

Coastline



A Magazine for the Dawlish Coast Churches

Edition 20 **October 2023**

St George's Holcombe **St Gregory's Dawlish** **St Mary's Cofton**



All items for November Coastline to Editor by 22nd October please.

See Benefice E-newsletter for more details of events. To receive a regular emailing of **Coastline** and the newsletter email, contact st.gregs@btinternet.com

This Magazine is available free electronically to those who subscribe. Hard copies are provided free of charge but donations to church funds are always appreciated! **If you are not online and would like to receive a hard copy, please enquire at each church for the arrangements that are being made. We encourage those who are online to pass copies to those who are not!**



Dear readers of Coastline

I wonder if you remember the first time that Coastline was created? Well, it was actually in September 2021, round about the time that the many and detailed restrictions due to COVID were gradually being phased out; people were slowly coming out of their shells and beginning to enjoy getting back to full-time church at last! Chris Curd bravely undertook to create and develop a new magazine which would cover not only Benefice information and news, but also articles from the Diocese and from 'Eco-champions', both national and local. Some royal 'Special Editions' were produced as well—for the Queen's Jubilee in June 2022, her death in September that year, and the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla in May this year.

Leafing through the editions of Coastline I can see frequent changes being made to bring more and more interest into the magazine but this involves a lot of work, so after about around 20 editions, Chris decided to take a very well-deserved break through September. I was quite surprised to get an email from her, asking if I could be a 'guest editor' for the October edition, but it didn't take me long to agree to it—I looked back through my 'Turret Times 2' copies (which I produced) and felt quite nostalgic about those days of COVID when I was free to change the previous TT from 2 sides of A4 to 8, 10 or even more pages! This was because they were mostly going to be sent out via email, like Coastline is now, so no paper wastage!

So here we are, an edition of Coastline which will be different—Chris has given me permission to 'use my own style' so that's what I have done. I do hope you enjoy reading it.

Liz Hawarth, St George's Church, Holcombe

BENEFICE VACANCY

The 3 churches in the Benefice have worked hard to put together the Parish Profile under the guidance of the Archdeacon of Exeter, the Venerable Andrew Beane, and the final version was completed around the middle of August. The advertisement for the post then appeared in the Church Times on 3 consecutive weeks and the closing date for applications was 29 September. While we wait with bated breath to hear when or whether an appointment will be made, you might like to read the prayer which St George's provided for the Parish Profile:



Almighty and loving God, grant that we may have your light to guide us as we journey together through this period of Vacancy, a time of uncertainty and change.

Help us to be steadfast in our faith to stand calm and mindful as we embrace the unknown and move forward into a future with hope and praise in our hearts.

Inspire in us the courage to support one another, the zeal to work together with wisdom and understanding and the fullness and joy of your love to unite us in our family of churches and, as we seek for a new Rector, we pray for the Holy Spirit to lead the right person to us who will, by the hand of your grace, guide us in the nurture of our Vision to "pray and worship, grow and serve."



A GRAIN OF SAND AT A TIME

This autumn, do you feel overwhelmed with all the things that you need to get done?

Then think of your life as an hourglass. There are thousands of grains of sand in the top of the hourglass; and they all pass slowly and evenly through the narrow neck in the middle.

We are like that hourglass. When we start in the morning, there are hundreds of tasks which we feel that we must accomplish that day. But if we do not take them one at a time, and let them pass through the day slowly and evenly, as do the grains of sand passing through the narrow neck of the hour glass, then we are bound to break our own fragile physical and mental structure.

Do not attempt more than God designed you to do.



OCTOBER EVENTS IN THE BENEFICE



HARVEST SERVICES

St Mary's, Cofton	Sunday 1 October	11.00am
	Service led by Margaret Noel	
St Gregory's, Dawlish	Sunday 8 October	10.00am
	Service led by Revd Helen Bays	
St George's, Holcombe	Sunday 8 October	10.00am
	Service led by Ceri Lee	



Ladies' Lunch

Tuesday 17 October, 12 for 12.30pm
Amelia's Café, Cofton

Open to all ladies who are connected with our churches in any way. For details or to say that you are coming, please contact Valerie on 07970 255712 or Chris on 07771 842334.

St George's, Holcombe

DROP-INS

are re-starting after the summer break on the **first** Wednesday of each month!

Next meeting will be on

Wednesday 4 October
2.00pm to 4.00pm
in the Church Room

All welcome



BENEFICE SERVICE (5th Sunday)

Sunday 29 October 10.30am St Gregory's, Dawlish

The service will be led by **Bishop Jackie**, with music from **Ian Bartlett and the music group.**

Please note there will be no services at the other 2 churches in the Benefice on that day.

Next month... **BENEFICE EVENT FOR UKRAINIAN FUNDS**



Chris Curd is organising a Benefice fund-raising event for Ukraine to be held in early November (venue and time still to be decided). There will be stalls with items for sale, refreshments (coffee, tea, cake etc) and hopefully lots of people from the Benefice coming along to support the fund-raising for a country that still desperately needs more help. So please look out for more information soon from Benefice Newsletters and notices and posters in the churches, and put the date in your diary (and please come along on the day of course!)

THE DIVINE GARDENER

This is the time of year for many churches to hold their Harvest Festival services. No doubt, there will be displays of food, some grown in local gardens. While gardeners have pleasure growing fruit and vegetables, it can be hard work tending to them.

Jesus knew about the care given to vines. In John 15:1-8 Jesus compared Himself to a vine and referred to God as the gardener. In this parable, God is responsible for pruning the vine. He sees what parts are useful, and what parts useless. The unproductive parts are cut away, so that growth is encouraged. Jesus is telling us that God will prune our lives, not to harm us, but to encourage our spiritual growth. God's pruning cuts away wrong attitudes and wasteful behaviour, all of which serve no useful purpose in our lives. This pruning is required so that we become more fruitful. And the fruit God wants is love, joy, patience etc. (see Galatians 5:22-23) These holy qualities are intended to influence the world to change it from the bad to all that is good.

To encourage its growth, a vine has regularly to be cut back. The effect looks drastic, but it is still essential. When God cuts away the dead wood in our lives, He does it because He knows how our lives can grow. The pruning knives are in the hands of our Father God who only desires the best for us. This pruning process can be painful, but Jesus says that it is vital if the Holy Spirit is to flow through us to produce the fruit that God wants.

Also in this parable, Jesus said He was the Vine, and we are the branches. We have no existence apart from Jesus. We can do nothing for God on our own and must be joined to Jesus. In the same way a vine utilises the life-giving sap to flow into the branches, so we need the Holy Spirit to flow His life into us. It is only by us remaining in Jesus, that He can give us the inner resources for an effective fruit-producing life. Jesus said, 'Abide in Me' (John 15:4 King James Version). Abiding speaks of sustenance, being upheld and supported, enduring and withstanding. So, if we are to reap a harvest of holiness, may we be prepared for God's pruning, and continue to abide in Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

Lester Amman (from Parish Pump)



10 FUN FACTS

1. You can't see your ears without a mirror.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose with your tongue out.
4. You just tried Number 3.
6. When you did Number 3 you realised that it is possible, only you look like a dog.
7. You are smiling right now because you were fooled!
8. You skipped Number 5.
9. You just checked to see if there is a Number 5.
10. Share this with your friends so they can have some fun too!

(Something Dave found on Facebook I think...)



Eulogy for Canon Colin Evans, born 1924, died August 2023, aged 99

Chris Curd wrote a personal tribute to Colin in the last edition of Coastline, celebrating his life and all he did for those he ministered to over many years. Once retired, he eventually moved to Moulton with his wife Margaret, where he enjoyed his last years. Colin's daughter Hilary sent his funeral Eulogy to Chris and I have included it here as it has so much more about his education, his clergy posts and the many things that interested him throughout his life.

Colin chose the hymn "Through all the changing scenes of life" for today. It was one of the hymns which he and Margaret had at their wedding in 1951, and it seems especially fitting for our service here today in All Saints Church, which has been the scene of the joyful occasions when he married and baptised grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as well as the sombre occasion which brings us together here today.

Colin was born in Wimborne in 1924 and enjoyed a country childhood – a deep connection with the natural world and the seasons stayed with him all his life. He vividly remembered the summers of rush cutting with his father and his sister and loved to return to Dorset and see the river Stour.

He attended Wimborne Grammar School and went on to Reading University to study French. His university studies were interrupted by his war service, when he went to Canada with the RAF to train as a pilot. He returned to university to finish his degree, which included a year in postwar France which made a deep impression on him. It was at university that he met Margaret and they married in 1951.

He started a career in industry as a buyer, but left his job to train at Lincoln Theological College in 1955. He liked to recall his exit interview with his boss, who was reluctant to let him go and wondered if a salary increase would persuade him to stay; but then shook his head and said, well I suppose I can't outbid God – and he accepted Colin's resignation. Colin was ordained in 1957.

His first curacy was in Boutham in Lincoln, and his first parish, also in Lincoln, was a group of three – St Faith's, St Martin's and St Mary le Wigford. By this time the family of three children was complete, John, Judith and Hilary. They moved to Bassingham, this time a group of six rural parishes, in 1965, and then on to Holbeach. In both places Colin took a full part in the life of the church and the community, for example as member of the General Synod of the Church of England, Rural Dean, a trustee for local charities, and school governor.

He retired to Devon to take up a "house-for-duty" post at St George's Holcombe, near Dawlish, but you could hardly call it retirement as he also served as Rural Dean for the Kenn Deanery there and remained actively involved in the life of the church. After leaving Holcombe he remained active in the ministry in the parish of St Gregory's in Dawlish until he and Margaret moved to Moulton in 2020.

His mind was richly furnished with wide-ranging knowledge and he kept studying and learning until the very end of his life. When he moved up to Moulton and had to leave his extensive library behind, the books he wanted with him were the bible commentaries and the reference books, the dictionaries, the guides to trees, birds, mushrooms, insects, beetles. He was interested in the clouds and the weather, in the way things worked, in wood and woodworking, in poetry and language and the history of words.

(contd overleaf)

(contd from page 5) He said that he did not want a eulogy at his funeral, and typically referred to the root meaning of the word “eulogy”, meaning “pleasant words” – but he will have to forgive us quoting some words which Margaret treasured, a tribute published in the obituary notices from a bereaved family. “A special thank you to Canon Evans. As always he was there when we needed him, not just as a vicar but as a friend to try and see us through, as I am sure the whole community will understand and agree. He is as much a friend to all as he is a vicar.”

REPORT ON ORGAN RECITAL ON 2 JULY*

Nearly ninety people attended Professor Ian Tracey’s Spectacular Organ Recital on Sunday 2nd July in St Gregory’s Church. The Organ Recital was dedicated to the memory of George Elliott, former organist at St Gregory’s, and Phyllis Bishop, former organist at St George’s, Holcombe and until 2019 conductor of St Gregory’s Church Choir. It was also Andrew Fuller’s 70th Birthday and everyone sang Happy Birthday. Ian Tracey also played a special piece of music for him too.

£1,007 was raised and the proceeds were divided between CAP (Christians Against Poverty, Teign-bridge) and St Gregory’s Organ Fund—£572 to CAP and £435 to St Gregory’s Organ Fund. Professor Ian Tracey will be back in 2024 to give another Organ Recital on our lovely Willis Organ so do look for further details next year.

**(Apologies from Chris who meant to put this article in the September edition!)*



Grow:
Equipping God's
people to serve
with joy

LAY-LEARNING COURSES on-line on the Diocese website

The Diocese of Exeter Mission and Ministry Department has sent us a flyer listing upcoming on-line courses to enable people to ‘grow in their faith and service to God and the church.’ The poster will be appearing in the Benefice churches so do have a look at dates for courses coming up and how to book yourself a place if you are interested. There is a course coming up on the subject ‘Growing in Prayer’ which is on every Thursday evening in October—5th, 12th, 19th and 26th, 7.30 to 9.00pm. Places can be booked on-line at the Grow Lay Learning Courses area on the Diocese website, or you can email: mandm@exeter.anglican.org Check the Diocese website for other courses.

A PRAYER FOR BIBLE SUNDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2023

Blessed Lord, by whose providence all holy scriptures were written and preserved for our instruction, give us grace to study them this and every day with patience and love. Strengthen our souls with the fullness of their divine teaching. Keep from us all pride and irreverence. Guide us in the deep things of thy heavenly wisdom, and of thy great mercy lead us by thy Word unto everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Brooke Foss Westcott, 1825–1901



THE JARMAN QUILT

One of St. George's treasured possessions is the Jarman Quilt. The Patchwork Quilt found its way 'home' to Holcombe in 2015 after being hand sewn probably in the village by members of the Jarman Family around 1887. The date is embroidered in several places on the Quilt.

By chance a lady called Sue was on holiday in Dartmouth and on visiting an Auction House she saw a very detailed hand sewn patchwork quilt. Although, then in 2015, it was 125 years old, the Quilt retained its bright colours and was made from material scraps of the 1880s, or even earlier. Remnants of dresses, shirts, household fabrics, and bedding appear to have been meticulously sewn, with possibly even children helping out. I recall my grandmothers all had Rag Bags, where scraps of fabric from worn out garments were kept, buttons removed and placed in the Button Tin – every home had one!

When Sue arrived back home in Wiltshire, having purchased the Quilt which she had fallen in love with, she examined it closely. Embroidered on it were various Christian names and the surname Jarman together with the name Holcombe Village. After Googling (where would we be without Google!) Sue found herself on St. George's website, Holcombe. Then there was an even more wonderful discovery when she read there was to be a Commemoration Service for Thomas Jarman on the 100th Anniversary of his death in WW1. Yes, you've guessed it, Tom's name was on the Quilt. Three weeks later, Sue drove to Holcombe for the Service on 22 June, receiving a very warm St. George's welcome and meeting descendants of the Jarman family - Roy Gamblin, Tom's great grandson who had travelled from Wales, and a nephew James who had driven over from Brighton for the Service.



The Quilt is now stored safely at St. George's and on special occasions is placed out on display. Further records of Thomas Frederick Jarman, who was born in Holcombe 4 April 1868 and died in Dawlish on 22 June 2015, are recorded at St. George's. The family lived in Holcombe Village Cottage, and Thomas Jarman's home was at 6 Queen Street.



Contributed by Marilyn Chamberlain together with photographs



Falling Leaves

*Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;
Lengthen night and shorten day;
Every leaf speaks bliss to me
Fluttering from the autumn tree.*

From a poem by Emily Bronte (1818-48)

Does this strike a chord with you?

A vicar was talking to one of his parishioners. He said: "When you get to my age, you spend a lot more time thinking about the hereafter." The parishioner was impressed and asked him for more details. The vicar replied: "Well, I often find myself going into a room and thinking: Whatever did I come in here after?"
(Something I am ALWAYS doing...!)



A TIMELY REMINDER!

CLOCKS GO BACK on the **29th of October** so put this in your diary. Don't be late (or early) for church on the Sunday!

CONTACTS DURING THE VACANCY

There is currently no Rector or Licensed member of the clergy in our three churches. Services are being taken by the Ministry Team (Lay Ministers and retired priests). The service rota is being put together by the Revd Helen Bays.

Contact details during the Vacancy are as follows.

Church Office 01626 864322. usually open Tuesday and Thursday mornings. At other times messages can be left. st.gregs@btinternet.com.

Baptism and Marriage—enquiries should be made to the Church Office as above.

Funerals—contact Lay Minister Mrs Margaret Noel—01626 863148; oldstokeroad57@outlook.com

Other urgent or pastoral enquiries

Please contact one of the Lay Ministers:

Margaret Noel: 01626 863148 Will Halse: 01626 866054 Ceri Lee: 07739 936286

- St Mary's Cofton: If you would like to receive regular news from St Mary's, please contact the Churchwarden, Valerie Jeffery, 01626 890401, valerie@coftonholidays.co.uk
- **St Mary's Hall bookings:** Rachel Hammond; 07713 929148; bookstmaryshall1@gmail.com

Website: www.cofe-in-dawlish.org.uk

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