noon till late 48 Summer Lane
Marie's Christian Aid pizza party

Friday 15th 6-8pm Kingswear VJ Day 80th anniv.

16-25 Barn Hall Galmpton Barn Art group 14th annual exhibition

Saturday 23rd 7.30pm Conservative Club Quiz Night for Ukrainian Action

SEPTEMBER

Monday 1st 1.15pm BDC Café Singalong 1-7 All Saints SEA WEEK Sunday 7th All Saints 6pm Sea Week closing service

FORTNIGHTLY

Friday 7.00-9.00pm in term time St Mary's

Youth Group 11-18s

WEEKLY

Thursday 9.30-11.30am St Mary's church hall Mummy & me

Friday 9.15-11.15am in term time Barn Chapel Stay & play

REGULAR PRAYER MEETINGS

Monday 9am St Mary's Morning Prayer Wednesday 9.30am St Mary's Quiet Prayer

WHO WE ARE

		rectorbrixhammc@gmail.com					
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Debbie Perret, Administra	07790 104293						
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·	1803 851302	Elaine Vestey	07930 815155				
	1803 852323	•					
PARISH OFFICERS							
ALL SAINTS', LOWER BRIXHA	M						
Warden: vacant							
PCC Secretary: Margaret Dye	er waysider11@	hotmail.co.uk	01803 852799 01803 850125				
_	Organist: Mr R Thomas						
	Choir Director: Jean Aird (Mrs Jean Holman) jeanaird@aol.com Treasurer: Mr I A Webb ianw@iawaccountancy.co.uk						
Safeguarding: Martyn Hodge			01803 845961 01803 851302				
ST MARY'S, HIGHER BRIXHA							
Wardens: Susan Francis su			01803 411574				
Roger Holtom st	01803 857357						
PCC Secretary: Rachel Fox ra	07359 143257						
Acting Organist/Dir. of Music	07722 555542						
Treasurer: Alison Lodge ali	07733 555542						
Safeguarding: Margaret Jaycock mj16@mail.com 01803 883713							
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHUR	STON						
Warden: Jane Washington ja	01803 844088						
Warden/Safeguarding:							
Philip Mantell ph	01803 844128						
PCC Secretary: Debbie Perret	07790 104293						
Treasurer: Mr I A Webb ianw@iawaccountancy.co.uk 01803 845961							
ST THOMAS OF CANTERBUR	Y, KINGSWEAR						
Warden: Gary Lewis	Gary.Lewis@	a1plc.co.uk	0 7940 734721				
PCC Secretary: vacant							
Safeguarding: vacant. Diocesan Safeguarding Officer Costa Nassaris costa.nassaris@exeter.anglican.org							
			01392 294969				
Treasurer: Carolyn Williams	•	ms351@gmail.com 	07801 847248				
CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS							
St Mary's Church hall	Mrs M Seffer	t	01803 853525				
Barn hall, Galmpton	Lynn Miller		07305 788503				
OTHER CONTACT DETAILS							
BMC Treasurer:	Alison Lodge	brixhambmc@gmail.com	07733 555542				
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Baptisms: The Team Rector/Administrator							
Weddings:	Rachel Fox	rachelpaul2506@outlook.com	07359 143257				