

Buckfastleigh Community News

May 2025

**Sponsored by Buckfastleigh Feoffees, Buckfast Abbey
& J Searle & Son**

Buckfastleigh Bowls Club – Social Events

Location: Duckspond Road, TQ11 0NL. All welcome, with disabled access and free parking. Licensed bar and refreshments available.

Thursday, 8th May

- **VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebration** – 2 pm £7.50 ticket includes tea, coffee, sandwiches, cakes, and bakes (children free). Licensed bar, refreshments, and a Grand Raffle.
- **Quiz Night** – 7 pm £2 per person, teams of 1–4. Cash prize for winners. Raffle tickets £1.

Wednesday, 21st May

- **Bingo** – 2:30 pm £5 per person. Raffle tickets £1. Refreshments and cash prizes available.

For tickets and details, contact Tom Bowden (07577 219962) or Denise Rudgley (01364 643172 / 07501 363937), or visit

www.buckfastleighbowlsclub.co.uk.

Join us for fun and community spirit!

Moorland Community Caring - Awarded Fantastic Grant

We're thrilled to share that Moorland Community Caring has been awarded a **£46,000 grant from Global's Make Some Noise!** This funding will allow us to recruit a Volunteer Co-ordinator for two years, enhancing support for our existing volunteers and welcoming new ones.

Volunteers are the heart of our charity, making our work possible. If you'd like to make a difference in your community—whether as a driver, helping at Moor Socials, or offering other valuable skills—please get in touch!

Contact Rachel:

Phone: **07794 599206** Email: **info@moorlandcommunitycaring.org.uk**

WoolFest Buckfastleigh – Celebrate Wool and Creativity

Attention all wool enthusiasts, crafters, and makers! WoolFest is returning to Buckfastleigh for an afternoon brimming with creativity, sustainability, and community connection.

Event Details:

When: Sunday, 25 May, 2.00pm–5.00pm

Where: Orchard Millennium Green, Buckfastleigh

WoolFest brings together artisans, local businesses, and wool lovers to celebrate the region's rich heritage of wool production and its many creative uses today. This vibrant festival will feature a variety of stalls, live demonstrations, and engaging activities—all celebrating the versatility and beauty of wool.

A Tradition Revived – The Sheep Parade!

This year, WoolFest is bringing back a wonderful tradition—a sheep parade through Buckfastleigh! Join the spectacle by gathering at the Globe Inn Car Park at **1:30pm**, then follow the flock to the festivities.

Get Involved – Reserve Your Stall!

Calling all wool producers, artisans, and crafters! WoolFest is a fantastic opportunity to share your creations, connect with fellow makers, and contribute to a sustainable future in textiles. Spaces are limited, so act fast to secure your place.

For stall bookings or event details, please contact woollynanas@gmail.com.

Why Wool?

Renewable, biodegradable, and remarkably versatile, wool is a natural resource worth celebrating. WoolFest encourages sustainable practices, supports local craftspeople, and inspires creativity through wool-based arts and crafts.

Whether you're a spinner, felter, knitter, weaver, or simply curious, WoolFest Buckfastleigh welcomes you! Don't miss this free, family-friendly event hosted by the Woolly Nanas, in collaboration with the Buckfast Spinning Group and the Share Shed – A Library of Things.

Buckfastleigh Memory Cafe / Conversation Works

On Monday, 20th May, the Buckfastleigh Memory Café will once again embark on the scenic steam train journey to Totnes and back—but this time with special company! Our friends from the Exmouth Memory Café will be joining us, making it a wonderful opportunity to connect, share stories, and enjoy the beauty of the Devon countryside together.

This relaxed and nostalgic trip offers the perfect setting for conversation and companionship, with the gentle rhythm of the train providing a comforting backdrop. No booking is required, and the event is open to anyone living with memory problems or a dementia diagnosis, along with their companions.

When & Where

- Meet at 3:15 pm on the platform at the South Devon Railway Return by 5:00 pm

Join Us!

If you have any questions about access, attending for the first time, or anything else, please contact Kathrine at: Kathrine@conversationworks.co.uk
tel 07899 993134

Upcoming Events at Buckfastleigh Library

Bounce and Rhyme

Every **Friday at 2:30pm**

A free, lively song session for babies, toddlers, and their grown-ups!

Pollinator Crafts with the Clockwork Moth

Saturday, 17 May 2025, 10.00am–12.00pm

Join Charlie for a delightful morning in the library, featuring storytelling, crafting insects, and exploring the wildlife garden. Part of the Buckfastleigh Community Pollinators Project. Free activity—donations welcome.

The Mushroom Show by Scratchworks Theatre

Tuesday, 27 May, 10:30am–12.00pm

Discover the fascinating world of fungi through interactive theatre, music, and laughter. A joyful celebration of connection and community, suitable for ages 5+.

Tickets £2 per person—book in advance at Buckfastleigh Library.

Dying Conversations – A Space to Talk, Listen, and Share

End-of-life matters are rarely discussed, yet many people have questions they've always wanted to ask. At the MIC Centre in Buckfastleigh, a monthly meeting provides a welcoming space for open conversation around this broad and meaningful topic.

This informal group meets over a cup of tea, offering an opportunity to listen, share, and explore personal thoughts and feelings. While the discussions are facilitated, there's no fixed agenda—topics may naturally include bereavement, coping with grief, preparing for dying, living with someone who is dying, funeral planning, wills, advanced decisions, palliative care, and more.

Here's what past attendees have said:

"I felt we were all really respectful and interested in what others said, and all shared openly. I feel so grateful for the opportunity to talk about these profound issues."

"I found the conversations interesting and relevant, and I'm glad I stayed. I'd like to come along to more of these groups and feel comfortable mentioning it to friends."

Join the Conversation

This open drop-in group meets on the last Thursday of each month from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the MIC Centre, Chapel Street, Buckfastleigh. The next two sessions will be on Thursday, 24th April.

No charge—just a small donation for tea, coffee, and biscuits.

For enquiries, contact Simon Smith at Heart & Soul Funerals, Buckfastleigh: 01364 643522 or hello@heartandsoulfunerals.co.uk

New Vicar for Buckfastleigh

We're delighted to welcome **Alex Holmes** as our new team vicar this month! Her ministry begins with a **special licensing service at St Luke's on Monday, 6 May.**

For more details, please see the **St Luke's column** later in this edition of the Community News.

Dean Prior 100 Club

Congratulations to the winners of the April draw!

1st: Denise Williams

2nd: John Grieveson

3rd: Margaret Flanagan

A big thank you to everyone for your support. – Lynda Grieveson

Royal British Legion – Invitation to Commemorative Service

The Royal British Legion warmly invites the Buckfastleigh Town Council and community members to join us for a special service of remembrance on **Wednesday, 8 May**, at the **War Memorial at Holy Trinity Church**, beginning at **6:00pm**.

Led by **Rev. Gina Radford**, the service will include the presentation of the Royal British Legion standard, honouring those who have served and remembering those we have lost.

Following the service, we welcome you to gather for **free refreshments at the Rangers Football Club** at **6:30pm**—a chance to connect, reflect, and share in the spirit of community.

We would be delighted to have you with us.

Purl and a Pint

We're a friendly group that meets at the Kings Arms, Buckfastleigh, on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Whether you're an experienced crafter or picking up the needles for the first time, you'll find a warm welcome and plenty of support from fellow knitters and crocheters.

The Devon primroses are certainly putting on a beautiful show at the moment—they seem to be loving the current weather conditions! If only we could find that perfect soft yellow in wool—so often, yellows seem just a little too bright. But that's the joy of crafting—playing with colours and creativity to make each project truly unique.

Thinking of starting a new hobby or rediscovering your love for knitting? Come and join us! There's always someone happy to help you get started.

Upcoming Meetings

- 14 & 28 May
- 11 & 25 June

If you'd like to have a chat before coming along for the first time, feel free to call Dawn at **07990 332816**. We'd love to see you there!

All Ability Yoga with Kevin Mitchell – Wellswood Yoga

Drop-In Classes

Join our friendly, all-ability group yoga class at St Luke's Church, Buckfastleigh, every Wednesday from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. No need to book—just turn up! Regulars, drop-ins, and visitors are all welcome. The church entrance is located at the back, and free parking is available at Victoria Woodholme car park.

Individual Yoga Tuition

Looking for tailored yoga sessions? Kevin offers private tuition for individuals or pairs in the comfort of your own home, ensuring a personalized and supportive experience.

Private Group Classes

Promote wellbeing in the workplace or other group settings with bespoke yoga classes designed for organizations and teams.

Why Yoga?

Yoga offers a wide range of benefits for people of all ages, including improved strength, balance, and flexibility, stress and anxiety relief, better heart health, easing arthritic symptoms, back pain management, relaxation, and enhanced sleep quality.

For enquiries or to book:

Phone: 07540 751745

Email: wellswoodyyoga@gmail.com

Website: www.wellswoodyyoga.com

Buckfastleigh Mothers' Union

At our April meeting, Heather Sayle gave a fascinating talk on *Flourishing Families*. This was followed by a lively discussion where members reflected on their own family experiences and how they have evolved over time.

Our next meeting will take place on **Thursday, 1st May, at 2:30 pm** at St Luke's Church. Val Hoare will be presenting a talk and screen show on *Mongolia*. Visitors are warmly invited to join our friendly group.

For more information about the Mothers' Union, please contact Janet Jones on **01364 643627**. We'd love to see you there!

Weekly Drop-ins at The Wool Hub

All ages and abilities are welcome to our friendly drop-in sessions! With no need to book, you can simply come along, explore your creativity, and enjoy good company. A suggested donation of £5 is appreciated.

Weekly Schedule:

- **Monday:** Felting with Marcelle, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
- **Tuesday:** Weaving, Knitting & Natural Dyeing with Noni & Annie, 10 .00am to 3.00pm
- **Wednesday:** Spinning and Weaving with Mandy, 10.00am to 2.00 pm
Basic Knitting Introduction with Mandy, 11.00 am to 1.00 pm
- **Thursday:** Spinning and Knitting with Mandy, 10:30 am to 4:30 pm Crochet and Knitting with Ann (Mornings) 'Sort It' with Jackie: Help with sewing, repairing, and woolly crafts (Afternoon)
- **Friday:** Felting with Rita, 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm

For the latest updates, visit our Facebook page or contact us at **woollynan-**

Pilates Classes

FlowStrong: Strength, Stability, and Ease in Movement

Join us for a focused hour dedicated to building strength, improving posture, and moving with greater ease in your body.

Each session works on **mobility, flexibility, strength, and stability** in a friendly and welcoming environment.

When: Mondays, 7:45pm–8:45pm

Where: Ashburton Arts Centre

To book your spot, contact Lucie at **flowstrong@outlook.com**.

Fund Raising for Dean Prior Church

Coffee, Cakes & Plants – at Dean Prior Village Hall

Join us for a delightful **Coffee Morning, Cake Stall, and Plant Stall** at **Dean Prior Village Hall** on **Saturday, 3 May, from 10.00am to 12.00 noon.**

Come along to meet friends, enjoy delicious homemade cakes, and browse a wonderful selection of plants—all while supporting our lovely church.

We'd love to see you there!

True Storytelling Evening – Share, Listen, Reflect

Do you have an amazing story to tell? Something miraculous that left you in awe? A story that reminded you of what truly matters in life?

True Storytelling evenings offer a unique opportunity to share your experiences, challenges, and lessons learned in a welcoming and supportive circle. It's not about performance—it's about connecting with community for inspiration, healing, and understanding. If you prefer, you can simply sit back and listen!

The evening will be led by **Leo Sofer**, an experienced storyteller who will begin with a true story of his own before opening the circle for others. Each story is kept to around 10 minutes, with time for reflections after each one. A tea break is included to keep things relaxed and sociable.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, 10 May

Time: 7:00pm–9:30pm (Doors open at 6:30pm for tea and chat)

Venue: The Dragon Sanctuary, 34 Bossell Road, Buckfastleigh TQ11 0DD

Entrance Fee: £10 (Pay on the door – cash or card accepted)

For more information about this and other events, visit

www.dragonsanctuary.co.uk.

Buckfastleigh Library News

Changes are on the horizon as May's County Council election approaches. While the outcomes remain uncertain, finances and policies are expected to impact our library operations. Under new guidelines, staff from smaller libraries may be required to cover absences at larger libraries, which could lead to occasional session closures at Buckfastleigh Library. Notices will be placed on the door in these instances.

Supporting our library is key! You can order books by phone, in person, or online. The library staff are always helpful and welcome those who wish to work onsite with their own laptops or library equipment. Staff are also available to print documents.

Don't miss out on fun activities planned for the end of April—keep an eye on posters for details! For inquiries, call **01364 643638**.

Thank you for supporting your local library!

What's on at the Wool Hub in May

Don't Miss WoolFest – Sunday, 25th May

Join us from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Orchard Millennium Green, Buckfastleigh, for WoolFest—a family-friendly celebration of all things wool. Enjoy the chance to meet alpacas and sheep, explore felting, weaving, and spinning demonstrations, browse unique stalls, attend informative talks, and enjoy live music and refreshments. There's no charge to attend, but donations are appreciated for entry into our prize draw.

Workshops at The Wool Hub

The Wool Hub offers woolcraft workshops for all ages, regular drop-ins, and a shop. Payment is required in advance, with free cancellation up to seven days before the event.

- **3rd May:** *Natural Dyeing Workshop* (11.00 am to 2.00 pm, £20) Learn to dye wool and cotton using natural materials. All abilities. With Noni.
- **10th May:** *Spinning Skills Improvement* (10.00 am to 12:30 pm, £30) Perfect your spinning skills, including combing fibre and plying techniques. For experienced spinners. With Jackie Millichap.
- **11th May:** *Rug Making Workshop* (10.00 am to 4.00 pm, £40 + £10 materials) Create your own small rug (18" x 24"). For participants with experience or past attendees of the Rug Weaving Skills Workshop.

Children's Craft Sessions (During School Term)

- *Felting Fun Mondays* (3:30 pm to 5.00pm, £15, Ages 8+)
- *Young Weavers Tuesdays* (3:30 pm to 5.00pm, £15, All ages; under 6s with an accompanying adult)
- *Crochet with Evelyn Thursdays* (3:30 pm to 4:30 pm, £3)

Free Workshops: Two Moors Pine Marten Project

- **Every Friday** : Needle felting animals and plants (1.00-5.00pm)
- **19th May:** Hub activities (3:30 pm to 5:30 pm)
- **23rd May:** Food Bank session (10.00 am to 12.00noon)
- **27th May:** Social Supermarket (3.00 pm to 5.00pm)

For more information or to book workshops, email woollynanas@gmail.com.

What's On at The Valiant Soldier in May

Victory in Europe Day – Special Bar Opening

Celebrate VE Day's 80th anniversary on Saturday, 10th May, from 6–10 pm. Enjoy cocktails from the 1940s, including our Vera Lynn special, plus beer, cider, and music.

Exhibition: Buckfastleigh 100 Years Ago

Part of *A Festival on Devon in the 1920s*, this fascinating display explores Buckfastleigh a century ago, compiled by our Archive team. Open Tuesday to Saturday, 10 am–3:30 pm (last entry 3 pm), plus Bank Holiday openings on 5th and 26th May.

Visitor Centre & Gifts

Find local maps, pre-read books, games, souvenirs, and Salcombe ice cream in our newly refurbished centre. Free entry for TQ11 residents. Children can hunt for hidden woolly sheep around the museum.

Volunteers Wanted

We need help greeting visitors, staffing the reception desk, and providing admin and IT support. Call in or contact us at 01364 644522 to get involved.

Support Us – Win £25,000!

Enter the Teignbridge Lottery for Communities for a chance to win, with 50p from each £1 ticket supporting The Valiant Soldier. You can also donate via our Go Fund Me page: <https://gofund.me/f819a57a>.

Coffee Mornings & Room Hire

Join our friendly Wednesday morning coffee drop-in from 10 am–12 pm, run by the Methodist group and open to all. For room hire enquiries, email info@valiantsoldier.org.uk or visit valiantsoldier.org.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you soon!

Holne Plant Sale

Holne Plant Sale on Sunday, 18 May, from 2:00–4:00 PM at Holne Village Hall. Admission is free, and all proceeds go towards maintaining the hall.

The event features a selection of plants for sale, homemade cakes, refreshments, and a raffle. While cash is preferred, cards are also accepted. Don't miss this chance to support the community and pick up some beautiful plants for your garden!

Buckfastleigh WI News

This month, Buckfastleigh WI enjoyed a captivating talk from Alastair Shapland about his British University Kayak Expedition to Guatemala. He shared stories of uncharted rivers, rapids, bee attacks, and encounters with local villagers, offering a fascinating glimpse into such an adventurous trip. Alastair kindly donated our contribution to the Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team (Ashburton Branch).

At our Annual Meeting, we welcomed a new President and Vice President and voted in favour of the national resolution '*Bystanders Can Be Lifesavers*' to improve access to life support skills and equipment.

We'd love to welcome you—your first visit is free!

Next Meeting:

- **When:** Tuesday, 13th May, 7.00–9.00pm
- **Where:** Lounge, St Luke's Church, Buckfastleigh

For more info, visit our Facebook page, call **07884 221312**, or email **buckfastleigh@devonwi.org.uk**.

We look forward to meeting you!

Collati Return to Buckfast Abbey – Saturday, 10th May

By popular demand, Collati will perform an unaccompanied concert of anthems and motets at Buckfast Abbey, directed by Trefor Farrow. The performance begins at 7:30 pm and features a stunning programme including works by Tallis, Byrd, Victoria, and Monteverdi, alongside modern composers such as Eric Whitacre, James MacMillan, and M.J. Trotta.

Tickets: £15

Available online at www.buckfast.org.uk/events/anthem-and-motets, from Buckfast Abbey Visitor Centre, or at the door on the night.

Free Parking: Disabled spaces are located nearest to the Abbey's path, and the venue is wheelchair accessible.

Don't miss this extraordinary evening of music in a magnificent setting!

Skylarker Well-Being Project – Inclusive Well-Being & Dance Classes

No experience needed—**everyone is welcome!**

Join us for **free and donation-based well-being sessions** at the **Moor Imagination Centre** and online:

- **Drop-In Sessions:** Tuesdays (May 20, June 17, July 15) at 1.00pm | Fridays (May 2, May 23, June 20, July 18) at 1:30pm
- **Online Self-Compassion Series:** (Booking required) Tuesdays 9:30am (July 8, 15, 22) | Thursdays 6:30pm (July 3, 10, 17)
- **Dance-Fitness:** Mondays 11:30am at Moor Imagination Centre (April 28–July 7)
- **Uplifting Dance-Fitness:** Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30am at **Hands On Retreat Centre, Pridhamsleigh** (£11 per half-term block, £12 drop-in)

Mindfulness & Somatics **Autumn bookings now open!**

For full details, visit www.skylarker.co.uk or contact **Pip** at **07946 615808**.

More on **Hands On Retreat Centre** at www.hands-on-retreat.co.uk.

Buckfastleigh Cricket Club

The cricket season is in full swing, and Buckfastleigh Cricket Club is proud to be competing in the Devon League while also hosting friendly matches with local teams.

We Welcome New Players whether you're an experienced cricketer or new to the game, we welcome players of all ages and abilities, men and women alike.

Get Involved Off the Field -If playing isn't for you, there are plenty of ways to support the club! You can contribute as a scorer, umpire, or help with ground maintenance—training is available for all roles.

A Summer Afternoon at Its Best - Looking for a relaxing way to spend a sunny day? Our picturesque ground offers a friendly atmosphere and a well-stocked bar—perfect for enjoying cricket and connecting with the community.

Contact Us -To get involved or view the latest fixture list, contact club secretary Martin Parkes at 07886 118528, or visit buckfastleighcc.uk.

Better Places (Be Buckfastleigh) – Supporting Local Events & Activities!

Tuesdays – Buckfastleigh Social Supermarket

The **Town Hall** opens as a **free café space from 2:30pm**, with the **food store open 3.00–5.00pm**.

- Suggested donation: **£4.50 per household** (pay more or less as needed).
- Choose from a selection of surplus food, sourced from **Fare Share** and local businesses.
- Free **tea, coffee, biscuits**, and a warm welcome—drop by for a chat!

Also running in **Bovey Tracey**.

Thursdays – Little Lambs Early Years Group

St. Luke’s Church Hall, 10.00am–12.00pm

- **Free play for babies & toddlers**
- **Tea, social space & healthy snacks**
- **Friendly support & connection for parents**

Both sessions are **FREE**—come along and join the community!

Moor Social – A Welcoming Space for Over 50s

Moorland Community Caring hosts **Moor Social** in Buckfastleigh on the **1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month**—a great chance to connect, enjoy a cuppa, and take part in engaging activities.

May Dates:

- **Wednesday, 7th May (12:00–14:00)** – Lunch & activity at **Buckfastleigh Bowling Club, Duckspond Road**
- **Wednesday, 21st May** – Meet at **The Grange, Buckfast Abbey** for a drink and an optional **stroll through the gardens**

We aim to assist with transport—call **07794 5992056** if you need support getting to or from events.

For more info, contact us at **info@moorlandcommunitycaring.org.uk**.

Buckfastleigh Action for Nature Group

No Mow May & Community Pollinator Project

May is here, and it's the perfect time to support **No Mow May!** Insect numbers continue to decline, and with most crops depending on pollinators, it's vital to protect them. Let your lawn grow, allow flowering plants to thrive, and give bees and other insects the space they need.

Charlie is organizing this year's **Open Wildlife Gardens**, running from **16th–18th May**, with details available at the library closer to the date. The event offers a varied programme with something for everyone.

To further help pollinators, we've launched the **Community Pollinator Project**. Whether you have a garden, pots, or containers, you can grow pollinator-friendly plants with open flowers or tubes where insects can access pollen. Displays are already appearing around town, with troughs being built and seeds sown—some plants are already blooming!

We encourage everyone to share photos of their pollinator-friendly spaces on our Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/buckfastleighactionfornature.

Looking forward to seeing you at the **Wildlife Garden Event** and enjoying the beautiful blooms around Buckfastleigh!

Buckfastleigh History Society

Join us for the next captivating talk from the History Society Buckfastleigh:

Walking with the Ancestors: A Brief History of Prehistory in South Dartmoor
Speaker: Philippa Wood

Date & Time: Thursday, 22 May, 7:30pm

Orchard Millennium Green Tea Hut & Events

The Tea Hut will not be reopening on Sundays this year due to volunteer availability but will be open for all scheduled events.

Event Dates:

- **Sunday, 25th May** – WoolFest (2.00–5.00 pm)
- **Sunday, 29th June** – FunDay (12.00–5 .00pm)
- **Saturday, 26th July** – Water Day
- **Sunday, 21st September** – Apple Day

Get Involved!

- **Stall Applications:** FunDay & Apple Day stall applications are open—email rcprior96@gmail.com if interested.
- **FunDay Volunteers Needed:** Help run games and enjoy unlimited tea plus a FREE T-shirt! Email rcprior96@gmail.com to sign up.
- **Tombola Donations:** Drop off contributions at **Tikka's & Mardle Stores**.
- **Duck Sales:** Keep an eye out—they'll be flying about soon!

Thank you for supporting the Orchard Millennium Green—we look forward to seeing you at the events!

St Luke's Church

Welcome to Alex Holmes

We're excited to welcome **Alex Holmes**, our new Team Vicar! She will be licensed at a special service at **St Luke's on Tuesday, 6 May, at 7.00pm**. Everyone is warmly invited.

Alex will focus on ministry in Buckfastleigh and Dean Prior, while **Gina Radford**, our Team Rector, continues overseeing the seven churches in the Dart and Avon Mission Community.

Sunday Services in May

- **May 4:** Compline at 6:00pm - quiet evening service.
- **Other Sundays:** Morning services at 11:00am

All are welcome, whether you're new to church or a regular attendee.

Free Concert in June

Enjoy the music of **Handel and Mozart** at a free concert by Richard Lester on **Saturday, 14 June, 2:30pm**. Retiring collection for church funds.

Help from the Foodbank

We provide food and financial advice through our CAB adviser, who has helped many in need. Contact **01364 644485** for support or visit the **Foodbank Café** on Fridays at St Luke's.

More Information

Visit www.stlukeschurchbuckfastleigh.org.uk or contact Gina Radford on **07903 400480**.

St Benedict's Catholic Church – A Welcoming Worshipping Community

Located in Chapel Street, Buckfastleigh (TQ11 0AQ), St Benedict's Catholic Church is a warm and friendly worshipping community served by our Parish Priest, **Fr Francis Straw**, from Buckfast Abbey.

We invite you to join us for **Mass every Saturday at 5.00pm**, followed by tea and coffee. Families are welcome, and children can enjoy our quiet activity area during the service.

The Easter Season

Throughout May, we continue to celebrate the themes of Easter. If you missed Holy Week or Easter services, this is a great time to reconnect and reflect on the significance of the season.

Ascension Day

On **Thursday, 29 May**, we commemorate the ascension of Jesus into Heaven with Masses at:

- **10:15am** – Ashburton, TQ13 7AR
- **12:05pm** – Abbey
- **5:00pm** – Abbey
- **7:30pm** – South Brent, TQ10 9AQ

Everyone is warmly invited.

Buckfastleigh Foodbank

We continue to support the Buckfastleigh Foodbank with a donation point at St Benedict's. A heartfelt thank you to all parishioners for their generous contributions, especially during Lent. A list of most-needed items can be found in the church or on the Buckfastleigh Foodbank website.

A Note for Holiday Visitors

Heading to Buckfastleigh on holiday? Our congregation is always pleased to welcome visitors to **Saturday 5.00pm Mass**. Come find us at St Benedict's in Chapel Street, and enjoy a friendly, uplifting service during your stay.

Contact Details

Email: parish@buckfast.org.uk

Phone: **01364 645526**

Update from Buckfast Methodist Church

Dear friends,

Exciting changes are underway! After months of careful planning and preparation, building work to create accessible access to the chapel is about to begin. This marks a significant step forward, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to the professionals who have guided us to this point, as well as to Buckfast Abbey for their collaboration in allowing the new access to cross their land.

While work is being carried out, the chapel will temporarily close on both weekdays and Sundays. As details unfold, we will make week-by-week decisions about alternative locations for worship. Rest assured, we look forward to inviting you back to see the new entrance and to reopening our chapel doors to visitors in the near future!

In the meantime, we'd love to see you at our **Wednesday morning coffee mornings** at the Valiant Soldier from 10 am. Join us for friendly conversation and a warm cuppa—it's a wonderful way to stay connected.

With best wishes,
Kevin

The Christian Community Church: Renewal of Religious Life

Founded in 1922, The Christian Community Church is a movement dedicated to the renewal of religious life in our time. At the heart of its spiritual practices is the Communion Service, where priest and congregation celebrate the healing presence of the Risen Christ together.

Services:

All are warmly invited to attend the Sunday service at 10:00am.

Guest Accommodation:

The church now offers guest accommodation for visitors, with a minimum stay of three nights. For further details, please contact Sabine at sabine.christian2003@gmail.com.

Learn More:

For enquiries, call 644272 or visit our website at www.thechristiancommunity.co.uk/Devon

News Sheet Update

We're excited to share that this month's News Sheet has a **fresh look**, featuring a **larger font** and a **more eye-catching layout**. To accommodate this change, the issue has been extended to **20 pages** instead of the usual 16.

We hope to return to 16 pages as we adjust to the new format. Your feedback—both positive and constructive—is always appreciated.

We are also still on the lookout for **one or two volunteers** to eventually ensure the News Sheet continues into the future. Ideally, we're seeking:

- Someone to **edit/type submitted items** and forward the finished copy for printing.
- Another person to help with **finances** and/or **organizing the distribution** to our volunteer deliverers.

If any of this appeals to you, please contact us (details below) to have a chat—we'd love to hear from you!

Contact Us:

Email: news@bflnews.org.uk (preferred)

Phone: Numbers listed on the Contacts Page

Contacts

Emergency Numbers:-

Ashburton Hospital - 652203
 Buckfastleigh Medical Centre 642534
 Derriford Hospital - 01752 202082
 Devon Doctors (out of hours service) - 111
 Foodbank - 644485
 Macmillan Cancer Support - 0808 808 00 00,
www.macmillan.org
 Newton Abbot Hospital - 01626 324500
 NHS Medical advice - (non life-threatening)
 111
 Police - non emergency -101 emergency
 only - 999
 Taxi Service - Jon - 07881 723722
 Teign Housing 01626 322722
 Teignbridge District Council 01626 361101
 Totnes Hospital 01803 862622
 Torbay Hospital - 01803 614567

1st Buckfastleigh Scout Group 07970
 987425

After School Club 07867 672282
 Age Concern Devon 0845 2967810
 All Ability Yoga 07540 751745
 Arthritis Support Group 01803 732664
 (evenings)
 Ashburton & Buckfastleigh Hospital League
 of Friends 652217
 Ashburton & Buckfastleigh Rotary Club
 643546 / 643699
 Bariatric Patient Support Elaine Jenkins,
 644632 / 07766 674295
 Be Buckfastleigh - hel-
lo@bebuckfastleigh.co.uk
 Brainwave Charity Shop 642010
 Buckfast Abbey - 645500
 Buckfast PO - 642941
 Buckfast Residents Society 643912
 Buckfast Short Mat Bowling 644570
 Buckfast Village Hall - bookings 07928
 620122
 Buckfastleigh Bowls Club 07577 219962
 Buckfastleigh Caving Group 644256
 Buckfastleigh Chamber of Trade 643206
 Buckfastleigh Community Care - 712013
 Buckfastleigh Community Forum buckfastleighcommunity@gmail.com
 Buckfastleigh Community News Sheet
 643553, 642922, 643428
 Buckfastleigh Cricket Club 07506 411401
 Buckfastleigh Drama Group 642509
 Buckfastleigh Ki-Aikido Club 07962 432317
 Buckfastleigh Library 642638

Buckfastleigh Primary School 643304
 Buckfastleigh Ramblers Rugby Club 643895
 Buckfastleigh Rangers Social Club 642853
 Buckfastleigh Swimming Pool / Victoria
 Park 642222 Bfl.pool@yahoo.co.uk
 Buckfastleigh Town Council/Town Hall /
 Town Ranger 642576 Ranger@buckfastleigh.gov.uk
 Buckfastleigh Women's running group
 642271
 Buckfastleigh Youth Club 642641
 Buckfastleigh Youth Project 644481
 Buck the Trend 698101, e-mail in-
fo@buckthetrend.info
 Car Share Devon 08700 111199
www.carsharedevon.com
 Catholic Church 645526
 Christian Community 644272
 Church of England 643120,
www.stlukeschurchbuckfastleigh.org.uk
 Church of England Children's Society
 643660
 Crime Stoppers 0800-555111
 Dartmoor National Park 01626 832093
www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk
 Devon Cave Rescue Organisation - 07748
 762580
 Devon County Council 01392-382000
www.devon.gov.uk
 Devon Domestic Abuse Support Service
 0345 155 1074, e-mail ad-
min.devon@splitz.org
 Devon Speleological Society secre-
tary@devonss.org.uk
www.devonss.org.uk
 Feldenkrais Classes & Sessions, in-
fo@lifeworks4me.co.uk, 07989 394904
 Football (Under-14s) 642872
 Friends of Buckfastleigh Swimming Pool
 643846, e-mail in-
fo@buckfastleighpool.co.uk
 Holne Community Shop & Tearoom 631188,
enquiries@holnecommunity.shop
 Holne Village Hall bookings 631344 (leave
 message), e-mail [holnevil-
 lagehall@gmail.com](mailto:holnevil-

 lagehall@gmail.com)
 Home-start Teignbridge 01626 353700
 MacMillan Cancer Supp - 9.00-8.00pm
 helpline 0808 808 0000
www.macmillan.org.uk
 Mama Mondays Yoga—07985 013085;
umayogini07@gmail.com
 Massage - Sarah Cook, 07949 334003,

sarahmcook@hotmail.co.uk
 Methodist Church 07834 468880
 Moorland Community Care Group, Be-
 friending & Volunteering 07538 100461
 Mothers' Union 643627
 Newton Abbot Community Transport 01626
 335775
 Orchard Millennium Green
 Patchwork Quilt Challenge - 642486
 Petanque Pitch 642336
 Pilates - faithburch1964@gmail.com 07952
 157585
 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 643623,
 642370
 St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Buckfast,
 642389
 Scoriton & Buckfastleigh Twinning 643728,
 e-mail scoritonbucktwinning@gmail.com
 Scoriton Flower Show 631277
 Scoriton Village hall bookings email
scoritonvillagehall@gmail.com
 Sculpture Group 642786, 07840 759215
 Sharing -Transport 07434 108050
 Slimming World - Kathrin, 07977 233406
 South Devon MS Society - 0845 602 0805
 SD Railway 01364 644370
 SSAFA - 074830170351, Dev-
on@ssafa.org.uk
 Taijiwuxigong - Katie White 07846 482611
 Tennis club 07780 703770
 Teignbridge & Totnes Cats Protection:
 General 0845 3712723, Lost & found
 0845 3712727.
 Therapeutic yoga - Uma 388529, 07985
 013085,
 Traveline (public transport info) 0871 200
 22 33
 Valiant Mummies Rod Denley-Jones 07794
 574572
 Valiant Soldier Heritage Centre 644522
 Women's Institute buck-
fastleigh1.wisec@gmail.com
 Yoga - 07454 490085
anne.wright76@yahoo.co.uk
 Yoga - creative flow 07852 928901,
tania996@hotmail.co.uk
 Yoga for All Abilities - Kevin 07540 751745
 Yoga Works - Kim Edwards, also exercise to
 music classes 644613/07792 910785
wardsyoga@gmail.com

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