

# TODAY

The Parish  
Magazine  
for the  
Exe Valley  
Mission  
Community

October / November, 2013

Price 40p

# HANDING ON THE BATON

Fans of athletics will remember a number of occasions over recent years when the British men's relay team has made a mess of handing over the baton. Once or twice they were even in a medal-winning position, when a poorly judged handover put them out of contention. It must be particularly frustrating for the earlier runners who had faithfully played their part, only to see their chances thrown away by the carelessness of a later runner.

In one of his letters to his apprentice named Timothy, the Apostle Paul stressed the need to be very careful in handing over the baton of the Christian gospel to the next runner. In 2 Timothy 2v2, Paul wrote: "The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others".

As he approached the end of his earthly life, Paul saw the need to preserve the authentic message about Jesus Christ by ensuring that it was passed on to the next generation (Timothy), and to ensure that Timothy, in turn, passed on the baton to his successors. Paul realised that the church is only ever one generation away from death. If one generation fails to pass on the baton, or if one generation fails to take up the

baton, the church will cease to exist. The building may remain standing as a museum piece, but the church will be no more.

As I have got to know the nine churches of the Exe Valley Mission Community over the last three years, I have frequently been both impressed and humbled by the faithfulness of the older generation in keeping the churches going. There are some who have laboured and prayed for decades to sustain the life of their Christian community. Sometimes they are more than ready to hand over the baton to the next generation, only to find that the next generation is not prepared to step up to the mark and to take on the responsibility for the church in their parish. So the older saints feel compelled to keep going, even though they have already run their leg of the race and should, by now, be enjoying a well-deserved rest from their labours.

I want to challenge the younger generation to consider how we are going to respond to this situation. The more mature saints cannot go on forever. Unless some younger ones are willing to take a more active role, the future of the churches of the Exe Valley is in jeopardy. We will surely not stand idly by, and allow our churches to grind to a

halt? The baton of the Christian gospel has been handed on from one generation to the next for many hundreds of years, and now it is our turn to receive the baton and to run with it.

*Steve*

## EXE VALLEY CENTRAL BEGINS

The first of September saw the first service of our new central congregation in Templeton Village Hall. Over a hundred of us enjoyed a lively and informal service, with all nine parishes represented. The Bishop of Crediton was with us to launch Exe Valley Central, and to cut the cake that we shared to celebrate this new initiative. Bishop Nick described how he is seeing many new forms of church emerging across the diocese, as Christians seek to reach out to a new generation with the good news about Jesus Christ.

Exe Valley Central meets every Sunday at 11am in Templeton Village Hall. All are very welcome. For more information see our website: [www.ExeValleyMissionCommunity.org](http://www.ExeValleyMissionCommunity.org).

**Copy Deadline for the December / January issue - Monday 11th November**

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[john@sidborough.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:john@sidborough.eclipse.co.uk)

**READER**

**Mrs Anna Hansford**

The Paddock,  
2 Kensington Court, Washfield,  
Tiverton, EX16 9QU.

Tel: (01884) 253463

[hansfordam@john-lewis.com](mailto:hansfordam@john-lewis.com)

**ADMINISTRATORS & MAGAZINE**

**Paul & Elizabeth Iliff**

6, Southfield Way,  
Tiverton, EX16 5AJ.

Tel: (01884) 253473

[pe.iliff@tiv.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:pe.iliff@tiv.eclipse.co.uk)

**EDITORIAL**

**HOPE SPRINGS  
ETERNAL....**

Despite increasingly fervent pleas for a successor as editor of TODAY magazine, and when it was looking increasingly likely that the December / January issue would be the last, ideas were being put forward as to how our parishes could keep in touch in the future without said publication.

But all was not lost, and, at the end of August, along came Jenny and Geoff Parnell, potentially willing to take over the mantle of editors. Having seen what is involved in the production of TODAY, they have agreed to take over from Elizabeth and myself, beginning with the February / March, 2014 issue. Although they will be 'sitting in' on the putting together of the next issue, please continue to e-mail contributions to me. We will include the relevant future contact details next time.

Whilst I had not been panicking just yet, concern was, inevitably, mounting, and everybody was telling us that we should not go back on the decision we had made to give up as editors (Not quite sure how to interpret that, though!?).

But there is, of course, a moral to all this, in that we should never give up hope, especially on God. His timing is not necessarily our timing, and he fully knows what our needs are. He also knows that we didn't need a queue of volunteers to keep the

magazine going, just one - at the right time.

And that is a good lesson for life. God knows everything we would like, and he also knows our needs, both as individuals, and as communities and parishes. God will never let down those who trust him. If we don't get things we would like in life, it is probably best that we don't get them, best not just for us, but for those with whom we come into contact. In his infinite wisdom God knows best, because he can see the overall picture of both the here and now, and of the future.

After all, we belong to HIS Church, he is not the patron of ours.

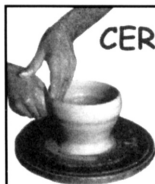
*Paul*

**ANN'S NATURE NOTES**

How many of you have actually managed to see a glow worm this summer? In actual fact, they are beetles and it is the female that glows as an attraction to the male. Sadly once she has laid her eggs she dies, so does not live for very long. They are becoming quite rare, so it is nice to see them.

Haven't the Butterflies been great this summer? After a dearth of them in the spring, it was a genuine surprise and relief. We have Peacocks, Red Admirals and Tortoiseshells on our Buddleia. Now we should have the same group visiting the Michaelmas daisies which are the last big show of the year.

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

By now the changeover of birds is well under way. The Cuckoos are long gone, as are the Swifts. The Swallows sometimes delay until September, but the Ducks and Winter Thrushes are on their way here. The Warblers go in August, but a few seem to be remaining all year round, especially in the South, like Black Caps and Chiffchaffs. The latter are very difficult to recognize as they are small, rather featureless, olive green birds, usually recognized by their song. In spring they seem to sing Chiffchaff all day long. It is sad for us that a lot of our visiting waders are only here out of breeding time and so are in rather dull colours, and are very difficult to identify. In breeding plumage they are much brighter and sometimes, like the Ruff, quite spectacular. Some do breed in Scotland, so one need not go over the water to see them. This is when we can have thousands of Geese coming in, and, for the farmer, that can be quite a problem, those in Scotland and Norfolk having a particularly difficult time.

At this time of the year it might be worth a trip to the Somerset Levels near Langport, where the Cranes were released. They tend to be near Aller Moor, and, when the grass dies down, can be seen grazing. The Crane project has been a great success and there are about thirty of them now. There are hopes that they will breed in England soon.

*Ann*

### Calverleigh

On July 18th we had the pleasure of entertaining the Presentation Sisters, a group of retired nuns who periodically visit Calverleigh. Just after lunch, the coach arrived at Calverleigh Village Hall with 35 Sisters on board. They were soon tucking in to cakes and a welcome cup of tea. We all then went into the Church for a short service, and then went outside for another short service where flowers were laid on the Chichester/Nagel graves. They said that visiting Calverleigh is always the highlight of their five day pilgrimage. Most of these Sisters come from Ireland and the north of England, and they stay in Bath. It was lovely to see them again, and there were a lot of new faces amongst them, and the weather was brilliant for them.

We had our annual potato competition at the Rose and Crown on July 20th. The competition was won by competitors from Lurley. Mrs Lorna Thomas won the ladies prize, and Mr Geoffrey Thomas won the men's. The Rose and Crown provided the usual potato supper - thank you very much. Thanks must also go to Gillian Tucker, her sister Mary and friends, who organised this event which raised £218.50 for Calverleigh Church. A very entertaining evening, and Derek Herniman auctioned the potatoes, which found some of us buying back our own! It is a tragedy to see the curtains pulled across and the doors

now closed on the pub. This is the first time in our lifetime to see Calverleigh without their local pub. Hope it will soon be open again.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Leonard Elston, who was born in Bickleigh but has lived the biggest part of his life in Calverleigh. Leonard rang the bells at Calverleigh Church for many years. Our sympathy goes to his family; he will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

The Hopper family have been highly successful with their sheep at our local shows this summer. Among their many awards they had the Champion-interbreed Suffolk sheep at The Mid Devon Show, and the Champion Charolais Ram at The North Devon Show. This is a great achievement by Clive, Robert and the children.

Our family service on July 21st was led by Nikki Burton, assisted by David and Tasha, and the Guides from Tiverton. The Guides took part in the service by reading, reciting and singing. It was a lovely service, and great to see so many young people taking part in the service. After the service we all enjoyed getting together with refreshments.

The wedding took place in our Church of Samantha Webber and Tom Gardiner. We wish the young couple every happiness in their future life together. Samantha is one of Myrtle's Granddaughters.

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

We give a warm welcome to Mr and Mrs Douest and Baby Jemima to Little Orchard. We hope you will be very happy with us here at Calverleigh. We also wish Tony, Lisa and Katie every happiness in their new home, now they have left Little Orchard. They were always so helpful to us oldies in the bad winters we have had recently, shopping for us and clearing snow from paths, etc. Very much appreciated. Hope you can keep in contact with your many friends here in Calverleigh.

Rita Tapp opened up her home to host an afternoon tea. It was a shame that the weather changed that day, and we were unable to sit in her beautiful garden. Many of us from the Church attended, and she raised £170 for Calverleigh Church. Thank you Rita for hosting this, as we know that you have been a little under the weather lately. Hope you will be feeling much better soon.

We send our love and good wishes to all who have been in hospital, feeling poorly or having treatment lately.

Geoffrey and Lorna Thomas have become Grandparents again. Daughter Kate and husband Matt presented them with a new grandson, Jake Thomas Birnie. Congratulations to you all.

On September 1st, Paul and Maureen Furneaux organised a Treasure Hunt. Fourteen cars took part in a very well organised hunt around the countryside from Calverleigh to Templeton Bridge, Witheridge Moor on to Rackenford, Loxbeare, Washfield, and back to Calverleigh. We had 50 questions to answer. After investigating for two hours, we were glad of the tea that was laid on back at the hall. Maureen's mum, Myrtle and sister in law Alison and some friends,

had prepared plates of sandwiches, sausage rolls and cakes, and tea and coffee, which were very much appreciated by all who took part, and some people who had come to support the event. The winners of the Treasure Hunt were Duncan and Sara Kittow, and a very close second were Antony and Pat Clark. Thank you Paul and Maureen for your marvellous effort, we know you must have worked extremely hard with many hours of preparation, and you raised £300 for Calverleigh Church.

At the time of going to press, we are looking forward to our Harvest celebrations. Our Harvest supper has been fully booked for the last two weeks, and we are hoping for a good congregation for our Harvest Service on the Sunday.

## ***Cruwys Morchard***

**I**n July we held our annual Church Fete. A special thank you to Roland and Sonia Notley for providing the perfect setting, allowing us to use their gardens, and hosting the event. The weather was perfect, and the Fete was very well supported, raising over £1,000 for church Funds. The children's entertainer, Dave Hendy, was well received by the children and grown-ups. Thank you to all who helped make the event such a success.

In August, the seniors of the parish enjoyed a tea provided by the ladies' committee. Thank you to Judith Taylor for hosting this event, and to all who provided food and helped on the day, despite the weather not being at its best. The event was much appreciated by all who attended. A

provisional booking for the seniors' lunch is being arranged for next March - details to follow.

After speaking to Nellie Croft, she said that The Tower Open Day was a great success, with the bell ringers putting on a good display, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who came, despite the appalling weather on the day. Nellie especially wanted to thank Arthur Rampling and Jonathon Marshall, who gave a demonstration and talk on their birds of prey, within the church, as a secondary event to the bell ringing. It was a wonderful experience to watch the falconry display, and this was especially enjoyed by the children.

A Flower Festival and Scarecrow Competition is going to be held within the parish for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of May 2014. Anyone interested in flower arranging, and who might like to take on arranging one within the church, can obtain further details from Pauline Guscott on 01363 866754. The theme for the flower arrangements will be 'wedding anniversary'.

A warm welcome to all who have recently moved into the parish. We hope to meet you at our parish events. We send our prayers and good wishes to all who are unwell at this time.

### Forthcoming Events:

#### **CRUWYS MORCHARD PARISH CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

16<sup>th</sup> November 2013, 10.30am to 1.30pm

Local handmade crafts

Tables can be booked by calling Teresa Grant on 01363 860124

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October – PCC meeting at Wringsland House at 7.30 pm

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

Di and Dave's Annual Christmas Quiz will be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December - details to follow.

### Note from Mary Parish - Bingo

No bingo in September because of Harvest.

Bingo and 200 club draw on Sat Oct 26<sup>th</sup> for parish hall funds - venue to be confirmed.

Bingo and 200 club draw on Sat Nov 30<sup>th</sup> for parish hall funds, (may be in new hall).

Christmas Bingo details to follow - could be on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec - TBC.

All eyes down at 8pm with good prizes.

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. Annual Christmas Quiz for hall funds.

All details will be on the parish website soon, and in the next parish hall newsletter. Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall Management Committee & Parish Website

<http://www.cruwysmorchardparish.co.uk>  
COMMUNITY WEBSITE

### Flower and Cleaning Rota:

October 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>- Ann Gillbard  
& Judith Taylor  
October 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> - Sue &  
Pauline Guscott  
November 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> - Carole  
Chisholm & Jackie Mitchell  
November 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> - Denyse  
Standen  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> - Lorna Warren

## **Loxbeare**

Our Harvest Festival services are due to be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> of September, with sports and tea to follow the Saturday service at 2pm. The Sunday service will be at 11am, and the Harvest Supper on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall. The collection will be for the Tear Fund Work, and the proceeds of the produce auctioned at the supper to be given to CHAT.

It was good to see so many at our BBQ on August 18<sup>th</sup> at 12noon, followed by a service led by John. Steve spoke, and then Ron organised a few games for the children. This was held at Ron & Margaret's, and we thank them for their hospitality, and to all who helped in any way.

Our Tear Fund Sunday will be on November the 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9.30am.

The next PCC meeting will be at Ron & Margaret's on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The woman's Bible Study Group will meet every other Tuesday afternoon from 2 - 4pm at Pauline's - Highgate Cottage, starting on 17<sup>th</sup> September, then the following - dates 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> October, and 5 & 19<sup>th</sup> November. For the next few months we will be working our way through some of the most famous sayings of Jesus, and learning what it means to follow him. All welcome from all parishes.

A social evening with light refreshments is planned for Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm, at Barton View, followed by a DVD of Helen Shapiro. Anyone is welcome. For

more information phone Jean on 01884 881400.

We pray for anyone who is feeling unwell at the present time, and trust you will be back to health soon.

Congratulations to Dawn & Lucy on their exam results, and to any others who have had exam results. Well Done.

Congratulations, too, to Lucy Pack & Greg Atten who were married on August 26<sup>th</sup> in Loxbeare Church. We wish them well for their future lives together.

Happy Birthday to all with birthdays, and best wishes to those with special occasions to celebrate in October/November.

We welcome Kerry and Daphne to Pantacridge, and hope you will soon feel at home in Loxbeare, and be very happy here.

For those wishing to donate a box to the Samaritans Purse shoe box appeal - Operation Christmas Child, the boxes need to be handed to Carol, or left in the Church by 17<sup>th</sup> November. Information is on the leaflets, or from Carol on 01884 881480.

Loxbeare Ladies - Thank you to Steve & Sue for all their work in hosting a lovely BBQ evening in August. Future Dates: October 7<sup>th</sup> - Everyone (including men) are invited to Buttermoor for a tour of the recently installed robot milking system, from 6.30pm onwards. Please bring a plate of food - drinks to be provided. November 5<sup>th</sup> - at John & Marion's, there will be fireworks, with food

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

provided. Donations of fireworks to be given to John beforehand for setting up.

November 30th - Loxbeare Ladies will be involved with running the Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall for Hall funds from 10.30 - 12.30.

December 9th - Village Christmas meal will be at The Tiverton Hotel, 7 for 7.30pm. Price £17.95. Let Sue know by the end of October if you would like to go. Contact Sue on 01884 259496.

December 2nd - Carol will be organising the Christmas Bingo in the Hall - 7 for 7.30. Contact Carol on 01884 881480.

**Forward Date:** On the 18th January we will be having the Village Party in the Village Hall, starting at 7pm.

### Oakford

After a lovely summer, we now look forward to Autumn. This year we can be truly grateful for a good harvest, and we are celebrating our Harvest Festival on September 29<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm, with tea after the service at the back of the church. We would appreciate any produce for this occasion, which will be auctioned after the Harvest Supper on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Supper £6.00. Everyone welcome. Please bring your own wine.

On 28<sup>th</sup> July, Pauline and Brian took their last family service. The church members presented them with various gifts, thanking them for their long association with Oakford Church.

Many congratulations to Brenda and Bun Burrows, who celebrated their

50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

Remembrance Service will take place on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 10.50am at the War Memorial, followed by a service in the Church. All are welcome.

Although it seems a long way ahead the Christmas services are:-

The Carol service December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5.30pm, with readings and carols. Mulled wine and mince pies to follow.

Christmas Eve Holy Communion at 11.30pm.

Christmas Day Family Service with reading and carols at 10am.

Please look out for posters nearer the time.

#### Other events

Music Quiz on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Sausage and Mash Supper £6.50. Please phone 01398 351609 or 324035.

'Strictly Come Dancing' comes to Oakford! Come and join us on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8.00pm at Oakford Village Hall for Registration and draw night. Singles and couples can all register. Light supper provided. Bring a bottle. Please ring 324035 for details. This is your chance to dance!

#### The Moorland Club

The Flower and Produce Show was a great success, with lots of entries, and a good number of people came to see it and enjoy a cream tea. Congratulations to all the winners and to 'the team' who organized it so beautifully, and not forgetting all those who entered, helped and supported it.

We look forward to seeing as many people as possible at our Christmas Fayre on Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup> at

Oakford Village Hall from 11am to 2.30pm. There will be stalls bearing preserves, cakes, sweets, gifts and White Elephant items; plenty of tombola and raffle prizes and, of course, teas, coffees and light lunches.

Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm 'Knowing your chairs' - A brief history of chairs, and a quiz with Jenny Benians.

Thursday November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm - 'Man's Best Friend', captured in bronze, with Gwynneth Whitty.

Friday December 13<sup>th</sup> or Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> Christmas Meal - to be arranged.

Oakford Pantomime will take place on Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup>, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a Matinee on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>. Price and details to be advised. Please look out for posters nearer the time, and it will also be on the Oakford website.

### Rackenford

On July 17 'Perfect Pirates', written and performed by Rackenford Church of England school children, was the choice for the end of term concert. The children worked hard on this production, and the determination to give a good performance and enjoy it was obvious to all who came to watch and support the school and the children. It was a delight to be able to enjoy the concert outside in the beautiful sunshine. Well done everyone. During the evening performance the Year 6 leavers, Peggy Hookins, Elena Crossman, Sophie Ellam, William Butt, Martin Dart and Emma Perkins, were presented with various gifts from the

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## NEW CREATION NEWS

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### 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

If you read last month's news you will remember that 4<sup>th</sup> October is New Creation's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. And of course we will be celebrating!

*Sunday 29th September - Celebration Service in Tiverton Baptist Church at 6.30pm*

*Friday 4th October - 25th Anniversary 1988 prices in the Coffee Shop!*

*Saturday 5th October - New Creation open all day, with special events.*

*10.30 to 12.00 Book Signing with local author Rev. Christopher Tull. Buy a book or bring yours along for him to sign.*

*In the afternoon there will be activities for children including face painting and Colouring*

We thank God that we have been able to keep trading for 25 years. Sometimes things have been difficult, but God has always provided all our needs. That is not to say we do not appreciate the support we get from all our volunteers, customers and those that help in other ways. Without you we would not be here, spreading the Good News.

### Christmas Celebrations

From early October, all our Christmas stock will be on display for you to browse and buy.

This includes cards, diaries, calendars, gifts, etc. nearly all carrying a Christian Christmas message or Bible text.

While browsing our Christmas stock, why not meet friends for lunch or a drink, or to enjoy: -

Coffee Shop SPECIAL OFFER for October,  
a cup of Tea or Coffee and a slice of home-made fruitcake – all for £1.95.

Once again, may we remind you that we can order from the Tearfund, Leprosy Mission and Traidcraft catalogues. Orders can be placed at New Creation by e-mail, telephone or just call in. As well as helping these charities you will help us and it saves you postage – and, if it will help you, we can deliver in the Tiverton area.

### Your Celebrations

How about celebrating Christmas by booking a Supper Evening for your church, home group or just a group of friends (the maximum number we can cater for is 16) at New Creation. Or maybe your group would just like to meet here one evening for a drink and cake or biscuit. In either case you will be able to browse and shop for Christmas Goodies. Please contact us for more details and we will be pleased to try and accommodate your request.

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school, having already received their bibles from the Church Council. They were all wished well for the future by Caroline Buckley. The Year 6 leavers presented the school with a CD player and vouchers.

On July 18 a social evening was held in the grounds of the school to thank and say goodbye to Caroline Buckley, and to wish her well as Head Teacher at Two Moors Primary School,

Tiverton. Parents, governors and staff members, past and present, and past pupils, gathered and enjoyed a lovely buffet. Helen Lane (Hyland), on behalf of the governors, thanked Caroline for all her hard work and dedication to the school and all the children during her 13 years as Head of Rackenford School. She was presented with various gifts and cards. Reverend Richard Maudsley attended from the Exeter Diocese and, after

## PARISH ROUND-UP

saying a few words, presented Caroline with a beautiful book. Caroline recalled her years at Rackenford School with great fondness and sincerity, and mentioned how much she has learned herself from various experiences she has enjoyed with the children. Caroline presented the school with a beautiful clock depicting a map of the world, and showing the time in various areas of the world – a wonderful item for the children.

As the new term begins we would like to give a warm welcome and best wishes to Andrew Lovett as Executive Head of the school, and to Class 3's teacher, Claire Joyce, as Head of Teaching and Learning. We wish them great success in this new venture; also not forgetting all the children as they begin their new school year and begin new schools.

Many congratulations to Sam Sleep and Adam Hill whose wedding took place on July 27 at Germansweek. Sam is John and Jenny Sleep's youngest daughter. Also married on August 10 at Rackenford Church were Camilla Denno and Benjamin Raven, this service being taken by Reverend Steve Goodbody. We wish both couples very long, happy and healthy futures together.

We would like to thank Richard Harris for all he has done over many years as Captain of the bell ringers. Sadly Richard has decided to give up now, but luckily we have Glen Hookins taking over. Glen also winds our church clock, and we thank him very much for all his help.

What a fright we had when the Devon Air Ambulance arrived to take Christine Harris to hospital after a

Continued on Page 10 ⇨

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---

## HOME GROUPS

### COFFEE PLUS

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

### LOXBEARE PRAISE AND PRAYER MEETING

3rd Tuesday in month  
At 7.30pm.  
(Tel.01884-881362 for venues)

### EXE VALLEY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Alternate Tuesdays 2pm - 4 pm  
Autumn Programme to be  
announced.  
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or Alison 01398 351552 for  
details.

### WALK THE TALK

Withleigh Home Group  
Alternate Mondays at 8pm  
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## MISSION COMMUNITY SERVICES, etc

### Exe Valley Central

Each Sunday  
in

### Templeton Village Hall

At 11 am

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Parish churches, all are  
encouraged to attend  
Exe Valley Central*

---

### Mission Community Home-groups

(Alternate Wednesdays)  
See fliers for details

## OAKFORD

### 6th October

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 13th October

9.30 am Morning Prayer

### 20th October

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 27th October

No Service

### 3rd November

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 10th November

10.50 am Remembrance Service

### 17th November

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 24th November

No Service

## RACKENFORD

### 6th October

No Service

### 13th October

6.30 pm Harvest Songs of Praise

### 20th October

No Service

### 27th October

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 3rd November

No Service

### 10th November

10.50 am Remembrance Service  
at War Memorial

### 17th November

No Service

### 24th November

9.30 am Holy Communion

## STOODLEIGH

### 6th October

11 am Harvest Festival

### 13th October

11 am Family Service

### 20th October

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 27th October

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

### 3rd November

11 am Family Service

### 10th November

10.50 am Remembrance Service

### 17th November

9.30 am Holy Communion

### 24th November

6.30 pm Evening Prayer



**CALVERLEIGH**

**6th October**

No Service

**13th October**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**20th October**

11.15 am Songs of Praise

**27th October**

3 pm Evening Worship

**3rd November**

No Service

**10th November**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**17th November**

11.15 am Morning Worship

**24th November**

3 pm Evening Prayer

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

**6th October**

9.30 am Family Service

**13th October**

11 am Morning Prayer

**20th October**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**27th October**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

**3rd November**

9.30 am Family Service

**10th November**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

**17th November**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**24th November**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

**LOXBEARE**

**6th October**

9.30 am Family Communion

**13th October**

No Service

**20th October**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**27th October**

No Service

**3rd November**

9.30 am Tear Fund Service  
and Holy Communion

**10th November**

10.50 am Remembrance  
Family Service

**17th November**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**24th November**

No Service

**TEMPLETON**

**6th October**

11 am Harvest Festival

**13th October**

No Service

**20th October**

No Service

**27th October**

No Service

**3rd November**

11 am Morning Prayer  
and Holy Communion

**10th November**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

**17th November**

No Service

**24th November**

No Service

**WASHFIELD**

**6th October**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**13th October**

6 pm Evening Prayer

**20th October**

11 am Family Service

**27th October**

No Service

**3rd November**

9.30 am Holy Communion by  
Extension

**10th November**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

**17th November**

11 am Family Service

**24th November**

No Service

**WITHLEIGH**

**6th October**

No Service

**13th October**

11 am Informal Worship

**20th October**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**27th October**

11 am Morning Worship

**3rd November**

No Service

**10th November**

10.50 am Remembrance Service

**17th November**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**24th November**

11 am Family Service

## PARISH ROUND-UP

very bad fall at home. We really do hope you are continuing to make a good recovery. Bill Dart is now at St George's Residential Home, and we remember him in our prayers.

A warm welcome to the new family that have moved into 'Baters', and best wishes to the Smith family who have left Rackenford.

Congratulations to Jane Wood and Rob Matthews on their engagement. We hope you will have a happy future together.

We are pleased that our village pub is now open again, and we welcome the families at The Stag Inn, Di Clark and her sister Vicki, and their parents Geoff Coleman and Marjorie Hallam, who are running the pub, Geoff is the licensee and lease holder. We hope you will enjoy living and working in Rackenford.

Our Harvest celebrations begin as usual with the decorating of the Church. If you would like to help, give flowers, foliage or produce, we would be most grateful. Please let either of us know - Jenny Sleep on 881280 or Hilda Nott on 881248. Our Harvest Songs of Praise will be on Sunday 13 October at 6.30pm. As the Stag Hall is not available, the Harvest Supper will be held at Jacque and Mary Cann's at Lower Tidderson Farm on Monday 14 October. Tickets will be available later; keep your eyes open for posters, or contact Herbert Smith on 881375 or Mary Cann on 881696. Many thanks to Jacque and Mary - so kind of you to offer us your home.

Congratulations to all who have celebrated special anniversaries or birthdays.

Sunday 1 September at 11am was the launch of the new Central Congregation in Templeton Village Hall, taken by Steve Goodbody. The hall was full, which was wonderful for everyone who had worked so hard to achieve this, and for all who came together to worship. The Bishop of Crediton, Bishop Nick, gave the sermon, and the congregation enjoyed singing to a music group from Exeter. Curate Rob Brewis's wife, Alison, took some of the children out during the service for various activities. A special rectangular chocolate cake was cut by Bishop Nick to celebrate this new service.

Our love and prayers to our friends Percy Cox, Ken Blackford, Mrs Clark, Mrs Arscott and Gwendoline and Bill Dart.

## Stoodleigh

The Stoodleigh Family Dog Show on 3rd August was another great joint church and parish hall success, with over 30 dogs entered in the classes. We didn't let the showers beat us and, while the last heavy shower of the day rained down on our gazebos, there were only smiling faces, wet noses and happy dogs to be seen!

Huge thanks to Pat and Fred Robinson for the use of their paddock;

also to all those who helped set up and run the stalls and pack away afterwards. Thank you to everyone who joined in the fun on the day, and helped to raise almost £650, shared between the church and the parish hall.

The perfect weather and beautiful setting in the gardens of Champles Barn drew many people to enjoy a relaxed and happy ploughman's lunch on August Bank Holiday Monday, raising £268 for church funds. We send grateful thanks to the hosts, Peter and Christine Broadbent, and to all who helped, gave and came.

The sun shone between the showers for the wedding in St Margaret's Church on 7th September of Emma Ransom and Bradley Wills. We wish them every happiness and God's blessing on their future life together.

This year's Harvest Thanksgiving service in the church is on 6th October at 11am. The Harvest Supper (and auction of produce) is the following evening, 7th October, in the parish hall, 7pm.

Please keep the morning of Saturday 7th December free for the annual Christmas Fayre, to be held in the parish hall. As usual, most of the arts, crafts, jams and preserves, cakes etc., etc., are Stoodleigh-made and, of course, Father Christmas will be in attendance.

Mike Isaac at the Stoodleigh Inn has not been well, and he and Lizzie have

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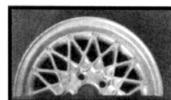


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# PARISH ROUND-UP

been in our thoughts. We wish him a strong recovery.

A warm welcome to Nick and Linda Sharrock, who have moved to Valleys Meet.

**Garden Club**

Once again the Stoodleigh Garden Club had a very successful Show. We were delighted to welcome old friends and some newcomers to the village, both as exhibitors and at the evening viewing. We were also encouraged by the number of entries in the junior section.

Tiverton Agricultural Association has been a benefactor of the garden club for some years, and Roger Hill, a long time trustee, presented the awards, and also explained a bit about the type of activities the trust supports, which are, broadly, countryside related, and may take the form of help with projects or personal training. He invited anyone who thought the trust might be able to help them to approach him.

The awards for best in each section went to: Elaine Morison for her onions, Adrian Mills for his vase of mixed flowers, Pat Aplin for her wedding-themed flower arrangement, Elaine Morison for her lemon curd, Bryan Rigg for his outstanding home made card, and Cari Evans, aged 5, for her excellent multiple entries in the Children's Section. The overall award for most points went to Elaine Morison, with Pat Aplin a worthy runner up.

The organisers would like to thank everyone who worked hard to make this a very happy event.

**Parish Hall:** The Autumn Market and Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 26th October, from 10am to 12 noon. There will be bring and buy, cakes, jams, preserves and pickles. You'll be able to pick up books and plants as well as get your usual produce such as eggs and pork from our local suppliers. Stoodleigh Parish Hall Management Committee AGM is on Tuesday 26th November at 7.30pm. All Stoodleigh residents are invited to have their say about the management and use of the Parish Hall. Please come along, show your support, and bring ideas.

**Children's Hospice:** A Coffee and Brunch Morning, in aid of Children's Hospice SW, will be held at Down Farm, Stoodleigh, on Saturday December 14th from 10.30am. Please come and join us for this Christmas event, with home baking, crafts and special gifts; brunch menu, mulled wine and mince pies.

**SWAG:** Visit to Cribbs Causeway, Wednesday 27th November. Names to Margaret Cuninghame by 18th November.

**Stoodleigh 100 Club:** prizewinners for July – 1 Linda Brice, 2 Mervyn Brice, 3 Stephen Ayre, 4 Katherine Mead; August – 1 Sheila Davis, 2 Sheila Blake, 3 Elaine Morison, 4 Beth Byles.

**Flower Rota:**

- Oct. 5th - Decorating for Harvest Festival (all help please)
- Oct. 20th, 27th - Linda Hill
- Nov. 3rd, 10th - Eileen Fewings
- Nov. 17th, 24th - Betty Wotton
- Dec. 1st, 8th - Trish Fish

## Templeton

Many people attended the new Exe Valley Central Service at the village hall at the beginning of September. There was a live band, and the Bishop of Crediton gave the talk which was not without wit and humour. There was a Sunday School too. Most people felt that it had been a worshipful and worthwhile experience.

Our service at Templeton church on the first Sunday in October will be our Harvest Festival. Please bring along some produce, and join us in a service of thanksgiving.

A reminder that the services at St Margaret's will always be on the first Sunday in the month plus any festival services. Therefore our Harvest in October will be a Family Service, followed by coffee, and November will be Morning Prayer followed by Holy Communion. This pattern of services will alternate.

We welcomed little Joshua Winston Reed, the son of Winston and Ellie, and brother of Mellisa and Jody, into



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# PARISH ROUND-UP

church for his baptism on July 28<sup>th</sup>. We send our good wishes to all the family.

The "It's a Knock Out" competition, held on 28<sup>th</sup> July between Withleigh, Rackenford, Calverleigh and Washfield, was won for the second year by Templeton. Well done team! Thank you all who took part, and thanks to Templeton for hosting. Next year the host village will be Rackenford.

The annual Fete was a great success and raised £3,004 - the most raised so far. Thank you to everyone for all their hard work. The Pledges gave a boost to our takings, as this is quite a new venture and is a welcome addition.

We have a smart new kitchen at the hall, and the car park has been resurfaced. Also a new drainage system has been installed.

A fun day was held at the hall in aid of Children's Hospice South West. It was a very enjoyable afternoon, with skittles, crazy golf, games, and a bouncy castle. There were also a cake stall and hot dogs on sale. Approx. £550.00 was raised. Thanks to all who came and helped.

The 2014 calendar, Reg's cows and their namesakes, will be on sale at the Christmas Fayre on November 29<sup>th</sup>. More details will be found on the village notice boards.

The theme for this year's bonfire is Wallace and Gromit's Rocket, and will take place on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Flower and Cleaning Rota:

- Bindy Linden 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> October
- Phillida Strong 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October
- Gloria Woollacott 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> November
- Teresa Panchez 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> November

## Washfield

*Worry is a futile thing. It's like a rocking chair - although it keeps you occupied, it doesn't get you anywhere!*

All our prayers have been answered, because Jenny and Geoff Parnell have agreed to take over the editorship of the Today magazine. They are both very busy people, and we are grateful to them for stepping into the breach, to save the magazine from extinction. Thank you both so much.

The summer seems to have flown by, and will be remembered for temperatures reaching record levels. What a lovely time it was when we were able to pre-plan outings, picnics, etc. Autumn is now approaching, the children are going back to school, and the nights drawing in, mean that harvest time is upon us. On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September we celebrated our Harvest thanksgiving with a large congregation in church for Anna's feel-good service. Mrs Adrienne Pannifer kindly played the organ, and

Anna had the many children taking part, which brought appropriate meaning to the service. The church was adorned with flowers, fruit and vegetables, proudly displaying their autumnal colours; thanks to everyone who donated these and decorated the church accordingly. The service was followed by the traditional sports, held on the Old Rectory lawns, and then a welcome tea in the Hall. Many thanks to William and Claire Webber who capably ran the sports, and to Bronson and Camilla for once again letting us use their lawns. The produce was, as has become customary, donated to Charlton Lodge.

"The Churchwardens and the PCC members have become aware that there is some concern over the future of our village church. They want to re-assure you all that they are making every effort to keep the church alive and functioning for as long as is humanly possible. To this end, for the next three months at least, there will be three services each month in our church, which will be the first three Sundays in each month. When there are five Sundays in a month, there will be four services in our church. The last Sunday in each month will be left free for those who wish to attend the Exe Valley Central Service. This pattern of services will be reviewed regularly to make sure that it is keeping our church viable. It is probably sensible to point out, however, that the Churchwardens and PCC members are all getting older, and would appreciate people

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# PARISH ROUND-UP

being aware that they will not be able to continue for ever. We would all like to feel that there are younger members of the village who would, at some point, be willing to keep the church going for the good of all when we are no longer able to do so. We hope this makes the current position clear, and that you all know that we are determined to do the best for our church for as long as we can."

Our good friend and faithful church member, Ann Taylor, died peacefully at St George's House, Tiverton on July 15th. Ann's funeral was taken by the Rev'd Keith Gale in St Mary's, Washfield, where her family from Gloucestershire joined her friends from the parish, the Mother's Union and her Prayer group at Stoodleigh for a service, well chosen by her family for a lady of such strong and steadfast faith. Memories of Ann's early life were given by her niece, and of her life in Washfield by her friends here. Her smiling presence is missed by us all, and we thank God for her time amongst us.

We are praying and thinking of everyone not enjoying good health at this time, particularly those with ongoing health issues and treatments. Our thoughts and best wishes are with you.

Congratulations to everyone celebrating special birthdays and anniversaries. Allison and Paul Trout celebrate their Ruby Wedding on November 17th. Best wishes to them

and others in the parish with something to celebrate. At this time of year exam results have come out, and we have heard of many good outcomes in these. Congratulations to you all.

We are delighted that Sandy and Drena Worth, from North Carolina, are coming to see their friends in Washfield in November. They arrive on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, and stay until the 5<sup>th</sup>, and are looking forward to meeting up with as many old and new friends as possible. We are planning to have coffee and cake in the Hall after the 9.30am service on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, so do join us there if you are able. (Numbers would be helpful nearer the time, please)

A very successful charity Cream Tea afternoon was held in the Hall in August. The profit of £300 was donated to the Hospiscare centre at Pine Lodge, Tiverton. Thanks to all who organised this, and to those who supported this delightful event.

The Social Club held a Treasure Hunt and barbecue in September. It was a resounding hit with those taking part, and the barbecue provided welcome victuals for the walkers! Thanks to Mike Welch, the Social Club committee, Paul and Ann Crease and Tony and Anne Roberts for their efforts in putting this on. The Social Club will hold its annual charity Pumpkin evening on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October, so come along to support this. Your support is also welcomed in the form of Social Club annual

subscriptions. At just £6 for the year, this is a good way to support this very important village provision. A team from the Social Club took part in the annual inter-village 'It's a Knockout' which was won, for the second consecutive year, by Templeton. Well done Washfield, for your efforts in this event.

Flower Rota:

Oct 6th	Mrs Trout
Oct 13th/20th	Mrs Moore
Oct 27th/Nov 3rd	Mrs Robinson
Nov 10th/17th	Mrs McCahon
Nov 24th/Dec 1st	Mrs Jones

Cleaning Rota:

Oct 6th/13th	Mrs French
Oct 20th/27th	Mrs Arnold/ Mrs Bicknell
Nov 3rd/10th	Mr & Mrs Parnell
Nov 17th/24th	Mrs Harding/ Mrs Jones
Dec 1st/8th	Mr & Mrs McCahon

## Withleigh

Our Church Fete was held on 20<sup>th</sup> July at Bona Vista, home of Henry and Shirley Cruwys, on a hot, sunny day and so, for a change, gazebos were erected for shade instead of the threat of rain! The proceedings were opened by the Mayor of Tiverton, Councillor Janet Rendle accompanied by her husband, John. She was presented with flowers by Elivia Arthurs, and her husband received a buttonhole. Thank you Elivia for, on your own accord, thanking the Mayor for opening the Fete. We were

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

accompanied throughout the afternoon by the Tiverton Concert Band which certainly lent itself to Henry and Shirley's garden. We thank Henry and Shirley for their hospitality once more, together with all the helpers, and everyone who gave in any way towards making this a profitable day for the Church, with £1,072.30 being raised.

The Coffee Morning held at 6, Southfield way on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August raised the total sum of £200. This was equally divided between the Devon Air Ambulance and St Catherine's church. Grateful thanks from Paul and Elizabeth to all who helped and supported the event in any way.

This year's Garden & Produce Show, held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August, had a record number of entries, with good entries in all sections. It was a real delight to see all the produce filling the village hall, ready for judging. The colours of the flowers, and the uniform vegetables, to the handicraft in the children's class, to say nothing of all the delicious looking cakes. Congratulations to one and all. The trophy winners were, Vegetables - Henry Cruwys, Pat Shapland Memorial Cup for the Flower Classes - Shirley Cruwys, Handicraft, Preserves & Cookery - Angela Sellick, Children's - Grace Sellick, runner-up Henry Sellick.

Congratulations to Charlie and Pippa Birts on the birth of their daughter, Emily Rose, on 9<sup>th</sup> July, a sister for George and Jamie. We send our love and best wishes to you all.

Congratulations, also, to all those who have passed their exams. We hope those attending a new school, or having just started school, college or university, are settling in and will be happy during their time there.

Since our sad loss of Christopher Palmer at the end of last year, the Village Hall has been short of a Trustee. We are now looking for nominations for someone to fill this post; if you know of anyone who you think would be prepared to act as a Trustee please contact Duncan Kittow 252949, before the 1st November 2013.

We send our sympathy to the family of Olive Luxton who died at Court House Nursing Home, Cullompton. She was buried in our churchyard, joining her husband, Leslie, on 29<sup>th</sup> August after a service in our Church. Leslie and Olive had Greenvale Garage built many years ago, and ran the garage before retiring into Tiverton. Olive, through ill health, moved to Court House, where she was cared for during the last few years of her life.

Our Harvest Songs of Praise was well attended and enjoyed. Thank you, Paul and Elizabeth, for officiating at the service. Farmers and their wives in the parish chose the hymns, Harry Hann, Richard Tucker and Laura Headon read the lessons, with Brenda Tucker and Janet Stacey leading the prayers - in all a very good agricultural service. Many thanks to all who decorated the church so beautifully with flowers and vegetables, and also giving us a very silent member to our congregation - a scarecrow! After the service, everyone went to the Village Hall for a delicious

Harvest Tea. Our thanks go to the ladies for providing and serving the tea.

Our Harvest Supper on the Monday was also well attended, and we were pleased to welcome back Tiverton's mayor - Janet Rendle and husband, John. As the proceeds from the produce auction were going to Hospiscare, we were also pleased to have Barry Carpenter, their support group co-ordinator with us, and to give a brief talk on the work of Hospiscare locally between the meal and the auction.

The meal, courtesy of Val Drew and company, was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and the auction, in the capable hands of Henry Cruwys, produced the usual banter and extraordinary bids for the harvest produce. At the end of the evening Barry was able to take with him the auction proceeds of £310.40 for Hospiscare's Pine Lodge in Tiverton.

Incidentally, if any group would like a tour of Pine Lodge, Barry would be pleased to arrange. He can be contacted on 01392 688018, or by e-mail - b.carpenter@hospiscare.co.uk

Our next Informal Service will be on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 11am in the church vestry, and will, once again, be led by Laura.

The next PCC meeting is to be held at Topfield on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 7.30pm.

The Annual Team Skittles evening will be held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm. Teams comprise of 6 players;

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

if you do not have enough people to make up a team just come along and join with a team on the night. For more details please ring Duncan 252949.

This year's Bonfire & Fireworks will take place on Saturday 2nd November. The lighting of the Bonfire will be at 7pm, followed by the fireworks at approx 7.30pm. After the Fireworks there will be Soup and Hot Dogs on sale from the village hall.

Please give any donations towards the cost of the fireworks to Duncan by the 25th October.

It may not be foremost in your thoughts at the moment, but 'Christmas is a coming'! Our Christmas Craft Fayre will be held on Saturday 30th November, this year from 10am until 4pm, proceeds to St Catherine's. Come along and find those Christmas gifts with a difference. Refreshments will be available throughout the day – coffee and cookies from 10 -12, soup and rolls from 12 – 2, and tea and cakes from 2pm onwards. Our thanks, once again, to Laura for so capably organising this event.

Get well wishes are sent to all those known to us who are not well at the moment. Our prayers and thoughts are with you all.

### Forthcoming Events:

- Friday 25th October  
Team Skittles Evening at 7.30pm.  
Saturday 2nd November -  
Bonfire & Fireworks at 7pm.  
Saturday 30th November  
Christmas Craft Fayre 10am – 4pm.

### Flower Rota:

Oct 6th )	Shirley Cruwys
13th )	
Oct 20th )	
27th )	Christine Luxton
Nov 3rd )	
Nov 10th )	
17th )	Sylvia Hann
24th )	
Dec 1st	Sara Kittow

### Monthly Diary dates:

- First Thursday – Bingo  
Second Monday – Whist Drive  
Second Thursday – W.I.

the animals on the sixth day, but it is the seventh day, or Sabbath day, that God blesses and sets apart as different from all the other days. It is the Sabbath day that is the crown of God's creation; the crown of creation is God-centred and not human-centred. We could even say that God built a continual reminder that we are not in charge into the very rhythm of reality.

In Leviticus, we read of God's commandment about how the people of Israel were to live on the land. "Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather in their yield; but in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of complete rest for the land." (Lev 25:3-4) So not only is the seventh day a day of rest for the people, but the seventh year is a year of rest for the land. But the people of Israel did not "observe my statutes and faithfully keep my ordinances, so that you may live on the land securely" (v18). They exploited the land, and did not let it rest. In working it each year, they drew up salts from the depths that poisoned the surface. They chopped down the cedars of Lebanon to build the kingdom. They over-reached themselves, became a failed state, and were taken into exile.

## REFLECTIONS ON THE SABBATH AND OUR PLANET

We often take Genesis 1 to imply that human beings are the crown of God's creation. Humanity was created after

There are clear parallels with what is happening today. For many years, we have gone after the false god of economic growth, underpinned by cheap oil and other resources of the earth. But it is just not sustainable. We have one planet, and it cannot support continual growth. The WWF has calculated that we would need to have more than three planets if



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everyone in the world consumed as much as people in the UK.

It doesn't have to be this way. Many people, including the government's Sustainable Development Commission, are saying that it is possible to have prosperity without necessarily having economic growth. And by prosperity they mean living happy, healthy lives. So let us observe the Sabbath for ourselves, for our

neighbours and for the earth, so that we may all "live on the land securely".

(Clare Bryden)

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