MINISTER

Rev Al Lowe 07478 670953

CHURCH MOBILE for room bookings etc 07895 711323

(leave message/text and we'll get back to you)

E-MAIL thecornerstone1795@gmail.com

MONTHLY NOTICES (& weekly if/when required)

Brenda Noone bn.torp@gmail.com



CORNERSTONE CHURCH, 15 FORE STREET, TORPOINT, CORNWALL, PL11 2AB

LOOP SYSTEM INSTALLED FOR HARD OF HEARING

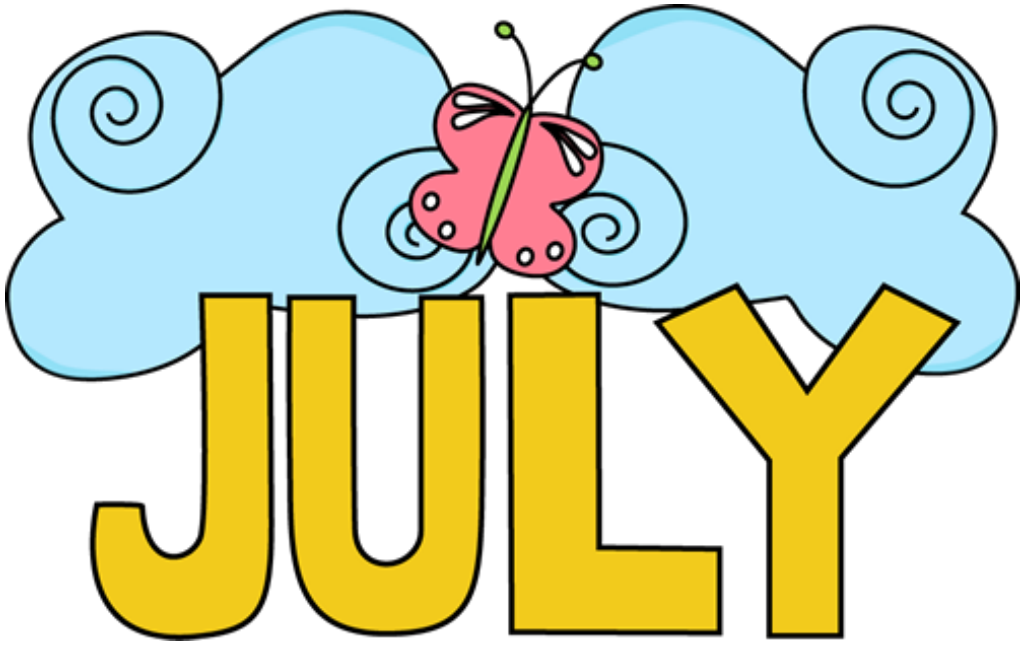
Website: www.cornerstonechurchtorpoint.co.uk

and on FACEBOOK



Cornerstone Church - Torpoint

NEWSLETTER



JULY 2026



In 1925, a woman read Mein Kampf. Her name was Anna Essinger. She was the headmistress of a small progressive boarding school in the village of Herrlingen, southern Germany. But when she closed that book, she knew: this was not rhetoric. This was a detailed plan. And if the man who wrote it ever gained real power, there would be no safe future in Germany for the Jewish children in her care.

Anna had been born in Ulm in 1879, into a secular Jewish family. At twenty, she travelled alone to Nashville, Tennessee — bold for a young German woman at the turn of the century — where she encountered the Quakers. Their emphasis on conscience, equality, and human dignity quietly reshaped her life. She returned to Germany in 1919 on a Quaker relief mission, feeding children left starving after World War I.

When Hitler became Chancellor in January 1933 and quickly became dictator, Anna was not surprised. She had been watching for eight years. She was ready. The first test came in April 1933, when the Nazi government ordered all public buildings — including schools — to fly the swastika on Hitler's birthday. Anna organized a day trip and took every child off the premises. The flag flew but over an empty school. It was a small, quiet act of defiance, but it confirmed what she already knew: she could not keep these children safe in Germany much longer.

She began planning in secret.

She travelled quietly across Europe, searching for a safe place. Through her long-maintained Quaker networks, she found Bunce Court: a crumbling 16th-century manor house in Otterden, Kent. No proper plumbing. Barely any electricity. Leaking roofs. Overgrown grounds. It looked nearly uninhabitable. But it was in England — beyond Nazi reach.

Over the summer of 1933, Anna held secret meetings with parents behind closed doors. She explained her plan: she would move the entire school to England. The children would be safe, educated, and cared for. She could not promise they would ever return home. Meanwhile, her teachers quietly wove English language, British customs, food, and manners into every lesson. The children thought their teachers had suddenly become very enthusiastic about Britain. They had no idea they were being prepared to leave their country forever.

The operation launched on October 5, 1933. Three separate groups, led by three different teachers, left Germany by different routes. Parents delivered their children to prearranged railway stations with heartbreaking instructions: no tears, no long goodbyes, no emotional scenes that might draw the attention of watching guards. *Cont'd/3*

ANSWERS FROM LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1	Who wrote the award winning 1984 novel 'Hotel du Lac'?	*Anita Bruckner*
2	The 41st & 43rd presidents of the USA share which surname?	*Bush*
3	Which god is the Greek equivalent of Neptune?	*Poseidon*
4	Which is Britain's oldest cathedral?	*Canterbury*
5	Name the selection of small dishes served in Spanish cafes?	*Tapas*
6	What is a widow of a peer called who retains his property/title	*Dowager*
7	Which bulbous narrow-necked bottle is used in domestic wine-making?	*Demijohn*
8	Meg Ryan co-starred with which actor in the 1989 film *When Harry Met Sally*?	*Billy Crystal*
9	In which country was tennis champion Novak Djokovic born?	*Serbia*
10	What was Ross Kemp's character called in *EastEnders*?	*Grant Mitchell*
11	What term is given to the projecting part on a wheel?	*Cam*
12	Weymouth & Corfe Castle are found in which English county?	*Dorset*
13	Which item, sometimes eaten for breakfast, contains pork, blood and dried suet?	*Black pudding*
14	Which ornamental fabric is a traditional hallmark of Nottingham?	*Lace*
15	The 2000 film *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* starred which actor?	*Jim Carrey*
16	Which French word is used for a funeral procession?	*Cortege*
17	Which country is bordered by Bolivia & Paraguay to the north?	*Argentina*
18	*Back to Black* was a 2006 album for which singer?	*Amy Winehouse*
19	Which London street leads from Trafalgar Square to the Houses of Parliament?	*Whitehall*
20	Which 1984 sci-fi film was based on a Frank Herbert novel?	*Dune*

Liskeard & Looe foodbank including Torpoint & Rame Peninsula

Keep Up The Good Work

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD & OTHER ITEMS, listed in order of urgency: (as at 25 June)



- **Fruit Juice**
- **Shower gel**
- **Squash**
- **Tinned curry**
- **Tinned meat**
- **Tinned tomatoes**
- **Pasta Sauces**
- **Tinned chilli**
- **Tinned meatballs**
- **Tinned fruit**
- **Tinned soup (any sort)**
- **Tomato ketchup**
- **Deodorant, men/women**
- **Tea/Coffee**

ALSO NEEDED (FOR COOKING PACKS): MIXED HERBS, CURRY POWDER, CHILLI POWDER, GARLIC GRANULES & PLAIN FLOUR.

Food is distributed from a room at the side entrance of Cornerstone Church, in Quarry Street. Sessions are from 09.30-12.30 on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Foodbank currently need helpers and anyone wishing to volunteer would be most welcome. Please pop into a session for further information.

Thank you

The groups crossed the border safely, reunited in Ostend, Belgium, boarded a ferry, and were met in England by red double-decker buses that carried them through the Kent countryside to Bunce Court. School resumed the next morning.

There was almost nothing: no proper beds, no heating, no kitchen, no money. So the students and teachers built it themselves. They ran electrical cables, converted horse stables into dormitories, planted vegetable gardens, and raised chickens and pigs. Older students taught younger ones. When British school inspectors arrived expecting chaos, they left astonished. The school was rough, improvised, and vibrantly alive.

As Europe darkened, Bunce Court became more than a school. It became a refuge. Jewish children expelled from German schools arrived. Teenagers came alone on the Kindertransport, carrying a single suitcase and a name tag. An astronomer taught maths. A Berlin theatre director staged Shakespeare. A concert pianist gave lessons in a freezing room.

After Kristallnacht in November 1938, Anna was asked to help run a reception camp in Dovercourt for over 10,000 Kindertransport children. She organized placements for them, describing the painful process as “a cattle market” where the most attractive children were chosen first. She found it unbearable and rarely spoke of it afterwards.

In 1940, with the Battle of Britain raging, she was given three days’ notice to evacuate the school from southern England. She relocated 140 students to Trench Hall in Shropshire in just one week.

During the war, when the local cinema planned to show Henry V with newsreel footage from Bergen-Belsen beforehand, Anna kept her students home. She already knew many had stopped receiving letters from their parents. She was not ready for them to learn why.

When the war ended, the final arrivals at Bunce Court were Holocaust survivors — deeply traumatized young people. Anna and her staff welcomed them with the same steady care: structure, gardens to tend, animals to raise, and a community that asked them to contribute and helped them “become human again,” as one survivor later put it.

The school closed in 1948. Anna had cared for and educated more than 900 children.

Anna Essinger died in1960, in Kent. She was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. Former students held reunions for fifty-five years, calling Bunce Court their “Shangri-La” and the ground they walked on holy.

Recreated from an entry in the regional Methodist Women for Britain newsletter—thank you, Elaine!

Notices from Sandra:

National Churches Trust invitation

The National Churches Trust (who, back in December awarded us a grant of £10,000, as previously reported) emailed asking us to enter a prize competition to win another £10,000. I have sent off the prize entry, including a short film of our church life and need for repairs. We won't hear back until September. The prize is awarded by vote of the National Churches Trust members. If you are a member, please look out for the vote information.



Training for presiding at Holy Communion – as voted on in church meeting recently

On 16th June, Paulene, Brenda and I undertook the training and are now authorised by the URC to preside at Holy Communion services for three years if the need ever arises. The training was done via zoom in a very small group: just us plus one other participant and the trainers, who were two ordained ministers. It was a helpful training session.

St James' Church Lunch

12.30pm, Monday, 27th July.

Two courses—main and starter—for £9

Entry by ticket

JULY SUNDAY SERVICES (10.30am unless otherwise stated) AND DUTY HELPERS				
Date	Preacher	Welcomer	Vestry	Opening Prayer
5th	Rev Edgar Daniel	Marie Luscombe	Chris Cross	June S
12th	Brian Hart	Ann Dean	Sandra Pratt	SP
19th	Ann Cullum	Margaret Harrison	Paulene Smith	PS
26th	Marion Wilkinson	Sandra Pratt	Steve Martin	SM



We are holding cake sales to raise money for our Building Repair Fund

outside Cornerstone at the Street Market on the last Sunday of each month.

It would be wonderful if you could bake and donate cakes for us to sell. If not, please come along and buy one! Or, is there anyone you know who would bake on our behalf??

PLEASE SUPPORT. Thank you—Claire & Duncan

DUTY LISTS

As with all the duty rosters, if any date is inconvenient please arrange your own swap. Thank you / BN

FLOWER ROTA DONATIONS—JULY	
5th	*Vacant*
12th	Brenda Noone (in memory of Gill Gittens)
19th	*Vacant*
26th	*Vacant*



PLEASE see Marie if you would like to make a donation towards the flowers displayed in church.

SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA - JULY	
5th	June Stockton & Lorna Wilkins
12th	June Stockton & Jan Hall
19th	June Stockton & Paulene Smith
26th	June Stockton & Lorna Wilkins



Assistance is always required to make things easier for our few helpers, so please speak to June Stockton if you can help with teas/ coffees/washing up. Even the odd occasion will be much appreciated by the team. *Thank you*

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN TORPOINT

Volunteers are needed for the Open the Book team, reading Bible stories to children in school. DBS check and a half-day training session are required.

Churches Together in Torpoint Committee need new members. Annabel is moving on in September and she has been our rock for several years.
See Sandra if you want to learn more.

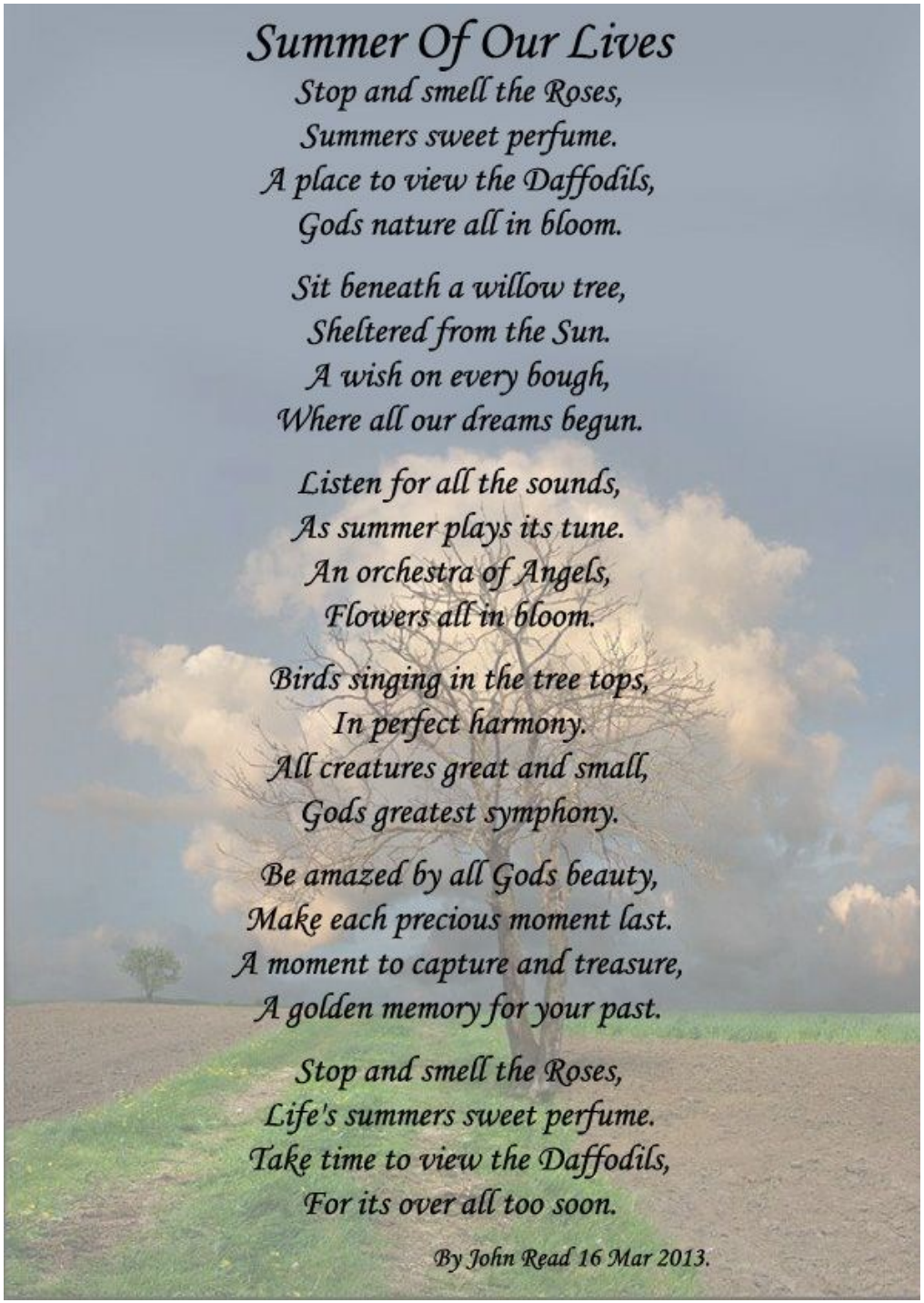
Sandra



HOUSE GROUP
8th and 22nd July at 3.30pm
See Sandra for venue



Bible Study at Stoke Christian Centre:
10.30am for a 10.45 start on Thursday 9th & 23rd July
led by Rev Edgar Daniel. We are studying Romans this term.



QUIZ TIME

1 How is the domestic cavy better known?

2 Which British painter (b. 1922) was the grandson of Sigmund Freud?

3 From which fish is caviar obtained?

4 What type of creature is a howler?

5 Who were the founders of the city-state Tenochtitlan?

6 Which 1969 Ken Loach film centres around a boy and his pet bird?

7 Which region of France forms a peninsula between the Bay of Biscay and the English Channel?

8 ‘Rock the Casbah’ was a 1982 single by which group?

9 Which famous piece of needlework shows the Norman Conquest?

10 Which hymn begins with the words ‘And did those feen in ancient time’?

11 Who was Bailey’s partner in the famous American circus?

12 What was the name of Lynda Baron’s character in ‘Open All Hours’?

13 Who commanded China’s Long March in the 1930s?

14 ‘Cider with Rosie’ is an autobiographical novel by which author?

15 Which US state is known as the ‘Lone Star State’?

16 Which former US Secretary of State shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 1973?

17 Who recorded the 1976 album ‘Songs in the Key of Life’?

18 Acetylsalicylic acid is the scientific name for which common painkiller?

19 Which alloy is a mixture of copper and tin?

20 Which letters indicate that a reply to a letter is required?

CAFÉ ABUNDANCE

Lunch Time

CAFÉ ABUNDANCE

Lunch at 12.30pm in St James' Church Hall

Monday 13th July

(PAY WHAT YOU CAN)





PRAYERS FOR OUR TOWN

Even though there is no longer a monthly street leaflet drop, please continue to remember the folk within your own street, and the people of the town in general, in your prayers.

Thank you





Finance

	OFFERTORY	BENEVOLENT FUND	TUESDAY & SUNDAY COFFEES
May 31st	£356.50	£10.00	£22.00
June 7th	£458.00	£8.00	£12.00
June 14th	£384.00		£13.60
June 21st	£276.00		£12.30
TOTAL	£1,474.50	£18.00	£59.90

COFFEE MORNINGS: on 30 May we raised £180.20 for Mercy Ships; the following week we raised £106.00 for the Cornwall Historic Churches Trust, & on13 June we raised £133.00 for our Repair Fund.

We do need more helpers, just add your name to the rota on the piano please.

Sincere thanks to all who contribute £10.00 or more each week for your offering. We pay out that much for each of you for our Assessment, Maintenance of Ministry, Heating, Lighting & regular Maintenance. We realise that not all can give that much so we are really grateful for all those who donate far more each week. Without those who contribute more we will not be able to do the Repairs in future.

Currently the Repair Fund total raised is

£18,873.55

Many thanks, Liz

✞ JULY 2026 ✞

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		30 10am until 11 Drop In Open. ODILS 12.30-15.30	**1** Foodbank 9.30-12.30. 6.30pm Church Council Mtg	**2** ODILS 12.30-15.30	**3** Foodbank 9.30-12.30	**4** 9.30 a.m. Coffee Morning in aid of Church Funds
5 10.30 a.m. Rev Edgar Daniel Holy Communion	**6**	**7** 10 am until 11 Drop In Open **2 p.m. Zoom re Grant Funding** ODILS 12.30-15.30	**8** Foodbank 9.30-12.30 3.30 p.m. House Group	**9** 10.30 for 10.45 Bible Study, Stoke ODILS 12.30-15.30	**10** Foodbank 9.30-12.30	**11** 9.30 a.m. Coffee Morning in aid of the Church Repair Fund
12 10.30 a.m. Brian Hart	**13** 12.30pm at St James's church Café Abundance	**14** 10 am until 11 Drop In Open ODILS 12.30-15.30	**15** Foodbank 9.30-12.30	**16** ODILS 12.30-15.30	**17** Foodbank 9.30-12.30	**18** 9.30 a.m. Coffee Morning in aid of Church Funds
19 10.30 a.m. Ann Cullum	**20** **Notices for Aug. required by today please**	**21** 10 am until 11 Drop In Open ODILS 12.30-15.30	**22** Foodbank 9.30-12.30 3.30 p.m. House Group	**23** 10.30 for 10.45 Bible Study, Stoke ODILS 12.30-15.30	**24** Foodbank 9.30-12.30	**25** 9.30 a.m. Coffee Morning in aid of the Foodbank
26 10.30 a.m. Marion Wilkinson	**27** **12.30—LUNCH at St James'.** **£9 by ticket**	**28** 10 am until 11 Drop In Open	**29** Foodbank 9.30-12.30	**30**	**31** Foodbank 9.30-12.30	**1 Aug** 9.30 a.m. Coffee Morning in aid of the Church Repair Fund