

# Saltash Area Newsletter

March 2023

St Michael Landrake



St Mary Botus Fleming



St Terninus St Erney



SS Nicholas & Faith, Saltash



St Stephens Saltash



A holy place in Saltash, a holy place for Saltash, and a place to encounter the holiness of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. [www.saltashteamministry.org](http://www.saltashteamministry.org)

## Sing a new song to the Lord

I have been listening to a lot of Disney hits recently. And not just when Darren plays 'The Little Mermaid' in church.

It started when I was looking for something suitably upbeat for feeding the baby her breakfast; something upbeat enough to keep me awake while my coffee brews. I felt a bit grumpy and old mannish at not recognising half the songs – these aren't the classics I grew up with!

– but decided to give it a go. Soon I was skipping over the slightly tiresome "When You Wish Upon a Star" and "Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo" to get to the one with Shakira singing to a crime-fighting rabbit.\*

The Disney hits also served as a gateway into modern musical theatre: Lin-Manuel

Miranda, who wrote songs for 'Moana' and 'Encanto' also wrote the musicals 'In the Heights' and 'Hamilton'. The latter – a cult 2015 hip hop musical about the first US secretary of the treasury, Alexander Hamilton (1755-1804) – has been the subject of a Lent course by the Bishop of Dover. "During the five weeks of the Lenten season, this course will draw on a number of Hamilton's more pertinent themes, namely: Identity and Belonging, Ambition and Temptation, Forgiveness and Redemption, Love and Sacrifice, and Hope and Courage through Adversity.



The title of this book, 'The Room Where It Happens' (a song from the musical) is an invitation to all of us to be present and engaged – whether in a front room, a church, or a village hall – as we discuss these life giving themes. Let us be in the room where it is happening."

Of course, if I said 'Christianity' and 'musicals', your first thought would probably be Andrew Lloyd Webber; and it

is true he remains an inspiration for anyone with a song in his heart and an obscure Old Testament passage in his mind. (When I retire, I plan on writing a musical adaptation of the deuterocanonical book of Tobit.)

But there is another way Christianity and

musicals curiously relate. To mention just one more play: David Shaffer's 'Amadeus', about Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. In one scene – I don't know where my copy is, so I'm paraphrasing from memory – Mozart talks about why he is so keen to write an opera. When a character sings, he says, through the words and the music they reveal their hearts, their passions, their deepest selves. In an opera, however, you can have many different characters – perhaps all characters – singing at the same time: simultaneously revealing and being who they truly are. And so, he

## Coming Up

### Mondays

7.30pm

St Stephen's Church

Bible Society Bible Course

### Monday 13 March

7pm, Ploughboy Inn

MOSSAF

### Tuesday 14 March

3pm, St Stephen's Church

Mother's Union.

Lesley Stevens talks about

St John Ambulance

### Friday 17 March

Noon, Community Kitchen

then Wesley

S.T.A.R.T.

### Saturday 18 March

10am to Noon

SSNF Church Rooms

Coffee and Hot Cross Buns

### Saturday 18 March

3pm to 5pm

St Stephen's Church

Messy Church

### Saturday 25 March

10am to 1pm

St Stephen's Church

Hot Cross Buns & Easter Fun

### Saturday 1 April

4pm, St Stephen's Church

South West Chamber Choir

Choral Music for Passiontide

Snowdrops in Hat



## MARCH SERVICES

### Sunday 5 March

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

9.30am Family Service

**St Michael, Landrake**

9.30am Family Service

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

11.15am Holy Communion

**St Mary, Botus Fleming**

11.15am Family Service

6.30pm Sung Evensong

### Sunday 12 March

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Michael, Landrake**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

11.15am Holy Communion

**St Mary, Botus Fleming**

11.15am Holy Communion

**St Erney, Landrake**

11.15am Matins

### Mothering Sunday 19 March

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

9.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

**St Michael, Landrake**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

11.15am Holy Communion

**St Mary, Botus Fleming**

11.15am Family Service

### Saturday 25 March

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

9.30am Eucharist for the  
Annunciation

### Sunday 26 March

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Michael, Landrake**

9.30am Holy Communion

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

11.15am Holy Communion

**St Mary, Botus Fleming**

11.15am Holy Communion

**St Erney, Landrake**

11.15am Holy Communion

### Every Tuesday

**St Nicholas & St Faith, Saltash**

4pm Evening Prayer

### Every Wednesday

**St Stephen-by-Saltash**

10am Morning Service

decides, experiencing an opera is the closest thing to experiencing the world as God does: seeing us all, at the same time, in total truth.

I found this a powerful image, and I hope I have done at least some justice to it here. One of the big themes I've found emerging from the sermons I preach week after week is the importance of the word 'spirit'. "God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." (John 4.24). 'Spirit' is a word with lots of meanings, but in an old-fashioned sense it means what was deepest and most profound (rather than vague, handwaving, not-really-but-it's-nice-to-think-it-ness). God meets us most clearly in those places in our lives that are spiritual, that are deep, even hidden – not least with his mercy and forgiveness.

This can all sound a bit individualistic: God in my heart, in my life. And that's where I think of Shaffer/Mozart's image of the opera – God's opera – which blends together all our individual depths and spirits and truths.

But what would that sound like? A famous 19th century Russian Orthodox priest used to encourage

his congregation, at the 'Confession' in the liturgy, to shout out the particular sins they felt most guilty for. (In principle, since everyone was shouting at the same time – "theft!" "adultery!" – no-one should actually hear what anyone else said!) Certainly there the deepest secrets of the heart are brought out in public; perhaps a little extreme though.

Or how about this: Aretha Franklin's 1972 gospel album 'Amazing Grace' opens with a welcome from the pastor of the Los Angeles Baptist church where she is singing. "This is a live recording, and that means, if you're going to shout out 'AMEN' during a song, you need to remember that – because when they do the next take, you'll need to shout out 'AMEN' in exactly the same place!"

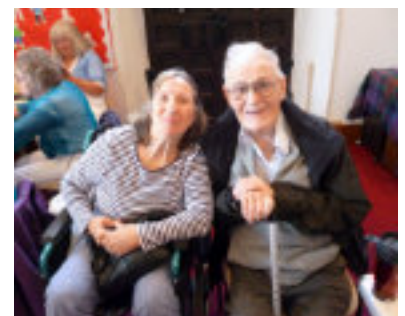
Soon Easter will be with us, and a rare time for shouting out in church. Why not put some oomph in it this year, with a bit of genuine joy, and depth, and spirit.

R

\* 'Try Everything' from the movie 'Zootropolis' (2016)

## Funeral of Gordon William Richards

On behalf of Jane Best, Gordon's partner, his son Stephen Richards, and his daughter, Alison Quarmbly, may we offer our heartfelt thanks to all those who officiated, attended and catered at Gordon's funeral and memorial service. The support and assistance of St Stephen's was of great comfort and we feel he had a wonderful send off amongst friends and family. We miss him as head of the family, for his wise council and definitely his amusing stories. He is now reunited with Barbara, his dearly departed wife of 48 years, and we plan to retain our links with St Stephen's as it is central to our faith and future lives.



# Fairtrade Fortnight Quiz

27 February – 12 March 2023



1. When was the first Fairtrade banana sold?
2. Which town was first in the world to achieve Fairtrade status?
3. The first fair trade label was called Max Havelaar, after a character from a novel written in the 19th century. From English folklore, who was the character of Max Havelaar similar to?
4. Fairtrade (one word) and fair trade (two words) mean two different things. True or false?
5. How many countries across the world are fair trade products sold in? a) 57 b) 98 c) 120
6. In what year did Traidcraft co-found the Fairtrade Foundation?
7. What is the name of the world's only fair trade, organic palm oil? a) Fair Palm b) Fair Play c) Fair & Square
8. What is the minimum total Fairtrade ingredients content required for the Fairtrade Foundation's Fairtrade Mark?
9. Which of these products cannot be Fairtrade-certified? a) Rubber b) Coffee c) Fish

Answers on p6

## Recent Events

### Mother's Union

In February, the Mothers Union met at the Ploughboy to share a meal together. Sixteen members were present and took part in a quiz before our meal. Well done to Gordon Cryer and Margaret Greer who were the joint winners of the quiz. It seems we have very clever clergy here in Saltash as the Rev. Pam Sellick is usually our quiz champion, but she was unable to attend this time. Also well done to the chef and the waiting staff – our meals were delicious. We missed those members who were unable to share this occasion with us and hope that they will be with us at our next meeting at 3pm on 14 March in St Stephen's where Lesley Stevens will talk about St John Ambulance.



### Messy Church



In February, we met in St Stephen's Church and we shared a happy time celebrating Spring and new life. We planted bulbs, crafted blossom trees and butterflies and made great insects, using fondant icing. The children placed a rainbow and hand made flowers on the board at the back of church and it is a beautiful sight. Rev. Richard gave a talk about the Good Shepherd – assisted by his toy lamb and several children. Sandra led the families in prayer and, as her ear is not fully recovered, asked Jill Carter to lead the songs. It was a pleasure to discover Jill's wonderful voice!

As usual, Sylvia and Carol prepared a tasty tea. I'm grateful to all who come along to help at Messy Church and so pleased to see the families enjoying the afternoon.

On 18 March at 3pm in St Stephen's Church, we will be talking about Mothering Sunday – looking forward to seeing you there.



Please donate food at Waitrose, Lidl or the Co-op and/or donate money via the Foodbank website:

[saltash.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money](http://saltash.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money)

Our latest needs:

- UHT Milk
- Toilet Rolls
- Tinned Meat
- Sugar
- Puddings
- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Fish
- Toiletries

# Reflections

from Fr Brian



Throughout my life I have written down various snippets of interest discovered through my love of reading; copying them into exercise books for 'safe keeping' (now five in total).

Towards the end of January, the death was announced of the author Ronald Blythe, in his one hundredth year. I knew that over the years I had recorded a number of his sayings which had struck me at the time, so decided to look them up.

I share with you two thoughts for Lent:

Lent is a kind of fertilization of the spirit. It is a time when we have to find space to let it grow. Its desert must bloom. I find that simplicity, not self-denial, is the better aid for us.

*Church Times 2009*

And more pertinent to our present age:

Where Christ went on about materialism, the Church goes on about sex and gender – things that little interested him.

*Church Times 2012*

A final thought from James Runcie (son of Archbishop Robert Runcie of Canterbury) following the death of his wife with MND.

So what do you say to a friend who is terminally ill? One of the main things I have learned is that love is nothing if it is not practical. We are not judged by our intentions but by our actions. By your deeds thus shall ye know them.

*Tell Me Good Things, page 58*

## MOSSAF



MOSSAF (Men Of St Stephen's and friends) returns on Monday 13 March at 7pm with an evening at the Ploughboy Inn, where we can socialise and catch up with each other and maybe even enjoy a game of pool or darts.

Subs of £6 for the year are now due please and can be paid at our first meeting or in advance to Roger Rowse or Steve Hookway.

## Annunciation

We see so little, stayed on surfaces,  
We calculate the outsides of all things,  
Preoccupied with our own purposes  
We miss the shimmer of the angels' wings.  
They coruscate around us in their joy  
A swirl of wheels and eyes and wings unfurled;  
They guard the good we purpose to destroy,  
A hidden blaze of glory in God's world.  
But on this day a young girl stopped to see  
With open eyes and heart. She heard the voice –  
The promise of his glory yet to be  
As time stood still for her to make a choice.  
Gabriel knelt and not a feather stirred.  
The Word himself was waiting on her word.

By Malcolm Guite

## St George's Day Meal

St Stephen's Church  
Sunday 23rd April at 5pm

<b>To Welcome You</b>	A fresh selection of Canapés
<b>Main Courses</b>	Roast Beef, Bangers and Mash (with fresh seasonal veg) or Vegetable Wellington
<b>Desserts</b>	Chocolate Sponge or (with custard) Bread and Butter Pudding

Please bring your own choice of drink

£15 per person. Sign up list in St Stephen's Church or contact Dave Coot to book your space.

☎ 07745 623234 [d.coot@btinternet.com](mailto:d.coot@btinternet.com)

Payment please asap (very latest 16 April) to Dave Coot. Contact Dave if you want to pay by bank transfer.

Catering by Julie Turner Cakes and Catering  
☎ 07816 599027 [julieturnercakes@hotmail.com](mailto:julieturnercakes@hotmail.com)

## Recent Events continued

### Food Market and Table Top



Thank you to all who attended and helped at St Stephen's Church first fundraiser of the year, a Food Market and Table Top which raised £1,062.31 for Church funds. A best ever for us for this type of event!

It was great to hear one of our new food traders saying they were totally blown away by how busy the event was and that it had a real good community feel to it.

Comments like this make all our efforts worthwhile.



Our next one will be on Saturday 23 September.

### Spud & Pud Lunch

Our Spud and Pud lunch was enjoyed by all. The delicious spud toppings were: chilli, tuna and sweetcorn mayonnaise, coronation chicken, baked beans, cheese plus a selection of garnishes.

The event concluded with a birthday cake and wine for Margaret B. Thank you to everyone who supported this event, and to all those behind the scenes for preparing, serving and clearing up.

### Candelmas Christingle



St Stephen's church was lit up with Christingles for Candlemas at the beginning of February.

Thank you to the team that made up the Christingles after having already helped at the Food Market and Table Top sale in the morning.



### Craft Day



More than 25 children and adults came and had a really creative time at the recent craft day held at St Stephen's during half-term. Inside, the church was cold, but where the lovely winter sun poured through the windows, there was a hive of activity from all ages, creating whatever they fancied. A

lot of fun was had with glitter, paper, wool, stickers, glue and more as the picture of the social area clearly shows! £37 was raised for St Stephen's.

### Advance Notice

An exciting event to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III is being planned for May at St Nicholas and St Faith – watch this space!



### Prayer for Mothering Sunday

On Mothering Sunday, Almighty Father we thank you for family life. Thank you for mothers, for their love, guidance and care. Help them to know how loved and appreciated they are. We also pray for mothers who are feeling weary, and we lift up to you those who have lost their mother or are longing to be a mother. Amen



## What's On

### Hot Cross Buns, Cake and Coffee

SSNF Church Rooms  
Saturday 18 March  
10am to Noon



Coffee and a chat with cake and hot cross buns. Just £3.50.

### Hot Cross Buns and Easter Fun

St Stephen's Church  
Saturday 25 March  
10am to 1pm



Craft, gift and food stalls, our own fundraising stalls, bumper Easter draw, Easter egg tombola, guess the weight of the Simnel cake, guess the Easter bunny's name, treasure hunt, childrens crafts, savoury stall and so much more! Refreshments will be available throughout, including bacon rolls, homemade soups and crème egg chocolate brownies.



Traders include: Chalky Boardz, Claire's Kraft Kabin, Cloabellcrafts, Eat Me treats, Julie Turner Cakes, Saffron Grove, Saltash Bakery, Scatty Bun, Scottish Tablet & Fudge Ltd, The Little Craft Conservatory, Toni's Cottage Crafts, Trehill Farm Produce, Willow Handmade Gifts and Woods of the West.

**Free Entry.**

### South West Chamber Choir

St Stephen's Church  
Saturday 1 April, 4pm



### The Gates of Heaven

Choral music for Passiontide, including Stephen Trahair's *The Crucifixion* oratorio on the pattern of John Stainer's.

Tickets £8 (£4 for 18 and under, and students) on the door or from [www.trybooking.co.uk/CDZN](http://www.trybooking.co.uk/CDZN) or [www.swcchoir.org.uk](http://www.swcchoir.org.uk)

(Although the concert has been organised by South West Chamber Choir, St Stephen's will receive a proportion of the ticket sales.)



You may know that I am one of the Deputy Church Wardens at St Stephen's church. My remit from Rev. Richard is for Mission and Discipleship.

I would like to have a small team to help me along the way with ideas etc. I have two volunteers so far, but would appreciate three or four more, preferably from St Stephen's Church.

If you would be willing to do this could you please either see me in church or give me a call.

Many thanks,

Dave Coot

☎ 07745 623234



Can you help support St Stephen's Church forthcoming Easter Fair on Saturday 25 March, by kindly donating an Easter Egg for their Bumper Easter Egg Raffle? If so, then please leave them in the box in our social area marked Raffle Prizes or contact Steve Hookway ([stevenhookway@hotmail.com](mailto:stevenhookway@hotmail.com) ☎ 07855 600241) to arrange collection or delivery.

Your support, as ever, is very much appreciated.

**Answers to Quiz on p 3:** 1. The year 2000 2. Garstang in Lancashire 3. Robin Hood 4. True 5. c) 120 6. 1992 7. a) FairPalm 8. 20% 9. c). Fish

Please email articles for the next issue to: [newsletter@saltashteamministry.org](mailto:newsletter@saltashteamministry.org) by 20 March.