

Saltash Area Newsletter

September 2026



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

Growing as Confident Disciples This Autumn

September always feels like a fresh start. The summer settles, routines return and many of us find ourselves ready to pick up something that strengthens faith and helps us grow as disciples. This year we are inviting the whole church to join **The Bible Course**. It is a simple and friendly way to deepen confidence in Scripture and confidence in sharing faith in everyday life.

One of the earliest Christian writers, Tertullian, who lived around 155 to 220 AD, wrote that Christians are made not born. It is a reminder that discipleship is a lifelong shaping. Confidence in faith grows as we learn, pray and practise. It grows as we let Scripture form us and as we allow the story of God to become the story we carry into our conversations and our relationships.

Tertullian also pointed to the power of ordinary Christian witness. People noticed how the early Christians lived with clarity and grace. Their lives made others curious. That same truth still holds. When we grow in confidence in our own faith we carry it more lightly and more joyfully. We become more willing to speak about it when the moment comes.

We can also draw on the wisdom of Bishop Lancelot Andrewes who lived

from 1555 to 1626. Andrewes understood that discipleship grows through steady practice. In his private devotions he prayed, "Be thou my pattern of all righteousness." His whole approach was simple. We become more confident disciples by living as disciples and as we grow in confidence we become a quiet invitation to others.

This is why **The Bible Course** matters. Over the sessions we will explore how the whole of Scripture fits together. We will look at the big story and the key themes and how God's purposes unfold. As understanding deepens, confidence grows. As confidence grows, witness becomes more natural.

Throughout September we will share short introductions across Facebook and the weekly email. If something speaks to you please share it. A personal invitation often opens a door for someone who has been quietly wondering how to begin.

Let us step into autumn as disciples who are growing in confidence. Confident in Scripture. Confident in Christ. Confident enough to let our lives make others curious.

Dursona,
Rev'd Laura



Tuesday 8 September
2pm, St Stephen's Church
Mothers' Union

Wednesday 9 September
10am, St Stephen's Church
Coffee, Cake & Chat

Friday 11 September
7pm, Moditonham Quay
Sea Shanty Evening

Sat/Sun 12-13 Sept
Ride, Stride & Sail

Sunday 13 September
6pm, St Michael's Church
Candlelit Supper Concert
The Wivelscombe Quartet

Monday 14 September
7pm, St Stephen's Church
MOSSAF

Friday 18 September
Noon, **START**

Monday 21 September
2pm, SSNF Church Rooms
Craft Afternoon

Friday 25 September
7pm, St Stephen's Church
Quiz Night

Friday 2 October
7.30pm, St Stephen's Ch.
Johnny Cowling Concert

The Bible Course



Starting 10 September
7pm at St Stephen's

Whether you're brand new to the Bible or have been reading it for years, **The Bible Course** is a brilliant way to grow in confidence and understanding. Over eight sessions we'll explore the big story of Scripture, how the books fit together, and how it speaks into our lives today.

Everyone is welcome – whatever your level of knowledge or experience. Come with curiosity, come with questions, or simply come and listen.

SEPTEMBER SERVICES

Wednesday 2 September

St Stephen-by-Saltash 10am

Sunday 6 September

St Michael, Landrake 9.30am

St Stephen-by-Saltash

First Sunday Service 10am

SS Leonard & Dilpe, Landulph 10am

St Erney, Landrake 10.15am

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash 10.30am

St Mary, Botus Fleming 11.15am

Evensong 6.30pm

Tuesday 8 September

Landulph 9.30am

Sunday 13 September

St Michael, Landrake 9.30am

St Stephen-by-Saltash 10am

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash 10.30am

St Mary, Botus Fleming 11.15am

Wednesday 16 September

St Stephen-by-Saltash 10am

Sunday 20 September

St Michael, Landrake 9.30am

St Stephen-by-Saltash

Evensong 6.30pm

SS Leonard & Dilpe, Landulph 10am

St Erney, Landrake 10.15am

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash 10.30am

St Mary, Botus Fleming 11.15am

Wednesday 23 September

St Stephen-by-Saltash 10am

Sunday 27 September

St Michael, Landrake 9.30am

St Stephen-by-Saltash 10am

SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash 10.30am

St Mary, Botus Fleming 11.15am



Commissioning of Lay Pastoral Ministers



Richard Hosking, Carolyn Whittaker, Bishop James, Stephanie Yates, Margaret Briggs

Congratulations to our Lay Pastoral Ministers who have been commissioned by Bishop James.

These wonderful lay ministers bring compassion, prayerfulness and steady pastoral care right into the heart of our communities. They visit people at home, offer time to listen, and walk alongside those facing illness, change or loneliness. Their ministry helps ensure no one is left without support or connection. As part of their training, our LPMs are authorised to give home communion, enabling those who cannot attend worship to remain rooted in the sacramental life of the church. We give thanks for their dedication and the Christ-centred love they bring to our parishes. Please contact Rev'd Laura if you would like to be put in touch with one of our LPMs.

OPEN DAY!

Come and see where little minds blossom!

SSNF preschool are taking on new starters from September, ages 2-4

Come along to our open day
Friday 4 September
1pm-3pm

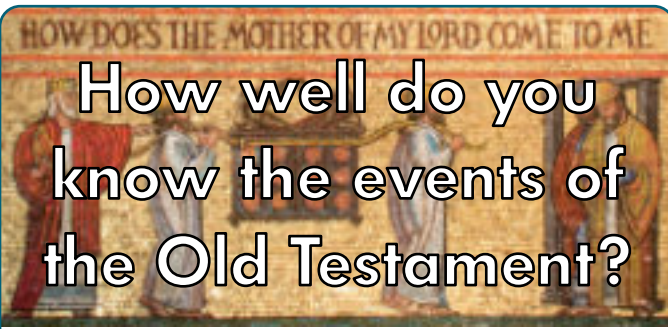
Saltash foodbank

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

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!



1. How many years did the oldest person in the Bible live?
a) 601 b) 777 c) 969
2. Which of the following was NOT one of Elisha's miracles?
a) He made an axe head float
b) He brought down a fiery chariot from heaven
c) He healed a leper
3. What happened to Lot's wife?
a) She was turned into a pillar of salt
b) She was devoured by wild dogs
c) She discovered the secret of Samson's strength
4. How did Absalom, King David's son, die?
a) His mule ran out from under him
b) 10 of Joab's armour-bearers slew him
c) Both of the above
5. When Delilah asked Samson the reason for his strength, he told her...
a) Someone had to tie seven new bowstrings around him
b) Someone had to tie him up with new ropes
c) Someone had to weave his seven braids and tie them with a pin
d) Someone had to cut off his hair
e) All of the above
6. Moses received more than one copy of the 10 Commandments from the Lord.
a) True b) False
7. Which Biblical figure was said to "drive like a madman"?
a) Nimshi b) Jehu c) Naboth
8. Which prophet became angry with God for striking down the plant that was giving him shade?
a) Micah b) Hosea c) Jonah
9. Which of the following incidents with animals is NOT in the Old Testament?
a) A prophet was fed by ravens during a drought
b) A leopard tore out the eyes of an unrighteous ruler
c) A worm withered a plant by attacking it
10. Jacob wrestled with the angel of the Lord and prevailed.
a) True b) False

Answers on p6

Recent Events

Summer with the Joint Choir

Musical Evening in Hatt

Our highlight was the combined Musical Evening with the Ukrainian Singers at Hatt House in July.

The ministry choir set the scene with patriotic songs from the first and second world wars with Faye leading Rule Britannia.

Two sessions of music from the regions of Ukraine were dramatically finished by a special composition, with a ballet dancer setting out the suffering of the people for all of Western Europe at the present time.



The hymn *I Vow To Thee My Country* was followed by both National Anthems and the *Anthem for Doomed Youth* with the *Reveille* by our talented local bugler.

The Mayor thanked our hosts, Heugh & Fiona, and flowers were presented to Fe and the Mayoress by Alisa, a local young exile. £1,000 was raised for the relief fund.

Saltash Abbeyfield

A second visit to Saltash Abbeyfield was made in early August, following a high tea to celebrate 70 years since Richard Carr-Gomme started the movement.

The Mayor, who is a trustee, came with his wife, Maxine, to the event and all present enjoyed the special history of the Saltash Society for the last 53 years.

A tribute started the evening to the life of John Noakes, who had died recently at 101, with Faye singing *Rest in the Lord*.

The singing of the choir was greatly uplifted by the enthusiasm of the residents' contribution to every song.

The choir will be leading the singing at the combined service at St Erney on 30 August.

Recent Events continued

Mothers' Union

In July, Mothers' Union members took a trip on the Red Bus to the very busy Buckfast Abbey. We toured the Exhibition Centre to learn the story of the Abbey from its foundation to modern times. When we had soaked up the facts it was time to move on into the Abbey itself. It is a wonderful building with some beautiful stained-glass windows and an atmosphere of reverence and calm. Next it was time for lunch in one of the restaurants. With our tummies satisfied, next stop was the gardens before spending some pennies in the well-stocked shop. We had a great day hearing about the service of the people who lived and worked in the Abbey and how they have sustained their lives through the centuries.



Our meeting on 8 September will be held in St Stephens at 2 pm when we will welcome Rev Lyn Parker.

Mothers' Union 150th Birthday Tea

On 15 August, we held a tea party in St Stephen's Church. Members provided a cream tea, and our friend Sheila Hall donated a beautifully decorated cake. We celebrated the birth of the Mothers' Union. Thanks to all who attended, we raised £335 for the MU Appeal.



MOSSAF



MOSSAF enjoyed another fantastic meal at the Weary Friar in July, bringing everyone together for an evening of great food and excellent company.

Following the evening, we looked ahead to our scheduled August meeting. Realising we were going to be hit by unusually low numbers due to varying reasons – and with such an important speaker travelling a good distance to join us – we took the difficult decision to postpone. We also have an important update regarding our upcoming September meeting. We have recently been advised that our original guest speaker, Graham Dee (Chaplain at St Luke's Hospice), is unfortunately experiencing poor health and is unable to join us. We send him our warmest wishes for a swift recovery and very much hope to welcome him back to speak with us sometime in the future.

Fortunately, **Archdeacon Clive Hogger** has kindly stepped in to replace Graham. We are incredibly grateful to him for agreeing to swap dates at short notice, and we look forward to a memorable and inspiring talk.

So, we hope to see you all on **Monday 14 September at 7pm** for our guest speaker, Archdeacon Clive.

For more information about our group, please contact **Steve Hookway** at stevenhookway@hotmail.com or on **07855 600241**. New members are always welcome! Or, if you prefer to just come along as a one-off to try it out, you are also very welcome.

Margaret Greet and family

would like to say a sincere thank you to everyone for their kindness, and the overwhelming generosity following the passing of Chris Greet.



A total of £753.64 was collected for Christian Aid.

Recent Events continued

Fish 'n' Chip Evening



34 people attended St Stephen's Church's first fish and chip evening, held at the beginning of July. The fish and chips, and a dessert were provided by local Saltash company Chip Happens. It was a very hot evening and huge thanks go to Chip Happens, who were extremely hot with the fryers on, outside the church. It was a very sociable evening and enjoyed by all who came.

Summer Fair



St Stephen's Summer Fair was held in July and thankfully this year, the weather was very kind, but not too hot. We had a variety of stalls inside and outside, and had some lovely entertainment from Melodi Liskerret, Just Voices of Looe and a very familiar face with her now grown up son – Sue and Alex who sang some lovely well known songs. Sue sang in the choir at St Stephen's many years ago, when her dad Robert Whatty was our organist. A total of £1,905.98 was raised for Church funds.



On An Apple-Ripe September Morning by Patrick Kavanagh

On an apple-ripe September morning
Through the mist-chill fields I went
With a pitch-fork on my shoulder
Less for use than for devilment.

The threshing mill was set-up, I knew,
In Cassidy's haggard last night,
And we owed them a day at the threshing
Since last year. O it was delight

To be paying bills of laughter
And chaffy gossip in kind
With work thrown in to ballast
The fantasy-soaring mind.

As I crossed the wooden bridge I wondered
As I looked into the drain
If ever a summer morning should find me
Shovelling up eels again.

And I thought of the wasps' nest in the bank
And how I got chased one day
Leaving the drag and the scraw-knife behind,
How I covered my face with hay.

The wet leaves of the cocksfoot
Polished my boots as I
Went round by the glistening bog-holes
Lost in unthinking joy.

I'll be carrying bags to-day, I mused,
The best job at the mill
With plenty of time to talk of our loves
As we wait for the bags to fill.

Maybe Mary might call round...
And then I came to the haggard gate,
And I knew as I entered that I had come
Through fields that were part of no earthly estate.

Prayer for September

Dear God, as we step into the month of September, we thank You for the gift of a new season and fresh opportunities. As summer gives way to autumn, please guide our steps, fill our homes with peace, and protect our families in the days ahead.

Grant us the strength to face new challenges with courage, the wisdom to walk with grace, and hearts that overflow with gratitude.

In Jesus' name,

Amen



Recent Events continued

Summer at St Nicholas & St Faith

Events

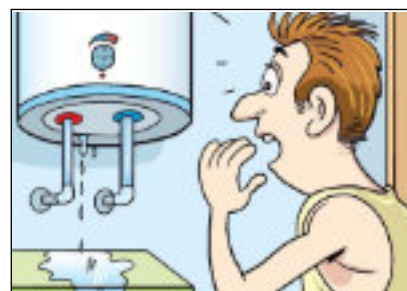
During August we held two events, a bacon buttie morning and a toasted sandwich morning.

Both morning were enjoyed by all who came, even if they only came to have a coffee and a chat. A total of just a little over £350 was made for Church funds.

Kitchen

We are continuing to update our kitchen, it is going to take quite a while to get it as we would like it to be, but our efforts are continuing.

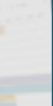
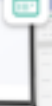
Our water heater problem has now been fixed by replacing both of the boilers, and it is great to have hot water again and no leaks!



Unfortunately, although many grants have been applied for, we have not been successful in securing funds. So we now have a crowdfunder page up and running, hopefully it might help with purchasing a new fridge, freezer and cooker. If you would like to help, the link is:

<https://crowdfunder.co.uk/p/ssnf-hall-refurb>

Software that supports
your church, extends
God's kingdom



Stay Connected with Us Please Sign Up to ChurchSuite

If you haven't yet added your details to ChurchSuite, can I gently encourage you to do so. It's the safest and most secure way for us to store your contact information, and very soon it will become the only way we communicate with the church family about services, events, pastoral updates, and weekly news.

When you register, please make sure you tick the box giving us permission to email you. Without that consent, we're not legally allowed to send you the weekly news sheet or any other updates – even if you've been part of the church for years. It only takes a moment, and it really helps us stay connected and care for our community well.

Rev'd Laura

Sign up: saltashteamministry.org/churchsuite.html

Answers to Quiz on page 3: 1. c) 969 2. b) He brought down a fiery chariot from heaven 3. a) She was turned into a pillar of salt 4. c) Both of the above 5. e) All of the above 6. a) True 7. b) Jehu 8. c) Jonah 9. b) A leopard tore out the eyes of an unrighteous ruler 10. a) True

Christmas Tree Festival St Nicholas and St Faith

This year will be our 20th year of holding our Christmas Tree Festival, and by the time this newsletter is available, all the invitation letters will have been sent out or e-mailed.

We will be holding our usual Cheese and Wine Launch Evening on **Thursday 24 September at 7.30pm** in SSNF Church Rooms. If possible, please can you let us know by then if you wish to enter a tree, it doesn't matter if you cannot make the launch evening. Interest is growing fast each year and we want to make sure that there is room for your tree.

Margaret Evans

Recent Events continued

Halfway Harmony



St Stephen's had a really lovely evening from Halfway Harmony, who provided an evening full of Sea Shanty songs and well known Cornish Folk songs. A total of £376.74 was raised for Church Funds.

Chocolate Bingo



Family Chocolate Bingo was very well attended at St Stephen's at the beginning of August and a huge thank you to Mark Fox for again being the bingo caller. You could feel the suspense building for winning the flyer game (full house only game) at the end, and was eventually won by Sandra McKee's family (shown above), who were delighted with their prize donated by Thompson & Jackson Solicitors LLP incorporating Roper James Solicitors.

Thank you also to The Ploughboy and Cath's Scentiments for donating the other chocolate prizes for the evening. A total of £335.96 was raised for Church Funds.

Table Top Sale and Bacon Rolls

August also saw St Stephen's hold a Table Top Sale which raised £256.60 and a Bacon Rolls and Coffee Morning – £129.56 was raised.

Thank you to everyone that has helped and/or supported the summer events at St Stephen's.



The Faces in the Tower

Have you noticed them? If you walk up the path from the entrance of St Stephen's and look up at the tower, you will see the slate vents near the top of the tower, and maybe the faces looking at you.



This could be accidental, or maybe a joke by the Fifteenth Century builders of the tower. Perhaps it is just an example of pareidolia, the human tendency to see faces in natural objects, such as clouds. But there they are, medieval emojis expressing happiness, sadness, surprise, confusion – even silliness (one is upside down!) – and more. Just take a look.

Throughout our lives, we come to church bringing with us every emotion. Of course, the vents are there as part of the bell chamber, allowing our church bells to sound out the events of our lives – the happiness of weddings, the sadness of funerals with the bells muffled, important national events and just marking the passing of each week and expressive of home. As one of our Cornish poets put it:

... the Sabbath bell

Sweet as the chaunt the herald angels sang,
The merry marriage peal, the parting knell...

Those faces have seen it all, and express God's acceptance of us as we come to church just as we are, whatever may be on our mind, "through all the changing scenes of life".

David Pitcher

PRAYER

Online Morning Prayers, Mondays, 9.00-9.30am

An open invitation to members of all churches in East Wivelshire Deanery from Rev'd Michael Johnson.

Every Monday Morning we gather online to pray for the life of our churches and communities across the deanery.

Live link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81924023977>

Coffee, Cake & Chat

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



Craft Afternoon

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



Sea Shanties



Friday 11 September, 6.30pm for 7pm at
Moditonham Quay, Church Hall if wet

Come and enjoy a musical evening in an
enchanted Tamar setting – all welcome.



7pm, Friday 25 September at St Stephen's
£3 per person – max 6 per team

Please bring your own drink & nibbles. Refreshments available.

Email event@saltashteamministry.org to book a team
or just turn up on the night.

Ride, Stride & Sail

Cornwall Historic Churches Trust
Registered Charity Number 218340

Saturday & Sunday 12-13 September

A county-wide fundraising event. Participants whether
cyclists, walkers, runners, sailors, horse riders or
wheelchair users seek sponsorship to visit Churches of
their choosing. More Info: www.chct.info/ride-stride-sail

Candlelit Supper Concert

The Wivelscombe Quartet

Sunday, 13 September
7pm in St Michael's Church

A mix of witty, traditional and
contemporary string pieces.

Tickets from Landrake Stores or
landrakesterneyfundraising@gmail.com

An Evening with Johnny Cowling

7.30pm, Friday 2 October
at St Stephen's Church

Johnny Cowling is talented Cornish comedian
and was a Pirate FM radio presenter

- Raffle
- Light Refreshments available
- Tickets £12 includes a pasty

Tickets: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/ticketing/johnny-cowling-at-st-stephens-church-saltash>

Or email: event@saltashteamministry.org

