

BUDE COAST & COUNTRY BENEFICE

Voices Together



St Michael & All Angels, Bude



St Winwaloe, Poundstock



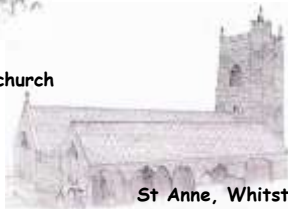
Our Lady & St Anne, Widemouth Bay



St Marwenne, Marhamchurch



St Mary the Virgin, Week St Mary



St Anne, Whitstone

Free

May 2026

MAIN CONTACTS FOR OUR BENEFICE:

Please contact any of the following for information or enquiries about Anglican Church life in the Benefice:

Our Strategic Rural Dean: Rev J Terry 07562 700170
srd@strattondeanery.co.uk

Our Rector: Rev David Saunders, The Rectory, The Glebe,
Week St Mary, EX22 6UY Tel: 07834 459672
email: rector@bude-coast-benefice.org

Our Churchwardens:

St Anne's, Whitstone:

Mervyn Collins: 01288 341598

St Marwenne's, Marhamchurch:

Angela Grills: 01288 361247 Sue Shadrack: 01288 361666

St Mary the Virgin, Week St Mary:

Lesley Booker: 01288 341221 Linda Cobbledick: 01288 341468

St Michael's, Bude Haven:

Penny Heard 07825 266580

Our Lady & St Anne's, Widemouth Bay:

Contact Judy MacDonald: 01288 362254

St Winwaloe's, Poundstock:

Contact church member Barry Smith: 01288 361716

Stratton Deanery website: www.strattondeanery.co.uk/

Editor of *Voices Together*:

Clare Hicks, Trelowen, Lynstone, Bude EX23 0LR.
01288 352726; claremhicks@gmail.com

Copy deadline for **June** issue—

By **Friday May 22nd** please

ELECTRONIC COPIES OF VOICES TOGETHER

If you would like to receive a copy of this magazine please email Lesley Booker: lesleybooker@gmail.com

FROM THE RECTOR:

Dear Friends,

CHECKMATE

There's a picture in the Louvre called *Checkmate*. The Devil is sitting on one side. There's a chess board and there's a man stationed on the other side and the man sitting on the other side has his hand on his head like he's in desperation.



And as they were taking a tour through the Louvre, there had been a group of athletes and particularly world champions that were being given a special tour. And in the tour was the world chess champion. He comes walking by the picture and the guide explains to them, this is the picture of an artist's rendering of somebody who lost a battle with the devil.

And so the group moved onto the next picture to see something else. But the world chess champion stayed there and he just kept looking at the picture. Soon they noticed that he was not with the group, so the tour guide came back and said, "We have moved on, are you coming?"

The chess champion said, "Well, I've been looking at this picture."

The tour guide said, "Yes, it's called Checkmate, the Devil's laughing, the man's lost."

And the champion said, "Yes I've been noticing that....but while I've been standing here, I've kept looking at the picture, and I've got a problem".

The tour guide said, "Well, what do you mean?"

The man said, "You know that I'm a world Champion chess player and I spend my life playing chess, and normal people don't always see what a world champion chess player sees. When you all walked off I looked at the devil laughing and I looked at the man in desperation and I noticed something on the chess board. Either they are going to have to change the

painting or they need to change the name.”

The guide said. “So why are they going to have to do that?”

“Well, as a world champion chess player, when I observed the board, I found out the king still has one more move.”

Easter reminds us that no matter how bad things might look, it isn't checkmate, the King still has one more move.

To paraphrase a verse from the Bible, **Jesus didn't come to rub it in, he came to rub it out. (God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. John chapter 3 verse 17.)**

Every blessing

Rev David

Bude Coast and Country Benefice

INCLUSIONS FOR THE WEEKLY PEW SHEET

To have your Notices included in the Pew Sheet please contact Sue Shadrick on 01288 361666 or email her at s.shadrick79@gmail.com before Tuesday evening if possible.

***This edition of *Voices Together*
has been kindly sponsored
anonymously***

Dates for your MAY Diary:

- Fri 8th: Quiz, Poundstock Gildhouse 7.30 pm see p 24 for details
Sat 9th: Lego Café, with breakfast, WSM church 9.30—12 p 21
Mon 11th: MU meeting, Stamford House, Stamford Hill 2pm
Happy Memories Memory Café, WSM church 2.30 pm
Wed 13th: NSPCC Coffee morning, 18 West Park Rd 10.30—12 p 9
Thur 14th: Benefice Prayer Group, St Michael's, Bude 10 am
Talk by Jonathan Ball, St Michael's 6.30 –7.30 pm see p 25
Sat 16th: Poundstock Gildhouse Plant Sale, 10 am—12.30 pm see p 24 for details
Wed 20th: Lunch Club, WSM church 12 noon p 21 for booking details
Fri 22nd: CAMEO, Ranelagh, WSM from 2,30 pm
Mon 25th: Happy Memories Memory Café, WSM church 2.30 pm
Wed 27th: Messy Church, St Michael's 10.30—12.30 p 20
Thur 28th: Benefice Prayer Group, St Michael's, Bude 10 am

Dates for your JUNE Diary:

- Sat 27th: Loveny Male Voice Choir, WSM church 7 pm p25 for details
Mon 29th: MU Cream Tea, 6 Old Drovers Way, Stratton 2 pm p 10

Regular Group Meetings:

- Tuesday afternoons: Week St Mary Adventure Church 4.30 pm
Tuesday evenings: Bible Study St Marwenne's house group 7 pm —
contact Janet Ward 01409 255 759
Wednesday mornings: Coffee & Chat, The Bray, Marhamchurch 10.30-
noon
Wednesday mornings: Bible Study at St Michael's, 11 am
Alternate Thursday mornings: Benefice Prayer Group, St Michael's 10.00

Why not lend your copy of this magazine to a neighbour or friend when you have finished with it?

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01288 341083**



**Week St Mary
Happy Memories Memory
Café**

**2.30—4.30 pm in church
Refreshments**

**Mondays 11th &
25th May**

**All welcome
Contact: Lesley Booker
01288 341221**

C A M E O

Come And Meet Each Other

**Friday 22nd May
from 2.30 pm**

**Ranelagh
Week St Mary
Rob & Sue Dickenson's house**

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contact:**

**Linda Cobbledick
01288 341468**



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Benefice Prayer Group

Psalm 121 (NIV)

1. I lift my eyes to the hills-where does my help come from?
2. My help comes from the Lord,
The maker of heaven and earth
3. He will not let you slip - he who watches over you will not slumber;
4. Indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
5. The Lord watches over you- the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
6. The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.
7. The Lord will keep you from all harm - he will watch over your life;
8. The lord will watch over your coming and going, both now and forever more.

Psalm 121 is a "Song of Ascent" and was sung by pilgrims travelling to Jerusalem. It emphasises complete trust in God for security, day and night, promising that the creator of heaven and earth watches over every aspect of life's journey.

As the prayer group continues to meet fortnightly, we are constantly reminded of this psalm as we pray for the world and congregations of this benefice and further afield.

So we continue to invite anyone who is weary and downhearted or who just wants to be present, to come and experience the wonderful healing power of prayer.

The prayer group continues to meet on alternate Thursday mornings at St Michael's Bude at 10 am —next meetings are: 14th May, 28th May, 11th June, 25th June

Praying we see you there. Sue Shadrick: 07450 974651
Penny Heard: 07825 266580

REPAIRS TO ST MICHAEL'S NORTH WALL

Our wonderful historical church of St Michael's in Bude continues to be a place of active traditional worship, ceremony, Messy Church for children, and local events within the community dating back to the early 1800's. Many locals and visitors enjoy its sanctuary being peacefully located close to the local coast path, Summerleaze beach and harbour.

As with many historical buildings, keeping on top of deterioration is paramount. Following a recent inspection and report it has become even more apparent that additional repair work to the North wall is urgently required due to rainwater penetrating the traditional external Hatherleigh stone masonry.

We are seeking, help and donations from the community to raise funds for repairs to ensure the beauty of our local church for generations to come. Please give what you can and follow the link to donate. Bright blessings!

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/saintmichaelsbude>

Claire Jennings - PCC Secretary
St Michaels Church Bude
07899 967477

NSPCC

Jenny Cloke invites you to a
COFFEE MORNING
& BRING and BUY
in aid of the NSPCC
18 West Park Road, Bude
on Wednesday 13th May
10.30 am—12 pm





Mothers Union – Kledh Kernow Branch

As I write this our local branch has not yet had an April meeting because of the Easter bank holiday. We will have met the following Monday to have an Eastertide celebration of prayers and hymns.

On March 25th, known as Lady Day and also called the Feast of the Annunciation, members from across the diocese gathered in the Cathedral for the Mothers' Union Festival Eucharist. This was a happy occasion as members' voices filled the cathedral with their singing. The service was led by our MU Chaplain Rev. Nicki Farr and the preacher was the Venerable Clive Hogger, Archdeacon off Cornwall.

Thursday 14th May will be Ascension Day and MU members will join with the international call to prayer of *Thy Kingdom Come* which continues until Pentecost Sunday on May 24th. Prayer is an important part of the life of the MU and all we do to support families here in Cornwall, nationally and globally, begins with prayer.

Future Dates:

May 11th Branch Meeting 2pm Stamford House, Stamford Hill.

June 29th Fundraising Cream Tea at 6 Old Drovers Way, Stratton beginning at 2pm. We will be joined by Kerstin Lewis our Diocesan President. All proceeds will go toward our MU projects here in Cornwall.

As always everyone is welcome to come along to any MU gathering.

Sheila Waring.

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Zoom services: for details of any other zoom services scheduled for the month in the Benefice, please see page 26.

PLEASE NOTE: SERVICES MAY CHANGE—check pew sheets/ local information/ACNY website.

Readings may be adapted for particular services

SERVICES FOR MAY

DATE	READINGS	TIME	SERVICE	CHURCH	LEADER
Sunday 3rd 5th of Easter	Acts 7:55-end	09.30	Holy Communion	BH	DS
	Psalm 31: 1-5. 15-16	10.00	All Age Worship	WSM	WL
	1 Peter 2: 2-10 John 14: 1-14	18.00	Evening Prayer	M	WL
Wednesday 6th		08.30	Morning Prayer	Zoom	LMB
		10.00	Holy Communion	BH	DS
Sunday 10th 6th of Easter	Acts 17: 22-31	09.30	Holy Communion	M	DS
	Psalm 66: 7—end	09.30	Morning Prayer	P	WL
	1 Peter 3: 13—end	11.15	Holy Communion	W	DS
	John 14: 15—21	18.00	Evening Prayer	WSM	WL
Wednesday 13th		08.30	Morning Prayer	Zoom	DS
		10.00	Holy Communion	WB	DS
Sunday 17th 7th of Easter	Acts 1: 6—14	09.30	Holy Communion	BH	DS
	1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11	09.30	Morning Prayer	M	WL
	John 17: 1—11	11.15	Holy Communion	WSM	DS
Wednesday 20th		08.30	Morning Prayer	Zoom	DS
		10.00	Holy Communion	BH	DS
Sunday 24th Pentecost	Numbers 11: 24-30	09.30	Holy Communion	M	RD
	Acts 2: 1—21	09.30	Holy Communion	P	DS
	John 7: 37-39	09.30	Morning Prayer	W	WL
		10.00	Morning Prayer	WSM	WL
		11.15	Holy Communion	BH	DS

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Ark Angel Bookshop Poet 'headlines' BBC's Songs of Praise!

Last year, I brought a few books of poetry to The Ark Angel Bookshop because the story of the author is little short of a miracle. *Mysterious Door* by Mark Luxton is available to buy - look out for the sign saying, "Looking for a Miracle?"

Mark Luxton is from Wales. He now volunteers and works as a chef at "Turnaround Bristol", which is where I met him, as a fellow volunteer. Turnaround Bristol works with homeless people in Bristol, providing not only food and washing facilities, but also advice and specialist support to help people turn around their life. It was founded and run by the Methodist Church, and has recently become an independent Christian charity. (www.turnaround.org.uk).

Mark knows the desperation of homelessness all too well - having been an alcoholic and doing time in prison... Until God turned his life around.

On **May 24th, Pentecost Sunday**, BBC Songs of Praise will feature "Turnaround Bristol". Fellow Welshman, Aled Jones, who presents the programme, was impressed when he read Mark's poetry, as he was with the whole running of the Centre and the happy atmosphere there.

Mark's story from prison to Songs of Praise, via poetry, reminds us that miracles really do still happen. Mark donates the proceeds from the sale of his book to Turnaround. One of Mark's poems appears opposite.

Jane Leslie, St. Michael's and All Angels, Bude



POUNDSTOCK EVENTS IN MAY

Friday 8th May: Quiz Evening 7.30 pm

Sat 16th May: Plant Sale 10 am to 12.30 pm

Poundstock Gildhouse is open every Wednesday

10.00am - 4.00pm from 8th April - 7th Oct

See separate posters for details

Any queries contact Maria 07428 101323

My Gift

My heart is an open page
To share to those who don't
My heart is a gift from God
To those who walk a lonely road

My hand reaches to those who don't
My hand shall never close
My hand is a gift from God
To those who walk a lonely road

My sol will catch those tears
My soul is a gift from God
To those who walk a lonely Road

I've been.

Mark Luxton

A poem from *Mysterious Doors*, reprinted with the kind permission of the author.

St. Michael & All Angels, Bude Haven

Crafts



meeting
together



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to experience church in a fun way

St. Michael's Church, Bude

Wednesday 27th May

10.30 until 12.30

Theme: "Joseph"

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WEEK ST MARY

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Week St Mary Church



Week St Mary Lunch Club

Wednesday 20th May

Week St Mary church

12 noon

Bookings: 01288 341221



WEEK ST MARY LEGO CAFÉ

Saturday 9th May

Week St Mary church with breakfast from
9.30—12 (breakfast till 11.30 am)

A note from the Editor:

Copy deadlines for 2026 issues of *Voices Together* are:

June: May 22nd

July: June 19th

August: July 17th

September: August 21st

October: September 18th

November: October 16th

December: November 20th

Tips from Poll's Garden for May



Summer's on its way

As bulbs fade and herbaceous borders grow in leaps and bounds, it is now clear that summer is approaching. Sowing and planting out bedding can begin, depending on when the last frost is in your area, and you can take softwood cuttings. It's also time to let the lawn grow long and get a buzz from seeing all the insects that arrive to feed on the flowers

Frost can affect many plants, and is particularly damaging to tender new growth and blossom in the spring. The risks of frost damage can be reduced by taking some simple steps to protect the plants in your garden

Potato plants need 'earthing up' as they grow, to protect early shoots from frost damage and ensure the developing potatoes aren't exposed to light, which turns them green and poisonous. Promptly plant any still remaining.

Plant out summer bedding at the end of the month (except in cold areas).

More jobs for this month:

Water early and late to get the most out of your water, recycle water when possible. Hoe off weeds in vegetable patches. Open greenhouse vents and doors on warm days. Mow lawns but consider leaving some areas uncut for wildlife, or mow less often so flowers can bloom.

Check carefully for nesting birds before clipping hedges.

Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of daffodils and other spring-flowering bulbs.

Watch out for viburnum beetle and lily beetle grubs and remove by hand if causing damage

Enjoy May, it's one of my favourite months, so much expectation of how the garden will look through the summer.

Poll



Artist's view of a quiet garden

Poundstock quiet garden

The first meeting of the Poundstock steering committee took place on 15th April.

The grant from the Diocese of Truro has been awarded, and work will commence on the building of the bridge in early spring.

Fundraising action is now in full swing starting with a quiz night on the 10th July.

Watch this space if you would like to take part in any fundraising activities or volunteer.

Please get in touch with Rev David for further details.

St Michael's church, Bude

would welcome any contributions to Bude Food Bank please.

A box for your donations is at the back of the church.

Thank you



PLANT SALE

SATURDAY 16TH MAY

10.00 — 12.30 pm

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Poundstock Gildhouse

QUIZ EVENING

FRIDAY

8th May

starting at 7.30 pm

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at Week St Mary Church

Saturday 27th June 7pm

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Services on zoom

We will continue Zoom Services for as long as there is a demand for them. If there are any types of service other than Sunday morning prayer, Family Service or Holy Communion and Wednesday morning prayer that you miss and would like to see especially on Zoom either regularly or as a one off, please let me know and I will see what can be done.

Lesley Booker lesleybooker@gmail.com

For times of all church services for the month please see pages 14 and 15. Each Sunday there will be a "zoomed" service and Morning Prayer on Wednesdays will be on zoom at 8.30 am.

St Marwenne's House Group

The aim of the group is about growing in discipleship. It meets every Tuesday at 7 pm. Contact Janet Ward on 01409 255759 or email her at janetmwuk@gmail.com for more details.

Advertising in *Voices Together*

If you run a business and would like to advertise in this magazine, please contact Heather Whitlock on 07771 964672.

If you are a not-for-profit local group or organisation and would like to put a one-off advert in for an event or similar, please contact Heather as above or the Editor (contact details p 2). We would ask for a small donation, depending on the size required. Adverts accepted at Editor's discretion. Thank you.

A Prayer for our Times

Loving God, I place into your hands:

all my fears about the state of the world;

all my despair at the violence within the world;

all my concerns about the fragility of the environment;

all my worries about my own life.

Loving God, I place into your hands

today, tomorrow and all time Amen

