

Richard Buzzacott

NOMINATED BY

PROPOSER:

Mark Alexander (Newton Abbot Deanery)

SECONDER:

Martin Smith (Tiverton & Cullompton Deanery)



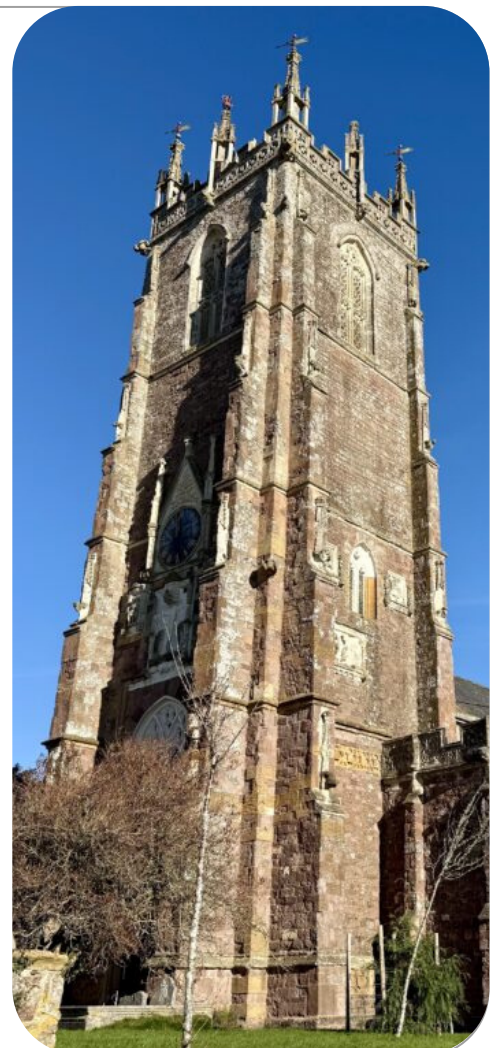
About me: I am 75 years old. I retired some 15 years ago from Devon County Council, where I was a senior officer. My role was delivering major building projects and I initially trained as a Chartered Surveyor. My last project was the delivery of the five Private Finance High Schools in Exeter. I have a track record of project management and successfully delivering major projects.

Since my retirement I have mountain biked in various parts of the world. I had a three month bike tour in South East Asia and cycle toured several times in China and in other countries. I did a Land's End to John o'Groats cycle with the army! I enjoy water sports from sea swimming to kayaking. I also greatly enjoy playing the piano.

I am single, I have always been, it is how the circumstances of life have worked out. Indeed, I have found that there have been strengths in being single.

My current involvement with the Church Of England

- The PCC of St Andrew's Church, Cullompton and Tiverton and Cullompton Deanery Synod
- The Diocesan Synod where I have taken an active part by asking a number of questions and joined in the open forum debates.
- As a member of the Exeter Archidiaconal Mission and Pastoral Committee. This looks at the allocation of clerical posts and reorganisation in Exeter's Archdeaconry.
- A current elected lay member of the Bishop's Diocesan Council which discusses the strategy and policy directives of the Exeter Diocese.
- As a member of the Bishop's Council's annual Budget Strategy Working Party that structures the main principles of the Budget, that then goes on to the full Council and is then debated in Diocesan Synod.
- As a member of the Bishop's Council's Common Fund Review Working Party. The review will be discussed in Deanery Synods this autumn and next spring, going on to Bishop's Council and Diocesan Synod in 2027 and is planned to be implemented from January 2028.



Why am I standing for General Synod?

I really want to make sure that the structures and policies of the Church of England work for the local parish.

My involvement with the Exeter Diocese, the local church and the various Diocesan Committees, gives me a perspective of those needs.

I would be on General Synod to voice those grass roots needs.



FOUR particular issues to focus on:

1. We all have concerns about replacing vicars in parishes when the present incumbent leaves

Nationally, nearly half of all active clergy will retire within the next 12 to 15 years. I understand the number coming through training is much less than enough to replace those retiring. How do we fill rural or urban benefices with many churches? How do we increase supply of clergy? Maybe to encourage present incumbents to stay, pensions ought to reflect some value for the housing they get as part of the job.

2. The ongoing issue of Living in Love and Faith (LLF)

Whilst I continue to support the traditional view of marriage of being between a man and a woman, I would want to play a part in trying to bringing people together in a constructive consensus on the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) issue and reach a sensible consensus.

3. Project Spire - £100 million or more for reparations?

How about helping with administration of PPCs and stressed clergy in multi-parish benefices who oversee the cure for souls. Some of the massive amount of Church Commissioner's money should be released to help local parishes.

4. Safeguarding

This is such an important issue and must have our focused attention. The Church of England has got this badly wrong in the past and it's important that we support the victims of abuse and ensure robust processes are in place for the future.

Make your voice clear and vote in this election

Please prayerfully consider supporting me and voting for me as your first preference in these General Synod elections.

There will be a bulletin board established by the Diocese where voters can post questions for candidates. If you should wish to ask me a question, please contact me: [**rbuzzacott@gmail.com**](mailto:rbuzzacott@gmail.com)

God bless,
Richard Buzzacott