

# NEWSLETTER

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## DEANERY SYNOD OFFICERS

The Deanery Synod is made up of the Licensed Clergy across the Deanery plus an elected representative of the retired clergy (known as the House of Clergy) and the elected Representatives of each parish plus three Lay officers - The Deanery Lay Chair, the Deanery Treasurer and the Deanery Secretary. These last three are elected to the Deanery Synod every three years (known as a Triennium) and may also represent their parishes. Together all these Lay members are known as the House of Laity. The Deanery Synod must meet at least twice a year to discuss matters of importance to the Parishes and Deanery policies. At these meetings non members are welcome but only elected Lay representatives or Members of the House of Clergy may vote on decisions.

**The three Lay officers of Stratton Deanery have each been in post for many years and all three have decided that they wish to retire THIS year.**

This means that the Deanery Synod is seeking a Lay Chair (currently Micheline Smith), a Treasurer (currently Sue Dickenson and a Secretary (currently Lesley Booker)

Their roles are key to the efficient running of Deanery Synod Meetings, to running the finances of the Deanery, being involved in giving information to the parishes about financial matters and in keeping records of the business of the Deanery.

At present all three regularly attend fortnightly Tuesday morning College Meetings (one on Zoom and the next Face to face with a short Eucharist service) and are involved in prayers, Bible Study, discussions and decisions which take place at those meetings



## IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BE INVOLVED?

If you think you may be able to give time and skills to the Deanery by putting yourself forward as a candidate for nomination to one of these roles PLEASE GET IN TOUCH with the Deanery Secretary as soon as possible. A job Description for each role is available and the tasks and time involved may not be as much as you imagine. They are important and satisfying jobs which MUST be done by somebody and the Deanery College is very keen to encourage people to volunteer for them as soon as possible to ensure a smooth transition and the continued functioning of both the Deanery College and the Deanery Synod

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## WHAT'S YOUR NEWS?

The Deanery College would like to encourage the Parishes Benefices to share news of their special events, initiatives and services so that the rest of us can help by joining in or praying in support. We are all in this together as a Deanery and churches should not feel that they are 'swimming upstream' all the time

To start this off **Morwenstow** have submitted some news - have you heard that they are marking the **Sesquicentenary** (150th Anniversary) of the death of Parson Hawker? There will be a huge effort for this and the following is a list of some of the activities that will take place throughout the year, several including reference to Rev Hawker. Look out for further News and please pray for the efforts of Morwenstow Church members

5th March 3pm St Piran's Day service

Morwenstow Parish Church Bells to be rung

June Festival Day (24th) – The Quiz to include a Hawker section.

10th August Blessing of the Sea

16th August Community Centre displays and open day

17th August Church service (Bishop plus Lord Lieutenant)

5th October Harvest Festival 11am followed by Harvest lunch at the community centre

## LENT COURSES

We currently know of two Lent Courses being run in the Deanery. Rev David will be running a course called Christianity Explored on Monday evenings at 7pm starting 3rd March at Week St Mary Rectory ([rector@bude-coast-benefice.org](mailto:rector@bude-coast-benefice.org)) and Hannah Wicks is running a Zoom course called How to Hear God from Thurs 6th March 7 pm. ([hcfwicks@gmail.com](mailto:hcfwicks@gmail.com))

DO SHARE IF YOU ARE RUNNING YOUR OWN COURSE

## CONTACTS

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## News of the Mission Enabler Post

The Deanery's Community Interest Company (CIC) is at last being put in place so that the Deanery will be in a position to employ our much needed Mission Enabler. It is hoped that the post will be advertised in mid February and the Deanery Implementation Team (DIT) will keep everyone informed of progress. The Post is financed by the Lower Income Communities Fund.

Please pray for this process which will benefit all of the Benefices in the Deanery

## 2025 PLAN OF ACTION

As you know we spent 2023 and 24 working on the seven parts of the Deanery Plan to ensure that we make progress towards the aims of the plan.

Most of these groups have met and interacted but only a few conclusions have been reached. The Pilgrimage element has been met by the successful development of the St James Way Pilgrimage route, the International Links Group has drawn together information about what links are being maintained across the Deanery and the Families and Children's Group have passed information obtained from their survey to the Diocese to contribute to their work on this subject. The spirituality Group continue to provide education courses and Festival services

For 2025 the DIT has decided to concentrate on just three main areas - WELCOME, PRAYER and FAMILIES & CHILDREN. We had a brainstorming session at the last Deanery Synod in December which showed a real enthusiasm and appetite for co-operation in all three areas so we hope to develop this in the next few months.