

# Beer Parish News

## April 2026



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

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

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## ST MICHAEL'S ...

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

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Coastal Mission  
Community

[www.coastalchurch.org.uk](http://www.coastalchurch.org.uk)



St Michael's Church, Beer

## Calendar for APRIL 2026

Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>	12noon "Soup for the Soul"	}	<i>Holy Week</i>
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup>	12noon "Soup for the Soul"		
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Apr	12noon "Soup for the Soul"		
	2:30pm Beer School Easter Service		
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	12 noon "Soup for the Soul" with communion at 1:30pm		
Good Friday	12 noon "Walk of Witness" beginning at Tesco Plaza		
	2:00pm "An hour at the Cross" at St Gregory's SEATON		
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am~12noon Easter Coffee Morning		
Easter Day	7:30am "Son-Rise" Service on Top Cliff followed by breakfast at Congregational		
	9:30am Easter Communion Service		
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am Anna Chaplaincy Activity & Worship at THORNFIELD		
	3:15pm C.A.B. meeting		
	5:00pm Choir Practice		
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am Reflective Prayer (TBC)		
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	10am~12noon Easter Crafts for all at St Greg's Centre, SEATON		
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am~12noon Easter Crafts for all at St Michael's, BEER		
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm Wedding Blessing for Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Driver		
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am Holy Communion		2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm for 7:30pm start QUIZ NIGHT.		
	(Teams of up to 6 – BYO drink & nibbles)		
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm Choir Practice		
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm Anna's Place Special 30minute worship for older people		
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am Morning Praise		3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	5:00pm Choir Practice		
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>	8:30am Open the Book at Beer School		
	10:00am Holy Communion at SEATON		
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers		
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup>	10~12noon Beer Community Choir		
	(Seriously Occasional Singers)		
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am Family Communion		4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup>	5:00pm Choir Practice		
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> May	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers		
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30am Family Communion		5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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

During a midweek Holy Communion service recently, I preached on the theme of second chances. The story we reflected on was the well-known account of the reluctant prophet Jonah.

If you know the story, you'll remember that Jonah was called by God to go to the city of Nineveh to warn them of coming judgement. But instead of obeying, Jonah runs in the opposite direction towards Tarshish. A violent storm threatens the ship he's travelling on and eventually, Jonah persuades the sailors to throw him overboard to calm the sea. He's swallowed by a great fish, spends three days in its belly, reflects, repents and is finally brought back to dry land. Then comes a remarkable moment in the story. God calls Jonah a second time to go to Nineveh. This time Jonah goes. And the city responds, turning back to God in repentance.

It is a story about many things, but one of its most powerful themes is this that God is the God of second chances.

The following evening, I happened to be watching the news on the BBC. One report explained that Waitrose had decided to stop selling mackerel because of sustainability concerns. The camera showed what seemed like tonnes of fish being poured out while the presenter explained the story. Then the presenter said, "And now over to our reporter... Jonah Fisher."

Fish...Jonah? I thought, "No way?" I called my wife Melissa into the room to check that I'd heard it correctly. It made me smile, but also that night I began thinking of the theme we'd reflected on the day before of second chances.

You may be reading this during Holy Week or the season of Easter, when we remember another powerful story of restoration, this time involving the disciple Peter. Peter must have been carrying a heavy burden. On the night Jesus was arrested he'd insisted he would never abandon him. Yet before morning came, Peter denied even knowing Jesus Christ three times. And when the rooster crowed, just as Jesus had predicted, Peter went outside and wept bitterly.

Imagine the swirl of emotions Peter must have carried in the days that followed, the shock of Jesus crucifixion on Good Friday, the extraordinary news that Jesus had risen three days later, the confusion, the hope and perhaps the unspoken shame still lingering in his heart.



So, Peter does something very human and goes back to what he knows.

"I'm going fishing" he says.

Along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, the risen Jesus appears. The fishermen have caught nothing all night, no small frustration for experienced fishermen and poor Peter, another blow. Yet Jesus calls from the shore and tells them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat. They do and suddenly haul in a great catch. Recognising what has happened, John exclaims, "It is the Lord!" At once Peter leaps into the water and makes his way to shore. There they share breakfast of fish and bread beside a charcoal fire.

In 2019 I travelled to the Holy Land myself, visiting the sacred places around Jerusalem and Galilee. It was a deeply moving experience, bringing vividly to life the places and stories I read and heard about that have shaped my own Christian faith. Yet it was by the shores of Galilee that I felt most moved. At a place known as *Mensa Christi*—"the table of Christ"—inside the Church of Saint Peter, a large limestone rock marks the traditional spot where the risen Jesus shared this breakfast with his disciples.

As I walked down the steps towards the water's edge, the words "It is the Lord!" spoke into my heart. I wondered what it must have felt like for the disciples to see Jesus standing there and what it must have felt like especially for Peter, carrying both the joy of seeing Jesus again and the shame and pain of what he'd done.

After that breakfast, Jesus asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?", yet not a moment of condemnation, but restoration. Three times Peter denied Jesus. Three times Jesus invites Peter to reaffirm his love. And then he entrusts Peter with a calling: "Feed my sheep." The one who thought he'd failed too badly becomes the one Jesus chooses to lead the early church.

Peter's story, like Jonah's, is also a story of second chances.

And perhaps this is a message many of us need to hear during Holy Week and Easter. Because most of us, if we are honest, know something of Peter's feelings. We know what it is like to regret things we've said or done. We know the quiet voice that sometimes whispers, "You've gone too far this time."

But the message of Easter tells a different story. The risen Jesus does not come looking for perfect people. He comes looking for people who are willing to begin again. And when he finds them, whether reluctant prophets, weary fishermen or ordinary folk like you and I, he offers something extraordinary - Grace, restoration and the gift of another chance.

Easter Blessings  
Revd Justin



# Beer Regatta Giving Back

Applications for donations now open  
Request donations for your Beer Village  
Organisation or Institution

Since 2020 Beer Regatta Giving Back has donated £000's to organisations who enhance and enrich the lives of people in the village. Whether that's through equipment, facilities or even special events these donations have helped to fund important causes and will continue to do so. Each year any surplus funds from Regatta Week are channeled back into improving the life of the village. The cost of running Regatta has

grown by around 20% in recent years leaving less of a surplus to distribute in 2026.

We are now inviting applications for donations via email. They must specify the role of the organisation, how it benefits the village and the specific intent for the use of funds. The process is open until April 30<sup>th</sup>, after which all applications will be discussed by the Finance Sub-Committee and successful applicants notified. The maximum single donations this year will be £400.

Email: [andywestonwebb@gmail.com](mailto:andywestonwebb@gmail.com)

The **World Day of Prayer** service was attended by a good congregation on Friday 6th March.

We heard the moving stories of **4 Nigerian women** whose faith helped them through difficult circumstances, followed by prayer for them and their country.

Thank you to those who attended; the collection raised £313 which goes to various worldwide charities.

*Judi Brewer*

We are saddened to hear of the recent deaths of two of the architects of the Fine Foundation Centre – Eric Cozens and Roger Upton. Both were very involved in planning and

building the centre. Eric negotiated with East Devon District Council for use of the land, and with their planning department, before helping his brother to supervise the builders. For several years, Eric, who was a very active member of Beer Parish Council, acted as Company Secretary for Beer Village Heritage, ensuring that the legally required reports were filed on time. Roger worked on fitting out the building, including commissioning the balcony panels as well as supporting his wife, Mary, who was Chairman at the time. He was always happy to carry out any odd jobs which needed doing. We owe both men a huge debt of gratitude.

The recent sunshine has tempted us to think that “Spring is Sprung” even though the weather forecasters are suggesting otherwise. We spent last week in the South Hams where the roads were lined with primroses – one of the best displays for years. In Seaton, the anemones covering the front garden of a house in Beer Road are creating a spectacular show once again. Bumble bees are hatching out of their underground nests and are very busy around the garden. We found some juvenile slow worms on the South West Coast Path in the South Hams, one of them only a couple of inches long. They were finding the dry sandy soil hard going in the sunshine. We watched a number of large black beetles digging holes into the side of the path, presumably in preparation for making their nests. The skylarks singing above our heads reminded us that many birds also nest on the ground, so please keep yourselves, and your dogs, to paths during the nesting season. We’ve observed that the local rooks are building their nests very high up in the trees this spring. If folk lore is to be believed, this foretells calm weather throughout the summer, which would be a big contrast to last year’s series of high winds.

The Fine Foundation Centre is on target to open on Good Friday – 3<sup>rd</sup> April – as usual. If the weather is suitable, we’ll have an impromptu Rock Pooling Safari on the same day, given that the tides will be appropriate. Watch for the banner at the centre.

Carol and Peter have been busy checking out the “bird boxes” to ensure that you can hear the birdsong clearly. Hopefully you have found the boxes, all of which are located near the top of the beach. The dolphin on the balcony is in fine voice as is Jack Rattenbury!

The Grizzly was run in mizzly weather, with poor visibility and a dampness in the air. Probably ideal conditions for the runners, but not entirely comfortable for those standing on site all day! We continue to be in awe of those taking part in this iconic race and sympathized with the lady who “ran out of steam” on her way to the finish, after doing so well to get so far.

The February Branscombe Project talk was fascinating. Mike Parker-Pearson kept the audience intrigued with his update on work being done at Stonehenge. His main message was that the site appears to have been developed to honour the ancestors, rather than as a calendar or predictor of lunar eclipses. The March talk will be the last in this series.

Axe Valley Heritage Association’s April talk is on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April when Mark Horner will describe how Seaton lost a Railway and gained a Tramway. His talk is entitled “Departure and Arrival” and tickets are available in advance from Paperchain in lower Fore Street.

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 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. We would particularly love to hear from someone who would be prepared to help with the website.



**ANNA CHAPLAINCY APRIL and early MAY 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.

Wednesday 1 April - CHECK HOUSE 11.00 a.m.

Tuesday 7 April – THORNFIELD 11.00 a.m.

**Tuesday 14 APRIL– 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**

**ANNA’S PLACE at St Michael’s Church BEER. Please join us on Wednesday 15 APRIL 2.00 p.m. Reflective café style worship with Holy Communion followed by refreshments, everyone welcome. A space for carers and those cared for at home.**

Monday 20 APRIL – NETHERHAYES 10.45 a.m.

Tuesday 21 APRIL - LYME BAY VIEW 10.45 a.m

Monday 27 APRIL – THE MANOR 11.00 a.m.

Tuesday 28 APRIL – THE SEATON 11.00 a.m.

MAY

Monday 5 MAY- THORNFIELD 11.00 a.m.

Wednesday 6 MAY - CHECK HOUSE 11.00 a.m.

*If you know someone living at home or a resident who would like a one-to-one visit in a care home, please contact either Mary or Sue on their mobile numbers. You will find Information leaflets about Anna Chaplaincy ministry displayed at St Gregory’s and St Michael’s churches. Thank you for your support and prayers.*

**Anna Chaplain Mary - 07805655335 Anna Chaplain Sue – 07802649155**

**The church office - CONTACT 01297 23656**

**ANNA'S PLACE**

Special 30 minute worship for Older People  
Followed by Refreshments  
Music and Memories,  
Wednesdays from 2pm  
at St Michael's, Beer:

**15th April  
20th May**

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

**Memory Church**

For Older People and their Carers:  
A Place to Meet, Relax & Worship together.

**14th April  
12th May**

2nd Tues of the month  
**2-4pm**

St Gregory's Church Centre,  
Colyford Rd  
Seaton EX12 2DF

**Dementia Supportive  
Disabled Facilities**

**Anna Chaplaincy**  
for older people  
Diocese of Exeter  
CMC Seaton and Beer

**Anna Chaplaincy**  
for older people  
Diocese of Exeter  
CMC Seaton and Beer

**Coastal Mission Community**  
Contact: **Mary Casey** caseymary119@gmail.com  
**Anna Chaplain** or  
to book your place Church office: 01297 23656  
seatonchurch@hotmail.co.uk

## ALTAR GUILD NEWS

Meeting held in St. Michael's 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026--

**AGM followed by ordinary meeting.**

At the AGM officers were re-elected for the roles of chairman, vice chair, treasurer and secretary. All roles were offered to the committee members if anyone wished to pursue any of them, following discussion standing officers happy to be re-elected supported by the committee members.

Chairman: Patsy Bewick

Vice Chair: Yvonne Hawker

Treasurer: Jenny Ross

Secretary: Haze Barber.

Last year's fundraising was very successful so a BIG THANKYOU for all the support from our lovely community.

Ordinary meeting followed - finalised Easter plans of what is happening at St. Michael's which have been advertised around the village and on social media and we are hoping for a good footfall and the support of our lovely community to join us.

**Up and coming events :-**

Coffee Moring planned for **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2026** - 10am -12midday - Refreshments, raffle, tombola, cakes stall and AVCAP have craft stalls.

**Sunday Service 5<sup>th</sup> April @ 09.30 am**

**Date of next meeting: May 12<sup>th</sup> 2026 @10.00am**

At Beer Primary School the children have been learning about spirituality and how they can make a difference to the world. This presented a great opportunity for the eco-committee to design a poster that could raise awareness around how we can all be eco-friendly. The children were instructed to have a clear, bold message that would be visually appealing without cluttering the design. We're very proud of all their efforts and we hope you like what they've produced.

You'll find another example on page 23.



# Beer Film Society

ONE critic described our next film as ‘a big-hearted, consoling hug of a movie’ so we think it is a great time to be showing ‘*The Ballad of Wallis Island*’ (2025, 1hr 40mins, 12), at the Mariners’ Hall on Thursday April 16th.

This British-made comedy drama is sure to deliver a smile and laugh - and don’t we need a few of those at the moment!

So what is the story? Well, an eccentric lottery winner, who lives alone on a remote island, tries to make his fantasy come true by getting his favourite musicians to perform at his home.

The only problem is that this duo, who were also former lovers, split up 10 years ago - and not on good terms. So neither knows the other has been invited.

Starring Carey Mulligan, Tom Basden and Tim Key - the latter pair also wrote the film - the film won three prizes at the British Independent Film Awards.

It also received an unusually high rating of 96 and 93 per cent from film critics and the public respectively on the popular Rotten Tomatoes website, which described it as one of the best comedies of the year.

It also struck a chord with many critics with the Daily Mail’s Brian Viner writing:

*Carey Mulligan, as usual, is note-perfect and Basden, who did a cracking job of writing the film’s original songs, is excellent too. But Key’s is the performance to cherish: Drama schools could use it as the embodiment of pathos.*

Doors open at 6.30pm with the film starting at 7pm. Card payment preferred please.

The bar will be open and Baboo Gelato ice creams will be available.



**Beer Film Society**

“A FRESH BIG-HEARTED COMEDY”

**T H E B A L L A D O F  
W A L L I S I S L A N D**

Card payment preferred

Bring your own cushions!

**Thursday April 16th**  
**Mariners’ Hall** 12 A

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

Members £5.00 non members £7.00

numbers limited - to book tickets email [beerfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:beerfilmsociety@gmail.com)

# BeerWi

Are you new to Beer or would like to meet new friends?  
Beer Wi has been supporting, educating and having fun  
for 100 years

We have a meeting once a month usually with a  
SPEAKER OR ACTIVITY

IN ADDITION, WE HAVE SUB GROUPS FOR:

BUDDING WRITERS WITH OUR  
CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

LUNCH CLUB

SKITTLES

CANASTA (card game)

BOOK GROUP

Also, activities such as ten pin bowling, archery, etc

WE ALSO GET INVOLVED WITH LOCAL CAMPAIGNS

Many of you will have one of our shopping bags

And finally, the annual Christmas community lunch

COME ALONG TO ONE OF OUR MEETINGS

AND SEE WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT

NO OBLIGATION TO JOIN

WE MEET ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH  
AT THE BEER CONGREGATIONAL HALL AT 7.30PM

Beer Arts Groups Present

“From Rags to Riches”

## Jazz Classics at the Dolphin

Chris Gradwell (*clarinet and sax*)

Andrew Daldorff (*keyboard*)

Andrew Barrett (*guitar*)

Peter Shirveington (*bass*)

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 Pay Card on the Door

Ticket Price (tba) Includes Snacks



On Wednesday 24th February we held our Review Coffee Morning at the Congregational Hall. It was a lovely morning and there were reports and display tables with information reviewing 2025 and looking forward to 2026 by our Chairman Kate

Filby, Shop Manager Richard Hare who included recruitment details, Wendy Cummins Fundraising/Events and Novello Tucker Treasurer. There was a display of water safety advice and our RNLI Community Manager Andrew Escott from Minehead came to our morning with RNLI information. Andrew is a crew member of the Minehead lifeboat and his family have been involved with the lifeboat station for the past one hundred years. Tea, coffee, hot chocolate and cake was served and we had a raffle. We thank Beer Congregational Church for their support and everyone who came to our Review Coffee Morning.

On a foggy but not too cold Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March we were at the Grizzly Race Day Drink Station at Beer Head Caravan Park with Beer Village Heritage. We set up from 9.30am and we were there until approximately 4.30pm and had



a great time cheering and supporting the runners as they passed by. Drinks of orange and blackcurrant squash and sweets were provided for the runners if required. We took refreshments including cake and sausage rolls plus much appreciated bacon baps were kindly delivered by our Chairman Kate. My nearly forty year old cd player kept us entertained and played running and party music all day.

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March our volunteers and supporters went to Lyme Regis Lifeboat Station for a tour by our RNLI Shop volunteer Colin Mears who is

also a Lifeboat Visits Officer. The lifeboat crew also showed everyone around the lifeboat station and the visit included seeing the B Class lifeboat Spirit of Loch Fyne launched followed by a brilliant display by the crew and lifeboat.



Yvonne Munro-Hart and me

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March we had a great day collecting at Tesco Axminster from 9.30am to 5pm. We collected a wonderful £438.68 plus £48 in card payments on the SumUp. We took RNLI information and RNLI Ted Bear went too. We thank Tesco Axminster for their welcome to us, to our volunteers who collected and to all who donated on the day.

At the time of writing my report we were looking forward to our RNLI Coffee Morning on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March in conjunction with the Fisherman's Mission at Beer Sailing Club plus to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March when our lovely RNLI Shop at Jubilee Gardens, Beer re-opens until the end of October. There is the usual extensive choice of RNLI gifts and souvenirs for sale and new items to purchase have been added. Additional volunteers are still needed and welcome on a relief duty and/or rota basis. If you can help please telephone our Shop Manager Richard Hare on 07752393640. Additional help is also required with fundraising collections, at our own events or at events we attend in our area. Please email [wac500@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wac500@hotmail.co.uk) for details or come and see us at events or at our RNLI Shop.

Thank you very much for the support to our branch of the RNLI as we proceed through 2026 that includes our Mayday Appeal Events and Beer Lifeboat Weekend Street Collection and Coffee Morning on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July and Duck Race Day on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July.

*Wendy Cummins*

Secretary Fundraising/Events

Seaton Beer and District Branch RNLI

## Beer Parish Council newsletter for April 2026

The Red Hot Potato in the village right now is talk about is the threat posed by any further cliff falls at the narrowest pinch-point of Common Lane. The very recent cliff fall which demolished huts at "Duckies" on the beach has highlighted the need for something to be done to try to extend the existence of the road. We were delighted with the turnout for the exhibition at the Mariners' Hall on Sat. 21st Feb. It gave the Parish Council the opportunity to explain the very perilous state of the cliff and the need for something to be done to preserve the crucial roadway to the Beer Head Car Park and the Caravan Park. A big thank you to all who attended! It also provided the villagers with the opportunity to express their views as to how we should solve this problem. An unofficial poll was taken of the public's opinion and that showed that the overwhelming majority recognised the threat and the need to do something about it. Residents suggestions given on the back of the form have been carefully reviewed by the Council and these will be incorporated in our further studies. At this point we are keen to dispel a lot of misconceptions and misunderstandings prevailing around the village. Nothing has been decided; all that has started is negotiations with Devon County Highways dept. to see how this problem can be best resolved. The biggest misunderstanding prevailing in the village is that the Council wants to close Common Lane. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is imperative that Common Lane remains open to pedestrians at the very least. The biggest threat to the road comes from natural erosion and the possible damage being caused by heavy, wide vehicles continuing to use it. During being interviewed by ITV West Country News, former Parish Council Chairman, Rick Dormer said "I tell my delivery drivers if you knew how close you were to that cliff, you would not be going up there". For anybody walking up there, or anybody visiting the village that comes to the car park or the caravan park, we need that access open to get through down to the beach, to the shops and to the pubs in the village".

The routine Parish Council meeting on the 11th March saw a high number of residents attending. This is welcomed and the villagers are invited to attend all Council meetings. Most of the people came to hear what will happen from here onwards. They were welcomed by the Chairman Cllr. Tim Stevens who extended the usual three minutes time period to each, to make their views known. In a previously unprecedented move, he allowed the public to interact in the meeting for over one hour, thereby extending the meeting considerably. He did so in recognition of the public's concerns over Common Lane and to demonstrate full transparency by the

PC, to hear all sides of the debate. The next move is for the PC to request an urgent consultation with DCC Highways dept. to discuss what can be the best solution to this problem. All updates regarding this will be made fully known to the villagers before anything is "set in stone". It must be emphasised however, that BPC has no control over any of the roads in the village and it can only make requests to the Highways dept. based upon the public's views.

A second issue was given an unprecedented amount of time to be debated during the last meeting. It concerns the parking of a particular vehicle in Beer Parish Council's own car park at Townsend. Residents living nearby attended and explained their severe concerns about the noise factor caused by this vehicle during unsocial hours of the day, which is depriving them of sleep. The Council will now carry out its own investigations to review all the evidence available with the intention of reaching a fair and balanced decision. In this task we are delighted to have the expertise of a new Councillor (Cllr. Mark Finney), who has been a highly respected lawyer for many years. He will lead the debate and recommend to the Council, how it should proceed. Because of his legal background he was also elected during the meeting, to be the PC's representative on the Community Land Trust for Beer.

In other matters discussed, District Councillor John Heath told the meeting of his annoyance and dismay at the way he was being treated by EDDC, over questions he has raised concerning two void properties in Underleys. EDDC is proposing to sell-off these two houses on the open market, despite there being a desperate housing shortage for people in Beer. He will continue to fight for his constituents as much as he can.

The Council received the sad resignation of Cllr. Simon Reeve earlier this month. He has found it very difficult to devote what he describes as the required amount of time to properly fulfil his position as a Councillor. The extensive work he has done is very much appreciated and his friendly, helpful approach to Council meetings will be sadly missed. Simon was previously the Chairman of the Panning Committee and this position will now be occupied by Cllr. Simon Whitelock. We extend our gratitude and very best wishes to Simon Reeve and to his recently extended family. A vacancy therefore exists on the Council and our Clerk welcomes any applicant to contact her at [clerk@beer-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@beer-pc.gov.uk)

The PC approved the appointment of a company to set-up and run the new Village website which will link the matters undertaken by the Council

with the separately run aspects of running the Mariners' Hall. It is hoped that everything will be "up and running" within the next six weeks. Many of the documents which were exhibited in the Common Lane consultation in the Mariners' Hall, will be found there and available to be read.

Cllr. Jane Morrow was appointed to be the Parish Councillors representative on the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site.

The on-going problems associated with Beer Brook were once again discussed during the last meeting. A number of residents have expressed their grave concerns about the risk of flooding occurring in several houses in Fore Street. It has been noted that the water level in the Brook is higher than usual. This is not surprising given the very high rainfall we have sustained recently, but it is worrying. Further approaches will be made to EDDC in an attempt to resolve the problem. A working party being organised by Cllr Karen Stevens consisting of members of the Community Pay-back scheme, will hopefully tackle the extensive vegetation and sediment which has amassed in the Brook.

Associated with this is the review of all the drainage channels within Beer by Cllr Simon Whitelock. He is compiling a record of the state of every drainage channel and culvert in the village, since many have been neglected by EDDC over many years and which could result in flooding occurring in many parts of the village. Being proactive to potential problems rather than being reactive to them is a better course of action.

Simon was also able to report to the PC that the initial repairs needed to make the roof of the Chapel of Rest watertight, have been concluded. The Council is taking a keen interest in this matter despite it belonging to the Exeter C. of E. Diocese, as the building is an important landmark in Beer and its continued existence is felt to be very important. No public money under the control of the PC has been used in this regards. The PC is only involved in a consultancy capacity.

**Please put a note in your diaries that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place in the Mariners' hall on Wednesday 8th April at 6.30 pm. All residents will be very welcome. The April meeting of the Council will then follow at 7.00 pm.**

*Cllr. Martin Shobbrook*

# SAVE THE WORLD

by:

• planting more trees



• Turning the lights off



• Recycling rubbish



• Turning taps off



# ACT NOW



## BEER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - SERVICES & NOTICES

Thursday April 2nd - 7pm Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion

Friday April 3rd - 10am Good Friday Service followed by coffee and hot cross buns

Sunday April 5th - 7-30am Sunrise Service at the Jubilee for Easter Day followed by breakfast in the Congregational Church Hall

10am Easter Sunday Service with Holy Communion

Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup> - 10am Morning Service

Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> - 10am Morning Service

Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup> - 10am Morning Service

Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> - 10am Morning Service with Holy Communion

COFFEE MORNINGS -

10-30am - 12 noon Congregational Hall

April 2nd, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>

- War. All wars come to an end. No war goes on forever. Even when violence ceases, anger and resentment persist -- passionate impulses that continue in the mind.
- This is invisible damage caused by violence. Blame and accusation, innocence and guilt, those in the right, those in the wrong -- these notions possess the mind and the heart.
- If you do not want to be a carrier of residual anger, then observe it in yourself. Admit to your judgements. Acknowledge them -- then let them go.
- Above all other things in your life, preserve your own inner peace. Even though you see injustice and cruelty, withhold judgements, suspend opinion. Hand justice to Divine Judgement. You cannot mend broken humanity.
- You cannot control events on the world-wide stage. You can control how you respond to them.
- Deep within every person is the desire to live a peaceful life, free from the turmoil of emotional reactions to the causes of suffering.
- *"I will not let the external world destroy my inner calm."* Then you do not contribute to energies that feed violence; instead, you strengthen the invisible forces that replace emotional reactivity with the calm of presence.
- You can live life fully aware of events in the world, dedicating your time and energy to peaceful enterprises if you so wish, without being enslaved to passionate identification with this argument or that point of view. If your first priority is the quality of your own consciousness, you will put power into the world's beating heart.
- We see only one or two pieces of the jigsaw that is the whole of life, the completeness of what humanity does on this planet. We don't see the great picture. There come times when handing an inexplicable quandary over to God and staying in the space of Great Calm is the wise thing to do.

## YOUR LOCAL CONTACTS

### Parish Council

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 Jane Morrow cllrjmorrow@beer-pc.gov.uk

Clerk to the Council: [clerk@beer-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@beer-pc.gov.uk)

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

### East Devon District Councillor

John Heath 07966 089257

### Devon County Councillor

Paul Arnott paul.arnott@devon.gov.uk

### Member of Parliament Richard Foord

Email: [Richard.Foord.MP@parliament.uk](mailto:Richard.Foord.MP@parliament.uk)

Tel: 0207 219 8349

Post:

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The guide is also available online at [www.OurLocalExpert.co.uk](http://www.OurLocalExpert.co.uk) Nick always welcomes genuine feedback about businesses who do and don't feature in the guide using the same contact details.



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# Beer Parish News

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