

Saltash Area Newsletter

October 2024



St Michael Landrake



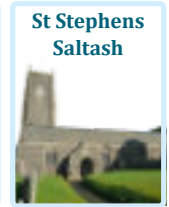
St Mary Botus Fleming



St Terninus St Erney



SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash



St Stephens Saltash

Love God, Serve People, Make Disciples.

www.saltashteamministry.org

What is Time?

October means the changing of the clocks. The last weekend in October is usually when we reset our clocks from British Summer Time back to Greenwich Mean Time. The transient pleasure of an extra hour in bed on the Saturday night is quickly replaced with the reality of the nights drawing in.

When I was a child, I struggled to understand both how and why we changed the clocks twice a year. How could we alter time? Wasn't time – just time? How could we mess about with it, and decide that what one day was 8am was now 7am (important for getting ready for school!)? And



A sundial dating to the 13th century BC discovered in Egypt's Valley of the Kings (Image credit: University of Basel)

why did we bother? Did it really matter that in the summer it could be light until nearly 11pm – wouldn't 10pm do? The idea of time as something that could be manipulated and shifted baffled me. It wasn't until I was much older that I understood that the whole notion of measuring and naming 'time' was a human invention. Calendars (for reckoning intervals of time) and clocks (for measuring its passage) have a long history. The first calendars were lunar, and there's evidence of them as long as 6,000 years ago. The first clocks were a form of sundial, found in Egypt. Clearly humans have long felt the need to track the passage of time. A dictionary defines time as *'the indefinite continued progress of existence and events that occur in an apparently irreversible succession from the past, through the present, into the future.'*

From a human perspective, time is linear and goes in one direction. What could happen if we were freed from this constraint has long-teased writers' imaginations. Many writers have delighted in exploring the idea of being able to travel back in time, or even jump about in it, and have explored the

paradoxes that could result from people meeting their younger selves, or altering events that have already happened. In an episode of 'Dr Who', the Doctor put it like this, *'People assume that time is a strict progression of cause to effect, but actually from a non-linear, non-subjective viewpoint – it's more like a big ball of wibbly wobbly... time-y wimey... stuff.'*

So that's what time is like for human beings. But what about for God? This is a question that has exercised much bigger brains than mine! Christians believe that God stands outside time. There was never a time when God wasn't, and there will never be a time when God isn't. As creatures living in time and subject to it, this is incredibly difficult for us to get our heads around.

The early church was also concerned about time. In the later half of the first century, there were many who believed that the risen and ascended Jesus would return during their lifetimes, to complete what he had started. When this didn't happen, they were puzzled, and some became disheartened. In 2 Peter, the



Sunday 6 October

12.30pm

SSNF Church Rooms
Harvest Lunch

Tuesday 8 October

2pm

St Stephen's Church
Mothers' Union

Wednesday 9 October

10am to 11.30am

St Stephen's Church
Coffee, Cake & Chat

Monday 14 October

The Barcode

MOSSAF

Adventure Golf

Thursday 17 October

6.30pm at St Mary's Church

Sung Evensong & Concert
Pelynt Male Voice Choir

Friday 18 October

Noon – S.T.A.R.T.

Saturday 19 October

3pm to 5pm

St Stephen's Church
Messy Church

Saturday 19 October

6.30pm at The Rising Sun,

Botus Fleming

Auction of Produce

Monday 21 October

2pm to 4pm

SSNF Church Rooms

Craft Afternoon

Please note: from 6 Oct, Sunday morning services will start at 10am in St Nicholas & St Faith.

OCTOBER SERVICES

Note: SS Nicholas & Faith services have moved to 10am

Sunday 6 October

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Morning Worship

St Stephen-by-Saltash

Harvest Festival

10am Family Morning Worship

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

Harvest Festival

10am Holy Communion

St Erney, Landrake

Harvest Festival

11.15am Morning Worship

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Worship

6.30pm Sung Evensong

Sunday 13 October

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Morning Worship

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10am Morning Worship

St Mary, Botus Fleming

Harvest Festival

11.15am Holy Communion

Sunday 20 October

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Holy Communion

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evensong

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Worship

St Erney, Landrake

11.15am Morning Worship

Sunday 27 October

St Michael, Landrake

Harvest Festival

9.30am Morning Worship

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10am Morning Worship

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Worship

Wednesdays 2 & 16 October

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Holy Communion

writer, addressing these concerns, puts it like this, *'But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.'* From the perspective of God's realm of eternity, time looks very different.

But even though God exists outside time, and is not subject to it, God reveals Godself within time, because humanity and creation is. Starting with Abraham, God promised that through his descendants, all creation would know God's blessing. Some

thousands of years later, and 2,000 years distant from us, God revealed Godself in human flesh, in the person of Jesus, a human being born in a specific place at a specific time. The ancient Greeks had two words for time: *chronos*, referring to sequential time, and *kairos*, which signifies the proper or opportune moment for something. Somehow, when Jesus entered *chronos*, it was also *kairos*. With God, we have all the time in the world.

Dursona

Rev'd Laura

Sessions for all PCC Members
at the Parish Hall, Botus Fleming

Sat 5 Oct 930-1230
Why does the Church exist? Why does the PCC exist? What is the best way to conduct PCC meetings?

Sat 9 Nov 930-1230
Reviewing the up, in and out of church life – worship, mission and community

Sat 25 Jan 930-1230
The joys and challenges in a multi-parish benefice. Relating well across the group. Hospitality.

Sat 8 Feb 930-1230
Nurturing leaders, better together, vision for the future.



Recent Events

START



1. Which poet wrote 'The October Night'?
2. Which Nobel Prize category is announced every October but given out in a different month?
3. Which treaty, ending a major conflict, was signed on 3 October, 1990?
4. 24 October is observed as which international day?
5. In 2001, which device was first introduced by Apple in October?
6. On 17 October, 1814, which beverage flooded a London parish after a vat burst?
7. Which famous magician and escape artist died on Halloween in 1926?
8. Which October-born artist is known for painting 'The Starry Night'?
9. What is the scientific term for the full moon in October?
10. Who became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic from east to west in October 1932?

Answers on p6

It was decided that with a weather report for a sunny Friday, it was better to drop our planned July outing to Bovey Tracy and take advantage of the new Saltash Ferry to visit the Royal William Yard at Stonehouse. After a pleasant thirty-minute cruise down the Tamar to the yard basin, we adjourned to the Secco Lounge for coffee before exploring the complex as far as Devils Point; then retraced our steps to Mills Bakery for a good lunch and taking an afternoon ferry back to Saltash.

The yard was the grandest of the Royal Victualling Yards and despite many changes in use, remains one of the most magnificent monuments in the country. It was designed by architect Sir John Rennie and named after King William IV; it was built between 1826 and 1835, with initial labour by convicts and covered 16 acres. The MOD released the complex in 1992 to Plymouth Development Corporation who passed it on to the SW Regional Development Agency. They funded the £60m restoration of the structural fabric and infrastructure of the yard. Private sector development is ongoing by Urban Splash for mixed use.

There are four main buildings: Clarence originally a liquid store now is converted to 52 contemporary apartments. The Brewhouse developed over time to a slaughter house with storage areas for meat, vegetables, and rum. It also contained a Steam Engine to provide the hydraulic power for the many cranes in the yard and eventually was used as a torpedo workshop – one of the fitters may have been my grandad Rowe. This building now has commercial outlets such as restaurants on the ground floor with 78 flats above. Cooperage housed workshops, offices and stores but now boasts an Arts Venue and 40 residential units. Mills and Bakery was once the site of two steam engines to power 27 sets of millstones, granary and a bakery. This building now has 86 apartments and commercial spaces.

Prayer for Harvest

God of the heavens and earth we thank you for the richness of harvest time and for food. May the fruitfulness of this time make us thankful for your constant love and care for us. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Recent Events continued

MOSSAF



At our September Mossaf meeting our guest Speaker was Rev'd Ian Provost from the Plympton Benefice.

Church has been a significant influence in Ian's life since childhood. Though his parents didn't attend church, they sent him to Sunday School. After his mother's death in 1957, he struggled but never blamed God.

At 16, Ian left school with no qualifications and worked in a Liverpool shop, where a colleague led him back to the church. By 19, while in the RAF, he rediscovered his faith and gave his life to God in 1968. In 1971, Ian joined the Church Army and after three years of training, served in Germany and later as an assistant chaplain at HM Prison, Durham. He met and married Margaret in 1978.

Together, they worked in various locations, raising two sons, Timothy and Matthew, both born in Liverpool. His last Church Army post at Portland Naval Base led him to consider ordination, which he pursued after a profound dream in 1990.

After further training at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, and a curacy in east Dorset, he became a vicar in Wiltshire. In 2002, he and Margaret moved to Plymstock & Hooe, where they served until retiring in 2010. Margaret became a Licensed Lay Minister, and they continued to assist local churches.

In 2018 Ian underwent heart surgery, he remains grateful for the prayerful support of family and friends and continues to enjoy life.

As to the future, many years ago there was a pop song, *One day at a time, Sweet Jesus* and that's what Ian tries to do. Cardinal Newman once said, "I do not ask to see the distant scene; one step enough for me."

Everyone in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Posh Tea and Proms in Landrake

We enjoyed a delicious Posh Tea with former resident and all round great musician, Jude Whitlock, providing the music, and sold all 30 places available. The ticket money (less expenses) goes into general parish funds.



The raffle for this event was linked to the (also very successful) Buller's Arms *Last Night of the Proms* evening in Landrake Square. St Pinnock Brass Band (featuring solos from our publicans, Emma and Andrew) gave us a fabulous two part concert, with traditional Cornish and Last Night anthems forming the second half.

An astounding £1,500 was raised for our Parish Pantry, thanks to the Buller's very kind donation of proceeds from the Hog Roast, flag sales, etc, as well as the raffle.

Cornwall Air Ambulance



The Sunday tea and coffee donations collected over July and August at St Stephen's (£79) was sent to the appeal for the second Air Ambulance. As we had already made a donation within the last six months we became a #HELI2Hero and St Stephen-by-Saltash Church will appear on the second Cornwall Air Ambulance helicopter. So far half of the cost has been raised.

A Book to Remember...

We continue our series in which a member of one of our five congregations is invited to tell us about a book that has been important to them in their Christian journey.

Eric Distin

must be one of the best-known people in Saltash. Born at St Barnabas Hospital, he is the Lay Chairman and a Church Warden at St Mary's, Botus Fleming, where he is also shortly to celebrate fifty years as their organist. Eric



runs a beef suckler farm. He is one of the founders of The Abbeyfield Society sheltered housing. Among many other roles, Eric has had a lifelong interest in mental health and conducts reviews under the Mental Health Act.

Which book have you chosen?

My book is *The Everlasting Mercy*, by our longest-serving poet laureate John Masefield. Written just before the First World War, this is a long poem in which the fictional but realistic narrator, Saul Kane, tells the story of his early life in a Gloucestershire village.

The narrator tells us how, as a young man, he "lived in disbelief of heaven", cursing, drinking and poaching.

There is a dramatic description of a fight with a fellow poacher which he wins, though unfairly. This is followed by an extreme drinking bout which leads to him challenging Christianity and all the traditional community values, then into a descent in what today we would call mental illness, "as mad as twenty blooded colts". Then, through the influence of various community members, he comes to see Christ reveals himself in nature and

farming the land, "That I should plough, and as I ploughed, My saviour Christ would sing aloud."

The book is a rip-roaring account, using vivid turns of phrase, and once the rhythm is mastered, it carries the reader along.

Why is this book important to you?

The poem gives us a look into a vanishing age, pre-machinery. This was a horse age, and I have many memories of the 'old boys' working with horses. I have a photo of my grandfather ploughing with his horse Prince. So many horses, as well as men, were lost in the carnage of the Great War. Although that world has now gone forever, I still remember driving cattle along the A388 in the early 1960s. Could you imagine that now?

Is there a particular section that is important for you?

As a young person, this was one of the texts we would read at speech and drama events:

**The past was faded like a dream;
There came the jingling of a team,
A ploughman's voice, a clink of chain,
Slow hooves, and harness under strain...**

The description of the narrator's mental breakdown is also important, as it links with my interest in mental health, which began with a work placement at Moorhaven when I was in the sixth form.

'The Everlasting Mercy', John Masefield. Sidgwick and Jackson. 1911.

This remains in print or is quite easy to find second-hand. I can lend my copy to anyone (DP)

If you would like to tell us about a book that has helped you, please email Dave: contactdavepitcher@gmail.com

Landrake Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 16 Nov, 4-7pm
Sir Robert Geffery
Memorial Hall

If you wish to book a stall, there are a few spaces left. Please contact Caroline Norris carolinenorris709@gmail.com



Father Christmas has promised to come along!



Bank the Food

Point your mobile phone camera at this QR code. Click the link to download the 'Bank the Food' App. This will enable you to see which items Saltash Foodbank needs now!



Make a difference!

Please donate food at Waitrose, Lidl, the Co-op or at the back of St Stephen's or SSNF Churches and/or donate money via the Foodbank website: saltash.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money

Recent Events continued

Mothers' Union

Our September meeting on the second Tuesday began with prayers, followed by a talk from Sue Hooper about the Sue Hooper Charitable Foundation. As a child Sue had attended music and voice lessons thanks to the generosity of her parents and friends. She realised how hard it is for some youngsters to afford fees and fares to attend auditions etc, and in the year 2000, set up the Performing Arts Foundation Charity to offer help to them. The Charity benefits Saltash and the surrounding areas where much talent has been nurtured in various Performing Arts. Thanks go to Sue and her husband John (her loyal supporter for over fifty-five years) for joining us and informing us in a very entertaining way.



Wednesday Morning Coffee



Thanks also to those who came to the Coffee morning on Wednesday 11 September. We enjoyed our teacakes and the chance to sit and chat. The next Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 9 October.

Mothers' Union Cream Tea

Our recent Cream Tea event raised £310 which has gone towards the MU Appeal to help with many projects both at home and abroad. Thanks to all of you who supported and donated.

Answers to Quiz on page 3:

1. Robert Frost
2. Peace
3. German Reunification Treaty
4. United Nations Day
5. iPod
6. Beer
7. Harry Houdini
8. Vincent van Gogh
9. Hunter's Moon
10. Amelia Earhart



Good Ground

a Sonnet on the Parable of the Sower

I love your simple story of the sower,
With all its close attention to the soil,
Its movement from the knowledge to the knower,
Its take on the tenacity of toil.

I feel the fall of seed a sower scatters,
So equally available to all,
Your story takes me straight to all that matters,
Yet understands the reasons why I fall.

Oh deepen me where I am thin and shallow,
Uproot in me the thistle and the thorn,
Keep far from me that swiftly snatching shadow,
That seizes on your seed to mock and scorn.

O break me open, Jesus, set me free,
Then find and keep your own good ground in me.

By Malcolm Guite



Last year there were some 77 trees on show, and we have had requests for at least seven new exhibitors to come in this year, our 18th Christmas Tree Festival. If you wish to enter a tree please let Margaret know by Thursday 31 October as this will enable us to find space for all the trees.

Margaret Evans

email: mje1503@gmail.com or ☎ 01752 844141

From the Archives

Back in May, I asked if anyone had any idea where a mysterious painting was of, that was found in our belfry.

Toc-H



It turned out to be the Toc-H Chapel at All Hallows' by the Tower in London pre WW2. This painting is how the North aisle at All Hallows would have appeared prior to the bombing of the church by the Luftwaffe during WWII.

From information kindly given by Adey Grummet, History Officer at All Hallows', the painting more than likely came into our possession from the local Toc-H. During the 40 years that the redoubtable 'Tubby' Clayton served as Vicar of All Hallows', he set up the international philanthropic organisation, Toc H. The North aisle became

the Guild Chapel for the movement and the church was regarded as its home.

It was a really active local community movement through most of the 20th century and branches were set up all over the country and the world. Each branch was given a Roman style lamp and Tubby was tireless in his travels to visit each one and to keep everyone hooked in. It was his life's work, born of his experience in Flanders in WWI.

St Nicholas & St Faith

Recently I had a meeting with Dr Helen Wilson, a leading authority on the Pinwill Sisters, who were ecclesiastical wood carvers of the early/mid 20th century and ahead of their time. Helen has confirmed that not only is the screen around St Faith's their work, but the altar in St Faith's is also their work. We did find that the altar has been widened and has another carved panel facing the Sheppard Window. Helen dates the altar at about 1925/1930, but the rear panel may be of an earlier period. It is also possible that the riddle screen (the screen that holds the curtains around the High Altar), may also be a Pinwill creation.



The picture in the summer newsletter of the Bishop, Dick Maynard, Richard Margetts, Ken Speare, and John White outside the porch of St Nick's was Peter Whale's licensing as Team Vicar.

I am sure there will be more interesting items coming up in the archives. If you have any items you feel would be interesting for the archives, please let me know.

Andy (andy@saltashteamministry.org)

A Rocha Easy Eco-Tips for October

Contribute to wildlife conservation.

Clean bird feeders to prevent diseases spreading to winter migrants. Install a nest box well before the breeding season to provide a cosy retreat for small birds during cold winter nights. Prepare to support more birds next year, with more tips at arocha.org.uk/give-a-bird-a-home. As you observe the local birds reflect on this verse, 'I know every bird in the mountains, and the insects in the fields are mine.'
Psalm 50:11.

Common Phrases found in the Bible

from The Server

Nothing but skin and bones, and by the skin of your teeth.



All my intimate friends
detest me those I love
have turned against me.
I am nothing but skin and
bones; I have escaped
only by the skin of my
teeth. *Job 19:19-20*

Recent Events continued

Messy Church



14 families, totalling 47 adults and children enjoyed Messy Church on 21 September when, along with 11 helpers, we celebrated our God the Creator. The crafts were designed to show some of the wonderful things that God made for us to enjoy in our world.

A time wheel showed the order of His creation. Bracelets were made using some of the plants and flowers growing in our world, special paintings showed our world in the universe and glitter bottles contained more wonders. A hand mirror made by the children showed their image and the board was decorated to show many things that inhabit our world.

Our worship told the story of God's busy week and how on the seventh day He rested. We must make time for rest and peace to thank God for his gifts and to consider how best to care for our world. Thanks to all who helped in any way.

Our next Messy Church on 19 October will look at the Bounty of the Harvest.

Decorating for Harvest

4pm on Saturday, October 5

Rev'd Laura invites everyone to come and help decorate St Stephen's church for the All Age Family Harvest service.



In October

Ploughman's Harvest Lunch

12.30 on Sunday 6 October in SSNF Church Rooms

Please sign up at the back of St Nicholas & St Faith or ring Margaret on 01752 844141 by 3 October. £6.50pp



Coffee, Cake & Chat

Wednesday 9 October and every 2nd Wednesday
10am to 11.30am in St Stephen's Church



Sung Evensong & Concert

Pelynt Male Voice Choir

Thursday 17 October, 6.30pm in St Mary's Church



Craft Afternoon

Monday 21 October and every 3rd Monday
2pm to 4pm in SSNF Church Rooms



Bring along your current project or start a new one!

Please email articles for the next issue to: newsletter@saltashteamministry.org by 20 October