

Beer Parish News

2025 October



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

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St MICHAEL'S CHURCH



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

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Calendar for OCTOBER 2025

Sun 28th Sept	9:30am HARVEST PRAISE followed by HARVEST BREAKFAST	<i>St Michael & All Angels</i>
Wed 1st Oct	8:30am Open the Book at school 10:00am Reflective Prayer	
Sun 5th	8:00am Holy Communion 9:30am Family Communion	<i>16th Sunday after Trinity</i>
Wed 8th	8:30am Open the Book at school 10:00am Holy Communion at BEER	
Fri 10th	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers	
Sun 12th	9:30am Family Communion	<i>17th Sunday after Trinity</i>
Tues 14th	5:00pm Choir Practice	
Wed 15th	2:00pm Anna's Place Simple 30 min service for older people 5:30pm Evening Prayer at SEATON TBC JOINT PCC Meeting at SEATON	
Fri 17th	10:00am Mickey's Music Makers	
Sun 19th	9:30am Morning Praise	<i>18th Sunday after Trinity</i>
Tues 21st	5:00pm Choir Practice	
Wed 22nd	8:30am Open the Book at school 10:00am Holy Communion at SEATON	
Fri 24th	10:30am~ 12noon Mickey's Music Makers meets Messy Church Crafts/Music & Lunch for Families	
Sat 25th	10~12 Seriously Occasional Singers – All welcome	
Sun 26th	9:30am Family Communion 6:00pm East Devon Fishermen's Association (Beer Branch) Harvest of the Sea Service at Beer Congregational Church - ALL welcome.	<i>Last Sunday after Trinity</i>
Tues 28th	5:00pm Choir Practice	
Sun 2nd Nov	8:00am Holy Communion 9:30am Morning Praise	<i>All Saints Day</i>

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

When I was growing up, there always seemed to be plenty for children and families to do: Youth centres, children's holiday clubs, boys' and girls' groups, cubs, scouts, guides, and parent-and-toddler sessions all offered safe places of fun, friendship, and support. Over the past 40 years, however, many of these opportunities have slowly but surely disappeared—squeezed out by financial constraints, societal shifts, and a shrinking voluntary sector.

During my time here in Seaton and Beer, we have been prayerfully discerning our heart, vision, and purpose for the next 5–10 years. One of our key aims is to “create community.” Out of that vision has grown an exciting new initiative: our Joining Generations project, described by Revd Shuna in recent magazines and August's *Revd's Ramble*. Its purpose is simple but significant: - To open our arms of welcome wider, deeper, and further to bring together all generations. To reach out intentionally to children and families. To inspire, encourage and enable connections, flourishing and growth in life and faith across all generations. To provide practical and spiritual support and care, and share the love of Jesus in everyday ways.

To bring this vision to life, we hope to appoint a Joining Generations lead and build a dedicated voluntary team. Whilst our first funding application was not successful in securing the full amount we hoped for, we remain convinced that God is at work. We continue to seek His leading, and we are prayerfully exploring fresh opportunities and funding avenues to make this outreach vision become a reality.

Many of you know I do a bit of running (some may even have spotted me plodding through the lanes and trails of the Axe Valley in all weathers and all hours recently!). On the 26th September, while on annual leave, Melissa and I will be setting off on yet another adventure: LEJOG. No, not another trip to France to run in circles, but yes, some familiar territory – Land's End to John O'Groats (LEJOG). Running the length of Britain once again, 854 miles in 17 days, only in the opposite direction (uphill if you like). It has taken some careful discernment and preparation, and we are delighted to be again supported by the excellent Steve and Henry from Ultrarunning ltd and their team. Melissa and I are both nervous and excited, and



experienced enough to know undertaking challenges like this requires more than courage and determination. If successful however, I hope to be the first person to complete the iconic double in this specific 17-day format, and Melissa first female to complete this route in this 17-Day set-up too.

Now you may be asking: what does this have to do with Joining Generations? This time, the run has an extra purpose. I have set-up a giving page to raise funds for our Joining Generations project (<https://gvwhl.com/LPVZ8>) or search online for givewheel.com and on the website search 'LEJOG'. To kick things off, I am personally donated the first £854—£1 for every mile. I would love for you to consider supporting in any way you can—perhaps by sponsoring a penny per mile, giving a set donation, or simply contributing whatever you feel able. Every gift will help us move closer to making this Joining Generations vision a reality. If you would prefer to give a gift via a cheque, please make it payable to 'Seaton PCC' and write 'Joining Generations LEJOG' on the rear of the cheque. For cash donations, please put in an envelope labelled 'Joining Generations LEJOG' and hand in to the church or Seaton church office.

Melissa will also be raising funds for 'Nowzad', an animal welfare charity in two countries devastated by war - Afghanistan and Ukraine and an organisation close to both our hearts. Some of you will know that I served with K-Company, 42 Commando Royal Marines, on Operation Herrick 5 in Afghanistan in 2006. It was during that time, in an outpost in Nowzad, that the charity was birthed by an encounter between one of our sergeants and a stray dog, who became known as 'Nowzad'. You can find Melissa's giving page online at Justgiving.com and searching 'LEJOG Melissa Montague' or direct link <https://www.justgiving.com/page/melissa-montague>. If you wish to donate by cheque, please make payable to 'Nowzad' and send to Seaton Church office.

We would love you to follow our LEJOG journey. You'll find updates at <https://www.facebook.com/ultrarunningltd/> as well as tracking details for every mile. We'll be covering around 50+ miles each day (with the final two days shorter).

Please pray for safety, stamina, and sunshine as we take on this challenge. And please, above all, pray for the Joining Generations project—that through it we may create community, build relationships, and share the love of Jesus with families in Seaton, Beer, and beyond.

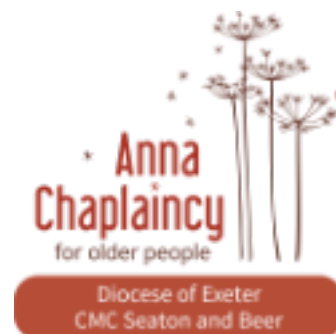
Grace and peace – *Revd Justin*



Charitable Giving

If you come to services at St Michael's Church, you will know that each Sunday there is a "collection". These offerings are a vital part of keeping the church building running, but also throughout the year we collect and make donations to a wide range of local, national and global charities & causes.

One of our regular charities is World Vision and we currently sponsor a little boy in Nepal, about whom we get regular updates. I took over as the 'personal contact' several years ago from Elizabeth Molony, but I need to step down now. Ideally, we (St Michael's PCC) is looking for someone to take over this role which I promise, is not an onerous task in anyway, and simply involves sending him a Christmas card or birthday greetings (which World Vision provide) on behalf of our church. If you think you might be interested and/or would like to know what it involves, please have a word with me Gayle Chapple [07794838219] or the PCC Secretary Jean Smith [07412010245].



ANNA CHAPLAINCY

ANNA CHAPLAINCY – OCTOBER

worship and events – 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.

Monday 6 October - NETHERHAYES 10.45 a.m.

Monday 13 October - THORNFIELD – 11.00 a.m.

Tuesday 14 October– 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 October 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 October – THE MANOR 11.00 a.m.

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

Monday 27 October – THE SEATON 11.00 a.m.

Wednesday 29 October– CHECKHOUSE 11.00 a.m.

If you know someone living at home or someone who would like a one-to-one visit in residential care, please contact either Mary or Sue on their mobile numbers. Information leaflets about Anna Chaplaincy ministry are 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

Joining Generations update

Thank you of all your support so far for our 'Joining Generations' initiative to invest in our Ministry across the generations in Beer and Seaton. I am delighted to report that we have already received a number of financial donations from church members for these plans.



I have two new developments to share.

Firstly, disappointingly, the bid for funding with the Benefact Trust has unfortunately been turned down. They have said we can reapply, but the amount they would grant would not be more than 10% of the project costs. There are other funders to try, but it seems the trend is to apply for small amounts from many different organisations. This is a future project in itself!

Secondly and very encouragingly, we do not sense this brings a close to the careful and prayerful planning that has taken place for this important 'Joining Generations' project over the last year for the Coastal Mission Community. We faithfully believe and are carefully discerning that God may be leading us to be open to other opportunities in front of us to realise this vital outreach into our communities for such a time as this.

This includes exploring the position initially to be filled on a voluntary capacity if possible, where we build supportive teams and structures around an individual.

I am very keen to hear from anyone who might be interested in joining a wider 'Joining Generations' team. I am pleased that there has already been some interest and we are currently looking at how a voluntary role could work.

Rev Shuna

Colin Potter Introduction

My name is Colin and I've lived in Axminster for nearly a year now. I was born and brought up in Exeter. I've lived in the Midlands, Sheffield, London, Lancaster and back to Exeter, before moving to the Isle of Wight, with my wife Leisa, in 2018. We're really pleased to be back 'home' in Devon, close to many of our friends and family.

I love singing, playing the violin, and dancing; music and concerts; good films and documentaries. Also swimming, nature walks, and time with friends and family.

I've had a thirty year career in care work, counselling, advocacy, charity management, CQC, the NHS – and now run my own life coaching business. The constant throughout has been a desire to listen, support and enable others to find their voice and take positive steps forward.

I was brought up a Methodist and twelve years ago joined an Elim Pentecostal Church, and their musical worship team. Five years later, I met Leisa, an old school friend, and we got married. I joined the Anglican church, feeling called to be a lay worship leader and later a lay preacher. But I felt God calling me further to ordination and I'm excited to have just started my three-year training course at Trinity College, Bristol.

As an ordinand at the Coastal Mission Community, I'm really looking forward to learning and exploring with Justin and the team, getting to know you and the local communities, and seeking to know and follow Christ more closely.

I'm writing this just after the autumn equinox, which was duly marked by gales and stormy weather. The rain of the last couple of weeks has been very welcome, even though it feels as though winter is drawing on quickly. Dry grass has perked up and turned back to greensward. I'm hoping to have a reasonable display of dahlias as several of the plants have not yet flowered this season.

The Fine Foundation Centre will stay open for visitors daily until after the half-term holiday. We have had a number of compliments about the new lay-out and the occupants of the tanks seem to be happy. Hopefully our plans to review some of the older exhibits will come to fruition over next winter.

We spent some time watching a hummingbird hawk moth recently. It was busy visiting a planter full of petunias, testing each flower for nectar, in a whirr of wings. It was the first of these little moths which we had seen this year, although we had received reports of other sightings. It is a summer visitor which winters in Southern Europe.

Another recent sighting in the garden has been a couple of green grasshoppers. They were about 7 cm long and a distinctive bright green in colour. One had climbed up into the collapsed whirly washing line, and was reluctant to move to allow us to open the line.

We understand that our local peregrine falcons have successfully hatched a number of youngsters. This year's nest is sheltered from view so our informant has not yet been able to count them. Once they are fledged we should be able to see them on the wing.

After a busy summer, the Bomb Shelter has returned to celebrating the story of the bomb which missed Beer. All of the artists exhibiting during the last few months found that they were asked questions about the bomb and made sure that they could answer as many as possible.

Autumn heralds the return of the Branscombe Project talks with the first, the John Torrence Lecture, being on 24th November. Robert Reed will talk about badgers and different ways of farming.

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. Annual subscriptions are now due and have been kept at £3 per person. You can give yours to a committee member, put it in the

diver's tank in the centre or leave it at the Post Office. Don't forget to include your name and contact details. Thank you to everyone who has already sent theirs to us.

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.



BEER FILM SOCIETY

FOR our Eve of Halloween film at the Mariners' Hall on October 30th we decided that 'Heretic' (2024, 15, 1hr 51mins) ticked all the boxes.

The movie is a psychological thriller with an undercurrent of horror starring Hugh Grant - but as you have never seen him before.

Forget those images of cuddly Grant in Four Weddings and a Funeral, Love Actually, Notting Hill and more recently Paddington, Heretic is a movie which shows just what a fine actor Grant has now become.

In this movie, directed by Scot Beck and Bryan Woods, Grant plays the diabolical Mr Reed, who ensnares two young Mormon missionaries into a deadly game of cat-and-mouse when he invites them into his house and forces them to prove their faith.

The critics certainly loved the film and praised Grant for his skills in bringing a real edge of menace to his character.

'A gripping, intelligent horror-thriller ideal for those who like to see something scary in Halloween week.'

Daily Mail. Brian Viner. 3*

'It's a reminder, particularly in the horror genre, that a good idea and a single location can be a really adventurous roller coaster ride.'

Mark Kermode & Simon Mayo's Take.

If Heretic proves nothing else, it's that creepy, evil Hugh Grant is the best Hugh Grant.

Rolling Stone. David Fear.

Grant, easily the best reason to see it, has a whale of a time when he's inflicting his brand of infidel torment on two trapped house guests.

Daily Telegraph. Tim Robey. 3*

Grant is a revelation, effortlessly moving from genial and playful to deliciously deadpan and frightening.

Radio Times. Jeremy Aspinall. 4*

To celebrate the occasion we will also be staging our own special 'Trick or Treat' with lots of surprise prizes being handed out. If you are lucky!

Doors open at 6.30pm with the film starting at 7pm.

Tickets cost £5 for members and £7 for guest and are available on the door. Card payment preferred please.

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

SPECIAL OFFER: Join Beer Film Society now for just £15 and get a FREE entry to our December film plus FREE Christmas treats.

Beer Film Society

"HUGH GRANT HAS NEVER BEEN SO GOOD"

★★★★★ THE GUARDIAN ★★★★★ THE INDEPENDENT ★★★★★ EMPIRE

HALLOWEEN SPECIAL

+ Trick or Treat SURPRISE!

HERETIC

Thursday October 30th

Mariners' Hall

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

Card payment preferred

Bring your own cushions!

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On Thursday 4th September our volunteers held a surprise party outside our RNLI Shop at Beer for Ann Roberts who has volunteered at our shops, with fundraising plus being on our committee for many of the years from 2006. Ann first took part in a Street Collection in July 1992 that was organised by our former secretary Barbara Harding. Ann continues to volunteer with us and our Chairman Kate Filby presented Ann with a thirty year service badge on behalf of the RNLI.



Ann receiving her thirty year badge from chairman Kate Filby

On Saturday 6th September six of our volunteers took part and had a great time in the Seaton Carnival Procession. Our entry was in the walking group two people or more and was called "Respect The Water". During the evening they gave out water safety leaflets and stickers. They collected during the evening and a donation is usually received from the Carnival during the new year.

As I write my report, we are looking forward to collecting at Tesco Superstore Honiton on Saturday 11th October as part of

Lifeboat Saturday. The RNLI will be celebrating the anniversary of the first Street Collection in the world held in October 1891. The collection was organised by Sir Charles Macara following the worst disaster in RNLI history when on the 10th December 1886 twenty seven lifeboat men lost their lives while attempting to rescue the crew from the barque "Mexico".

On Sunday 12th October it is our Annual Autumn Sponsored Walk. This year we are calling it Ramble for the RNLI and the distance is approximately 9 miles. In 2005, 1993, 2005 and 2019 when the walks were previously walked we didn't have GPS to accurately measure the distance but we will be doing so this year. The walk starts at Seaton Down Hill Picnic Site at 10am and proceeds down to the East and West Walks, across to and around Axmouth and back to Seaton. We would love additional people to take part. Details and/or a sponsor form are available by sending a message to 07790861531 or email wac500@hotmail.co.uk Donations can be given on the day.

As 2025 progresses, we will be at Table Top Sales and Christmas Fairs at Beer and in our area with our RNLI Christmas cards and gifts. Our Tesco Seaton Christmas Collection is on Friday 19th December.

Additional volunteers are still needed at our Shop at Beer. Please contact our Shop Manager Richard Hare on 07752393640, call in to the Shop or see our volunteers when we are out and about at events.

Take care and best wishes to everyone.

Wendy Cummins, Secretary
Fundraising/Events
Seaton Beer and District Branch
RNLI



Pat Watterson, Ann Roberts, Yvonne Munro-Hart
Seaton Carnival

BEER PARISH COUNCIL - October Newsletter

September traditionally marks the beginning of a new year for all Town and Parish Councils and here in Beer the Councillors look forward to being able to serve all our residents to the best of our capabilities. The first meeting of the Parish Council was sadly marked with “two good byes”. The first to mention is our former Chairman Martin Richards. Martin has devoted over 25 years serving as a Councillor and his knowledge and experience will be greatly missed. It is widely known that his family has suffered tragic personal problems during the last two years or so and Martin felt that it was time to step back from public office and concentrate on looking after his family. Beer owes him a huge debt of gratitude as he has worked tirelessly during the last 25 years, being the longest standing Chairman and Councillor it has had. We wish him and all his family well and we thank him for all he has done for the village. He will be a very hard act to follow, but we feel sure that the person we have elected to be the new Chairman is up to that challenge. Tim Stevens has served as a Councillor for a number of years and as the new Chairman, Tim has already shown good leadership skills. Filling Martin’s shoes won’t be easy, but Tim has pledged to try his hardest to do so.

The second “good bye” was to our former Clerk Mrs Nicky Ingarfield. Nicky has served as our Parish Clerk for a number of years and she has given the village an exemplary service during that time, frequently going above and beyond her duties to ensure the smooth running of village matters. Nicky has been rewarded with promotion in her principal job and as a result she felt she was unable to continue to serve the village to the degree she has strived to do so throughout her term of office. We wish her well in her future and say a big thank you for all she has done. We are very pleased to warmly welcome our new Clerk Mrs Tess Nishino who took over from Nicky at the September meeting. Although being new to the role of a Parish Clerk, Tess has had experience in management circles and is keen to embrace her new challenge to the best of her ability.

During the first Parish Council meeting of the year, details of the forthcoming challenges facing Beer were highlighted. Good progress towards resolving the housing problems at Peasens Flats was reported by District Councillor John Heath. He told the meeting that work to improve the living conditions within the flats is now underway, following his lengthy negotiations with EDDC

housing dept. He also reported that work has commenced to tackle the great number of deep potholes in the roads around Beer. Once favourable weather conditions allow, work on bringing the vast quantity of rock presently being stored at Falmouth, will commence and the sea defences along the coastline around Beer and Seaton will start.

Councillor Caroline Thompson (who has headed the re-formation of B.E.R.T. [Beer emergency response team] reported that the grant funding to purchase emergency equipment has been received and a meeting in November to organise all outstanding necessary preparation work, will follow. With the seemingly ever changing climatic conditions, Beer needs to be able to cope with emergency situations, such as flooding. Measures to protect both properties and ensure the use of all facilities in the village is necessary.

Councillor Simon Whitelock has agreed to head a proposed new survey of all the drains and gullies throughout the village, where the precise location and present condition of each will be recorded. There are numerous examples of these being blocked and unfit for purpose. During periods of heavy rainfall this situation will potentially cause flooding in many parts of the village. A closer working relationship with DCC will hopefully follow when the survey has been concluded.

Councillor Karen Stevens (together with Martin Richards) were praised by the rest of the Councillors for their extensive work in organising numerous visits to Beer by the offenders under the Community Pay-back Scheme. During 2025 groups of men have (under supervision) carried out ground clearing/ grass cutting work in several parts of the village. This includes working on the Jubilee area and in the cemetery garden in Clapps Lane. Both Councillors have themselves given up a lot of their time and effort in arranging these visits. Further visits are being planned by them; so that Beer gets all the benefit and help it can from this government scheme. All their efforts are greatly appreciated by the Parish Councillors in keeping the village looking in a much tidier condition.

Work continues at a pace regarding the possible devastating consequences of any further loss of soil/rock at Common Lane. The present Councillors (following in the footsteps of previous Councillors) appreciate the dramatic impact that even the smallest amount of cliff fall at the narrowest part of Common Lane would have on the economic sustainability of the village as a

continues...

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whole. At its narrowest point there is only two metres of land remaining between the edge of the cliff and the roadway. Even the smallest further cliff fall will necessitate the immediate closure of Common Lane between its junctions at The Meadows and with Southdown Road, near the Coastguard station. The consequences of this would be to force a new detour route of almost a mile for all traffic and pedestrians wishing to get from the Beer head car park or Caravan Site down into the village! Discussions about what action could/should be taken to try to avoid further cliff erosion have been talked about for many years. These include prohibiting all vehicles using this stretch of Common Lane, or at the very least enforcing both a width and weight limit over the road. In essence, we are trying to be proactive to avoid another "Seaton Hole road closure" situation occurring here in Beer. Talks with Devon County Highways dept. and with our local MP member over this very serious concern, are scheduled. Further details of any progress will be reported later.

Councillor Simon Whitelock (who heads the negotiations on behalf of the Parish Council) with St Michael's church and the Exeter Diocese of the Church of England regarding the Chapel of Rest in Clapps Lane) reported that work on the repairs to the roof are in hand and should commence soon. The Parish Council is only getting involved to try to preserve the existence of the building. It is not sponsoring the repairs and this remains the responsibility of the Church, who owns the building.

In other news concerning the beach; talks with EDDC, Beer Sailing Club and the beach café owners have commenced regarding the renewal of the present wooden walkway at the western side of the beach. It is proposed that this is removed and replaced with the same type of reconstituted plastic walkway which has already been laid on the eastern side of the beach. The life-span of the new material is thought to be much longer than the old wooden one, which is in a poor state. It has been noted that the amount of water flowing down Beer Brook onto the beach has increased even in the so-called dryer season. The fishermen in particular are worried about the stability of their boat winches caused by the increase in water flowing down and over the beach. A detailed inspection and survey to ascertain the cause and possible solutions, is underway.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 8th October 2025 at 7.00 pm in the Mariners' Hall. All residents of Beer are welcome to attend.

Cllr Martin Shobbrook



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BEER BRANCH POPPY APPEAL WEAR YOUR POPPY WITH PRIDE

This year has flown by and we are now approaching the Poppy Appeal period again. Our Poppy Appeal will launch on Sunday 26th October and continue for the usual two weeks, culminating in Remembrance Sunday on the 9th November. All wreaths will be distributed around the shops by Peter Anderson and then ready for collection outside Mariners' Hall on the Sunday (as per usual). Our Remembrance Service will commence at 1100 a.m. with laying of wreaths and reading of the names of those men from Beer who died during WW1 and WW11.

This year our Appeal at MOTO Services will start on Monday 3rd November for a week and if anyone feels they can spare few hours to help us, please let me know.

We are a small village, with a big heart, raising over £8000 last year which is quite amazing, considering we only have MOTO for a week and few shops. Our wonderful team of Sybil and Peter raised over £900 outside the Congregational Hall come or shine. We are indebted to them both.

Our team at MOTO give so much, especially Sue Ball and her stalwart volunteers who spend all day at the Service Station meeting so many interesting people who generously give to the Appeal.

The Poppy Appeal is only allowed 2 weeks to collect, but last year £43m was collected nationally. So, where does this money go?

Serving, veterans, their families and dependants are eligible for help in whatever form – we look after those who need help for as long as they need us. We help families who are struggling financially, adaption of homes, ie. Stroke victims or, especially during the conflicts, loss of limbs, white goods.

We supported a triple amputee with a new high fence around his garden, in order that he could have some sort of privacy with his children.

We support PTSD with counselling and visits, run six homes for respite, care and dementia. We pay for specialised Admiral Nurses (dementia) across the country; we are the only military charity to canvas Government for better quality of life for our veterans – War Widows Pensions, Hearing Loss and we have an efficient legal team who represent our veterans every step of the way.

We are the custodians of Remembrance and organise the Royal Albert Hall Festival of Remembrance, Field of Remembrance and work with the MOD in organising the Cenotaph Parade on the Sunday. Just a fraction of the work the RBL undertakes, and none of this would be possible without the generous support for the Poppy Appeal from you the public.

Here in Devon, we have our own Festival of Remembrance, which will be held this year on Saturday 1st November at the Falklands Hall, CTCRM Lymington. Tickets can be obtained online.

Our little branch in Beer will hold the Annual General Meeting on Monday 20th October 2025 in the Congregational Hall starting at 7.30 p.m. Refreshments - all welcome.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Carole Arnold, Secretary - 07710809765 / carole.arnold123@gmail.com



The Summer Holiday Club: A Leap of Faith.

Early this year, the article I wrote about the church needing support from our community was shared on a local WhatsApp group. Leanne Phillips and Becks Westlake, two local young mothers, got in touch, expressing a willingness to help and their interest in having a Holiday Club in our church.

A few planning meetings later Revd. Justin gave the go-ahead for the project. We decided to be daring, and opted to have a weekly session for four weeks, 10:30am to 12pm, rather than just the conventional first week of the school holidays.

Plans were made, risk and safeguarding assessments were carried out, toy cupboards were rummaged, stories supporting the Beatitudes were selected, healthy snacks were agreed on, and additional volunteers were found.

A **Leap of Faith** was taken by all involved.

The Holiday Club was our “Field of Dreams: if we provide it, they’ll come”... and they did!

To our delight, the first week we had 25 children and their families. The second over 41! Weeks three and four a steady 20 on each session. The church was bursting with life, activity, laughter and interactions. Friendships were forged, links were established and refreshments enjoyed. The children engaged on a variety of games, craft activities and interactive stories. Everyone’s efforts were rewarded with community participation and appreciation.

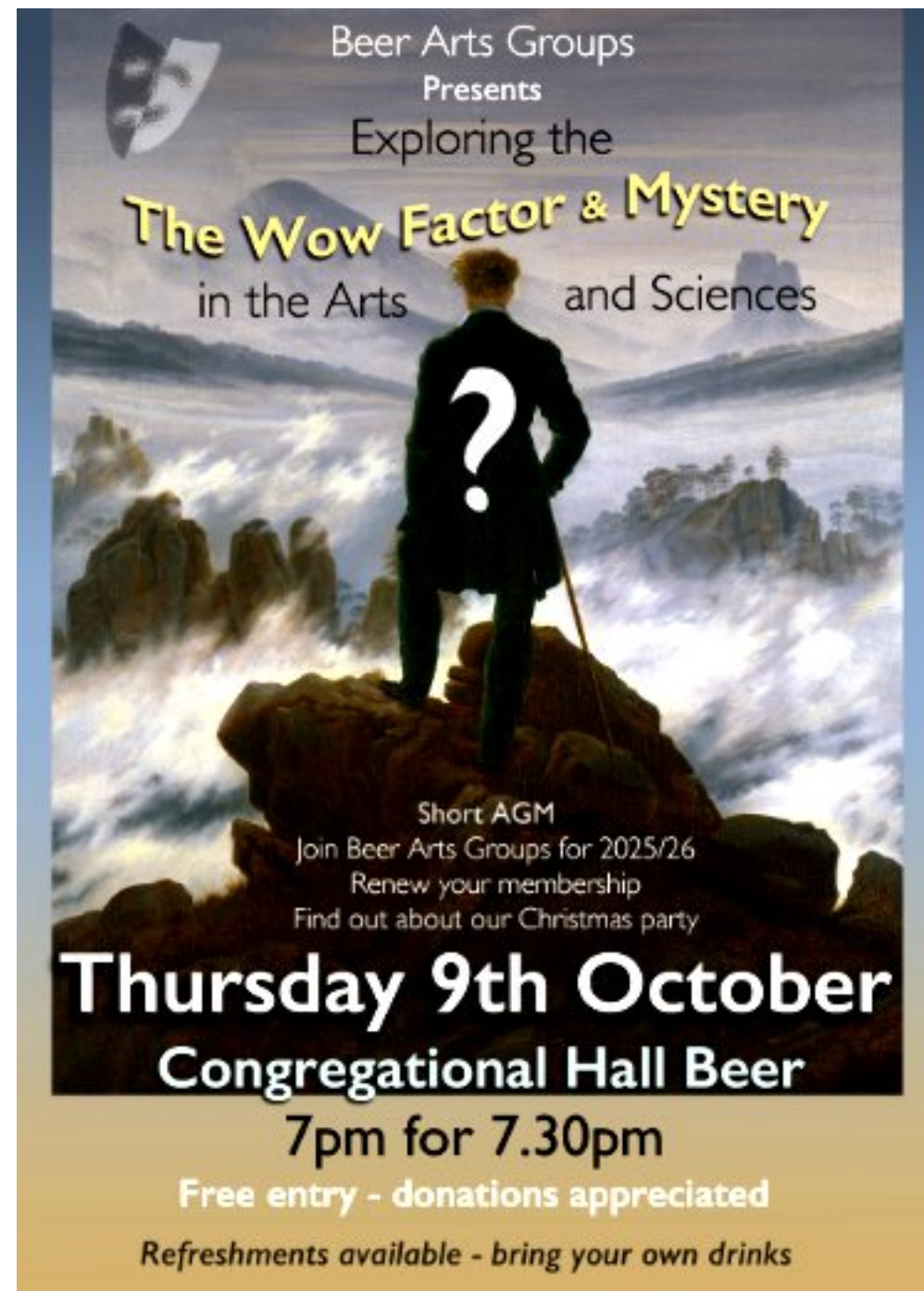
Our **Leap of Faith** had a profound and positive outcome. We were even featured in the Diocese’s Publication “Seedlings”.

Thank you to everyone who made the Holiday Club possible, particularly Revd. Justin for saying yes and establishing links with the families; Leanne, Becks and Revd. Shuna for all their hard work; and Geoff Butler for serving refreshments and healthy snacks. A huge thank you to the children and their families for sharing their summer with us and filling the church with such joy.

It was a pleasure taking this **Leap of Faith** with you all.

Look out for our next exciting family event!

Mónica Weber-Butler



Beer Arts Groups
Presents
Exploring the
The Wow Factor & Mystery
in the Arts and Sciences

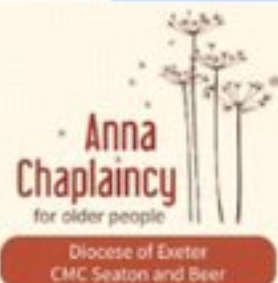
Short AGM
Join Beer Arts Groups for 2025/26
Renew your membership
Find out about our Christmas party

Thursday 9th October
Congregational Hall Beer
7pm for 7.30pm
Free entry - donations appreciated
Refreshments available - bring your own drinks

ANNA'S PLACE

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

October 15th
November 19th
December 17th



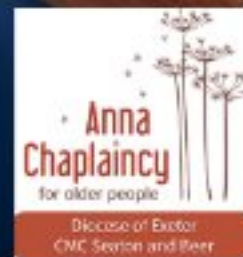
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together.

Tuesday 14 October
Tuesday 11 November
Tuesday 9 December

2nd Tues of
the month
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BEER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER



Sunday October 5th - 10am Morning Service with Holy Communion - Revd Nigel Freathy
Sunday October 12th - 10am Morning Service - Revd Nigel Freathy
Sunday October 19th - 10am Morning Service - Revd Geoff Powell
Sunday October 26th - 10am Morning Service - Mrs Annette Freathy
6-30pm Harvest of the Sea preceded by Congregational Hymn Singing from 6pm
Sunday November 2nd - 10am Morning Service with Holy Communion - Revd Nigel Freathy
COFFEE MORNINGS IN THE HALL - 10-30am - 12 noon - October 9th and 23rd
Bible Study Group at Southleigh, Barline - October 3rd - 2-30pm - 4pm
- Tea and biscuits - all welcome



Beer@devon.WI.org.uk 07710520055

We met on Wed September 3rd in the Congregational Hall for a talk by Dr F. E. Burroughs on The Wonderful World of Glass. An informative, funny and fascinating talk with items dating from 75 million years ago to more recent examples. Passing some of these historical items around was almost scary as they dated back as far as ancient Egyptian times, Roman times and some were so valuable and rare it was positively frightening to break them. Dr Burroughs has a wry sense of humour which kept us all laughing throughout, whilst teaching us an awful lot about glass.

This was followed with tea and biscuits before the general meeting started. **The talk next month is called the Archaeology of Nursery Rhymes by Dr Jenny Moon.**

Book Club – Will meet Monday October 6th, 2.00pm at Isabella's

Cards – every Thursday afternoon with Barbara or Penny.

Creative Writing – Will be on Monday 29th September at 2.30pm. The subject is 'A Place I would like to Visit', at Pamelas.

Lunch – Anne Gladstone has organised our skittles Winter season as follows: 16th October, 13th November, 15th January, 19th February, 19th March and 16th April. These will all be at The Hind, Musbury from 11am, lunch at 1pm.

Coffee morning – at Barbara's. September 30th at 10.30 am

Plant/flower of the month competition

The winners for the best Dahlias were equal firsts for Isabella and Barbara G. The flower for October is a Chrysanthemum.

Next meeting is on October 1st in the Congregational Hall at 7.30pm
 New members and visitors are very welcome. We'd love to see you.

ALTAR GUILD NEWS

Meeting held Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Feedback from the Hymns & Pimms St. Michaels's Open Day Afternoon Sunday August 24th went very well with a steady flow attending especially from visitors who gave very positive feedback and thoroughly enjoyed the experience, beautifully decorated church and wonderful cream tea.

As we go into the Autumn St. Michaels church thanks everyone for their support during the summer events held in the church and look forward to your continuing support as we head towards to the end of another year.

Please come and join us, everyone is very welcome.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 21st October 2025 @10.00am



YOUR “LOCAL” CONTACTS

Parish Council

John Heath	cllrjheath@beer-pc.gov.uk
Maureen Westlake	cllrmwestlake@beer-pc.gov.uk
Martin Shobbrook	cllrmschobbrook@beer-pc.gov.uk
Timothy Stevens	cllrtstevens@beer-pc.gov.uk
Karen Stevens	cllrkstevens@beer-pc.gov.uk.com
Simon Reeve	cllrreeve@beer-pc.gov.uk
Caroline Thompson	cllrcthompson@beer-pc.gov.uk
Simon Whitelock	cllrswritelock@beer-pc.gov.uk
Cllr Carole Arnold	cllrcarnold@beer-pc.gov.uk

Clerk to the Council: 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

Parliamentary matters -

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

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

c/o 118 High Street, Honiton, EX14 1JP

How is your Inner Calm these days?

These are disturbing times. The world is full of opposing energies. You can't wish them away. Images of violence and suffering are with us every day, here and now.

These happenings are part of this world. They cannot be dismissed. They won't go away. They are reality. The potential is there for this to be deeply disturbing. Human stories touch us deeply. They break your heart.

What does your intuition tell you about this? You can't change the world. You might feel impelled to act in some way that helps charities or medical aid groups. You might pray. You might make your voice heard in some way. Or you might feel helpless – whatever your response is, whatever your emotions, the central core of you, the observer of all that happens, remains what it always is: the conscious observer.

Are you able to stay in contact with your inner calm? The temptation to be swamped by emotion, by helplessness, by empathy, by anger is there. But always present is the option – even in the face of inhuman events – to remain as the calm observer.

This world hurts us because blind and wilful stupidity and anger go on causing suffering that appears almost unbearable. But your response to that has to keep itself outside the circle of consuming anger. Your response has to be calm. Calmness is still and is contemplative. Calmness sees and remains watchful. Calmness knows and does not react out of uncontrolled emotions. Calmness knows, and feels the hurt deeply, and retains inner calm.

Any responsive action you feel impelled to take should come out of your calm, not out of your emotions.

Wisdom is calm. What breaks your heart is that which opens you to wisdom.

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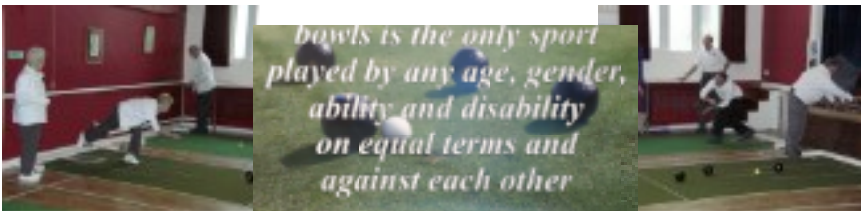
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Beer Parish News

CHRISTMAS IN BEER *Let it Snow!*

The Christmas team are already planning and need YOUR help

- ✓ book your diary for the weekend of 5-7 December for Christmas fun.
- ✓ help turn Fore Street into Forest Street by booking your Christmas trees in brackets with Woozie
- ✓ Light up your homes in December to win prizes
- ✓ follow Visit Beer to find out more or ask questions



The Christmas team are already planning and need YOUR help... so please book your diary for the weekend of 5-7 December for Christmas fun.

We would like to turn Fore Street into Forest Street and need your help please. We can supply and fit brackets, trees and lights - you just need to get in touch with our bookings fairy by phoning [07447 558757](tel:07447558757).

We also ask you to light up your homes in December and you could win prizes ...follow Visit Beer to find out

more or ask questions

The Christmas team will be sharing their plans via Facebook, Instagram and posters in the village and hope you will join us to make it a special Christmas!

Booked already! - A Christmas Craft Fair on Friday December 5th in St Michael's Church.3-7pm.

Copy for November to be with the Editor
by **Wednesday 22nd October, at very latest please.**

henryjaggers@btinternet.com

01297 20858 Green Bank, 9 Clinton Rise EX12 3DZ

Back Page

October 2025