

St Cyriacus and St Julitta Parish Church of Luxulyan 2025 Year Book



Includes reports required for the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Administrative information

The church is situated in Churchtown, Luxulyan. It is within the Deanery of St Austell and part of the Diocese of Truro within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is Trevellion Barn, Trevellion, Bugle, St Austell PL26 8RT, the address of the Secretary.

The Church and Parochial Church Council (PCC), through being a member of the Church of England, qualifies as a charity.

PCC members serving at the end of 2024 were:

Priest in Charge:	Revd Chris McQuillen-Wright	Chairman
Churchwardens:	Mr Robin Burley Mr Jim Cleare	Lay Chairman
Deanery Synod Representative	Mr Anthony Trodd	
Treasurer:	Mrs Shelley Porter	
Elected members:	Mrs Arlene Burley Mrs Sara Giles Mrs Ros Hayward	Secretary

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and activities

Luxulyan PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Priest in Charge in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.



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Electoral Roll Report

The Church Electoral Roll at the end of 2024 had the final number of parishioners as being 25, with 8 non-resident in the parish.

The new Electoral Roll (April 2025) shows 22 parishioners, with 7 non-resident in the parish. The next new Electoral Roll (renewed every six years) is due to be compiled in April 2031.

Arlene

Secretary's Report/Annual Report

Church attendance

As reported in the Statistics for Mission, the average weekly Sunday attendance count during October 2024 was 13 for the over 16 category and 0 for the under 16's. Numbers are increased at festivals, with Christmas (Nine Lessons and Carols and Christmas Day) rising to 108.

Achievements and performance

There were 6 full PCC meetings during the year 2024 (2 in-person, 4 zoom), with an average level of attendance of 97 per cent.

At the start of the year, we shared our vicar Revd Jules Williams with St Luke's Boscoppa and St Blaise (the "Eden" cluster). However, by the end of the year, transition within the Deanery had been made, regrouping us into a new benefice with Roche and St Denys ("Blackmoor"), with whom we share our new vicar, Revd Chris McQuillen-Wright.

We continue to offer a monthly soup and sweet lunch at midday after church on the first Sunday of the month. This is not designed to be a fundraiser but provide an opportunity for people who live on their own to have some company once a month and for members of the community to join us. All are welcome, whether or not they have attended the service beforehand. Our Local Worship Leaders, Robin and Shelley, now lead Parish Praise services on the first Sunday in the month and at any other times if a priest is not available. They are also available to lead services at other parishes. We managed to put on the usual two quizzes and book and bakes during the year, as well as weekend summer holiday cream teas and our regular Christmas fair.

Back in early 2016 we decided to join the Parish Giving Scheme to help make it easier for both the congregation and community to support our church building and worship activities. We now have 14 regular givers through the Parish Giving Scheme. Application Forms can be found at the back of the church and the scheme can be joined at any time of the year. Participants may remain anonymous if they so wish.

During the year a new outdoor mission opportunity "Skylarks" was started using the LEGGS land adjacent to the church.

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, we continue to supply St Austell food bank on a weekly basis.

Arlene

Treasurer's Report

The accounts have been independently examined by Martin Hoad, due to last year's examiner retiring.

We started the year with reserves of just less than £21,000 across all our accounts and during the year there was a net outflow of £464 which means we finished the year with a balance of £20,302 across the four accounts.

The Mission and Ministry Fund, the call being much reduced than for previous years due to the Deanery reorganisation, was paid in full, £2326. It has been expected that the reduction in the call will enable parishes to be able to pay for mission activities and we have had sufficient funds and the confidence to encourage and pay for the 'Skylarks: Meeting God in Nature' project. We have also had sufficient funds to pay for replacement carpet in both the Lady Chapel and the Chancel and lay new carpet on the pews so that the church looks uniform! This was suggested in a previous quinquennial inspection. The insurance of £3086 was paid in full and all utilities were also covered. The Parish giving scheme is used by many of our regular parishioners both those who pay tax and those who do not. Other members donate monthly into the bank or pay using the contactless machine. The cash collection at services is rarely more than £10 unless it is for a special occasion like Christmas Eve. The Contactless machine has now been in use for 18 months and our income has increased from donations from visitors passing through. I suspect that many walkers on the Saints Way and the Cornish Celtic way do not carry cash, but the donations chest is also regularly used by visitors.

We held two quiz nights, two book and bake sales, a Christmas Fayre and summer cream teas at weekends during the school holidays which raised £2299 in total and are well supported by the community. We also collect for various charities; The Christingle box collections and the collection at the service is directly paid to The Children's Society and the collection at our Remembrance Service is paid to the Royal British Legion. Gift Aid is claimed through the Parish Giving Scheme and usually the Small donations scheme but the claim for 2023/24 will be done together in 2025 due to time restraints of the Treasurer!

There are some Restricted funds that have to be spent on the project that they were given for such as the Bell Tower Fund or Insurance. Designated funds include funds that the PCC have put to one side for fabric repairs and reserves.

Shelley

Churchwardens' Report & Fabric Report

Luxulyan Church is a typical Church of the granite clay country, being fairly squat and accessed from a crenellated south porch into 3 aisles with 2 internal valleys. To the west is a squat crenellated tower with higher staircase turret on the north east corner. The Church sits within the heart of the village of Luxulyan with land falling away to the north and east. Over the years it has had various works undertaken on it including stripping and re-slating, replacing of lead work and valleys, upgrading of rainwater goods and some internal works. The path between the gate and the south door is very uneven, and despite frequent requests to Cormac, no further progress has been made. Maybe we should follow the example of Innis Chapel and undertake the work with the help of a grant. We must thank our dedicated team of "Graveyard Toilers" who keep it tidy. The grass cutting is carried out by Cormac.

Our church continues to be visited by many people who are pleasantly surprised to find it open, and contributions via the card machine are most welcome.

We received our quinquennial inspection this year and many of the comments are painfully familiar.

The carpets in the chancel and Lady Chapel have been replaced doing much to enhance the ambience of the building.

Water ingress continues to be a problem and substantial roof repairs are being undertaken, but much of the water is coming through the walls, especially in the kitchen area. Recently, water has been entering through the bell tower. Repairs to the tower roof will be expensive and will necessitate the use of scaffolding.

Many of the practices introduced during the pandemic are still in place, although the choir has returned to the chancel, and we now receive communion at the High Altar. The congregation prefer to sit in the main body of the church.

The ground floor of the tower is accessed by the west door which is in poor condition. The hinges are in reasonable condition, but the decorative ironwork is badly rusted, and several pieces have fallen away. The upper chamber contains the wooden bell frame which needs repair in several places. An inspection of the bells revealed several defects. In particular, the bearings and clappers need attention. The light fitting is broken and needs replacing, but access above the bells is difficult. One of the bell ropes is broken, but will hopefully be replaced before a



wedding in June.

The organ continues to give good service under the care of Lance Foy and we are ever grateful to our organist Anthony Trodd.

Jim Cleare

Deanery Synod Report

In the final year of Rev. Jules' ministry, we have seen the appointment of a new Vicar with oversight of what will be the Benefice of Blackmoor, coupling St Dennis, Roche and Luxulyan. Rev. Chris McQuillen-Wright will also have part of his workload assigned to shared ministry in the Par/Charlestown/Treverbyn grouping, in accordance with the revised Deanery plan. The proposal to reduce some of the Rural Dean's workload by the appointment of a new post of Area Dean has been dropped, but will be reassessed at some later date.

Transforming Mission, which receives special funding from the national C of E, continues its work in the parishes of the Deanery, including by updating Safeguarding Procedure, which has undergone a recent national Audit. Luxulyan's Safeguarding Officer ensured that all necessary steps to complete this were taken in time, so that we are fully compliant.

The reduction in the MMF call due to the addition of Low Income Community Funding for individual parishes' specific needs has greatly reduced our MMF, but this is only for a limited period. At present this has enabled working towards alleviating poverty and allocating money to specific projects such as mission outreach and children's work.

At the Deanery level a project aiming to increase awareness of the Christian faith amongst young people in three schools and colleges across the Diocese has been started and has made possible the engagement of a project worker in Bishop Bronescombe School (C of E) to supplement ongoing work in the classroom. Similar appointments have been made in other areas in two secondary schools.

Anthony Trodd

Parish Priest's Report

Firstly, thank you for tolerating my first few months with you, as in the words of Jim, you are still getting used to me and indeed I to you. I am really trying to learn as much as I can about how you all operate and the sensitivities that are around faith and worship. It is a learning curve for us all. Please feel free to talk to me about what concerns you, what you don't like and how you think things can evolve for the benefit of the wider community in the future. I see a lot of talented but also exhausted people within our church team and I am very concerned about introducing anything new on top of what is already done. This year, in the Luxulyan community therefore, I am holding back but simply trying to join the community at as many events as I can. Certainly a trip to the shop can now take an hour; I really am looking forward to Feast Week and all its activities.

I am pleased to say that Ros as the parish safeguarding officer - has worked wonders and we are all indebted to her for getting us all up to speed as it were.

My thanks to you all for all that you do; in particular Robin and Arlene, Jim and Shelley whose ideas I know are planting many seeds that will take growth in the future.

The next year will necessarily see some changes. Based on your parish profile, these areas have been outlined as our direction of travel over the next year and beyond:-

Changing patterns of Parish Ministry

Initiate and develop existing teams of lay and ordained ministers who themselves will lead local church communities as well as other areas of ministry including pioneering, and work with children and young people.

Ministry with Children, Young People and Families

Reversing the steep decline in the number of children and young people with whom we have significant engagement.

With and for those in Need

Shift of resourcing towards the mission of the Church in communities experiencing need, sometimes through lay or ordained roles, or through work with partners.

I also have a role - **As a Leader of a Community of Communities, Equipping the Saints, As a Leader of mission**, Whilst being **Faithful in prayer**, and ensuring you and I adhere to all relevant **Safeguarding** requirements. We all have a responsibility towards our **Governance and Finance, Learning and Development**.

Benefice Responsibilities.

As the parishes of Luxulyan, Roche, and St Dennis form a closer working relationship we are committed to:

- Ensuring parishes work seamlessly together and function as a single entity;
- Promoting Christian faith throughout the community, further connecting the life of the church with the community it serves. This may be through music, charities, publications, events, bell-ringing and other activities;
- Seeking to form strong relationship and, where appropriate, partnerships with groups in the communities, including other churches, schools, bands, choirs, families and businesses;
- Supporting worship in the community with Holy Communion services, Service of the Word, traditional services (Remembrance, Easter, Carol service etc), Zoom services and Learning groups (Bible classes, Lent groups, Advent groups);
- Support and enable the development of the deanery plan;
- Encouraging and developing Lay Ministry.

CHALLENGES:

- Fostering excellent working relationships with the relevant community representatives and schools within our communities
- Growing and developing our team of dedicated volunteers and supporting lay ministry within our churches
- Understanding and being a voice in addressing the issues facing our communities, particularly around climate change and poverty
- Working with the deanery to bring to fruition the Deanery Plan.

OBJECTIVES

To **get to know people** in the churches and their communities, listening and learning about the context and building connections with community stakeholders and organisations.

To focus on developing robust and effective **governance structures and systems** in the parishes, and workable ministry structures across the cluster, embedding good practice, workable policies and protocols (especially for finances) and further embedding a culture of safety (safeguarding) in each setting. This will include improving the uptake of training and understanding of safeguarding in each of the three churches. *(Continued on page 10)*

(continued from page 9)

To initiate effective **practical local ministry through vocational cell groups** across the three churches; extending this where desirable across the Charlestown cluster in collaboration with the PinC.

Linked with the above objective, to seek to **identify and further enable lay leaders**, investing time in those who may be able to stand for office or take on new roles.

To **develop the worship offering** including the revision of non-eucharistic liturgy, introduction of a new non-Sunday service, and the provision of a 'missional' eucharistic booklet in each church.

To further **enable community engagement** and involvement through being a visible presence in community gatherings, promoting open churches and seeking to help each church to find its own way of connecting with the locality.

To **nurture discipleship** in each of the churches, helping people to grow in faith and take responsibilities for their own development and make the connection between Sunday and the rest of the week.

Once again thank you. We may be in for a bumpy ride at specific moments but I believe that the heart of the Gospel can be lived and nurtured in this communities we serve.

Yours as ever

Chris (8th April 2025)

Environmental issues

We take our responsibilities of caring for the environment very seriously and were working towards the Green Church Awards. The Environmental team at the Diocesan now encourage churches to explore joining the ARocha Green church initiative which we will look at during 2025. This will help us to also look at working towards NetZero. Shelley is our Environmental Champion; she attends regular meetings with others over the Diocese and keeps up with new initiatives and grant opportunities to explore how we can be 'greener'. We also complete the annual Energy audit tool as requested by the Diocese.

We also hope to increase the biodiversity within the churchyard. The

small churchyard group work hard to clear invasive species and ensure that the churchyard is kept as a 'Living churchyard'. Rare species of geranium are thriving and owls are regularly heard at night. Volunteers are always welcome.

Congregation members, Shelley, Ros and Jill are volunteers at Luxulyan Environment Green Glebe Space (LEGGS) which is a secular group organising a community re-wilding project in the Glebe land surrounding the church and church yard; it is in its fourth year and much has been done to help the biodiversity in the area. Our missional outdoor worship, 'Skylarks: Meeting God in Nature' takes place on the Glebe land.

Shelley

Cornish Celtic Way

For the last nine years the development of a pilgrimage route through Cornwall has been undertaken by the Diocese of Truro. The route begins

at St Germans Priory and follows the south west coast path along the south coast to Polruan and then heads north from Fowey to Padstow using the Saints Way, passing through Luxulyan. It passes through Padstow and then turns west along the north coast to Perranzabuloe and then along to Lelant. The Cornish Celtic Way then heads south on the St

Michael's Way to St Michael's Mount, a total of 125 miles. 'Passports' and stamps are available in each of the churches along the way (Luxulyan already has a passport and stamp for the Saints Way). Luxulyan Church has Cornish Celtic Way handbooks on sale and further information can be found on their website <https://www.cornishcelticway.co.uk/>.

We have already seen an increased footfall in our church in the past due to this initiative and will continue to offer hospitality daily by leaving tea, coffee, milk, squash and biscuits out for walkers to help themselves and we hope we will continue to see more visitors in 2025.

Shelley

Christmas Fair



The Christmas Fair has become a feature for the village since 2010 being held on the first Saturday in December. Over the years, our Fayre themes have included Dickens, the Victorian era, "Deck the Halls", St Nicholas, "Twas the night before...", "The Jolly Christmas Fayre", "Christmas starts here!", "The Christmas Cheer Fayre", "Christmas Fair!". During the last few years it was renamed "Mistletoe Market" and we moved the time to earlier in the day, which in the dark days of winter appears to be more family friendly. As usual, Luxulyan schoolchildren have continued to feature at this event and have been joined by Tywardreath Morris and the Singing Barmaid to whom we are very grateful. Our thanks are extended to all who supported this event and to those giving donations of items for the food bank, which were collected at the door. Many thanks to Helen, the hamper organiser—always very successful, and also to the many craft and food stallholders, bakers and competition organisers from the village who contributed greatly to the overall atmosphere.



Christmas 2025

We are looking to revise our ideas for this Christmas event in 2025, with a Festival of Christmas Trees; more on this in due course. Meanwhile please pencil in Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December as

being the dates..

Robin

Church Cleaning

We rely on volunteers to ensure that our church is always presented well for services and for those visiting the building during the week, and we are always grateful to anyone who can spare a short time to help with this. A rota is kept on the table at the back of the church, so even if you can only help occasionally, please put your name on the rota. Thank you so much.

Finally, a special thank-you to all who assist in any way with our 'Big Cleans' which happen once a year.

Sara

Church Choir



Our Choir is based on the regular, though small number who would normally attend choir-practice on occasional evenings and sing on Sunday at the Eucharist and for special services. We are affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music, and aim to practise the ideals of this worldwide organisation. We are very grateful to Anthony Trodd - our director of music and organist for all the work he puts in.

For our Christmas Eve Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in 2024, the service was led by a choir of 11 and enjoyed by some 90 parishioners. We are thankful for the support given by a number of singers who join us to assist with this Service and on other special occasions.

The choir is also available to sing at weddings and any church event.

We would welcome anyone who wishes to join the choir - of all ages and voice ranges; please contact Anthony or me.

Robin

School and Children's Activities

We welcome children to our Sunday services. Children are invited to use our children's corner to engage in activities which help in the understanding of the lectionary readings for the day. They may include puzzle sheets, collages, drawing and stories. The children are invited to help or watch at the altar during a communion service and are invited to learn to serve at the altar where appropriate.

The school continues to use the church regularly for special services at Christmas, Easter and at the end of the school year; Classes use the church for mock baptisms and weddings and to explore the fabric as part of their curriculum activities.

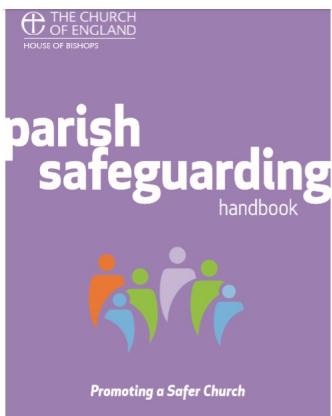
Key Stage 2 have come into church to 'Experience Christmas' and 'Experience Easter', an interactive and reflective way of exploring Christian festivals, supported by members of the congregation to resource, set up and lead small groups. Feedback from the school has been very positive.

Shelley

Safeguarding

Annual Safeguarding report for Luxulyan Church, May 2025

The welfare of children and adults is at all times of paramount concern. To this end we have adopted the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy for children, young people and adults, and its handbook "Promoting a safer church", to which all persons and organisations using the church for whatever purpose will be required to comply. As part of the policy, all persons working with children and adults will be required to have updated DBS checks and regular training in safeguarding.



Since our last APCM meeting on 16 April 2024 the following progress has been made:

- The Parish Safeguarding Officer, Ros Hayward, was appointed last year. She has worked closely with the Vicar, Church wardens and PCC and has liaised with the Diocese of Truro advisors when safeguarding advice and support has been necessary.
- Safeguarding is an agenda item at every PCC meeting. At its meeting on 27 January the PCC reviewed its Action Plan and areas agreed upon are being worked on and completed.
- The Safeguarding Policy and the Domestic Abuse Policy are reviewed and accepted by the PCC annually.
- All PCC members have up to date DBS checks as required,

- All PCC members are up to date with their mandatory safeguarding training.
- All PCC members are being encouraged to undertake the Church of England Domestic abuse training. This training is available by logging into the Church of England training portal [Safeguarding Training Portal \(cofeportal.org\)](https://cofeportal.org)
- Information about safeguarding is displayed on the noticeboard in the church porch.
- The online Dashboard Safeguarding tool is being used to review safeguarding practice. Stages 1 and 2 are now complete and work has commenced on Stage 3.
- Safeguarding review meetings with other churches of the Benefice have been instigated with the last meeting being held on 6 December 2024. Actions are being taken forward from this meeting.

Further actions

- To continue to undertake the Dashboard Stage 3 audit
- To agree a policy for all churches within the Benefice with regard to Safeguarding at fundraising events
- To consider a Safeguarding scenario at every PCC meeting to raise awareness and promote discussion and understanding of the issues by PCC members.

Ros would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported her in this role during the year.

Ros Hayward

Report and Policy to be approved by the PCC on 12th May 2025

Church Flowers



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Luxulyan Church is blessed with a group of dedicated and talented ladies, who have ensured that the Church has been decorated with flowers, not only at the major festivals but also with an altar arrangement throughout the year at the appropriate times.

We would like to thank all those who have continued to contribute flowers, foliage and their time to decorate the Church or by donating flowers or money.

Many arrangements throughout the year are provided in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special personal event. If you would like to sponsor an arrangement for this purpose, or would like to assist with floral decorations, please contact me or any member of the PCC.

Sara



Bell Tower Report

Our tower has six bells which are rung in an anti-clockwise direction. The tenor bell is 9 ¼ cwt.

Unfortunately we have had to restrict ringing as substantial repairs need to be carried out on the bells and accompanying equipment. We are in the process of trying to raise funds in order that we can carry out these repairs. Due to this and a low number of regular ringers, practices (previously Thursday evenings) have been suspended, but we occasionally ring for weddings etc.

Please contact our Captain, Anthony Maddams on (01726) 252040 to check if any ringing is to take place.



Local Worship Leaders



Our Local Worship Leaders are Shelley Porter and Robin Burley. They help to plan and lead the Parish Praise service on the first Sunday of the month at Luxulyan. During 2024 they have on occasions also led worship at St Blazey and St Denys; this helps our incumbent with the practicalities of providing services for several parishes.

The Parish Praise service is an informal service, which consists of new as well as familiar worship songs and hymns, two readings, prayers and a talk. The service is projected onto a screen dispensing for the need for books and usually lasts no longer than 40 minutes. If there is no organist or other musician available, we use backing tracks on the computer for the hymns.

This family service regularly has an attendance averaging about 18; any children attending are invited to participate in the service or given a challenge!

The PCC have agreed that when a baptism has been requested, unless specifically requested, the service will be non-Eucharistic (if appropriate, with a short Said Communion given following the service). Baptism families are always welcome to help choose some of the hymns for the service and are encouraged to add to the prayer list if they wish.

Robin and Shelley have been trained to give home communions. Shelley leads a monthly prayer walk around the village and is happy to receive specific requests in advance. These are advertised in the Granite Towers.

Robin

Skylarks: Meeting God through nature

During 2024 we began 'Skylarks: Meeting God through Nature' as a mission opportunity. This is outdoor informal worship for all ages held most months at Luxulyan Environment Green Glebe space, a local re-wilding project surrounding the church and churchyard.

It was hoped that it would attract 'searchers' of all ages. Biblically focussed, each session includes some reflections, practical activities,

prayers and usually ends with toasting marshmallows over the firepit. Topics have included 'Love', 'Growing seed' and 'Remembrance' and all sessions include engaging with the natural environment. Clay models, planting activities, and weaving have also been experienced.

Numbers have been small but we regularly have three young children attending and a smattering of adults. Three to four adults are usually involved in the facilitation of the sessions.



In December we successfully hosted an outdoor nativity including a live pony, a couple of sheep and a pantomime camel along with children and many adults dressing up to retell the Christmas story. A couple of musicians helped us to sing

some carols and the afternoon ended with mince pies and mulled wine. We were so lucky with the weather with the nativity taking place in the eye of the storm between two gales. It was good to see the support from the community.

Skylarks will continue to evolve during 2025 as we work alongside a new member of the clergy.

Shelley

Activities for the community

Remaining dates scheduled for 2025 are as follows:

Quiz: Saturday 10th May - Village Hall

Cream tea and open garden 26th July—Liz Edwards

Cream teas: Sundays from 27th July until 31st August

Book & Bake: Saturday 6th September - in Church

Festival of Christmas Trees—6th and 7th December

Soup & Sweet—this takes place on the first Sunday in the month at noon in church. However, you are not required to attend a service; just drop in!

Please check the notice boards or see our **website**:

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2490/

or visit us on facebook

Privacy Notice

New regulations about data protection came into force on 25th May 2018.

Information such as names, addresses, dates of birth, email addresses and phone numbers can all be described as 'personal data' In our church we handle personal data regularly through the contact details of our parishioners.

It is a legal requirement that Luxulyan Church needs to have a person's consent for the personal data we hold. The purpose of this document is to explain this process and in doing so to make it clear to you what we are going to do with the information.

Storage of data Contact details, including names and addresses, and in many cases email addresses and phone numbers, will be kept by the PCC Secretary and Treasurer on a password protected computer and any hard copies made kept locked away. Contact details of parishioners may be shared with other members of the PCC, but stored under the same conditions.

How long will we keep data and what happens if we lose it? People will, of course, have the right to have their personal data removed from our records whenever they wish. Everyone has a right to know about what personal data we hold about them and, if they request it, to receive a hard copy of this information at any time. We have to report it to the Information Commissioner's Office if we should lose or mislay data for any reason.

Luxulyan PCC is very grateful for your continuing support.



For further information or to make any comments about any of the reports in this year book, please contact the Editor, Robin Burley on 01208 831145, or at rakol@aol.com
This edition #1 is dated 27th April 2025