

# DAWLISH COAST MISSION COMMUNITY

A newsletter brought to you every fortnight throughout the year with information from the churches of St Gregory's (Dawlish); St George's (Holcombe); St Mary's (Cofton) and St Paul's (Starcross).

Issue date: Sunday 17th August 2025

[www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk](http://www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk)

## INHERITANCE

*Will Halse, Licensed Lay Minister, writes:*



**I love this little story. To me it's a parable, telling of the gift of God's great love in Jesus, and his love for you and me. It is reproduced by kind permission from 'A Box of Delights' by J John and Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books...**

There was once a very successful businessman who had an only son. The man cherished the child and longed to find a way to express his deep love so he decided that each year he would purchase a priceless, multi-million pound painting that captured the real sentiments of his heart. He would hang that year's painting over the huge fireplace hearth in the most prominent place of the house.

For the first several years the father chose the painting himself as his son was too young. The first year he selected a glorious sunrise depicting the radiance of life that his son had brought. The next was a mountain stream showing the refreshing overflow of love they had together. The third year, as his son began to learn about God as creator, he bought a magnificent canvas of a grand mountain scene. As the son matured he began to help the father choose the paintings until they owned one of the most valuable collections in the world.

One day war broke out in the land and the son was drafted. He met a young man who would become his dearest, most loyal friend. This friend turned out to be a delightful amateur artist who drew a simple but eloquent sketch of the son shortly before the son was killed in battle. At the funeral the friend presented the modest, obviously amateur drawing to the father describing what his son had meant to him during his rigorous military days. The father hung the picture over the mantle in the place of honour above the rest of the priceless paintings they had collected.

A few years later the father died and the collection was auctioned to the highest bidder. Art curators from around the world descended upon the home hoping to purchase any or all of the paintings. The room was electric with anticipation as the auctioneer opened the bidding at £1000 for the amateur drawing of the son. 'Do I hear a £1000 for the son? Do I hear £500? £200? Who will have the son?' he begged. Finally, a buyer purchased the sketch so that they could move on with the 'real' collection.

Then the auctioneer did the unthinkable. He ordered the auction closed! Hundreds of buyers gasped with disbelief — 'How can this be? We have come from around the world. How dare you cut us off.' The auctioneer regained order and explained. 'It was the father's desire that the entire collection be given to the one who buys the simple sketch of his son! For whoever has his son has his all!'



## A 'RUBY' THANK YOU

Linda and Steve wish to say THANK YOU for all the cards and gifts received on the occasion of their recent Ruby Wedding Anniversary.

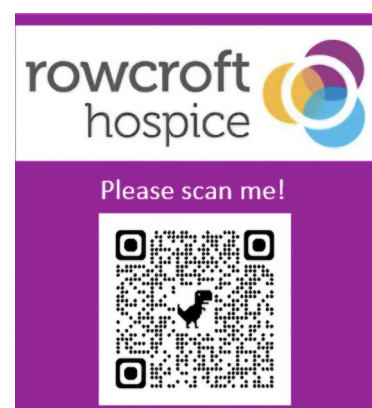
## WEATHER PERMITTING! Will and Wendy shall run the Torbay Half Marathon in aid of Rowcroft Hospice in 2025!

Unfortunately, as some of you will be aware - The Torbay Half Marathon 2024 that Will (Halse) and Wendy (Williams) pledged to run in aid of Rowcroft Hospice - was cancelled due to stormy weather conditions on the day, so both Wendy and Will decided to defer their entry to the 2025 event!

That 2025 date of 21st September is now fast approaching! Will and Wendy managed to raise over £400 in 2024 and thank all who generously sponsored them last year - Rowcroft fully appreciated every penny. Obviously, the great work that Rowcroft does is ongoing so that means the fundraising is ongoing too!

Here is this year's link to the fundraising page...

<https://sportsgiving.co.uk/sponsorship/entry/1481317> and aside is a QR code leading to the page if you find using one easier.



## DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST OPEN DAY

St Gregory's Church Dawlish will be open again this year as part of the **Devon Historic Churches Trust Open Day** on **Sat 13th September 2025**.

The church will be open from 10am-2pm and Tours of the Ringing Chamber, Belfry and Tower Roof will be available between 10am -12 noon. This is a wonderful experience to see part of our church that's not normally open to the general public – so be sure to put this date and time in your diary now, as it's an opportunity you won't want to miss.



For safety reasons, all climbers need to be aged 5 years or over and must wear sturdy shoes ie no heels or flip flops please. You also need to be sure you are fit enough to climb. For those happy and able to get all the way to the roof, a bird's eye view of Dawlish awaits.

The tower tour is free but any donations you are happy to make would be greatly appreciated as monies raised will be split equally for the Devon Historic Churches Trust and St Greg's.



# DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

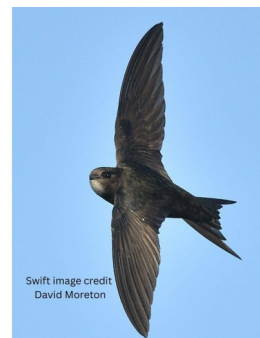
We look forward to welcoming you!



## THINGS TO SPOT IN OUR CHURCHYARDS

'Caring for God's Acre' writes that this is a great time of year to spot swifts (*pictured*), swallows and martins on the wing, as the young have fledged and are testing their wings before their long migration.

Swallows and martins will be with us for a while, but the swifts will be leaving during August, and we will miss their screaming cry until next May.



Swift image credit  
David Moreton

### ST. GREG'S BIG CHURCH CLEAN

It's happening on  
**SATURDAY 6th  
SEPTEMBER,**  
10am-12.30pm!

Many hands make  
light work so  
**PLEASE COME** if you're able.

Coffee, tea and cake during the break.

Any questions, please talk to Leena.



### MESSY CHURCH ON 21st AUGUST....

is all about a character from the Old Testament  
Can you guess which one from this picture?



### PHOTOS FROM 'HEAVENLY SUNDAE'



Well attended  
CTDD-led worship  
in the Carnival  
marquee on  
Sunday 3rd August.  
Including making our  
own ice cream  
sundaes!



at  
**St. Greg's**

**Thursday  
21st August  
3.30-6pm**

*It's church, but not as you know it!*

*There will be lots going on throughout the afternoon,  
including:*

- Refreshments on arrival
- Plenty of FUN with 'crafty' activities  
for adults and children to do together
- A celebration time with stories, songs and prayers
- A hot meal before going home

*We'd love to welcome YOU!*

**Messy Church values are about being Christ-centred, for all ages,  
based on creativity, hospitality and celebration.**



---

## ST GREG'S 200th ANNIVERSARY



We'll soon be celebrating 200 years of St Gregory's and the community over 4 days in September. For this reason the church will be open to visitors over the first three days - i.e. for 8 hours each day on Thursday 18th, Friday 19th and Saturday 20th September, from 10am to 6pm.

We are still seeking volunteers who are available and happy to be in the church as welcoming stewards for 2-hour 'shifts' across the three days. No-one will be left on their own, so a minimum of two persons are needed to cover each shift.

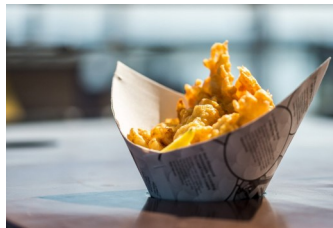
**If you are able to offer your time, for one (or more) of the 2-hour shifts on any (or all) of these dates, please complete the form (to be found on the table in the Lower Narthex at St Greg's from Sunday 3rd August) with details of your availability.**

---

### LADIES! FISH'N'CHIP NIGHT

*Cath Chappell writes an invitation:*

Ladies, a fish n chip, chat and 'drinkie poos' night out is planned for Friday 5th September from 6-9.30pm-ish.



Yes, it's that time of year again when I hope that, ladies, you will be up for another lighted hearted, fun evening out in Dawlish enjoying a fish'n'chip supper from Sea Breeze - eaten inside if weather inclement or along sea wall if gloriously sunny evening and sea gulls not too troublesome; followed by al fresco drinks (hot or cold, alcoholic or soft) at a nearby venue – all of course whilst sharing in the opportunity to chat and giggle to our hearts content with friends old and new.

Sadly I need to limit our number to 20, so please let me know ASAP if you can make it. It will be wonderful to see familiar faces as well as welcome new ones to this happy occasion and I very much look forward to hearing from you all. My phone number is 07880 557772 or email [cath.godden@outlook.com](mailto:cath.godden@outlook.com)

*Sorry Gents, this is only for ladies, but please do join us all in praying for good weather!*

---

### FAREWELL TO PAUL AND FIONA WIMSETT

On 20th July the congregation at St George's, Holcombe presented Fiona and Paul Wimsett with a cake (which everyone enjoyed) to thank them for their ministry and part in St George's church family in recent years. It was also to mark and celebrate Fiona taking up her new position as priest at Dartington in September. The photo aside shows Paul, Fiona and their daughter, Naomi, with the magnificent cake.



St Gregory's Church,  
Dawlish

Please do join us for

### Choral Evensong

with The Venerable Andrew Beane  
Archdeacon of Exeter

On Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025  
at 4.00pm

followed by tea in the Upper  
Narthex



## SERVICES & EVENTS – 17th to 30th August 2025



### Sunday 17th August — Trinity 9

- 9.30am St George's – Holy Communion  
9.30am St Paul's – Morning Worship  
10am St Gregory's – Greg's@10  
11.15am St Mary's – Songs of Praise  
6pm Telephone Service - *dial 01200 480091 to join*

### Wednesday 20th August

- 10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion

### Thursday 21st August

- 3.30-6pm St Gregory's - Messy Church: *Noah and the Big Flood*

### Sunday 24th August — Trinity 10

- 9.30am St George's – Morning Worship  
9.30am St Paul's – Holy Communion  
10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion  
11.15am St Mary's – Holy Communion

### Wednesday 27th August

- 10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion



### TUESDAY PRAYER MEETING ON ZOOM

All welcome to a half hour of prayer  
online on Tuesdays at 9am.

Just click on [this link](#) or  
go to <https://zoom.us/join>

and enter:

Meeting ID: 575 020 5964  
and Passcode: 850653.

**The Lady Chapel at St Greg's is  
available for quiet prayer from  
9.30am, before the  
10am Sunday service**



### PRAYER HALF-HOUR 6pm at St Greg's

**Each Tues, Wed, Thur, Fri.  
*Until further notice.***

## DIARY DATES

### AUGUST

**Tuesday 19th** Little Greg's at St Greg's, 10am-12pm

**Tuesday 26th** Little Greg's at St Greg's, 10am-12pm  
Julian Group at St Greg's, 2pm

**Sunday 31st** Benefice Service (followed by BBQ) at St Mary's Hall, Dawlish Warren, 10.30am  
Choral Evensong with Archdeacon Andrew (followed by tea), St Greg's, 4pm

## LOOKING AHEAD INTO SEPTEMBER

### Thursday 18th to Sunday 21st - St Greg's 200th Anniversary Celebrations

*'Honouring the Past - Embracing the Future'*

#### **Thurs, Fri & Sat:**

10am-6pm: Live Music, Floral Displays, Exhibition, Refreshments  
Evening: History Talks - more info on timings etc soon!

#### **Sunday:**

10.30am Benefice Celebration Service (and lunch) with Bishop Mike

If you would like any support, or someone to talk to,  
or you know of someone else who does, please contact one of the following:

**Revd Linda Cronin (Rector):** 01626 927281 or email: [revdlinda@icloud.com](mailto:revdlinda@icloud.com)

**Revd Patrick Parkes (Minister at Starcross):** 01626 685709 [epp@sky.com](mailto:epp@sky.com)

**Steve Cronin (LLM):** 07817 678774; **Will Halse (LLM):** 01626 866054; **Ceri Lee (LLM):** 07739 936286.

*Safeguarding Officer at St Greg's: Tess Hickson 07376 658440*

*Information and contact details for Safeguarding Officers in the other churches can be found on our website [here](#)*