Ruby Country Benefice

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

Bulletin
November 2026



"Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;
for he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.
Today, if only you would hear his voice."

Psalm 95:6-7 (NIV)

"From the Parish Registers" can be found on page 5.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Rector

Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick 01409 254 667

Administrator

Val Letheren 07484 880 770

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Halwill:	John Lawlor	01409 221 987
		07768 818 646
	Kay Napier	07814 237 243
Tetcott:	Nikki Mitchell	01409 271 381
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Ruby Ringers (handbells)	Shirley Richmond	01409 231 764
BT Roaming Ringers	David French	07502 115 303

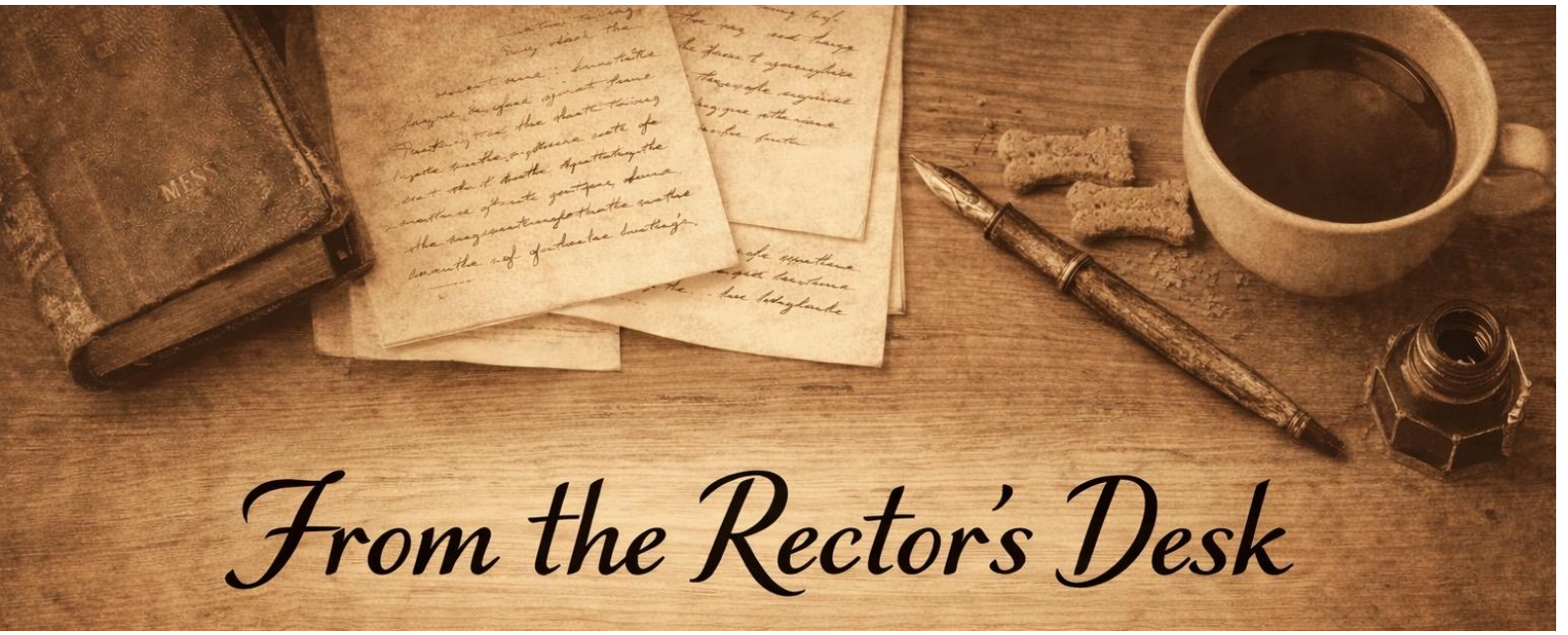
Safeguarding

Ashwater	**Catherine Bowness and John Lowe**	**07348 443 490**
Beaworthy	**Caroline Hayes**	**07342 740 862**
Tetcott	**Sharon Wonnacott**	**07980 989 262**
Holywell Joint Council	**Val Letheren**	**07484 880 770**

for safeguarding email addresses, see back cover

From the Parish Registers image (pg. 5) © Parish Pump,
Cover image: Michaelmas at Ashwater © Cathie Bowness/Liz Martin, as are Ashwater images
SCOBLE article images © Kay Napier, MichelleS and death records © Crown Copyright.

Thanks to Nicky, Sandra, Val, Cathie and Paul F who have contributed to this month's Bulletin.



November

After three days of overcast rain, the autumnal sun is shining. I am sat in the living room (Airband not working in the office), Henry is having his post-walk, and post vet, doze. Julie has moved seamlessly from PTO to full-time supporter for Bradworthy, the Chaplains-led Baby and Child loss service went very well indeed, and I have just returned from Deanery Synod in Exeter.

Looking out of my window, the season is turning and there are russet oak leaves and a cold stir in the western morning breeze.

When I was Rural Dean of Christianity (a long time ago), which covers the city of Exeter, I was also the leader of the Whipton Group Ministry. One of my churches, St. James, sat under one of my junior Priests. St. James was massive. 60-foot roof, built in brick by determined, simple Victorian business men who assiduously avoided the mock Gothic of other churches in Exeter: A massive, plain church, for the working-class neighbourhood in which it sat.
In 1855 it was packed with people, in 2002 the congregation amounted to 15.

At Diocesan synod this week I got to revisit St. James. All the pews were gone. There are now beautiful break-out rooms with sofas and coffee tables, the restrooms are superb, they have a media centre and the congregations number hundreds every week, and yet, the church retains it simplistic beauty. The undressed oak altar has been beautifully restored and the wood breathes light being up lit from ground level. This same ground level lighting lifts up the green-yellow wall of pale bricks, and the effect, surrounding the glass vision of Christ, magical.

As I left the meeting for a coffee and a quick visit to Waterstones, I was immensely uplifted; not only was the church full of life and people again, but for its retained beauty. It showed that things change, including Christ's church, but that old and new sit comfortably together. I was immediately struck by the same being true in our very different context in Ruby.

Christianity in the countryside is undergoing massive changes; our churches here are growing but problems with buildings (don't get me started!), depopulation, ageing congregations, climate change, solar and trees is understood by all of us. But I feel that the tide is turning. The Holy Spirit walks our lanes and touches again people's hearts. Things will not be same, we will all have to change but when we look back in our history, the church resurgent has always changed. How we express the gospel is renewing and we are finding new ways of being God's people.

Things will change; sometimes radically, but Christ does not.

As I quoted in my sermon last Sunday and Julie used at the bereavement service;

'*All will be well, and all manner of things shall be well*'. Paul.



October 2026

10th Interment of Doreen IVEY
(St. Mary's, Black Torrington)

21st Interment of Carole WARD
(Holy Cross, Highampton)

24th Interment of Ashes
(St. Peter ad Vincula, Ashwater)

28th Funeral of Bridget BARKWILL
(St. Peter & St. James, Halwill)

A Parish Prayer



Loving God, we lift up our parish family to you.
Bless those newly baptised, that they may grow in the light of Christ.
Strengthen those married in our churches, that their love may reflect your faithfulness.
And grant eternal rest to those laid to rest, bringing them into the joy of your kingdom.
Hold us all together in your love. **Amen**

November Services 2026

1ST

ASHWATER MORNING SERVICE
BLACK TORRINGTON HOLY COMMUNION
HALWILL MORNING SERVICE
TETCOTT SERVICE

8TH

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

10:45 BLACK TORRINGTON MEMORIAL
10:45 HALWILL JUNCTION WAR MEMORIAL
10:45 TETCOTT WAR MEMORIAL
2:30PM CLAWTON WAR MEMORIAL
5PM BEAWORTHY CHURCH

15TH

ASHWATER HOLY COMMUNION
BLACK TORRINGTON MORNING PRAYER
HALWILL HOLY COMMUNION

22ND

CHRIST THE KING
BEAWORTHY HOLY COMMUNION
6PM BENEFICE INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY AT BLACK TORRINGTON

29TH

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
BENEFICE COMMUNION SERVICE AT CLAWTON



Unless specified otherwise, Services at Ashwater begin 9:30am. Black Torrington, Beaworthy, Clawton and Halwill start at 11am and Tetcott 5pm

Benefice Morning Prayer is 10am every WEDNESDAY at St. Mary's Church, Black Torrington

For more information on regular and occasional services, contact the benefice administrator on 07484 880 770 or email: rubycountry.beneficeadmin@btinternet.com

Ruby Country Benefice

Lectionary Readings — November 2026

Sun 1st

All Saints Day

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

Services at:
Ashwater, Black Torrington, Halwill, Tetcott

Sun 8th

Remembrance

Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

Services at:
Beaworthy, Black Torrington, Clawton, Halwill , Tetcott

Sun 15th

2nd before Advent

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

Services at:
Ashwater, Black Torrington, Halwill

Sun 22nd

Christ the King

Ezekiel 34:11-16:20-24
Psalm 95:1-7
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Service at
Beaworthy

Sun 29th

Advent 1

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-8, 18-20
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Service at
Clawton

Liturgical Colours for Sunday 15th can be red or green, and Sunday 22nd white or red.

Have you visited our Benefice's websites?

The Parish Church of St Peter ad Vincula Ashwater

www.ashwaterparishchurch.com





www.tetcottchurch.org

facebook.com/rubybenefice



Remembrance Sunday

10:45 at Black Torrington Memorial & Church

10:45 at Halwill Junction Memorial & Parish Hall

10:45 at Tetcott Memorial & Church

2:30pm at Clawton Memorial & Church

5pm at Beaworthy Church

8th November 2026

Ruby Country Benefice

Ashwater folk work together for Michaelmas Fayre revival



A Michaelmas fayre took place in Ashwater on the last Saturday of September.

Church and community worked together to provide an afternoon of fun for the village. With kind permission from the Parish Council, St Peter ad Vincula church members arranged a variety of stalls on the village green these offered local produce including honey, cakes and hand-made craft items plus assorted bric a brac. There were also competitions, a tombola and a very popular splat the rat machine----though, as machine creator and verger Tony March pointed out, no actual rodents were hurt in the process!





Hot drinks and delicious pastries were provided throughout the afternoon by The Village Inn and the church hosted a flower festival with beautiful and imaginative floral displays provided by members of Ashwater Horticultural Society and individual village residents.
The displays were refreshed throughout the week and remained in place for a special harvest service, led by worship leader Terry Darby, on 4th October.

Michaelmas fayres were once very popular in many parts of the UK. They celebrated the last of the lighter days as

summer became a distant memory, commemorated the traditional tale of St Michael casting the devil out of heaven and encouraged everyone to share the bounty of the harvest.



To remind people of this tradition, musical entertainment of West-Country harvest-time music was provided by local musicians Kate and Jon Tidball who were joined by folk singer Mike Bosworth.

Despite dark clouds in the morning, the weather was kind to us, with warm sunshine and gentle breezes throughout the afternoon.

Everyone agreed that events on the village green were a great opportunity for church and community to come together.



Churchwardens Cathie and Louise would like to thank everyone who gave up their Saturday to make the fayre and flower festival such a success.





St Alban's Beaworthy

November bulletin entry

St Alban's Beaworthy has a tradition of holding an Armistice Service on Remembrance Sunday in front of our Church Memorial which is opposite the font. This year it will be at 5pm and conducted by Rev'd Dr Paul Fitzpatrick . We have some knowledge of where each of the six is commemorated – none have a known grave. William Smale died in the first day of the battle of Loos in 1915. James Westlake, William Westlake (not related) and Heben Balsdon died in the Somme Offensive. William on the first day; James on 25th September; Heben 3days after the battle finished presumably of wounds. All three are commemorated on the monument at Thiepval.
Samuel Maynard and Horace White were killed during the 3rd Battle of Ypres - known as Passchendaele on the 6th and 22nd August 1917. They are commemorated on the Tyne Cott memorial, a few miles from Ypres.

Our PCC is delighted to be holding a Carol Service on Tuesday the 22ND December at 6.30pm. The service will start at 6.30pm and be followed by mince pies and mulled wine and apple juice . After the Service we will be drawing the winning tickets for two Christmas hampers.
Tickets will go on sale outside the Village shop in Halwill Junction from 9.45AM on Saturday 28th November then the 5th, 12th, and 19TH December. Hampers will be on display on the 19th. - We'll probably stop selling about 11.30 am – It's all dependent on the weather! Tickets will be £ 1 only……..Do come and buy one or two – no limit OR RING Sanda Ward on 01409 221 501.

Sandra Ward PCC secretary, 12th October 2026

Tetcott Church

Children's

Christmas Crafts Morning

November 28th

10am - 12pm

Come help decorate the church and make your own decorations to take home.

All welcome



Letting Go, Holding On:
Remembering our Children
Service 11th October 2026

On a crisp October evening, a year of work by the Ruby Chaplains culminated in a wonderful, thoughtful and caring service at St. Peter & St. James, Halwill, offering a safe space to those affected by the loss of a child, either before birth or after.

Songs, poems and prayers were interwoven among acts of remembrance – people had been invited to write the names of a loved one or a short message onto a leaf in their own church and attach it to a branch. These branches were brought together and illuminated, being the centre point of our service. Time was not a boundary; children and babies were remembered both recently lost and historically, with a consideration for those babies who were secretly buried through shame and poverty.

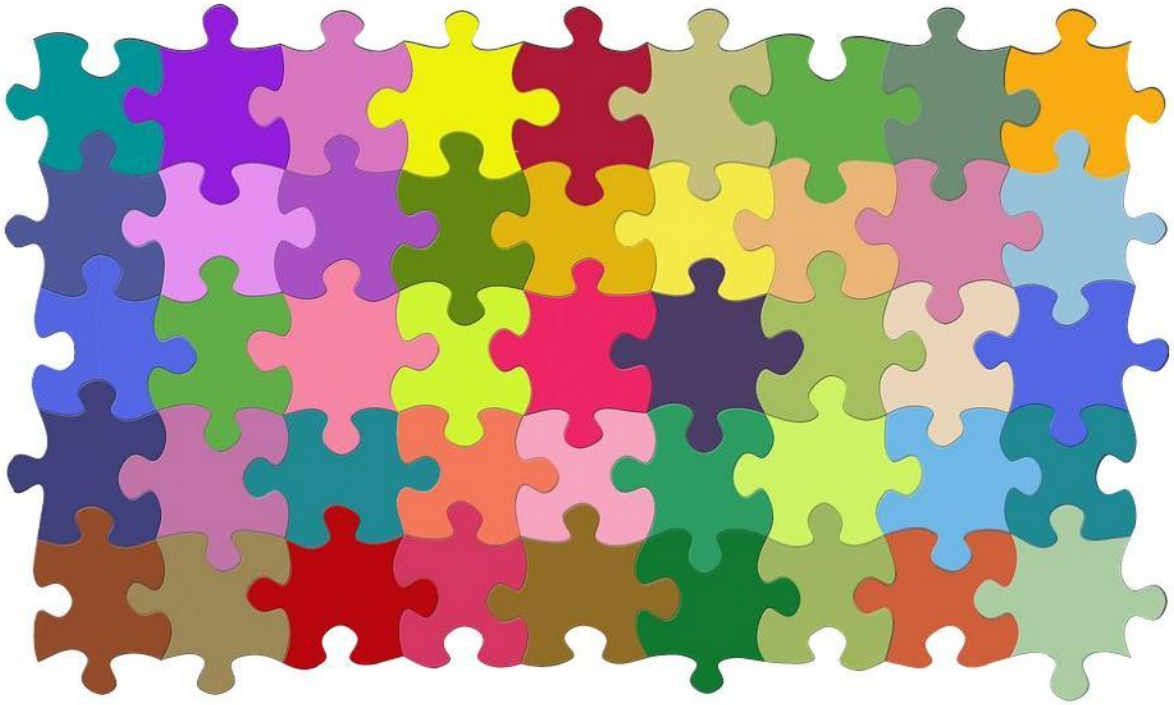


The Bishop of Crediton, Revd. Moira Astin gave an address, candles were lit in memory and support, and after, flowers and the burnt leaves were laid on the memorial to the lost souls in Halwill's churchyard. Grateful thanks are given to those who brought the service together and contributed, and our thoughts and love go with all who needed or were touched by the service.

St. Mary's Church, Black Torrington

GRAND JIGSAW FESTIVAL

2027



We can make it happen

IF YOU HELP US!

We need 500 jigsaws by next March

- Donate
- Make up
- Come puzzling @ our monthly puzzle and natter

Wine & Wisdom

Friday 27th November

Questionmaster Revd. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick

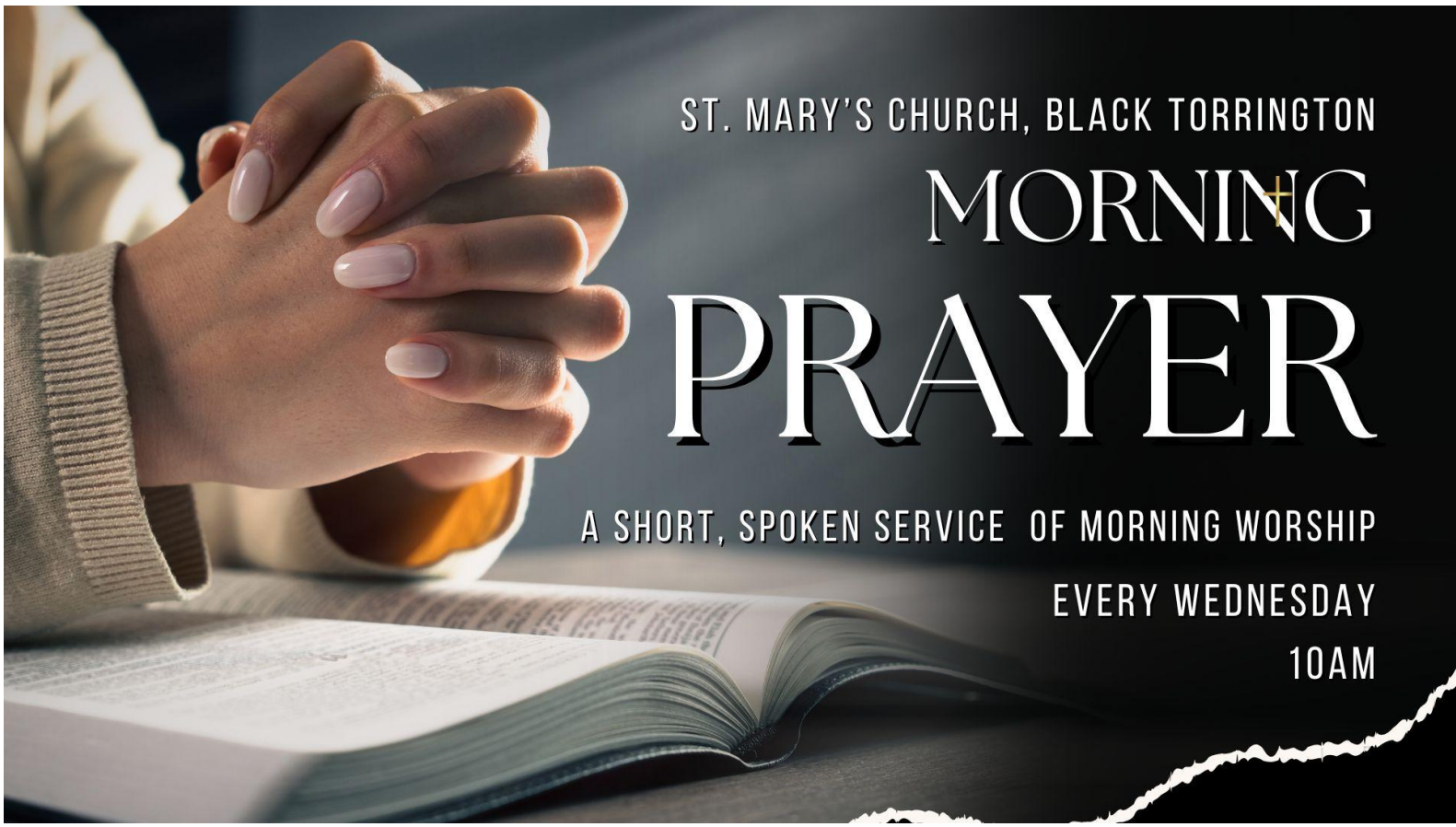
7.30pm start, Clawton Parish Hall

Book your team's table now –

call or text Paul on 07794 913757

There is now a limit on the numbers we can accept to avoid overcrowding the hall so

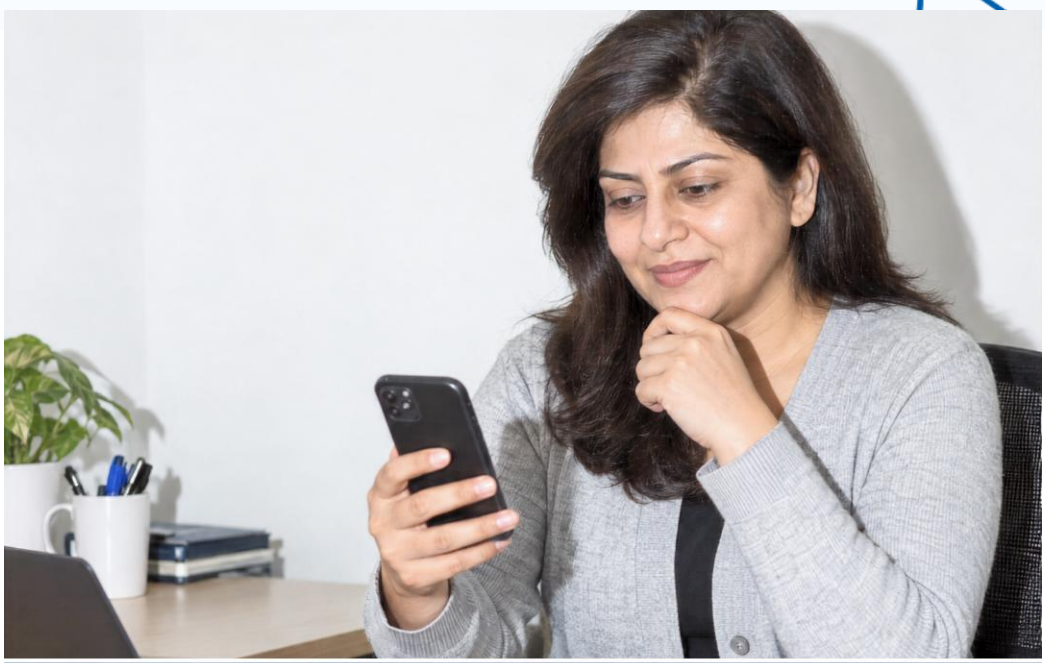
booking is essential!



HOLSWORTHY DEANERY

NEW LAY CHAIR

Following a meeting of the Holsworthy Deanery on 21st October 2026, Mrs. Jackie Gregson-Brown has been elected as Deanery Lay Chair. We are blessed to have her in this role, and warmly welcome her to it, wishing her every success.



Stay scam smart

Is that message genuine?

There has been an increase in emails to Benefice members claiming to be others in the Benefice, even "Revd. Paul" asking for money or bank details.

These are fraudulent and fake.

Please look carefully at email addresses and if in doubt, speak to your Churchwarden or Admin.

ST. MARY'S RUBY PUZZLERS

Meet fellow puzzlers, puzzle, chat, donate, loan and borrow!

EVERY 3RD WEDNESDAY

11AM-12:30PM



Tea and coffee available

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BLACK TORRINGTON



AI Statement from Bulletin Editor

The editor tries hard to avoid artificially generated articles and images in the publication of this Bulletin. Posters created by the editor are created using Canva or Microsoft Word, using free to use images from Unsplash. Articles are, to the best of our knowledge, written by individuals. The editor, Rector and Administrator's reports are written by the individual and all articles are proofread and, where necessary, edited by humans.

In the name of transparency, AI has been used in the creation of the "Admin's Corner" and "Rector's Desk" graphics, but everything else is organically generated.

Posters and other submissions to the Bulletin may make use of AI but explicit details are not – and do not need to be - conveyed to the editor.

Made with AI

A VICAR TALKING ABOUT INTERNET SECURITY?

Yes, really.



STAY SAFE ONLINE

A friendly, practical talk about scams, passwords, privacy, AI risks and protecting yourself and your family online.

FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER
2.30 PM Bradworthy

METHODIST CHAPEL SCHOOL ROOM

WITH THE REVD MARK JAMES

Data Protection Officer and information-security consultant
Specialist in GDPR, ethical AI, and the NIST, ISO 27001 and SOC 2 security frameworks

EVERYONE WELCOME • NO TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE NEEDED



The Benefice Diary

Last month, I explained how the rotas were put together, which you all have now received a copy. Apologies, as there are some mistakes/missing services already brought to my attention. So please, look through this Bulletin to see posters and read the grapevine for the most up-to-date service information. This month it's how those rotas, form the basis of

The Benefice Diary.

So, as we move into November, December and January, the diary is already busy with Sunday Services and Carol Services. Add in the Church school assemblies one per

month and other School's carol services, yet to be booked, with the larger schools normally holding them twice to accommodate all the parents, that's another 5 or 6 services for Paul to attend.

We add in the PCC/Joint Council meetings, these are added from one meeting to the next, checking the diary at the time, so we don't overlap. These are once every two months, so that 4/8 meetings, added in for the next three months. The Joint Council hold their own individual team meetings, again added to the diary, so as not to affect the Joint Council meeting, even the churchwardens cannot attend two meeting at the same time!

So, the diary has "Normal" Services, "Special" extra Services for the season, parish, Church and Benefice meetings. Now add in deanery meetings.
Synod have a standing committee meeting, then the "Meeting" itself, October 21st, just gone.
The next is in February, but that date is set and already in the diary. That is attended by a rep from each church. Again, we need to avoid those dates.

Paul has meeting that he attends, that us, "Jo Bloggs" doesn't need to know about, but they do need to be in the Diary. This takes him to Barnstaple, Exeter and just local, like Holsworthy and Bradworthy. These all take up his time.

Some are just half a day, but others are all day meetings.

Then there are pre- booked dates, like Weddings and Baptisms. Yes, wedding come in a good 12 months ahead, so those dates need to be considered when a church is planning fundraising events; there is no point planning a big event if your church is already booked for a wedding.
Plus, we need to add in pre wedding meetings and rehearsal date. It is not *just* that one date.

Baptisms usually only give a few months' notice, so they are booked around what is already in the diary. They can be within a service, or can sometimes be a Saturday/Sunday afternoon if it suits the family (and Paul) better.

As each PCC/church team meet and talk/decide to hold a fundraising event, hopefully notice is taken on what else is happening around the benefice.
Posters in the Bulletin giving advance notice will help with this.

If two churches are holding an event the same day/week, others may not be able to support them.
To help with this, each PCC should let me know dates, so I can add them to the diary. The sooner I get the date, the sooner it is in the diary, and on Paul's radar.

Some are just half a day, but others are all day meetings.

Bell Captains let me know if they have a visiting band of ringers, this is added.
All these dates are added to the grapevine, as what's happening next week.
One of the most important reasons for having date in the diary are so when I get an email from the funeral directors, I know when the church is available, but more importantly, when Paul is available.
Some funerals can take all day. Once a funeral is booked in, I then must book out visits to family, so again, it's not just that one date.

I have probably missed the most important dates that get added, but I meet with Paul at least once every couple of weeks to double check the Benefice diary against his diary.

trypraying.

Try praying for a week and see what happens.

Try Praying booklets are available, free of charge, in your local church.
Please take one, use one and pass it along

Common Fund

Full Review

The Bishop's Diocesan Council has approved a full review of the Common Fund system to ensure it continues to meet the needs of our diverse Diocese. A consultation will take place with every Deanery Synod from this autumn through to Spring 2027, and individuals will also have the opportunity to share their views. Everyone is encouraged to take part, with any agreed changes expected to come into effect from 1 January 2028.

From the Bulletin Editor.

Firstly, thank you for your contributions, which always shape our Bulletin. **Please make sure you send submissions to rubycbulletin@gmail.com**

REMEMBER NEXT MONTH IS DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Or if you are not in email contact, please send your submission onto your churchwarden in good time for passing along.

Anything not sent to the above email will not get into the publication.

There has been some confusion regarding the absolute deadline for the Bulletin each month, so, for clarity, unless explicitly agreed in advance, please ensure contributions are in by 01:00 on the 15th of each month.

Rev. Dr. Richard C. Halverson's
Benediction
US Senate Chaplain from 1981-1994

You go nowhere by accident

Wherever you go, God is sending you there.

Wherever you go, God has put you there.

He has a purpose in your being there.



Christ, who indwells you

has something he wants to do

through you, where you are.

Believe this, and go in his grace, and love and power.

St. Mary's Weekly Schedule

Mon	Tue	Wed
	14:15 Ruby Ringers Handbells	10am Benefice Morning Prayer 6:30pm Roaming Ringers

Thu	Fri	Sat

Black Torrington

Spoken morning Prayer, 10am on Wednesdays, all welcome.

Weekly Handbell Ringing, Tuesday afternoons at St. Mary's, Black Torrington - 2:15pm setup, practise 2:30pm – 4:30pm

BLACK TORRINGTON ROAMING RINGERS

Church Tower Bell Ringing
Wednesday evenings 6:30pm – 8:30pm
1st Wednesday – Langtree
2nd Wed. – Black Torrington
3rd Wed. – Shebbear
4th Wed. – Black Torrington
5th Wed. – Roaming!



Frederick and Bessie SCOBLE

1866-67 *and* 1858-1871

An unusual surname to find in Clawton's St. Leonard's churchyard is that of two SCOBLE children – one only 11 months old, and glossed over by researchers due to him not featuring in a census, the other likely missed as all documents show her as Elizabeth, but her stone uses a more familiar, family name.

Their stories aren't going to be long and complicated, but remembering our children was the subject of the service in October, so it is time to remember some children long forgotten.

Their parents were from the Brixham, Devon area, with James SCOBLE, the patriarch being born on 4th June 1824 to Richard and his wife Jenny. He is found in the 1851 census, shortly before his marriage, living at Chittleburn Farm House in Brixton with his father Richard, mother Jenny, siblings Rebecca and James and three farm labourers.

James SCOBLE married Mary Ann MATTHEWS in 1854 and they would have eight children.

In the 1861 census, James is living with his new wife Mary Ann and the first four of their children – William born in 1855, Sophia born in 1857, Elizabeth – who would later be known as Bessie – born in 1858 and Richard born 1860.



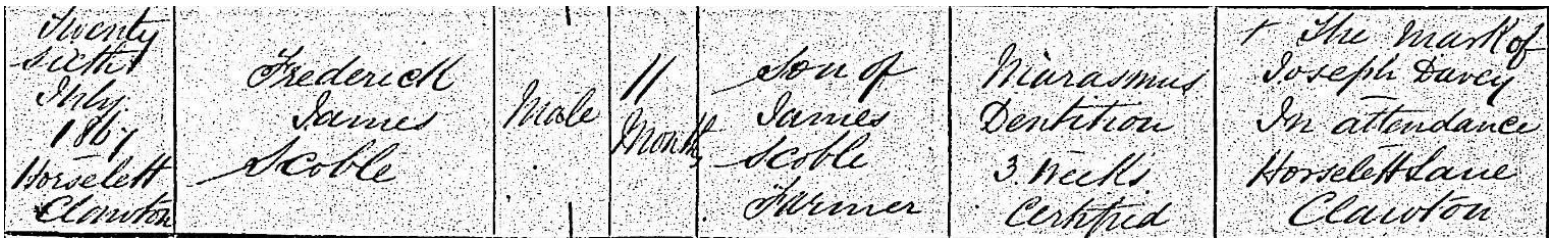
The grave of William SCOBLE at St. Mary's, Brixton 1862
Photo © MichelleS

Their father is a farmer of 150 Acres, employing 2 men and 2 boys – George and William WEST being the two boys, aged 14 and 12 respectively, who are listed in the census with them, but also Elizabeth DENNIS of Bristol is employed as a house servant aged 15, as is Sarah ROWSE, aged 12 of Brixton.

A further two children were born whilst at Brixton; William in 1863 (indicating the sad death of their firstborn in 1862) and Mary Ann in 1864. Sometime between the birth of Mary and 1866, the family

moved to Horslett Farm in Clawton, as this is the location of birth for their last two children; Frederick James in 1866 and Lavenia in 1868.

Little is known of Frederick's short life as documentation – especially in rural communities – is sparse. He died on 26th July 1867, and was buried on 31st July – just 9 days short of his first birthday.



Twenty Sixth July 1867 Horslett Clawton	Frederick James Scoble	Male	11 Month	Son of James Scoble Farmer	Miarasmus Dentition 3 weeks Certified	The Mark of Joseph Davey In attendance Horslett Lane Clawton

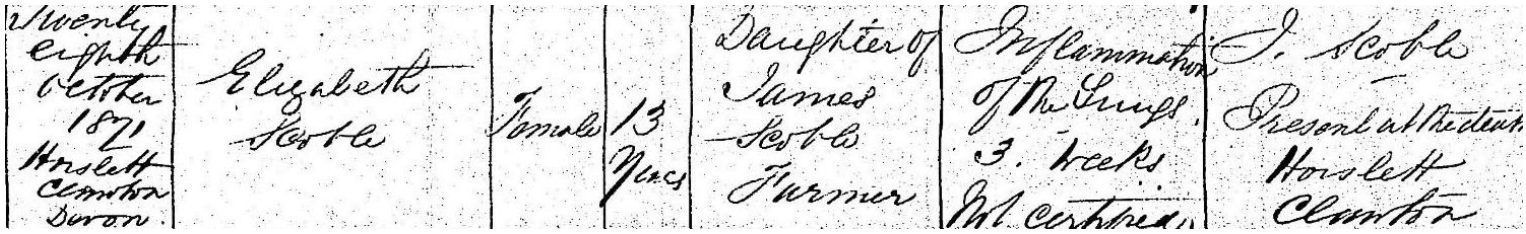
From the death certificate of Frederick William SCOBLE 1867 © Crown Copyright

As can be seen here, his cause of death was given as "miasmus" and "dentition" which he had suffered for three weeks. 'Miasmus' is quite literally "bad air", associated with poor sanitation – sadly typical of a rural community in the mid 1800s. 'Dentition' is more interesting as it is 'teething.' In our modern time, a baby dying of teething seems quite unlikely, but it was often a 'catch all' – a teething baby can quite easily have a temperature, masking all manner of other complications that we now know of. And an unsanitary environment can nurture all manner of bugs and viruses which can prove fatal to an infant.

The family, without young Frederick, are found in the census at Clawton in 1871 – James is recorded as being a farmer of 150 acres, living with his wife Mary Ann, children Sophia, Bessie, Richard, William, Mary Ann and Lavenia. They also have a farm servant, William CURTICE aged 13 from Clawton living with them, and Lavenia and Henry MATHEWS visiting – siblings of Mary Ann and aunt and uncle to the children.

By the 1881 census, the family have moved to Sleart Farm, Hemerdon – returning to their original area of Brixton, and, of

course, Bessie has died.



From the death certificate of Elizabeth SCOBLE 1873 © Crown Copyright

Aged 13, Bessie died at Horslett on 28th October 1871 and was buried with her brother on 2nd November. Her cause of death is given as inflammation of the lungs – also for three weeks. This could be any acute illness which, today, might be less of a death sentence.

From the research I have done, the family seem to stay in farm and farming circles; the family move to Lower Harestone Farm in Brixton, where father James dies in 1900.
Daughter Sophia marries Robert Emanuel DAMERELL in 1886 and they are shown to farm at Lower Harestone in 1901, as is son William and his wife Blanche.
Son Richard marries Mary Ann and they are farming at Pitten Farm in Yealmpton in 1901, and daughter Lavina marries Charles Edward SHEPHERD in 1891 – Charles was a dairyman not averse to travel; he was working at Parsonage Farm, Heytesbury, Wiltshire in 1901 and was a cowman at Guy Hall Cottage, Awre, Gloucestershire in 1911.

No family tree I have found even acknowledges Frederick, and the death of Elizabeth/Bessie is missing in most, if not all. But we can see their gravestone, and, now, we know a little more of their short existence.

Kay Napier
October 2026

Sources:
Findmypast.co.uk
Familysearch.org
Findagrave.com
General Records Office births and deaths
Burial records for St. Leonard's Clawton.

Senior Clergy Reflection from
The Venerable Verena Breed, Archdeacon of Barnstaple

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ,

Our church year is drawing to a close; as one year is ending, we are looking forward to the beginning of a new. My heart rejoices as drizzle dampens my coat (but certainly not my spirits) and darkness falls in the early evening. In the midst of the darkness of this world, it is the light of Christ that wants to lead us and Christ's call beckons us to follow.

Christ calls us and he sends us – the first is inseparable from the second. According to Matthew's Gospel, the risen Christ's final (the 'great') commission makes this clear: "go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Bishop Mike, in his latest Ad Clerum, reminds us that the new church year (Advent 2026 – November 2027) is the year of Missional DNA. He writes: "it means being caught up in the love of God for the world He sent his Son to bring home to Himself – whether as individuals or as churches - and that means being caught up in the life and work of Jesus in the power of His Spirit, 24/7."

We cannot separate our faith in Jesus Christ and our worship from our daily lives as followers of Christ. The world we live in is full of challenges, darkness seems to push out light, hopelessness and pain can test our beliefs. Our calling is to proclaim the Good News of Christ, to preach, to live and to bear witness to our Lord and Saviour.

Christ calls us and he sends us into the reality of this world.

My own personal faith and calling has been deeply influenced by the German pastor, and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who writes in his book The Cost of Discipleship: "if our Christianity has ceased to be serious about discipleship, if we have watered down the gospel into emotional uplift which makes no costly demands and which fails to distinguish between natural and Christian existence, then we cannot help regarding the cross as an ordinary everyday calamity, as one of the trials and tribulations of life. We have then forgotten that the cross means rejection and shame as well as suffering."

When we commit ourselves to Christ, we are not promised an easy life, a life without challenge and free of pain. We are, however, promised that Christ will be with us always, to the end of the age. The promise of the risen Christ is our light, our hope and brings a peace which this world cannot bring.

Christ calls us and he sends us. So, let us go out and shine as a light in the world by the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ - to the glory of God.

WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD OR VULNERABLE ADULT?

Please speak to your Parish Safeguarding Representative if you have any concerns for the well-being of a child or adult, or about the behaviour of someone towards a child or adult.

Your Parish Safeguarding Representative is:

Holywell Joint Council	Val Letheren	07484 880 770	rubycountry.beneficeadmin@btinternet.com
Ashwater	Catherine Bowness John Lowe	07348 443 490	churchwardens@ashwaterparishchurch.com safeguarding@ashwaterparishchurch.com
Beaworthy	Caroline Hayes	07342 740 862	
Tetcott:	Sharon Wonnacott	07980 989 262	sharonwonnacott@hotmail.co.uk

If you cannot reach your Parish Safeguarding Representative, please contact your parish clergy or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team:

Costa Nassaris—Diocesan Safeguarding Officer

t: 07809 339501 or email: costa.nassaris@exeter.anglican.org

Rebecca Lane—Deputy Diocesan Safeguarding Officer

t: 01392 294975 / 07889542640 or email: rebeccca.lane@exeter.anglican.org

James May—Deputy Diocesan Safeguarding Officer

t: 07889 542646 or email: james.may@exeter.anglican.org

David Cross—Deputy Diocesan Safeguarding Officer

t: 07572 923242 or email: david.cross@exeter.anglican.org

Alex Pugh—Safeguarding and DBS Coordinator

t: 01392 294929 or email: safeguardingenquiry@exeter.anglican.org

DIOCESE OF EXETER
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN DEVON



All information in this bulletin correct at time of publication

Ruby Country Benefice

RUBY PEOPLE WORSHIPPING IN GOD'S COUNTRY

St. Peter Ad Vincula, Ashwater EX21 5EY
St. Alban, Beaworthy EX21 5AB
Holy Cross, Tetcott EX22 6QZ

Ruby Holywell

Charity Number: 1216130

St. Mary's, Black Torrington EX21 5PU
St. Leonard, Clawton EX22 6PS
St. Peter & St. James, Halwill EX21 5UH