



# Trigg Major Deanery Newsletter

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**Revd Sean Clancy, our Strategic Rural Dean (SRD), invites us all to reflect on the way we do church across the deanery, and is giving us a unique opportunity to start this conversation at church level by prayerfully considering his following letter and ‘Five Questions.’**

Dear all,

Across Trigg Major Deanery, our churches continue to be beacons of Christian hope, faithfully serving their communities through worship, prayer, pastoral care, hospitality and countless acts of unseen love and service and I want to thank you personally and on behalf of all the clergy team for the amazing things that you are doing to keep our churches as the prayerful heart of the community that they serve.

As many of you know, our deanery is facing significant challenges. Like many rural deaneries across the country, we are finding it increasingly difficult to meet our financial commitments while continuing to provide the ministry and worship we value so deeply.

Rather than waiting for change to be imposed from outside, we have an opportunity to shape our own future. We believe the best and most lasting change comes from the local church, with clergy and congregations discerning God's leading together. Our aim is not simply to survive, but to flourish in mission and ministry for generations to come.

To help us begin this conversation, we would like every PCC to prayerfully consider the following questions:

**What do you think is the best way forward?**

This is an opportunity to share your vision. What kind of church do you believe God is calling us to be? What priorities should shape our future together?

**How can we best support each other to flourish?**

No church exists in isolation. We are stronger when we work together, sharing gifts, resources, encouragement, and ideas. How can we help one another thrive rather than simply cope?

**What are we willing to give up or take on?**

Every change involves both sacrifice and opportunity. Are there traditions, patterns, or expectations that may need to change? Equally, are there new ministries, partnerships, or responsibilities we are willing to embrace for the sake of God's mission?

### **How can we reach out to our communities better?**

Our churches exist not only for those who worship within them but to serve the communities around them. How can we become more visible, more welcoming, and more engaged with the people God has placed around us?

### **What is our prayer?**

Before we make plans, we seek God's guidance. We encourage every PCC to spend time praying together. What are you asking God to do in your church and community? Where do you sense the Holy Spirit leading you?

These conversations are not about closing doors but opening new ones. They are about seeking faithful, sustainable ways of being the Church in our deanery. We recognise that change can be difficult, but it also brings opportunities for renewal, fresh mission, and deeper partnership.

Our hope is that, by listening carefully to one another and to God, we can develop models of ministry that are both financially sustainable and spiritually fruitful. If we are willing to lead this process ourselves, we are far more likely to create a future that reflects the needs and hopes of our local churches than if change is eventually forced upon us by circumstances.

Please approach these questions with honesty, hope, and prayer, remembering that our shared goal is not simply to preserve what we have, but to enable our churches to flourish in worship, witness, and service.

May God grant us wisdom, courage, and unity as we seek his will together.

With every blessing,

Revd Sean Clancy Strategic Rural Dean

### **Seeking God's Future Together In the Trigg Major Deanery:**

*"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19)*

Throughout Scripture, God continually calls his people to trust him as he leads them into new seasons. Abraham left the familiar to follow God's promise. Moses led Israel out of Egypt into an unknown future. The early Church discovered that the gospel was not confined to Jerusalem but was for all nations. Time and again, God's people found that faithfulness did not mean standing still; it meant listening carefully to God and responding with courage.

The Church has never been called simply to preserve its structures but to participate in God's mission. Jesus reminds us that he is *"the vine"* and we are the branches (John 15). Healthy vines are lovingly pruned so that they become more fruitful. Pruning is never an end in itself; it is undertaken so that new life and greater fruitfulness may follow. Sometimes God invites us to let go of familiar ways of doing things so that we can embrace new opportunities for ministry and mission.

The first Christians also had to wrestle with change. In Acts 15, the leaders of the Church faced difficult questions about the future. Rather than allowing fear or tradition alone to guide them, they prayed, listened to one another, searched the Scriptures, and sought the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Their conclusion was expressed with the remarkable words: *"It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us..."* (Acts 15:28). This remains a model for the Church today. We discern together, trusting that God continues to lead his people.

Our deanery faces real financial challenges, but this conversation is about far more than money. It is about asking how we can best serve Christ and our communities in this generation. If we simply try to preserve everything exactly as it is, we may find that circumstances eventually force change upon us. Instead, we have the opportunity to prayerfully shape a future that grows from the gifts, wisdom, and calling of our own churches.

The aim is not change for its own sake, nor change driven by anxiety. Rather, it is faithful stewardship of all that God has entrusted to us. We want to build a deanery where every church has the greatest possible opportunity to flourish in worship, discipleship, pastoral care, and mission.

As we reflect on the questions before us, may we do so with humility, generosity, and hope, remembering the words of St Paul:

*"Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen."* (Ephesians 3:20–21)

**May we be a people who pray boldly, listen carefully, love generously, and trust that God is already at work, leading us into the future he has prepared.**

**If you have any queries regarding this letter and the five questions, please contact Revd Sean or Revd Olive, (contact details are listed below). Please start the conversation at PCC and then widen as much as possible. If PCC Secretaries and Deanery Representatives could pull together resulting ideas/conclusions and have these summaries ready to feed into the Deanery Synod Meeting due on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2026 at St Marys, Launceston, that would be much appreciated.**



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**“A Year On “**

**Revd Tina Parry,**

**Priest-in-Charge & Oversight Minister of Moorland,  
Egloskerry and Lanstephan Benefice.**

Dear Friends,

August marks a year since I was licensed as your Priest-in-Charge. Looking back, it is hard to believe quite how much can happen in a year. Although this marks my first year here, it is now four years since I was ordained. During that time I have discovered again that priesthood is lived not in the grand occasions, but in the ordinary rhythm of life. In

this benefice that rhythm has taken me into eight churches and five schools, into homes, hospitals and care homes, into fields, village halls and kitchens. It has been found in weddings full of joy, baptisms full of hope, funerals where we have wept together, school assemblies, pastoral visits, tender conversations and moments of belly aching laughter. It has reminded me, time and again, that ministry is never about one person; it is about people walking alongside one another, sharing life together, and finding that God is already there in the middle of ordinary days.

One Gospel reading has stayed with me more than any other this year; it is when Jesus says,

*"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."*

Those words seem to speak into life just as much today as they did two thousand years ago. There always seems to be more that could be done in our churches: more people to visit, more meetings to attend, more money to raise. Sometimes it can feel as though the list simply grows faster than we can ever tick things off. Yet Jesus never asks us to carry everything; that has been one of the greatest lessons of this past year.

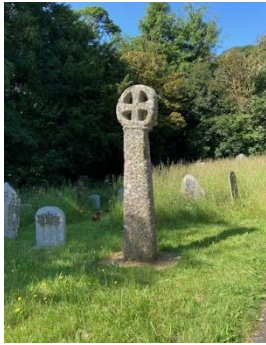
I have found myself coming back, time and again, to one simple reminder: this is Christ's Church before it is ours; what a freeing thought that is. It means that whilst we are called to work hard, to pray faithfully and to love generously, ultimately the future of the Church rests not on our shoulders but on his. We are simply called to be faithful with what has been placed into our hands today.

One of the joys of this year has been our weekly prayer meeting as it moves from church to church across the benefice. Gathering together to pray reminds me, week by week, that everything else begins there. Week by week we gather to pray for our churches, our communities, our world and one another. It is a reminder that before we do anything else, we place everything into God's hands, trusting that he holds this benefice, and all who live within it, in love.

As I begin my second year among you, my prayer is a simple one: that together we may continue to be faithful; faithful in worship, in kindness and care for one another, faithful in prayer, and faithful in pointing, however imperfectly, to the love of Christ.

Thank you for the love and kindness you have shown me throughout this first year. It has been a joy to share the journey with you, and I look forward to all that lies ahead.





Finally, may I warmly invite you to our Deanery Service at St Sitwell and St Gulval church, Laneast, on Sunday 30 August at 10.30 am. It would be lovely to see as many people as possible from across our churches, so please do come along if you can, and feel free to bring family, friends or neighbours with you. There will be refreshments afterwards, giving us time to catch up with old friends and make some new ones, and I do hope you'll be able to stay.

With every blessing,

Tina

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### **Local Worship Leaders (LWLs) – Revd Helen Davies & Revd Sean Clancy**



**On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June there was a LWL evening at Tregadillett Church, and Revd Mary Williamson talked about her work within our local care homes. The meeting was very interesting, and it was well attended. Revd Helen writes:**

“We are blessed in our local worship leaders across the benefice. LWLs train on the Diocese’s Sunday Plus course, and they also do safeguarding training. At least half our Sunday services are led by LWLs and church wardens, and without them our worship would look very different. They also bring richness and diversity to our worship. The next Sunday Plus course is online, over 8 weeks, starting in September. If you think this might be ministry you are called to or just want to ask questions or talk it through, please contact your local member of clergy.”



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### **News from the Mother’s Union (MU):**

**Courtesy of Pauline Darby, Branch Leader, Launceston and Werrington Branch, and Revd Helen Davies.**

This beautiful inset picture is from St Marys MU banner, which along with banners from Altarnun, Lezant, South Petherwin and Werrington, is currently in Truro Cathedral and forming part of the 150 years celebration of The Mother’s Union, [Love in Every Stitch](#), on from 11-22 August. Thanks to everyone who helped gather up the banners to send to Truro

Pauline has written a wonderful article about the Mother's Union which will be circulated soon in its entirety. For now, Pauline has shared the Mothers' Union Prayer:

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world.

Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life.

Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world.

In Jesus' name, Amen





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### **'Verna's Walk and Talk'**

**Verna Jones spent the month of June embarking on a fundraising plan for Tremaine Church and walked most days throughout the month. Verna has shared what this special time walking with family and friends has meant to her:**

"The experience has taught me so much and a healthy respect for views from all quarters. If you want to succeed, try and try again. Good health is to be cherished, and I appreciate being in a position to be able to help others. Listening and learning from people has been a joy and my main priority."

"However, Walk and Talk seems likely to continue and promised visits still in the pipeline. It was suggested that perhaps a way to record our walks is with a compilation of photos and short accounts to go with them so we met at Ray and Mary's (Harvey) and put all the walks together for the Parish Magazine"

Monies donated have are now close to £600 and final donations can be received up to 30<sup>th</sup> August 2026.

**Donations to support Verna can be given to her directly, or to Caroline Stone (Tremaine Churchwarden) or sent to the church via the parish giving website:**

**[parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/tremaine-st-winwaloe-plymouth](https://parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/tremaine-st-winwaloe-plymouth)**



### **Tregadillett Church Lunch -June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026**



The Tregadillett Methodist Chapel and the Anglican St Mary's Mission Church, came together in one building in June 2022 and formed the single Local Ecumenical Partnership Church of Christ the Cornerstone, Tregadillett. Our church lunch really started when we thought it might be a good idea to celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday - it would also be a first step to move on after Covid.

The 2022 event was so successful and appreciated that we have continued with our annual church lunch ever since!

This year - it took place on Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup> following the morning service and around 65 people sat down to enjoy a cold meat lunch supported by around 12 different home made salads and new potatoes and then this was followed by around 20 homemade desserts, tea and coffee.

The event is supported by not just those who come to church but others in the wide community and it has become a way in which we can offer a welcome and hospitality to everyone who comes along.

Look out for advertising in 2027 for the next Tregadillett Church lunch when we shall celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Sarah Vinson - Church Warden



## **The Big Breakfast – St Clether**



### **A LITTLE BIT OF MOORLAND MAGIC:**

A Community gathered together for St Clether's Big Breakfast, held at Roughtor Farm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July.

Set against the dramatic backdrop of one of Camelford's rugged landscapes, Roughtor Farm opened its doors at 08.00 and very soon after, had a steady stream of cars parking in the field and people walking towards the outside seating area.

It wasn't just a cooked breakfast; it was a gathering of neighbours and friends all sharing in the warm, welcoming spirit of a true Moorland Community.

Rose and daughter Heather catered beautifully for every size of appetite offering £8, £10 and £12 plates; with each portion having all the classic essentials; fresh farm eggs, sausages, bacon, tomato, beans and mushrooms plus toast, marmalade and jam, tea coffee and orange juice.

The day was run and overseen by Rose, who had help from an amazing hardworking team of helpers. The event was a masterclass in rural hospitality and an overwhelming success, drawing a fantastic crowd and raising a significant sum of money, with all proceeds going directly to support St Clether Church Fund.

A massive well done and thank you must go to absolutely everyone involved in all the preparation and hard work; to those who came along to support the event and to the brilliant team of helpers who worked so hard behind the scene, making it all go so smoothly.

Thank you also to the local businesses in Camelford and Bodmin, who gave very generous donations of food and veg etc., towards our event.

**Thank you to all at St Clether for working so hard to feed us all and for submitting this article. This was a massive effort with 197 breakfasts being served.**

Don't forget St Clether Duck Race & Picnic at Basil Manor

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2026 4pm – 6pm

### **Boyton's Pet Service - Revd Helen Davies**

Boyton welcomed an unfamiliar congregation of four-legged friends for their pet service in July- impeccably behaved dogs, a guinea pig (so relaxed it slept for much of the proceedings) and photos of cats and an Alsatian, with their accompanying humans.



The service included hymns, a short reflection on what our pets bring to our lives, how pets serve and are a blessing to us, and the wonder of creation, prayer and blessing at the font for all the pets.

Everyone then enjoyed a delicious cream tea in the hall.





Thank you to all those who organised and publicised the event and prepared and served tea, and although not intended as a fund raiser, the event raised £125 in generous donations to support the church's work.

### **Music at St Mary Magdalene- choir concert**

July's Saturday lunchtime concert was given by St Mary's choir, directed by Dr Sean Sweeny, and accompanied by Josh Hughes. On a very hot day, Sean introduced the concert as "St Mary's choir unrobed". The concert opened with *Locus iste* by Anton Bruckner, "this place was made for God", a work written for dedication festivals and wholly appropriate coming up to St Mary's patronal festival.

Choristers Amber Newton and Andy Dunning sang solos, and the music included a version of the Lord's Prayer arranged by choir member Michael Sheet, Rutter's *Look at the World*, Billy Joel, finishing with the upbeat *Swinging with the Saints*.

In his concluding remarks Sean thanked the choir for the huge amount of hard work they put in behind the scenes to support the work of the church, emphasised the value of the fellowship afterwards over coffee and refreshments, and mused "We need all we can to cheer us up in a wicked world."

St Mary's thanks the family of Audrey Hughes, for their generosity in nominating St Mary's music for her funeral charity.

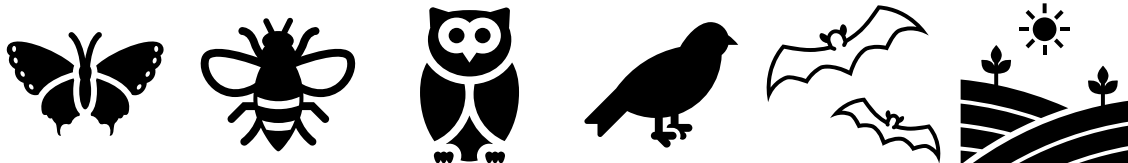
(Thanks to Revd Helen for the above article)

## **St Mary Magdalene is recruiting!**

St Mary's are looking for a treasurer.

This role is subject to safer recruitment. If you are interested, or to chat through what is involved, contact church warden Dr Sean Sweeney [sean.sweeney01@btinternet.com](mailto:sean.sweeney01@btinternet.com) or 07732 586978

The Diocese offers training and support.



### **Trigg Major Creation Care Day**



Dr Sharon Willoughby, Diocesan Environment Officer visited the deanery on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2026. It was a very relaxing and informative day, as Sharon visited Tregadillett, St Clether and St Stephens Churches. It was also a very hot day, and we were glad of the shade. After tea & coffee at the church, we visited Tregadillett Graveyard, several of us never having seen it before.

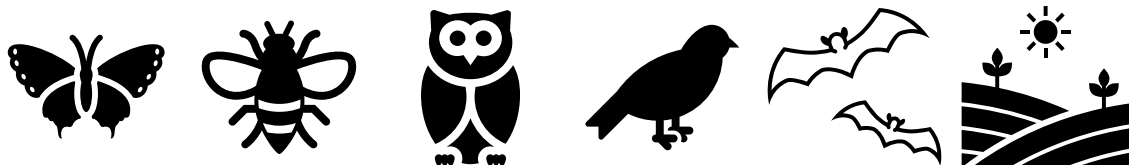
Grateful thanks to Terry Jones for showing us to the churchyard, and for recapping the history behind it. The churchyard was once behind the Methodist Church, until the

Methodist Church was taken down and the current manse was built on the site. The churchyard is very well kept, and the wonderful shade at the far end, made for a good place to listen to Sharon's talk, and ask questions.



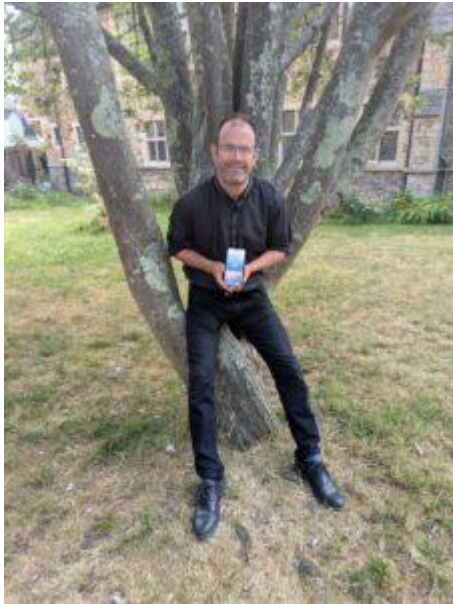
We then went to St Clether and had super pasties made by Rose Harper, having retreated to the shade of the Parish Room. Our third visit was to St Stephens Church, and Sharon talked to us about the large yew trees amongst other things, including the small steps we can take to care for habitats and species within our churchyards. Sharon has since sent us a detailed report with lots of links to various resources, and this will be circulated to all PCC Secretaries shortly.

If you would like to send in a short article about your favourite flower, bird or tree, please send to Helen Uglow on [getintouch.triggmajordeanery@gmail.com](mailto:getintouch.triggmajordeanery@gmail.com)





## Free app to support parishioners



A vicar in the diocese concerned about the mental health and wellbeing of his parishioners has created an app to help people reach out for support. Please check [Diocesan website](#) for more information.

Revd Chris McQuillen-Wright had the idea for [EzraHub](#) which is a free app designed to be a self-supporting aid to monitor personal wellbeing.



Information: Parish Training Days

See the brochure here:

<https://trurodiocese.org.uk/whats-on/parish-training-2026/>

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**Please Get Involved with the Deanery Newsletter.**

If you have any future events to publicise across the deanery, or information about events you have held, please contact [getintouch.triggmajordeanery@gmail.com](mailto:getintouch.triggmajordeanery@gmail.com)

Photos of events especially welcome but please make sure you have the permission of any people in the photo for it to be included in the newsletter.

**Details can be included in future newsletters or issued immediately via the Deanery Representative Network if the event is between editions. Thank you to all involved who help provide and distribute information – it is greatly appreciated.**

**Thank you for reading, and we look forward to hearing from you- we welcome all feedback – this Newsletter can be found on [A Church Near You](#), along with other Deanery and local information, so please do visit your local church's page.**



**We conclude this edition with Bishop David's prayer  
for the Diocese:**

Gracious and Holy God, You are our Father, our shelter and strength. In this land of wise waters and ancient faith, may your kingdom come afresh in this Diocese of Truro. Give us grace each day to walk the pilgrim path with humility.

Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of the flock and servant of all, forgive what is past, renew what is broken, and make us vessels of mercy and peace.

Holy Spirit, Breath of God and fire of love, dwell in this place and stir up your gifts within us. Guide this diocese in truth, bind us together across generations and parishes, and send us out as bearers of hope and healing.

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory

Amen