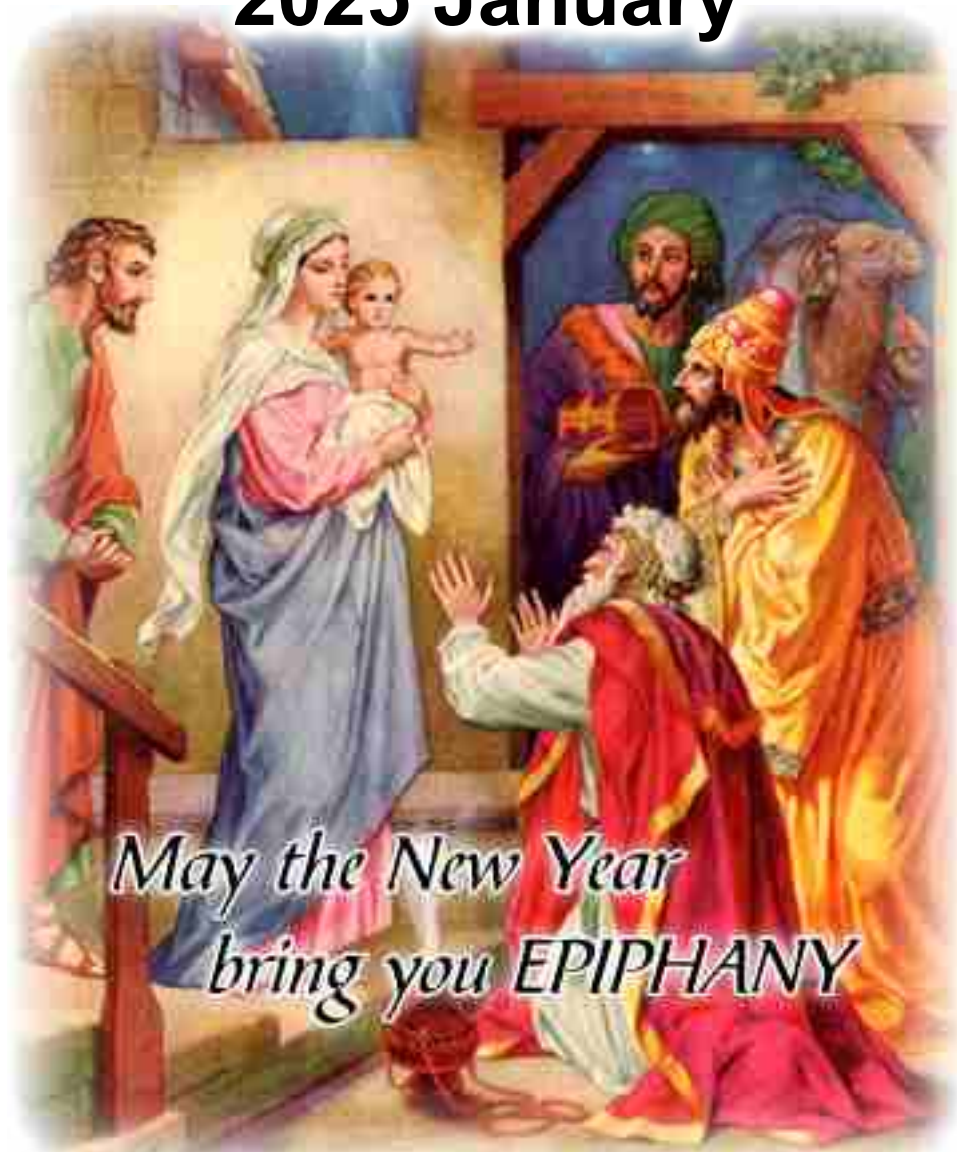


Beer Parish News

2025 January



*May the New Year
bring you EPIPHANY*

St Michael's... ..and Village

CHURCH DIRECTORY

www.coastalchurch.org.uk

PRIEST IN CHARGE Rev Justin Montague coastalvicar@hotmail.com
Parish Administrator Helen Knight seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk 23656
Parish Finance Officer Helen Moulding cmctreasurer@hotmail.com
Local Pioneer Minister Rev Shuna George Pritchard shuna.art@gmail.com

ST MICHAEL'S ...

Churchwarden: Penny Grant pennygrant@hotmail.co.uk 24008
Secretary: Mrs Jean Smith 07412 010245
Sacristan & Head Server: Mrs L. Bees 21723
Altar Guild: Mrs P. Bewick 21954
 Mrs Y. Hawker 22191
Choir: Dr G. Butler (Practice Tuesday 6-7pm) 21375
Organist: Dr G. Butler, Mullions, New Road, Beer 21375
Children's Society: vacant
Families Worker: Linda Joy lindajoychildrensworker@gmail.com
Children's Team: Mrs Jean Smith 07412 010245
 Mrs J. Ross
Worship Team: Mrs G. Chapple, Ms M. Hirons, Mrs L. Bees
Pastoral Team: Mrs G. Chapple (sec) 07794 838219
 Mrs Y. Hawker, Mrs P. Bewick,
 Mrs E. Singleton,
 Mrs S. Anderson



ANNA CHAPLAINS: Mary Casey email caseymary119@gmail.com
 Phone: 23656 or 07805 655335
 & Sue Craker Mobile 07802 649155 email: susanawhelan@icloud.com
Safeguarding Officer: Mrs G. Chapple 07794 838219

Beer Parish News Dr Henry Jaggers, Green Bank, 9 Clinton Rise, 20858
Editor: Beer. Email: henryjaggers@btinternet.com

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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www.coastalchurch.org.uk

St MICHAEL'S CHURCH



Coastal Mission
Community



[St Michaels Church Beer](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsChurchBeer)

www.coastalchurch.org.uk

Calendar for JANUARY 2025

Sun 29th Dec 11:00am UNITED Communion service at SEATON
1st Sunday of Christmas

Sun 5th Jan 8:00am Holy Communion
 9:30am Morning Praise
Epiphany

Tues 7th 6:00pm Choir Practice

Wed 8th 8:30am Open the Book at School
 10:00am Holy Communion

Fri 10th 10:00am Mickey's Music Makers

Sun 12th 9:30am Holy Communion
Baptism of Christ

Tues 14th 2:00pm Play Reading group
 6:00pm Choir Practice

Wed 15th 2:00pm "Anna's Place"
A relaxed communion service for over sixties with refreshments
 7:00pm Service of Compline at SEATON

Fri 17th 10:00am Mickey's Music Makers

Sun 19th 9:30am Morning Praise
2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Tues 21st 6:00pm Choir Practice

Wed 22nd 8:30am Open the Book at School
 10:00am Communion Service at SEATON
 12:30pm Worship Team Meeting
 1:00pm PCC Meeting

Fri 24th 10:00am Mickey's Music Makers

Sun 26th 8:00am Holy Communion at SEATON
 9:30am Family Communion
3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Tues 28th 6:00pm Choir Practice

Fri 31st 10:00am Mickey's Music Makers
 ?? 3:30pm-5:30pm Messy Church?? TBC

Sun 2nd Feb 8:00am Holy Communion
 9:30am Morning Praise
Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Sunday services in Beer are often 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 -

So, the New Year! The time we swap out our calendars, try to remember to write the correct year on forms, start to learn that new language we keep promising we'll do and dig out last year's gym membership card... only to let it gather dust again by February.

For many of us, January feels like a fresh start—a blank page, a new chapter waiting to be filled with hope, plans, and maybe even a bit of adventure. But let's be honest, when the news appears full of uncertainty and the to-do list for humanity seems longer than ever, it's enough to make even the most optimistic among us wonder - *What does this New Year really hold?*

On New Years Eve 2006, I stood in the desert alongside two fellow Marines and our troop sergeant, with a hip flask that I had been saving for more than three months. I thanked God that we were still alive and prayed for His presence, provision and protection for the year ahead; particularly for the three months left of this operational tour. We toasted the New Year and comrades departed with a nip of Whiskey, offering a sprinkle of warmth amid the cold Afghanistan night. A New Year like no other, where uncertainty abounded.

Thankfully I believe as a follower of Jesus, that a New Year hope doesn't simply depend on the uncertainty that may be surveyed in the world around us—or even the state of our resolutions, it's rooted in God's unchanging promises.

God specialises in new beginnings. He doesn't wait for the perfect conditions to bring hope or healing. He works in the middle of the mess, turning chaos into creation, sorrow into joy, and even tax collectors into disciples.

I am reminded of the powerful words of St Paul the apostle, in his letter to encourage a congregation of believers he had established in Philippi, he wrote;



'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.'

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you'. (Philippians 4:6-9).

Paul knew all about hope in uncertainty and faithfulness when facing trials. He penned this letter in chains, imprisoned for his faith in Jesus and this was after he previously been beaten on three occasions with rods, shipwrecked three times, spent a day and a night on the open sea and stoned!

As we step into 2024, we do so not with blind optimism, but with a deep, steady hope. A hope that says, *yes, things might be uncertain, but God is faithful.*

This New Year, let us embrace the uncertainty with faith, hope, and a pinch of courage and may we be people who:

- Pray boldly, even when answers seem slow.
- Show kindness, even when the world feels harsh.
- Laugh often, even when life gets messy.

Most importantly, let's be people who remember that our hope isn't in a perfect year, but in a perfect God.

So, here's to 2025! A year that may not be perfect, but will undoubtedly be filled with God's love, unexpected blessings, and maybe a few surprises along the way.

Happy New Year, dear friends. I hope and pray your 2025 be as bright as your hopes—and may you finally learn French.

Grace and peace -

Revd Justin

ANNA CHAPLAINCY

ANNA CHAPLAINCY – January worship and dates – If you have a loved one or friend you visit in one of the Seaton care homes, you might like to join us for our monthly activity and worship? Please check with the care home prior to your visit in case anything has to be changed.



Tuesday 2 January – CHECK HOUSE 11.00 a.m.

Monday 6 January – THORNFIELD 11.00 a.m.

Tuesday 7 January – THE MANOR 11.00 a.m.

Monday 13 January – NETHERHAYES 10.45 a.m.

Tuesday 14 January – MEMORY CHURCH 2-4 p.m. Church centre St Gregory's SEATON – For older people who find it difficult to worship in our church buildings. Worship, afternoon tea and making new friends. Interested? Phone 01297 23656

Wednesday 15 January – THE SEATON 11.00 a.m.

Wednesday 15 January - ANNA'S PLACE 2.00 p.m. St Michael's Church BEER. Reflective café style worship with Holy Communion followed by refreshments.

Tuesday 21 January – LYME BAY VIEW 10.45 a.m.

DIARY DATE!! Monday 10 February 7 for 7.30 p.m. Anna Chaplains Mary and Sue are hosting a **QUIZ NIGHT!!!** St Gregory's Church centre - Watch out for more details!!!

Thank you for taking the time to read this. We really appreciate your prayers and support.

Anna Chaplain Mary Anna Chaplain Sue – CONTACT 01297 23656

Email: caseymary119@gmail.com Mobile: 07805655335

Email: susanawhelan@icloud.com Mobile: 07802649155



We sang lots of festive songs and carols last month and gave away tiny, knitted stockings filled with chocolates and sweets to all those we visited. A HUGE THANK YOU to all the lovely ladies who responded to my request (I might have twisted a few arms!) for 150 mini stockings!

Mary

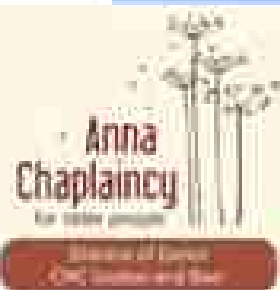
ANNA'S PLACE

Special 30 minute
worship for
Older People

Followed by Refreshments
Music and Memories,
Wednesdays from 2pm
at St Michael's, Beer:

January 15th

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



ALTAR GUILD REPORT

No meeting was held in December.

The Altar Guild team had a busy time during this year with it's fund raising and all the events in the church.

The Christmas Craft Fair in the church held on 6th December was a great success and received much positive feedback.

On behalf of the Altar Guild team a big thank you to everyone who has helped and supported all our events, it is very much appreciated.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year

BEER CLT - 2 houses available for affordable Rent

Beer Community Land Trust
2 Affordable Rentals Available
3 & 4 The Old Coach, Beer

2 HOUSES FOR AFFORDABLE RENT - £735 pm
2 bed, plus office / cot room / dressing room, over 3 floors.
Allocated parking space, bike storage, communal area, underfloor heating,
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housing need.

See our website for any questions: Beer Community Land Trust (beerclt.org)
Applications made by Registering with Devon Home Choice (EDHC), not through Beer CLT

Beer Film Society

SCARLETT JOHANSSON CHANNING TATUM

Will they make history... or take it?

FLY ME TO THE MOON

Card payment preferred

Bring your own cushions!

Thursday January 16th

Mariners' Hall

12 A

Doors open 6.30pm **New start time - 7.00 pm**

Members £5.00 non members £7.00

numbers limited - to book tickets email beerfilmsociety@gmail.com

BEER FILM SOCIETY

FROM the Moon to the Vatican with stop offs in Iran and London's West End – **Beer Film Society** has an exciting programme for you to kick off 2025.

In **'Fly Me To The Moon'** we reckon we have an entertaining, romantic comedy, which is set against the backdrop of the Apollo 11 flight, that will be the perfect pick-me-up for the post-Christmas and New Year Blues.

That first film of the year is scheduled for Thursday January 16th and tickets will be on sale on the door at £5 for members and £7 for guests.

Membership costs £15 for 12 months and not only gives you a £2 discount on each film but also in 2025 will include free admission for our Christmas film in December.

Then we follow that in February with a wonderful and romantic Iranian film – **'My Favourite Cake'** - that should set the tone for Valentine's Day!

British acting legend Sir Ian McKellen stars in our March film **'The Critic'** while in April we have booked **'Conclave'**, a film starring Ralph Fiennes which has been a huge hit with the critics and public alike.

"We have booked our first four films for the New Year and we hope there is something there for everyone," said chairman Kevin Fahey.

Further details about booking tickets will be released in due course but a reminder that films now start at 7pm with doors opening at 6.30.

16th January: Fly Me To The Moon (2024/2hrs 12mins)

Director Greg Berlanti. Starring Scarlett Johansson, Channing Tatum and Woody Harrelson.

This sharp, stylish romantic comedy is set against the high-stakes backdrop of NASA's historic Apollo 11 moon landing. Brought in to fix NASA's public image, sparks fly in all directions as marketing maven Kelly Jones (Johansson) wreaks havoc on launch director Cole Davis's (Tatum) already difficult task. When the White House deems the mission too important to fail, the countdown truly begins....

13th February: My Favourite Cake (2024, 1hr 37mins)

Director: Maryam Moghaddam. Starring: Lili Farhadpour, Esmaeel Mehrabi and Mansoor Ilkhani.

Mahin (70) lives alone in Tehran since her husband's death and her daughter's departure for Europe, until an afternoon tea with friends leads her to break her solitary routine and revitalize her love life. But as Mahin opens herself up to new romance, what begins as an unexpected encounter quickly evolves into an unpredictable, unforgettable evening.

...More next month!...



December 21st marks the winter solstice, so evenings will begin to draw out from then! According to one piece of folk lore, the wind direction on December 21st will remain as the dominant quarter until Candlemas (February 2nd). Here's your opportunity to test the story!

The weekend of 13th and 14th of December heralded the annual display of celestial fireworks that is the Geminid meteor shower. Once again we had cloudy skies and I, for one, missed seeing them – again! Unlike most of the other showers, the Geminids shooting stars are coloured. Let's hope for clearer skies next year!

By the time you read this, Christmas will have come and gone, and our New Year's Day Beach Clean will have taken place. We leave litter-pickers outside of the Fine Foundation Centre so you can do your own clean-up at any time. Please recycle anything appropriate – there are recycling bins next to the centre – and dispose of everything else safely. We are so grateful to everyone who helps to keep our beach clean. Thank you all.

We will close the centre immediately after the Beach Clean, and re-open in time for Easter. The Trustees have plans to continue upgrading some of the displays during the next couple of months. You can continue to enjoy the exhibits outside the building. Thanks to a recent generous donation of Axe Vale Pottery we have been able to ring the changes to one of the displays.

January's Branscombe Project talk is on Monday 27th and will be given by Dr. Andrew Birley. His subject is Vindolanda, which is situated by Hadrian's Wall. Dr. Birley has been very involved in excavating this Roman army site.

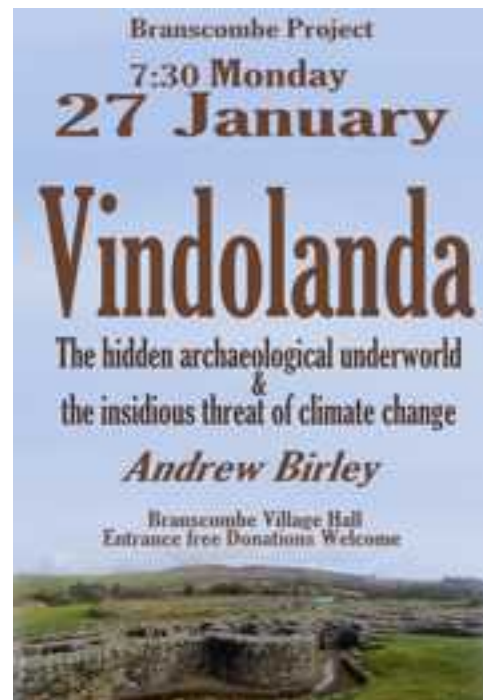
If you'd like to hear more about a more local project, Dr. Sam Bridgewater is the speaker at a meeting of the Devonshire Association on Friday 10th January at 1430. His subject is The Lower Otter Restoration Project and the talk is at Kennaway

House, Sidmouth, EX10 8NG. Entry is £3 for members and £4 for non-members, with card payments preferred.

The Jurassic Coast Trust has a new CEO following Lucy Culkin's departure for pastures new last month. Luke Rake, who was previously Principal of Maurward College near Dorchester, is looking forward to building on Lucy's work. We hope that he'll pay us a visit in Beer before too long.

Beer Village Heritage is a registered charity, and we rely on 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 not working.

If you would like to be involved with running the Fine Foundation Centre and our other activities, please talk to our Chairman, David Morling on 01297 625045.



Devonshire Association, East Devon.
The Lower Otter Restoration Project
Fri. 10 January 2025 at 2:30 pm,
Kennaway House, Sidmouth

Entry £3 members, £4 non members,
Includes refreshments.

A talk by Dr Sam Bridgewater.
Come and hear Sam
Bridgewater of Clinton Devon
Estates tell us about the project
progress so far and what are the
next steps.





Our volunteers greatly enjoyed having a Coffee Morning and Art Sale on Saturday 30th November at Axmouth Village Hall. We had RNLI Christmas cards and gifts for sale, festive refreshments, plus stalls and a lovely raffle and Card Tombola. We had a successful morning and we would like to go there again in the future.

During the first week of December we went to Colyton Christmas Fair and Beer Festive Craft Fair. Both events were lovely and we sold our RNLI Christmas cards and gifts. On Sunday 8th December our volunteer Wendy Marselle accompanied me to the Axe Yacht Club Annual General Meeting. I presented a Certificate of Thanks for the £500 donation forwarded to our branch of the RNLI and Launching Authority Mark Hill

and Crew Member Gareth Roscoe thanked Axe Yacht Club for the £5,644.89

donation for Lyme Regis Lifeboat Station. During November and December Pat Watterson and I serviced the static collection boxes in our Seaton Beer and District Branch area. As I write my report we are still receiving donations and we thank the Art in the Attic Team very much for an additional £200.



Our first event of the year that we have been doing for many years is our RNLI Table Top Sale on Saturday 25th January. The doors will be open to sellers at 8am and will be open to buyers from 9am to 12.30pm. We will



be serving refreshments including Bacon Baps, and we will have a Raffle and Card Tombola plus books and additional items for sale. Table hire is £6 for one or £10 for two. For details and reservations please telephone message to me at 07790861531 or email at wac500@hotmail.co.uk

As we proceed through 2025 our Annual General Meeting will be on Tuesday 4th March and we will be at the Grizzly Race Drink Station with Beer Village Heritage at Beer Head Caravan Site on Sunday 9th March. Our Shop at Jubilee Gardens will re-open in the Spring. We will be having our own regular events that include taking part in the RNLI Mayday Appeal and our Beer Lifeboat Weekend will be on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th July. As in many years our Annual Sponsored Walk will be in October. Details of our events here at Beer and events that we are going or been to in our area that we love to attend will be in the Beer Parish News, in the local press and Facebook pages.

We thank everyone who supported us in the special RNLI 200th Anniversary Year of 2024 and we send our best wishes to everyone for 2025.

Wendy Cummins, Secretary Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI

Beer Parish Council

Newsletter

December, 2024

The Council met for their final meeting of 2024 on the 11th December. The meeting was attended by residents who were concerned over the light pollution, to theirs and neighbours properties, from a streetlight which had been out of action for some years and had recently had a new bulb installed. The residents had been communicating with Devon County Council and asked the Parish Council to support them, The Council agreed to write to DCC to ask them to dim the light and, if possible, to re-direct the light slightly so that it shines on the road, not the property

Council also discussed the traffic on Common Lane, there have been concerns for some time over the weight and number of vehicles that access this road which is having an impact on the erosion of the cliff below. Cllrs Westlake and Shobbrook along with Cllr Richards, Cllr Heath and a representative from Clinton Estates have held meetings with DCC to discuss this and will work on producing a scheme to look at solutions in further detail. We will update residents when this has been progressed.

The Council have been made aware of an error in which they were informed that the EDDC will replace the balcony above Ducky's Cafe on the West side of the beach, which is rotting and unsafe. The Council were in fact misinformed and the reference should be to the East side of the beach.

Beer Parish Council has a vacancy, if anyone would be interested in joining the Council and making a difference in their community, please contact the Clerk via: clerk@beer-pc.gov.uk

The Council will be meeting again on the following dates:

Wednesday 8th January 2025, 12th February 2025, 12th March 2025 at 7.00pm in the Balcony Room, The Mariners Hall.

Dates from April 2025 onwards will be posted asap.

If you would like to attend a meeting, either to speak (please notify the Clerk on the email quoted above) or just to see what happens at a Council meeting please do come along.



Thank you to all who attended the Sailing Club coffee morning on Wednesday 4th December. It raised £161.31p which was topped up by the lodge and donated toward a fund to purchase a specialised wheelchair for a young girl in Seaton Primary who has cerebral palsy.

The lodge Christmas dinner held at Steamers on Wednesday 11th December was a huge success with 44 attendees. The food and service were exceptional and special thanks to Jess for her invaluable help with seating arrangements and special requests.



The lodge 'Craft & Arts' committee have a circular 6 mile walk scheduled from Otterton taking in the Lower Otter Restoration Project, now home to many migrating and native species of wild fowl. An ornithologists dream with the opportunity to spot Eaglets, Warblers, Swans, Mallards, Grebes and hedge nesting Curlews.

Emerging on the coast at Budleigh Salterton passing 'The Octagon' where in 1870 the famous artist Sir John Millais painted 'The Boyhood of Raleigh'. Continuing along the high street to take refreshments at 'The Feathers' PH, noted for its service and food.

The lodge welcomes new members. Contact the secretary at EnquireBeerLodge@outlook.com



Members of the lodge wish you a happy, prosperous and healthy New Year. Thank you for your support over the last year enabling us to donate over £4400 to local good causes and charity.



The WI hosted a Christmas lunch for the over 70's on December 5th, all had a good time. It was the traditional Christmas menu with wine and it was very well attended with 80 diners.

Thank you to Wayne and Dawn who took a day's holiday and worked hard to cook for us. The food was delicious. Very much appreciated.

Thanks also to the Hideaway B&B and to Beer Scouts for lending equipment and for their generosity.

We enjoyed some entertainment from Beer Primary School who sang songs from their play and sang carols. Thank you.

Lastly a big thanks to our volunteers who served and waited at the tables.

We would like to wish Becky a speedy recovery as she sadly couldn't attend.

The writing group is working on ideas for the new version of Jerusalem.

Please get in touch with Chris Paul for more information about that and other queries. 01297 792129

We look forward to our annual New Year party on Jan 8th in the Congregational Hall at 7.30 with entertainment.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

What is the best thing that could happen to ease your mind?

What could life give you that would take away worry and anxiety?

Most things in life that make you happy make you happy for a while and then they fade and you're back to being your usual self.

Most humans swing between two poles: Fear and Desire. We want certain things. And we are afraid certain things might happen.

Would you want to be free from these magnetic pulls?

Most people look to the world 'out there' for the keys to happiness. An 'all clear' from the doctor. A win on the lottery. A new relationship. Promotion. Recognition and success.

These things may or may not come; they are contingent; they are temporary.

Might it be possible, whatever life delivers into your lap, for you to be calm and content and deeply at peace, no matter what? Might you be able to meet all events with an unshakeable calm acceptance?

Many people feel bored and restless because their mind is conditioned to want more. More stimulus. More excitement. More fulfillment.

These words are from Eckhart Tolle's book Stillness Speaks:

Boredom, anger, sadness or fear are not "yours," not personal.

They are conditions of the human mind. They come and go.

Anything that comes and goes is not you.

"I am bored." Who knows this?

"I am angry, sad, afraid." Who knows this?

You are the knowing, not the condition that is known.

To go back to the first question here, freedom from identifying with your thoughts is the best thing that can happen to you. You attain that freedom by stepping outside the narrow, mind-made confines of thought – thought which is pressured by desire and fear. And you step outside thinking by being still and present. 'Presence' shows you that all the things the mind hungers for are ephemeral, and the deepest essence of who you are is located in the infinite dimension of presence and stillness.

YOUR "LOCAL" CONTACTS

Parish Council

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Simon Reeve	cllrsreeve@beer-pc.gov.uk
Caroline Thompson	cllrcthompson@beer-pc.gov.uk
Angela Smith	cllrasmith@beer-pc.gov.uk

Clerk to the Council: Nicky Ingarfield
clerk@beer-pc.gov.uk

Internal Auditor: Jacqui Peskett - Aalgard Renshaw Business Solutions Ltd.

East Devon District Councillor

John Heath 07966 089257

Devon County Councillor Marcus Hartnell

Mobile: 07515 285725

Member of Parliament Richard Foord

Parliamentary matters -

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Constituency matters - richard.foord@libdems.org.uk

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Beer Parish News



2025
Wishing you a
Happy New Year

Editor

Copy for February to be with the Editor
by Monday 20th January, at very latest please.

henryjaggers@btinternet.com

01297 20858 Green Bank, 9 Clinton Rise EX12 3DZ

Reading this in the black & white printed edition?

Visit www.beerparishcouncil.org.uk and click on "[Latest News](#)" then on "[Parish Newsletter January 2025](#)" to find this

edition of BEER PARISH NEWS in full colour !

(Unfortunately our bumper December edition
proved too big for their website to accept!)

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