

Saltash Area Newsletter

October 2025



St Michael
Landrake



St Mary
Botus Fleming



St Terninus
St Erney



SS Nicholas &
Faith, Saltash



St Stephen
Saltash



SS Leonard &
Dilpe, Landulph

Love God, Serve People, Make Disciples. www.saltashteamministry.org

Resurrection Hope: A Future Worth Living Into

Dear friends,

As the leaves begin to turn and the air carries the first whispers of autumn, October invites us into a season of reflection. It's a time when creation itself seems to pause – between the abundance of summer and the hush of winter. And in that pause, we are reminded of the rhythm of resurrection: not just a moment in history, but a living hope that continues to unfold.

This month, I invite us to dwell in the theme of Resurrection Hope. Not as something distant or abstract, but as a lens through which we see our churches, our communities, and our calling. Resurrection Hope is what allows us to imagine new possibilities, even in the face of challenge. It's what gives us courage to ask: What is God calling us to become?

As St Stephen's begins to look ahead to Project 2033, marking 2,000 years since the resurrection of Jesus, we are all offered a powerful opportunity to dream together. All of our churches can ponder what might our worship sound like in

2033? How will we live out mission and evangelism with creativity and compassion? What will our buildings say about who we are and what we value? What will the proposed Kernow Gateway Benefice feel like in 2033?

These are not just strategic questions – they are spiritual ones. They ask us to trust that the same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead is still at work among us, breathing life into dry bones, stirring vision in weary hearts, and calling us into a future shaped by grace.

So whether you're lighting a candle in quiet prayer, singing in the combined choir, serving tea after service, or simply showing up with an open heart – know that you are part of this unfolding story of hope.

Let's keep listening. Let's keep dreaming. And let's keep walking together in the light of the resurrection.

Dursona,

Rev'd Laura

Coming Up

Saturday 4 October
2pm, St Mary's Church
Pet Service

Sunday 5 October
12.30pm
SSNF Church Rooms
Harvest Lunch

Wednesday 8 October
10am, St Stephen's Church
Coffee, Cake & Chat

Saturday 11 October
10am, St Stephen's Church
Harvest Cuppa Morning

Sunday 12 October
12.30pm, St Mary's Church
Hall, Harvest Lunch

Monday 13 October
MOSSAF, Tenpin Bowling

Tuesday 14 October
2pm, St Stephen's Church
Mothers' Union

Wednesday 15 October
6.30pm, St Mary's Church
Sung Evensong with Choir
followed by refreshments

Friday 17 October
Noon START

Saturday 18 October
7pm, Rising Sun, Botus
Harvest Auction

Monday 20 October
2pm to 4pm
SSNF Church Rooms
Craft Afternoon

Saturday 1 November
10am to 1pm
St Stephen's Church
November Fair

Friday 7 November
From 7pm
St Michael's Church
DerryAirs

Saturday 15 November
2.30pm to 5.30pm
Sir Robert Geffery Hall
Christmas Bazaar



St Stephen's Harvest Supper on 6 October, 6pm at The Ploughboy.

Menu choices at saltashteamministry.org/st-stephens-harvest-supper.html

OCTOBER SERVICES

Saturday 4 October

St Mary, Botus Fleming

2pm Pet Service

Sunday 5 October

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Morning Worship

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Family Worship

St Leonard & St Dilpe, Landulph

10am Holy Communion

St Erney, Landrake

10.15am Matins

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10.30am Harvest Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Worship

3pm Sung Evensong

Sunday 12 October

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Morning Worship

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Harvest Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10.30am Morning Worship

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Harvest Holy Communion

Sunday 19 October

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Holy Communion

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Morning Worship

3pm Evensong

St Leonard & St Dilpe, Landulph

10am Morning Worship

St Erney, Landrake

10.15am Harvest Matins

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10.30am Holy Communion

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Worship

Sunday 26 October

St Michael, Landrake

9.30am Harvest Morning Worship

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Holy Communion

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

10.30am Morning Worship

St Mary, Botus Fleming

11.15am Morning Worship

Wednesdays

St Stephen-by-Saltash

10am Holy Communion 1, 15 Oct
Morning Worship 22 Oct

St Mary, Botus Fleming

6.30pm Sung Evensong 15 Oct

St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash

7pm Baby Loss Awareness
Wave of Light 15 Oct



From October to March, the Sunday evensongs will start at 3pm. This change helps everyone travel safely in daylight, and means our buildings will be warmer, having been used in the morning.

PROJECT 2033

Imagine St Stephen's in 2033...

A Church of Purpose, Presence, and Possibility

- What will our worship sound like?
- How will we live out mission and evangelism?
- What will our building say about who we are?
- What is God calling us to become?

Why 2033?

Because it marks 2,000 years since the resurrection of Jesus—a moment that changed everything.

It's a milestone for the global Church, and a powerful opportunity for us to ask:

- What does Resurrection Hope look like today?
- How will we live it out in the next chapter of St Stephen's?

Join the Conversation

Let's dream, discern, and shape the future together.

Saturday 8th November, 1pm - 5pm

St Stephen's Church
Refreshments provided

Love God, Serve People, Make Disciples

Pet Service

Saturday, 4 October at 2pm
in St Mary's Church, Botus Fleming

Bring your pet for a blessing and join in praise from the Saltash Area Ministry Churches



Sung Evensong

Wednesday, 15 October at 6.30pm
in St Mary's Church, Botus Fleming

This will be the fourth event for our combined choir. Music will include extracts from Haydon's *Creation*, Joseph's *Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, and Sankey's *Bringing in the Sheaves*.



All welcome. Light refreshments after.

Recent Events

MOSSAF

Our September guest was Jonny Libby, born in Plymouth and connected to Central Hall since birth. Growing up, he was active in the Plymouth Boys Brigade and attended services three times every Sunday. After completing his 'A' levels, he joined Barclays Bank, becoming a manager at 22.

Jonny shared his faith journey, which began at a Billy Graham Crusade. Another turning point came at 18, after a football match. While sitting in the bar, his friend Dean walked in wearing a Salvation Army uniform and invited him to a Glory Night. Jonny attended the following month, gave his life to Jesus, and was prayed for with five passages of scripture.



He married Denise on 19 August 1996, and they now have three children. By 2007, Jonny was searching for more than banking, while Denise was already working at Plymouth Methodist Central Hall. As they hosted youth groups at home, Denise encouraged him to apply for a new role as a young adults worker. He was accepted on a three-year contract – and 18 years later, he is still there, now serving as a Lay Reader. Under his ministry, the congregation has grown by 20%, particularly among young people. Central Hall now has 18 staff, stays open daily, and runs a food bank.

Jonny also spoke about his many visits to Israel. His first was in 2007, volunteering at a school in Jerusalem for children from the West Bank. Arriving late at night, he woke to a view of the city that moved him to tears, feeling like a homecoming. He also visited Bethlehem, meeting Susan, who leads a Fairtrade initiative selling cedar-wood religious items. Jonny continues to support their work, returning to Israel 12 times since 2007, most recently in May this year.

His visit was thoroughly enjoyed by all of us.

Botus Fleming Coffee Morning

Rob and Heidi's coffee morning raised £62 and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Autumn Quiz Part One



1. Which poet composed *To Autumn*, the 1819 poem which begins '*Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness*'?
2. Spiders mate in October. This breed of spider shares its name with which ecclesiastical rank – parson, cardinal or bishop?
3. What is the missing subject in the old saying: '*Dry your _____ in October, or you'll always be sober?*'
4. Name the pigment which trees stop producing, thus causing leaves to lose their green colour?
5. Which autumnal farming practice has been banned in England and Wales since 1993?
6. Which world championship takes place every year in Northamptonshire on the second Sunday in October? Something that occurs naturally every autumn is a crucial part of the sport.
7. What is a cribbar, which appears in Cornwall once or twice a year – often in autumn – for a couple of hours at a time?
8. A reminder about which event, which happens every October, is provided by an alternative word for autumn?
9. The pheasant shooting season starts on October 1. The record number shot in a single day was set on December 18, 1913, when George V, his son the Prince of Wales and six other men dispatched how many birds – 843, 1,402 or 3,937?
10. Why should you wait for the first frost of autumn before picking your sloe berries to make sloe gin?

Answers on p8

Saltash
foodbank



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

November Fair St Stephen's, 1 November



We are looking for new Christmassy items for the tombola prizes, boxes are at the back of the St Stephen's church.

Christmas Tree Festival St Nicholas and St Faith

This year the trees will be on show from Saturday 29 November to Friday 12 December. As usual there will be our Grand Christmas Draw with the winning tickets being drawn at a coffee morning on Saturday 20 December, 10am to noon.

We have quite a few new tree entries, so please let us know if you will be entering your tree again this year – the closing date is 31 October.

Margaret Evans

email: mje1503@gmail.com or ☎ 01752 844141

Old Parish Magazines Wanted

We have been incredibly lucky to receive a large donation from Saltash Heritage into our archives recently of old Parish Magazines, we do however have some gaps that need filling: the full list is at saltashteamministry.org/wanted-any-old-newsletters.html. We have no issues at all from 2000 to 2015. If anyone has copies of missing magazines that they would be happy to donate to our archives, they would be most appreciated. They can either be dropped over to the office or left at the back of St Nick's for me.

Many thanks, Andy Evans

Recent Events continued

Mothers' Union

At the beginning of September, Mothers' Union hosted a Cream Tea in St Stephens Church. We raised £270 which will help enormously to fund MU projects at home and abroad. Thank you to all who attended or helped in any way. It was great to see everyone enjoying a chat and the food.



At our monthly meeting, following prayers, members enjoyed a quiz about Plymouth place names and then we played various games that people had brought along, reminding us all of family time spent with our children and friends – time never wasted.

At 2pm on Tuesday 14 October, Carol Jones will be demonstrating and helping us to make a table decoration. We are looking forward to this.

Just a reminder that on Wednesday mornings we serve coffee and cake after a short service from 10am till 11.30am. Feel free to join us.

Roxie Grew at St Stephen's



A lovely evening was had at the Family Night at the Musicals Concert, held at St Stephen's church, sung by local Saltash singer Roxie Grew. Roxie's powerful voice was thoroughly enjoyed by the mixed range of ages that attended. There was a mix of well known and some not so well known musical songs sung by Roxie and she sounded amazing in the church.

Oversight Ministry: A Reflection

by Laura Bushell Hawke

After 18 months in post as an Oversight Minister, I wanted to share some reflections. It's a role that has prompted many questions – what is Oversight Ministry, and how is it different from being a parish priest?

These are my personal thoughts, not an official diocesan definition, but I hope they offer clarity and encouragement.

What Is Oversight Ministry?

The best description I've come across was shared by the Archbishop of York in the *Church Times* (15 July 2022):

"All of us have a responsibility for ministry and mission in the Church, and I want us to be a Church where pastoral care is shared – and, indeed, ministry is shared – by everyone. The job of the priest ... is not to do all the ministry but to make sure the ministry is done."

Oversight Ministry is, in essence, an evolution of the traditional role of Rector.

The title could remain the same, but the emphasis has shifted: my role is not to do all the ministry myself, but to ensure that ministry is happening – shared, supported, and sustained by many.

From One Priest to Many Leaders

Over the past year, I've been part of the Diocese's Oversight Ministry training (cohort three), which has been a space for honest conversations about the joys and challenges of moving from the "one priest, one parish" model to something more collaborative.

One of the biggest challenges has been explaining this shift – especially to those outside the church who assume the vicar still serves just one building! Standing in the gap between old and new models can feel uncomfortable, but it's also a space of growth.

Instead of one leader, we now have many. I often describe myself as a Leader of Leaders. And what a joy it's been to see so many of you stepping into leadership roles – Local Worship Leaders, Lay Pastoral Ministers, Churchwardens, and more. This isn't just a new structure; it's a renewed vision of mission and ministry for our time.

Shared Ministry, Shared Joy

We may lament that the vicar no longer has time to do everything in the old ways – but we can rejoice that she now spends time enabling others to minister. There's a cascade effect: the time invested in equipping leaders benefits the whole church, even if it's not always visible that the Oversight Minister had a hand in it.

This is shared ministry in action. And it's deeply biblical, deeply communal, and deeply hopeful.



Foundations in Christian Ministry - A Local Opportunity

One of our next goals in raising and equipping leaders is to increase the number of people who've completed the Diocese's Foundations in Christian Ministry course. For the first time ever, it's being held outside Truro – right here in St Stephen's by Saltash, starting in January.

The course aims to:

- Deepen your Christian discipleship.
- Explore and help form your gifts for ministry.
- Help you discern God's call for the next step in your journey with Him.
- Provide a foundation for further training in lay ministry.

If you're interested, please speak to me – it may be many years before it's offered locally again.

Let's Keep Talking

If you have questions about Oversight Ministry or the diocesan training, I'd love to chat. This journey has been full of learning, and I'm always glad to share it with you.

Together, we are shaping the church for today – and for tomorrow.

Recent Events continued

START



We met at the Saltash jetty for the noon ferry to the Royal William Yard, only a small number of us as it was a holiday month and very hot. Once aboard we sat under cover which provided a pleasant breeze on the way down the Tamar. The ferry was quite full, and we enjoyed taking in the views of small sailing boats fighting against the tide.

Once on dry land, in England, we were called by Bob to our tables at the Secco Lounge (he went by car to William Yard so he can follow on to another meeting after lunch). Seeing we were returning on the 2.30pm ferry, we did a quick walk around to find the Cinema as some of us had tokens to see films, so programmes were found.

Time to board the Ferry, the notice board stated the time and destination and the deckhand asked us, 'Going to Saltash?' We were enjoying the view approaching Saltash, when a couple stated that they were on the wrong ferry, they had just followed us on board! They decided to take the bus back to Plymouth rather than the ferry, then a bus back to their hotel.

All in all it was a cheerful and pleasant day out.



Wednesdays, 6.30pm
St Mary's Church

The combined choir's next event is evensong on 15 October. We welcome new singers, just come along to the practices.

Samaritan's Purse

We are supporting the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal again this year. The boxes will cost 50p.



Request your box(es) or ask for more information from Margaret Dell on ☎ 01752 846945.

Coming Up

Ploughman's Harvest Lunch

12.30 on Sunday 5 October in SSNF Church Rooms

Please sign up at the back of St Nicholas & St Faith or ring Margaret on 01752 844141 by 2 October. £6pp



Coffee, Cake & Chat

Wednesday 8 October and every 2nd Wednesday

10am to 11.30am in St Stephen's Church



Harvest Cuppa Morning

10am to Noon on Saturday 11 October

St Stephen's Church

**Yummy cakes: Toffee 'n' Pear Muffins, Cheese 'n' Leek Muffins
Plum Hazelnut Chocolate Cake, Farmhouse Fruit Cake,
Spicy Harvest Apple Cake. Also Toffee Apples.**

**Drinks include: Maple Hazel Latte, Pumpkin Spice Latte,
Millionaire Mocha as well as
the usual Tea and Coffee.**



Please try and support us.



St Mary's Harvest Lunch

12.30 on Sunday 12 October

St Mary's Church Hall

All welcome – come and join us!



Coming Up continued

Botus Fleming Harvest Auction

7pm on Saturday 18 October
at the Rising Sun



Craft Afternoon

Monday 20 October and every 3rd Monday
2pm to 4pm in SSNF Church Rooms



NOVEMBER FAIR

10am to 1pm on Saturday 1 November
St Stephen's Church

- New Gift Stall • Christmas card packs • Festive tombola
- Cakes • Children's crafts • Stationery, cards, books
- Bumper Christmas raffle • and much, much more

Christmas Gifts Galore!

Plus Refreshments and light lunches

FREE ENTRY

The DerryAirs

Friday 7 Nov, from 7pm
St Michael's Church



The DerryAirs will
share their shanties
and musical talents.

Raffle and supper included.

Tickets will be in Landrake
Stores, or contact

[LandrakeStErneyFundraising
@gmail.com](mailto:LandrakeStErneyFundraising@gmail.com)

Landrake

Christmas Bazaar

Sat 15 Nov, 2.30-5.30pm
Sir Robert Geffery Hall

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

carolinenorris709@gmail.com



Our Church Saints

John West is kindly writing a series about the saints associated with our Churches. This month is the turn of St Nicholas.

St Nicholas

St Nicholas was a Greek Bishop of Myra (Turkey) known for his devotion and generosity, especially his secret gifts to the poor. He lived from 270 to 343 AD, dying on the 6 December. His tomb in Myra was broken into by some Italian sailors in 1086, they stole the larger bones and took them back to Bari, in Italy, where they were enshrined in the Basilica di Nicola. The remaining pieces of bone were taken from the sarcophagus by Venetian sailors during the First Crusade; in Venice a new church was dedicated to the saint. The saint became the Patron for sailors, merchants, archers, repentant thieves, children, pawnbrokers and students.



Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, the Bishop suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. The 6 December became St Nicholas Day and a time for giving presents to children. In time his name merged with our Father Christmas.

Following the Reformation, gifts given in his honour to children, moved to 24/25 December (with prompting from Martin Luther). This was to try and focus the interest of children on Christ and away from the veneration of saints.

Father Christmas may be dated to the 16th century during the reign of King Henry VIII. He was normally depicted as a large man in a green robe lined with fur and bringing peace, joy, good food, wine and revelry.

Today in Belgium the giving of presents continues on 6 December, whilst in the Netherlands and other European countries both dates are used.

Notice from Rev'd Laura

I wanted to let you know that I'll be away from active ministry for most of October due to planned surgery followed by a period of annual leave. During this time, I'll be taking the necessary space to rest and recover, and I'm grateful for your understanding and prayers.

Our wonderful team of clergy and lay leaders will continue to support and guide the life of our churches, and I know you'll be in excellent hands. I look forward to returning in November with renewed energy and hope.

Answers to Quiz on page 3

1. John Keats. He wrote it after a walk along the River Itchen near Winchester – as he tried to escape the sound of his landlady's daughter practising the violin.
2. Cardinal. It's named after Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, who was once scared by a spider at Hampton Court.
3. Barley. Otherwise you won't have any to make beer with.
4. Chlorophyll. The reduced sunlight means photosynthesis loses its benefits – it costs a tree more energy to support a leaf than the leaf gives back. Autumnal colours then result from other chemicals in the leaves, like beta-carotenes (red – also found in carrots) and luteins (yellow – also found in egg yolks).
5. Stubble burning.
6. Conkers.
7. A huge wave, beloved of surfers. It can be up to 35ft high – just under half the size of the 2004 Asian tsunami. It takes its name from the Cribbar reef at Newquay, though is also known chillingly as the 'widow maker'.
8. Fall. The end of British Summer Time. 'March forward, fall back' reminds you which way the clocks move. Incidentally, BST was the idea of William Willett – one of whose great-great-grandsons is Coldplay's Chris Martin.
9. 3,937. On the way back to London, George V said to his son: 'I shouldn't say anything about this if I were you. I think we may have overdone it today.'
10. So the skins will break, thereby allowing the flavour out. Folklore also suggests using a silver needle.

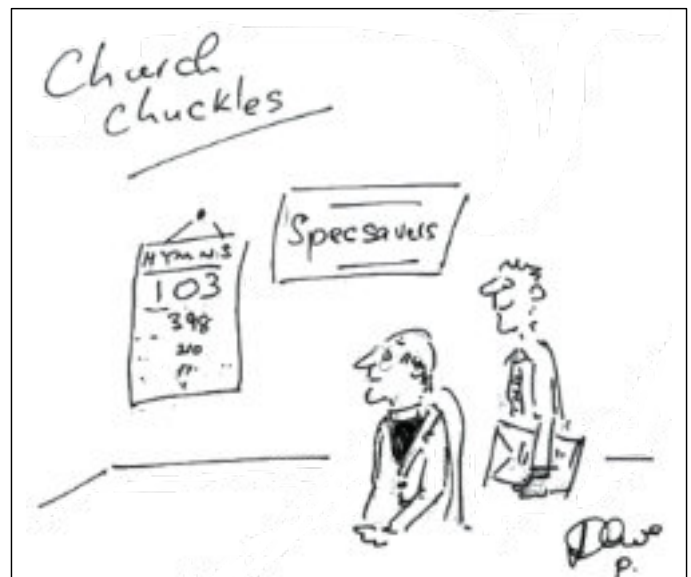
Under the Harvest Moon

by Carl Sandburg



Under the harvest moon,
When the soft silver
Drips shimmering
Over the garden nights,
Death, the gray mocker,
Comes and whispers to you
As a beautiful friend
Who remembers.

Under the summer roses
When the flagrant crimson
Lurks in the dusk
Of the wild red leaves,
Love, with little hands,
Comes and touches you
With a thousand memories,
And asks you
Beautiful, unanswerable questions.



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