

DAWLISH COAST TEAM MINISTRY

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 21st June 2026

www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk

This year the Mothers' Union (MU) celebrates 150 years. Here is the last article from Ann Leigh (in what has been a series of three) with some more of the MU story.

When Margaret Murch joined the Mothers' Union in 1961 there were 24 members in the Dawlish Branch. Records during the later decades of the 20th century are not so detailed, but we know that by 1988 we were involved in our biggest-ever project, the AFIA (Away From It All) caravan beside St. Mary's Hall, where needy families from all over Devon could enjoy a short holiday in Dawlish Warren. Although members from other branches supported this work, the cleaning and general maintenance of the caravan and the welcoming of guests was our responsibility. Unfortunately the site was considered at risk of flooding in 2006 so the caravan had to be sold, but we celebrated the work in 2024 with a Diocesan festival at St. Mary's Hall on Mary Sumner Day, 9th August.

Scrapbooks and photo albums remind us of concerts and plays, festival services, garden parties and stalls at the church fete on the Lawn, and meetings continued monthly with a great variety of speakers. Members were active in the life of the church, cleaning and arranging flowers, supporting baptism families and the weekly activities of the toddler group (now Little Gregs).

2013 was our "Sunflower Year". We all planted seeds and then publicised the work of Mothers' Union more widely in a display at Jack's Patch. But our most active year was probably 2016, the 140th anniversary, when with nearly 50 members we were one of the largest branches in Exeter Diocese. We promoted our work as much as we could in the town - a Teddy Bears' Picnic on the Lawn, a "Stay and Play" tent for toddlers during the Carnival, a "Splash" along the seafront where we gave out MU balloons to families on the beach, and a Teddy Bear Parachute Jump from the church tower. We even did a 'church takeover' to celebrate Lady Day, with members presenting the story of the MU in a pageant during the morning service.

In 2026 the number of active members is much smaller, but when our elderly ladies can no longer get to church we are grateful for their support in prayer and financially. Almost all the money we raise or donate goes to support women and families around the world, and more recently we have supported campaigns, including the UN's 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, for which Plus Envolve allowed us to hang our knitted 'Chain of Hope' round their site on the Lawn. Now we look forward to the 130th anniversary of Dawlish Mothers' Union in 2028. Join us! Join in!

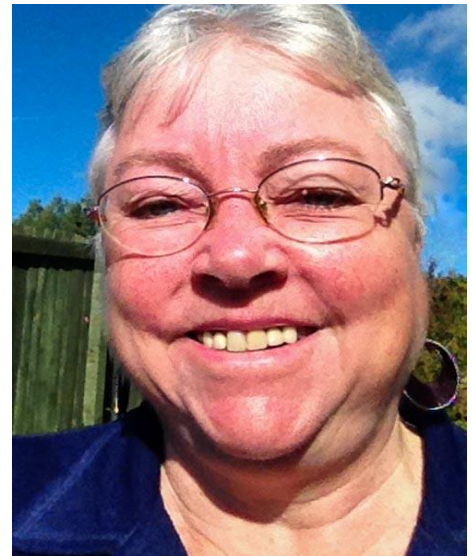


'REMEMBERING DI'

Margaret Noel writes with a tribute to the Revd Diane Caine

Throughout our lives we meet many people. Some become nodding acquaintances, others, friends, and if we are lucky, we meet some who become very special friends, the ones you can share your thoughts and troubles, someone empathetic.

Diane Caine was that person to me, and I am sure to others as well.



Simon Croft, who was vicar here during Diane's training says this of Diane:

"Di Caine was a greatly loved and respected curate in the Mission Community from her ordination in 2012 until 2017 when she became the Team Vicar in the West Dartmoor Group of Parishes.

Di cheerfully took on the great challenge of training for ordination, at the same time as coping with her exacting work for the Devon and Cornwall Police. Following her ordination in the Cathedral she thrived on the demands of her public ministry.

All this happened because Di put her whole trust in her Lord, whom she loved and served. Di was wonderfully gifted pastorally - she could quickly notice anyone who was struggling with life and give them just the right support.

I found her a tremendously helpful colleague, and when it came to the vacancy of 2016, Di rose to its extra responsibilities in a very stoic and courageous way."

Who can forget her Christmas sermon, draped in Christmas lights and flashing away from the pulpit, trying not to laugh? Although a freshly ordained curate she did not baulk at having to steer the Benefice, as it was then, through a somewhat difficult vacancy. Diane tackled everything with a tremendous confidence and an unshakeable faith and trust in God.

Even through the most difficult times of her life, she never doubted God. It was her faith, and her husband Nigel's unfailing support, that got her through all her gruelling medical treatments. And she still came through, smiling, never complaining.

Every time I saw Diane or received a message from her, she always started with 'Hello Mate' and that is what she was to me – a mate. One who helped me through some very difficult periods of my life. She never questioned, or gave opinions, just listened and understood. Diane was a friend and priest to many but was also a loving wife, mother, and grandmother.

Di's funeral is on Thursday July 9th at 2:30pm at St Michael's, Teignmouth followed by a family only cremation. She touched our lives and left us the better for it, and now we pray that she rests in Christ's Peace.

LEADERS IN CREATION CARE Chris Curd, Benefice Eco-Champion writes:

On Sunday 14th June, I led a service in St Greg's during which Cathy Slade and I shared just a tiny bit of what we had learned on the Diocesan Leaders in Creation Care course and the course run by the Carbon Literacy Project. Cathy and I are now "Certified Carbon Literate"!! Here is just some of what Cathy shared.

"It was good to go back to The Beginning in Genesis and be reminded that God created the world and ALL things in it and humans were made to look after it and see it grow and flourish. We are sadly now doing the exact opposite! Climate Change is real and action is needed. The Melanesian Mission appeals for us to take this seriously. There is so much that could be shared but these are phrases that stood out for me:

We are to see ourselves as 'kin' with other creatures in the community of God's creation. Our proper place is to be responsible stewards on behalf of God. We are to attend to the goodness of creation by preserving , sustaining and nurturing it. We are to love what God loves.

We also did a carbon literacy course which was a real eye opener. I had never heard of a personal carbon footprint questionnaire but was pleased my footprint was 8.2 tonnes a year, lower than the Dawlish average. I was afraid it might be higher (*note – we need to get to 1 tonne global average by 2050!!!*). A book referred to quite a bit in the course is 'How Bad are Bananas' by Professor Tim Berners-Lee. (*There are some copies in St Greg's which can be borrowed.*) It is almost a must read as it is mind boggling how many carbon emissions are created by food production, packaging and transportation of everyday products."

We also produced a leaflet which summarised some of the science and theology connected with climate change and creation care, and there are also some of these in St Greg's. I can email anyone a copy if they contact me. 07771842334; prebchris2020@gmail.com

Dawlish Coast Team Ministry
invites you to
IT'S RAINING MEN
- Hallelujah!
A TIME TO CELEBRATE
DADS, GRANDDADS,
SONS, GRANDSONS &
FATHER FIGURES -
THE SPECIAL
MEN
IN OUR LIVES
10am
SUNDAY
21st JUNE
FOLLOWED BY
COFFEE AND
BACON BAPS
At St Greg's Church
All Welcome!

**COLOURS
of
SOUND**
Music in Art and Art in Music
Sunday 28th June
2026 at 4pm
St Gregory's Church
Dawlish EX7 9QR
Formula 5
Alfie Pugh – keyboards
Rebecca Wilson – violin
David Jones – guitars
John Donnelly – double bass
Gary Evans – percussion
Fantastically energetic, visually exciting and
technically brilliant performance of music
inspired by art and animation including
How to Train Your Dragon
Howl's Moving Castle
Pictures From an Exhibition
and original music from original art
Tickets £16 (acc. under 18s free) available from
www.ticketsource.com/vive-la-musique
rachaelshearmur@gmail.com
07960 103 394
On the door – cash and cheques only
Vive la Musique! charity 1190288

DIOCESE OF EXETER
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN DEVON

DROP IN

A warm welcome for everyone!

St George's Holcombe
Dawlish Coast Team Ministry

1st WEDNESDAY of each month
2pm – 4pm

Come and join us for

- Tea, coffee and home-made cakes
- Knitting for good causes
- Games and jigsaws
- or just sit and relax in good company!

Just passing by? Then why not **DROP IN** and see what's happening!
ALL ARE WELCOME

 MEET a chat, meet new friends	 PUZZLE always a jig-saw puzzle on the go!	 CREATE scrabble or bring your knitting or craft project you're working on	 REFRESH tea, coffee and of course cakes! No charge – it's free!	 RELAX on a sunny day a beautiful garden to enjoy
--	--	--	---	---

All welcome – no need to be a Church Member

St George's Holcombe Dawlish Coast Team Ministry THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND www.churchofengland.org

NEW INITIATIVE!

First Friday @StGregs

All ages welcome!

For fellowship ♥ Friendship
Food ♥ Fun

Friday 3rd July
7pm
St Greg's

COME ALONG FOR:

- Board games
- Card games
- Chill and chat
- Light supper

Bring a friend!

FREE
Everyone welcome!

All are welcome here!

Church of England Parish Church in Dawlish presents...

A Chorus of Sunshine

An evening of music & song by four amazing groups from our local community:

St Gregory's Church Choir
The High C's
One Accord
Dawlish Rockwaves

Saturday 4th July 2026
at 7:00pm
St Gregory's Church, Dawlish

Entry is free but donations will be welcomed on the night

Proceeds from the concert will go towards St Gregory's Church Restoration Fund and the Dawlish Community Larder

Dawlish Community Transport, Dawlish Town Council and South West Ambulance Service
are working together again to offer more

Defibrillator Awareness Sessions

You could save a life – don't miss this opportunity

on
Tuesday 7th July 2026
from 7.00pm to 9.00pm
and
Saturday 11th July 2026
from 10.00am to 12 noon
at
The Manor House, Old Town Street, Dawlish, EX7 9AP

Sessions are free of charge and open to all*

If you would like to attend, please phone to reserve a place

01626 888890
Dawlish Community Transport

*any person under 16 yrs of age is very welcome to attend accompanied by an adult

SERVICES – 21st June to 4th July 2026

Sunday 21st June - Trinity 3

- 9.30am St George's – Holy Communion
9.30am St Paul's – Morning Worship
10am St Gregory's – Greg's@10
It's Raining Men, Hallelujah! (See page 3)
11.15am St Mary's – Morning Worship

Wednesday 24th June

- 10am St Gregory's – Midweek Holy Communion

Sunday 28th June – Trinity 4

- 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 1st July

- 10am St Gregory's – Midweek Holy Communion



TUESDAY PRAYER MEETING ON ZOOM

A half hour of prayer online
Tuesdays at 9am.

Click on [this link](#)

or go to <https://zoom.us/join>
and enter:

Meeting ID: 891 1433 5818
and Passcode: Wedlake

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri.
PRAYER HALF HOUR
From 6.30pm on Zoom
Please follow this link
[HERE](#) to join

DIARY DATES

JUNE

Sat 20th & Sun 21st **Open Garden** - 1-5.30pm at 2, Middlewood, Cockwood EX6 8RN –
Home of Cliff and Chris Curd. Admission (for charity), as part of National Gardens
Scheme. Adults £6, Children FREE.

Tuesday 23rd **Julian Group** – 2pm at St Greg's

Sunday 28th **'Colours of Sound'** – 4pm at St Greg's (see page 3)

JULY

Wednesday 1st **Drop-In** – 2-4pm at St George's, Holcombe (see page 4)

Friday 3rd **First Friday @ St Greg's** – 7pm, Friendship, fellowship, food, fun (see page 4)

Saturday 4th **'A Chorus of Sunshine'** Massed Choir Concert – 7pm at St Greg's (see page 4)

Monday 6th **Mens' Breakfast** – 9am in the Upper Narthex, St Greg's
Craft and Chatting - 1.30-3.30pm in the Church Room, St Pauls, Starcross

Tuesday 7th **Kids' Swap Shop** – 9-11am at St Greg's
Defibrillator Awareness Session – 7-9pm, The Manor House (see page 4)

Thursday 9th **Funeral of Revd Diane Caine** – 2.30pm, St Michael's, Teignmouth (see page 2)

Saturday 11th **Defibrillator Awareness Session** – 10am-12pm, The Manor House (see page 4)

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 from the Ministry Team:

Revd Linda Cronin (Rector): 01626 927281 or email: revdlinda@icloud.com
LLMS: Steve Cronin: 07817 678774; **Will Halse:** 01626 866054; **Ceri Lee:** 07739 936286.

Benefice Administrator: (Tues-Fri 10am-2pm): Rachel Hammond 01626 864322
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](#)