

Saltash Team Newsletter

Bring #JoyToTheWorld with www.AChristmasNearYou.org

This Christmas the Church of England will be launching a new website inviting people across the country to attend local parish services at Christmas.

Parishes are being invited to visit AChristmasNearYou.org/upload from the 1st November and complete a simple form no later than 1st December to register their Christmas church services.

On the 1st of December www.AChristmasNearYou.org will be live for anyone to be able to find the nearest Christmas services to them (or search for services in a particular location). It will be able to filter by date, whether there will be carols and accessibility such as wheelchair access, sign language and parking and more. They'll also be able to find which Christmas services are serving mince pies or mulled wine! For smartphones, the website will be able to use geolocation to find where the person is and show which Christmas services are happening nearest to them.

Commenting on the new plans the Rev Arun Arora, Director of Communications for the Archbishops' Council, said:

"We think a perfect Christmas includes a Church Christmas. No matter how good the dinner or how expensive the present, a deeper joy is to be found in Church at Christmas. Whether it's midnight mass, a nativity play, a carol service or the joy of welcoming the Christ child on Christmas day, the best kind of Christmas involves a visit to Church. Using digital to publicise the range of services we offer complements the usual parish work of placing leaflets through people's doors, using social media and digital tools to encourage people to look up their local services online or mobile."

The website will be supported by a social media campaign from the launch of the website, right up to Christmas Day using the hashtag #JoyToTheWorld.

Churches from across the country will be encouraged to share photos/videos of their churches celebrating and asking the millions of people who attend church at Christmas to tweet about the church services and celebrations they have attended.

A screenshot of a registration form for a project called 'Saltash Who's Who?'. The form has a header with the project name and a large empty box for a profile picture. Below this are several sections with labels and input fields: 'Church address (not home address)', 'Church website', 'Church email address', and 'Church phone number'. At the bottom, there is a checkbox for 'I agree to the terms and conditions' and a 'Submit' button.

Have you completed your profile for the Saltash Who's Who? A scrapbook of the congregations is being collated to help Rev Cathy when she arrives. Copies are available at St Stephen's and St Nicholas and St Faith or email saltashparishnewsletter@gmail.com

facebook.com/St-Stephens-By-Saltash

[@_St_Stephens](https://twitter.com/_St_Stephens)

Also available online: www.saltashteamministry.org

Public Lecture at Marjons University

On **Thursday 10th November** the Chaplaincy will host the Annual Richard Hooker Lecture. Professor Nicholas Orme will speak on 'A Thousand Years of the English Parish Church' commencing at 7.30. Tea and Coffee will be served at 7pm. Professor Orme is a eminent historian with a distinguished academic career in Oxford and Exeter with a host of international awards, honours and prizes. This is not a theological lecture rather a historical approach so that anyone with interest in the majestic buildings that are spread across our land or the living community that has shaped so much of our cultural fabric is sure to be interested.

What's going on at St. Stephen's Church

Thanks & Results

Thanks to all who helped and supported at any of our events in October. The amounts raised are as follows: Rame Peninsular Concert - £250.80, Body Shop Evening - £208.10. We also had our fundraising stalls attend Wesley Craft Fair and took sales of £433.00

November Fair – 10am to 2pm – Saturday 12th November

Handicrafts, Cakes, Bric A Brac, Festive Tombola, Books, Hoopla, Diaries, Stationery, Christmas Raffle, Activity Books, Greetings Cards and much, much more. Fundraising stalls for Mothers Union and The Royal British Legion will also be present. Refreshments including light lunches and seasonal treats will be served throughout. Free Entry

Christmas Shopping Evening – 6.30pm to 9pm – Friday 25th November

Please come along and support our first crack at a Christmas Shopping Evening and please spread the word of our event. 18 traders will be present including favourites; The Cornish Gouda Co, Luminosity Art, Scarf Ace and Chalky Boards. We welcome the very talented John Worth to our event with his scenes of the Cornish Coast and Countryside selling Mounted Photographs, Cards and a 2017 Calendar. Refreshments will be available including Hot Pork Rolls. Western Approach will be singing Christmas Carols and Songs across the evening. As usual our fundraising stalls will be out in force too. For further information on whose attending please pick up a leaflet at the back of our Church.

Polperro Fishermen's Choir - Christmas Concert – Tickets £5 Each Friday 2nd December – Doors Open 6.45pm for 7.30pm Start

Tickets are available now following Sunday morning services from Steve Hookway/Roger Rowse or Wednesday Morning Services from John Petherbridge/Gordon Richards. Or you can purchase from Piglets, Fore Street or you can pay on the night. Claire Fry and Darren Jane will also be performing a few festive favourites while the Choir give their vocals a break.

SS NICHOLAS AND FAITH

Regretfully we have had to postpone our American Thanksgiving Dinner which was due to take place on 19th November. Instead there will be a Coffee Morning with Bacon Butties from 10a.m. – 12 noon.

Christmas Tree Festival - our festival is getting quite close now. Set up for the trees is Friday 25th November from 11a.m. – 5 p.m. If these times should be inconvenient please contact Leslie Stevens on 842521. The Trees will be on display from Saturday 26th November from 10 a.m. Bacon Butties and light refreshments will be available. Opening times will be
Saturday 26th November 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.
Sunday 27th November 2 – 4 p.m.
Monday 28th – Friday 2nd December 2 -6 p.m. Coffee/Tea and Mince Pies available
Monday 5th December – Friday 9th 2 – 6 p.m. Coffee/Tea and Mince Pies available
Saturday 3rd December 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Bacon Butties, Light refreshments. Mulled Wine and shortbread from 6 p.m.

This being our 10th year of holding this festival it will be opened by The Star Wars Charity Costume Group at 10 a.m. so please come along and enjoy if you are a Star Wars fan.

Saturday 3rd December from 2.30 p.m. Brunel Harmony Chorus Group will be singing Carols, and Friday 9th the Hand Bell Ringers will be in attendance. We look forward to seeing you all again this year.

On Saturday 22nd October we held our annual skittles match, a very enjoyable evening was had by all who came, it was a very close finish, but this year SS Nicholas were the winners by a hairs breadth.

Messy Church

Once again the church was packed for the Messy Church session in October. We celebrated " Growing in the Light of God", and I think you'll agree that the Tree of Light on the notice board at the end of the West End looks very impressive. Children helped to carve out pumpkins which were lit to shine out the Christian message, and they took home the craft candles that they had decorated along with illuminated prayer balloons.

Thanks to all who helped supervise on the day and those who prepared the delicious spread for tea.

On **November 19th** we shall be holding our Christingle Service and associated crafts for advent.

Mothers' Union

This year Mothers Union has been celebrating its 140th Birthday, with many events. Here in October at St Stephen's , 16 members gathered for a birthday party. We took part in quiz and, as is usual at a party, we played Pass The Parcel - kindly arranged by Leslie. One of our members ,Pauline, made a beautiful birthday cake which we enjoyed with a cup of tea.

On the **8th of November** we will have a talk from a member of the children's society. We begin our meeting at 2 pm in church and welcome visitors.

A few ideas of how to spend your book tokens!

Becoming Reverend, Matt Woodcock

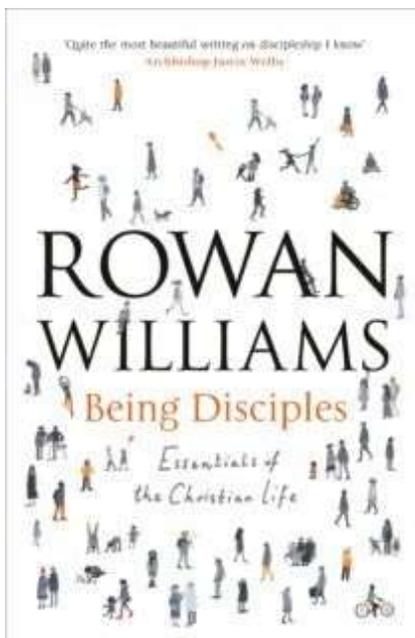
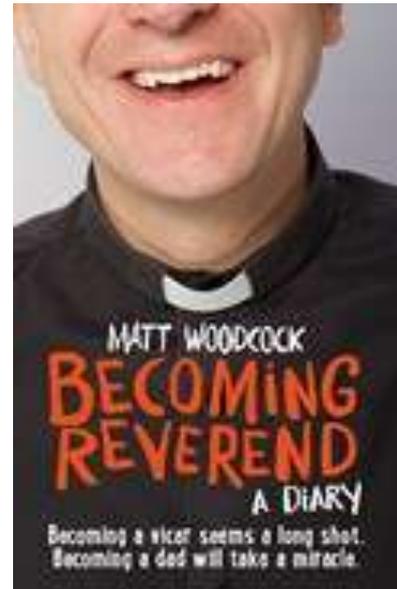
From Church House Publishing:

Meet Woody. Former journalist. Die-hard Oasis fan. High energy. Low sperm count. Training to be a vicar. Obviously.

Matt Woodcock's frank, funny real-life diaries reveal what it was like for him to train as a vicar while struggling against all odds to become a father.

In them he lays bare his joys and struggles as he attempts to reconcile his calling as a vicar with his life as a party-loving journalist, footy-freak and incorrigible extrovert.

Becoming Reverend is a compelling and original account of how faith can work in the midst of a messy life, combining family, fertility, faith and friendship with the story of a divine - but unlikely - calling.



Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life Rowan Williams

From SPCK:

The aim of this little book is simple: to help you to see more clearly, love more dearly and follow more nearly the way of Jesus Christ.

This fresh and inspiring look at the meaning of discipleship covers the essentials of the Christian life, including:
faith, hope and love; forgiveness; holiness; social action; life in the Spirit.

Written for the general reader by one of our greatest living theologians, this book will help you to see more clearly, love more dearly and follow more nearly the way of Jesus Christ.

St Stephen by Saltash **Bell Tower Repairs**

By the time you read this article, hopefully we will have a new flagpole installed on the church bell tower roof, to meet with modern health and safety standards. This is the last piece of the remedial work to the tower jigsaw and we have now spent most of the £45,000.00 raised by the Bell Tower Appeal Committee.

The builder's work which has been difficult at times has consisted of weatherproofing of the south face of the tower and the roof with lime mortar and new lead work after the removal of the cement repairs carried out in 1934. The investigation of the tower floors which uncovered wet and dry rot in the main joists and floor boards, since the investigation the joists and floors were replaced as was necessary. The whole of the work and floor voids were sprayed with preservative and sealed with paste to elevate any further dry or wet rot in the coming years.

Remedial work has also been carried out to the finish of the supporting steelwork of the bells, together with a number of coats of prima and paint. A Structural Engineer was employed to provide a report on the supporting steelwork of the bell frame. We now await the attendance in December of a specialist bell firm who have been appointed to carry out necessary work to the bells and to consider the findings of the Structural Engineers report.

It is hoped that the work which has been carried out with much difficulty has cured most of the problems to the bell tower and that the raising of the replacement flagpole over the church will signify a new chapter in the life and worship of this Team Ministry in the community.

John Reid
A Member of the Tower Committee

St Stephen's Ladies Group

We met on 20 October to celebrate 50 years of the St Stephens ladies group. This group started as Young Wives and as the years passed the term "young" was dropped. The group is open to all ladies and not just wives. This being 50 years since it all started it was decided to celebrate at our harvest super although the dates was in February. Past members were invited and a special cake made by Sue Ferris which was then cut by two of the original ladies. There was a lot of laughs as there were old books and photos to browse and friends caught up with news of families. Audrey Miller attended to record the event and it may appear in the Cornish Times. Our next meeting in November is on 17th and its getting ready for our tree at St Nicholas and St Faith Christmas tree event. Onto December and we are out for our meal.

Saturday Praise

Coffee, Cake and Christian Songs! Saturday Praise is on **Saturday 25 November at 3pm** in the West End of St Stephen's Church. We start and end with refreshments. This is an informal café style service with reflections and worship songs.

Looking ahead (subject to change!):

6 Nov	7pm Saltash Churches Together, Wesley Methodist Church
13 Nov	Remembrance Sunday
27 Nov	6.30pm Darkness to Light Service, SSNF
4 Dec	Licensing of Rev Cathy Sigrist as Priest-in-Charge
11 Dec	Christingle, details to be announced 6.30 St Erney Carol Service
18 Dec	Nine Lessons and Carols
24 Dec	4pm Crib Service at St Stephen's 4pm crib Service at SSNF 4pm Crib Service at St Michael's, Landrake 7pm Carol Service at St Mary's Botus Fleming 11pm Midnight Mass at SSNF 11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion at St Stephen's
25 Dec	930am Holy Communion at St Michael's, Landrake 10am Holy Communion at St Stephen's 10am Holy Communion at SSNF 1115am Holy Communion at St Mary's Botus Fleming
26 Dec	10am Holy Communion at St Stephen (Patronal)

The next deadline for this newsletter is **4 December** to be published on 10 December, this will be last edition for 2016. The deadline for the first edition of 2017 is 9 January to be published on 15 January.

Please send your article to: saltashparishnewsletter@gmail.com
or pop it in to the Team Office.