



# TODAY

The Parish  
Magazine  
for the  
Exe Valley  
Mission  
Community

June / July, 2010

Price 25p

## MOVING ISSUES

### MOVING ON

As you know Jenny and I are moving at the end of June. Many of us are conservative by nature and dislike change. However, our circumstances often present us with a constantly moving picture and we are reminded that life is frequently described as a journey. This is particularly true for the Christian. Jesus gave us some instructions for our journey when He said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, love your neighbour as yourself ([Luke 10:27](#))"

### MOVING UP

Our relationship with God is the most important. We often take this for granted but we should be seeking to know God better and become more like Him. "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is, Christ ([Eph 4:15](#))." This also speaks of moving on in our relationships with others.

### MOVING IN

Tertullian, a Christian theologian writing in 200AD, described how outsiders saw Christians: "Look," they say, "how they love one another" (for they themselves hate one another); "and how they are ready to die for each other" (for they themselves are readier to kill each other). We must continue to become what we are in Christ and grow in unity, not only in our parishes but also across the Mission Community to which we all belong. It is inevitable that we shall have differences of opinion from time to time but it is how we deal with these which can be such a powerful witness.

### MOVING OUT

A former Archbishop of Canterbury, William Temple, once said, "The Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members." The last thing that Jesus told his disciples was, "go and make disciples of all nations" ([Mat 28:19](#)). 'Tiggs' Pearson-Miles reminded us powerfully of this at our recent Rogation Sunday Service. If we are to move outwards we must be prepared not only to make our church services more accessible but also to leave the safety of our buildings and take the message of God's saving love in Jesus Christ to the needy world outside.

In all this let us remember that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" ([Hebrews 13:8](#)). As we say farewell we thank God, "because of your partnership in the Gospel...., being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Phil.1v5, 6).

Andrew & Jenny Rose

### MOVING FORWARD

Come the end of June, we shall be bidding farewell to Andrew and Jenny as they make the move back to Frinton on Sea. We have enjoyed having you living and ministering among us during these past few years, and thank you for all you have done. We shall all miss you both, but wish you well, and trust you will find happiness and fulfilment in the future.

Meanwhile, we are, thus far, managing to provide a regular service pattern in our

churches, thanks in no small part to the good will of retired clergy, along with local Readers. A special thank you to Rev. Tony Fensome, who stood in at short notice to take not one, but two services during April. Thank you, again, to all within the various parishes who lead worship – without you we would all be in a very sorry state, and such commitment has to be an encouragement to any future incumbent.

And, talking of a future incumbent, the post of Team Rector has now been re-advertised with, once again, a modest response, with three applications received. Regrettably, one has since withdrawn. However, as we go to press, interviews are planned for 26<sup>th</sup> May. Whatever the outcome, or whatever stage we may have reached by the time you read this, please continue to pray for all involved, and that the person of God's choice may be, or has been, recognised.

Exe Valley Mission  
Community

Holiday Club

**"Waste Watchers"**

Ages 5-11

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July

at  
Calverleigh Village Hall

11.15am – 3.30pm

Bring a packed lunch!

**Copy Deadline for the August / September issue - Monday 5th July**

**THE EXE VALLEY  
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From July, please contact either  
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Tel: (01884) 256302

**READER**

**Mrs Anna Hansford**

The Paddock,  
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Tiverton, EX16 9QU.  
Tel: (01884) 253463

**St Catherine's, Withleigh**

**OPEN GARDENS DAY**

Sunday 4th July  
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See Withleigh notes for details

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help make tea, etc. etc. We also need people that are First Aid trained. If you are over 16 (though we may need one or two slightly younger helpers), and can offer any help, please contact Cindy Trick. Tel. 01363 866621.

**CHRISTIANITY  
EXPLORED at Oakford**

The course was started at the end of January with an informal meal and a chat about the format that it would take. It was held in Oakford Village hall and we sat around a large table so that we could all see each other easily. After a really nice meal, John Roberts gave everyone a course book, which was based on the Gospel of St. Mark and advised us how the course would work, with groups of about eight or so discussing the coursework in the handbook and then watching a DVD and finally in groups again to talk about what they had seen, and the next week's session. The course was thought-provoking and the presenter on the DVD, Rico Tice, was excellent. The whole thing was well organized and thought through.

Preparation of food for each week, which was excellent, was soon sorted out with different people volunteering to do it. It was chatty and friendly, and with the table nicely arranged, it was easy to get to know one another. This made it more relaxing when we split into groups to be able to put our thoughts into words and how we saw the questions and points raised in the course. Apart from learning a good deal more about St. Mark's gospel it also helped us to understand each other better, even if we didn't always agree. We averaged about sixteen people each week and although most were regular churchgoers, it was the first course attended by several people. All said they enjoyed it and maybe were a little surprised that it could be so informal and yet so informative.

Mike Boynton.

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*Note from John Roberts. Putting on this course was entirely the initiative of the folk at Oakford church. A big "thank you" to them, as to all those who worked so hard getting the hall ready and preparing the tables etc., each evening. Also thank you to all those who prepared the wonderful meals each week, and provided the occasional bottle of wine.*

## CHAtter

If you've heard all about CHAT before – that's great – but please don't switch off just yet.

For those who haven't (heard it all before), CHAT is the Churches Housing Action Team, a Christian charitable project working to alleviate housing problems across Mid Devon.

Based in Tiverton and with newly re-opened housing advice surgeries once a week in both Cullompton and Crediton we try, but cannot hope to succeed, in reaching everyone in the far flung villages. We need your help in order to help others.

Would you know if your neighbour was struggling to pay the rent or mortgage?

If you did, would you know how to help? Embarrassment and stigma get in the way; ignorance hinders. Together we can erode these barriers.

In every town and village at any one time there are grown up offspring overstaying their welcome; families are breaking up; jobs are lost; illness strikes and debts are mounting. All these things impact on the security of the home.

Don't turn a blind eye.

Our free, confidential and independent advice and support could help prevent a disaster. So what can we do? I hear you ask.

Simply 'chat' – tell everyone we are here.

- Show them our website [www.chatmid.co.uk](http://www.chatmid.co.uk) ;



Not sure what we do or how we do it – we'd love to come and 'chat' with you - at a coffee morning, to a home group, in church – anywhere, anytime.

In a town near you –

## NEW CREATION NEWS – JUNE 2010

We have some amazing products from CPO in store now, most topical being World Cup Resources. There are Twenty-10 World Cup Pocket Guides containing Full Tournament Schedule, facts and stats, testimonies from top players and lots more – all this for only 50p each. We also have some very lively football posters and two DVD's running for 26 & 28 mins. at £8 each. Both contain high profile football players speaking about their lives with entertaining highlights of the beautiful game.

Also from CPO we have an Extreme Sports Poster Pack representing 6 different sports on graphics which will certainly appeal to the youth, and a more general pack with animals and scenery. There are many and varied designs to be seen in the catalogue all can be purchased individually or in packs they will certainly lift the spirit. Now something NEW from CPO, "Sorted" a dynamic magazine for men, dubbed 'the lads mag with morals' by the Daily Telegraph. May/June edition (in stock) contains 84 glossy pages featuring Bear Grylls, Brazil star Lucio, John Motson and many other articles on finance, fitness, movies etc. Etc.

Father's Day falls on 20<sup>th</sup> June the above would make an excellent gift at only £3. We also have cards and gifts for that; - just the best of Daddies; or the Dad who has steered you through your early years and you need a token to say "thanks"!

Christopher Tull's new book 'The Green Grass of Summer' sold well at our signing day and if you are quick there is still time to get all three titles at a special offer price of £24.99.

Fairtrade sales have slumped a little, please don't forget to make the swop, one item you regularly buy make sure it is fair-traded, and if you can buy from us all the better. We thank everyone for their prayers and concern so please, please do remember to use us whenever possible to keep a Christian presence (if not exactly on the high street) in our town. God Bless.

New Creation, 58 Bampton Street, Tiverton, EX16 6AH. Tel: 01884 255769  
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website:[www.newcreationtiverton.org.uk](http://www.newcreationtiverton.org.uk)

### Cello Recital Orlando Jopling

Plays Solo Bach  
Cello suites nos. 1,3 & 6

6<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at 7.30pm at  
Cruwys Morchard Church

Tickets £10.00 & £8.00

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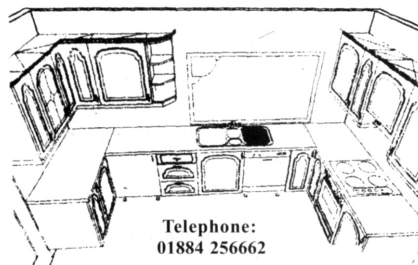
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## PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

14<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011  
Led by Rev'd Canon Tony Fensome  
& Mrs Helen Fensome.

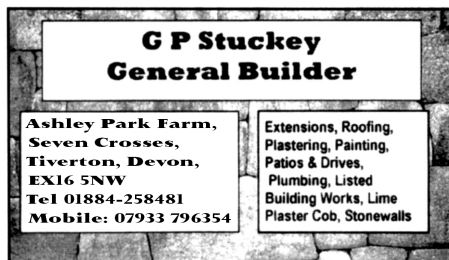
This is a wonderful 10 day pilgrimage to the Holy Land, spending time in Jerusalem and Galilee, travelling with the Christian Tour company McCabes and led by an experienced tour leader, Tony Fensome, and a local guide. As pilgrims, we travel in the footsteps of Jesus and find our faith being touched and deepened in the process. We will have time for relaxation and fun including a trip to the Dead Sea, and the camaraderie of being with other pilgrims, journeying together. As well as visiting the Holy Sites we will also have the opportunity to meet with local Christians working for orphans and blind children in Bethany and Bethlehem. As the tour comes to a close, we remember the resurrected Jesus' calling to St Peter on the shores of Lake Galilee, and we sail back to our hotel over the sea in a replica 1st century fishing boat. A wonderful ending to our pilgrimage and a fitting preparation for Easter. With all meals and transport included, we look forward to welcoming you on the trip of a lifetime.

For more information and a brochure please contact Rev Canon Tony Fensome on 01884 256611.

### PARISH ROUND-UP

## Calverleigh

Our Mothering Sunday service which was led by Jackie was well attended. Many thanks to all who provided flowers and made posies. We ended the service with tea and cakes.



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We send our sympathy to Keith Hayes and family on the loss of Keith's dad Eric Hayes.

Congratulations to Godfrey and Mary on becoming Great Grandparents to Sierra.

Congratulations also to Daniel Webber who has achieved the great age of 21!!

We were joined by Loxbears for our Easter Sunday service led by John Roberts. Thank you John, and a big thank you to the ladies for decorating the Church so beautifully with all the lovely Spring flowers.

The Annual Church Meeting was held in Church on the 12th April. Our two Churchwardens were unanimously elected again. Other officers and PCC members remain the same. In the absence of a Vicar, Aubrey chaired the meeting and took the opportunity to thank everyone who is involved in the running of our Church - worship leaders, readers, cleaners, bell-ringers, flower arrangers, organist and grass mowers.

A coffee morning was held at Blue Cedars on May 1st. There was a very good response by people bringing plants, cakes, etc., for the stalls. Thank you to everyone in organising and helping; this enabled us to raise £262.00 for our Church. It was a very warm and friendly atmosphere, and we welcomed having members from other Parishes with us.

We are very lucky having four Worship Leaders in our Church; they are such a great help, especially as we are without a Rector and will soon be losing our Vicar when Andrew retires in June. Jackie gave us a very thought provoking message when she led our Morning Worship on May 2nd.

We send our love and prayers to Colin Mee and family on the sad loss of Mavis on May 4th. Colin and Mavis were with us for many years in the Exe Valley, living in Washfield, then at Withleigh Rectory. Mavis had a wonderful sense of humour, and she gave many humorous talks to a variety of organisations. She was such a wonderful support to Colin, and she will be sadly missed by the family and all who knew her. Her funeral was held at Minehead on 14th May.

We had our Annual Spring Clean of the Church and Churchyard tidy. It does not seem 12 months ago we did this. Our Church and Churchyard are always kept in good order, but the little extras that get done annually "put the icing on the cake". Thank you to all helpers that turned up to help.



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**BANANA PLANT**  
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On Saturday 8th May Calverleigh Hall was full to bursting for the quiz and entertainment organised by Jean Heard and helpers. When Carole Hayes passed away Jean said she was going to organise something in her memory. It was planned for January, but bad weather cancelled that. The proceeds will go to the Special Baby Unit at Musgrove Park Hospital, and Calverleigh Church, both places very dear to Carole. The quiz was run by Tony Abbott and it was won by a team from Washfield. The entertainment was first class. Mathew Heywood played his flute and he really made it talk. First class, well done. Rose Channing gave her usual marvellous performance and had everyone splitting their sides with laughter, two very sophisticated young ladies from the audience joining her for one sketch. The other group of singers came from Calverleigh, and gave a wonderful performance of The Sound of Calverleigh Music. Julie, Nikki, Natasha, Shirley and Myrtle were our singers. The highlight was the puppet sequence with puppeteer Aubrey pulling the strings, wearing his Tyrolean hat, lederhosen and long socks, with the girls as his puppets. Myrtle dressed in Tyrolean costume with puppets of her own, the goat and the goat-herd. Watch out for Britain's got Talent!!! To end the evening, Stephen Radford presented his version of Mr and Mrs, using two local couples as contestants; this proved very amusing. The magnificent sum of £1,630.00 was raised. A very big well done to all.

### Note for your Diary

Calverleigh is having a fundraising day at the village hall on Saturday June 19th. Details shortly, but the day finishes with a Barn Dance with the Lucy Lastic Band.

## Cruwys Morchard

As this magazine arrives we shall be in the middle of our Flower Festival celebrations; we hope to see many visitors come to see the floral displays, scarecrows and to view the newly restored screen, during the weekend of Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> & Monday 31<sup>st</sup> of May from 10.30 – 5pm.

Songs of Praise Service at 5pm on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May, The Bishop of Crediton will be



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joining us to celebrate, as we sing some of the hymns that will be portrayed in the flower arrangements.

We send Congratulations to Gemma Braid and William Elsworth who were married at our church on April 24<sup>th</sup>. We wish them a long and happy marriage.

We welcomed Chloe Campbell into our church for baptism on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

We send best wishes for a speedy recovery to all who have been unwell or have had a stay in hospital recently,

Sat 29<sup>th</sup> May, Sat 26<sup>th</sup> June & Sat 31<sup>st</sup> July Bingo & 200 Club Draw - doors open 7.30, eyes down at 8pm. All bingos are at the parish hall for parish hall funds.

Our 300 year old bells need repair. Within a few years we shall have to fund a major restoration project for the bells which are now in regular use. As a start we are having a **CELLO RECITAL** on 6<sup>th</sup> JULY at 7.30pm, when we hope the church will be full to capacity. This concert is part of Orlando Jopling's pilgrimage around England, playing the Bach Cello Suites in parish churches - see [www.cellopilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.cellopilgrimage.co.uk) for more information about this remarkable young man's efforts to raise money for our parish churches. Tickets cost £10.00 & £8.00 and are available from Vine Spragg -Tel. 01363 866033.

Hunt Dance - Midsummer Barn Bash Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 8 til late at Forke Farm. Dancing to The Mango Wurzels Pig racing, Hog Roast - Tickets £15.00. Part of the proceeds will go to the Church.

The Church Fete will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July, starting at 2pm, with all the usual stalls, refreshments and sideshows. This year we will be entertained by The Exeter Morris Men who will dance at 2pm and 3pm. If you would like to help at the fete, please contact Diana Vincent Tel. 01363 860227.

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July there will be a Horse show for parish Hall funds at Forke Farm, refreshments available. Contact Ann Gibbs

for details : <mailto:ann.gibbs4@btinternet.com>

There will a **Breakfast and Brunch Day** in aid of the Parish hall on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August in the Parish Hall from 7am to 2pm. In order for this event to go ahead help is needed, If you can help <mailto:cmparishhallmary@btinternet.com>

Cruwys Morchard Flower Show - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August at 2.30pm. Schedules and entry forms are available from Pauline Tel.01363 866754 or Cindy Tel. 01363 866621. Entries need to be in by July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Also for parish hall funds there will be a **Clay Pigeon Shoot** at Forke Farm - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August, 10am start, refreshments and draw.

The Parish hall are putting on a **Barn Dance** on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August , BBQ & Bar; dancing to local band Barracuda.

This years Christmas Craft Fayre - will be held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November - 10.30 - 1.30. If you would like to have a stall please contact Ann Gillbard Tel. 01884 256415

Flower and Cleaning Rota

June 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> - Marian Kingdom  
 June 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> - Sarah Cruwys  
 July 5<sup>th</sup> and July 12<sup>th</sup> - Cindy Trick and Pat Cross  
 July 19<sup>th</sup> and July 26<sup>th</sup>- Mrs J. Townsend  
 August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> - Wendy Lake

Mowing Rota

June - Stephen Guscott  
 July - Dave Berry  
 August - David & Diana Vincent  
 Any problems ring Sonia:  
 Tel. 01363 866864

rejoicing in His resurrection. John led both services. On May 11<sup>th</sup> we held a joint Mission Community Service for Rogation Sunday, when the Rev. Tiggs Pearson-Miles was our preacher, and various farming families took part, explaining the work, the worries and the joys of farming. We had a time of prayer especially for the farming community.

On 16<sup>th</sup> May we will have had an evening Songs of Praise, preceded by a barbecue supper at Lower Ingrams. On 13<sup>th</sup> June there will be a continental-style breakfast and informal family service in the Village Hall. Afterwards there will be an opportunity for those who would like to, to take a tour of the belfry and see around the village from the tower.

Our Women's Bible Study Group continues to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month. We are at the end of studying part of Mark's Gospel on the theme of "Jesus the Coming King". We will then be studying the life of Ruth in the Old Testament, taking us up to a summer break. Thank you, Marion, for leading us in our studies.

Congratulations to Stephen and Liz Partridge on the birth of their lovely daughter Jezimae Enya, born on 4<sup>th</sup> May; God's precious gift.

We send you our love and prayers. Also congratulations to all with birthdays and anniversaries.

We were very sad to hear of the death of Mrs. Mavis Mee, wife of The Rev. Colin Mee, a former Team Rector in the Exe Valley. Many will remember Mavis with affection for her friendship, her bubbly personality, and the way she made us laugh. We remember Colin in our prayers at this sad time.

It is good to have Ron and Margaret Tidball back with us after their extended stay, due to volcanic ash, with their family in Australia. Welcome home! - we missed you! We want to thank Margaret for all the

Continued on Page 8 ⇨

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 Tuesday 9.10am - 11.40am  
 Thursday and Friday 9.10am - 1pm

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### CHILDREN'S GROUPS

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In Calverleigh Village Hall

#### LEADERS

Cindy Trick (01363 866621)

#### YOUTH GROUP

Wednesdays at 6.30 pm.  
Lower Ingrams

For more information phone

Nicki (01884-255248)

### HOME GROUPS

#### PRAISE AND PRAYER

2nd Sunday in month  
At 8.00pm.  
(Tel.01884-881362 for venues)

#### COFFEE PLUS

Alternate Thursdays  
9.30am - 10.30am.  
Prayer for the Exe Valley  
At Church Cottage, Stoodleigh  
(Tel. 01398-351364)

#### LOXBEARE PRAYER MEETING

On 3rd Tuesday in month  
(Tel. 01884-881362)

#### LOXBEARE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Alternate Tuesdays at 2pm  
2nd Tuesday - Highgate Cottage  
4th Tuesday - East Sidborough

#### WALK THE TALK

Withleigh Home Group  
(Tel. 01884-253473)

### MISSION COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### Sunday 27th June

11 am at Calverleigh

#### Andrew & Jenny's Farewell Service

followed by a Picnic Lunch

### OAKFORD

#### 6th June

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### 13th June

9.30 am Morning Prayer

#### 20th June

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### 27th June

See Calverleigh

#### 4th July

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### 11th July

9.30 am Morning Prayer

#### 18th July

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### 25th July

9.30 am Family Service

### RACKENFORD

#### 6th June

11.15 am Holy Communion

#### 13th June

11.15 am Morning Prayer

#### 20th June

11.15 am Family Service

#### 27th June

See Calverleigh

#### 4th July

11.15 am Morning Prayer

#### 11th July

Holy Communion

#### 18th July

11.15 am Family Service

#### 25th July

11.15 am Morning Prayer

### STOODLEIGH

#### 6th June

Morning Prayer

#### 13th June

11 am Holy Communion

#### 20th June

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

#### 27th June

See Calverleigh

#### 4th July

11 am Morning Prayer

#### 11th July

9.30 am Holy Communion

#### 18th July

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

#### 25th July

11 am Holy Communion

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**CALVERLEIGH**

**6th June**

11.15 am Morning Prayer

**13th June**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**20th June**

11.15 am Family Service

**27th June**

11 am Group Holy Communion

3 pm Open-air Service

**4th July**

11.15 am Family Service  
with Baptism

**11th July**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**18th July**

11.15 am Morning Worship

**25th July**

6.30 pm Taize Service

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

**6th June**

11 am Morning Prayer

**13th June**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**20th June**

11 am Family Service  
with Baptism

**27th June**

See Calverleigh

**4th July**

11 am Morning Prayer

**11th July**

11 am Family Service

**18th July**

9.30 am Holy Communion  
by extension (Anna Hansford)

**25th July**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

**LOXBEARE**

**6th June**

Join with Rackenford

**13th June**

11 am Family Service

**20th June**

11 am Family Service  
with Baptism

**27th June**

See Calverleigh

**4th July**

9.30 am Family Communion

**11th July**

11 am Picnic Service

**18th July**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**25th July**

11 am Family Service

**TEMPLETON**

**6th June**

11 am Family Service

**13th June**

11 am Morning Prayer

**20th June**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**27th June**

See Calverleigh

**4th July**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**11th July**

11 am Mothers and Toddlers  
Service

**25th July**

11 am Morning Prayer

**WASHFIELD**

**6th June**

6 pm Evening Prayer

**13th June**

11 am Holy Communion  
by extension (Anna Hansford)

**20th June**

11 am Family Service

**27th June**

See Calverleigh

**4th July**

6 pm Evening Prayer

**11th July**

11 am Morning Prayer

**18th July**

11 am Family Service

**25th July**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**WITHLEIGH**

**6th June**

11 am Family Service

**13th June**

9.30 am Morning Worship

**20th June**

9.30 am Holy Communion  
by extension (Anna Hansford)

**27th June**

See Calverleigh

**4th July**

9.30 am Family Service

**11th July**

11 am Morning Worship

**18th July**

11 am Holy Communion

**25th July**

9.30 am Morning Worship

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years you have provided the Loxbeare news for the magazine. May God bless you.

It is good to hear that Eda Gooding has had the "all clear" after her illnesses. We continue to pray for her and for all who are unwell, or recovering. We send you our love and best wishes.

Carol and Eda wish to thank all those who gave draw prizes for the Easter Bingo. A total of £97 was raised for the village hall funds.

Thank you to all who came and contributed to the success of Jean Heard's Social evening in memory of a dear friend Carol Hayes. A magnificent amount of around £1,630 was raised to be shared jointly between the Special Care Baby Unit at Musgrove Park Hospital, and Calverleigh Church, of which Carol was a member.

Loxbeare Ladies. Anne Ackland writes: "For those of you who came to my supper and to those who gave donations, you may be interested to know that both Ruth, my daughter, and her step-daughter Vicki, completed the London Marathon. I am very proud of them! I was there and it was a very emotional occasion."

Loxbeare Ladies dates.

June 7<sup>th</sup> Treasure Hunt starting at the Church Car Park at 6.30 p.m. followed by a BBQ at Sue Troake's. You may just come to the BBQ if you prefer! Cost of BBQ £5. Contact Sue on 259496 or Carol Radford on 881480.

July 5<sup>th</sup> Visit to Rosemoor Gardens. £6.00 entrance fee. Depart at 11.00 a.m. Contact Viv Abbott on 881209 by June 28<sup>th</sup>

## Oakford

Our organist, Pauline Stone, celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday in March. Her birthday lunch was a very happy occasion and we wish her many congratulations.

On Good Friday the service which took place in the afternoon was contemplative in its content in natural contrast to that of Easter day. The Easter service was a very enjoyable occasion and was well attended.

The church looked beautiful with all the windows, altar and pulpit decorated with daffodils and primroses. Our thanks to all who helped to make the church look so special.

Our sympathy is with the family of Mrs Gladys Westacott, who used to live at Muse Hill. Her funeral took place at Oakford Church. We also extend our condolences to the family of Douglas Robin.

We have had our first 'tidy-up' of the Glebe, but as there is still a lot to be done, another session will be organized in the near future. Please look out for details; we are always grateful for any help you can give.

Forthcoming events

Oakford Friends: Children's Hospice South West

June 6<sup>th</sup> Oakford and Oakfordbridge Open Gardens with cream teas from 3pm in the village hall. Plants and garden goodies for sale.

Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup> Cricket Match and Space hopper Derby 2pm at Stoodleigh CC.

Moorland Club

Thursday June 10<sup>th</sup> Deborah Bean - 'On Her Majesty's Service'.

Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup> Mystery Trip.

Thursday July 8<sup>th</sup> B.B.Q. 6pm, start at Windwhistle Cottage.

Village Fete

The annual village fete will be held on Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, starting at 2pm. As well as the usual stalls and side shows there will also be a magician, who will entertain children and adults during the afternoon, and a collection of classic cars and motorbikes to see. If you have a classic vehicle that you would like to bring along, please call Carla on 01398 351609. Delicious cakes and cream teas, free entry and parking, it's a treat not to be missed!

The fete party will be held in the village hall from 8pm onwards. Music is a mixture of Disco and songs by Oakford's own group, 'Just Us'. There will be a Bring and Share supper, but please bring your own drinks. With tickets at just £2, and £1 for children, this will be a great family fun night, so please come along and enjoy the party!

## Rackenford

The funeral took place in our church in March for Barbara Crocker. Our deepest sympathy to sons Bill and David and family. Our thoughts are with you all.

We send our love and best wishes to Peggy Phythian and Betty Kirby who have both been very poorly and hope and pray you are both making good progress.

We have been asked to include the following letter:

*'Jacques and I moved to Rackenford in October 2007. Several weeks ago I had a fall and broke my femur and I needed a new hip. Everyone has been so kind to Jacques and I have received cards, visits, phone calls and offers of help from people who have not known us very long. I have been touched by everyone's kindness and would like to thank you all sincerely for your thoughtfulness. Rackenford is a village I am proud to be a part of. Many thanks.'*  
Mary Cann

Belated congratulations to Edward Hyland and Tamsin on their engagement, and our best wishes for your September wedding.

Our best wishes to Frank Clark who has left Rackenford and moved to Yorkshire with his partner Barbara.

The church sponsored walk will take place on Wednesday June 2<sup>nd</sup> (Half Term) led by Liz Paxton. It will be a circular walk of Wimpleball Lake. If you would like to join in, and need details, contact Liz on 01884 881313 or Jane Phillips on 01884 881512. Bring a packed lunch, and enjoy the day.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make our church look so pretty for our Easter service which was an 11:15 Holy Communion Service of Celebration.

Thank you to Evan Baillie for all his hard work looking after our churchyard.

Our best wishes to Mary Cann, who has broken her leg, Bella Scott who has been in hospital, and to all those who are poorly and anyone else who has been into hospital, has felt unwell, lonely or depressed, and to all who mourn.



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Cream Teas, Strawberries. Many stalls, in aid of Church funds, will be held at Rackenford Manor (by kind permission of Mr & Mrs D Scott) on Saturday 10th July at 3pm.

Congratulations to Nell Baillie on passing her Grade Two of Music with Merit.

## Stoodleigh

At last Summer is here and all the plans Amade during the Winter months are now coming to fruition with a varied programme of events for everyone to enjoy.

But first thank you to all the ladies who made the Church alight with flowers for the Easter Festival; all greatly appreciated by the many who attended the Service.

Thanks to all who supported the Easter Market when £390 was raised for Hall improvements.

Please note the money-raising dates for the Children's Hospice South West. On Sunday 6th June there will be Open Gardens with cream teas from 3pm at Hutswell, Oakfordbridge, and on Saturday 24th July there will be the Grand Cricket Match at Stoodleigh CC with the "Best Cricket Tea Ever", and with special happenings at Stoodleigh Club in the evening.

This year's Village Fun Day is on Saturday 12th June starting at 2.30pm at the cricket ground. There will be even more fun games and races than before for children and others. Morris Dancers, tug-of-war, skittles, guess-the-weight-of-the-pig, etc., etc. The afternoon is free, with free teas and ice creams throughout - this is largely thanks to generous support from SWAG. Stoodleigh Club will be open from 5p.m. and hot food will be available.

An Arts and Crafts and Flower Festival, with cream teas, will take place in St. Margaret's Church on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th July. A concert of local talent will take place in church on the Saturday evening. The church will be open from 10.00am - 6pm

each day with a service of morning worship on the Sunday.

The Annual Church Summer Fete, with a variety of stalls, cream teas, competitions, etc. etc. will be held on Saturday 7th August in the gardens of Ford House by kind permission of John and Jo Shepherd. We look forward to seeing you there.

A Ploughman's Lunch, to raise funds for the Church will take place 12.00 noon on Monday 30th August at Parkhouse Water. We hope for a sunny and well-supported day.

We welcome Colin and Ann Whitehead to Little Daymer and wish them happiness in Stoodleigh.

### SWAG Reminders -

8th June visit to Thelbridge Glassworks 6.30pm - 8pm. Charge £2. Followed by an evening meal at Mount Pleasant Inn (NOT included in the £2 !) Limited numbers. Contact Pat Aplin by 1st June.

23rd June - proposed trip on the Tarka Line - contact David Wotton by 16th June.

8th July - Tour of Dartmoor including stops for lunch and tea, tour arranged by Margaret Cuningham and Alistair Morisson - private cars. Contact Margaret by 1st July.

In prospect - visit to a local Sheepdog Trials.

### Flower Rota -

5th & 12th June	P. Hill
3rd & 10th July	Festival Flowers
19th & 26th "	P. Aplin
17th & 24th July	E. Hamidullah
31st July	D. Ayre

### STOODLEIGH BELLS

Jennifer Rowlandson is very grateful for coverage in this magazine on the progress of her quest to get the bells ringing again. Since the last report, ideas for unusual and well-tried means of fund-raising are materialising. Steve Rolfe, who advertises his Oil Fired Heating Services in this magazine, has generously offered to donate a percentage of his fee to the bell fund for work done in the parish as an ongoing monthly payment. Gary, Amanda and Emily are planning a sponsored cycle ride for

children, to take place during the summer holidays. Christine Palfrey has set up the 100 Club Draw to raise money for the Hall and the Bells. Many thanks to them all, and if you have any more bright ideas, contact Jennifer.

Perhaps Jennifer had better take up cycling instead of walking as it is time again for the Annual Perambulation of the Royal Forest of Exmoor. Did she learn her lesson last year and decide enough was enough? No! Her completion time of 10hours 6minutes cut over 45 minutes off her previous times so what will be the result on the 19th of June? The challenge is there to knock off those six minutes and yet again, sponsorship would be welcomed towards the bell fund which is now over halfway. So, to those who were so generous last year is there any chance of something this time around? And to those who missed out last year now is your chance! Forms available from Jennifer - 01398 351402.

**STOODLEIGH CLUB** - Lizzie reports - Sunday 30th May - Lawnmower and Quad Racing

Saturday 19th June - Kids Sports and games with Uncle Tiger followed by a BBQ 5 - 9pm to welcome Jennifer back from her walk - all money to the BELLS please support us.

All these extra events make a real difference to the running of the Club. Just ring if we can help with any parties etc.

### St. Margaret,s Church Stoodleigh

## Arts & Flower Festival

Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th July  
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## Templeton

We were blessed with glorious weather to celebrate Easter this year. It really felt that nature was springing into life alongside the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. During the Easter Sunday service a bird flew frantically around the church, alighted on the wooden cross, then escaped to freedom through the window. We thought what a wonderful metaphor for the Easter message that had been.

Our Exe Valley Community Agape meal on Maunday Thursday was well attended and proved to be a fitting start to Easter. The children placed flowers on our Easter garden to represent the events of Good Friday, and on Easter Sunday the stone was rolled away from the tomb in the garden to complete the story.

The Country and Western evening after another delay will now take place on the 22nd & 23rd October. If you would like to take part please contact Sue Coffin on 860369

Our annual Fete will be on 14th August, opening at 1.30pm. There will be an auction and all the usual stalls, cream teas, a draw, hot dogs, ice creams and many games. We hope to see you there.

Congratulations to Sharon and Mark Dana-Brandt on the birth of their baby boy, Harley born on 3rd April, a brother for Jasmine and Amelia. Also congratulations to Ellie and Winston Reed on the birth of their baby girl Jody Mary born on April 6th, a sister for Melissa.

### Flower and Cleaning Rota

Sarah Floyd	6th / 13th June
Jan Heptinstall	20th / 27th June
Gloria Woollacott	4th / 11th July
Gracie Layton	18th / 25th July

To conclude, many people asked for the recipe for Pineapple Pudding which we had at our Agape meal so Philida Strong has

kindly given it to us. She was told that it had originally come from the Danish Embassy. Wherever it came from it was delicious!

### PINEAPPLE PUDDING

6oz. icing sugar 4oz. butter  
 2 eggs half pint whipped cream  
 2 x 13½ oz. tins of crushed pineapple  
 (drained over night)  
 1 packet of biscuits.  
 (M & S Sports Biscuits are best).

### Method:

1. Line bottom of loose bottomed 9" or 8" cake tin. Cover with a thick layer of crushed biscuits
2. Cream butter and sugar, and add eggs slowly. Beat well, add pineapple, and fold in the whipped cream.
3. Pour mixture onto crumbs.
4. Cover with remaining crumbs.
5. Leave in the fridge overnight. This pudding will freeze too.
6. Enjoy!

## Washfield

We send God's blessings to the Rev. Andrew Rose and Jenny as they leave the Exe Valley Mission Community to move back to Essex. We hope you enjoy your retirement there.

It was with much sadness we learned that Mrs Mavis Mee had passed away. The Rev. Colin Mee and Mavis came to the Exe Valley Group of churches where he was firstly team vicar and then team rector, staying for almost ten years. Mavis had such a sunny nature, so full of enthusiasm and life; she was loved by everyone who knew her. Our love, thoughts and sympathy are with Colin and the family at this sad time.

Our Easter services began with Anna taking a meditation service on Good Friday. The Rev. Kenneth Blyth took our Easter Day

service of Holy Communion. It was a full church, and there were Easter eggs for the children after the service.

A record number of children, with their parents, came along to take part in the Egg Decorating and Rolling competitions, ably run by Oliver Tobey and judged by Andrew Tobey. All the children were rewarded with an egg. Thank you, Oliver, for organising this enjoyable event. Thanks too, to the church decorators for producing the lovely spring arrangement to adorn the church after Lent.

The PCC annual meeting took place in March, at which Mrs Jeanne Jones and Mrs Joan McCahon agreed to continue as churchwardens. Thanks were recorded to everyone who has given time and help to the upkeep of the church and churchyard.

Much sympathy has been sent to Mrs Jan Voysey, Edward and Katie on the sudden death of Frank in March. Frank was born in Washfield and spent his whole life here. Frank was a quiet man, very well read, with a wide spectrum of knowledge and interests. He loved his farm and animals and all nature, particularly birds. Among his many interests was jazz and he was a great rugby fan. He and Jan shared a great enthusiasm for their garden. An overflowing church was a tribute of the respect felt to the true gentleman Frank was. Our love and thoughts continue to be with Jan, Edward and Katie.

Our annual Fete will be held on Saturday 3rd July at 2.30pm in the Old Rectory. Without your help and presence we could not make it such a success each year; it is our main church event. So, PLEASE, the stall holders and tea ladies once again call for your help with contributions of cakes, bottles, books, produce, white elephant and tea time foods. We thank you in anticipation. A meeting to plan the fete will be held in the church on Monday 7th June at 7.30pm (All welcome).

It is lovely to have the organ playing again. Thank you to Andrew Herniman for the loan of a keyboard in the intervening

30 years experience in moving to Europe

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period. A successful quiz was organised by Frank Smith and realised £145 for church funds. Thanks to Frank and all who supported this. Our thoughts are with everyone who is not enjoying good health at this time, and we wish Mrs Pat Aplin a speedy recovery from the effects of her recent fall. Thoughts are with Barbara Gill as she goes into nursing care.

The annual Flower and Vegetable show will be held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August.

Congratulations to Raymond Trout on his recent engagement, and also to Rachel Arnold who has become engaged to John Jackson.

The Social Club celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and a celebratory event is being planned for Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August. Look out for details.

**Dates for your Diary**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June - meeting to plan fete

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June - Lunch Club 12 for 12.30 (Please note different date)

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Church Fete 2.30pm in grounds of Old Rectory

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July - Lunch Club 12 for 12.30

**Church Flower Rota**

June 6<sup>th</sup> Mrs Harding

June 13<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Mrs Tobey

June 27<sup>th</sup>/July 4<sup>th</sup> Mrs Voysey

July 11<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Mrs Bolt

July 25<sup>th</sup>/August 1<sup>st</sup> Mrs Cockram

**Church Cleaning Rota**

June 13<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Mrs French

June 27<sup>th</sup>/July 4<sup>th</sup> Mrs Arnold/Mrs Bicknell

July 11<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Mrs Jones/Mrs Harding

July 25<sup>th</sup> Mrs Horsey

August 1<sup>st</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Mr and Mrs McCahon

## Witleigh

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March saw our church's annual meeting – a time for reflection on the year past, and to look forward to what God is planning for the future of his Church, both at Witleigh and within the Exe Valley. Our grateful thanks to Brenda (who has now stood down) for eleven years of service as churchwarden, and to Janet Sellick who has taken up the mantle. Mary Palmer, having also decided to stand down from the PCC, was also thanked for her many years

of service. Presentations were made to both Brenda and Mary. Thanks were also expressed to all who continue to serve St Catherine's in so many ways.

On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March, we once again welcomed the Tiverton Singers, along with Inachord, to St Catherine's, all of whom performed to their usual high standard. The entertainment was rounded off with a well-received buffet supper in the village hall.

Our Good Friday informal service, based around "signs, symbols and significance" was attended by more people than in previous years, and resulted in some interesting discussions. The Easter Sunday services were also well attended, and the parish breakfast in the village hall between services proved as popular as ever. Thank you to all who decorated the church so beautifully, and to those who provided the breakfast.

Our Annual Easter Beetle Drive, held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April, was well supported and enjoyed by adults and children alike. There was a chocolate Beetle for the winners of each game and a large Egg for the highest score. The children won Chocolate Beetles for their artistically drawn beetles and one particular person was given a beetle because she didn't score enough points to move tables all evening! Thank you to Duncan for organising the event.

St George's Day was celebrated in style at Witleigh this year, when 54 villagers and friends sat down to an English Roast Beef meal, followed by homemade desserts. A Quiz on England with questions on boards around the hall kept the diners busy all evening. The tables were set out in the shape of the St George's cross and decked with the Flags of St George. All, with many requests for a repeat next year, had an excellent evening. Many thanks to Lynn & Ray who not only provided the Roast Beef, but also put together the quiz along with Linda & Michael, and together they set up the hall. Thank you Linda & Michael and the ladies of the hall committee for providing the desserts.

Our May social evening was Target Short Mat Bowls; many new bowlers came along and gave it a go! Perhaps some of you would like to join us on a Tuesday evening, at 7.30pm; beginners are always welcome. The evening was rounded off with a bring and share supper.

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June, Paul and Elizabeth are holding a Coffee Morning at 6, Southfield Way, Tiverton, from 10am – 12

noon. Proceeds will be divided between TOGS (Thika Orphans and Grandparents Society) and St Catherine's Church redecoration fund. Thika, in Kenya, is one of the Exeter Diocese's link dioceses.

Sara Kittow has been unanimously elected as our New Trustee of the Village Hall; many thanks to Sara for agreeing to take on the role.

The Village Hall AGM is also on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June, at 7.30pm followed by a BBQ.

Our final Fete planning meeting is on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 7.30pm at Bona Vista.

An Open Garden Day is being held on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July, in aid of the redecoration of St Catherine's. We have 12 gardens open to the public in and around Witleigh, beginning at 11am and closing at 6pm. There will be food and drinks available all day at various venues. Shirley & Henry Cruwys are providing light lunches at their home, Bona Vista; to help with numbers and to make sure of your lunch please book by ringing Shirley or Henry on 01884 257142. Cream Teas are being served at Sylvia & Harry Hann's at Great Bradley Farm during the afternoon, with swimming and a Ceramic's Exhibition at Highfield, home of Rosie & Giles Edmondston-Low. Tickets are £5 each for entrance to all of the gardens including the Ceramic's Exhibition, children under 14 free. Details of the gardens, along with a map showing their locations, will be issued with the tickets in the Village Hall on the day. Please ring Brenda Tucker 01884 252431 for further details.

Our Summer Fete takes place on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July at *Bona Vista*. Our thanks, once again, to Henry and Shirley for hosting this event.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Garden & Produce Show is to be held on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July; this is open to parishioners and friends of Witleigh. If you did not receive a schedule or would like another schedule, or if you have any queries regarding the show, please ring Brenda Tucker 01884 252431 A reminder that entries need to be with Gill Williams 242977 or Henry Cruwys 257142 by 23<sup>rd</sup> July. The show will be followed with a BBQ from 7.30pm onwards; also everyone will be invited to join in with the judging of a cake competition, we need tasters! Show

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exhibits will be on view until 9pm, when a presentation of awards will be made.

We send our good wishes to those who are recovering after surgery, and to all who have recently been unwell, and wish you all a speedy return to good health.

**Flower rota**

- June 6<sup>th</sup>) Jenny Rose
- 13<sup>th</sup>)
- June 20<sup>th</sup>) Val Kingston
- 27<sup>th</sup>)
- July 4<sup>th</sup>) Susie Wade
- 11<sup>th</sup>)
- July 18<sup>th</sup>) Rosie Edmondston-Low
- 25<sup>th</sup>)

**10 COMMANDMENTS FOR EARTH**

1. Remember that your earth, and all that lives in it, is precious
2. Don't imagine that your soil can't be as good as anything you may see on 'Gardeners' World'
3. Do not denigrate soil by calling it names such as dirt or muck; it's a precious asset
4. If you have a garden or allotment, spend some time out there at the weekend as part of your recharging of the spiritual, mental and physical batteries
5. Spend some special time each week cherishing your soil and keeping it healthy; speak well of it for it offers the gift of life
6. Do not squeeze the life out of your soil by tramping on it when it's wet; this is the most effective way of rendering it sterile and useless

7. Do not imagine that the grass is greener on the other side of the garden fence; obtain satisfaction from improving the quality of your own soil
8. Avoid importing soil conditioners, especially peat which is best left in its bog habitat, where it supports wildlife and locks up carbon which would otherwise add to greenhouse gases and hasten climate change; supply your soil with carbon (organic matter) by composting your own kitchen waste and most of the content of your 'green bin'
9. Don't tell people your soil is bad or useless; any soil can be improved with a little advice and care
10. Do not get in a state because your soil is not as good as some others you come across; there's plenty of advice available on how you can improve the quality of yours

(David Hogan)

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