

Beer Parish News

August 2026

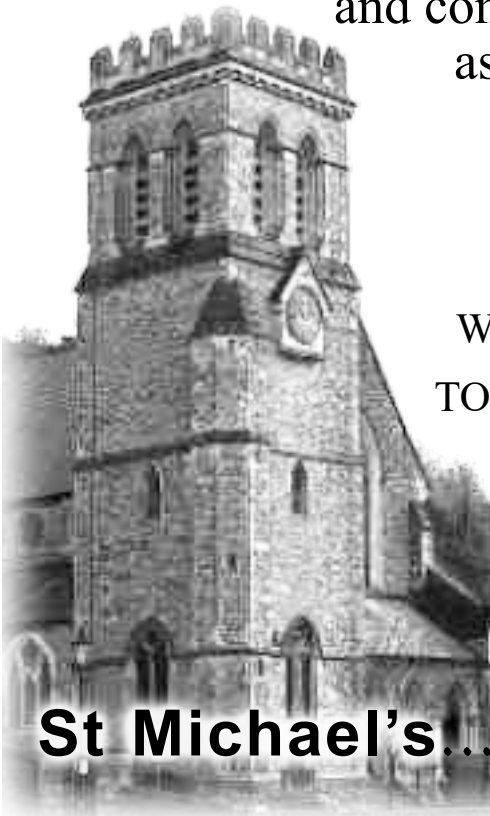
August is a busy month

100th Annual Flower Show

Regatta Week - seven days of fun
and competitions for all
as only Beer can do it

and much more

WHAT BETTER PLACE
TO SPEND THE SUMMER!



St Michael's... *...and* Village

CHURCH DIRECTORY

www.coastalchurch.org.uk

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Local Pioneer Minister Rev Shuna George Pritchard shuna.art@gmail.com

ST MICHAEL'S ...

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Mrs Y. Hawker 22191

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Organist: Dr G. Butler 21375

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Mrs Y. Hawker, Mrs P. Bewick,

Mrs E. Singleton,

Mrs S. Anderson



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Area code for all phone numbers above is 01297 unless shown otherwise

In an emergency, parishioners should contact the Churchwarden (see above for phone number).

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St MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Coastal Mission
Community

www.coastalchurch.org.uk



[St Michael's Church, Beer](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelChurchBeer)

Calendar for AUGUST 2026

Sun 2 nd	8:00am Holy Communion at BEER 9:30am Morning Praise	9 th Sunday after Trinity
Tues 4 th	5:00pm Choir Practice	
Wed 5 th	10:00am Reflective Prayer	
Thurs 6 th	10:00am ~ 12noon Kids' Club	
Sun 9 th	9:30am Holy Communion	10 th Sunday after Trinity
Wed 12 th	10:00am Holy Communion at BEER	
Sun 16 th	9:30am Morning Praise	11 th Sunday after Trinity
Mon 17 th	1:30pm Funeral Service for the late Peter Newton	
Tues 18 th	5:00pm Choir Practice	
Wed 19 th	5:30pm Evening Prayer at SEATON	
Thurs 19 th	10:00am ~ 12noon Kids' Club	
Sun 23 rd	8:00am Holy Communion at SEATON 9:30am Holy Communion	12 th Sunday after Trinity
Tues 25 th	5:00pm Choir Practice	
Wed 26 th	10:00am Holy Communion at SEATON	
Sun 30 th	11:00am United Communion Service at SEATON	13 th Sunday after Trinity
Tues 1 st Sept	10:00am Altar Guild Meeting 5:00pm Choir Practice	
Sun 5 th Sept	8:00am Holy Communion 9:30am Morning Praise	14 th Sunday after Trinity

Sunday services in Beer are usually on Facebook. If you can't come to church, you can watch and hear them there, either live or later at a time convenient to you!

From Justin Rev's Ramblings

There are three voices from my past that although spoken in very different places and for very different reasons, have stayed with me over the years. Each said the same sentence, yet with a different intention:

"Lift your head up."

The first came from a Royal Marine Drill Instructor. As you might imagine, it was not a gentle suggestion! It was barked not across a parade square but rather an inch from my face. 'Lift your head up recruit Montague' he bellowed. I wonder if you could imagine his breath reading this. So, my head shot up in an instance, my shoulders drew back, my chest up and I stood tall. Rightly, it was about my discipline, confidence and bearing.

The second came from my running coach. His words were just as familiar but spoken with encouragement rather than intensity. "Lift your head up Justin". Looking ahead helps your breathing, improves your posture, running economy and efficiency, and reminds you where you're going.

The third voice belonged to my mother. Whenever life had knocked me down or disappointment had crept in, my head dipped, my shoulders slumped and the weight of the world lay on her teenager's shoulders, she would quietly say, "Lift your head up Justin." Her words weren't about posture at all. They were about confidence, hope, character, belief and her love. It was her saying that better was ahead and a reassuring hand she was cheering me on.

Recently I've found myself thinking that perhaps God says something similar. Not like He in any way reassembles a Drill Instructor or even to do with our athletic performance, but simply because so much of modern life encourages us to look down. Down at our phones. Down at the endless news cycles. Down at other people. Down with the weight of expectation, worry, our finances, our disappointments and the next item on our to-do list.

Looking at the gospels Jesus regularly invited people to "look" or "consider" in a different direction. During His sermon on the mount, specifically talking about worry, in Matthew 6:25-34, Jesus says:



"...look at the birds of the air." and "...consider the lilies of the field."

He knew that what we fix our attention on shapes our hearts. The birds and the wildflowers weren't free from hardship, but they pointed beyond themselves to a heavenly Father who knows, provides and cares.

Another great example comes from Peter, as described in Matthew 14:22-33. At Jesus' invitation Peter stepped out of a boat and incredibly began walking on water. As long as his eyes were fixed on Jesus, he kept going. But when he noticed the wind and the waves around him, fear took hold and he began to sink. The storm hadn't changed, neither had Jesus moved. The only thing that changed was where Peter was looking.

You and I will all face storms of one kind or another today and tomorrow. Illness, grief, uncertainty, family concerns, financial pressures or anxiety about the future. We see further metaphorical storms around us today in world conflicts, cost of living challenges, violence and division. Jesus never pretended such 'storms' of life do not exist. Instead, He invites us to keep our eyes fixed on Him in the midst of them. The writer to the Hebrews captures it beautifully:

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith." (Hebrews 12:1-2).

As a runner, I know that where you look often determines where you go and how you flow. Lift your gaze, look ahead and your body naturally follows. The same is true spiritually. So this summer, whether you're walking along the seafront, the coastal path, sitting in your garden, admiring the flowers or gazing up at the hills or the star-filled sky, perhaps hear those simple words again:

"Lift your head up."

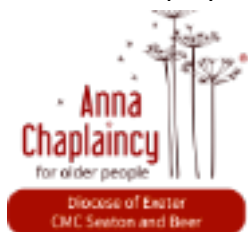
And as you do, may you discover the One who has been looking at you all along, the One who created all those things and invites each of us to fix our eyes on Him and in doing so, find hope, peace and joy and the courage to keep on going.

Have a super summer.

In Christ.

Revd Justin

Hello, we hope you are having a lovely summer. As I write this in early July the sun is still shining, there is a wonderful breeze, and the hose pipe ban has not reached us yet. A little bonus for my very dry flowerpots!



Kathryn our new Anna Chaplain for Seaton and Beer was Commissioned and Licensed in July, and will become part of the Anna Chaplaincy team from September. We are sure you are looking forward to meeting her. Kathryn will be a wonderful asset to our voluntary team, as she brings her gifts and training to our local care homes and the wider community.

ANNA CHAPLAINCY AUGUST and early SEPTEMBER worship and events – If you have a loved one or friend you visit in one of the Seaton care homes, please consider joining us for our monthly worship. You would be most welcome. Kindly check with the care home prior to your visit in case anything changes at the last minute.

Monday 3 August - THORNFIELD 11.00 a.m

Wednesday 5 August – CHECK HOUSE 11.00 a.m.

Wednesday 12 August- LYME BAY VIEW 10.45 a.m

Monday 17 August – NETHERHAYES 10.45 a.m.

Monday 24 August – THE MANOR 11.00 a.m.

Tuesday 25 August– THE SEATON 11.00 a.m.

MEMORY CHURCH Seaton and ANNA'S PLACE Beer will be taking a break during August. This little break helps everyone supporting Anna Chaplaincy to have a rest, recharge the batteries and enjoy the summer. Please join us again for MEMORY CHURCH Seaton on Tuesday 8 SEPTEMBER and Anna's Place Wednesday 16 SEPTEMBER. We welcome you.

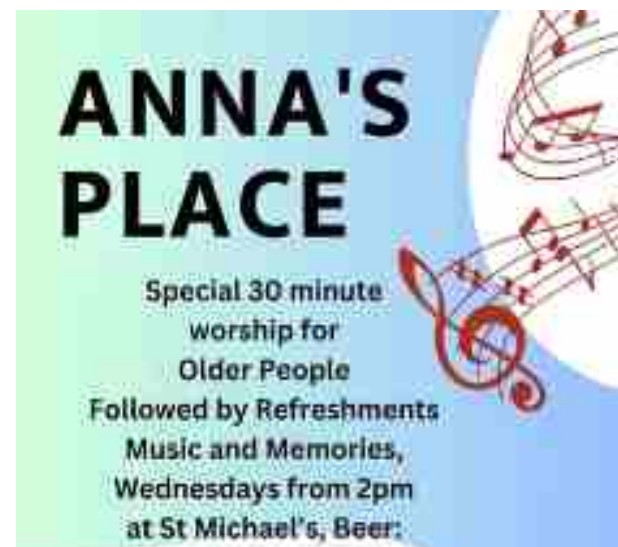
SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 2 SEPTEMBER - CHECK HOUSE 11.00 a.m.

Monday 7 SEPTEMBER - THORNFIELD 11.00 a.m.

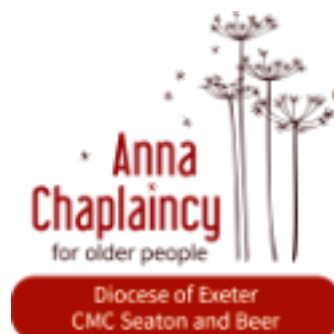
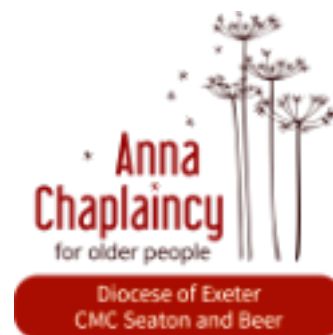
Anna Chaplain Mary - 07805655335 Anna Chaplain Sue – 07802649155

The church office - CONTACT 01297 23656



**We are taking a break during August
Back again SEPT 16**

All are welcome!
Dementia Supportive
Come, receive
God's Grace



Fine Foundation Centre

Beer Village Heritage

Reg. Charity No: 1087162

The glow worms are back! So far we've identified 3 sites, each one having been lit up for 3 or 4 nights. They have varied from being in the flower bed to a clump of grass near a

path. Another was in a trough full of plants. We have been very lazy too, just observing from the house rather than going on expedition around the garden, when we could well have found more. The slightly earlier onset of dusk means that we haven't had to stay up so late in order to see them! The UK Glowworm

Survey is still operational so you can report any sightings on-line. There is still time for you to take part in the Big Butterfly Count which closes on 9th August. All you need to do is spend 15 minutes watching butterflies and recording what you have seen on the Butterfly Conservation's website. It is something which you can do as a family or individually, so do have a go.

The on-going lack of rain is affecting insects as well as plants. If you can, please keep a shallow dish of water outside. You will find that the smaller birds will prefer it to your deeper bird bath, and that it will be visited by bees, butterflies and other flying critters, all needing to stay hydrated. If you have a pond, it can be useful to create a small area of "level access" so that animals like hedgehogs can drink without being in danger of falling into the water. I well remember the albino hedgehog which drowned in my mother's "pond", which was made from a butler's sink, when the water level was lowish and the hedgehog could not escape.

Many years ago we installed some swift boxes near the Fine Foundation Centre, and it's lovely to see these busy birds flying around the area. They are one of the species which travels many miles when they migrate, spending each winter in Africa and the only time when they stop flying is to nest. They catch insects in the air, storing at least 300 at a time in a small pouch in the back of their neck. The insects are bound together by saliva to create a pellet, or bolus, which can be regurgitated from the pouch to feed the chicks.



This is another reminder that creating wildflower areas at home helps support birds as well as bats to find a food source.

We haven't set any specific dates for Rock Pooling during the summer holidays, so watch for the banner at the heritage centre. In terms of when to look out, the rock pools are most exposed at low Spring tides. Having said that, there was very little to be seen in them on a recent visit, and we have not had any exciting additions to the fish tanks.

We are looking forward to Regatta Week, which runs from August 8th to 14th. The children usually produce a papier mache model at Sunday Funday so we are interested to see what they will make this year. Beer Village Heritage will host Fossil Fun on Friday 14th from 1330. Come along and have fun!

I make no apology for reminding you that our current Trustees, who were appointed when the charity was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, are nearing the end of their term of office and will retire, which means that new Trustees are needed. If you feel that you have skills which could be useful to the group, please talk to the Chairman, David Morling, on 01297 625045. Don't be shy!

Last month I asked that future subscriptions and donations are made by cash or bank transfer. If you wish to do the latter, please ask David Morling for our bank details. The reason for this? We bank with Lloyds Bank who will no longer accept cheques at Post Offices (which included Banking Hubs). I have heard rumblings that Lloyds may be reconsidering this decision – so watch this space! Subscriptions for 2026/7 are £5 per person.

Thanks to our sterling volunteers, the Fine Foundation Centre is open every day and continues to welcome a steady stream of visitors.

Beer Village Heritage is a registered charity, and we rely on annual subscriptions and donations in order to run the Fine Foundation Centre and the Bomb Shelter. You'll find the Beer Village Heritage walks and I-Spy online via our website: <http://www.beervillageheritage.org.uk>. We apologise that some of the links on the site are still not working. It would be lovely if you could help to sort out the problem.



Joining Generations Update July 2026

As I write this in July, there is much going on behind the scenes, working towards employing our part time project worker from September.

Over the course of this year to date, we have tried various all-age activities: a table tennis afternoon in the February half term and intergenerational craft sessions on Good Friday morning and for Pentecost in the May half term.

We have continued to host Music Maker sessions for young children and their carers at both churches, and the Beer Church team continue to deliver dramatized Bible Stories in school assemblies through 'Open the Book'. A small team attended training for an initiative called Bubble Church this year, aimed at providing a family friendly Sunday church service for little ones in the future. We are very grateful to Monica and Geoff for all their hard work in creating a beautiful children's area in the tower vestry at St Gregory's, which was very well used at a recent baptism

We continue to support Messy Church as a joint churches' initiative in Seaton and Beer.

We have succeeded in securing £4,300 funding for the new role from three Charitable Trusts and are truly grateful for your generous donations bringing the current total to over £13,500. If you would like to support the project financially, please do get in touch with Shuna or with Helen Moulding, CMC Treasurer, thank you.

I am so grateful to everyone who has given their time so far to these activities – whether praying, helping, tea making, cake baking etc. There is always room for more hands on deck!

Looking back, I am so grateful to all those people who encouraged me on my own faith journey as a child ...and now I am older and greyer, I am excited to pass on the baton!

*Since my youth, God, you have taught me,
and to this day I declare your marvellous deeds.*

*Even when I am old and grey,
do not forsake me, my God,
till I declare your power to the next generation,
your mighty acts to all who are to come.*



In early July Beer WI met for our summer party at the Football Club which managed to be a bit cooler than outside as the heat was intense. Members brought a sharing plate of food, cake or cream tea and enjoyed an afternoon along with guests from other local Wis while Prosecco and other soft drinks flowed!

After tea, we decanted ourselves to a marquee to listen to a medley of 60's, 70's and 80's music played on acoustic and electric guitars by Bob Thomson from Torquay. He was very entertaining, providing some very good jokes in between numbers. Some of us enjoyed it enough to get up and dance which was fun.

Thanks to Chris and Avril for their organisation. Thanks also to Beer Albion Football club and to John.

We don't have a meeting in August but we are running a tombola from 9am to 1pm at the Mariners Hall on August 1st.

We shall miss Barbara Greaves who was a regular member of Beer WI and loved by all. She was a long time member who, over the years, held most of the officer posts as well as being a committee member. She had, up until recently, still managed to host the Canasta sessions which she enjoyed. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Our next meeting is on September 2nd 7.15 for 7.30pm in the Congregational Hall, Beer.

For more information please contact Chris Paul on 01297 792129

Beer Film Society

BEER Film Society's August film is our contribution to Beer Regatta and we are delighted to be showing the family-friendly film *'Kangaroo'* (2024, PG, 1hr 47mins) at the Mariner's Hall on **Saturday August 8th**.

This is a heart-warming comedy, set in the spectacular setting of the Australian Outback, made by the same studio that delivered the hugely successful Paddington franchise.

The movie focuses upon ex-TV personality, Chris Masterman, who becomes stranded in an Outback town outside Alice Springs. There, he teams up with 12-year-old Indigenous girl Charlie.

The pair form an unlikely friendship and work together to rescue and rehabilitate orphaned joeys in the remote but stunning Outback community - an endeavour that proves to be life-changing for them both.

This is ultimately a feel-good film, described by one national newspaper critic as *'a refreshingly human alternative to machine-tooled studio offerings.'*

We think it should certainly make you smile and set you up for all the fun that Beer Regatta week has to offer.

And because it is Regatta week not only will **ALL** tickets be priced at **£5** but also **ALL** children aged 11 and will be admitted **FREE** as long as they come with an adult.

Our delicious Baboo ice creams from Dorset will be on sale and the bar will be open for refreshments.

Finally, don't forget that our Regatta film will be starting at 6pm and doors will be open from 5.15pm - and in contrast to our normal monthly shows, a reminder this film is on Saturday.

Beer Film Society

FROM THE STUDIO THAT BROUGHT YOU PADDINGTON

STARRING: CHRIS MASTERMAN, CHARLIE, AND A CAST OF KANGAROOS

Card payment preferred

Bring your own cushions!

UNLIKELY FRIENDS. EPIC ADVENTURE.

KANGAROO

INSPIRED BY AN INCREDIBLE TRUE STORY.

Saturday August 8th

Mariners' Hall PG

Doors open 5.15 Film starts 6pm

Entry £5 for all & under 11s FREE!

children must be accompanied by an adult



Our Beer Lifeboat Weekend 2026 was great and the weather was lovely for both days.

On Saturday 4th July we had a our Street Collection throughout the day and a big thank you goes to Jeremy, Maggie, Rosemary and Teresa who collected during the morning plus I collected with RNLI Ted during the afternoon. The total was a brilliant cash £256.39 plus £181 in card payments. Thank you to the Anchor Inn and Dolphin Hotel for allowing us to collect in their Beer Gardens during the weekend. Our Coffee Morning at the Mariners Hall was very good and was from 10am to 12.30pm. Tea, coffee, hot chocolate, Colyford Butchers Bacon Baps and cakes were served plus we had a raffle and Card Tombola, sold RNLI gifts and souvenirs and we had our RNLI information table and display showing photographs and information celebrating twenty years of our Duck Race Day. Thank you to everyone who came to our morning.



On Sunday 5th July our Duck Race Day started 11am and Guess the Winning Duck Numbers were sold from the top of Sea Hill. Colin and Karl from Lyme Regis Water Safety, John and team from Exmouth NCI plus Beer Coastguards had their vehicle and information on display at Jubilee Gardens. During our morning the

Coastguards were called away to assist a person at Sidmouth. We had our Duck Tombola, Stormy Stan came to meet everyone and we had the Inflatable D Class lifeboat on display. At 2pm the crews and Lyme Regis Spirit of Loch Fyne lifeboat and Exmouth R and J Welburn lifeboat did their brilliant display. The R and J Welburn was moored off shore and most of the crews from both lifeboats came ashore to see the duck races and meet everyone. Harry Griffin was Coxwain of the R and J Welburn and was joined by crew members James Searle, Ed Steele and Jake Butt and Tim Thorn. Murray Saunders was Helm of the Lyme Regis lifeboat and was joined by John Cable, Cris Cadby and Rob Emery. Dizzy Duck and our volunteer Ann Roberts went down the beach to greet them.

The Duck Races started by the Cream Shop. Twelve heats of twenty yellow plastic ducks raced down Beer Brook and the first and second ducks went in the Grand Final. The winning duck was number 210 and won the person from Taunton who chose it's number a lovely limited edition photograph of a Beer fishing boat on the beach. The prize was donated by Marine House at Beer. Our race starters were Mike Spry and Pat Beard, duck catchers my son Alastair assisted by chairman Kate and results recorder James Cook.



We thank Grant Miller for doing the commentary and our RNLI Community Manager Andrew Escott for attending and providing additional information about the lifaboats.

There were eighteen lovely entries in to our Colour in a Duck Poster from the children of Puffin Playgroup. Beatrice won first prize and Reggie's

entry was highly commended. There were sixty eight lovely entries from the pupils of Beer Primary School. Daisy from class three was the winner and there were fifteen highly commended entries. The entries were judged prior to our weekend by Lyme Regis Crew Member and artist Maria Barbashina. Kate our RNLI chairman displayed the Duck Art at St. Michael's Church and the art was displayed, prior, during and after the weekend. We thank St. Michael's Church for hosting our display and the entries were admired by everyone who saw them.



...continued

We thank the following business who contributed to our weekend and are greatly appreciated: Anchor Inn, Barrel of Beer, Beer Fish and Chip Shop, Beer Head Caravan Park Bistro, Beer Village Stores, Chapple's Tea Hut, Chocolate and More, Cream Shop, Dolphin Hotel, Ducky's Beach Cafe, Ginas, High Tide Beach Cafe, Jimmy Green Shop and the Meadows, Lyme Bay Winery, Marine House at Beer, Osbornes Bean and Cork, Peco Shop, Rock Villa Off Licence, Smugglers Kitchen, Steamers Restaurant, Seaton Tramway, Tesco Seaton Superstore, Umma Gumma, Woozies Deli. The fundraising from our events during our Beer Lifeboat Weekend contributed £1,500 (including the Street Collection) to the work of the RNLI and a big thank you goes to all our RNLI volunteers and everyone who helped before, during and after the two days and everyone who came to our events.

Additional volunteers are still needed and welcome on a rota or relief basis. Please contact our Shop Manager Richard Hare on 07752393640 or call in to the shop when he is there most Friday mornings. Help is still needed with fundraising collections, at our events we attend in our area. Please come and say hello when you see us or send an email me at wac500@hotmail.co.uk. As the year progresses we will have been or going to Natural Seaton, Whitford Summer Show, Munchkins Miniature Shetland Summer Fete, Dalwood Country Fair and Seaton Carnival Street Fairs and events.

Best wishes to everyone as we proceed through a busy 2026.

Wendy Cummins

Secretary Fundraising/Events
Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI

Foodsave Beer

It will be three years in November since Foodsave Beer began. Our loyal team of volunteers has remained mostly unchanged since then. We felt it time to remind people of how we operate and how you can support our aims.

Foodsave is a local branch of an organisation under the umbrella of Fairsave. It is run by volunteers on a not for profit basis.

The remit is to save as much food as possible which would otherwise be wasted by the supermarkets. This amounts to tons of perfectly usable food being thrown away every year into landfill.

Our weekly Tuesday morning service, beginning at 11:30am at The Mariners' Hall, is where the food is freely given away and is open to anyone who would like to collect a share of the produce.

Any donations are used to purchase non-perishable goods, pay for hall hire and to pay for fuel for the volunteers who visit several supermarkets in the area and as far away as Exeter.

It is well supported by local people many of whom appreciate supporting the aim of reducing food waste and appreciate the top up to their weekly food shop.

If you haven't yet visited our service we'd love to see you to help reduce the waste further.

We are currently looking for additional drivers to collect the food (mainly on Sunday and Monday). If you think you can help even if just occasionally, to cover holidays or sickness, please drop in on a Tuesday and chat to Chris Martin our driver co-ordinator.



CAB Update August 2026

The plant stall supporting the Chapel project has now been outside St Michael's Church for a couple of months and, thanks to the generosity of both those who have donated plants and those who have purchased them, has already raised more than £300. Thank you to everyone who has supported this simple but effective fundraiser. If you have not yet had the opportunity to visit, do pop along and have a look. A repurposed kettle provides a secure place for donations should you wish to leave a gift.

On 21 June, on a gloriously sunny afternoon, CAB was delighted to open the Chapel once again for a special summer event. Local favourites Jurassic cRocks provided a wonderful soundtrack of classic songs while visitors enjoyed cream teas, Pimm's and excellent company, all served by a fantastic team of volunteers.

It was especially encouraging to welcome people back into the Chapel. Fourteen months had passed since our village open meeting and much has changed during that time. With the roof made fully watertight last autumn, the persistent damp has disappeared. Members of the working group have also given the building a thorough brush up, with every pew carefully cleaned and half treated with Danish oil ahead of the summer event, all helping to reveal something of the Chapel's former beauty.

Visitors were able to browse displays highlighting the progress made over the past year alongside historical photographs and images of different features within the building. We were also delighted to welcome Alan Abbott who spent the afternoon in the priest's chair sharing his remarkable collection of historical records and memories of Beer and the Chapel. It was fascinating to hear these stories and to see how much affection there remains for this historic building.

One question arose repeatedly during the afternoon: whose faces are carved into the stonework around the Chapel? At St Michael's Church the carved faces on the pillars are understood to reflect members of the Rolle family and it may be that the carved faces at the chapel are similar. It is a mystery that has yet to be solved and one we hope to investigate further.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who helped make the day such a success: to Jurassic cRocks for the wonderful entertainment; to Tesco, Caroline Fowle and everyone who donated refreshments; to Alan Abbott for sharing his historical knowledge and resources; to our hardworking volunteers; and to everyone who came along to support the event. Above all, thank you to all who gave so generously. The afternoon raised a fantastic £756 towards the Chapel project.

We continue to await news from the Charity Commission regarding our application to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). There remains a significant national backlog of applications, so we expect the process to take some time.

Progress is also being made behind the scenes. Our quotation from National Grid to provide an electricity supply to the Chapel has been accepted, and work is underway. As is often the case with projects like this, there have been a few unexpected challenges. We were informed that one of the existing electricity poles required replacement before the connection could proceed, potentially involving another road closure. Initial indications suggested this cost might fall to CAB, but following discussions it was rightly recognised as a maintenance issue, and this has now been resolved.

CAB is also exploring the purchase of a portable toilet as an economical short-term solution. This would enable greater use of the Chapel while plans and permissions for a permanent facility continue to be developed.

Many people have commented on how well the churchyard is looking, and we would like to thank East Devon District Council (EDDC) for its continued maintenance and care. There is still work to be undertaken, particularly regarding the bank and some of the trees, and we remain in discussion with the EDDC about these matters.

Looking ahead, we are already planning a special Carols by Candlelight service in the Chapel during Advent. We hope it will be a wonderful opportunity for the village to gather together once again in this much-loved building. Further details, along with news of other events, will follow in the coming months.

Finally, thank you to everyone in Beer, and to those from further afield, who continue to encourage, support and contribute to this project. Every donation, every hour volunteered and every expression of interest helps us move one step closer to seeing this historic Chapel once again become a thriving place at the heart of our community.

The CAB Working Group



Thank you to everyone who helped in any way and came to the Midsummer Concert and cream teas. With your amazing support we raised £756.00 which will go towards the restoration of the Chapel.

THANK YOU



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BEER

The Beer branch held a very successful 'Get Together' for all our members and guests on Sunday 14 June, where we were delighted to see so many people and to present our annual Community Award.

This year it was just so easy to unanimously agree that Sybil and Peter Anderson receive the award, which is always given to those members of the community who give their precious time freely to support the village, whether it be with the Poppy Appeal, RBL or ensuring our village is safe. Sybil and Peter have worked tirelessly for the Poppy Appeal for so many years, standing for hours outside the Congregational Hall during the two weeks of the Appeal, come rain or shine, good health or otherwise! They raised the staggering total of £900 in 2025, just on their own. The final total for the Beer was £3,100. Their dedication and concern for the Appeal is second to none and we are so grateful to them both and to all our volunteers who support the Poppy Appeal or our little branch in whatever event we organise.



Sue Ball manning the Raffle Table

The community of Beer is so generous to the Appeal and we extend our grateful thanks to everyone who donates. This year we have a new Poppy Appeal Organiser, Jo Fox – thank you Jo for volunteering. As many of you will be aware, Jo is tireless in her fund-

raising efforts for whatever charity she supports, she runs the 'Visit Beer' facebook site and is now busy knitting poppies with her band of supporters, ready for the 2026 Appeal in October.

Our Jubilee Remembrance Garden continues to attract many visitors, who stop, admire the view and reflect.

Our branch is small, but active and if you feel you would like to join us, please contact me. We would be delighted to recruit new members.

Carole Arnold. RBL Beer Branch Secretary 07710809765

Sybil receiving the Cup from the Chairman –



Rev Justin Montague



BEER REGATTA WEEK 2026

EXHIBITION IN THE

BOMB SHELTER

Ordinary People doing Extra- Ordinary things

Opening hours as per Jimmy Green's shop.



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Beer Regatta 2026: Sat 8th – Fri 14th August

Regatta Day 2026: Thursday 13th August

Buy your programme!

BEER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - SERVICES & NOTICES



August 2nd - 10am Morning Service with Holy Communion

August 9th - 10am Morning Service

August 16th - 10am Morning Service

August 23rd - 10am Morning Service

August 30th - 10am Morning Service

September 6th - 10am Morning Service with Holy Communion

No Coffee Mornings in August

BEER PARISH COUNCIL REPORT, AUGUST 2026

The Council meeting for the month of July was busy and productive with two members of the public attending.

District Councillor's Report

John Heath received email from DCC Neighbourhood Highways Engineer on 3 July confirming that the deteriorated road surface at Court Barton Hill will be surfaced repaired (larger scale patching) by the Rapid Response Team.

John will attend meetings at Branscombe over the intended closure of the Primary School. Despite only 7 pupils attending, the school has always been a vibrant part of the village, with teaching standards excellent.

The Chapel of Rest working party held a very successful afternoon recently at the Chapel with cream teas raising £750. Substantial donations were received to help with their fund raising on this exciting project.

Richard Foord MP is 'fighting' the cause for the preservation of community hospitals, which will include Seaton. He held a surgery on 21st July for all your questions and concerns.

Repair and renovation of the Peazen Flats is progressing well and is on target to be completed by 21 September. This necessary work has been a real bonus to the tenants and will significantly improve their lives.

The District Council will continue until 2028 and along with the County Council will be superseded by unitary authorities. This means no elections during this year.

Beer Eats

Discussion took place regarding 'Beer Eats' and whether this should continue. Overwhelming support from BPC.

"The last Beer Eats evening on 3 July was sunny and a happy occasion with all venues in Beer busy, either with live music, community singing and food. Tourists and locals alike appeared to enjoy the evening".

Ashill Play Park Bottom gate – fixings have now been ordered and will be fitted in 3-4 weeks. Many thanks to Cllrs Whitelock and Stevens.

Pothole/Sink Hole outside Mariner's Hall – this has been addressed many times to Highways, DCC and EDDC. Work is being undertaken by SW Water in Common Lane and main carpark, but not Fore Street as yet. BPC and John Heath will continue to ensure this area is priority.

Update on BERT

Chris Khan of the Environmental Agency attended and stressed the importance of having a Community Emergency Plan.

Jurassic Coast Ambassador

Cllr K Stevens kindly agreed to take on this post on a temporary basis.

New Website

The new BPC website is now up and running.

Events

RNLI held their usual successful duck race with good attendance. Weather was great and the ducks 'swam' happily down the brook. This event is such a vital part of our village, with many tourists coming down specially – it is a simple race with plastic ducks that cannot help to bring a smile to everyone's face, whether you be an adult or child. The display from the RNLI makes us realise just how brave and important they are on our coastlines, especially during the summer months. It was also good to see Beer Coastguards stand explaining the work they undertake to save lives. All volunteers.

Beer Regatta

The flags will be erected, and the Regatta will take place on 8 – 14 August irrespective of the weather!! I remember the floods of 2004 when Woozie's had to be bailed out, the fishing boats sank into a 30ft trench and the villagers appeared early morning to help and bail out, ensuring the Regatta on the following day would take place. Village community at its best.

Next BPC Meeting

If you would like to have your say on any particular concern, please attend the meetings, or better still join as a Councillor. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 9th September at 7pm.

Cllr Arnold



CLINTON DEVON ESTATES

It has been a hot start to the summer, and our forestry and farming teams work hard to produce food and timber, whatever the weather. From fields of hay ready for baling to timber operations progressing in the woods, here is a snapshot of how our land-based teams are rising to the challenges and making the most of the long summer days.

Forestry

Last winter presented a challenging planting season, with prolonged wet weather followed by a rapid transition to warm spring and summer conditions. Tree losses from this year's planting have so far been moderate, and we continue to monitor how they establish over the coming months.

There is no timber harvesting planned on the Beer Estate this year, but our Forestry team are continuing to manage the large restock sites at Bovey Warren and Couchill to ensure successful establishment.

Clinton Farms

As we move further into summer, we reach a seasonal peak in the farming calendar. At the time of writing, hay has been mown and is wilting in the fields ahead of baling, cattle are grazing in the Otter River valley meadows, and preparations for Harvest 2026 are well underway.

The first crop to be harvested is oilseed rape in late July, sold for processing into rapeseed oil and playing an important role as a break crop within our cereal rotation. This is followed in August by wheat, oats and spring barley, which are either sold or used on the farm as animal feed.

Straw from the harvest is baled and stored for use during the winter months, providing both feed and bedding for cattle.

At this time of year, operations are largely governed by the weather. When conditions allow, opportunities must be taken - often requiring long hours into the evening. It is both an exciting and demanding period, as we begin to reap the rewards of the year's work and lay the foundations for the winter months ahead.

And finally...the Estate bids farewell to students Lilly-Ann Osmond, who returns to Harper Adams University after a successful rural surveying placement; Stevie Mears, who heads back to Southampton to complete his Business Management and Finance degree; and Ned Mills, who has completed his Ranger apprenticeship with the *Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust* and will begin rural surveying studies at the Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, next month. We wish them all every success.

Kate Ponting, Community Engagement and Countryside Learning, Rolle Estate
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HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S
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*Schedule: £1
Entries 20p per exhibit, Children's classes free.
Closing date for entries: Tuesday 4th August, 5pm

*Schedules available from local shops

ALTAR GUILD NEWS

Last meeting held July 7th 2026

Feedback from the fundraising weekend July 18th -20th, from the Saturday coffee morning, Sunday Cream Tea with the fantastic “Hubcaps” band providing wonderful music followed by Songs Praise Service and ended with the fun quiz evening on the Monday.

Feedback on the weekend was very positive and enjoyed by all those who joined in the fun with a good mix of local and visitor support.

Chairman wished to thank everyone who was involved for their hard work and support in making the weekend so successful.

A special thanks to everyone for their window, flower and decoration displays the church looked beautiful and received many appreciative comments.

St Michael's will have further events coming up, so please look out for posters and media posts for dates and events.

Please come and join us, everyone is very welcome

The altar guild team will take a break from meetings in August and the next meeting will be

Tuesday 1st September 2026 @ 10am.

- How do you cope with atrocity? Much of the news shocks us to the core of our being. How can people behave like this? How do people suffer it?
- What can we who observe or read about these things do about it? What is within our power on these matters where others are suffering, and what is outside our power?
- What can I **not** do? I cannot stop wars, and I cannot keep the streets and public places clear of psychotic individuals. I cannot change the world.
- What then **can** do? I can observe my own thoughts about what shocks me. I have to accept and internalise it as fact because it happens. Then what? I may send money or write to an MP. These things, however, do not touch the root of the matter. There is evil in the world: what is my response?
- Every human being on earth is conscious. Every person is an instance of universal consciousness. Humans are a form of life on this planet where every individual partakes of the same experience: consciousness. Shall we call it a Divine gift? Every person in the core of his or her being is a spark of the Divine.
- BUT! In many humans that Divine Spark is covered-up because of a damaged childhood, by drug use, or by complete identification with political or religious thought-structures, or by a heavy overlay of the past. Many humans live unconsciously, deeply entangled in thinking and mind-matters.
- Thoughts are common currency. They sweep into my mind and into others' minds. They are shared and commonly held, they bind people, they give shared purpose and shared identity. But thinking is never beyond my ability to control it. I can choose to hold and investigate some thoughts; I can choose to opt out of other lines of thinking.
- Being watchful, controlling my thought, is not common practice in most human beings. But then being an enlightened, aware, sensitive, intelligent, compassionate, selfless human being isn't all that common, either. It's an aspiration, though, isn't it?
- Precisely **how** I respond to events in the world or in my life is key to my peace.

YOUR LOCAL CONTACTS

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Devon County Councillor

Paul Arnott paul.arnott@devon.gov.uk

Member of Parliament Richard Foord

Email: Richard.Foord.MP@parliament.uk

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