



PPT: the Parish Church of St Peter, St Paul
& St Thomas of Canterbury, Bovey Tracey
and St Mary's, Hennock



Summer Bulletin

June - August 2024



Contents:

1. Cover:
2. Vicar's Letter
3. The Book of Numbers..
4. A cultural Christian?
5. Summer festivals
- 6-8. What's on June - August
9. Clocks & People
10. Daylight Prison Trust
11. Who's who
12. Peninsular Gospel Partnership



Letter from the Vicar:

If you are a sports fan, this summer holds the promise of Wimbledon, the Euros and the Paris Olympics - unless rain stops play. Can we bring home some glory this time?

There is a more serious contest with the General Election on 4 July, and many Christian organisations are producing guides to inform the concerned Christian voter. I particularly recommend the resources from Bible Society: https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/about-us/our-work/england-and-wales/britain-and-the-bible/?source_code=BEG2404 Being a voter is an immense privilege, and a great responsibility, but as Christians we have more than our vote to change the world. When it seems that chaos is spreading in the church and the world, we have the duty and privilege of prayer. St Paul said:

“ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³ This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Saviour, ⁴ who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1 Timothy 2.1-4)

I urge you to join in our **Day of Prayer** for church and nation on Wednesday 3 July, before the General Election on 4 July and General Synod meeting 5-9 July. The Church will be open all day and we will have a Communion at 10am and a prayer meeting at 7.30pm at PPT.

I have now completed my six courses of chemotherapy: a body scan in early July will confirm its success. I am now hoping to make a return to public ministry in the coming weeks, though I will be treading carefully to build up my strength.

My thanks to everyone who has been carrying extra responsibilities in my absence.

In case you hadn't noticed, there have been some interesting high profile conversions in the news. Ayaan Hirsi Ali was a Muslim from Somalia, a fundamentalist culture, and in her first book *Infidel*, which I read in February, she describes how she escaped from that and became an atheist, and a friend of Richard Dawkins. More recently she has discovered faith in Christ, and you can read or listen to her debate with Richard here: <https://unherd.com/watch-listen/the-god-debate/> . Now even Richard describes himself as a 'cultural Christian', though he doesn't believe in God. (p.4)



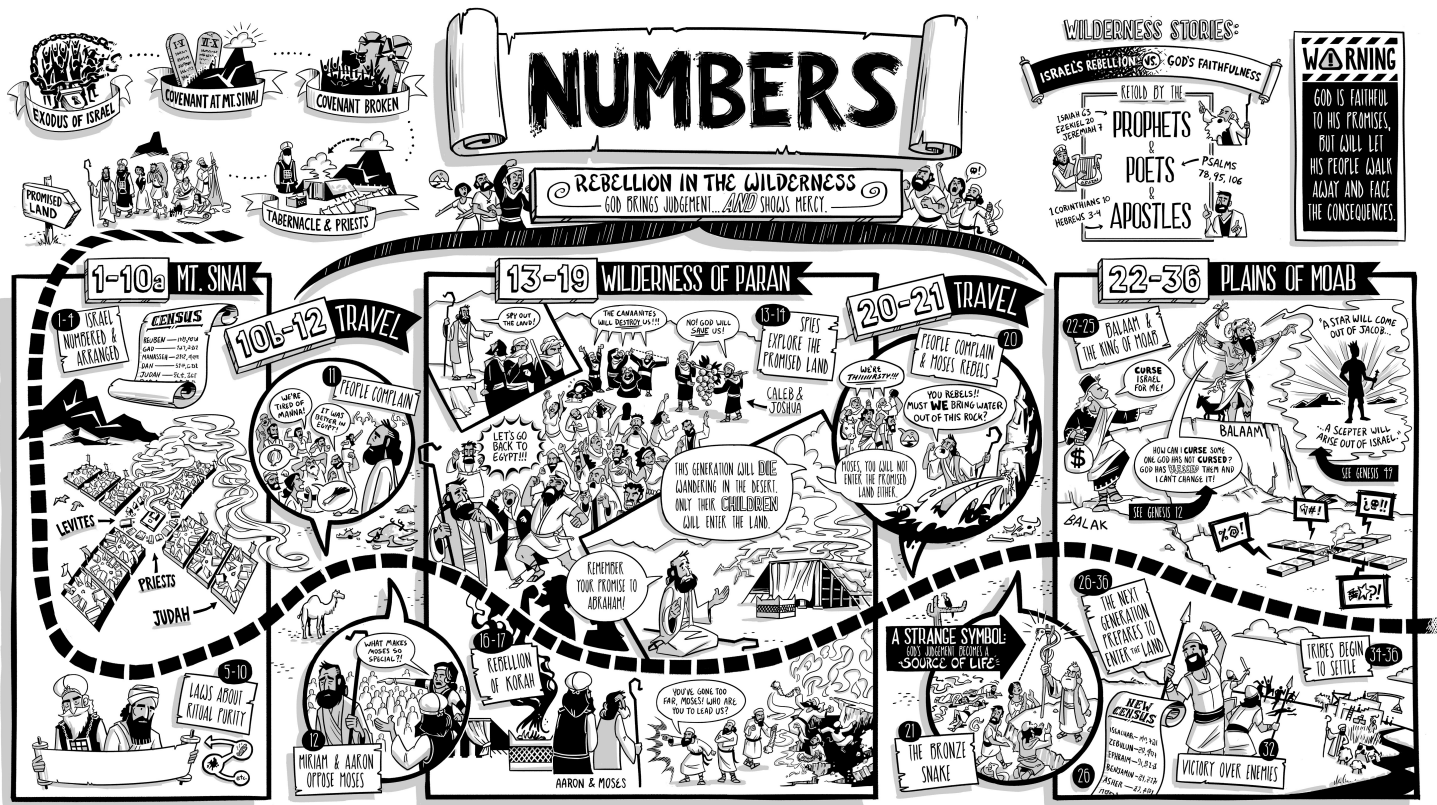
Russell Brand has recently been baptised, (pictured above with his friend and mentor Bear Grylls) and [now professes Christian faith](#).

Two swallows don't make a summer, but these stories suggest that our culture is beginning to recognise its spiritual bankruptcy and look again at Jesus.

Let's pray for them, and be prepared to share our faith with joy and confidence that in Jesus we can find life, joy and freedom.

That is true and lasting glory!

yours in Christ,
Graham



created by the Bible Project

The Book of Numbers

In August we are planning a sermon series through the Old Testament Book of **Numbers**. This might not immediately fill you with excitement! Numbers sounds boring - and the book contains many long lists - of tribes, offerings and census results. But it also includes some of the most dramatic narratives in the bible. The people of Israel muster at Mount Sinai around the Tabernacle before they march across the wilderness to take possession of the promised land, but their grumbling and disobedience bring them under God's judgement, and the first generation has to wander for 40 years in the wilderness before God brings their children home.

What value does this book have for Christians? St Paul referred to many incidents from Numbers, and said:

"Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who

thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall." (1 Corinthians 10.11-12).

The book also points us in many ways to Jesus, a greater leader even than Moses, 'the spiritual rock' who followed them (1 Cor 10.4)

We too are God's people on a journey, from the decisive victory that Jesus won for us at Easter, to the Kingdom which will be established at his Return in glory. Will we follow him with faithful obedience, or grumble constantly and disobey his word? Numbers is the story of a people called to belong to God, who struggle with their sinful nature, and the story of a holy God, who keeps his covenant promises.

It will greatly enhance your understanding of this book, if you read the set passages in advance, as they can be quite long narratives. There will be a reading guide in the weekly notice sheet, and I also recommend *Journeying with God in the Wilderness* by Mark Broadway (IVP: £9.99).



Richard Dawkins: “I’m a Christian”!

“If anyone merits a good biography, it’s Ayaan Hirsi Ali. Her autobiography, *Infidel*, chronicles her extraordinary life, from childhood in the Islamic hell (for women) of Somalia, her escape to the Netherlands where she swiftly learned Dutch and became an MP; then the all-too-credible threat from the jihadist murderer of her colleague Theo van Gogh, in a note pinned with a dagger to his corpse. After moving to America, this valiant, charming intellectual warrior became a stalwart of the atheist movement, on a par with Christopher Hitchens, Dan Dennett and Sam Harris. But now, in an astonishing volte-face, she has announced her conversion to Christianity. Imagine the Pope suddenly becoming an atheist – or, worse, an Orangeman – and you’ll get an idea of the fluttering in atheistic dovecotes caused by Ayaan’s tergiversation. I asked her whether she really believes in fundamental Christian tenets such as the afterlife, Jesus’s resurrection and his parthenogenetic provenance. She doesn’t. I got the strong impression her Christianity is a matter of politics more than belief. Christianity is our best bulwark against Islam. **Well, if rooting for benevolent Christianity in preference to malign Islam is all it takes to be a Christian, I’m a Christian too.** There’s more to it than that, and I certainly haven’t done her justice here.”

(from the Spectator 26 Jan 2024)

Mission Focus.

Each month we have a different focus for our prayers and mission giving. Our focus in June is **the Sandels Family**, seving with YWAM in Albania, and in July is Compassion UK.

If you wish to make a donation you can put cash in the collection plate on Sunday, or use the contactless payment device, or make an online donation through the Church Bank account: please name the mission focus in the reference box.

If you wish to make a donation to general church funds, please set up a standing order, or use the yellow envelopes in each pew and at the back of church.

The sums raised for mission in the last few months are listed below:

Feb	Peninsular Gospel Partnership	£299.00
Mar	Leprosy Mission	£459.10
Apr	Heatree Activity Centre	£405.00
May	Falcon Camps	£413.97

From the registers:

Our condolences to the families of those whose funerals were held at PPT

- Mr David Risdon
- Mr Cyril Small
- Mrs Rose White
- Mrs Sheila Robins
- Mrs Frances Marrow
- Mrs Olive Small

Congratulations to Kelsey Gray and Connor Shield Brooks who were married at PPT on 1 June.

Summer Festivals



Join us to explore the **Adventure of Faith** from **1-4 August, 2024** for four days of full-on Creation Fest fun as we gather in the joy of community for music, talks, art, skate, and boundless fun

🎉 We're so excited to be launching for 2024! We'll be joined by Amanda Cook, Amy Orr-Ewing, Brian and Cheryl Brodersen, Fieldlily, Tim Chaddick, and creative communicators from around the world as we discover why following Jesus is the greatest adventure. With our pricing and planning, we have paid attention to the cost-of-living crisis, current financial climate, and rising price costs. With this in mind, we will be running our early-bird rate from now until the end of May 2024, so if you want to join us for the best price possible then get booking now! At Creation Fest, our heart has always been to celebrate the good news of the God who loves us through festivals, events and gatherings designed to creatively communicate the Christian faith and inspire others to do the same. We are so looking forward to gathering Summer 2024 at the Royal Cornwall Events Centre for a time of adventure and we can't wait to have you join us!

Devon ChurchLand

If you have not yet discovered the Devon Churchland website, it is well worth a visit, with detailed reports and amazing photographs:

<https://devonchurchland.co.uk/>

There have been recent reports on St Mary's Hennock, (<https://devonchurchland.co.uk/description/hennock-church-of-st-mary-description/>)

and more recently a beautifully illustrated article about PPT Bovey by our own Sarah McIntyre at:<https://devonchurchland.co.uk/blog/an-artists-perspective-bovey-tracey-church-of-st-peter-st-paul-and-st-thomas-of-canterbury/>



What's on at PPT Bovey & St Mary's

see the weekly notice sheet for details of regular midweek services and events

June

16th **3rd after Trinity: Life in his Name**
Bible readings: 1 Peter 4.12-5.11, John 17.1-12.
9.30am Sunday Praise: Rev Paul Reynolds.
11.00am Holy Communion: Rev Paul Reynolds
5.00pm Prayer & Praise: 2 Peter 1:1-15 video

St Mary's Bible readings: Prov. 8.1-4, John 16.12-33.
11.00am Morning Worship: Mr Keith Butler

23rd

4th after Trinity: the Glory of Unity
Bible readings: Acts 16.16-34, John 17.13-end
9.30am No service
11.00am Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
6.00pm Prayer & Praise: 2 Peter 1.12-21 video

St Mary's Bible readings: 1 Peter 4.12-5.11, John 17.1-12
11.00am Holy Communion: Rev Paul Reynolds

30th

5th after Trinity: Know Your Rights!
Bible readings: Isaiah 44.6-20, 1 Corinthians 8
PPT 9.30am Sunday praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
11.00am Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
6.00pm Prayer & Praise: 2 Peter 2.1-22 video

St Mary's Bible readings: Acts 16.16-34, John 17.13-end
11.00am Morning Worship: Mr Keith Butler

July

Wed 3rd **Day of Prayer for Church & Nation**
10.00am Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
7.30pm Monthly Prayer meeting

7th

6th after Trinity: Focus on YWAM Albania
Bible readings: Isaiah 52.7-10, Acts 16.6-15
9.30am Sunday Praise: Mr James Sandels
11.00am Morning Worship: Mr James Sandels
4.00pm BBQ and worship at Heatree Activity Centre

St Mary's Bible readings: Isaiah 44.6-20, 1 Corinthians 8
11.00am Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton

July		
14th		7th after Trinity: End of Entitlement
PPT	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Bible readings: Acts 18.1-8, 1 Corinthians. 9.1-18 Sunday praise: Rev Graham Hamilton Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton Prayer & Praise: 2 peter 3.1-13 Video
St Mary's	11.00am	Bible readings: tbc Morning Worship: Rev David Harris
Thu 18th	7.30pm	Parochial Church Council meeting in the Church Room
21st		8th after Trinity: The risk of Rights
	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Bible readings: Deuteronomy 2.1-18, 1 Cor 10.1-11.1 Sunday Praise : Rev David Harris Morning Worship: Rev David Harris Prayer and Praise: 2 Peter 3.11-18 video
St Mary's		Bible Readings: Acts 18.1-8, 1 Corinthians. 9.1-18 Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
28th		9th after Trinity: The Hosts of the Lord
PPT	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	bible readings: Numbers 1, Revelation 7.1-12 Sunday praise: Rev Graham Hamilton Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton Prayer and Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
St Mary's	11.00am	Bible readings: Deuteronomy 2.1-18, 1 Cor 10.1-11.1 Morning Worship: M Graham Whittle
3rd Sat	12 noon	Wedding of Lauren Griffith and Ashley Corner
August		
4th		10th after Trinity: Grumbling
PPT	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	Bible readings: Numbers 11, Hebrews 3.12-4.4 Sunday Praise: Mrs Carolyn Laycock Morning Worship: Mrs Carolyn Laycock Prayer & Praise: Mr Mark Alexander
St Mary's	11.00am	Bible readings: Numbers 1, Revelation 7.1-12 Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
7th Wed	7.30pm	Monthly Prayer meeting in the Church Room

August

11th

11th after Trinity: Rejection

Bible readings: Numbers 13-14, Romans 8.35-39

PPT 9.30am
11.00am
6.00pm

Sunday praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton

St Mary's

11.00am

Bible readings: Numbers 11, Hebrews 3.12-4.4
Morning Worship: Mrs Carolyn Laycock

18th

12th after Trinity:

Bible readings: tbc

PPT 9.30am
11.00am
6.00pm

Sunday praise (HC): Mr Rob Fowler
Morning Prayer: Mr Rob Fowler
Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton

St Mary's

11.00am

Bible readings: Numbers 13-14, Romans 8.35-39
Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton

25th

13th after Trinity: Rebellion

Bible readings: Numbers 16, 1 Tim 3.1-7

PPT 9.30am
11.00am
6.00pm

Sunday praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton

St Mary's

11.00am

Bible readings:
Morning Worship: M Graham Whittle

September

1st

14th after Trinity: Passing the Baton

Bible readings: Numbers 20.1-21.3, 1 Cor 10.1-13

PPT 9.30am
11.00am
6.00pm

Sunday praise: Rev David Harris
Holy Communion: Rev David Harris
Prayer & Praise: Rev David Harris

St Mary's

11.00am

Bible readings: Numbers 16, 1 Tim 3.1-7
Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton

4th

7.30pm

Monthly Prayer meeting in the Church Room

8th

15th after Trinity: Blessings

Bible readings: Numbers 23-24, Matthew 5.2-11

PPT 9.30am
11.00am
6.00pm

Sunday praise: Rev Graham Hamilton
Holy Communion: Rev Graham Hamilton
Prayer & Praise: Rev Graham Hamilton

St Mary's

11.00am

Bible readings: Numbers 20.1-21.3, 1 Cor 10.1-13
Morning Worship: tbc



Clocks and People

Some years ago I was taken out for a meal in a rather unusual restaurant in Hollywood. On its walls hung the biggest display of clocks I have ever seen. Everywhere it was tick tock, tick tock! There were big clocks and little clocks; old clocks and modern clocks. Clocks simple and ornate; friendly and austere. The clocks on the wall were as diverse as the customers at the tables. And when you come to think about it, are not clocks somewhat akin to people, and people akin to clocks? Both have faces and both have hands, and all have something that make them tick. Like clocks some folk are fast and some are slow; some can tell the time, while others never will.

There are grandfather clocks, people like our parent's parents, cracked and wrinkled with the years but somehow steady, kindly and benign. They have been in our background a long, long time and given quality to our fevered lives. They link us with the past and give us something for today, that our devalued currencies could never buy. Their pendulum marks out extremes from which we also must return. Their measured movement checks erratic youth; and what good time they keep compared with many of today's non-starters.

Some people, of course, are the alarm clock type; little folk with loud voices, "blowing their heads off" with virtually no provocation and often at most inconvenient times. They refuse to be quiet till you pay them attention. And if you do manage to 'shut them down' or 'put them off', you are then so 'rudely' awake, that you just have to get up and get going. We

rather resent them but alarm clocks in this world of sleepers, even if bad mannered, do a great deal of good.

Some people are just kitchen clocks, and perhaps that word 'just', is the most unjust thing of all, because kitchen clocks are SO like mothers. What a splendid job they do! Why, many of the best things 'cooking' in life would be altogether wasted, were it not for the set times and the disciplines, which wives and mothers make their families keep. Some may call it 'petticoat government' but the 'belle' in the kitchen can be a great safeguard against burning the cakes in more ways than one. If Ephraim had owned a kitchen clock he would have been much better balanced. As it was, he was really 'half baked'; or as Hosea described him, 'a cake not turned'.

Other folk make us think of the 'Noddy' clock of our nursery days. Some will remember the fairy-tale face and the little-boy figure nodding his head every second. With what drooping heads some idlers pass their day and squander their hours.

Some are travelling clocks, people living in cases and always on the move. And those of us in this category, know only too well, we need a lot more winding than those who stay put.

Some are jewelled clocks little wrist watches, hardly noticed till needed, but folk with great character and lots of precious things inside.

Then there are the chiming clocks, people like fathers telling the same old jokes while their families complete the chime; or lazy preachers who trot out the same old sermons year by year.

Then there are the 'stop clocks', those difficult customers for ever checking on other folk's records; exacting people, making for rivalry; fanatics for detail; always judging but never involved.

And today there are the electric clocks, people called Christians, who are nothing in themselves, but connected to the Source of power and switched on to God, tell his time accurately to a world which does not realise the day of grace is already far spent.

Believers must fulfil their vital function. We are the Lord's chronometers; time pieces of the Living God in this dark place where signs and times remain confused. We can be well known, like Big Ben, and sound out the hour of decision to millions; or we may be unknown, just a little digital for God, in some one's office; but the important thing is that we should tell God's time, just as it is, and just where we are. It is not how public or private we are that gives us our accuracy, but the degree to which we are personally regulated by God's own word 'for ever settled in heaven'. The sun and moon enunciate man's moments, months and years on earth. They are God's clock for all our history. Time here is measured there. Earth's tide and time which wait for none, are always governed from on high.

From *Treasure in my Sack* by Geoffrey Bull

COULD YOU WRITE A LETTER TO A PRISONER? MORE NEEDED

Daylight Christian Prison Trust is calling for more letter-writing volunteers in response to a growing request from UK prisoners for pen pals.

Daylight currently has 50 letter-writers but it is no longer enough to keep up with prisoner demand. The surge in requests follows a wider rebrand last year. CEO Gaius Phillingham explained: 'We gave out new cards [about the pen pal scheme] at one prison and we had eight prisoners sign up. It was the same response at other prisons around the country. Our refreshed brand – a refreshed opportunity – suddenly produced greater need; and our supply of letter writers dried up.' Prison chaplains report a demand across the board, including from 'younger guys who don't have parental figures'. Some of the prisoners requesting a pen pal are Christians, while others know nothing about the Bible. Many prisoners' families abandoned them at the start of their prison terms.



With prayer, and what he called 'careful research', Daylight matches letter-writing volunteers with prisoners who have asked for a pen pal. Often, little is known about the prisoner and their offending.

Gaius said: 'It's sometimes better not to know what they've done (there are restrictions on what can be disclosed, for example, depending on the type of offence). We allow the relationship to develop.'

Letters from prisoners are checked by the Daylight office, following the prison authority requirements. Volunteers' letters are also read for their protection. Letter-writers can use a pseudonym and their personal details are not included.

Gaius commented: 'There is such an immediate need, and this is a great gospel opportunity, whether you are encouraging a believer or sharing the glorious gospel of Jesus.' For more information about the pen pal scheme, contact hannah@daylightcpt.org. Daylight is also celebrating its 20th year this month and is marking it by sending anniversary gift boxes to every prison in the UK. Gaius said: 'We want to encourage chaplaincies and enable them to take the gospel into prisons.' Each box includes Daylight mugs, chocolate biscuits, bookmarks, pens and tea bags – along with information about current resources, the cards for pen pals and printed copies of Bible messages.

<https://www.daylightcpt.org/>

from *Evangelicals Now June* edn, by Nicola Laver

Who's who at PPT Bovey & St Mary's Hennock:

Vicar: Rev Graham Hamilton 01626 833813 email: vicar@pptbovey.church	Gift Aid Hon. Secretary: Kate Martin 01647 277458
Church Administrator: Camilla Matheson 834835 (Home number if urgent -01364 661195) email: office@pptbovey.church	Safeguarding Officer: Tim Stephens 07840 102 383
Family Worker: Rosie Stephens 07876 662138 email: familyworker@pptbovey.church	Safeguarding Administrator: Shirley Codner 01626 824644
Youth Worker: Angie Blanche 07863 854013 email: youth@pptbovey.church	Captain of the Ringers Mike Wigney 07748 933779
Churchwardens (PPT) Michael Codner 01626 824644 Peter Chesterman 07487 690791 Email: wardens@pptbovey.church (Hennock)	Choir Co-ordinator: Margaret Steele 832137
Ellena Jamie 854752 Miles Pomfrett 331062	First Steps Toddler Group: Rosie Stephens 07876 662138
Licensed Lay Minister: Carolyn Laycock 01626 832335	Church Room Secretary: Jane Midgley, 832751 jane.midgley@gmail.com
Anna Chaplain: Jill Hosford 01626 832966	Flower Rota: Sarah Gilbert 833934
Elected P.C.C.Members (PPT): Mike Limb 01626 832705 Jill Hosford 01626 832966 Sharon Alexander 01626 854635 Tim Stephens 07840 102 383 Shirley Codner 01626 824644 Katie Law 07484 757105 Karen Chesterman 07714 745576 Steve Matheson 01364 661195	PPT Bovey is a registered Charity: 1128849. The PPT Bank account is 'P C C Bovey Tracey', acct no. 01219910, sort code 30-96-06. The Hennock bank account is: FOR PCC OF HENNOCK acct no: 01220021 sort code 30-96-06
Deanery Synod Reps: Roy White 07342 211662 Mathew Percy 07913 706627 Jack Knightly	<i>Please note that the Church office is no longer staffed, but ansaphones, emails and post are checked regularly during the week. Contact the church wardens for details.</i>
Diocesan Synod Rep: Dawn Hamilton 833813	<i>The Church Website contains details of all events, audio sermon files and documents for download: go to www.pptbovey.church</i>
P.C.C. Hon. Treasurer: Roy Pitchford 07793 909985 e: treasurer@pptbovey.church	<i>"PPT Bovey is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults.. If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm please contact the Parish Safeguarding officer. If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police or local authority Children or Adults Services."</i>

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

BBQ & SERVICE

All Age

Sun 7 Jul 2024

Arrive @3 Service @4

BBQ @5.30

HEATRE HOUSE

Manaton, Dartmoor, TQ13 9XE

Mens Curry night

Bovey Baptist, P/T & Heathfield Com Chr.

Free event, donations welcome

THE PGP TRAINING COURSE

Christ-centred, Bible training so that you can serve others with the gospel, in a deeper way.

WEDNESDAYS

9:30AM - 12:30AM

REDEEMER CHURCH, ST BARNABAS TERRACE, PLYMOUTH PL1 5NN

CONFERENCE ROOM B

Just £60 per term

For more information please visit
<https://peninsulagospelpartnership.com/>
 or email phillipbrokenshire@yahoo.co.uk

Peninsula Gosp Partnership Plymouth

Screenshot