

# QUESTIONS QUESTIONS

Life is full of questions.

From very early on in life we start to ask questions. As toddlers, we drive our parents crazy by endlessly asking the simple question, "Why?" When repeated often enough, that question inevitably receives the exasperated answer, "Because I say so!"

As adults we sometimes stop asking questions, or at least we stop asking the questions that really matter to us. We give up on the search for meaning and abandon the attempt to make sense of life, and we try not to think about those searching questions that nag away within us: Who am I? Why do I matter? What is the purpose of my life? What will happen to me when I die?

The reason that we stop asking these kinds of questions may well be that we

are not at all confident that we will ever find satisfying answers to them. We choose to live with uncertainty, rather than confronting the most basic questions about our own existence. But it is not easy to live without a clear understanding of what life is all about.



Christians believe that the Bible provides answers to our deepest questions. It does not answer all of our questions, but it tells us all that we need to know in order to make sense of life. It reveals who God is, how we can be at peace with him, and what it means to trust in him.

The Bible introduces us to the one person who does have all the answers.

But the Bible also raises some searching questions: Why does a loving God allow suffering? Is there only one way to God? Does science contradict the Bible? These are not easy questions, but we must wrestle with them, if we are to make any sense of life.

We are going to be addressing some of these kinds of questions at our Exe Valley Central services in August. You'll find details of these services on Page 8 in the magazine. Why not come along and join us in exploring some of these searching questions?

*Steve*

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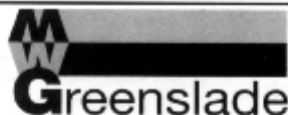
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*Keep smiling . . .*

There was a very gracious lady who was sending an old family Bible to her brother, in another part of the country.

“Is there anything breakable in this Parcel ?” asked the Post Office assistant.

“Only the Ten Commandments” replied the lady.

#### EDITORIAL

We are very pleased to be able to tell you that - despite our “slip of the pen” in the last issue, where we asked for a replacement “Naturist” - we have had a volunteer to become our new “Naturalist”. Ann’s last article is in this issue and we thank her very much for the enormous contribution she has made to the Today magazine over many years. We all wish you a very happy move to your new home, Ann.

*Jenny and Geoff*

#### ANN'S NATURE NOTES

Recently there has been a lot of talk about the interaction of species. The obvious effects I touched on in the last edition, when an alien is let loose in an area. The latest is the Asian Spined Toad that found its way to Madagascar, last year, probably via a container ship. It has already caused deaths in poultry and other domestic animals plus aquatic and terrestrial plants. Let’s hope that it does not cause as many problems as the Cane Toad in Australia. All nature is interdependent. If the Blue



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Tits do not hatch at about the same time as the caterpillars and aphids appear, then they will starve. It is remarkable that as the seasons change, the hatching varies with this timing. It would seem that the Spring is getting earlier and the Blue Tits are nesting earlier and the aphids the same. One problem over this balance is, what one does about my pet hate - the slugs and snails. If we kill them, then there is less food for the Song Thrush. I used to say that I had drunken Thrushes when I tried to dispatch the snails by beer/wine traps (dregs I may say) and then throw them away. I thought that there was always a risk that the Thrushes would eat these pickled gastropods and become anebriated !

Another problem of modern farming, of all sorts, is mono-culture. If there are fields of only one crop, anything that does not eat that crop will go elsewhere. Now, with the development of insect repelling crops to improve the yields - as there are more human mouths to feed - then there are no insects. This is not so good for insect eating birds like the Skylarks.

The Stewardship programme was good as it kept a variety of flowers/weeds near the hedgerows for food/cover for birds/mammals. The hedgerows were considered the highways for the birds, going from one area to another. Gardens have a variety of flowers, some good for butterflies and some for bees, so keep growing different things. Try to avoid double varieties because this makes it hard for insects to get to the pollen. It is surprising what a large ecosystem each one of us can create in our gardens. With more area being concreted over, the gardens of England are becoming ever more important for wildlife. It does adapt. As far as Peregrines are concerned humans have created wonderful rock faces for roosting - Cathedrals - which they take

full advantage of, and they have a ready food supply nearby - flocks of pigeons!!

Conclusion - enjoy the world around you but realize that each one of us can make a difference to other species and one hopes for the best. We are all dependant on each other. "No man is an island".

**Ann**

**CHRISTIAN - a poem by Maya Angelou 1928 – 2014**

*Maya was an African-American born in St Louis. She devoted her life to the Civil Rights movement and had worked with Martin Luther King. She recited her poem "On the Pulse of Morning" at the inauguration of President Clinton in 1993. She received dozens of awards and over fifty honorary degrees. She was best known for her series of seven auto-biographies which started with "I know why the Caged Bird sings" - telling of her life up to the age of seventeen.*

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin"  
I'm whispering "I was lost",  
now I'm found and forgiven.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I don't speak of this with pride,  
I'm confessing that I stumble  
and need CHRIST to be my guide.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I'm not trying to be strong.  
I'm professing that I'm weak  
and need HIS strength to carry on.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I'm not bragging of success.  
I'm admitting I have failed  
and need God to clean my mess.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I'm not claiming to be perfect,  
My flaws are far too visible  
but God believes I'm worth it.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I still feel the sting of pain.  
I have my share of heartaches  
so I call upon His name.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I'm not "holier than thou".  
I'm just a simple sinner  
who received God's good grace,  
somehow.

*Many thanks to John Roberts for this contribution*

**PARISH ROUND-UP**

**Calverleigh**

**B**elated congratulations to Rob and Alison Brewis on the birth of their baby daughter Anastasia on 5 May, a little sister for Mathew.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who have not been so well in the last couple of months and are still recovering. Little Mathew Brewis had a spell in hospital, Reg Holley has also been in the R D & E hospital but is now home again. Mary Bell has also had a stay in hospital after an operation but she is now home again and recovering well. Michael Waddington is in hospital as a result of a fall. There have also been quite a few young people with Chicken Pox. We hope that all are making a good recovery.

On 21 June the Village Hall Committee organised a "Tea on the Green". It was

continued overleaf →

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

a scorching hot day but most people managed to find shade under the trees. It was very well supported and there was a good selection of goodies to choose from on the tea table and very welcome cups of tea/coffee or cold drinks. There was entertainment by a local band called "New Ways" who sang songs from the shows and many other popular songs. The committee wish to thank everyone who helped in any way to make the afternoon such a success and to thank everyone for coming - 95 people in all. The profit from the afternoon was £610.00 which will go toward refurbishment of hall and toilets.

The following afternoon was our annual Open Air Service. This year there was no question of whether we lay the chairs outside or whether we go inside the church. As the day dawned hot and sunny, the chairs and musicians were all arranged around the yew tree in the churchyard. As people were coming they filled the chairs in the shadiest position first but some had to sit in the sun. As the service started we had some light cloud which lasted until the end of the service but it was still lovely and warm. Julie led the service, Barbara read the lesson and others read the prayers. We were accompanied by "Ad-Lib" who also did two spots of music and singing where we could also join in. The Choir gave us a rendering of the Twenty Third Psalm. It was a very uplifting service and we had a record attendance of nearly 80 people. After the service the sun appeared again and everyone enjoyed tea and cakes. It was a wonderful gathering with people chatting to friends and making new friends. No one seemed to want to leave. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this such

a memorable afternoon also many thanks to all who helped pack up chairs at the end. Many hands make light work and is very much appreciated.

The annual potato competition was held at The Rose and Crown and there were many entries. Results were as follows: **MEN.** 1. Kipper Heywood. 3. Luke Floyde. **LADIES,** 1. Wendy Findlay. 2. Brenda Tucker. 3. Tracy Floyde. **CHILDREN. GIRLS.** 1. Jodie Floyde. 2. Milly Berry. 3. Abigail Findlay. **BOYS.** 1. Rhys Floyde 2. Devon Olluglin. 3. Callum Findlay. Our Auctioneer for the night was Tim Laman, who we wish to thank very much for his excellent results. Calverleigh Church benefited £370 from this successful evening. Thank you Gillian and Mary for organising this event and thanks also go to Tim Browning of The Rose and Crown for letting us use the premises and for the "potato supper". A very enjoyable evening.

Jemima Blossom Doust was welcomed into the Church at her Baptism on 13 July. The Baptism took place in our Holy Communion Service which was led by Rev. Jane Wilson. There was a very good congregation to witness this, along with Jemima's Mum and Dad and her four Grandparents. It was a lovely service.

### NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

30 August. Produce Show at Calverleigh Village hall for church funds. It is for residents, friends and supporters of the church to exhibit their produce. Come and hear the results and have tea and cakes with us from 2.30 onwards. Everyone welcome. More details contact Rita Tapp 01884 252601 or Sheila Greenslade 01884 254579.

10 October at 7.30. There will be a "Friendly Bingo" evening at the Village Hall in aid of Church funds. Free tea/coffee and biscuits. All welcome.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving weekend starts on 13 September with a 3 course Harvest meal. Tickets are now available at £7.50 each from Barbara Hill 01884 252572 or Church Wardens. There are a limited number of tickets, so it will be first come first served. The Supper will end with a little entertainment from Brian Poole and Chris Weightman known as "Ukulele Crazy".

Our Annual Autumn Fayre will be on Saturday 22 November. Details later.

## Cruwys Morchard

**W**e have MISLAID or LOST 100 white breakfast plates belonging to the old parish hall, now urgently required by the New Parish Hall for use at the Breakfast and Brunch.

Dave and Di's Quiz was held on 14 June.

June was a quiet month for the Church, with the Annual Church Fete or Summer Fayre, being held on the 12 July, in the New Parish Hall as I write. We had a joint service with the Congregational Chapel on 29 June, our next joint service with the Congregational Chapel will be on 31 August in our Church.

**THE HARVEST** weekend will be 27 and 28 September, with the Saturday

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

service at 2.15 pm, with Steve Goodbody, and hopefully The Young Farmers. It will be followed by sports and tea in the Parish Hall, and a Social in the evening at 7.00pm, with games and disco. The Sunday service will be Harvest Festival at 11.00am, with Simon Friend preaching.

### BELL RINGING NEWS

It is lovely to report that our bells are being well used and enjoyed by ringers from all over Devon and beyond. A number of groups from the Devon Association have been to practise their very polished call-change ringing here and they are a pleasure to hear.

On a Friday morning in June we hosted a training session of "plain hunt" – the basis of method ringing. These sessions are run by our local Troyte Ringing Centre, and are usually held at Huntsham, but occasionally elsewhere. Since re-hanging, our bells are very suitable for learners and it was good to see five students and a similar number of helpers and tutors all busily occupied in our tower. (We provided one of the students and two helpers). On Saturday 21 June, the Cruwys Morchard ringers were to be found cooking sausages and burgers and a large supply of onions, down at the Tiverton Rugby Club. It was the 140th anniversary of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, which we were asked to organise. It was a very happy day.

### FLOWER and CLEANING ROTA

28 July / 4 August Wendy Lake  
 11 / 18 August Vine Spragg  
 25 August / 1 September Marilyn Hill  
 8 / 15 September Mrs J Townsend  
**September 22 Decorators for Harvest**  
 29 September / 6 October Marilyn Hill

### CHURCH YARD MOWING ROTA

August Dave and Diana Vincent  
 September Roland and Sonia Notley

### ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW

The Annual Flower Show will take place in the New Parish Hall on Saturday 9 August. If you have not already got a schedule, please ring Pauline Guscott 01363 866754, asap. We would like to encourage as many new exhibitors as possible and have another great show, our first in the New Parish Hall.

### THE CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL

**Puppet Church, Family Service**  
 Sunday 3 August 4.30pm, then tea

### "Pennymoor Pictures"

Holiday@Home. Events for all ages  
 11.00am – 3.00pm 18-20 August

Monday 18 August The Lens Factor  
 (Photography Fun)

Tuesday 19 August Jigsaws and  
 Games – followed by Cake Art

Wednesday 20 August The Big Picture  
 (Create things for a Mural)

Wednesday 7.00pm Come to the  
 "Pictures" (Film Night)

### Back to Church

Sunday 14 September 4.30pm

### THE YOUNG FARMERS

Congratulations to Cruwys Morchard Young Farmers Club whose disco dancing team qualified to perform at the YFC National Disco Dancing Competition held at The Winter Gardens in Blackpool where they came fourth. The Club also had success at The Devon County Show by winning the Club Scrapbook competition and members winning many individual prizes. They are now preparing their

Club entries for the Mid Devon Show. At a recent meeting held by the Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall Committee, Tom Palmer attended and presented the Committee with a cheque for just over £1,300 raised by events that the Club has held, in aid of the new Parish Hall funds; Mouse Racing Night, Entertainments Night. Members took part in a mackerel fishing competition in Ilfracombe and had success with catching the most fish; they will now fish again in the County Final. The Club are holding a New Members Afternoon on Sunday 17 August at 4.00 pm followed by a barbeque at Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall; please come along if you are at all interested in joining. A Charity Breakfast Morning has been arranged on Saturday 13 September at Moorhayes Community Centre; 7.00 am to 12 noon; so if you are in Tiverton on that day, please call in for breakfast or a cup of coffee!

**PENNYMOOR FESTIVAL**, is a charity event in aid of Devon Air Ambulance and Cancer Research UK. Money will also be donated to the Village Hall to pay for new equipment. It's going to be held on 15/16 August, starting at 6pm on Friday and 2pm on Saturday, both days ending at 11pm. It will be situated in the field opposite the timber yard and garage. There will be a variety of different beers and ciders available.

There will also be a range of children's activities on Saturday afternoon such as face-painting and storytelling from an internationally renowned story teller! Please come along and support this event – buy your tickets from [www.pennymoorfestival.org.uk](http://www.pennymoorfestival.org.uk) or from the Cruwys Arms.

continued on Page 7 →

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## A Good Year for the Exe Valley Market Bus

The Exe Valley Market Bus is having a good year! Not only did we receive a very generous grant to buy a new bus at the end of last year - which has proved very popular with our passengers and drivers but, at the recent 2014 Devon County Council Community Transport Awards, our chairman, Colin Radford, won one of six Community Transport Volunteer awards and the Community Transport Volunteer of the Year Award for his many years involvement with the Bus as a driver, driver-trainer, committee member and most recently as chairman as well as managing the treasuring job when it became necessary for a while, AND The Exe Valley Market Bus Service won the 'Best Contribution to the Local Community' Award and £500!

Colin's nomination stated that *since the early days he has been a volunteer driver for the regular routes, for the 'First Wednesday' monthly outings and for community hire of the bus and what's more, in his 70's ... he still is! Colin's grounded and common sense approach, together with his natural charm and sense of fun has made for a tightly run voluntary team which has much wider social benefits to the community than just the provision of transport.*

The Exe Valley Market Bus Committee are particularly delighted and proud that the nomination for their award came from the Chairs of Oakford,

Stoodleigh, Washfield and Knowstone Parish Councils, reflecting the appreciation of the Bus, and all the volunteers over so many years, in the parishes that it serves.

The nomination said *"that for more than 35 years the Exe Valley Market Bus has sustained a vital community bus service for the isolated communities lying between Oakford and Tiverton, providing a link to their market town. The service is recognised as being a mainstay of the local community and is a lifeline for residents without transport, as well as providing social contact. Run, driven and maintained entirely by volunteers, the bus runs twice weekly services to shops, hospital and dentist. There are well supported monthly outings to events and venues in Devon and further afield, organised by the committee and the bus is frequently hired by local groups for personal use, including to visit Exeter Chiefs!*

*Recently, the committee has extended its service to South Molton and Barnstaple, in conjunction with Knowstone Parish Council in North Devon, increasing passenger numbers, volunteer drivers and support. The new service has enabled several elderly residents of Knowstone to remain in the village.*

*The bus travels over 10,000 miles a year and thanks to fundraising by the group, donations from community groups and Parish Councils and a substantial grant from DCC, a new bus*



*has been purchased to replace the previous aging one. However, the dedication and hard work must continue to maintain the service, without which the isolation felt by many residents in this remote part of Devon would be much greater".*

The Exe Valley Market Bus is now running its 5<sup>th</sup> bus since the original Rutex scheme started in 1977 and we hope to continue for many more years and be there for many more passengers in the villages for our scheduled route trips to town as well as the monthly outings and community hire.

Full details of the services can be found on our website at [www.exevalleymarketbus.btck.co.uk](http://www.exevalleymarketbus.btck.co.uk)

or by ringing 01884 254501 or 01884 881351

If you would like to join our enthusiastic team of volunteer drivers, driving the bus once or twice a month, please contact us.

### FAMILY DOG SHOW~STOODLEIGH

**VIALS CORNER Saturday 9 August 1.30pm**  
**DOG CLASSES INCLUDE**

Obstacle Race \* Best Trick \* Most handsome Dog \* Prettiest Bitch \*  
Best Junior Handle \* Waggiest Tail \* Best Veteran (8yrs) \* Best in Show \*  
Dog the Judge would most like to take home

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## NEW CREATION NEWS

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*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" - 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Living in such a lovely part of the country, we will have plenty of visitors this summer! Give them a treat by bringing them to New Creation, where they can browse Christian books, CDs, greeting cards and other Christian merchandise.

Unfortunately, in many parts of the country, the local Christian Book Shops have been forced to close so a visit to New Creation, not only to browse or look for something to buy, but also to taste one of Penny's range of meals, snacks and cakes might be a real treat.

### Coffee Shop SPECIAL OFFER for August

Hot or cold drink, meringue nest, fruit and cream, all for only £3.50.

Penny's selection of summer puddings at £2.45 will include Banana Split, Peach Melba, Eton Mess, or Knickerbocker Glory.

She will also be introducing a Children's Menu with Savouries starting at £1.25 and Desserts at 90p.

Please ask for our Loyalty Card – have 6 hot drinks and get the 7<sup>th</sup> FREE

We have a great range of children's books for summer reading, either by children themselves, or for adults to read to younger children. The *Lion Summer Special* (15% off) runs until the end of August. These are excellent quality books with lovely colourful pictures and prose, appropriate for all ages. These include:

Board Books for the very young; Sticker and Activity Books for long journeys or rainy days; Bible Stories for tiny ones to early teens.

Sadly, we hear that many Christian Book Shops are struggling at this time, and some (as mentioned above) have been forced to close. We are so thankful for the Lord's provision, enabling us to continue the work He gave us to do, providing Christian resources for our community. (2 Corinthians 4 v 1 to 7) We are aware of all the support we receive from you, both in prayer and by using the shop and cafe. A few of our supporters also provide direct financial help, either with one off gifts or regular giving.

*So, thank you, and may God bless all of you, however you support us.*

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

**SCARECROWS.** It was decided that a scarecrow event could happen every other year.

All those who attended Paul, Bob, Carol and Penny's hog roast on Saturday 5 July at the Cruwys Arms would like to thank them very much for such an enjoyable evening.

We would like to wish anyone who is not well a speedy recovery, our prayers are with you.

### DATES for YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 2 August.** Breakfast and Brunch, in the Parish Hall, starting at 7am. Volunteers needed to help. Please ring Mary on 07773362305 for bookings

**Saturday 9 August** Flower and Produce Show. See above

**Friday and Saturday 15/16 August,** Pennymoor Summer Festival, see above

**Saturday 6 September,** clay pigeon shoot, East Ruckham, 12noon-4pm  
Phone Len on 01363 866578 for further details.

**SATURDAY and SUNDAY 27 / 28 September, HARVEST CELEBRATIONS.** See above for arrangements.

**Saturday 22 November** Church Christmas Fayre.

## Loxbeare

How lovely it is to be able to enjoy the sunshine and beauty of summer, and farmers and growers able to get their harvesting in, with some rain to keep the things growing. How blessed we are compared to many areas around the world.

On 8 June we held a Pentecost Praise Service in the Village Hall at 11.00am and it was taken by Steve. Attendance was reasonably good with a few regulars unable to come and everyone thought it was a good service.

Continued on Page 10 ➔

## Washfield Village Hall



**CREAM TEA**

**Saturday**

**2 August 3.00pm**

**Raffle \* Bring and Buy**

**ALL WELCOME**

**In aid of Pine Lodge Hospice Day Centre**

## PARISH ROUND-UP

**YOGA** continues at the Parish hall on Thursday mornings, for details phone Hilary 01363 866245

**CIRCUIT TRAINING** in the Parish Hall every Sunday 6.30pm-7.30pm

**SENIORS' LUNCH.** The Church will be hosting Seniors' Lunch again on Wednesday 22 October, 12 for 12.30pm. Please watch out for the invitations and posters. If you know of anyone who would like to come, do ask them.

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## EXE VALLEY CENTRAL

### “SEARCHING QUESTIONS”

*Considering some current challenges to the Christian faith*

10 August *Suffering*- why does God allow it ?

17 August *Sex*- Is God against it ?

24 August *Science*- is it an enemy of faith ?

31 August *Salvation*- is there only one way to God ?

**Sundays at 11 am  
In Templeton Village Hall**

For more information contact  
Steve Goodbody 01884 251132  
ExeValleyRector@Btinternet.com

## HOME GROUPS

### COFFEE PLUS

Alternate Thursdays

9.30am - 10.30am.

Prayer for the Exe Valley  
at Church Cottage, Stoodleigh  
01398 351364

### LOXBEARE PRAISE AND PRAYER MEETING

3rd Tuesday in month  
at 7.30pm.

01884 881362 - for venues

### EXE VALLEY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Alternate Tuesdays 2-4pm at  
Highgate Cottage, Loxbeare

Contact

Marion 01884 256302, or

Alison 01398 351552

for details

### WALK THE TALK

Withleigh Home Group  
Alternate Mondays at 8pm  
(Tel. 01884-253473)

## EXE VALLEY CENTRAL

**Each Sunday  
in**

**Templeton Village Hall  
At 11 am**

3 August NO EVC (Holiday Club Service)

10 August Guest Service -

*Suffering*: why does God allow it ?

17 August Guest Service -

*Sex*: is God against it ?

24 August Guest Service -

*Science*: is it an enemy of faith ?

31 August Group Service -

*Salvation*: is there only one way to God ?

7 September Sunday Club

14 September Morning Worship

21 September Holy Communion

28 September Morning Worship

*When there is no service in  
Parish churches, all are  
encouraged to attend  
Exe Valley Central*

## MISSION COMMUNITY HOME-GROUPS

(Alternate Wednesdays)

See fliers for details

## OAKFORD

**3 August**

See Calverleigh

**10 August**

9.30 am Morning Prayer

**17 August**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**24 August**

9.30 am Family Service

**31 August**

**Group Service**

11 am Exe Valley Central

**7 September**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**14 September**

9.30 am Morning Prayer

**21 September**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**28 September**

2.30 pm Harvest Festival

## RACKENFORD

**3 August**

See Calverleigh

**10 August**

6.30 pm Evening Praise

**17 August**

11 am Family Service

**24 August**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**31 August**

**Group Service**

11 am Exe Valley Central

**7 September**

No Service

**14 September**

11 am Morning Praise

**21 September**

11 am Family Service

**28 September**

9.30 am Holy Communion

## STOODLEIGH

**3 August**

See Calverleigh

**10 August**

11 am Morning Prayer

**17 August**

11 am Holy Communion

**24 August**

6.30 pm Evensong

**31 August**

**Group Service**

11 am Exe Valley Central

**7 September**

11 am Family Service

With Baptism

**14 September**

6.30 pm Choral Evensong

**21 September**

11 am Holy Communion

**28 September**

11 am Morning Prayer



**CALVERLEIGH**

**3 August**

11 am Holiday Club  
Service in Village Hall

**10 August**

11.15 am Morning Worship

**17 August**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**24 August**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

**31 August**

**Group Service**

11 am Exe Valley Central

**7 September**

No Service

**14 September**

11.15 am Harvest Festival

**21 September**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**28 September**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

**CRUWYS MORCHARD**

**3 August**

See Calverleigh

**10 August**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**17 August**

11 am Family Service

**24 August**

No Service

**31 August**

**Group Service**

11 am Exe Valley Central

**7 September**

No Service

**14 September**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**21 September**

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

**28 September**

11 am Harvest Festival

**LOXBEARE**

**3 August**

See Calverleigh

**10 August**

9.30 am Family Communion

**17 August**

BBQ Service at Lower Ingrams

BBQ 1pm, Service 2.30pm

**24 August**

No Service

**31 August**

**Group Service**

11 am Exe Valley Central

**7 September**

9.30 am Morning Praise

**14 September**

No Service

**21 September**

6.30 pm Harvest Festival

Songs of Praise

**28 September**

No Service

**TEMPLETON**

**3 August**

9.30 am Morning Prayer  
with Holy Communion

**10 August**

No Service

**17 August**

No Service

**24 August**

11 am Family Service

**31 August**

**Group Service**

11 am Exe Valley Central

**7 September**

11 am Family Service

**14 September**

No Service

**21 September**

No Service

**28 September**

9.30 am Morning Prayer  
with Holy Communion

**WASHFIELD**

**3 August**

See Calverleigh

**10 August**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**17 August**

11 am Family Service

**24 August**

6 pm Evening Prayer

**31 August**

**Group Service**

11 am Exe Valley Central

**7 September**

2.30 pm Harvest Festival

**14 September**

11 am Morning Prayer

**21 September**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**28 September**

6 pm Evening Prayer

**WITHLEIGH**

**3 August**

See Calverleigh

**10 August**

11 am Family Service

**17 August**

9.30 am Holy Communion

**24 August**

11 am Morning Worship

**31 August**

**Group Service**

11 am Exe Valley Central

**7 September**

No Service

**14 September**

3 pm Harvest Festival

**21 September**

11 am Holy Communion

**28 September**

11 am Morning Worship

## PARISH ROUND-UP

At the time of writing a picnic service is being organised for 13 July at 3.00pm, - followed by a picnic tea.

There will be a lunch time BBQ on 17 August at 1.00pm at Ron & Margaret's - followed by a service, with a slot for the children - at approximately 2.30pm.

Our Harvest celebrations will begin on Saturday 20 September with a service at 2pm - when there will be an opportunity for the children to bring Harvest gifts to the front of the Church. The collection will be for the Leprosy Mission. This will be followed by sports & tea. On the Sunday, the service will be an evening Songs of Praise at 6.30pm - followed by refreshments in the Church. Decorating the Church will take place on the Friday. Gifts and help would be appreciated. The Harvest Supper will be on Thursday 25 September in the Village Hall at 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets £5 for adults £2.50 for children. Proceeds divided between Church & Village Hall. Harvest goods to be auctioned in aid of Tear Fund. There will be a planning meeting on Monday 15 September at 2.30pm at Lower Ingrams.

A Tear Fund Service is planned for 19 October at 6.30pm. Helen Williams from Tear Fund will be the speaker.

On 1 July the Woman's Bible Study Group went to New Creation in the afternoon and enjoyed a cream tea. There will be no meetings during the summer months. Details at a later date for Autumn.

A PCC meeting was held on the 19 June at Jean's and the date of the next meeting will be Thursday 30 October at 7.30, at East Sidborough.

There will be a Village Hall BBQ on Saturday 9 August, at the hall at 7pm.

Our thoughts, prayers and sympathy are with Jenny Pack & Family on the death of Geoff. We remember him with fondness. In later years, after retiring from the family Jewellery business in Westexe, Tiverton, we would often see him walking the dog in the village. Before his illness, Geoff enjoyed some sport especially playing tennis and table tennis. Geoff & Jenny have lived in Loxbeare for many years and Geoff will be missed by all.

We pray for Margaret Radford & Viv Abbott who are recovering from knee operations and for Jack Page and anyone else who is undergoing treatment or feeling unwell.

Happy Birthday to all with birthdays in August/September and congratulations and best wishes to all celebrating anniversaries or special occasions.

On 27 September a Parish Boundary Walk is planned. Contact Ron on 01884 881362 for more details nearer the time.

Anyone interested in helping to cut the churchyard please phone Carol on 01884 881480.

**Loxbeare Ladies:** Thank you to Anne Ackland for providing a lovely meal on 7 July. We all enjoyed the evening. Anne has been touched by a tragedy connected to her family, so she wished for the proceeds from the evening to be donated to a charity called 'Papyrus', which helps prevent suicide in young people.

**August:** To be arranged - a visit to Yearlstone Vineyard, Bickleigh.

**1 September:** A walk along the Great Western Canal followed by food. 6pm start. Book your place by 25 August with Sue Troake on 01884 259496.

## Oakford

**N**ow Summer is well and truly with us, our thoughts turn to the Harvest Festival which will be celebrated on **Sunday 29 September at 2.30p.m.** We would be grateful for any produce and perhaps you might think of giving some 'Fairtrade' products to be auctioned at the Harvest Supper. These can be purchased at the New Creation Christian Bookshop in Tiverton and at some of the supermarkets. There will be tea and cakes at the back of the church - after the service.

**Harvest Supper** will take place on **Monday 30 September at 7.30 pm** at Oakford Village Hall. Supper - £6.50. Please let Mike or Wendy know on 01398 351383 if you would like to come. We hope you will come and support it - all are welcome. The proceeds will be divided between the church and Tearfund.

We are planning to have a **Christmas Tree Festival** in the church this year. If anyone would like to display a small Christmas tree please decorate it how you like - the more individual the better. We welcome any group, business or family to join in. Look out for details later.

### Pyncombe Oakford Educational Foundation

If you have just left school and are going on to further study this autumn, you may be eligible for a grant of up to £150 from Oakford's own educational charity. You must have been resident in Oakford Parish for at least one year. No forms to fill in, just ring us before **September 1**. Ring Sue Llewellyn on 01398 351338 or Dawn Williams on 01398 324035.

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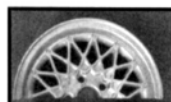
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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### Village Hall

60s / 70s / 80s Night on **Saturday 9 August at 7.30pm** at Oakford Village Hall. Supper, Bar, Raffle. Fancy Dress optional. Tickets £8.50 available from Dawn 01398 324035 or Carla 01398 351609

### Exe Valley Market Bus

Congratulations to the all the Committee and helpers for the Bus, who won the 'Best Contribution to the Local Community' Award category from Devon County Council Community Transport Awards for 2014. The Chairman, Colin Radford also won one the 'Volunteer of the Year' too ! Well done to all the team, and well deserved.

### Red Lion Hotel

Congratulations to The Red Lion for winning the Mid Devon Gazette 'Pub of the Year' for 2014, after only 6 months trading. Huge effort by Andy, Jennie and the team to bring the pub back to life. Great food, give it a try !

### Oakford Flower & Produce Show

Saturday 16 August, Oakford Village Hall. Show opens to visitors at 2.30pm. For competitors, there is still time to enter something. Schedules are available from The Red Lion or Brenda Burrows (3, Manor Cottages, Oakford). The final date for show entries to be given to either Brenda Burrows or Chris Holdom (3, Ashleigh Park, Bampton), is Thursday, 14 August. If you need any help or advice please call Chris on 01398 332039

### Future date for your diary :

**Moorland Club Christmas Fair**

is being held on -

**Saturday 15 November.**

Doors open 11am until 2pm

## Rackenford

The funeral service of William Dart (Bill) took place 20 May 2014 and was followed by internment. Donations in his memory will be given to the upkeep of our churchyard. Our sympathy to all his family and friends.

What a beautiful day we had for our sponsored walk. About 20 adults and children enjoyed the lovely route - not forgetting the dogs that accompanied their owners. All planned and organized by Liz Paxton. Also many thanks for allowing us all to enjoy our picnics in the perfect setting - by your lake. Also thank you for those who came with transport, just in case !! - and to the walkers and to you, the sponsors, who altogether to date, have raised £806 for church funds.

We have the following people to mention who have spent time in hospital - Rob Bordman, Mary Paxton, Herbert Smith and Francis Dart. Whether you are in hospital or home again, we do hope you are recovering well and also, of course, to anyone who is unwell that we have not heard about.

When you read this the end of term concert will have taken place at our school and the children will have broken up for the summer holidays. We hope all staff and children will have a nice holiday and the weather will be good. The Year 6 leavers this year are Hal Baker, Phoebe Bryan, Rebecca Ellam, Richard Hamlin, Leonie Loader, Ciaran Maunder, Megan Poole, Olivia Stuckey and Harrison Welsh. We wish you all happy days at your new schools. As always, a brief report on the concert in the next issue.

Our deepest sympathy to Rebecca and Simon Cole and family on the death of Rebecca's Mum on 10 June. You are very much in our thoughts at this sad and difficult time.

Congratulations to Richard and Jane on the birth of another granddaughter, born to Richard's daughter Gemma Cole and Shaun on 18 June - also another great-granddaughter for George and Jean Cole.

Very best wishes to Oli Mathews and his fiancé Rachel as their wedding day approaches in our church on 23 August. We hope the sun will shine and you will have a perfect day.

Our cream teas were held at Rackenford Manor on 12 July. Various stalls and games and a good draw were all available for people to enjoy, not forgetting the delicious cream teas and strawberries and a cuppa - which went down well. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way and to you for coming to support this event. Thank you to Les and Frances Kelland for the loan of the tables and chairs and all the hard work involved in fetching and carrying. It was very much appreciated. Mary Cann thanked David and Moy Scott for having us and also for being able to wander around and enjoy the gardens. She also presented them with a small gift in appreciation. Many thanks again to you both for your kindness. £643 profit was made.

Congratulations to Connie Isaac on passing her Grade 8 Flute exam with merit. Wonderful achievement Connie.

£400 was the final figure received by our church in donations given in

Continued overleaf →

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

memory of the late Frank Clark, for which we are most grateful.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Pam Lester and her family. At the time of going to print Pam is very poorly in Derriford Hospital, Plymouth. Pam was our school secretary for many years and is very much in our thoughts in Rackenford. Get well soon Pam.

As always we remember our Friends Percy Stone, Ken Blackford, Mrs Clark, Mr Weston, Muriel Blinman and Mrs Arscott and Gwendoline.

Some of you may have heard the bells ringing at various times other than Wednesdays when our own team are practicing, These are visiting teams and we give you a warm welcome.

## Stoodleigh

The whole village is deeply saddened by the death of Gerald Palfrey, who contributed so much to support and strengthen the life of the Parish in which he was born and farmed all his life. In his earlier years he was a leading light with the Young Farmers, amongst other things teaching the skills of ploughing and becoming a wise ploughing competition judge. He was a stalwart player and later supporter of Stoodleigh Cricket Club. Gerald quietly helped organise and gave of himself to many fund-raising activities. He was a respected elder statesman of Stoodleigh Parish Council, contributing greatly with his local knowledge and wise advice, and also served for 40 years on the Parish Hall Management Committee. His support for the church never wavered, both spiritually and

practically. As bell-ringing captain over many years he taught fresh ringers like Roger Hill and Jennifer Rowlandson and instilled in them and others the love of bell-ringing. He and the late Edward Hill organised the annual mammoth churchyard clear-up and Gerald kept the paths clear of weeds. In all that he undertook, Gerald's twinkling eyes and sense of humour were always to the fore. So many words of praise have flowed in, that it is not possible to include them all here. Gerald was a man with a quiet depth of practical wisdom and knowledge, which he generously shared for the good of all.

We also received the sad news that Ian Phillpotts had died, after being ill for some months. He and Sue were involved in many village activities while they were living here. Earlier in his life, Ian was a GP in Maidenhead and Yorkshire. After Sue's death, he moved from Stoodleigh to a flat overlooking the county cricket ground in Taunton.

It was a bright day of sunshine for the Coffee Morning held at Church Cottage, when a very good number attended and just over £150 was raised for church flowers and church upkeep. Thank you to all those who helped and those who supported the occasion.

Two weddings have recently taken place in St. Margaret's Church, the sun shining (just!) for both occasions – on 5 July between Thomas Sleight and Antonia Hughes and on 12 July between Jamie Rudkin and Sally Broadberry. We send our best wishes to both couples and pray for God's blessing on their married lives together.

We also send congratulations and best wishes to David Wotton who celebrated his 90th birthday on 12 July.

**Please remember the following important dates:**

Saturday 9 August – Stoodleigh's third Family Dog Show, 1.30pm at Vials Corner.

Bank Holiday Monday 25 August – Cheese and Wine Ploughman's Lunch, 12.30 at Parkhouse Water.

Sunday 14 September – Choral evensong with the Heritage Singers and preacher Bishop Martin Shaw, 6.30pm ( see notice Page 6 ).

Sunday 5 October – Harvest Thanksgiving Service, 11am, with Bishop Nick McKinnel.

Monday 6 October – Harvest Supper and Auction, 7pm in the Village Hall. It was such a joy to welcome so many enthusiastic children at the 2014 Village Fun Day and to see so many taking part in all the races and competitions – parents as well as children. It is fantastic for everyone in the Parish to be able to enjoy a cup of tea and a piece of cake with newcomers, family and friends (thank you to all the bakers and to those who have offered to bake next year). A warm thank you to everyone who came to enjoy the day and to so many who helped to make it another memorable village event.

### SWAG events

9 September 10am – Tiverton Town Trail, £1.50, duration about 1.5 hours, places limited; contact Fred Robinson 01398 351460.

19 September 7.30pm – History of Tiverton, illustrated talk by Mike Sampson, Village Hall, £3, bring own refreshments.

**Stoodleigh Garden Club Open Flower and Produce Show** will be on Friday

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

5 September, 6pm, at the Parish Hall. Classes and entry forms are on the Stoodleigh website.

**Children's Hospice South West** are having a Skiffle, Beer and BBQ afternoon at Down Farm on 10 August, 3pm onwards, £5 a ticket, 01398 351342.

**Stoodleigh 100 Club** prizewinners for May - 1 Geraldine Talbot, 2 Di Honnor, 3 Hamish Miller, 4 Sheila Blake;

June - 1 Heather Burmeister, 2 Tricia Summers, 3 Phil Talbot, 4 Dorothy Ayre. Please note that membership is now overdue, so please pay or be removed from the draw.

## Templeton

Our Harvest weekend begins with a Harvest Supper on Saturday 4 October (see Noticeboards for details) followed by our Harvest Service on Sunday 5 October at 11.00am. Please bring your donations of produce to the church on Saturday morning. We will make sure they find a good home the following week.

We were sorry to hear that Phillida Strong's father has died. Our thoughts and prayers are with Phillida and the family at this time.

Our village Fete will be held at Templeton Village Hall on Saturday 8 August. The gates will open at 1.30pm. Any donations of draw prizes, clothes, books, produce, bottles/ cans, cakes are very welcome. Just bring anything to the hall on club nights (Monday or Saturday after 8.00pm) or on the

morning of the Fete. Donations of items for the grand auction are also welcome. However we are unable to accept electrical items.

Saturday 6 September at 2.00pm The Templeton Bridge Duck Race will take place. It starts at Great Esworthy Farm (where there is parking space) and finishes at Dartcombe Mill where you can relax and enjoy a cream tea or pasties. There will also be plants, books, bric-a-brac and toys for sale. Ducks will be on sale at the Fete - at £1.00 each and if you want to buy a few more ducks just call 01884 860655 A duck can also be bought on the day.

Our congratulations are sent to Claire Boumphrey and Richard Owen who were married in our church on 28 June. Congratulations also to Antonia and Tom on their marriage on 5 July. Our best wishes for the future to you all.

We were sorry to hear that Mary Reed has been in hospital and hope that Mary and anyone else who has been in hospital or been unwell, will be feeling better soon.

### Flower and Cleaning Rota

Gill Rose	27 July / 3 August
Hannah Nobbs	10 / 17 August
Audrey McInerney	4 / 31 August
Sally Greenslade	7 / 14 September
Jan Heptinstall	21 / 28 September

A very big **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped, or came and supported our Church Fete. We were once again blessed with good weather and a perfect setting to hold it, in the grounds of The Old Rectory with its magnificent views. Once again the church bells and then the Tiverton Concert Band provided us with a melodious welcome to this lovely event. The afternoon's proceedings began when Mrs Adrienne Pannifer, a long-standing member of our community, who helps in the church in many capacities, opened the fete. She was then presented with flowers by Tilly and Ruby Lane. A large variety of colourful stalls and sideshows; with games for the children were available for all to enjoy. This year's addition of a Teepee in which the children could play, have their faces painted and wear and see the costumes, dream catchers and rain sticks of Native American Indians was much enjoyed. Thanks to Vince and Karen Webber for lending us this remarkable tent and putting it up in the pouring rain the day before!

A delicious, tempting and much-praised tea followed in the hall. The generosity, always apparent at such a village event, is amazing and this kindness allowed the church to make the astounding profit of over £1000! Very sincere thanks to everyone who was involved in any way with particular thanks to Bronson, Camilla and the rest of the Albery family for letting us, once again, descend en bloc into their beautiful gardens for the day. Special thanks too, to Denise Wood for the use of the field adjacent to the Hall for parking and also to all those who

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Continued overleaf →

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

moved tables and equipment around or cleaned and tidied up after the event.

Our Songs of Praise service on 13 July was taken by Rob. He gave brief details of the origin of each hymn, which had a special meaning for the person who chose it, before it was sung by a good congregation. This service coincided with a special birthday for Jeanne, our churchwarden, so was followed by wine and nibbles. A very happy and meaningful evening.

On Saturday 14 June a working party met at the church to carry out a big clean and tidy. The interior was decobwebbed, washed and polished - and the brass all cleaned. Meanwhile a party worked hard in the churchyard cutting back branches, weeding and tidying. Everyone worked so hard for several hours. Well done everyone !! The church gate on the terrace has also been re-painted. A very sincere thank you to all, your dedication and help is so appreciated.

We were so sorry to learn that Mrs Dorothy Turner passed away on 24 May. Dorothy had lived with her husband Wally and raised their four children (Tricia, John, Michael and Martin) at Balmans Wood. Dorothy was a very keen gardener and a devoted Mum, Gran, Great-Gran and Great-Great Gran! We send love and much sympathy to all the family, we know she is sorely missed by them all.

Condolences are also extended to the family and friends of Eileen Connor of Courtenay. Eileen and her late husband, Brian, had lived in Washfield for many years and were very much part of the Courtenay Cottages community. Eileen's presence will be missed by all

her neighbours and friends and we send them our sympathies.

Little Sophie Jayne Trout, daughter of Raymond and Claire and baby sister to Noah, was blessed and welcomed into God's church at her Baptism in June, with the support of her family and a large congregation. Raymond, Claire, Allison and Paul Trout wish to send a very big thank you to Clifford Dixon for playing the organ so joyfully. Many thanks also to the Rev Keith Gale for taking the service, to Jeanne for her help and also to all the bell-ringers. It was a lovely, happy service which was enjoyed by all.

### Church Spring-Cleaners

Ditty



**One Saturday at St Mary's  
A stalwart band did form,  
To trim and sweep, wash and polish  
All done in just one morn !**

**Men didst wield extending clippers  
That reached all branches high,  
Inside the church the ladies toiled  
With smiles and never a sigh.**

**All worked hard and it was done,  
Not much past eleven,  
Thanks to all ~ I'm sure your real  
Reward will come in heaven !**

Congratulations are sent to Mr Colin Radford who was awarded with the accolade of "Community Transport Volunteer" of the year. The honour was given to Colin for his dedication to The Exe Valley Market Bus service over the many years of his involvement with this invaluable organisation.

Love, prayers and caring thoughts are sent to all having a difficult time at present, coping with illness, operations, and on-going treatments. We so miss seeing you out and about. You are always in our thoughts.

Best wishes are sent to everyone with special birthdays and anniversaries or other celebrations.

Our Harvest Festival will be held this year on Sunday 7 September at 2.30pm. There will be a short service in the church followed by sports and then a "bring and share" tea in the Village Hall. Please could the church be decorated on Saturday 6 September? We are always grateful for donations of produce and flowers for decorating the church. Thank you.

#### Dates for your diary

Saturday 2 August Cream Teas in Hall in aid of Hospiscare (Pine Lodge Day Centre) from 3pm. All welcome. Raffle and bring and buy stalls too.

Tuesday 12 August teatime@thehall 3-5.30pm. All welcome at this informal social event. Tea, cake, chat and friendship on offer.

Thursday 21 August Lunch Club in hall 12 for 12.30

Sunday 7 September Harvest Festival. Service at 2.30pm followed by sports and "bring and share" tea in Hall

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## PARISH ROUND-UP

### Flower Rota

27 July / 3 August	Mrs Bicknell
10 / 17 August	Mrs Moore
24 / 31 August	Mrs Cockram
7 / 14 September	Mrs Hansford
21 / 28 September	Mrs Ellis

### Cleaning Rota

29 July / 3 August	Mrs Arnold
10 / 17 August	Mr & Mrs Parnell
24 / 31 August	Mrs Harding/Mrs Jones
7 / 14 September	Mr & Mrs Ellis
21 / 28 September	Mrs French

you one and all. Also, at the Village Hall AGM, it was good to welcome our new Trustee, David Sellick. He joins Sara Kittow, Gerald Luxton and John Crook as the Trustees. Thank you, David, for agreeing to do this for us.

At our June PCC meeting, it was agreed that we would give a donation to the Tiverton Street Pastors. We were pleased to welcome Vicky Pugsley and Ann Glendinning to our Family Service on 13 July. They gave a talk on the work of the Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors in Tiverton, illustrated with a couple of examples, and were presented with our cheque for £100.

Withleigh Garden & Produce Show is to be held on Saturday 16 August and it takes place in the Village Hall. Entries close on Tuesday 12 August - entry forms to be returned to Henry Cruwys, at Bona Vista. The show will be open to the public from 7.30pm onwards. Do come along and see the spectacular vegetables, flowers, cookery, craft, etc., - something for everyone. There is no charge for entry and food and drinks will be available throughout the evening.

Our Harvest Festival celebrations begin on Sunday, 13 September with an afternoon service at 3pm, officiated by Rev'd Steve Goodbody, followed by tea in the Village Hall. On Monday 14 September, there is a Harvest Supper followed by the usual auction of produce from the church, and any other donations of produce on the night. It has been decided to give the proceeds of the auction this year to the League of Friends of Tiverton & District Hospital. If you would like to attend the supper, please ring Christine, 257571 or Brenda 252431. Please do join us on one or both of these occasions, as Harvest

Festival celebrations are very traditional and special to us.

We are thinking of all those awaiting exam results, and hope these will allow them to pursue their chosen careers. We also hope all those who will be starting school, college or university will settle and be happy in their new environment.

Our thoughts are also with those who are not feeling well at the moment, or recovering after accident, and send get well wishes to you all.

### Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 16 August, Garden & Produce Show doors open @ 7.30pm.

### Flower Rota:

3 / 10 Aug	Susie Wade
17 / 24 Aug	Ruby Reed
31 Aug / 7 Sept	Ann Gornall & Maureen Stubbington
14 Sept	<b>HARVEST</b>
21 Sept	Janet Sellick
28 Sept	Shirley Cruwys

### Monthly Diary Dates:

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

## Withleigh

We hope you have all enjoyed the lovely sunshine that we have been having. We have heard some farmers, who make hay as well as silage, say that they have made some really good hay - which is something that has not been said for a few years. At the time of writing these notes, we are now hoping that the sunshine will remain for our Church Fete.

It was good to see the support from the village at our Village Hall AGM, held on Tuesday 24 June. Although the committee has stayed the same, a lot of support pledged from others was greatly appreciated. There was special thanks to David Sellick who keeps the grass and hedge trimmed around the hall, Kevin Luxton for all the handyman jobs and grass cutting, Christine Luxton who cleans the hall after events, and the gang that periodically spring clean, Janet Sellick, Christine Luxton, Sheila Kerslake, Frances Luxton & Gerald Luxton for running the Bingos & Whist Drives. Christine also runs the 100 club. Thank

### Keep smiling . . .

Whilst, visiting his grandparents, a small boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered carefully through the old pages.

Suddenly, something fell out. It was an old leaf that had been pressed flat between the pages.

“Grandma, look what I’ve found”  
 “What have you got there, dear ?”  
 With astonishment in his voice, the boy answered ...



“I think it’s Adam’s underwear !!”



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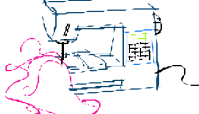
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