

# SPOKES

SPEAKING TO AND FOR ALL OUR CHURCHES

JUNE 2025

Hi folks,

Do you think that going to church is increasing or decreasing in our society and culture? Most people would say, without hesitation, that the church is declining, and will continue to do so: but we now have clear evidence that this is no longer the case.

During April, the Bible Society released a report called “The Quiet Revival”. This is based on a survey of over thirteen thousand adults conducted by YouGov. The full report is publicly available. It follows on from a survey which they did six years ago, and the comparison between the two is remarkable. I have extracted one chart which gives one of the most striking results.

While it is true that churchgoing between the ages of 45 and 64 is going down, that is not the case for any other age range. Whereas 4% of those in the 18-24 and 25-34 age ranges went to church in 2018, that has shot up to 16% and 13% respectively. That dramatically reverses the trends that have been seen over many previous decades.

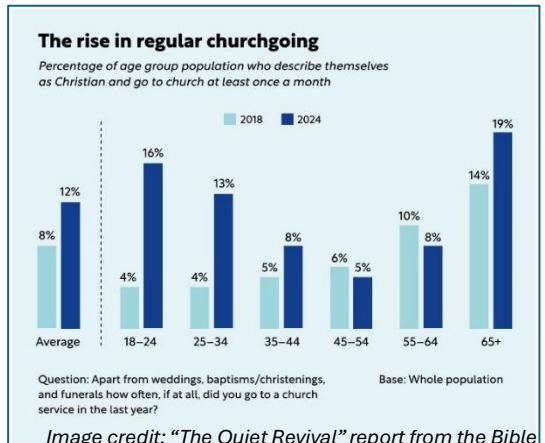
It's beyond the scope of a short letter to explore why this might be

– but the data alone reveals a changing culture regarding churchgoing. As a group of churches in the Poldens, we will continue to provide a warm welcome to all who come, whether to a church service or to one of our other events.

Every blessing,

Rich Tweedy

vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk



## GIFT DAYS IN JUNE

### St Philip & St James Church, Burtle

will be holding their

**Gift Day and Coffee Morning**

on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

**10.30am to 1pm**

Old photos and memorabilia will be on display. Refreshments.

### St Peter's Church, Catcott

will be holding their **Gift Day**

on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June**

**10am to 3pm**

Drop in for tea/coffee and cake and chat about things we are doing at the Church and Churchyard. Old documents and registers will be on display and the Church Tower will be open (weather permitting). Followed by a short service.

## All Saints, Ashcott

### Afternoon Teas

**29<sup>th</sup> June 3-5pm**

In the **village hall**

Sandwiches, savouries, cakes, scones with jam and cream and a dessert served on posh china!

**All for £10!**

To book numbers and a time slot please call Fred on 01458 210485



### Men's breakfast

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 8:45am**

at The Crown, Catcott.

Full cooked breakfast with tea, coffee and toast. Our speaker will be Steve Couch from RSPB Ham Wall.

*To book your place, contact Rich.*

## Church Contacts

Vicar:	Rev Rich Tweedy	01458 210260
	vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk	<i>Day off: Friday</i>
Parish Administrator:	Sue Ball	01458 210260
	admin@poldenwheel.co.uk	<i>Office hours: Tues – Thurs 10am – 2pm</i>
PCC Treasurer:	Caroline Snell	Treasurer@poldenwheel.co.uk
All Saints, Ashcott:	John Harvey	01458 210562
St. Philip & St James, Burtle:	Alison Everett	01278 723736
St Peter's, Catcott:	Martin Melia	01278 722808
St Edward's, Chilton Polden:	Vacant	
St George's, Edington:	Rosie Tilbury	01278 722208
St Mary's, Shapwick:	Vacant	

**Website:** [www.poldenwheel.co.uk](http://www.poldenwheel.co.uk)

## Church Services

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June

9.30 *Catcott* Easter 7 (White) Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.00 *Chilton Polden* Informal Worship

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June

9.30 *Burtle* Pentecost (Red) Holy Communion  
11.00 *Ashcott* Informal Worship  
6.30 *Edington* Holy Communion

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June

10.00 *Shapwick* Trinity Sunday (White) Café Church  
10.30 *Chilton Polden* Holy Communion

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

9.30 *Shapwick* Trinity 1 (Green) Holy Communion  
11.00 *Burtle* Informal Worship  
6.30 *Ashcott* Holy Communion

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June

11.00 *Chilton Polden* Trinity 2 (Green) Holy Communion

### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July

9.30 *Catcott* Trinity 3 (Green) Holy Communion (BCP)  
11.00 *Chilton Polden* Informal Worship

### Midweek Holy Communion

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> June  
at 10.00am  
in Edington Church.



### Service of Quiet

Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup>  
at 7pm in  
Catcott church

This will be a quiet space for contemplative reflection for half an hour.

## Readings

1<sup>st</sup> June: Acts 16.16-34; John 17.20-26

8<sup>th</sup> June: Acts 2.1-21; John 14.8-17 (25-27)

15<sup>th</sup> June: Romans 5.1-5; John 16.12-15

22<sup>nd</sup> June: Galatians 3.23-29; Luke 8.26-39

29<sup>th</sup> June: Galatians 5.1,13-25; Luke 9.51-62

## All are welcome at any or all of the following church events:

### June

- Wed 4<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> **Burtle:** St Philip & St James' Gift Day and Coffee Morning. 10.30-1. Memorabilia and old photos will be on display. Refreshments. All welcome.
- Wed 11<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Sat 14<sup>th</sup> **Burtle:** Burtle Silver Band 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. The church will be serving tea and cake in the Burtle Village Hall 2 to 4.30pm
- Wed 18<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Fri 20<sup>th</sup> **Catcott:** St Peter's Coffee Morning at Greenacres, 7, Brook Lane, Catcott, TA7 9HG. 10.30 – 12. Suggested donation £2 for tea/coffee and cake. Raffle.
- Sat 21<sup>st</sup> **Catcott:** Men's Breakfast at the Crown, Catcott at 8.45am. Our speaker will be Steve Couch from RSPB Ham Wall. ***Please book your place by contacting Rich.***
- Sat 21<sup>st</sup> **Edington:** St George's coffee morning at Little Orchard, The Walls, Edington TA7 9JU 10.30 – 12 noon. Entry £2. Bring and buy and raffle.
- Wed 25<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Sat 28<sup>th</sup> **Catcott:** St Peter's Church Gift Day 10am to 3pm. Drop in for tea/coffee and cake and chat about things we are doing at the Church and Churchyard. Old documents and registers will be on display and the Church Tower will be open (weather permitting). Followed by a short service.
- Sun 29<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Afternoon Teas in the Village Hall 3.00-5.00pm. Includes sandwiches, savouries, cakes, scones with jam and cream and a dessert served on the posh china and all for £10! Please book numbers and a time slot with Fred on 01458 210485

### July

- Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Sat 5<sup>th</sup> **Burtle:** Cream teas on the lawn at Catcott Burtle Farm, TA7 8NE 2.30 – 4.30. Raffle.
- Wed 9<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Sat 12<sup>th</sup> **Edington:** St George's coffee morning at Church House, The Walls, Edington TA7 9JU. 10.30 – 12 noon. Entry £2. Bring and buy and raffle
- Wed 16<sup>th</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome