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The Messenger

Published free for Holy Trinity, Cleeve and
St Barnabas, Claverham

Issue 410 August 2025

A very warm welcome to this month's Messenger

What a difference a month makes! With the licensing of Revd Daile and Revd Denise during July our churches are now properly staffed at long last and there is a feeling of optimism in the air as we start out on our journey as a Group ministry. **Please remember our new Priests in your prayers as they get to know their parishes.**

Revd Daile writes :- What's in a name?



The phrase "*What's in a name?*" comes from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* (Act II, Scene II). Juliet says: "*What's in a name? That which we call a rose. By any other name would smell as sweet.*"

She's saying that names themselves don't change the essence of a thing — a rose would still smell sweet no matter what you call it.

But *choosing* a name? That's a whole different story. Anyone who's named a baby, a pet, or a business knows the weight of it — this name sticks *forever*. No pressure, right? Of course, sometimes we see what happens when the naming process goes off the rails — like when the internet voted to name a British research vessel *Boaty McBoatface*. Or when parents let a big brother pick his new baby sister's name and ended up with *Princess Banana*. So maybe Juliet was right — the rose would smell sweet... but imagine if we'd called it *Stinky McPetalface*.

We, with our brothers and sisters in Yatton, Kenn, and Kingston Seymour, are in the middle of our own naming challenge. We're transitioning from being *The Yatton Moor Team* to forming the *Benefice of Yatton Moor* and the *Benefice of Cleeve with Claverham*, which will then come together as a new group ministry. The process is long, and the final decision rests with the Church Commissioners, but it is already underway. We have recently received communication from the diocese asking us for our ideas about what to call this new group ministry. Over the last year, there have been many discussions about what our new Group should be called — and now it's time to gather your thoughts too.

Should our name be based on geography or history — something that links both benefices together? Should it represent the fact that there are five churches in our group — something like *The Five Spires Group* (assuming all the churches have spires!)? Should we simply combine the names of both benefices? Or perhaps choose something that speaks more deeply of our mission and values as a family of churches?

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To help in this important discussion, we've been asked to put forward all our ideas, which will then be considered. I'd like to open this conversation to the whole church family and invite you to share your thoughts, ideas, or suggestions for what we could name our new group ministry.

If you have any ideas, please send them to me by email by 25th August — I'll collate them all and forward them to the diocese. Let's choose a name that truly reflects who we are and the calling we share together.

But let's also remember — that in the end, although our name is important it is by our love in action, our deeds that Christ will be known. Whatever name we choose, may we continue to live it out in faith, service, and love.

Every Blessing, Daile

Daile's licensing was a very joyous occasion. The church was full and the service was taken by the Archdeacon of Bath, the Venerable Charlie Peer, assisted by Rev'd Rob Eastwood Dewing. Children from Court de Wyck school read the prayers that they had written for the occasion. Afterwards an array of cakes, generous even by Holy Trinity standards awaited us in the Church Room where we learnt that it was a special day for someone present, that person being Daile herself who was presented with a birthday cake complete with candles blazing! A wonderful evening.

Ed



See, I am doing a new thing...

In my first service, I spoke about change and how we might navigate it more positively if we see it as an opportunity — a chance to try new things that can bring hope and lead us toward a brighter future. One of the new things we will be introducing as a parish in September is a revised pattern of services.



The PCC have agreed to trial a new pattern of services from September to January. The aim of the pattern is to ensure each church has two services a month, Café Church continues as this has great potential to strengthen our links with the community and encourage growth and I can share my time fairly between both churches.

We will also be building on the simplicity and beauty of the Thursday morning Bread of Fellowship and introducing a simple service of Holy Communion on the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 930am.

As we trial this new pattern, we would love to hear your thoughts on how it is going. You may also have ideas for new services you would like to see offered in the parish. Your feedback is important to us so please do share your thoughts and suggestions as we move forward together.

Daile

Services for Cleeve/Claverham

August

10th August - 10.00am - Holy Communion, St Barnabas, Claverham

17th August - 10.00am - Holy Communion, Holy Trinity. Cleeve-

24th August - 10.00am - Morning Worship, St Barnabas, Claverham

31st August - 10.00am - Group Communion Service, All Saints Kingston Seymour

Midweek Services at Holy Trinity

Thursday 7th 9.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 14th 9.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 21st 9.30am Prayers for Healing and Wholeness

Thursday 28th 9.30am Prayers for Healing and Wholeness.

Services in September Holy Trinity, Cleeve & St Barnabas, Claverham

Sunday 7th September

10am Holy Communion -
Holy Trinity

Sunday 14th September

10am Holy Communion -
St Barnabas

Sunday 21st September

10am Holy Communion -
Holy Trinity

Sunday 28th September

9.30am Cafe Church
Cleeve Village Hall

11am Holy Communion -
St Barnabas

Every Thursday in Holy Trinity

11th & 25th - 9.30am Holy
Communion

4th & 18th - 9.30am Morning
Prayer

Dates for your Diary:

This year our Harvest celebrations will
take place on:

Sunday 5th October

with a service of Holy Communion
followed by a lunch
and

Sunday 12th October with a Harvest
themed Songs of Praise in St Barnabas.

More details will be available in
Septembers Messenger.

For more information please
contact

Revd Daile Wilshire 01934 904765

All are welcome

Welcome to the Messenger Daile Do you mind if I ask you a few questions so that our Readers can get to know you?

It would be lovely to know a bit about your early life, and where you grew up.

I was born in Weymouth and lived there until 2012, when we moved to Burbage in Wiltshire, where I served my first post as a Team Vicar. When I left school, I trained as a nurse and specialised in palliative and community nursing.

How did you make the decision to become a priest – was it a sudden calling or did the feeling grow over a period of time?

I came to faith aged 14 at a youth mission and started to attend a local church. I soon became involved in all aspects of church life, from children's work to being a member of the PCC. The first inclination I had that God would call me to serve him as a priest was when I was 18, but it wasn't until the early noughties that the real call came. I had been struggling with depression for a while, and I discovered that church isn't always a great place if you are struggling with mental illness. The lack of support and understanding led me to doubt my faith and consider leaving the church. But God guided me through the words of Scripture—especially the verse from Romans 12:1-2, which speaks of the renewing of our minds and the revealing of God's will for us. That's what happened. As I recovered from depression and my mind was renewed, I began to feel the overwhelming sense that God was calling me to serve him as a priest within the Church.

When you saw the advert for the position in Cleeve and Claverham, was there anything that particularly attracted you to the job?

Yes, I had been looking for a House for Duty post for a while, but they aren't that common, so I was pleased to discover this one. I liked the fact that the profile of the post shared how, although a small parish of two churches, there is a lot of potential for growth—and a willingness among people to be part of that growth.

How did your family feel about moving here? Did you know this area at all?

Everyone was happy to move. It's a lovely house and area. One bonus is that we are closer to our eldest daughter, who lives in Weston. The downside is the early morning 6am wake-up calls as the planes fly over us!

How are you settling in? Have you found some good dog walks for Charlie and Betty?

Yes, the house is slowly getting straight. I've taken on a new hobby and started gardening—which is new for me. Charlie and Betty love it—they enjoy the space in the house and garden. Their favourite walk is up Goblin Combe.

As a House for Duty Priest, will you have set working days? Obviously Sunday will be one of them! It would be good to know which days are best to contact you if we need to.

Yes, a House for Duty Priest is different in that it is part-time, with a set number of working hours. One of the reasons I wanted a House for Duty post was to give me a better life balance with space to do other things. I will be taking Monday and Friday as days off, and my working days will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

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Is there anything you would like to say to our readers?

Thank you to everyone who has made us feel so welcome. Thank you for all the cards and gifts, and to everyone who helped with the licensing service, it was really appreciated.

And thank you Daile for telling us a bit about yourself. We are so pleased to have you with us and hope that you and your family will be very happy here. Ed

JESUS OUT OF THE BOX and Bristol Schools Connection

On 2nd July Elizabeth June and I made our way to Holy Trinity Church in Hotwells for the 10th Anniversary celebration of Bristol Schools Connection (BSC). The PCC has been involved with BSC for around four years, having been introduced to them by Nigel. With BSC's support, led by the amazing Jane Gillis we have been, over the last few years, into our Parish school, Court de Wyck Church School, to present 'Christmas in a Box' to Year 1/2 class and 'Easter in a Box' to Y4. The experiences for both children and us has been a joy.

I have been past Holy Trinity Church in Hotwells well over a 1000 times, but have never been inside. The grey heavy Victorian walls give no insight into the wonderfully spacious interior of the building, having been built in the 1950s following the Church being bombed in 1941.



The evening was an eye-opener for the three of us, because BSC has brought Christianity in, and achieved so much, in the last 10 years with all types of schools in Bristol.

Many people spoke of how BSC started from small beginnings and what has ballooned in schools since – speakers included Jane and Howard Worsley (Bishop Ruth's husband) who were (and still are) original trustees. We chatted to Clergy and volunteers – so many people doing brilliant work.

Jane, in her speech, kindly gave us at Court de Wyck a mention, as one of her favourite places to visit. As the evening progressed, there was interaction between groups, private space and time to reflect and pray – an inspirational evening we enjoyed and won't forget.



On Jane's last visit to Court de Wyck at Easter, she told us about a new project aimed at Y6 pupils and Secondary Schools. This is 'Jesus out of the Box' and tells five stories from Jesus's life. However, this is very much an interactive presentation with discussions and conversations with the children about how the stories resonate with them, and it makes possible for them to share their life experiences.

An initial meeting with Jane, left us keen to be one of the first schools to take 'Jesus out of the Box' into class, but apprehensive about how we would manage.

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So, it came to pass last Monday, 7th July, that we arrived bright and early at 9am to unveil 'Jesus out of the Box'..... and, what an enlightening and inspiring morning it was. Jane brought Simon, a new BSC trustee, along to watch.

The children fully participated, with their own thoughts and life stories.

At the end of the morning we all, children and adults, came away with an inspired meaningful experience to help us going forward in our lives. *Dave*



Claverham Market

The next Claverham market will be at the Village Hall on **16th August from 10am-12noon**. Don't miss out on this celebration of creativity, fresh produce tea and bacon sandwiches! www.claverhamvillagehall.co.uk



Holy Trinity Car Park - looks great now it has been tarmacked doesn't it! I hope that the drainage at the bottom of the slope will keep our feet dry in the winter months!



Thanks to all the fund raisers who made this possible and to Dave who arranged for the work to be done. *Ed*

FOCOS CAKE & TEA AFTERNOON at BICKLEY on Monday 15th September 2025

An invitation to all in Cleeve and Claverham

There will be a delicious Afternoon Tea event in the lovely surroundings of Bickley on Monday 15th September commencing at 2.30pm.

Come along, soak up the ambiance, savour the delicious cakes and scones, enjoy a hot or cold beverage and catch up with all latest happenings, inside the new marquee at Bickley.

Whilst you are enjoying your afternoon, don't miss the chance to introduce yourselves to the Llamas and Bickley's other wildlife.

To book your place for this popular afternoon out, please ring the FOCOS hotline on either 832917 or 838515 – if our call centre staff are unavailable, please leave a message. The cost for this enchanting afternoon is just £2.50. Lifts are available – just ask.

We look forward to welcoming as many guests as possible, old and new, to the Bickley Tea Afternoon, now one of the most favourite events in the FOCOS calendar.

CLEVEDON FOODBANK

Following on from the generous donations made at the Group Lunch at Bickley (£250), our faithful regular supporters of the Foodbank and one very large single donation, I was able to send Clevedon Foodbank a cheque for £1640, which be a great asset to them for their provision of lunch bags during school holidays for children who normally receive free school meals. *Dave*

“Science and Theology in Harmony” is the topic being explored at Taunton Minster through a series of interfaith dialogues. On 29th July Jeannie and Geoff, June and I attended the first session, as Bishop Michael Beasley discussed whether it is possible to be



both a scientist and a theologian with Dr Abdelnour, Imam from the Bath Islamic Centre.

Andy (a Buddhist) introduced the dialogues, an opportunity to explore the nature of TRUTH. Is truth to be found in the lab? In Scripture? Or somewhere in between ... the space where wonder and wisdom meet. Could it be that the things we think divide us might actually be what connects us?

Bishop Michael, whose first career was in epidemiology, spoke of his love for Science and discovering how the natural world works. But life is about much more than the HOW. Knowledge is important but we also need to

understand ways to live **well** which includes love, beauty, values and purpose. This wisdom is found not in science but in the bigger picture in which we find in God.

The Imam spoke of the fragmentation of knowledge as a human crisis. We have amazing technology and artificial intelligence, yet emotional emptiness! All these scientific disciplines co-exist in the reality of God, the one unifying force which provides meaning.

There were a number of interesting questions from the ‘floor’: Must faith remain fixed? How does religion reconcile gender issues? Creation myths vs scripture. Reason vs Faith.



On every topic I was heartened by the openness of both speakers and their ability to find common ground. Both agreed that reason alone will never meet all our needs. We are driven to search for meaning and purpose. Shared insights into our spirituality can inform our quest, but ultimately God is MYSTERY. *Jennie F*

What an interesting evening! -Thank you for writing about it for us Jennie, Ed

Holy Trinity Cleaning Rota

Gill Roe Helen Bailey	August 17th
Jennie Ford Carole Perrott	September 7th
Jenny Haworth	September 21st

This month's crop of howlers -

A misprint! - Running into stationary objects can be painful according to a recent pole.

Have you noticed that people who go into Baby Changing facilities invariably come out with the same one?

My new bread knife cuts four slices at once. It's a four loaf cleaver.

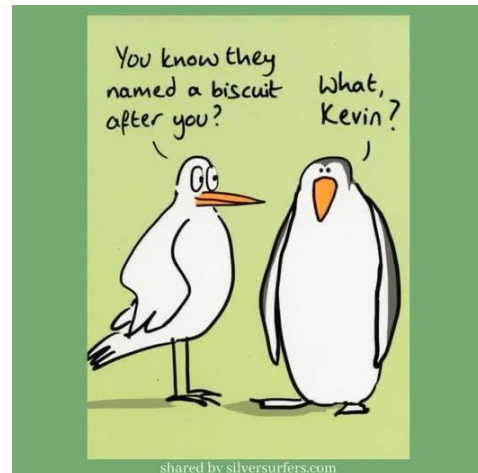
Church Treasurer's Sheep

The church treasurer came down early one morning and complained to his wife that he had hardly slept a wink. His wife asked him if he had tried counting sheep.

He replied, "I did, and that's what got me into trouble – I made a mistake in the first hour, and it took me until early morning to correct it!

Wonder if Dave has had that problem!

In other news a wedding photographer was badly hurt this morning when a huge block of cheese fell on him... Everyone posing for the wedding party picture had tried to warn him!



Thank you for your contributions to this month's Messenger. Articles, jokes, photos, words of wisdom for the September edition should be with me by **Wednesday 10th September**. They can be emailed to carole.perrott@gmx.com, given to me at church or put through the door of 15 Chestnut Drive, Claverham.

Useful Church Contacts

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