

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 12th October 2025

www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk

Dear Friends

As this Newsletter comes out, we are in the midst of the Harvest season. The leaves on the trees are turning brown, and we have even had our first named storm of the year!

Harvest is a time of thanksgiving — for the fruitfulness of the earth, the labour of farmers and all who work to provide food for us. A timely reminder as we can so often take such things for granted. We are reminded not only of all we have been given, but also our calling to share them with others. In a world where so many go without, we are called, not only to be thankful but generous as well. We are to be a people of hope – sowing kindness, justice and peace in our communities.



Sadly as we look around us there is so much pain and division, after the recent attack on the Manchester synagogue, the Bishop of Manchester said *"The way we defy those who seek to sow hatred in our communities is to draw closer to one another in love. Hate can never defeat hate; only love can conquer hate."* As Christians, we stand alongside our Jewish brothers and sisters in grief and in prayer. We hold the families of all those affected close to our hearts, asking for God's comfort, healing, and peace.

Whatever community we belong to, we are called to share hope. In the face of violence, fear, and division, we are reminded that God's love is stronger than hate, and that Christ calls us to be witnesses of that love.

We are also encouraged in that hope through the appointment of The Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally as Archbishop of Canterbury. Many will know Bishop Sarah who served locally as Bishop of Crediton before moving to London. May her ministry strengthen us all in the call to walk together in faith, hope, and love. In the wisdom and words of St Paul, *'And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'*

A Prayer for the Archbishop of Canterbury

Almighty and everlasting God, the only worker of great marvels, send down upon your servant Sarah, called to be Archbishop of Canterbury, and all who are committed to her care, the spirit of your saving grace, and that they may truly please you, pour upon them the continual dew of your blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our advocate and mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Steve Cronin, LLM

SUPPORT THE 2025 REAL ADVENT CALENDAR!

The Real Advent Calendar is the UK's only Fairtrade calendar which comes with a free 24 page Christmas story-activity book and which supports charitable causes. The 2025 calendar has a new design. There is a Fairtrade chocolate and a line of the Christmas story behind each of the windows. The free book has a page for every day of Advent expanding on the Christmas story and includes some fun challenges. No other calendar enables parents and children to experience the Christmas story for 24 days and be challenged to do some good in the season of Advent.



Why do we need a Real Advent Calendar? The Real Advent Calendar was created in 2013 following surveys which showed that 36% of 5-7 year olds did not know whose birthday is celebrated at Christmas. In the same year 51% of adults said that the birth of Jesus was irrelevant to their Christmas. The calendar is a great way to reverse this tipping point and share the Christmas story.

It tastes good and does good! Money raised from the sale of this year's calendar will help Fairtrade farmers receive a fair price for their goods and a Fairtrade premium to spend on the priorities of their communities ranging from solar panels and fresh water to teaching resources. Profits will also help The Funzi and Bodo Trust provide care for mums and babies in Africa. By coming together and ordering in larger batches we qualify for a bulk discount and free delivery.

The Dawlish Community Larder would also be so grateful for any Advent calendar donations to help bring a little festive cheer to local families!

Milk chocolate - £4.95 each
Dark Chocolate - £5.50 each

Please email orders to alex_pugh@sky.com by Monday 27th October at latest.

Calendars will be available to collect on Sunday 16th November from St Gregs Sunday service or delivery can be arranged.

Also available:

Blessing Bars in Milk or Dark - £3 each
Chocolate Orange Christingles - £3.50 each
Host of Angels (Milk only) - £5.20 each





at
St. Greg's

Thursday
16th October
3.30-6pm

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

THIS MONTH'S THEME
HARVEST & THE **BIG** PICNIC



There will be lots going on, 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

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



St Greg's 200th Anniversary Events News

THANK YOU to Revd Linda and her team & Margaret Noel and her team, for organising such a fantastic 4 day event.

Another BIG thank you to all those people who helped in any way by doing all the tasks that were needed over the 4 days.

You all contributed to a tremendous and very successful event which St Gregs can be very proud of.

Our GIFT DAY on Saturday 20th September raised £4100

Donations, Raffle, & Collections (18-21st Sept) raised £1645

In 4 days we raised a total of £5745 with expenses of £832

The Bishop's HC Service on 21st Sept was a wonderful finale.

THANK YOU

All funds raised will be used for the required St Gregs Restoration work.



Please note that St Gregs Restoration Fund has also received

£264 from the Grand Gala Concert on the evening of DHCT day 13th Sept

£85 Collection taken at the Civic Service on Sunday 15th Sept

£310 from Sale of Surplus Drums, Keyboard and Piano Frame



Written by Richard Sulch
Data supplied by Paul Jones

RUBBISH RECYCLING? *Chris Curd. Eco Champion writes:*



Many of you will be aware of the boxes in the Narthex at St Greg's which are collecting soft plastics for free schemes run by food manufacturers and accessible through the TerraCycle website. They won't be there for more than a few weeks, so please do see what is available, and if you are online, please look up TerraCycle.

I have been trying to find out more about the recycling of soft plastics. I emailed Sainsburys, Tescos and Morrisons asking if they could guarantee that the soft plastics recycled in their stores were not exported and were not in danger of ending up in the environment. I had to persist to get answers to my question! I didn't need to email the Co-op – a Google search revealed a lot of information; they use UK firm Jayplas to recycle plastics. The Jayplas website can be scrutinised. The other stores were not so transparent!

Sainsbury: *"I am sorry to learn you have had issues locating the information which you require. I can confirm that the flexible plastic we collect is backhauled from our stores to central depots, on otherwise empty vehicles.....it is sorted in the UK and then recycled in either the UK or Europe... The material is converted into pellets which can be extruded into new products. Any waste portion is sent to incineration for energy."*

That sounds good but they declined to tell me which firms they use, to check chain of custody

Morrisons: sent me a generic reply talking about coffee pods and carrier bags. I asked which company deals with the rest of the soft plastic? *"Hello, we work exclusively with trusted and certified channels."* Would you be able to give details of those channels? (15th Sept). No reply to date (2nd Oct)

Tesco: *"all relevant information that we can disclose is on our Tesco PLC site, Soft Plastic."* Lots of good eco things there, more than the first two, but nothing about where their plastic goes!

By the time I had gone round and round, and down a few rabbit holes, my head was spinning, and I am not sure if I am any wiser as to the best way to recycle given all the factors! At the moment I am favouring the Coop and Terracycle.

If we put soft plastic in the bin, it gets incinerated at the Energy to Waste Plant, which sounds good. But searches revealed that the greenhouse gases are not captured! And some sites are saying the Plants are as polluting as the old coal stations – although work is underway to mitigate this. Basically, the sites with vested interests emphasise one thing, and other sites another. It is often more about what is not said, than what is said. We cannot recycle our way out of the plastic crisis. And each time plastic is processed, small microplastics escape, and it can only be recycled for limited number of times and has to be made into something else. At the moment, it does not return to nature like wood. It has its place, but where something else can be used, surely it is care for God's good creation to use that something else.

The latest round of UN Global Plastics Treaty talks ended in August without a treaty. World leaders failed to reach an agreement, and once again, limits on plastic production - the most crucial step to ending the plastic pollution crisis - were blocked. Over 234 fossil fuel and plastic industry lobbyists crowded the negotiations, outnumbering scientists by four to one! With powerful petro-states like the US and Saudi Arabia they blocked real progress. It's frustrating. But The Big Plastic Count (In 2026, 9th to 15th March) helped get the Treaty and the plastic pollution crisis higher up the Government's agenda, and the UK Government ... stood up for an agreement to reduce plastic production. (*The Big Plastic Count*)

So, I am now on a mission to see how I can clean the house, do dishes and laundry without using any plastic! Watch this space! And would readers like to share what they are doing to reduce plastic waste? Let me know.

Chris Curd. Eco Champion
07771 842334; prebchris2020@gmail.com

PS: Would someone like to hazard a definition of "wishcycling"!?

RECYCLING A PIANO!

Would YOU be interested in a FREE piano? If so, please contact Lorraine on 07538 229977

A REQUEST FROM A 'REWILDER'

Ann Leigh has received a request from a volunteer who is doing some re-wilding locally. He writes:

Very often, at this time of year, people wind up with part bags of compost they want to clear out or have finished with. Part bags of used compost are equally acceptable provided they are not contaminated by material that would then contaminate the ground, or full of weeds. Put simply wildflowers tend to flourish in poorer soils while grass benefits from more fertile ground. Often its role is as filler to level off a pathway or make a layer of soil to help seeding. A grow bag perhaps used to grow tomatoes or something similar is equally useful.



If you have anything suitable, let Ann know (Email: pannleigh@googlemail.com) and she can put you in touch with him.

FAIRTRADE THANKS Cathy Slade writes:

A very big thank you to all who supported the Fairtrade stall at the recent St Greg's 200th Anniversary Celebrations. We made an impressive £346.50p, who knew there were so many chocoholics in church?

Also, as part of Fairtrade Fortnight there was an afternoon tea at the Strand Centre on Monday 22nd September where Sue Errington from Fairtrade gave a talk with slide show about Fairtrade tea and how it is collected, dried and distributed. Two of the ladies modelled a tea pickers apron, which is worn to prevent bushes scratching legs, and a basket worn by the pickers to catch the leaves as they pick.



'The Lectionary Comic Strip' is from www.agnusday.com and is based on the Gospel reading for Trinity 17 (12th October) Luke 17.11-19



IT'S TIME FOR REACHING DAWLISH 7!

Dear Friends

This time we're gathering on Saturday 8th November 2025, 10am - 12.30pm in Dawlish Methodist Church Hall, Brunswick Place, Dawlish, EX7 9PB, who we sincerely thank for their kind hospitality.



Reaching Dawlish 7

Saturday 8th November 2025
1000 – 1100 meet and greet, followed by a short presentation and fellowship lunch, ending by 1230
Dawlish Methodist Church Hall, Brunswick Place,
Dawlish EX7 9PB



Uniting our efforts to advance the Kingdom and bring the Good News to the people of Dawlish and District

Book your free tickets online via [Eventbrite.co.uk](https://eventbrite.co.uk) Contact Mark Jones 07729998334, markjones918@gmail.com

As well as hearing the latest news from ROC Dawlish, there'll be the opportunity to hear from other local Christian-led projects working to advance the Kingdom in Dawlish and surrounding villages.

This time we'll be having a very relaxed brunch-lunch to share inspiring recent stories, and a time of prayer, as the Lord leads us. Here's the plan:

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Coffee meet and greet
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM Short presentation
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Fellowship Brunch/Lunch

We'd love to welcome you to stand with us (*actually to sit down and eat with us!*) in Jesus' name.

Anyone from across any of the local churches represented by Christians Together in Dawlish and District is welcome to come along.

Here's the EventBrite link to book yourselves in. Any problems, just ask and we'll save you a seat at the table. https://reaching_dawlish_7.eventbrite.co.uk

All we ask is that you book in advance so we know how many people to cater for. If you cannot book online via Eventbrite, please text or call me on 07729998334 and I'll gladly reserve you a seat at the table.

God bless you all,

Mark

Dr Mark Jones, ROC Dawlish Local Coordinator
rocdawlish.org 07729 998334



Aid for Ukraine's Adults and Children Sale and Song, Tea and Cake!

Saturday 8th November
2 pm to 5 pm
Cockwood Village Hall
(Cofton Parish Hall, next to The Ship at Cockwood)
2 Bus to Cockwood Harbour or parking on the road in the village

Coffees, teas, delicious Ukrainian baking, traditional British cakes and snacks, Christmas decorations, original Ukrainian craft items, stocking fillers, items for gifts.

Organised Cliff and Chris Curd, along with Ukrainian and British friends in the community.
NEW THIS YEAR!
Ukrainian Folk Singing organised by Olena Chertok

Proceeds to be divided between CR2EE, based in Starcross and Exmouth, and Save Ukraine, which works with traumatised children and rescues children from occupied territories.

Details etc—07771842334—text please if possible, or via village social media.
Donations of good quality goods appreciated,
including items that would work as stocking fillers and gifts.

SERVICES – 12th October to 25th October 2025



Sunday 12th October — Trinity 17

9.30am St George's – Harvest Praise
9.30am St Paul's – Holy Communion
10am St Gregory's – Holy Communion
11.15am St Mary's – Holy Communion

Wednesday 15th October

10am St Gregory's - Midweek Holy Communion

Thursday 16th October

3.30-6pm St Gregory's – Messy Church

Sunday 19th October —Trinity 18

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

Wednesday 22nd October

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, Thurs, Fri.
Until further notice.

DIARY DATES



OCTOBER

Tuesday 14th

Little Greg's – St Gregory's, 9.30am-11.30am
Mothers' Union – St Gregory's, 2pm

Saturday 18th

Monthly Sale - St. Paul's, Starcross, 11am-1.30pm

Tuesday 21st

Kids' Swap Shop – St Gregory's, 9-11am
Little Greg's – St Gregory's, 9.30am-11.30am
Ladies' Lunch – Amelia's, Cofton Holidays, 12.30pm

Thursday 23rd

A Life in Antiques – Talk by Cristian Beadman from Antiques Roadshow Dawlish Library, 7pm. £4.

NOVEMBER

Saturday 8th

Reaching Dawlish 7 – 10am-12.30pm, Dawlish Methodist Hall
See page 6 for details on how to book your place.
Aid for Ukraine's Sale & Song, Tea & Cake –
Cockwood Village Hall, 2-5pm. *See page 6 for details.*

FOLLOW THESE LINKS

St Greg's [Facebook](#)
[Instagram](#)
St George's [Facebook](#)
St Mary's [Facebook](#)
St Paul's [Facebook](#)

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

Revd Patrick Parkes (Minister at Starcross) : 01626 685709 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](#)