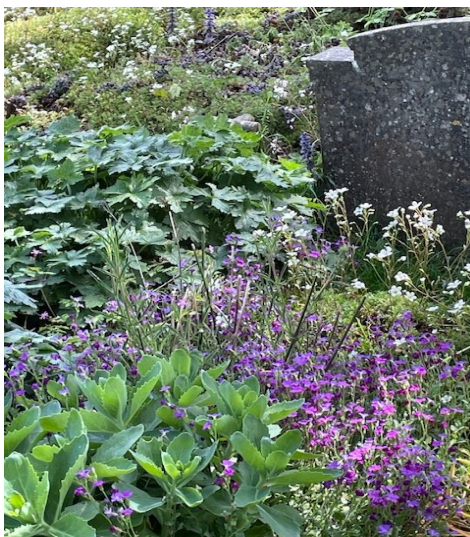




Dundry Church News



If you have time, please visit our churchyard, a place of calm with fabulous wild flowers and stunning views of Bristol and beyond.

Sand Lizards are one of the UK's rarest reptiles, found only on a few sandy heathland or sand dune habitats. In spring when males emerge from hibernation their skin develops a vivid green colouration. Despite such bright markings they are not easy to find, blending in with the heather, lichens and heathland soil, until they dash across a path or are spotted basking on an open, sunny site. Their presence brings a spark of transformative wonder, then a slowly fading afterglow, a memory to be called upon at a later date.

Which is, perhaps, a little like the momentary flash of divine understanding experienced by the sixteenth century Spanish mystic, St John of the Cross while listening from his prison cell to a drunken reveller singing love songs to his girlfriend. In the immediate aftermath St John wrote down the collection of ecstatic, love-filled spiritual verses that he is famous for. It then took him the rest of his life to slowly unpack and explain the meaning of that moment, a task he never completed. Faith is like that, it doesn't appear in your in-box fully formed it requires continual work, reshaping and reimagining, drawing on energy and inspiration from often very fleeting encounters.

While there are no Sand Lizards in our neighbourhood the other two UK lizard species – Common and Slowworms – are found locally. Warm places, such as piles of grass clippings, may yield a sighting and now is the time to photograph them for the annual Chew Valley Nature Photography Festival, for which the deadline is 11.59pm on Tuesday 30 June. All the details can be found here:

<https://chewvalleynpf.wordpress.com/full-competition-entry-rules/> and don't forget the new category for a one minute film on any aspect of Chew Valley Wildlife.

But we are also expanding our horizons this month, moving onto more exotic and dangerous territory, firstly, on 3 June (7.30pm) with BBC Wildlife cameraman Tom Rowland talking about filming in challenging locations both tropical and Arctic and then on 13 June (11am) local wildlife filmmaker Sam Hume will be entertaining children with his Dangerous Animal Survival Guide. Both free events are taking place in St Andrew's, Chew Magna.

Connecting with the natural world in all its forms, local or exotic can open us up to something greater. St John, in his Spiritual Canticle, put it thus:

'My Beloved is the mountains/
And lonely wooded valleys/
Strange islands/
And resounding rivers/
The whistling of love-stirring breezes/
The tranquil night at the
time of the rising dawn/
Silent music, sounding solitude/
The supper that refreshes,
and deepens love.'

Richard Greatrex



The Third Annual Chew Valley Nature Photography Festival

Three age groups:

Adults; Year 7 to 18yrs; Year 6 and under

For more details and full rules

check out the website:

<https://chewvalleynpf.wordpress.com/>

CATEGORIES:

1. Plants, fungi, lichens and trees;
2. Birds;
3. Mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects and mini-beasts;
4. Landscapes;
5. Human impact and the environment

Award for best phone photo.

NEW CATEGORY:

A one-minute length film on any aspect of Chew Valley wildlife



CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES

30 June, 11.59pm



**The Hartcliffe &
Withywood Choir
will be singing at the
Tower Café @ Dundry**

**Held in the church
Saturday 6th June**

**Café
10.30am-12.30pm**

Choir 10.45am

An hour of music with James Baker



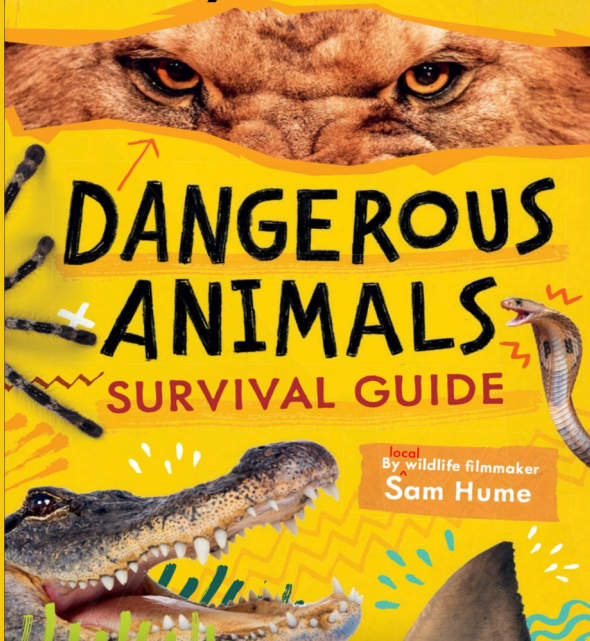
3pm Sunday 14 June
St Mary's Church, Henbury
Church Close, Bristol, BS10 7QF

Come and hear film music, musicals, classical music and pop songs played on our large pipe organ. It is an informal afternoon of fun, with cakes served afterwards.

All are welcome to this FREE event

**Many thanks
to everyone who
supported our
Plant Sale, Café &
Tower Opening
on the
3rd May,
we raised over
£500 towards the
maintenance of
the church**

**St Andrew's Church
Chew Magna
Saturday 13 June, 11am**



Adults are welcome to join their children at this FREE talk
(Donations also welcome!)

Chew Valley Nature Photography Festival: <https://chewvalleynpf.wordpress.com>

Prayer Group Meetings

A time for prayer, reflection and conversation led by members of the Chew Vally East church family. Finishes with refreshments.

**Next Meeting: Monday 15 June
(2.00pm-3.00pm)**

St Andrew's Church, Chew Magna
All are welcome to come and pray for anything that concerns you, to give thanks for blessings, or spend time quietly together.

Alternatively, you may wish to join a weekly Monday morning group (9.15am-10.00am)

that meets online. Please contact Richard for the Zoom login:
rectorcve@gmail.com; 01275 461179;



Dundry Church Tower will be open on the following dates in 2026

6th June, 4th July, 1st August,
5th September

10am -12pm

(IF THE WEATHER IS DRY)

TOWER HEALTH & SAFETY REGULATIONS

Due to the steep narrow access to the Tower the following points should be observed –

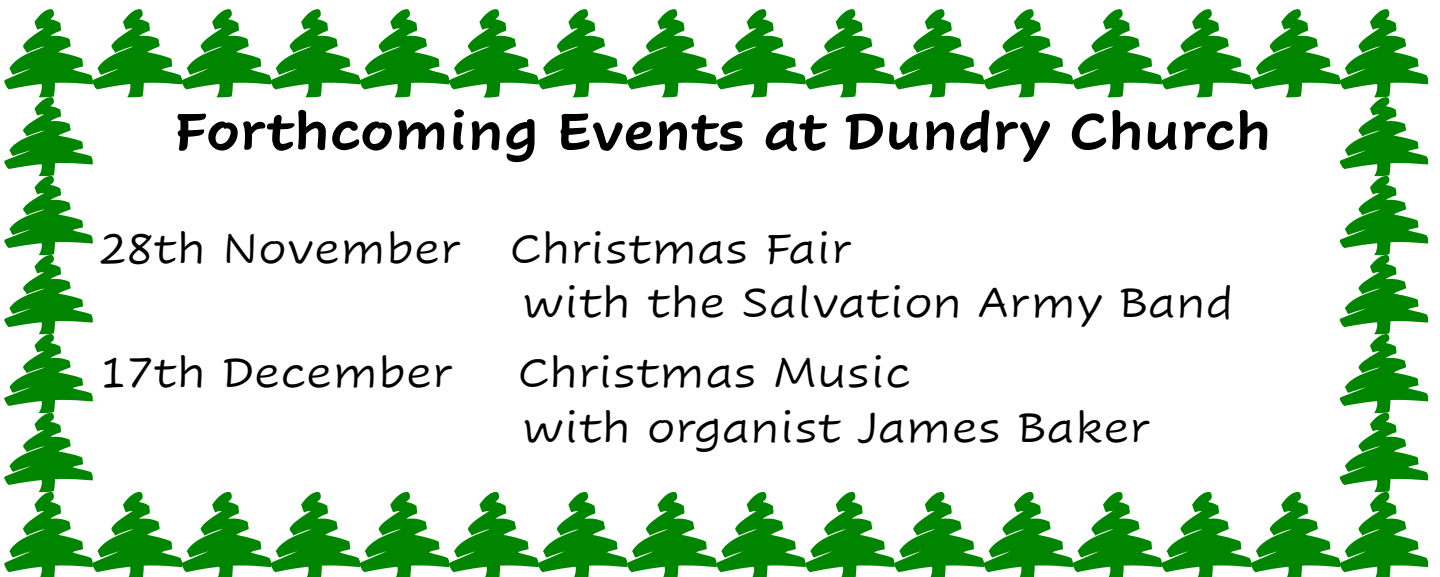
- No high heels or flip flops
- Only children aged 8 and over are allowed up the Tower, and they must be accompanied by a responsible adult
- No children under the age of 8, this also includes babies in slings
- No rucksacks, large shoulder or hand bags
- It can be windy and cold at the top so you are advised to wear a jumper/coat

Only 6 people allowed at the top of the tower at any one time, plus 2 volunteers

Please respect our Health & Safety Regulations as they are there to protect you

Suggested Donation

ADULTS £2 and CHILDREN (AGED 8 – 16) £1



Forthcoming Events at Dundry Church

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 28th November | Christmas Fair
with the Salvation Army Band |
| 17th December | Christmas Music
with organist James Baker |

**Dundry Church is registered with
the
Parish Giving Scheme,
which allows you to give a one off
or regular donation
to this church,**



**Please use the QR for
your donation,
Thank you**

Contact Information

Rector Revd Richard Greatrex

rectorcve@gmail.com 01275 461179 07345 578545

The Rector's day off is normally Tuesday

Reader Mrs Ruth Day ruth@daysinc.co.uk 07773373829

Parish Administrator Alison Hill

(Mon, Weds and Fri mornings)

01275 331061; cvechurches@gmail.com

Churchwarden vacant

Fundraising Team dundrychurchsocial@gmail.com

WEB PAGES

Chew Valley East - www.lakesidegroup.org.uk

Facebook - www.facebook.com/ChewValleyEastCofEChurches

YouTube - www.youtube.com/channel/UCQ7Hp6zU_3YbxuzDV7aq78w

Your Parish Church in Chew Valley East

lakesidegroup.org.uk

Services for June 2026

	7 th June Trinity 1	14th June Trinity 2	21 st June Trinity 3	28 th June Peter & Paul	5 th July Trinity 5
Chew Magna		8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Revd Richard Greatrex	8.00am Group Service Holy Communion Revd Victor Barley		
Dundry	9.30am Half Hour Holy Communion Revd Richard Greatrex				10.00am Group Service Holy Communion Revd Jan Knott
Norton Malreward		10.00am Holy Communion Revd Richard Greatrex		10.00am Group Service Holy Communion Revd Jan Knott	
Stanton Drew	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Revd Richard Greatrex				